



MAY 2009 HOA NEWSLETTER

Benchmark Landscape Services: Beginning may 15th, this community will be switching our landscape maintenance provider to Benchmark Landscape Services. Benchmark has been maintaining our catch basins for many years and has exhibited a commitment to efficient irrigation management and water conservation practices. Benchmark was founded in 1984 to provide landscape installation services to San Diego's homebuilders. From the very beginning, Benchmark was focused on delivering quality landscaping and exceptional service. Please don't be alarmed to see new uniformed crews in our community and help welcome them to our team.

Annual Meeting: The next annual meeting will be 6:30PM June 11th, at the East Valley Community Center.

HOA Board of Directors Ballot: Candidate ballots are being mailed to homeowners in mid May. Please remember that your participation is critical. In order to meet the quorum requirements imposed by the Bylaws, ballots must be returned by one-fourth (1/4) of the total eligible Association vote (73 Lot owners). Failure to obtain a quorum will result in additional costs that you can all help us all avoid.

Candidate Application: *Correction.* Last month's newsletter included an application page that incorrectly described the commitment of elected Board Members. All three Board of Directors seats are up for election. Board members are elected in odd-numbered years for a **term of two (2) years**, as indicated in Article 2.4 of the Bylaws.

Increasing Association Fees: Our homeowner fees are on the rise. The Hidden Trails operating budget has been depleting our reserves for many months. To cope with our Association's utility costs increases, the board has approved an increase to \$100 per unit per month. Below, the five year funding plan projects a \$15.00/month dues increase for fiscal year 2009-2010, a 20% dues increase in fiscal year 2010-2011, and an annual increase of 3% each year through fiscal year 2011-2012 to 2013-2014.

Fiscal Year	Projected Monthly Dues
2009-2010	\$100.00
2010-2011	\$120.00
2011-2012	\$124.00
2012-2013	\$127.00
2013-2014	\$131.00



Escondido's Heritage: In Spanish the word "escondido" means "hidden." Today, as in the past, Escondido is often referred to as the "hidden valley." In the 1890s, the mayor of Escondido attempted to popularize the sunny climate by referring to the Sun Kissed Vale rather than the Hidden Valley. The spelling changed to Sunkist when Escondido citrus flourished, and the fruit was marketed under the Sunkist brand. Sunkist had a huge packing plant here in Escondido, and the citrus went out on trains to grocers all over the country. The image below is from Thomas Show's Ranch near present-day Valley Parkway and Hidden Trails Rd.



HOA Officers (*all are volunteers): President: James McNair (760) 743-1386;
Vice-President: Bob Dunbar (760) 741-5334; Secretary/Treasurer: Jane Albo.

Design Review Committee: Co-Chairs: Marcus Harrel (760) 740-9131 & Darryl Turner.
Adjunct members: Rick Wood, Dennis Van Rumund. Meetings typically held 6PM, second Tuesdays at Soprano's Restaurant, 360 Midway Ave.

Property Manager: Becky Burchard, rburchard@menas.com, Menas Realty (760) 942-2667 or (858) 270-7870 x 14. Visit <http://www.menas.com> for contact info regarding billing or repairs.

City of Escondido, Code Enforcement (graffiti): 839-4650
East Valley Community Center: 2245 East Valley Parkway, 839-4382
Newsletter Editor: Bob Dunbar
Website: <http://www.hiddentrailshoa.com> ; webmaster@hiddentrailshoa.com