



Fall 2012

## Last Call for the PLA Oktoberfest!

Come join us at the PLA Annual Dinner on October 4th at the Kona Kai Resort. The theme is "Celebrate the Craft," recognizing four entrepreneurs in the micro-brewery business.

We will have a live auction, silent auction, the singing Polka Dots, and a sampling of beers brewed by guest speakers Greg Koch of Stone Brewery, Chris Cramer of Karl Strauss, Mike Hinkley of Green Flash and Jack White of Ballast Point. Learn more about their businesses and the future of the industry.

Local legend Dick Lareau will highlight the recipients of this year's PLA Beautification Awards. Come to the dinner to see if your favorite neighbor or business was honored.

Tables are going fast so go to our web site and sign up, or contact Reservations Chair, Pam Kelly, at maluhia@cox.net or (619) 222-7859 to get your seats! It is all for a good cause to raise funds for our beautification projects in and around Point Loma and to have a fun night out in our community.

Thank you and we appreciate your support! Please see the insert for a list of our fabulous sponsors!

Sally A. Bixler  
2012 Annual Dinner Chair



## Check out these auction items!

- Two San Diego Charger Football tickets
- Green Flash Beer Tasting
- Tickets for the San Diego Wine and Food Festival
- Brunch for six at *To the Point*
- Bay Cruise for six courtesy of the Allmans
- Gold Citizens watch from *Ipanema Watch and Jewelry*
- A beautiful must-have from *Gary Gilmore Goldsmith*
- Coffee with Susan Davis
- Dinner for six prepared by *Gabardine's Brian Malarky*
- Catamaran Whale Watching Trip
- A bouquet of flowers each month for a year donated by the Kettenburgs
- Sunset Sail on the *Flirt*
- *Great News* cooking class
- Half-day Fishing Trips for TWO
- Barrel Tasting at *Windward Vineyard*
- Heart-shaped pendant from *Jacobs and Sons*
- \$500 Gift Certificate to *San Diego Hardware*

*There's more! But you'll have to come to the dinner to find out!*



PLA Annual Dinner Committee: Back row: Robert Jackson, Zoey Flint, Shirley Haimsohn, Rita Moller, Joanne Hickey, Pam Kelly, Linda Fox. Front row: Cecilia Carrick, Sally Bixler, Janine Wahfeld. Not pictured: Kristen Keltner, Kerri De Rosier, Klonie Kunzel, Chris Hatch, Myrna Bossler, Karen Davis, Judy Garrett.



## Chairman's Message

I'm excited! More and more, I receive spontaneous messages from many different sources in the community. "We notice what you are doing." "We thank you." "We want to help." Membership is growing, and folks are asking, "What's next?" This is not only for the Point Loma Association but for other neighborhood groups as well. The Point Loma Assembly's call for support has created a vibrant response as evidenced by the terrific attendance at the September 6 art show. Groups like the military are extending welcome mats for PL neighbors and friends. PLNU is sharing educational visions and dreams with members of the community. The NTC foundation is bringing art, music and dance to our neighborhood in Liberty Station. The fun Summer Concerts just ended another fabulous season.

Neighbors are helping neighbors with clean ups, collaborative projects and sharing of information. The PLA spirit is synergizing forces throughout our community, and we are seeing positive results.

Continue to support us. Renew your membership. Join us and volunteer. We are better together.

### Our Mission:

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



## Garden Award

By Betty Allman and Judy Garrett

*It's a work in progress.*

Mike and Nicole Harris have lived at the corner of Narragansett and Chatsworth for the past ten years.

After graduating from Point Loma Nazarene University, Mike became a fire fighter and Nicole a school teacher. Knowing that they wanted to live in Point Loma, they left notes on a few homes in Point Loma saying they would be interested in buying that particular property if the owners were interested. One person replied! Viola! They became homeowners!



Now Mike, Nicole, and five-year-old daughter Taylor have finished remodeling and landscaping the back yard and are completing the front yard. A beautiful stream and waterfall is installed; lush shade-loving plants are growing; and an oval grassy area is soon to be planted. The fence will become a "white picket fence" and the

entry-archway will be completed with their name on top and Mandevilla vines climbing up the poles.

When you're waiting at the stoplight at Dana Middle School, give them a thumbs up!

## Beautification Update

**New planters:** The Beautification Committee is happy to report that the planter barrels adjacent to Shelter Island Drug have been replaced and replanted. In addition, most of the flower basins along Rosecrans between Talbot and Cañon have been planted and are enjoyably colorful. Many thanks to the business owners who are helping keep the Village area attractive.







**Barnes Tennis Center Cleanup:** On Saturday, August 25, the Mean Green Team restored the east corner of West Point Loma Blvd. and Nimitz Blvd., adjacent to the Barnes Tennis Center. Under the leadership of Karen Davis, the group of 11 volunteers cleaned up homeless debris and litter, cleared overgrown weeds, trimmed dead palm fronds and cut back brush and trees. Al Baber was the mighty power behind the industrial “Billy Goat” mower leased by PLA for the occasion. Look at the Before/After photos!



**Harbor Drive Median:** Once again, PLA saves the day! Celeste Trepte, who had alerted the Port of San Diego about the neglect of the N. Harbor Drive median last year, noticed that it was looking bad again. She alerted Port authorities about the droopy plantings – and it turns out that irrigation lines were accidentally cut! They have now been repaired. Thanks to Cecilia Carrick for contacting Cesar Romero from the Port of San Diego, who resolved this problem. Said Celeste: “This is just another example of the PLA overseeing things that ultimately save the community a lot of money.”

**Fresh & Easy Bus Benches:** And Celeste is at it again! For many years, PLA has been fighting ads on bus benches in our residential neighborhoods. Celeste noticed that the bus benches on Catalina in front of Fresh & Easy were plastered with ads, and immediately contacted Beverly Neff with the Metropolitan Transit District. To Celeste’s surprise, the ads were down in three days! Thanks to Beverly Neff for her quick response! And thanks to Celeste for keeping up the fight.

**Catalina and Cañon medians:** The plantings are filling out beautifully. Many thanks to Hazel and Hal Russell, who regularly spend time maintaining these plantings.

**Cleanup at the Rose Garden:** On July 27, the Mean Greeners headed out to the Hugh Story Rose Garden at Liberty Station and got to work!



**Hot Spot Studio opens at Liberty Station**

Hot Spot Pottery & Candle Making Studio, that is. It’s a place where you can paint your own pottery and create chunky candles. Hot Spot staff will help you host birthday parties, ladies groups, corporate events, and field trips. Or – make it a date and bring a bottle of wine.

The Hot Spot also offers fundraising events such as collaborative auction items, tile projects, and give-back events where a percentage of sales are given to the hosting organization.

Info? go to [www.thehotspotstudio](http://www.thehotspotstudio) or call (619) 223-1339.

**Point Loma Assembly Wine and Art Event a great success!**

*Contributed by Patti Adams*

We reported on the emergence of a Point Loma Jewel in the last issue: and the shine on the jewel just gets more brilliant! On Thursday, September 6, the members of the Point Loma Assembly kicked off their meeting year with a community Art Show at the Assembly Hall.



Attendees enjoy food, wine and company

The event showed off the latest improvements to the Hall, including new gardens silently guarded by a statuesque crane (donated by the Laub family), a new walkway, a complete makeover of the men’s restroom, and a resplendent painting of a hummingbird revealed when overgrown shrubbery was pulled away.

*Continued on page 4*



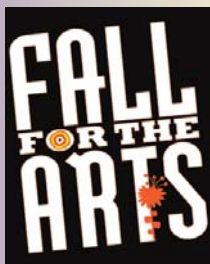


A hummingbird and crane guard the new garden

The hall was made more beautiful with paintings, photography, sculptures, and jewelry provided by 19 present or past members of the Pt. Loma Artists. The artists donated 10 percent of proceeds from their sales to the Point Loma Assembly Restoration Fund.

Patti Adams, President of the Assembly, noted that “the refurbishments we have completed are just a start on a long list of deferred maintenance and improvements that need to be made.”

For more information, go to [www.PointLomaAssembly.org](http://www.PointLomaAssembly.org) or attend the next Point Loma Assembly meeting on Thursday October 4 at Noon. Please RSVP to Patti Adams by calling (619) 887-9313 or e-mailing [Patti.Adams@SothebysRealty.com](mailto:Patti.Adams@SothebysRealty.com).



**Fall for the Arts**  
**Friday, October 5**  
**5 pm to 10 pm**

Don't miss the launch of the County's month-long celebration of arts and culture in San Diego at the NTC Arts

& Culture District. Enjoy a night of FREE dance, art, film, music, food trucks and innovative experiences throughout NTC. An added attraction will be ART BOXED SD: A PODS® PROJECT, a portable, curated exhibition highlighting local contemporary artists who will create thought-provoking immersive or participatory art experiences inside a PODS storage container.

## PL Optimist Flag Program: Can you help?

Contributed by Ron Lauderbach

Since 1964, Point Loma Optimist Club members have produced the patriotic display of American flags along Rosecrans Street in Point Loma. The Flag Program began with just a few flags distributed from members' vehicles, but has grown over the past 48 years. The Optimists now operate a specialized vehicle for distributing over 160 flags that line both sides of Rosecrans Street along a two-mile stretch from Lytton to Talbot. The display happens every Sunday and on most holidays.



Although the Flag Program is a major Point Loma Optimist function, the club also raises money to benefit many Point Loma and Ocean Beach youth activities and organizations.

The Point Loma Optimists are proud of the Flag Program that promotes patriotism and shows appreciation of the military. Each member contributes financially and must volunteer dozens of hours each year putting up and taking down the flags. Moreover, the Optimists are now integrating community youth into the Flag Program by having them help to put out and take down the flags each week, thereby promoting a more keen sense of history and the contributions of our military.

The Point Loma Optimists want to continue the Flag Program, but we need your help in continuing to expand it to involve more youth, to refurbish older flags, and to maintain the vehicle for future use. We are therefore offering individuals and corporations an opportunity to become financial partners with the Point Loma Optimist Club Flag Program.

Your tax deductible monetary participation will help the Optimists continue its mission. The Optimist Club Foundation of Point Loma is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Checks should be made payable to The Optimist Club Foundation of Point Loma and sent to:

3005 Rogers Street  
 San Diego, CA 92106.



You can also donate online at: [www.pointlomaoptimist.org](http://www.pointlomaoptimist.org). Donors will receive this flag decal.

This is truly a great opportunity to become part of a Point Loma legacy while promoting your support at your home or place of business. Thank you for your support!!

For more information, contact Tom Lewis at (619) 933-8665 or go to the Point Loma Optimists web site noted above.





# THANK YOU, DINNER SPONSORS!\*

\*As of 9/18/12

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Mean Green Team - 3 tables!  
Cecilia Carrick and Stan Nadel  
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## Underwriters:

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Sally and Mike Bixler – Logo design

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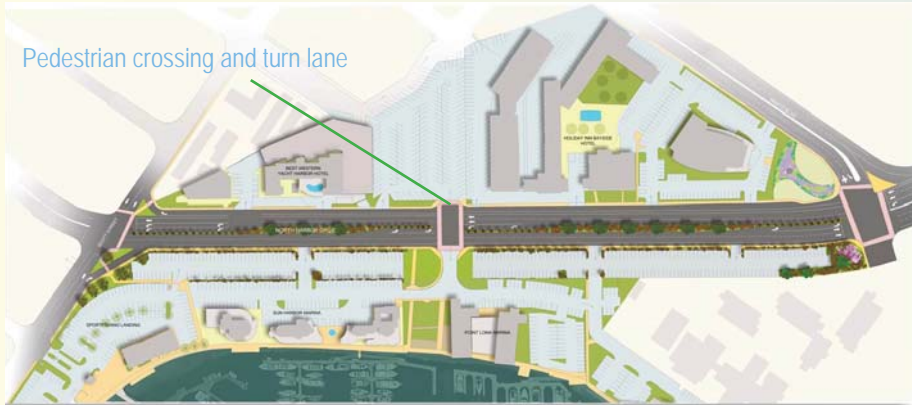
  
**Green Flash Brewing Co.**





## N. Harbor Drive Realignment

The Summer 2011 issue of this newsletter featured an article about plans for realigning and beautifying N. Harbor Drive (Phase I) and for a new parking structure (Phase II). The project is located on N. Harbor Drive between Nimitz Blvd. and Scott Street. Here's an update:



On September 17, 2012, the San Diego City Council approved the Port of San Diego's request for conveyance of the easement on the frontage road, which will allow Phase I to move forward. Phase I includes:

- Approximately 100 new public parking spaces along N. Harbor Drive
- Enhanced landscaping and new sidewalks and paving
- A signalized pedestrian crossing and turn lane that will eventually connect to the parking structure

At the September PLA Board meeting, Port representative Anthony Gordon stressed that the right turn lane from Scott Street onto N. Harbor Drive will remain, and that the existing Palm trees are being replaced at a one-to-one ratio (not necessarily with Palm trees). He also noted that in the future, all parking along N. Harbor Drive will be metered, but that metering will not go into effect until a parking garage is built or another long-term parking solution is identified.

The estimated cost of the project is \$3.5 million, with a \$48,000 annual maintenance cost financed by the Port. Ground-breaking is expected in about a year and a half.

As for the parking garage (rendering below): the Port is analyzing financing options for the \$8.5 million project and is awaiting Board direction, which is expected in 3-6 months. The garage will be located at the current "Westy's" parking lot adjacent to the Holiday Inn Bayside hotel, and will provide 215 additional spaces over the current number.



## Homeless Info

At the July PLA Board meeting, SDPD officer David Surwilo arrived with a team of officers to address the PLA's concern about the increasing homeless population and other community issues. He introduced Sergeant Jack Knish, who leads the Neighborhood Resource Team covering Point Loma, Ocean Beach and Hillcrest. The team looks into illegal lodging complaints, disturbances on islands and medians, oversized vehicle violations, and cleans out homeless encampments, among other duties.

Here's what you need to know:

- While there are no vagrancy laws in San Diego, it is illegal to aggressively solicit hand-outs on city streets.
- It is illegal to stand within 500 feet of a freeway ramp.
- It is illegal to go into traffic and collect handouts and clean windows.

The team does their best in spite of a very small officer to population ratio. Officer Surwilo urged those present to contact community leaders and plead for more officers.

If you have an emergency, always dial 911. Otherwise, call 531-1540 to speak with Officer Surwilo.

## Freedoms Foundation Award given to PLA

Some months ago, PLA was approached by Isabel Skidmore, a Point Loma resident and retired PLHS math teacher, about submitting a portfolio of our activities for a community award to be given by the Freedoms Foundation. The PLA is proud to have been selected for this award and will be honored for "exemplary service to our community" at an awards luncheon on Tuesday, November 13.



## Scenes from the PLA Water Station at the America's Finest City Half Marathon:



Many thanks to all of the volunteers who came out to serve water to thousands of runners in the wee hours of August 29: **PLA members** Cecilia Carrick, Pat Baker, Melanie Nickel, Maureen Maringer, Laura Mundy, Ginny Buerger, Sharon Steelman; **neighbors** Maureen Feary, Terri Johnson, Jerry Harris and his son Wyatt, Leon Scales, Gary Zeugschmidt, Lou Gilleran, Rebecca Gilleran; **Kiwanis Club** members Mike Servais, Lyric McCarthy, John McCarthy, Robert Nickel and his daughter Emma; **Point Loma High School Key Club members** Courtney Huen, John Lopp, Ivy Greene, Julia Law, Amy Law; and Blake Brubaker, Ann Lind, Susan Weir.

## A Garden of Hope

When grading began last fall on an empty lot on San Gorgonio in the La Playa area, everyone thought footings would eventually appear for a big house on the corner. But when terraces and garden beds started filling the space, neighbors really started to wonder what was going on.

It was the beginning of a dream for Sharon Zell, who had purchased the home next to the lot seven years ago and later bought the adjacent lot.

"I saw an article about food banks in San Diego that featured a well dressed couple in line getting food. It broke my heart," said Sharon. "It's tragic that so many people go to bed hungry here in San Diego."

An architect and interior designer, Sharon "knew nothing about farming." She grew up in Louisiana and both grandparents had farms, but being a granddaughter feeding chickens and learning the art of organic farming are very different things. Sharon didn't know where to start until she read about Karen Contreras with Urban Plantations, a local company that designs and builds organic gardens in urban settings.

With Contreras' help, Hope Garden was planted last March. The garden features 16 beds bursting with cucumbers, zucchini, tomatoes, swiss chard, endive, pumpkins, watermelons, berries, herbs—even passion fruit and grapes. Mandarin orange, fig and apple trees surround the beds.

## Meet your new board members!

We thank Malinda Dickenson, Megan Ekard, Melanie Nickel, Barbara Morton and Lisa Keith for their years of service to the board.



Left to right: Kelly Mitchell, Jana Mickova Will, Jerry Symanski, Ben Murphy

**Kelly Mitchell**, development officer for Point Loma Nazarene University, is a third generation San Diegan and life-time Point Loma resident.

Prior to her work at PLNU, Mitchell was the development director for the international rowing regatta, the San Diego Crew Classic, and the Community Relations Director for the group that brought the Olympic Training Center to Chula Vista.

Now for the wow factor: Mitchell was a member of the 1980 Olympic team and was awarded a Congressional Gold Medal for being part of the boycotted team. She went on to become the Captain of the 1984 Olympic Women's Rowing Team and won a silver medal as a coxswain for rowing. Since then, she has served in many capacities in support of US Rowing. Kelly lives in Loma Portal with her two teenage sons and husband Jerry in the house she was raised in. Fun factoid: Back in the 70's, she was the PLHS Pointer mascot.

**Jana Mickova Will** has lived in San Diego since 1981, when she immigrated here with her parents and younger brother from the Czech Republic. She moved to Point Loma three years ago with her two girls (now students at Sunset View Elementary and Correia Middle School) and their dog Sam. We congratulate Jana on her recent marriage to Brant Will!

Until recently, Jana ran her law practice here in Point Loma: she re-joined the San



Diego City Attorney's Office to continue in land use litigation. Jana loves to run and bike along Sunset Cliffs, surf (poorly), snowboard (much better), read, and cook (really just eat). She is grateful to be a member of the Point Loma community and can't think of a better way to serve in its continued beautification and improvement than on the board of the Point Loma Association.

**Jerry Symanski** is our web guru who has been working with Paul Grimes on our web site. Jerry came to San Diego in 1964 to begin a long career as a Computer Scientist with the Navy. After retirement he was looking for volunteer opportunities. A chance meeting with the Mean Green Team provided a way to use his computer skills and help great people do great things for our community.

Besides having "frustrating fun" with computers, he plays tennis, does yoga and dabbles with photography and HD videos.

**Ben Murphey** is a 2nd generation Point Loma Native, graduating in the class of 1992 from Point Loma High. After trying out college in Hawaii and Santa Barbara, Ben returned home to attend San Diego State University, where he studied Economics and Business.

Ben has owned Shelter Island Capital, a Mortgage and Insurance Brokerage, since 2002. Prior to that, he worked on the long range sport fishing boats out of Shelter Island landings and still maintains his Captains License. Ben and his wife Alison have two sons, Benjamin, 7 and Chase, 5.

"Point Loma is a very special place," said Ben. "One thing for sure there is always a familiar face wherever you go. I am a huge proponent of supporting the local businesses and keeping our community a "community" with its own character and ambiance that makes Point Loma unique."

Participation in the garden is by invitation — and free. There are currently 25 gardeners maintaining their own beds— but participation also means sharing tools, weeding and donating what they can't eat to organizations who feed others. Hope Garden's Mission statement:

*This privately owned garden was created to bring friends and neighbors together to grow organic vegetables and fruit and donate to organizations that can provide fresh food to those in need.*



Sharon Zell, Ferrell Reed and other gardeners show off their harvest. Sharon is wearing pink in the front row; Ferrell is in the blue shirt in the back.

The gardeners donated their first harvest—30 pounds of fruits and vegetables—to Feeding America. They donated their second harvest—48 pounds worth—to San Diego Rescue Mission.

And they're still learning. "The learning curve is sharp, but the food that comes out is amazing," said Ferrell Reed, who also runs the garden. "Most of the plantings started from seeds. It's amazing to see how fast things grow."

Their amazement and excitement was evident as they led a tour of the garden. Reaching under a leafy plant, Sharon discovered cucumbers ready for harvest. Another plant revealed bright orange peppers; another, tomatillos (for a tasty salsa); Sharon hand picked strawberries and popped them into her mouth, savoring their sweetness.

Future plans for Hope Garden include inviting students from Monarch School to learn about gardening and organic produce, planting more fruit trees, and learning more! Sharon already decided against a chicken coop: you can find a compromise: chicken "art" throughout the garden.

You can follow Sharon's progress on her web site, [www.hopegardenpl.org](http://www.hopegardenpl.org).



Photos courtesy of Dwight Harrington



## A gypsy cart on the corner

Another transformation has taken place on a transformer box in Point Loma. You can't miss the bright bouquet of color on the corner of Rosecrans and Cañon in front of Pacific Sotheby's International Realty.



That's exactly what artist Ann Walker envisioned in her design of a vibrant gypsy flower cart. "The corner needs help – it needs lots of color," she said. "I wanted something that made a quick statement." Ann worked with Dianne Reichardt with Sotheby's Realty and PLA members Judy Garrett and Betty Allman on

the design, which complements the flower pots across the street by Point Loma Shelter Island Drug. Dianne has plans to add flower boxes or pots along the building as well. We thank Sotheby's for helping fund the project and helping to beautify the area.

The idea for box "came from my head," said Ann. It features a variety of potted flowers including sunflowers, irises and geraniums, and a few personal touches. Ann's grandson Cayman Peyrefitte (pictured with Ann) is featured with Ann's dogs Tug and Bailey.

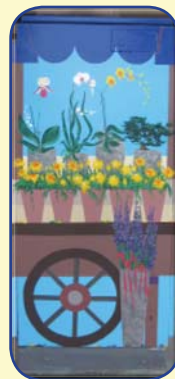


Any time artists paint a box, they are always pleasantly surprised by the community response. "People are amazingly generous with their comments," said Ann. "Some people brought me coffee, and a City worker gave me an orange vest to wear." She was out there with the Point Loma High School band when they were soliciting donations. "They spread so much joy," she said.



Being on that corner also made her realize the extent of the traffic issues at that intersection. She said, "After spending some time on the corner of Rosecrans and Cañon, I am convinced this area of Rosecrans needs to be slowed down traffic wise! It is a zoo on that street!" She would like to see a roundabout similar to those recently added to the Bird Rock area.

Traffic issues aside, Ann is pleased to do her part in beautifying the community, saying, "It's an honor to be able to do this."



## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**Every week: Point Loma Farmer's Market: Sundays, 9:30 - 2:30:** On the first Sunday of each month, look for the PLA booth! Bring a friend! On Cañon between Rosecrans and Scott.

**PLA Oktoberfest and Annual Dinner! Thursday, October 4, 5:30 p.m.**

**OB Oktoberfest Saturday, October 13:** At the main Pier parking lot. [www.oceanbeachsandiego.com](http://www.oceanbeachsandiego.com)

**Meet the Author of Sky of Red Poppies Wednesday, October 10, 6:30 p.m.**

The 2012 One Book One San Diego Selection. Hervey Point Loma Library  
3701 Voltaire Street  
Free. For information, call Christine Gonzalez at (619) 531-1539.

**PLNU's 9th Annual Fall Festival Saturday, October 20, 10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.**

A day of free family fun and tastings from local restaurants.  
Point Loma Nazarene University  
3900 Lomaland Drive

**S-Gaugers Model Railroad Open House Saturday, October 20, 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

Come see the new layout! Fun for kids of all ages.  
Liberty Station, South Promenade  
2445 Truxton Road, Suite 106

**OB Restaurant Walk Tuesday, November 13:** Tickets \$20.  
[www.oceanbeachsandiego.com](http://www.oceanbeachsandiego.com)

**OB Christmas Parade Saturday, December 1, 5:05 p.m.**

**Coming in January...the La Playa Trails Lecture Series! January 22, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.**

"At the End of the Trail...the Spanish Fort at Ballast Point," the first in a series of lectures about this important historic trail.  
Point Loma Assembly Hall  
3035 Talbot Street  
Free. For information, e-mail [Kunzel@cox.net](mailto:Kunzel@cox.net).

### Peninsula Community Planning Board

Meets third Thursday, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.  
Point Loma Library  
3701 Voltaire Street

### Ocean Beach Town Council

Meets fourth Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.  
Masonic Center  
1711 Sunset Cliffs Blvd.  
[jimmusgrove@mac.com](mailto:jimmusgrove@mac.com)

### Point Loma Assembly

Meets first Thursday  
Point Loma Assembly  
3035 Talbot St.  
(619) 887-9313  
[www.plassembly.org](http://www.plassembly.org)

### La Playa Trail Association

Meets second Tuesday, 2:30 p.m.  
US Bank  
1331 Rosecrans St.  
Charles Best, 223-3418

### Point Loma Association

Meets second Wednesday, 7:30 a.m., Bali Hai  
**Beautification:**  
First Tuesday, 8:00 a.m.  
San Diego Yacht Club

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS



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