

Point Loma ASSOCIATION



PointLoma.org

Winter 2017



Thanks to Our 2016 Annual Dinner Committee

Barbara Brown
Chris Jacobs
Jim Piburn
Karen Davis
Kerri de Rosier
Linda Bienhoff
Linda Medina
Lynn Silva
Pam Kelly
Rita Moller
Rosemary Rodger
Sally Bixler
Shannon Brown
Cami Tran
Shelley Goren
Shirley Haimsohn
Susan Straub
Madeline Hossman
Leslie Jenness
Cecilia Carrick

That's what the Point Loma Association's 2016 Visions of Point Loma event on Thursday October 6 promised. It was the goal of the event, and we are here to report that it exceeded on every level! The event was held at the beautiful Coasterra Restaurant Event Center on Harbor Island. Over 300 friends, neighbors and Peninsula supporters converged to EAT....devouring Cohn group executive chef Deborah Scott's renowned morsels. Crabcakes, melt in your mouth short ribs and cream corn with poblano shooters were some of the shout out favorites. DRINK: check. CHAT.... But be prepared, with that many people in attendance there was plenty to go around. As one of those classy but "home spun" events, guests could run into their 7th grade teacher or the realtor that sold their first home. Only a few minutes of solemnity prevailed while CAPT Howard Warner III, Commander NBPL led the Pledge. Point Loma's favorite son, Mayor Faulconer highlighted the event by presenting the coveted PLA Lighthouse Award to Scott McMillin and the Corky McMillin Companies for their visionary execution of Liberty Station- now a dynamic part of our community. SURPRISE: It started with a bang when Councilmember Lorie Zapf presented the PLA with a City of San Diego \$5,000 grant for the next median refurbishment project. Captivating Auctioneer Rosemary Rodgers then engaged giving patrons for further support. Generosity flowed, all in support of the PLA to continue to execute community projects that enhance quality of life in the Peninsula. Champagne served in the new barge topped a great evening!

Thank you PLA Members and guests.
We raised \$42,000 for future projects!



CoChairwomen
Linda Bienhoff and Cecilia Carrick



Chairman's Message

*There are places I remember
All my life though some have changed
Some forever not for better
Some have gone and some remain*

Lennon-McCartney
John, Paul, You and Me

Change happens!
No. Changes are made. By people. Sometimes by consensus. Sometimes by surprise.
People cannot stop change. But they can make changes considerably. Communities can review options before implementation, before awakening to the sound of bobcats and nail guns.
City leaders are responsible for listening and informing *before permitting*.
Officials reviewing plans need to look up from diagrams, drawings, FAR formulas and developer fees and open their eyes to see if what's proposed makes *common sense*. They should open their hearts and ask, "Would I want this on *my* block?"
Change is not neutral. Some oppose it automatically. Others embrace it enthusiastically. But it should never happen in a vacuum. Change should not be packaged and dropped on our doorstep. Not everything is worth preserving. But going forward, we need to rethink housing density, infrastructure and community amenities. How many of us have adult children who would love to live in their home neighborhood, but cannot afford to rent, much less buy?

Solutions are not simple and simply will not please everyone. But we should be able to avoid changes that satisfy no one other than those scoring financial gain.
A PLA resolution for the New Year is to be vigilant, to ask questions, to demand answers, to insist on collaboration with the City and County.
We are networking with other community groups on the Peninsula and beyond. Together we are great in numbers. "When we talk, they listen!"
If you are a PLA member, your voice is being amplified for the benefit of all. Please encourage your friends to join the chorus.

Jensen's Foods

The wait is over! Jensen's Foods has come to Point Loma.
Doors officially opened December 9th, and a Grand Opening Celebration is scheduled for February 4th. Hours are 7am to 9 pm daily.
Adam Zack, co-owner with his two brothers, says they aim to be a neighborhood market where people can pick up staples like crackers, frozen entrees and aluminum foil, and also a convenient place to shop for upscale specialty items, high quality meat, seafood and fine wine. It's the first Jensen's with a full-time chef, and their sushi bar is staffed seven days a week.
Located at **Catalina and Talbot**, near PLNU and on the road to the Point Loma Navy facilities, Jensen's is a popular place to pick up lunch, dinner or snacks. Soon, they plan to add breakfast items.
And Adam says they have lots of other things planned like parking lot barbeques.
PLA welcomes Jensen's Foods to the neighborhood!

Help Select Public Art for Point Loma

In 2013, the community charged Point Loma Association with the task of beautifying Nimitz Boulevard.
As part of that continuing effort, PLA obtained a Permit from the City of San Diego for improvement of the median between W. Point Loma Blvd. and Famosa Blvd. with landscaping and a pad for a future sculpture.
Now, generous patron, Dorothea Laub, has agreed to donate funds for public art on that pad.
Numerous PLA committee meetings, coordination with City Commission for Arts and Culture and review of local public artists – vetted by art curator Betsy Lane – yielded proposals from six well known artists: Alber De Matteis, Konstantin Dimopoulos, Jeffery Laundenslager, Michael Stutz, Michael Szabo and Deanne Sabeck. Concept drawings, funded by PLA, are being reviewed by the Public Art group guiding this project.
Which artist will be commissioned to create this special piece of outdoor art? Help make the decision!
Attend a public presentation of the options and register your vote on **Thursday, March 2nd at 7:00 pm at the Family Life Center at Point Loma Presbyterian ("Red Brick") Church at 2128 Chatsworth Blvd.**



A Salute to our Fight Against Blight

The Beautification Committee with its ubiquitous Mean Green Team and Graffiti Fighters remains the heart and soul of the PLA. Diligently maintaining 18 public sites in the Peninsula area, performing planting, pruning, weeding and trash removal, the team is easily recognized wearing its bright green vests.

In recent times, problems with massive trash and litter, often related to homeless encampments, have challenged the team. We have sought partnership with City of SD Environmental Services to control this blight. We have also experienced an upsurge in graffiti on walls, buildings and even on our beloved artistically painted utility boxes. Undaunted, our graffiti fighters scour, scrub and paint out the graffiti with which vandals assault our neighborhoods, frequently before it is even recognized by the neighbors.

Often unseen and little noticed we maintain the irrigation systems, welcome signs and walking paths of our community. The Committee regularly considers new projects with which to beautify the Peninsula and seeks public and private funds, grants and donations to bring these projects to reality. It is with your support that this is accomplished.

Remarkably, the volunteers on the Mean Green Team share a camaraderie and sense of fun as they perform their weekly tasks. Everyone is welcome to join us. You will be warmly embraced by this dedicated group of volunteers.



Short-term and Long-term Homeless Solutions

The homeless issue, which has inched closer to our Point Loma homes and businesses, has finally reached the politicians' porches. But it will likely take years to open the major funding door, so immediate solutions will rest with community based organizations like our own.

Mayor Kevin Faulconer, in his "State of the City" address on January 12, promised to return "safety and dignity back to the streets with homeless service funding" from a proposed hotel tax hike that would triple the homeless budget. But this won't happen until the 2018 ballot, so he's immediately increasing shelter beds coupled with a real-time hotline, creating a central assessment center for those on the street, increasing the city's psychiatric outreach team, and activating a regional social service coordination database.

Stacie Spector, ex-Clinton Deputy Communications Director and the Mayor's newly appointed Senior Advisor on Housing Solutions, admits she doesn't "think there's a silver bullet anywhere," but for the first time, the city has a single voice to coordinate homelessness, and that should streamline action.

On the Federal level, there's also long-term hope, with Representative Scott Peters' recent progress to fix an outdated U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) formula to ensure that San Diego receives its fair share of federal funding. Currently, despite having the nation's 4th largest homeless population, San Diego ranks 23rd in homelessness funding.

The short story and solution? According to Officer David Surwilo, who recently advised the PLA Board; "Instead of donating to individuals, invest in accountable organizations that give a hand-up instead of a hand-out, like Father Joe or the San Diego Housing Commission. Pulling out a dollar on the street corner slows traffic and speeds up the problem."

Visions of Point Loma 2016



Awards



Oh What a Night!



Mayor Faulconer presents PLA Lighthouse Award to Scott McMillin



Mayor Faulconer presents Exceptional Volunteer Commendation to Becky and Dan Wieder



Past PLA Chairman Robert Tripp Jackson Accepts \$5000 Grant from Councilmember Lorie Zapf

PLA Welcomes New Board Members

Point Loma Association has two new Board members! Shannon Brown, founder of Brown Marketing Strategies in Point Loma, has been a resident of the community for more than 20 years. As a PLA member she volunteers on the Visions of Point Loma annual dinner party committee and assisted with the successful PLA social mixer last fall at The Pearl Hotel. Shannon's other volunteer affiliations include International Events Group, Ocean Beach Main Street Association, South County Economic Development Council and SDX (San Diego Ad Club).

Robin Rodger grew up in Point Loma, went on to San Diego State and taught math at Einstein Jr. High. She is active with PLA on the Membership Committee. Robin is a past president of the Francis Parker Parents Association and on their Board of Directors. She is a sustaining member of MADCAPS and the Junior League of San Diego, and she plays tournament bridge.



Shannon Brown and Robin Rodger being sworn in by PLA Chairman Clark Burlingame

If you are a PLA member and are interested in joining our Board of Directors, let us know. Or visit one of our Board meetings. You're invited! We meet at 7:30 a.m. the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Bali Hai on Shelter Island.

If Board meetings are not your style, you can join a committee. Email us at info@PointLoma.org, or call us at 619-736-1732.

PLA MEMBER K. BELMONTE MARINE CANVAS - 'WIND IN HER SAILS'

Kathleen "Kitty" Belmonte is no stranger to the Peninsula. Originally from the New York area, Kitty's family moved west in the 1940's and settled in Point Loma. Her Parents, Virginia and Herb Sinhoffer purchased property on Anchorage Lane (which was the north side of today's San Diego Yacht Club), where Herb established one of the first sail making and canvas lofts, known as Sinhoffer Sails.

In addition to founding Sinhoffer Sails, the family gained a strong reputation as accomplished yacht racers including creating the SDYC hosted Sinhoffer Hot Rum racing series. As Sinhoffer Sails settled in at Point Loma Anchorage 16 year old Kitty, then a Point Loma High School student, began to immerse herself in the family business. "In 1963 PLHS was on a split schedule due to high enrollment. I would show up at school first thing and get PE out of the way. This enabled me to get out after lunch, and I then went to work at the loft". Kitty would pitch in, making Burgees for the SDYC as well as participating in numerous sailing races. Kitty's skills expanded to refurbishing Dragon boats, making vests for dolphins involved in Sub Base training as well as sewing canvas covers for the Ryan Aeronautical Company. Many famous people utilized Kitty's talents, including Jerry Lewis, Wildo Waterman and Jacques Cousteau.

In 1969 Kitty married and moved to Alaska where she and her husband added son Colt and daughter Amber to their family. Kitty once again expanded her skills by inventing a folding top for transporting Zodiacs and working on hot air balloons. In 1985 the family relocated back to San Diego where Kitty, using the knowledge she gained from sail making and hot air balloons, began designing kites and now owns K. Belmonte Marine Canvas at 4752 Voltaire St.



IT MAKES GOOD SENSE TO JOIN THE PLA!

YOU AND YOUR FAMILY CAN HELP IMPROVE OUR QUALITY OF LIFE WITH A YEARLY MEMBERSHIP.

TO JOIN GO TO OUR WEBSITE POINTLOMA.ORG AND FOLLOW THE PROMPTS, OR CONTACT OUR MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN ROBERT TRIPP JACKSON AT 619-222-5956, OR RTRIPPJ@AOL.COM. YOU CAN ALSO LEAVE A VOICE MAIL AT 619-736-1752.

UPDATE FROM COUNCILMEMBER LORIE ZAPP

Dear Point Loma Association Members,

It has been a privilege to serve the Point Loma community and all of Council District 2. During 2016, together we accomplished a great deal.

With the support of Mayor Faulconer, Supervisor Cox and Congressman Peters we were successful in lobbying the FAA to move waypoint LOWMA 1.8 miles further south to protect the Point Loma Peninsula. We also worked together to implement zoning changes in the neighborhood of Roseville to ensure the intent and integrity of the 30 foot height limit will be followed.

Additionally, we have installed new Adaptive Traffic Control Systems that reduce the impact of Navy traffic and carbon emissions in our community and on Catalina Blvd. near Silver Gate Elementary, we have installed a flashing crosswalk to provide a safer route to school. I'm looking forward to an exciting 2017! As the Chair of the Council's Committee on Economic Development, I will be focusing on job-creation, workforce readiness, reducing burdensome regulations and partnering with our education community. I will also be seeking assistance from our state and federal representatives to get San Diego's fair share of the promised funding to address problems in our communities related to drug abuse, homelessness and crime.

I will also be working with law enforcement and community based groups to raise the awareness of Human Trafficking and focusing on juvenile sex trafficking within San Diego County. As a former foster child, this is an issue near to my heart since a large percent of victims are foster care teenagers. To learn more visit <http://www.sandiego.gov/humantrafficking>

I look forward to working with you as we expand Fire Station #22, establish a Point Loma Business Improvement District, plant over 50 Torrey Pines at Sunset Cliffs Natural Park and begin design workshops for the Canon Street Pocket Park.

I have also allocated a grant of \$5,000 to help the PLA in your efforts to beautify the community. Together, let's keep working to make Point Loma a better place. Thank you for all you do!

Best wishes,
Lorie

VOLTAIRE BRIDGE UPDATE

An opportunity for a beautiful bridge!

What are the chances for a graceful bridge with swooping railing and night lighting on Voltaire Street just above the PLA's beautiful landscaping on Nimitz?

Talks between city staff and community advocates broke off in October and have not resumed.

The city would like to do a concrete base and chain-link fencing in the once-in-75-years overhaul. Community advocates counter with a swooping railing that creates a suspension-bridge effect. The cost is estimated in the \$20,000 neighborhood, possibly defrayed by private donations. SANDAG is paying for the \$1.8 million bridge overhaul.

Community advocates suggest installing the graceful railing and lights at the appropriate point.

Former City Planner and local builder Mike Stevens, longtime proponent of community involvement on the project, says people will be "favorably impressed how an experienced subcontractor can grasp the scheduling and other variables and deliver a product timely, and in full compliance with city requirements and most importantly with precise fit to the attachment/sockets hardware."

The city has countered with putting in its railing and, after the bridge is finished, tearing it up for an upgrade.

Community advocates see that as a costly recipe for failure.

By Don Sevrens

Sevrens is a community advocate and member of the Peninsula Community Planning Board.



CELEBRATE THE LEGACY OF MR. BENJAMIN'S WONDERFUL JUNIOR COTILLION WITH MUSIC, CHAMPAGNE AND DESSERT, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH, 6:30-8:30 PM AT POINT LOMA ASSEMBLY. \$10 PER PERSON. BRUSH UP ON YOUR MANNERS. AND GUYS, CONSIDER WEARING TROUSERS WITHOUT POCKETS. HE WILL BE WATCHING.
RSVP carrick@cox.net



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We appreciate our Business Members



And encourage you to support them!



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