



Riviera Garden Club

Sea Breeze

COSTA VERDE DISTRICT, CGCI, PACIFIC REGION, NGC

Volume 60, Issue No. 2

Nov. Dec. 2017

FROM OUR PRESIDENTS



Gloria Balcom and Linda Rosenfeld

It seems like we are always welcoming you back. We look forward to sharing 2018 with you and seeing you in January. We hope you had a great holiday filled with the joy of being with your family and friends.

RGC is filled with generous people and many of you contributed Christmas gifts to the Salvation Army Angels or men's supplies to Harbor UCLA Medical Center. THANKS!

Our club has many interesting and fun plans for the upcoming couple of months. Our **Jan. 23 general meeting** will cover plumerias. The speaker will teach us "everything there is to know about growing plumerias."

Mary and Joseph Retreat in Rancho Palos Verdes, is the perfect setting for our special event on **February 27**. We will be sending out more details shortly. We hope all members will attend and we encourage you to **invite a guest**.

A **luncheon buffet** is planned and will be followed by our special **guest speaker, Judy Gerber**. Judy, a local historian and author, will discuss the history of farming in our area. Along with **some surprises**, Feb. 27 promises to be a great day!

We are jumping ahead to **April 7** for a specific reason, our **garden sale**. Like most years, RGC has a plant sale. But unlike most years, we have decided to change its name to a "Garden Sale". As you know, the garden sale is vital to our club's gift giving. To coin the phrase and thinking in monetary terms, "what goes in must come out", our garden sale provides the most revenue for our RGC community outreach projects as well as for the scholarships we give to high school and junior college students. We are proud to say that through our fundraising events, we have been able to sustain our giving over the past years. **Our objective for a successful Garden Sale is why we stress your participation**. Thank you in advance for helping to make it a success! **More will be written about the GARDEN SALE CATEGORIES on page 8.**

Our Gift Giving Committee will meet soon and will decide where and how much our club can give this year. Of all the clubs in the Costa Verde District, RGC is at the top for dollars given in donations and we want to maintain this.

Happy New Year to you!
We wish you the best in 2018!

Linda and Gloria

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CHARITABLE GIVING THANK YOU

Toni Sargent, who has taken the responsibility of handling the Salvation Army Christmas Angel project for several years, reports that 58 children benefited from RGC members' gift giving. These children might have gone without a present under the tree this Christmas. But because of you, they will experience the joy of the holiday season.

Allsion Jones, reports that she will continue to accept donations of men's items for the Harbor UCLA Medical Center repository. She will deliver our RGC donations AFTER CHRISTMAS as the clothing and supplies are NOT holiday gifts. These items are given to needy male patients. Call Allison for pickup **310-977-8797** of any later donations.

MEMBER NEWS AND TIDBITS

GET WELL WISHES TO:

Bobbie Davison **Carole Lefevre**
and **Judy Unrine**

WELCOME NEW RGC MEMBERS!

Mary Alessandra-Cook
Wendy Eddy
Marlene Ennis
Terri Grijalva
Brenda Holcomb
Jane Long

HAPPY BIRTHDAY RGC FRIENDS!

JANUARY

Jeannie Brown	5
Linda Rosenfeld	7
Ellyn Meikle	13
Mary Varieur	16
Bertie Wood	16
Diane Hayden	27

FEBRUARY

Rita Wagstaff	22
Dina Wiley	26
Marie Hoffman	28

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jan. 16 Tuesday RGC board at the home of Bernice Slocovich 310-938-1938 9:30 am

Jan. 23 Tuesday RGC General meeting
Torrance Airport 9:30 am *PLUMERIAS* by David Konishi

Feb. 20 Tuesday RGC board at the home of Toni Sargent 310-378-7856 9:30

Feb. 27 Tuesday RGC meeting 9:30
SPECIAL EVENT & LUNCHEON

Mary and Joseph Retreat Center
5300 Crest Road RPV

You may invite a guest to this event!

PHOTOS OF PAST RGC EVENTS



Connie Moseley, Nancy Weaver and Geneva Martin on the Nov. 15 bus trip to the Ranchos



Rancho Los Cerritos bus trip
Ellyn Meikle, Joani Thompson,
W Wendy Tsuji and Kathryn Joiner



Tecki Poletti, Sharon Saffer and Pam Barret-Hill at Dominguez Rancho



Rancho Los Cerritos Marie Hoffman,
Connie Moseley and guide Fran Woods



Guide Fran Woods with Geeta Gupta and Wendy Tsuji



Claudeene Lyon Pam and Jim Hill (Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus) Dec. 3



Donated Salvation Army Angel gifts and men's items for Harbor UCLA Hospital



Dominguez Rancho Kitchen
Is this how Tecki Poletti prepares all her delicious holiday desserts?



Dec. 3 Holiday party entertainment with RGC members as vocalists



Diane and Paul Hayden with Toni and Dave Sargent at RGC Dec. 3 holiday party



SCBG officer Danielle Brown and family “dress” a scarecrow at Kids’ Club event. RGC members were volunteers. Oct. 29



Toni Ziegler, Marilyn Rubin, Mary Varieur Costa Verde District Dec. 6 holiday party wearing repurposed/recycled outfits

A CELL PHONE JOKE

I just realized something!

People are *prisoners* of their phones.

That’s why they’re called **CELL** phones!



Jim Hill with Jim & Pam Barrett-Hill’s granddaughter at SCBG Kids’ Club Halloween event Oct. 29

HOPKINS WILDERNESS PARK



Jacob Varvarigos, president of South Bay Parkland Conservancy (SBPC), directs the removal of non-native vegetation.



South High Ecology Club Volunteers help install native plants at Wilderness Park

Hopkins Wilderness Park

1102 Camino Real Redondo Beach,

Open 10 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. closed Wednesdays

Article information sources:

SBPC Dec. newsletter by Jacob Varvarigos, president
Redondo Beach Localista Magazine

History of Hopkins Wilderness Park

The hillside of today's Hopkins Wilderness Park was originally used as a lookout place by the Chowinga Indians. The Chowinga village at Malaga Cove had been inhabited for at least 7,100 years. At the site of today's AES power plant in Redondo Beach there were wetlands and a saltlake. These wetlands were a source of food (halibut, lobster, sea bass) and salt for the local Chowinga Indians. Centuries passed.

During the Cold War from 1956 to 1963, *unnamed* Hopkins Wilderness Park was Nike Missile Site LA-57. Nike sites throughout the U. S. were designed as the last line of defense against possible Soviet bombers.

In 1977 Hopkins Wilderness Park was named for Francis E. Hopkins. Hopkins had served as Redondo Beach city manager from 1954 to 1972 and led the effort to acquire the land. In 1977 the city remade the former missile site into a wooded pocket park. The park includes 11 acres of hills, paths, trees and a pond.

Today from the hill on the western edge of the park, you can still see over Redondo Beach to the sea, just like the Chowinga Indians could centuries ago.

RESTORATION GOALS for Wilderness Park

South Bay Parkland Conservancy has joined with R B City staff, youth organizations, and community members to complete over 200 work hours of clean up and restoration to the lower pond area. Below are the **GOALS**.

1. Restore the lower pond
2. Enhance native habitat throughout park
3. Create community & botanical gardens
4. Create more opportunity for community engagement
5. Create vital, productive, and functional landscapes within the park

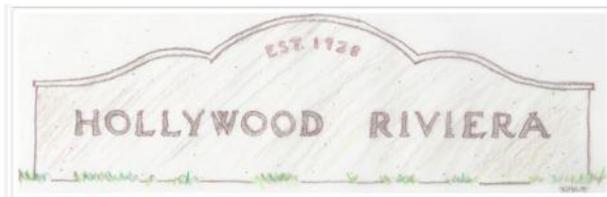
HOLLYWOOD RIVIERA MARKERS

By **Marilyn Rubin** from **Karen Lent's** articles

Hollywood Riviera will be officially identified by two markers. The Hollywood Riviera marker project began in 2012 by the "Friends of the Hollywood Riviera". Planning and design of the markers have been completed. Torrance City Council gave its approval on Dec. 7, 2017.

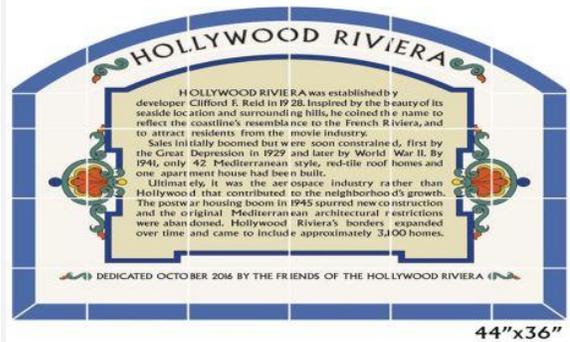
Marker 1 will be placed at the original 1928 entrance to the Hollywood Riviera at the **corner of Monte D'Oro and Palos Verdes Blvd.** It will be a *smaller than planned* (14 feet long by 5 feet high) "break-away" structure for safety reasons.

"HOLLYWOOD RIVIERA" will be on the front. Our community's historical details will be on the back. The front uses a font that is a close replica of the one used in original promotional materials for the neighborhood. Below are the artist's conceptions of the front and back:



The rear of the marker will document a brief history of the Riviera and will be set using custom/period tiles.

Dedication Sign Concept - Hollywood Riviera



The entire text above reads:

The Hollywood Riviera was established by developer Clifford F. Reid in 1928. Inspired by the beauty of its seaside location and surrounding hills, he coined the name due to his familiarity with the French Riviera and to attract residents from the movie industry. Sales initially boomed but were soon constrained, first by the Great Depression in 1929 and later by World War II. By 1941, only 42 Mediterranean style, red-tile roof homes and one apartment house had been built. Ultimately, it was the aerospace industry rather than Hollywood that contributed to the neighborhood's growth. The postwar housing boom in 1945 spurred new construction and the original Mediterranean architectural restrictions were abandoned. Hollywood Riviera's borders expanded over time and came to include approximately 3,100 homes.

Marker 2 will be at the intersection of **Palos Verdes Blvd. and PCH.** This vintage stone marker at the boundary of Torrance and Redondo Beach will be renamed. The wording will change from *just* TORRANCE to **HOLLYWOOD RIVIERA, TORRANCE.**

GARDEN/PLANT SALE April 7

**“We want every RGC member to help!”
say RGC presidents, Linda and Gloria!**

Pulling for total RGC membership participation, five categories have been created for this year’s Garden Sale:

- 1) Plants from seeds or seedlings;
- 2) Plants from our own gardens (bulbs, cuttings)
- 3) Rare succulents and air plants
- 4) Medium to high-end gift plantings in decorative pots or baskets;
- 5) Unique garden art that is either donated or hand-made.

If you **have not signed up** for a category, please do so at the January meeting or call either **Gloria Balcom 310-378-5464** or **Linda Rosenfeld 310-600-6067** to add your name to one of the lists. There is not really a “*hard to do*” category above. If you have already signed up, **THANKS!**

**Sea Breeze Editor Marilyn Rubin
Riviera Garden Club**

**Check out our website at
www.rivieragardenclub.org**



Email to:

president@rivieragardenclub.org

LANDSCAPE AWARD

DECEMBER 2017

Hollywood Riviera Outstanding Landscape awards will now be given quarterly by **Riviera Garden Club** and **Riviera Homeowners’ Association**



**The Perez family
101 Via La Circula Redondo Beach**

The owners of this beautiful Spanish style home are **Ronald and Andrea Perez**. Pictured are **mother Barbara Perez**, Andrea and Ronald Perez with their **dog Duke**. The garden design was created by Mike Perez. The plantings around this large corner lot home are colorful and drought resistant.

RGC landscape award committee:
Lynn Fernandez & Bobbie Davison