

Mediterrania Homeowners Assn.

MEMBER NEWSLETTER

October 2026

MEDITERRANIAHOA.COM

2026 Board of Directors

President: Craig Whited*

Vice-President: Lois Karp*

Treasurer: George Crudge*

Secretary: Dominique Lam*

CHOA Rep: Lois Karp*

Events:

Samaan Bakar* / Patty Ott / Suzy Cyr/
Tony Dontscheff

Newsletter:

Distribution: Kamal Kerolles*

Editor: Betty Riedman

Streets & Landscaping:

Jim Hevener* / Robert Wright

UCLA NAC: Craig Whited* / Lois Karp*

Safety & Security:

George Crudge* / Hans Bozler*

THE EVACUATION ZONE FOR MHOA IS: RPV-E0175.

Go to the MHOA website to see the Zone map –
Mediterraniahoa.com/zone.htm

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 board member, please put their name in the subject line.

***VOTING MEMBER**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Craig Whited

Welcome to Indian Summer, Palos Verdes style, complete with Santa Ana winds. The extremely warm winds after a relatively cool summer, while somewhat unpleasant, should pass after a few weeks and are a small price to pay to live in our unique coastal community. Please look around and see all of the enhancements to the neighborhood that your Homeowners Association has lobbied the City to obtain to make Mediterrania an even better place to live and enjoy our homes.

■ Our annual Wine and Cheese get together will be held on October 18th from 2-5 pm (may last to 6 pm) at the Bakar's residence, 3324 Seaclaire. Be sure and bring your own wine or beer. The HOA will be providing the snacks and soft drinks for all of the adults in attendance. This year, as is our custom, we have invited the City Council candidates to come, mingle, make short speeches (8 minutes per candidate) and answer a limited number of questions. We also have invited Stephen Perestam, who serves as the Mayor Pro Temp of Rancho Palos Verdes, to join us. Please remember that this is a "members only" event. If you have not paid your annual dues of \$75, they may be paid at the door.

■ By now we expect everyone has seen all of the new signage above and below our Ganado entrance onto Palos Verdes Drive East. The Board has been urging the City for many years to make the intersection as safe as possible, and this new signage is a major step in the right direction. In addition to the speed limit reduced to 35 mph starting below Ganado, there have been multiple safe speed warning signs installed as well as both a southbound and a northbound SPEED FEEDBACK warning sign. The next phase, including the repaving of PVDE from Miraleste to the bottom of the switchbacks, as well as an expanded bike lane and a more clearly marked right turn pocket into Ganado, will be completed during this fiscal year. We will continue to lobby the City for increased enforcement activity, which in our view is the key to obtaining the benefit of the new signage, and encourage all members who attend the Wine & Cheese to do the same as they speak to Mayor Pro Temp Perestam and all of the current candidates.

■ I'm glad to report the new AT&T/Verizon cell site is upgraded and operational. The recently installed landscaping flanking the new ground-based equipment cabinet seems to be surviving the warm fall weather, thanks in large part to the individual efforts of George Crudge to hand water the plants after the operator apparently failed to pay their water bill for the automatic sprinklers. Obtaining the best cell coverage, but not at the expense of our neighborhood aesthetic, has been an ongoing effort of your Board.

■ As many of you already know, your MHOA was sued in a class action lawsuit arising out of the MHOA's participation in the City's Flock camera program: Scharon v. Mediterrania Homeowners Association, Inc., LASC

President's Message ← page 1

Case Number 26STCV20783. The Ocean Front Estates HOA also was sued by the same class action plaintiff using a nearly identical Complaint. The Board has authorized the retention of local attorney Jeffrey Lewis to represent the MHOA. Attorney Lewis will attend the Wine & Cheese and provide an oral update on the status of the case.

■ ***Volunteers needed.*** We have an opening on the Board for a new voting member. Particularly if you are new to the neighborhood, we would like you to consider joining us. We also are looking for volunteers to develop an annual kids-themed event during the Halloween to Thanksgiving period. If interested, please contact the Board. Remember our HOA is all volunteer and owns no property. We are made up of civic minded neighbors willing to make our voices heard and we urge each of you to join us and combine your voice with ours.

Hope to see you at the Wine & Cheese event.

Mediterrania

Annual Wine and Cheese Social

Sunday, October 18th

2 - 5 PM (may last to 6 pm)

Bakar Residence: 3324 Seaclaire Dr.

MHOA invites you to mix and mingle with your neighbors and discuss and hear from this year's City Council Candidates. Make your voices heard. Everyone who is a member is welcome (sadly no kids, alcohol will be present as this is a BYOB) and if you forgot to pay your 2026 dues, we will gladly accept your \$75 annual dues at the door. Non-homeowner residents can join as associate members (\$75).

WHAT TO BRING: A bottle of your favorite wine or a 6 pk of beer to enjoy. The HOA will provide snacks, waters (bubbly and still) and cookies.

THE CENTENARIAN

By George Crudge

It is with immense pride and honor the Mediterranean Home Owners Association recognizes an exemplary member of the Greatest Generation: Mr. Fred Koehler. His remarkable life journey stands as a testament, dedication and an unwavering spirit.



Born in August 1926, Fred's early years in Milwaukee were shaped by the harsh winters and the profound economic challenges of the 1930's Great Depression. These formative years, along with two brothers and two sisters for support, instilled in him a profound determination to excel despite adversity. As the youngest, he had a lot to prove.

The Centenarian → page 3

The Centenarian ← page 2

His commitment to service started when he was drafted in the U.S. Army as a Rifleman during World War II. He performed his required duty gallantly in Japan and the Philippines. His service was marked by a severe injury sustained in a serious truck accident, leading to his treatment at Fitzsimmons Army Hospital Colorado. Confronted with a critical leg injury complicated by gangrene, amputation could have been a possibility. However, Fred was incredibly fortunate to be among the pioneering recipients of penicillin treatment, a ground-breaking medical intervention that ultimately saved his leg and allowed him to recover.

Upon his honorable discharge, Fred channeled his formidable resolve into pursuing higher education. He enrolled in the University of Wisconsin, where he earned a B.S. degree in Engineering. Fortified by his new degree and wartime experiences and a desire to achieve, he moved out west and began a distinguished engineering career. He started at Howard Hughes and acquired recognition and awards that continued to UCLA where he acquired a Masters Degree in Engineering. At this time, Fred transferred to TRW where he contributed significantly for over two decades, building an exceptional and successful professional legacy.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Fred built a rich personal life. He met his beloved wife of 70 years, Priscilla, and together they raised three successful children: Steve, Paul and Berth - in their vibrant, happy and loving home in Rancho Palos Verdes.



In retirement, Fred embraced adventure with enthusiasm traveling extensively across the globe. He remained an avid hiker — conquering challenging peaks such as Mount Whitney and the formidable Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa, reaching its impressive 19,000 foot summit.

Today Mr. Koehler enjoys the panoramic view of the Pacific Ocean from his backyard where he can see the American Flag on Trump's Golf Course. Each morning he can acknowledge his neighbor President Trump a greeting for the day. It symbolizes a lifetime of profound achievements and unwavering patriotism. His journey of a life of childhood hardship to a life of extraordinary accomplishment is truly inspiring. Fred Koehler is a genuine hero whose incredible life story spans a century, filled with courage, innovation and an enduring spirit. As he approaches his 101st year, we, as his neighbors, are honored to recognize his remarkable contributions and wish him continued good health and happiness.

Keep Our Neighborhood Beautiful: Trash Bin Rules for Mediterrania

by Dominique Lam

As residents of Mediterrania, we take great pride in our beautiful views and clean streets. To keep our neighborhood looking its best and to stay compliant with City of Rancho Palos Verdes regulations, please keep these essential bin rules in mind:

- **Timing Matters:** Bins may be placed at the curb no earlier than 4:00 PM the day before collection.
- **Prompt Removal:** All bins must be removed from the curb by 10:00 PM on your scheduled collection day.
- **Out of Sight:** At all other times, bins must be stored out of public view from the street.
- **Close the Lids:** Ensure your bin lids are fully closed to prevent pests getting in and litter from blowing away.

Thank you for doing your part to keep Mediterrania beautiful!



TREASURER'S REPORT *by George Crudge*

On behalf of the Mediterrania HOA, I am writing to respectfully remind you that your annual \$75 membership dues for the upcoming year 2026 are now payable and now needed. Your dues cover many essential positive incentives for the neighborhood. Your action to become a MHOA member is a pivotal decision that will make a very positive impact in the safety of our neighborhood. I encourage you to take the time to reconsider how you can contribute for our cause. The funds from the \$75.00 a year provide the only available resources to have the ability to pay for the beautification of the front entrance, holiday themed displays, informative newsletters, a Wine and Cheese Social Event, and the Annual Meeting Dinner.

At this year's Annual Social Wine and Cheese, which will take place at Samaan Bakar's private residence located at: 3324 Seaclaire Drive, RPV, CA: Sunday, October 18, 2026, Time: 2 – 5 pm (BYOB) (**may last to 6 pm**). Everyone residing within the Mediterrania neighborhood (homeowners and renters alike) is welcome to join the MHOA and attend.

For your convenience, I will be available to receive the annual dues for 2026 at the Wine and Cheese event for those that need to contribute for our MHOA. If needed, vehicle stickers will be issued upon payment of your annual dues. Should you be unable to attend, kindly mail your dues and membership application, so we can update our records, to my address provided below on the Application Form. Please contact me with any questions. Any residents who are not already members are welcomed and encourage to attend and join the MHOA ASAP for the \$75.00 annual membership fee.

We sincerely look forward to your presence at this important community gathering and deeply appreciate your commitment and support for the MHOA.

George Crudge, Treasurer

We especially thank the listed members below for their membership in 2026.

Ajang, Mahmoud & Nasrin
Bakar, Simone & Carole
Bao, Willie & Georgina
Barger, Joseph
Bauchman, Mort & Peggy
Bertolina, Jim & Nelly
Bozler, Hans & Dianne
Brinton / Uchima, Stephanie & Darrell
Chargaff, Tom & Barbara
Chelini/Kennel, Albert/Judi
Clinehens (Canfield trust), Beverley
(Pearl's trustee)
Crudge, George & Shara
Cyr, Tom & Suzy
Deraney, Fred & Arpy
Dittmar, Tom & Chiao
Dontscheff, Anton
Dunn, Roger & Jean
Ferraro, Charles & Barbara
Flachner & Romano, Stewart &
Amparo

French, James & Susan
Goede, Walt & Carol
Goel, Arun & Krishna
Gugliuzza, Thomas & Beverly
Hansen, Wayne & Gwynn
Hartman, Kirk & Judy
Harvey / Sulkowski, Bruce & Amy
Hashimoto, Jerry & Kinu
Hevener, James & Vanessa
Hibbsman, Nora
Higinbotham, Mark & Jennifer
Hill, Deirdre
Hove, Ralph & Marilyn
Jaacks, John & Holly
James, Loretta
Karp, Lois
Keroles, Kamal & Dalia
Kim, Jihee
Kim / Yu, Brian & Susy
Klopfer, John & Jean
Kobayashi, Mariko

Kochanowski, Joyce
Koehler, Fred & Priscilla
Kollar, Bob
Lam, David & Dominique
Li, Loretta
McAlpine, COL USAF Retired, Aubry
& Patricia
Miller, Dean & Patti
Mitre, Gregory & Carmen
Mohr, Mark & Chrystal
Moon & Kim, Jung & Yoosook
Morris, Gregory & Carol
Muller, Kurt & Irene
Nakano, Sachiye
Ortolano, Joan
Ott, Don & Patty
Parker, Robert & Gail
Petersen, John & Pam
Phan / Thien, Can Quang & Nga
Redfield, Marty
Requicha, Ari & Shain

Riedman, Betty
Scherba, Mark & Barbara
Schirripa, Brent & Nadine
Schulz/Mathews, Matthew & Kesha
Sharar, Joe
Sheth, Bharti
Shim, John & Kelley
Shirley, David & Beth
Smith, Nina
Snyder, Ed & Alice
Soldoff, Stephen & Susan
Stevens, Michael & Kathy
Wang, Michael & Lily
Whited, Craig & Gilda
Wolff, Marie
Woo, Kay and Elizabeth
Wright, Robert & Shirley
Zugsmith, George & Jayne

(Please cut out and return with your Dues payment)

Mediterrania Homeowners Association

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2026

Name(s): _____

Check One: ☐ Homeowner/Member ☐ Renter/Associate Member

Address: _____

Phone(s): _____ E-Mail: _____

Make your **2026** annual dues (**\$75.00**) payable to "Mediterrania HOA"
(Check, Cash or Zelle – please include your name for identification) and mail or deliver to:

George Crudge, Treasurer, 3415 Coolheights Drive, RPV, CA 90275
661•713•5260 / georgecrudge@rocketmail.com

Thank you for supporting your Mediterrania Homeowners Association!

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.