



Hi, Five



The newsletter of, by, and for the people of Friendly Valley, Association Five

Volume X Number 1

Monday, January 7, 2019

Welcome to the new, revived *Hi Five*.

Publication dates will be the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month, excluding the 3rd Monday of December. This schedule will allow us to report on CC and Board meetings in a timely manner. All residents in Assn 5 will receive a printed copy unless they choose email. Anyone in FV may subscribe by email. A few printed copies will be placed in the office and the library for those outside of Assn 5 without email.

New Board of Directors for Assn 5 – The election held last November brought three new persons onto the Board. Dave Swartz is the president. Manny Alfaro is vice president and director of gardening. Vern Rosenquist is director of maintenance. Diane Boylan continues as secretary and Judy Robb remains as treasurer. As is their prerogative, the new Board has selected a new schedule for the Board Meetings. They will be held on the second Tuesday of each month at 2pm in the Annex. *Hi Five* will bring you the highlights of these meetings, but if you want to know what's really going on in Five, come to the meetings and observe for yourself. There is always an Open Forum for you to ask questions or express your opinions. The Agenda is posted on the Friday before the meeting on the bulletin boards next to the Security Office and in the auditorium.

Emergency vehicles – They visit FV frequently and our Security cars may follow them to their destination. Enquiring minds may wonder “What’s going on?” But don’t ask the EMTs or our Security personnel. This is private information that they cannot divulge.

Insurance renewal – The CC voted last month to renew our two insurance policies at about the same level of coverage as last year. In particular, the earthquake insurance is for \$60 million with a 7.5% deductible. This is a good time for all of us to remember that the FV insurance policies do not cover our personal possessions. For that we need condo insurance for fire and a separate condo earthquake policy.

If you don’t have those, then you are effectively “self-insuring”. Furthermore, if total damage in all of FV from one quake exceeds \$60 mil, your assn could assess all owners to cover the difference. To cover that possibility, your earthquake policy should have a “Loss Assessment” clause.

Meet a new neighbor – Ellen Brokaw moved into FV five years ago, choosing our community



for the safety and security it offers. She first rented in Assn 2, then owned in 4. In August 2018 she bought her home on Circle Knoll in Assn 5. A native Californian, she was born in Oakland and spent most of her life in Northern California. Her career was in the medical profession, the last ten years as an RN. Ellen has been a fulltime RV person, having crossed the US three times in three years visiting all the Presidential Libraries through Clinton. She has two sons, who live in Canada and Florida. Since coming to FV she has participated in numerous clubs including currently Little Theater and AM exercise with Toby. Other interests have been ceramics, dominoes, City of Hope and FV’s Citizens Conservation League. Over the years, Ellen has had experience editing newsletters for employers, church and an astronomy club and has offered her assistance with *Hi Five*. You may see her around Pitch ‘n’ Putt walking her dog, Loki. Be sure to say HELLO!

Holiday decorations contest – It started three years ago as a challenge among the residents in Assn 9, but quickly escalated as someone suggested getting all of FV involved. The idea was presented to the CC, and it took off from there. The driving force behind the contest is Keith Pierce. He and his wife Kim provide the prizes, but the judging is done by non-FV residents.

One of the top winners is shown here. But a single photo can't do justice to either the effort



or the effect created by Leatrice Peyton. Lea began doing elaborate Christmas decorations over 20 years ago. She starts right after Halloween. When she finishes in early December, it's not only the outside that is decorated but every room in her house contains one or more scenes with a Christmas or winter theme. She saves one TV tray for her meals. Lea makes many of her decorative pieces by her own hands, but she also has spent hours waiting in line at a warehouse near Magic Mountain for deeply discounted after-Christmas sales. She enjoys showing her handiwork, so don't be afraid to drop by and admire it. It's too late for this year, so we'll remind you about it next Christmas.

David and Ruth Madison in Assn 9 were awarded the other top prize in the contest.

Assn 5's place in the contest – A group of homes at the north end of Oak Highland and



Fairway Circle got honorable mention. Thirteen units were involved, but this single photo shows

only four of them. Here's another cul-de-sac on Oak Plain Drive that was well lighted, but got no prize.



Recycle totes – The City of Santa Clarita is providing, free of charge, tote baskets to help



you carry your recyclable materials from your home to your big barrel or dumpster. The totes are azure blue (email subscribers can see the color) and the size of a large wastebasket, 13½ deep, 10½ wide, and 13½ tall. If you would like to have one, contact *Hi Five* either by email or by telephone (see bottom of last page) no later than Sunday, Jan 20. Give your name and address and we will make sure you get one.

Keep your Guest List up-to-date – Avoid congestion at our front gate and embarrassing turn-aways for your guests. Your Guest List can contain frequent visitors who may drop in at any time unannounced. Do not include children or anyone who would merely be a passenger. Only a driver need identify himself. These names are best changed by notifying Security in writing to avoid misunderstandings.

The Guest List is also used for temporary names such as repair men or out-of-towners who come for a planned visit. On short notice you may call the Front Gate at 252-2666 to say who may be driving in at approximately what time and date. Be sure all your guests and service personnel know to give your name or address when they arrive.

Dwelling Live – Dwelling Live is a computer program that allows you to manage your own FV Guest List. No need to make a trip to the Security office or wait on hold or risk getting a name wrong over the telephone. If you would like to start using Dwelling Live, simply contact the FV Office. You will have to give them your email address. When your account is ready, you will get an email from Dwelling Live telling you your password and how to login. Ignore their instructions. The simple website address is <https://community.dwellinglive.com>. If you don't know how to bookmark this website, get a computer-savvy friend to help. You may (and should) change your password the first time you log in. With the Dwelling Live program, you will be able to add or delete a permanent name or add an individual or company for a specific date or time period.

Yes, that's our rotunda – For a few days last



month we were known as the “Redwood Institute for Mental Health”, at least to Paramount Studios. They were filming a movie in the FV Office. For our inconvenience FV was paid \$15,400, plus salaries for the office employees, who were required to take a three-day vacation. Our Filming Fund now contains almost \$80,000, which is targeted for repairs and improvements to our auditorium.

“Fridays with the Professors” – is an informal group that meets irregularly on Fridays from 1pm to 3pm in the Friendly Valley Church. The professors are provided by College of the Canyons. Always educational and often entertaining, the topic may be from the speaker's area of academic expertise, such as science, history, politics, or theater. It may be a hobby, such as a weapons collection or playing the bagpipes; or it could be an account of an

excursion to Europe or climbing Mount Kilimanjaro. The Winter/Spring Term begins in February. We expect to publish some of the topics in the next issue of *Hi Five*.

An invitation from the Lawn Bowls Club – Lawn Bowling is played by men and women of all ages. Come join us for bowling fun, meet your neighbors, make new friends, and enjoy our social events. Lawn Bowling is good low-impact exercise for the mind and body. Bowls and equipment are available to new bowlers at no charge, and lessons are free. Come join us for fun in the sun Tu-Th-Sat 1:30 p m. Phone George at 661-250-1002 or Roy at 661-360-3512
George Patton

Your reps to the state, county, and city - The nationwide elections last November brought about some changes. Here is a list that you might want to keep handy.
Governor: Gavin Newsom
U.S. senators: Diane Feinstein & Barbara Boxer
U.S. representative, 25th Dist.: Katie Hill
Calif. Assembly, 38th Dist.: Christy Smith
Santa Clarita City Council: Bob Kellar, Marsha McLean, Bill Miranda, Cameron Smith, & Laurene Weste

Ceramics Club - Strolling between Security and the Annex you may have noticed those adorable clay figures in the window of the Ceramics Club. Got an idea for Easter or a gnome for the yard? Purchase a figure or choose a mold and pour your own for free. Express yourself using the slab roller for flower cut-outs, or construct a gingerbread house. Experienced crafter or wanna-be, you will have as little or as much help as you ask from Judy. Watch the *Villager* for news about periodic workshops. Membership of \$50 for the year includes clay, glazes and acrylic paints, brushes, tools and firing. There is a kiln in the room which Judy operates. You may drop in on Wednesday 9 - 11:30 AM or Thursday 6 - 8 PM to meet Judy and get your questions answered. Members can set their own hours.

Ellen Brocaw

Two sheets today – We've had two months to plan for this first edition of the revived *Hi Five*, so there was a lot to write about. In the future, however, there will be only two or three weeks to gather material for publication. You can expect just one sheet (two sides) starting with the next issue.

Channel 1390 – With advancing technology, some old things get dropped by the wayside. Consider the audio and video tapes that were once the rage, or how about those cameras that used film. Well, our Channel 1390 has become a victim. When Spectrum bought Time Warner, they brought in new equipment, new ideas, and new technology. Our old analog devices just didn't cut it anymore. Maybe someday, something new will come along, but until then we still have the *Villager*, *Hi Five*, and www.friendlyvalleycountryclubwebsite.com, which we didn't have two years ago.

Community Council – Elections will be held at the March meeting. Any resident homeowner is eligible to run for chairperson. Top vote getter will become chair for two years. First runner up will become vice-chair for one year. You don't get to vote, but you do get to make sure that the meetings are run properly. Submit your resumé to the office by the end of January. The CC also needs a secretary who will take notes (or use a recording device) and translate them into Minutes. Myrta Miranda, the current secretary, is leaving that post after the March meeting.

Non-stop Security – Al Sirco warned the CC attendees that Security would be "hitting hard" and issuing citations for vehicles failing to come to a full stop at stop signs. There have been some cases of near misses of pedestrians.

Bookkeeping experience – We have a new bookkeeper in the office. Her name is Crissa Cruz and she comes with experience not only as an HOA bookkeeper, but is also knowledgeable with TOPS, the software our business office uses. Welcome aboard, Crissa.

Our library – The FV Library is an eclectic but organized collection of printed books, books on CDs, music CDs, movies on DVDs, periodicals, jigsaw puzzles, and what-not. You're welcome to browse and borrow and to donate your own items, which become the property of the library.

That the library is so well organized is due to the efforts of FV's volunteer librarian, Marilyn Hornbeck. Marilyn has lived in FV Assn 3 for 11 years. Soon after coming here, a friend gave her a truck-load of books for the FV library. When she came to deliver them, what she found was a "pathetic mess". She had worked in a well organized high school library, so she knew it shouldn't be like that. Working seven days a week for two months, she and an assistant got the place organized. For the last seven years, Marilyn has been the "sole proprietor". Materials in the library are for FV residents only, and there are two main rules. Number one is "Return your borrowed items in a timely manner." The second rule is "Do not attempt to re-shelve anything. Just leave it on the table for Marilyn."

Hi Five by email – If you have email, consider getting your *Hi Five* that way. You'll save the publisher some paper and ink, and the deliverer a few steps to your front door. Send a note to HiFive@socal.rr.com asking to be put on our email list. As a bonus, our pictures will be in color, and your *Hi Five* will arrive on Sunday, the day before each publication date. You will also get an email reminder of Board and CC meetings, including the agenda, as well as special relevant alerts, such as a recent one announcing the change in meeting time for the Five Board. Subscribers will not receive any junk email from being on the *Hi Five* email list.

The Foot Patrol, et al – Wendy Alfaro, Andrea Baker, Joyce Hall, Judy McDowell, Arlene O'Kray, Diana Pedrick, and Liz Talbot are the ladies who deliver *Hi Five* to your door. I could use a couple of back-ups. Men, where are you? Two other volunteers, Ellen Brokaw and Barbara Rosenquist, are serving as reporters covering board meetings and CC meetings.

Thanks – to Maryalys Hill and Fred Smith for helping *Hi Five* get off to a good start.

Next issue of *Hi Five* – January 21, 2019.

Wise or Otherwise

"Money doesn't make you happy. I now have \$50 million but I was just as happy when I had \$48 million." - *Arnold Schwarzenegger*

This "telephone" has too many shortcomings to be seriously considered as a means of communications. - *Western Union Internal memo, 1876*

Hi Five is an unofficial publication by Frank Jordan. Contact him at HiFive@socal.rr.com or 661-251-5765. Use this e-mail for *Hi Five* business only. Please do not include this address in any forwarding or mass mailing list.

Hi Five is available to anyone in Friendly Valley who has email.