

## Hugh Story Memorial gets \$20,000 boost

The Hugh Story Memorial is full speed ahead with a \$20,000 boost from County Supervisor Greg Cox's office. Marilyn Story, Bill Klees - PLA President, John Calabotta - PL Foundation representative and Stan Miller and Karen Davis from the Hugh Story Memorial Committee met Supervisor Cox in his office on December 10 to receive the very generous donation.

The planned memorial is projected to be located on the grounds of the WWII Submarine Memorial at NTC Park. The Submarine Memorial, also known as the 52 Boat Memorial, is dedicated to the 52 submarines lost during WWII.

The committee has made headway getting bids for the 40-foot long, 3-foot wide submarine and seating area, and is considering adding a water feature at the base that would give the boat the appearance of moving through water. Flowers and greenery will simulate the submarine's wake, a nod to Hugh's tremendous work in making Point Loma greener. The submarine will have a plaque on its side honoring Hugh.

"This wonderful grant from Supervisor Cox was meant to help us jump start our fundraising efforts. I believe it will not only give us a major funding lift, but also facilitate our efforts to gain City approval of the project," said Karen Davis, chair of the Hugh Story Memorial Committee.

The Point Loma Association is coordinating the memorial effort. Funding will come from donations and grants to the Hugh Story Memorial Fund. This includes funds to design, fabricate and install the submarine and plaque, as well as provide ongoing maintenance. Once complete, the PLA will donate the memorial to the City of San Diego as an unrestricted gift.

The Hugh Story Memorial fund is managed by the Point Loma Foundation. To donate, write your check to San Diego Foundation: Point Loma Foundation Fund, making a notation that the check is for the Hugh Story Memorial. Send it to:

John Calabotta, Chair, Point Loma Foundation  
Lumen Companies  
501 W. Broadway, Suite A374  
San Diego, CA 92101



Left to right: Supervisor Greg Cox, Karen Davis, Marilyn Story, Bill Klees, John Calabotta, Stan Miller



An image of the submarine on the WWII Memorial site. This does not show the water feature.

### SAVE THE DATE!

The PLA Annual Dinner is Tuesday  
May 20, 2008. More details on the  
next page .....

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year! Thank you to our many volunteers who helped the Point Loma Association complete another outstanding year!

A special thank you to Patti Adams and her committee on last months' forum at the SES Hall. And thanks to manager Andrea De Luz for providing the venue.

The Annual Dinner was a huge success thanks to Karen Wheeler and her committee of volunteers. Lee Lipsey and Pat Baker did another outstanding Point Loma Concert Series. Under the leadership of Ron Brooks, the Mean Green Team beautified the community, completing many projects large and small.

Our goals for 2008 include continuing to build our membership and completing two projects that are in the final stages of approval:

- The Hugh Story Memorial, under the direction of Karen Davis, continues to raise funds. Thanks to Greg Cox for the \$20,000 donation toward a goal of \$52,000.
- The Entry Way Project should begin construction in the first quarter of 2008. Thanks to Celeste Trepte and Ron Brooks for maneuvering this project through the City, with the help of Matt Awbry of Councilman Kevin Faulconer's office.

Save the date of May 20, 2008 for the Annual Dinner on the Hornblower. This year's chair is Martha Phillips, who will be contacting you for table sponsorships and silent auction items.

Sally Sackett will chair the Point Loma Summer Concert Series in July and August, with the continued support of Lee Lipsey and Pat Baker. Sally's committee will contact past concert sponsors as well as new sponsors for the five Friday night concerts. Please contact Sally at (619) 405-0988 for more information.

As we begin the New Year, we ask for your continued support by upgrading your membership to a higher level. Your PLA Board pledges to work diligently on your behalf to continue our efforts to improve the community. Call me at (619) 225-8200 x 10 for more information about the PLA, or go to our web site, [www.plaweb.org](http://www.plaweb.org). And thanks to Paul Grimes for hosting our web site!

--Bill Klees, Chair



Turning down McCall Street, just before you reach the sandy beach, you arrive at a spectacular jewel of a garden in harmony with our Mediterranean climate.

For all the walkers and joggers trekking out toward Kellogg Beach, Nancy Peckham's newly finished sustainable succulent garden bursts forth as a remarkable gift to the neighborhood.

Golden bronze and glacier green rocks anchor a shimmering dry stream bed flanked by a Tall Madagascar palm and blooming red aloe. The fountain-like tuxedo agaves highlight the pin-cushion sticks on fire and neighboring spiked cabbage tree. Over a hundred succulents form a spectacular setting that will attract birds and butterflies year round.

Landscape designer Michael Buckner, whose garden designs are acknowledged as some of the finest in Southern California, created this visual masterpiece. Michael and his wife Joyce own the Plant Man Nursery at 2615 Congress St. in Old Town.

The PLA Beautification Committee presents the winter garden award to Nancy Peckham and thanks her for her generosity to the community.

## Annual Dinner 2008!

On Tuesday, May 20, 2008, our membership will convene for the 46th Annual PLA Meeting on the fabulous *Hornblower Inspiration*. We will cruise beautiful San Diego Bay under a full moon and enjoy the company of neighbors and friends while raising money for our various projects that help keep Point Loma beautiful.



If you would like to become a sponsor for this year's event or volunteer, please contact Martha Phillips, this year's Dinner Chair, at (619) 523-3787 or [mjpsandiego@aol.com](mailto:mjpsandiego@aol.com). To donate auction items, contact Nancy Jeremiason, our Auction Committee Chair, at [njeremiason@cox.net](mailto:njeremiason@cox.net) or (619) 226-7800. Check our web site at [www.plaweb.org](http://www.plaweb.org) and click on "Annual Dinner" for additional information on how you can participate.



# Newsracks

On November 16, a small crowd gathered in front of the Point Loma Post Office to watch Councilman Kevin Faulconer take a crowbar to the first non-compliant newsrack – only the owners beat him to it. Instead, there stood a rusted stand where three newsracks had been just twelve hours before.



**Zeus, Katheryn Rhoades’ beautiful Collie, wonders where the boxes went...**

“This is ground zero for newsracks in San Diego,” said Councilman Faulconer. “It all started right here: you are all pioneers. You made my job easier.”

Newsrack committee member Ron Brooks noted that he would like to see more benches and planters - not newsracks. He thanked Katheryn Rhoades for taking pictures and Betty Allman for serving on the committee.

At the December PLA meeting, Matt Awbry said that the City is talking with several vendors to supply corrals in front of the Post Office. However, he noted that vendors are not legally required to use the corrals.

You might remember from past newsletters that the Newsrack Ordinance was approved by the City Council in January, 2007, and put into motion recently. The ordinance requires an annual \$10 permit fee for each newsrack, sets standards for newsrack sizes, maintenance, and locations, and limits the number of newsracks that can be placed in a row.

But how did these things arrive on our sidewalks to begin with? And who is enforcing the Newsrack Ordinance? Following are some answers from Councilman Faulconer’s office.

## **How many people are allocated to oversee the program?**

The program is run by the Neighborhood Code Compliance division of the Development Services Department. If you call Development Services about a newsrack, anyone there can provide information. There is one city employee responsible for compiling the lists of compliant and noncompliant newsracks.

## **Are the newsracks in front of the Post Office and the old Vons all permitted?**

The newsracks in front of the Post Office and the old Vons are all permitted for 2007. In January, all newsracks owners will have to apply for new permits.

## **Aren’t damaged newsracks supposed to be removed?**

If you see a damaged newsrack, call Development Services at (619) 446-5000. Provide the location and the name of the publication, and the Development Services employee will look it up and send a Code Compliance Officer to investigate.

## **If I pay my \$10 permit fee, what stops me from installing a newsrack wherever I want?**

That’s where the Newsrack Ordinance comes in. When you get the permit, you have to tell the City where you’re going to install the newsrack, and get the location approved. The newsrack can’t be added to a row of newsracks if adding it would extend the row over ten feet. In addition, newsrack rows must be spaced four feet apart.

## **How is it that newsracks have been installed willy-nilly on public property to begin with?**

There’s not a good answer, except to say that this is the reason why the Newsrack Ordinance came into being. Before the ordinance, the City didn’t know who owned the newsracks, much less how to regulate them.

*Thanks to Councilman Kevin Faulconer’s office for the clarifications! And remember to report damaged or out-of-compliance newsracks!*



**Left to right: Jess Walker, Dave Brown, Dorothea Laub, Patti Adams, Celeste Trepte, Jodie Bruhn, Karen Davis, Ron Brooks, Betty Allman, Katheryn Rhoades and Zeus, Bill Klees, Councilman Faulconer**



## Beautification update

The Point Loma Beautification Committee is always busy. Here's some of the things they've been doing for your community over the past few months.

**Nimitz/Catalina On-Ramp:** As you can see from these before/after pictures, the land has been cleared – eight dump truck loads worth. Celeste Trepte has been working tirelessly to determine permit requirements for the site. Mike Martin, the contractor, will be completing the required permit documents. The hold-up has been getting water to the site. Very soon, you will see eleven trees – a mix of Canary Island Pines and Jacarandas.



Top: Before vegetation was cleared; Bottom: After almost all the vegetation was cleared

**Barnes Tennis Center:** The irrigation system has been repaired and now includes a bubbler at each palm tree. Three young palm trees provided by Urban Forester Drew Potocki have been planted.

**Graffiti Control:** The “Graffiti Gang” has been hard at work fighting taggers. A lot of graffiti was recently found on many signs and sign posts along Chatsworth and Evergreen. The Mean Green Team has added a bottle of “Krud Kutter Graffiti Remover” to their arsenal of supplies. Here, they are cleaning up a box at the corner of Nimitz and West Point Loma:



Cecilia Carrick cleans it up! With her, left to right are: Stan Nadel, Dorothy Lord, Ed Streicher, Karen Davis, Alan Lord, Dave Brown, Burch Ertle, and Jess Walker

To report graffiti, e-mail [PLGraffiti@yahoo.com](mailto:PLGraffiti@yahoo.com).

**Point Loma Association Signs:** Jodie Bruhn has been working on redesigning the “Point Loma Project” signs – and this is the result! We look forward to seeing a lot of these new signs around the community!



**Code Compliance:** Dee Kettenburg called the owners of the old Vons to report that mattresses and furniture were dumped in the parking area.

Matt Awbry wants you to know that anyone can remove the non-compliant “Singles.com” signs that have been sprouting up in the community. If you see one - take it!

**Roses and Radishes:** A rose goes to Zed Electric’s new office on Catalina Blvd.

The Mean Green Team meets every Friday at 9:00 a.m. The Beautification Committee’s next meeting is at 8:00 a.m. on January 8, 2008. The committee meets at the San Diego Yacht Club Board Room. For the Mean Green Team Schedule or to place items on the Beautification Committee agenda, e-mail Ron Brooks at [brooks1@cox.net](mailto:brooks1@cox.net).



*Thank you to Zed Electric, Superior Irrigation and Jean Leighton for their efforts on the holiday lights on the Voltaire Street bridge. The Point Loma sign on the Famosa onramp was brightly lit as well.*



## Town Hall Forum

On Tuesday, November 13, friends and neighbors gathered at the Portuguese Hall to learn about what's going on in their community. Sponsored by the Point Loma Association, the Point Loma Community Update attracted over 150 people. "For the first time ever, we're not raising money at one of our events," joked past PLA President Patti Adams, who emceed the event.



**Councilman Kevin Faulconer talks with Captain Mark Patton of Naval Base Point Loma and Kim Elliott of The McMillin Companies**

Karen Davis provided an update about the proposed Hugh Story Memorial (see story on page 1), and then Alan Ziter presented an update on the NTC Foundation, in which he heralded raising \$26 million for the first six buildings at NTC Promenade. Future plans include the "Liberty School" for nonprofits, a history of Point Loma and NTC exhibit, four acres of gardens along "Artists Row," and plans for Luce Auditorium.

Then Bob Watkins from the Airport Authority took the mic. He discussed plans to move traffic off of Harbor Drive by moving the parking to the other side of the airport. He spoke of infrastructure improvements such as train service, improved freeway offramps, and ten proposed new gates at Terminal 2 west. "We need a transportation system for passengers getting from one side of the airport to the other," he said. He also mentioned the Airport Authority's desire to move the rental cars to the southeast side of the airport. The final EIR for the proposed airport improvements will be issued in March/April 2008.

Next, Captain Mark Patton, Commanding Officer of Naval Base Point Loma, discussed an item of utmost importance to Point Lomans: the fuel plume. He noted that the 1.5 million gallon plume had not grown bigger since 2002 because of containment from recovery wells. The Navy has installed eight new ground water monitoring wells, and submitted its Corrective Action Plan to the Regional Water Board for comment and approval. So far, the Navy has removed 147,000 gallons of fuel. Starting in January, 2008, the Navy, using a \$3.5 million "french drain" system, will begin to collect more water and fuel. The Navy will replace the 54 storage tanks built between 1930 and 1960 with eight new storage tanks. "There will be no connection between the tanks and the ground," said Patton.

Patton also discussed the guard shack on Catalina moving 200 feet down the road, the Navy's compromise to move the commercial vehicle inspection station further down Catalina, and noted that the channel at NTC is "healthy." "We need to document what's there," he said.

Matt Kalla, president of the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, provided an overview of the Chamber's activities, and Kim Elliott from The McMillin Companies highlighted the opening of Vons and other retail shops at Liberty Station. See page 6 for details.

Tim Bertch of the Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant spoke about a proposal to capture the extra "digester gas" or methane from the plant and convert it to electricity. This quote from the Metropolitan Wastewater Department web site explains the process:

"This methane gas is collected from the digesters and is piped to the on-site Gas Utilization Facility (GUF). The methane fuels two continuously running generators that can each produce up to 2235 kilowatts of electricity (a total of approximately 4.5 megawatts). Using new technology under a grant from the California Energy Commission, a diesel powered generator is now able to also burn methane and produce an additional 1220 kilowatts (1.2 megawatts) as a peaking generator.

"Using the methane produced on site, PLWTP has not only become energy self sufficient, the facility is also able to sell excess power it generates to the local energy grid. Because the heat produced by the engines is used in turn to heat the plant's digesters, the GUF is termed a cogeneration system. Utilizing one source of fuel (methane), it produces two forms of energy, electricity and heat."

For more information, go to <http://www.sandiego.gov/mwwd/initiatives/energy.shtml> or call Tim Bertch at (858) 292-6401.

Finally, Councilman Kevin Faulconer kept his promise to keep his comments brief and made himself available for questions after the presentation.

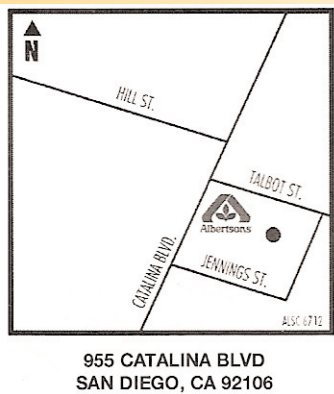
Overall, the event was a great success! Watch this newsletter for an announcement of next year's Town Hall meeting!

# Around town...Happenings in Point Loma

**It remains a mystery...**who painted over the graffiti on the Point Loma sign on the Famosa onramp over two months ago. Bob Sherman, who originally constructed the sign, said he didn't paint it, and doesn't know who did. "The work is meticulous," said Ron Brooks. "The urban legend continues."

**Another Starbucks?** The rumors are true. The lot next to Wells Fargo at the corner of Rosecrans and Carlton currently under construction is going to be a small strip of three shops – and one of them will be a Starbucks. The other two shops are rumored to be a cell phone store and a juice bar.

**Albertson's is coming to Point Loma!** Really?? Dave De Rosier, who has been in business in Point Loma for over 15 years, received a glossy mailer from Albertson's welcoming him to the neighborhood and inviting him to visit Albertson's and "Discover the Difference." The mailer showed a small map at the Albertson's location – 955 Catalina Blvd. – where walls have been knocked down in preparation for the new Fresh & Easy Neighborhood Market. You have to see it to believe it:



The Fresh & Easy Neighborhood Market, by the way, is currently slated to open in March, 2008.

## NTC News

**New tenants** - SushiYa and Spices Bay Thai Kitchen restaurants opened the first week of December.

**Hotel Site West** - Marriott Courtyard is targeted to open March, 2008; Hilton Homewood Suites opened September 24, 2007.

**Hotel Site East** - Miller-Global is currently processing plans at the City for a 650-room Nickelodeon Hotel. They plan to break ground in 2008, with an opening in 2010.

**North Chapel** - The North Chapel at NTC Promenade is now open for concerts and events. The newly-renovated North Chapel was built in the 1940's and served thousands of recruits for more than 60 years. Today, it serves as a venue for live musical performances, concerts, dramatic presentations, weddings and much more! For information about events, go to [www.northchapel.com](http://www.northchapel.com) or [www.ntcpromenade.org](http://www.ntcpromenade.org). To schedule an event, call Bridget Wear at (619) 335-0221 or e-mail [bridgetwear@cox.net](mailto:bridgetwear@cox.net).

## 2007 PLA Golf Tournament

*By Leslie Harrington*

The 2nd annual revival of the PLA golf tournament was held October 1 at Sail Ho Golf Course. We had 36 players, and the day was beautiful. Sail Ho provided a wonderful dinner and we had some great raffle items!! Point Loma Community Bank was the winning team – Scott Andrews, Chris Andrews, Todd Faucher and Doug Grady. Doug Grady and Margaret Mayo each won Closest to the Pin.

Many thanks to our wonderful sponsors. The Title Sponsor was Point Loma Community Bank. A big thanks to Tony Calabrese and his team! Other sponsors included: Award Mortgage; Barry Scott Fan Club; GERALYN Schulkind (Arbonne Skin Products); Martinizing Cleaners; Miguel's; Oversea Boat Insurance; Red Sails Inn; Seaport Realtors; Sign Diego; The Pearl; The San Diego Foundation; Yacht Finders.

Not only did the golf tournament provide fun and camaraderie for those involved, it earned \$3,275.00 for PLA!!



**Joe Watkins with his PLNU team**



**Ken Harvey, Bill Klees and Tracy Morgan Hollingworth work the registration table**



**Nan Lutes, Barbara Malone, Dode Anderson, Lynn Jewell and Mary Williams**



**Wayne Rafflesberger and Bill Johnson**

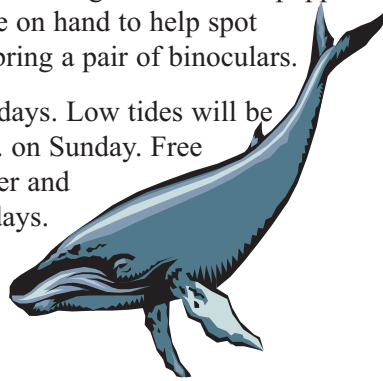
# Barnacles and Blowholes!

Don't miss the 21st Annual Whale Watch Weekend and Intertidal Life Festival on Saturday and Sunday, January 19 and 20! It's an exciting opportunity to explore tidepools and observe tidepool inhabitants such as sea anemones, sea hares and hermit crabs, and to witness the return migration of the magnificent Pacific gray whale en route from Alaskan feeding waters to their Baja California, Mexico breeding lagoons.

Get the latest information concerning Pacific gray whales and intertidal life, watch the new film about Cabrillo National Monument, and bring the kids for a puppet show. Park rangers and Volunteers-In-Parks will be on hand to help spot whales and tidepool creatures. Dress warmly and bring a pair of binoculars.

The event runs from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. both days. Low tides will be -1.4 at 1:31 p.m. on Saturday and -1.7 at 2:14 p.m. on Sunday. Free shuttle service provided between the Visitors Center and tidepools between 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. both days.

Cabrillo National Monument  
1800 Cabrillo Memorial Drive



## Upcoming traffic studies

Well, if we can't get traffic improvements, at least we're getting some studies. At the last PLA meeting, Matt Awbry announced two studies that could directly affect our quality of life:

- **SANDAG study:** SANDAG is funding a \$180,000 study of Interstate 8 from Ocean Beach to College Avenue, with the goal of analyzing missing onramps and offramps.
- **Rosecrans:** The State is funding a \$300,000 study to analyze traffic patterns on Rosecrans, particularly between Sports Arena and the Naval Base. They will spend 18 months collecting data.

We wish good luck to officer Jim Heppell, our Community Relations Officer for the Peninsula Service Area for many years, who is retiring from the Police Department. He hopes to spend more time with his dad, who lives in Point Loma.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

*The Point Loma Garden Club has meetings and workshops at the UPSES Hall on the second Wednesday of every month at 10:00 a.m. For more information, go to [www.plgc.org](http://www.plgc.org).*

**1st Saturday and 3rd Sunday of each month, 9:00 a.m. - noon – Point Loma Native Plant Reserve work parties**  
Volunteers are needed to help water and care for this unique public park. Meet new neighbors and friends while helping to assure the health and vitality of endangered native flora.

Located on the corner of Mendocino Blvd. and Greene St. For information, e-mail Richard Dhu at [richard@sandiegoriver.org](mailto:richard@sandiegoriver.org) or call (619) 297-7380.

**January 8, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Peninsula Chamber of Commerce Mixer at Fiddler's Green** – Meet the board members and pick up your election ballots!

**January 19-20, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**  
21st Annual Whale Watch Weekend and Intertidal Life Festival (see article)

**Upcoming OASIS programs at the Community Room, Hervey Point Loma Library:** Free; registration required. Call (619) 531-1539.

**January 9, 7:00 p.m.** – Dr. Wayne Little, professor at Pt. Loma Nazarene University, presents "Theosophical Society's Point Loma Utopia".

**February 13, 7:00 p.m.** – Karen Scanlon and Charlie Best present "The LaPlaya Trail: Remembering our Roots".

**March 12, 7:00 p.m.** – Katrina Pescador, Head Archivist at the San Diego Air and Space Museum, explores San Diego's rich and unique aviation history.

Point Loma Hervey Family Library  
3701 Voltaire Street

*See the enclosed Peninsula Arts Calendar for arts events at the library.*

### Save the Date!

For the Point Loma High School Foundation and Alumni Association Golf Tournament. Saturday, April 5, 1:00 p.m. at the Admiral Baker Golf Course. For more information, contact Sally Sackett at (619) 405-0988 or [sksackett@cox.net](mailto:sksackett@cox.net).

**Point Loma Association**  
Meets second Wednesday, 7:30 a.m.  
Bali Ha'i Restaurant  
2230 Shelter Island Dr.  
Bill Klees, 225-8200  
**Beautification Committee**  
1st Tues, 8:00 a.m. SDYC  
Ron Brooks, 224-9912

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

**North Bay Redevelopment PAC**  
Meets quarterly on first Wednesday, 7:30 a.m.  
Peninsula Community Service Center  
3740 Sports Arena Blvd.  
Lydia Goularte-Ruiz, 533-5170

**Midway Planning Advisory Committee**  
Meets second Wednesday 2:00 p.m.  
Peninsula Community Service Center  
3740 Sports Arena Blvd.  
Tom Traver, 295-5551

**La Playa Trail Association**  
Meets second Tuesday, 2:30 p.m.  
Peninsula Community Service Center  
3740 Sports Arena Blvd.  
Charles Best, 223-3418





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Membership: Tracy Morgan Hollingworth

Newsletter editor: Kerri De Rosier  
kdsdero@sbcglobal.net

**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 \$30. 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 Tracy Morgan Hollingworth at (619) 225-8156, or go to our web site at [www.PLAweb.org](http://www.PLAweb.org) and click on “Join the PLA”.

**Our Mission:**

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