

Mediterrania Homeowners Assn.

MEMBER NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2024

MEDITERRANIAHOA.COM

2023 Board of Directors

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NOTE: To contact the Mediterrania Board or an individual Board member, please send an email to Mediterrania@Cox.net. If you are sending to a particular board member, please put their name in the subject line.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *by Craig Whited*

Happy New Year! Our Board of Directors wishes you the best for 2024. Three new Board Members joined us during 2023, and we are looking forward to having several more of you join us this year to replace the Board Members who are transitioning off the Board after serving for many years.

We are happy to announce that we will start the year with our Annual Meeting in the Café at UCLA's new South Bay Campus on Sunday, February 4th. Registration will be at 4 pm with a light buffet dinner starting at 4:30 pm. The official meeting and election of board members will begin immediately after dinner. We will follow at 6 pm with our two speakers : The Chief Operating & Financial Officer of UCLA - South Bay, Steve Yu, and the Mayor of Rancho Palos Verdes, John Cruikshank. Be sure to come with your questions.

2023 was a busy year with events and efforts on many fronts. We continued with our plans to bring members of our community together, starting with an Annual Meeting at Samaan and Carole Bakar's home with a full update on the City from our City Manager, Ara Mihranian. We participated in the Neighborhood Advisory Committee meeting with UCLA's Chancellor, Gene Block, and in June had a Hawaiian themed get together at Bob and Shirley Wright's home with a presentation from the founder of California Cities for Local Control, Mike Griffiths. In October,

we had a Wine & Cheese social at the Bakar's home. We were happy to see so many members at our social events.

Your Board was also successful in improving the infrastructure and aesthetic appeal of Mediterrania, enhancing both our own enjoyment and our property values. We have completed six years of negotiation through the City with Crown Castle, the cellphone antenna company, on a new cellular antenna that will replace both the old AT&T antenna at the Corner of PV Drive East and Ganado and the Verizon antenna on the hillside at the top of Floweridge. This new antenna will combine both cell phone carriers into a single antenna positioned on top of a single streetlight on Ganado Drive just east of the Floweridge intersection and it promises to substantially improve cell phone reception. Only through the efforts of your Board were we able to both secure the upgrade and also obtain multiple concessions from Crown Castle, including limiting the total height of the pole and antenna, and the installation of screening vegetation with irrigation to block the new equipment.

We appreciate the compliments on our landscaping projects the past few years, including our recent project to remove the old plantings and Mediterrania sign along the upper stretch of Palos Verdes Drive East and to completely replant the area to match the landscaping at our front entrance. In addition to advocating for regular landscape maintenance performed by the City (never an easy task), the Board also supplemented the City's services with a local gardener to provide extra care to the plantings that were installed. Please join us if you would like to contribute to these efforts, as we have a Landscaping Committee specifically tasked with these projects.

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Neighborhood security remains our top priority. From a public safety standpoint, the Board has been representing Mediterrania with the City of Rancho Palos Verdes, the Los Angeles County Fire Station at Miraleste and the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, Lomita Station. While more can always be done, we are pleased to report that we continue to support City security with our Flock Security Cameras and will be providing identifying stickers to MHOA members so that their vehicles can be easily identified by the Sheriff's department if there is a problem. While we don't want to jinx our efforts, we were happy to report that Mediterrania, the only HOA in the immediate vicinity with Flock cameras, was spared from a recent series of burglaries that appear to have involved professional thieves. We also have been able to obtain some increase in patrols on the switchbacks, and will continue to push for even better enforcement which has degraded even as the risks have increased over the past number of years. Your Board also has called upon the City to take concrete measures to address the dangerous Ganado/PVD intersection. While we encourage each of you to make your voices heard individually, we have a track record of success by working together through the MHOA Board and will continue to use that clout for the benefit of everyone in the neighborhood.

On behalf of our Board Members, many of whom have been serving together for six years, we thank you for your expressions of support and hope that you will consider joining the Board of Directors for the 2024-25 year. The election is during the Annual Meeting on February 4th. And please keep in mind that our efforts are only possible through the dues paid by each of our Members. So please renew promptly and encourage your neighbors to join if you already are a Member, and please join us if you are new to the area or for some reason have let your Membership expire. The voluntary nature of the MHOA is a strength, but only if we all join together.

Hope to see you at the Annual Meeting.



MHOA Membership

Hello neighbors. My name is Samaan Bakar. My wife and I, and our family, moved into our home on Seaclaire a few years ago. Some of you have been to our home for the Wine and Cheese and Annual Meeting events we've hosted.

I am writing to encourage you all to join the Mediterrania Home Owners Association. I got involved shortly after our arrival and I am glad I got to know the Association and all that it does for this neighborhood. I would have never known if I didn't.

MHOA keeps our neighborhood SAFE - with the installation of the FLOCK cameras, we are now aware of who drives in and out of our neighborhood. I feel this has kept us safer and unaffected by the recent rash of home burglaries that victimized many surrounding neighborhoods.

MHOA has LANDSCAPED many common areas in order for this neighborhood to look beautiful and manicured. The Association pays for a gardener to help with the maintenance that the City can't supply regularly. By enhancing and maintaining the beautification of our neighborhood, it helps us all increase our property values.

MHOA has created and continues to create a FRIENDLY environment with its social events. Getting to know your neighbors helps us all stay safer and more secure. My neighbors have picked up packages and mail, pulled in my trash cans and kept an eye on my house while I'm away. This all comes from getting to know your neighbors. MHOA was instrumental in this.

So PLEASE join the Mediterrania HOA this year. Help us pay for the little niceties this Association provides. You won't be disappointed and you will be helping all of us improve our neighborhood. It's only \$50.00 per year and it's a bargain!

Thank you, Samaan.

MHOA Annual Meeting

Please join us at our Annual Meeting which will take place on Sunday, February 4th at 4:00 PM. It will be held at the UCLA - South Bay Campus (formerly Marymount College) in the Café where we have had many Annual Meetings in the past.

Guest speakers will be Steve Yu, UCLA – South Bay Chief Operating & Financial Officer and Rancho Palos Verdes Mayor, John Cruikshank.

Dinner from Raffaello's will be served at 4:30 pm. This is a BYOB event so you may bring a bottle of wine or beer to be kept at your table to enjoy with dinner.

Hope to see most of you there. If you have not already paid your 2024 dues, you may pay at the door as this is a member's only event.



New Landscaping at Mediterrania

The Mediterrania Homeowners Association has recently relandscaped the long-neglected area along Palos Verdes Drive East, north of our main entrance.

This streetside strip is now beautiful and bright with new colorful shrubs and grasses. The irrigation system was also upgraded. The next time you walk or drive by, slow down and take an appreciative look.



MHOA Membership Sticker

The MHOA has leased Flock Cameras for security of this neighborhood. The Cameras are used to record vehicles that travel into and out of Mediterrania and record the image of the rear view window and the license plate of every vehicle. The recorded image of the vehicle is instantly available to the Sheriff Department. Beginning in 2024, the MHOA will be providing two vehicle stickers to every member as this will assist the Sheriff’s Department in identifying vehicles that belong to members in our neighborhood. The sticker is to be placed on the bottom right hand corner on the rear window of our personal vehicles. Each paid household membership will be provided two stickers by the Treasurer, and if needed additional stickers can be purchased for \$5.00 each.



2024 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Considering the costs of the annual lease of the security cameras as well as ongoing expenses for landscape maintenance, we are asking everyone in the MHOA residential area to please pay the annual dues of \$50. Whether you are a homeowner or a renter, you are receiving substantial benefits in terms of the camera security and the maintenance of our entrance. You may just mail or drop it off in George’s mailbox (3415 Coolheights Drive).

(Please cut out and return in full with your Dues payment)

Mediterrania Homeowners Association
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2024

Name(s): _____

Check One: Homeowner/Member Renter/Associate Member

Address: _____

Phone(s): (Primary) _____ Other: _____

E-mail(s): (1) _____ (2) _____



Opt-Out (check): I do not wish to receive the newsletter and notifications via email.

Make your 2024 annual dues (\$50.00) payable to “Mediterrania HOA” and mail or deliver to: **George Crudge, Treasurer, 3415 Coolheights Drive, RPV, CA 90275**

Thank you for supporting your Mediterrania Homeowners Association!

Comments and Suggestions. Send in via e-mail (mediterrania@cox.net) or insert below.

NOTE: Personal info shown above will never be given, sold, or transferred to any other source. It’s for internal use by the Mediterrania HOA for purposes of maintaining member information and dissemination of newsletters and e-alerts.