

## YOU HAD TO BE THERE

What a delightful party! Word on the street in Point Loma is that the 2004 Annual Dinner at Shelter Pointe Hotel was one of our best ever. Even the weather favored us with late afternoon sunshine breaking through the marine layer while we enjoyed cocktails, conversation and music on the patio. Dinner was delicious, and the evening's program entertaining.

President **John Calabotta** served as our gracious Master of Ceremonies, while Supervisor Greg Smith and Councilmember Michael Zucchet presented awards to individuals and businesses for community beautification. **Ardetta Steiner** honored the 2003-2004 Garden Award recipients.

Robert Munson, Cabrillo National Monument historian, told tales of the old Point Loma Lighthouse. Dressed in a replica of the light keeper's uniform and sporting a magnificent beard, Munson gave us his wry, witty perspective on the challenges that were the lot of the keeper and his family. Next came Douglas McElfresh, San Diego Historical Society, with a presentation featuring the 1915 Point Loma Road Race. Who knew that Eddie Rickenbacher was driving racecars right here on the Peninsula before he became a famous WWI flying ace?

**Dick Lareau's** slide show featured the high points and low points of local architecture, signage and landscape. Highlights included photos showing the progress of PLA beautification projects through the years in Point Loma Village, Nimitz Boulevard area and, more recently, the Rosecrans corridor. And, there was a memorable photo sequence featuring the cleverly disguised Mike Zucchet checking out our new PLA bus benches.

Annual Dinner Chair **Lisa Calabotta** would like to thank everyone who helped provide a great night for the 323 members and guests who attended the Annual Dinner. "**Klonie Kunzel, Lois Baker,** and **Jodie Bruhn** did a wonderful job organizing the seating and the 'behind the scenes' activities that are crucial to a successful dinner. Many thanks to **Donis Lovett** whose innovative and beautiful ideas for decorating added flair to the tables. Past Annual Dinner Chair **Bonnie Hage** helped present 110 auction items in an attractive manner.



Lisa Calabotta



Silent Auction Co-Chairs **Tracy Morgan Hollingworth, Melanie Nickel, and Patti Adams** report that they netted over \$7,000.

Auction proceeds support community projects throughout the Peninsula. More than 70 families participated in the Silent Auction, and the bidding was lively. The item that drew the most bids – the painting "Wooded Area Eucalyptus" by local artist **Mary McKinnon** – went home with **Scott and Mary Kelly Clifton**. Many items were bid over their face value. Tracy said, "Our thanks go to the generous auction donors and to the bidders who made this fundraiser a major success. We encourage members to patronize those businesses that supported our event. "Please review the list of donors enclosed in this newsletter."

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by **John Calabotta**

With the completion of another successful Annual Dinner, as with any milestone, it is time to assess what has occurred and where we are headed as an organization. Before we take that path, let me give a resounding thanks to those on the Annual Dinner Committee who worked for months to ensure a party enjoyed by all. The dinner highlighted past traditions and introduced new offerings that provided something for everyone to enjoy. Thanks also to all who attended. Your participation added to the festivities and your auction bids promoted the future success of the Point Loma Association.



The past year marked the culmination of some projects that were first illustrated literally on the back of a napkin at a local coffee shop. Through the coffee stains, emerged the foundation of what is to be the transition of the Village to a more pedestrian-friendly environment. Now that Point Loma exhibits a bus bench style to call its own, we will build on that ambience to welcome visitors and residents to the Point Loma area.

Take a walk along Rosecrans Street; rest on a welcoming bus bench. Enjoy Point Loma. Take an extra napkin from your morning visit to the coffee shop and jot down some ideas – what would you like to see in the Village that would add to its charm? Some ideas to imagine: up-lit Jacaranda trees, utility boxes transformed into a canvas for a local artist, tiles in the Rosecrans medians to reflect the heritage of Point Loma, expansion of the Banner District, a ceremonial plaza. The list is limited only by your imagination.

Please share your ideas. Call me at 255-2209, or send email to: [chair@PLAweb.org](mailto:chair@PLAweb.org). Our quality of life in Point Loma is a mosaic of our members' ideas and experiences. Together we can continue the Mission of the Point Loma Association.

John is a twenty-five year resident of San Diego, a graduate of the University of San Diego, and a Point Loma resident since 1990. He is President of The Lumen Group, a real estate investment and development company headquartered in downtown San Diego.

## BRUHN AND DAVIS HONORED

Jodie Bruhn was "surprised and thrilled" to receive the 2004 PLA Lighthouse Award: "For outstanding service to the Point Loma Association through years of continuous effort and dedication to advance the Mission of the Point Loma Association. Jodie is a veteran of the Beautification Committee and the Mean Green Team; she is our outgoing Beautification Chair. **Karen Davis received the Grand Beautification Award:** "For the individual volunteer whose efforts toward the Beautification of the Village of Point Loma, and the surrounding Peninsula community is exemplary." Karen joined the Beautification Committee 10 years ago. She enjoys Friday mornings with the Mean Green Team. Karen is incoming Beautification Chair.

## GARDEN AWARDS

Peninsula homeowners received PLA Garden Awards at the 2004 Annual Dinner: **Bob Cleator, Mary Lou LoPreste, Mike and Barbara Morton, Scott and Mary Kelly Clifton, Bob and Ginger Wallace, and John and Whitney Pinto.** To nominate a homeowner for one of our coveted Garden Awards, please call **Ardetta Steiner**, 224-3977, or send e-mail to: [ardetta@cox.net](mailto:ardetta@cox.net).



John and Whitney Pinto's home at 1576 Willow Street has been designated as one of San Diego's historic homes. The oval designation plaque is displayed proudly on their new brick and iron wall. New landscaping blends beautifully. We appreciate their lovely restoration of this property.



A dramatic arched gateway with lush landscaping leads to gardens in this hidden corner of Point Loma. Thanks to Bob and Ginger Wallace for maintaining this home at 750 Bangor.

## VOLUNTEER HERE

### Storage Space for PLA Stuff

PLA needs storage space for items such as signs and easels and for Summer Concerts supplies. We will lose our space at Sail Ho (donated by Marty Dine) at the end of this summer. If you can donate space at your home or business – we need about 10x10 feet – please call Lee Lipsey, 523-6626.

### America's Finest Water Station

The America's Finest City Half-Marathon is coming - and you can help. PLA sponsors a water station at the corner of Dupont and Albion streets. Come for just one hour, 7:00 – 8:00 a.m., Sunday, August 15. All ages can participate. Volunteers receive free T-shirts. Call Melanie Nickel at 225-8705 to sign up – or just show up.

### P.L. Village Cultural Faire

The 8th Annual Point Loma Cultural Faire, sponsored by Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, will be Saturday, October 23 in Point Loma Village. The Chamber needs volunteers to plan and staff the event. For a booth or vendor application, go to [www.PeninsulaChamber.com](http://www.PeninsulaChamber.com). To volunteer or to request information, call Chamber President, Bill Klees 225-8200 ext. 10.

## COMMUNITY BEAUTIFICATION AWARDS

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| To: <b>San Diego Gas &amp; Electric</b><br>Lora McDonald   | For: Power pole removal –<br>Voltaire Street               |
| To: <b>San Diego Park &amp; Recreation Department</b><br>and <b>San Diego Water Services Department</b><br>Mary Ngai and Ed Foman  | For: Parking remodel and<br>landscaping at Point Loma Park |
| To: <b>Lincoln BP Management, Inc.,</b> and<br><b>Clark Realty Builders</b><br>Sam Merrick and Joe Schafstall  | For: Rosecrans Street<br>landscaping, Village at NTC       |
| To: <b>The Corky McMillin Companies</b><br>Walter Heiberg  | For: Rosecrans Street<br>landscaping, Liberty Station      |
| To: <b>Cabrillo National Monument – Visitors Center</b><br>Terry DiMattio  | For: Outstanding landscaping                               |
| To: <b>Community Center, Village at NTC</b><br>Capt. Lori Turley for Adm. Jose Luis Betancourt   | For: Outstanding architecture<br>and landscaping           |
| To: <b>The Hervey Point Loma Branch Library</b><br>Anna Tartar, Director, San Diego Public Library<br>Jim Hervey, Hervey Family Fund of<br>The San Diego Foundation<br>Jerry Shonkwiler, Architect – Conwell,<br>Shonkwiler & Associates | For: Outstanding architecture<br>and landscaping           |

## SIGNATURE BUS BENCH

PLA has completed Phase One of our Bus Bench (and matching trashcan) Project in the village, thanks to generous donations from: **Robert and Ginger Wallace, Peter Peckham Family, Bruce Cook, Martha Phillips, San Diego National Bank, Mack and Donis Lovett/Mike Sherwin, Wayne Rafflesberger Family, and Con Pane.** We extend special thanks to the County of San Diego, Supervisor Greg Cox, for designated grants totaling \$26,000. Thanks also to The Corky McMillin Companies for helping to support the cost of installation. We have installed 17 benches and 11 trashcans on Rosecrans between Nimitz and Talbot. Total cost of the project was \$30,059.

For the first time, Point Loma has its own signature benches. PLA also contacted The Corky McMillin Companies, and they agreed to install the same bench along Rosecrans fronting Liberty Station. Now, from Lytton/Barnett all the way to Talbot, every bench is the same style, a bench unique in the city. In Phase Two, we plan to install the same bench along Canon and Scott streets, creating a pedestrian-friendly ambience. To donate a bus bench, or to request information, please call **Wayne Rafflesberger, 222-7369.**

## NTC FOUNDATION CAMPAIGN

NTC Promenade plans to pave the way for its new mission as “San Diego’s Center for Innovation and Creativity” brick by brick. The Commemorative Brick Campaign is a fundraising strategy designed to honor the past and build for the future. The NTC Foundation, a private 501(C)3 nonprofit corporation, is charged with the preservation and renovation of 26 historic buildings at the former Naval Training Center. NTC Promenade will be a regional center for arts, culture, science and technology. To order your engraved brick paver or for information, call (866) NTC-2005 or go to: [www.ntcpromenade.org](http://www.ntcpromenade.org).

## YMCA PROJECT TAKES OFF

The Peninsula Family YMCA has launched a \$5.2 Million Capital Program to improve facilities and increase services to the Point Loma and Ocean Beach communities. The program includes construction of a therapy pool, a multi-use gymnasium (shared with Correia Jr. High for Physical Education classes), and renovation of existing facilities including a wellness center, child watch, teen/senior center and community rooms.

A generous lead gift from the Ryan Family has helped the YMCA raise more than 2.7 Million to date. Upon completion, the new YMCA will be known as the Claude and Gladys Ryan Family YMCA. The project features aeronautical themes, enhanced by a partnership with the San Diego Aerospace Museum.

Co-Chairs **Byron and Bridget Wear** lead a volunteer group promoting significant contributions. To make a donation, you may call Executive Director Alfredo Velasco, 226-8888, or e-mail: [avelasco@ymca.org](mailto:avelasco@ymca.org). For more information, go to: <http://ryan.ymca.org>.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**Saturday, July 10**  
**PLNU COMMUNITY DAY**  
President Hosts Open Campus  
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Point Loma Nazarene University  
3900 Lomaland Drive  
849-2512, Anna Le Pley  
[www.ptloma.edu/communityday](http://www.ptloma.edu/communityday)

**Fridays, July 16 – Aug. 13**  
**P.L. SUMMER CONCERTS**  
6 to 8 p.m.  
Point Loma Park  
Catalina Blvd. at Varona  
223-9363, Pat Baker  
[www.plconcerts.org](http://www.plconcerts.org)

**Saturday, July 24**  
**ART IN THE PARK**  
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Plumosa Park  
Chatsworth Boulevard  
Point Loma Artists  
222-9109, Mary McKinnon

**Friday, August 13**  
**PARTY ON THE PIER**  
5:00 to 9:00 p.m.  
OB Mainstreet Association  
224-4906, Denny Knox

**Saturday, September 18**  
**PLHS ANNUAL KICK-OFF  
DINNER AND DANCE**  
Benefits PLHS PTSA  
3:00 p.m., football game  
5:30 p.m., dinner-dance  
Point Loma High School  
224-7598, Diane Antonini

**Saturday, September 18**  
**ANTIQUES ON THE AVENUE**  
8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Newport Ave.  
OB Mainstreet Association  
224-4906, Denny Knox

**Friday – Sunday: October 1, 2, 3**  
**CABRILLO FESTIVAL**  
Friday – Ceremony, 6 p.m.,  
Cabrillo National Monument  
Saturday – Banquet, 6:30 p.m.  
United Portuguese S.E.S. Hall  
Sunday – Re-enactment and  
Open House, 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Cabrillo National Monument  
(619) 557-5450

**Every Saturday**  
**P.L. WATERFRONT MARKET**  
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
New Location: High Tech High  
Enter Farragut at Rosecrans

**Point Loma Association**  
Meets second Wednesday,  
7:30 a.m.  
Bali Ha'i Restaurant  
2230 Shelter Island Drive  
Pat Baker, 223-9363

**Peninsula Community  
Planning Board**  
Meets third Thursday,  
6:30 – 9:30 p.m.  
Pt. Loma Library  
3701 Voltaire Street  
Cynthia Conger, 665-3210

**North Bay  
Redevelopment PAC**  
Meets first Wednesday,  
7:30 a.m.  
Peninsula Community  
Service Center  
3740 Sports Arena Blvd.  
Alex Greenwood,  
533-5458

**Midway Planning  
Advisory Committee**  
Meets first Tuesday,  
2 p.m.  
Peninsula Community  
Service Center  
3740 Sports Arena Blvd.  
Leslie Sanguinetti,  
297-6113

**Ocean Beach Town  
Council**  
Meets fourth Wednesday,  
7 p.m.  
OB Recreation Center  
4726 Santa Monica Ave.  
Jere Battan, 515-4400

**Ocean Beach Planning  
Board**  
Meets first and third  
Wednesdays, 7-9:30 p.m.  
OB Recreation Center  
4726 Santa Monica Ave.  
523-1700



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San Diego, CA 92166-0212

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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**REMINDER:  
Membership Renewal  
due July 2004**

[www.PLAweb.org](http://www.PLAweb.org)



P.O. Box 60212, San Diego, CA 92166-0212

**Officers**

John Calabotta, Chair  
Dan Martin, Vice-Chair  
Catherine Perez, Treasurer  
Patti Adams, Secretary

**Board of Directors**

Larry Bauman	T. Morgan Hollingworth
Peter Benjamin	Barbara Morton
Jodie Bruhn	Noreen Mulliken
Leslie Harrington	Melanie Nickel
Bill Klees	Larry Pappas
Klonie Kunzel	Raymond Simas
Lee Lipsey	Celeste Trepte
Donis Lovett	Joe Watkins

**Chairpersons**

Beautification: Karen Davis  
Membership: Raymond Simas  
Architecture: Larry Pappas  
Newsletter: Lee Lipsey

We thank Point Loma Nazarene University  
for donating professional design and production  
services for the Point Loma Association newsletter.

## Who We Are

Point Loma Association was organized in 1961. Originally called "Point Loma Village Beautiful," we were primarily concerned with the aesthetics of the Village.

Today, in addition to beautifying the Peninsula, PLA represents the community through direct involvement with agencies of federal, state and local governments, the Port District, the San Diego Unified School District, the Peninsula Community Planning Board, and others who directly affect our quality of life.

PLA Membership consists of residents and local businesses working together. We donate time, effort and money to make the Peninsula a better place in which to live and work. Annual Membership is \$20. We appreciate donations at additional support levels: \$1,000 Platinum, \$500 Gold, \$250 Silver, and \$100 Bronze. Our membership year is July 1 through June 30. To request a membership brochure, please call Pat Baker, 223-9363.

**Our Mission:**

PLA is an organization of residents and businesses committed to improving the quality of life of Point Loma through beautification, education, charitable activities and civic collaboration.



## 2004 SILENT AUCTION DONORS

Thanks for Supporting Peninsula Communities!

Bahia Resort Hotel  
Humphrey's Half Moon Inn and Suites  
The Bay Club Hotel & Marina  
Shelter Pointe Hotel and Marina  
Frazee Enterprises  
The Prowler Sportsfishing  
San Diego Zoo & Wild Animal Park  
Old Town Trolley Tours  
Maritime Museum of San Diego  
David J. Levy - A.G. Edwards Inc.  
The Theatre in Old Town  
H&M Landing Sportsfishing  
San Diego Harbor Excursion  
Birch Aquarium at Scripps  
George E. Barnes Family Jr. Tennis Center  
The Corky McMillin Companies  
Golf Quest/Sail Ho and Presidio Hills Golf Courses  
Atlas Tree Service  
Peninsula YMCA  
Del Mar Thoroughbred Club  
Ocean Beach Surf Shop  
Lifetime Fitness  
Harbor Island Yacht Club  
Thomas Roderick DDS  
San Diego Yoga Studio I and II  
Salon Diego - Pamela Haehn & Artemis  
Tamera Cosmetics  
Cabrillo Veterinary Hospital  
Peninsula Veterinary Clinic  
Interhair - Rosemary Grassi & Jennifer Soule'  
Haute Spa - Jennifer Breaux  
SavMart of San Diego  
Michael John Gavin Canvas  
Walter Anderson Nursery  
Point Loma Seafoods  
Great News  
Point Loma Camera  
Ocean Beach People's Natural Foods  
ohn Cornwell Floral and Gift Products  
Embassy Cleaners  
European Cake Gallery  
Dog Beach Dog Wash  
Bodylines Fitness - Nicki Blanch-Flower  
Nancy Jeremiason - The Willis Allen Company  
Committee of 100

County Supervisor Greg Cox  
Congressmember Susan Davis  
Assemblymember Christine Kehoe  
County Assessor/Recorder/Clerk Greg Smith  
City Councilmember Michael Zuchett  
Lisa Calabotta - Washington Mutual Home Loans  
Morgan Hollingworth Public Affairs/Association Mgmt  
Patti Adams - The Prudential California Realty  
James and Melanie Nickel  
The Lumen Group  
Bill Munster Property Management  
Kathy Jacobus - First American Title  
Brigantine Family of Restaurants  
Thee Bungalow  
Karl Strauss Breweries  
Venetian Restaurant  
Miguel's Cocina  
Bazaar Del Mundo  
McDonalds  
The Brass Baron Inc.  
McCune Chrysler Jeep  
Acushnet Company  
San Diego Padres  
San Diego Chargers  
NTC Foundation  
Karen's Consignment Gallery  
Studio 407  
Gary Gilmore Goldsmith  
Shelter Cove Marina  
Joseph Wambaugh  
Courage Sports  
West Marine  
Con Pane Rustic Breads and Café  
Ann Grant - Water Color Society  
Lovett Design  
Ann Walker  
Rita Campbell  
Mary McKinnon  
West Marine  
Cabrillo National Monument  
Seabreeze  
Grape Connections  
Peninsula Graphics  
Point Loma Shelter Island Drug  
Point Loma Association Board of Directors

**Become a Member of the Point Loma Association**

For more information go to: [www.PLAweb.org](http://www.PLAweb.org)

## ***MEET OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS***

### **PETER BENJAMIN**

Peter was born and raised in Point Loma. His parents are Donald and Ellie, and he has two older brothers, Lee and Todd. During the early eighties, he lived in Maui for five years. While in Maui he began shaping surfboards, developing a business that continues to this day. For the past twenty-one years, he has managed the family business of "Mr. Benjamin's Cotillion." This is a program for sixth grade boys and girls throughout San Diego County.

Peter has been married for twelve years to Stacey, an elementary school teacher. They have one son, Chase, seven years old, who attends Silver Gate Elementary. Peter has been involved with YMCA youth sports programs for several years and has coached basketball and soccer. He looks forward to giving back to the community, which has given so much to him.

### **LESLIE HARRINGTON**

Born and raised in Point Loma, Leslie went to Loma Portal, Dana and Point Loma High schools. She graduated from San Diego State University with a degree in Economics. She currently works as a grants administrator at San Diego Foundation – and loves it.

Leslie and Dwight's three sons have been involved with Y-Indian Guides, Point Loma Little League, Peninsula Basketball League and sailing at Southwestern Yacht Club. The two oldest went to Sunset View Elementary School, St. Augustine High school and are now in college. Her youngest went to Sacred Heart Academy and is currently at High Tech High. Leslie has been an active volunteer in the schools and serves as Sponsor Liaison for the 2004 Point Loma Summer Concerts. She looks forward to giving something back to the community that has been her wonderful home!

### **BARBARA MORTON**

Barbara Morton has been actively involved in the Point Loma community since she and her husband, Mike, opened the first Brigantine Restaurant on Shelter Island in 1969. They both graduated from Point Loma High School as did their four children. She was actively involved in the PTA, Little League Baseball and their numerous other activities. Currently, she manages the interior design and maintenance of the 11 restaurants in the Brigantine chain and continues to stay busy with her three grandchildren.

### **NOREEN MULLIKEN**

Noreen is delighted to be returning to the Point Loma Association Board of Directors where she served from 1988 to 1993. Noreen and her husband, Dave, first lived in San Diego County in 1971; he was in the Navy, and she was teaching English in Vista. They made Point Loma their permanent home in 1975 and have raised two boys here on the Point. David, 25, graduated in 2001 from Dartmouth and now is an Army 1st Lieutenant with the 10th Mountain Division, stationed in Afghanistan; Douglas, 20, is at Harvard College.

Noreen is an experienced volunteer who has served as co-chair for the following events: The 2002 Charity Ball Committee, The Scripps-Birch Aquarium 2000 Gala, and the Reuben H. Fleet Space Theatre and Science Museum's 1998 Re-opening Gala. From 1999 to 2002, she served as President of the Howell Foundation for Women's Health Research. She has also volunteered with San Diego Yacht Club, Wednesday Club, the San Diego Zoo and The Junior League of San Diego.

### **MELANIE NICKEL**

Melanie is a native Californian and a longtime community activist in Point Loma. Her particular passion (and area of expertise) is traffic. She serves on the Peninsula Traffic Task Force and the Midway Community Planning Area Committee. Previously, she served on the Peninsula Community Planning Board. This will be her second stint on the Board of Directors of Point Loma Association.

Melanie volunteers with Kiwanis Club of Ocean Beach and at Point Loma Community Presbyterian Church, where she sings in the choir. She manages a medical laboratory in the Midway area. Formerly, she was a freelance writer for the Peninsula Beach, known for her biweekly column "The Point Is ...."

### **CELESTE TREPTE**

Celeste has lived in Point Loma with husband Gene since 1953. She was a charter member of Point Loma Village Beautiful (founded 1961). She chaired our first membership dinner at San Diego Yacht Club for 180 guests in 1964, and was editor of the newsletter for ten years.

Celeste retired from the PLA Board in 1970 to raise three daughters and returned 1975-1979. She has been involved with Girl Scouts, MADCAPS, Junior League, Makua, and SDYC America's Cup Defense. She has served on the Beautification Committee since 1997. Note: Celeste Trepte received PLA's 2003 Village Beautiful Award in recognition of more than 40 years of continuous service to our community.

### **JOE WATKINS**

Joe Watkins is a Point Loma resident, father of three children and husband to Joan for 27 years. His youngest child is a student at PLHS and his two oldest are students at Point Loma Nazarene University. In 1973, Joe became acquainted with the Point Loma community as a student. Having a desire to give back to the community, Joe returned to the university in 2001 as a member of PLNU's administrative team. He represents the university president in community affairs as Associate Vice President for Community Development. He serves the Peninsula community as a member of the board of directors for the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce and is a member of the Sunset Cliffs Natural Park Recreation Council.

# PLA Annual Dinner HIGHLIGHTS 2004



Honoring Garden Award recipients



Mark Davis and Mike Zucchet



Silent Auction Committee, all smiles



Robert Munson, Lighthouse historian



County Supervisor Greg Cox



Newly elected Board members



Proud of their Beautification Awards



John Calabotta keeps us on track.



Jodie Bruhn receives Lighthouse Award



Auction beckons bidders



*Point Loma* 



All photos courtesy of Stuart Hartley