

the VOICE

OF THE CARMEL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

CELEBRATING 33 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

JANUARY ♦ FEBRUARY 2020

The Future of Our Town – CRA is Listening

In January of last year, the CRA presented one of our most successful events, a look to the future for our Village, “Carmel-by-the-Sea—25 Years On.” We went to our enthusiastic membership who collectively encouraged us to do it again, that is to revisit the subject of sustaining the good life in our hometown, and to seriously discuss the natural pitfalls which loom on the near horizon.

We’ve listened to the membership and to that end we’ve brought together a panel of local experts with various backgrounds and disciplines in the environment, architecture, village character and local history as it impacts the present and the future of the Village.

Many local residents will have known of our panel members from our first “looking forward” event and from their writings and interviews in various publications.

Mike DeLapa is an environmentalist. A question he has been asking for many years: can we prepare for a future of possible environmental extremes in our daily lives? How will on-going development affect our lives and that of our county, state and country? The climate issue is in the news every day, in every media outlet, in conversations loud and in whispers over the back fence.



PHOTO: MIKE BUFFO, AERIAL CINEMATOGRAPHER

Douglas Schmitz will look to our future through a window of the past.

What happened in the last 100 years of Carmel’s existence may well instruct what the future holds.

Karyl Hall will join the panel this year. Good to know she comes to us with a wealth of information regarding Carmel’s architectural history.

Karyl sits currently on the Carmel Historic Preservation Board.

Stephanie Locke promises to take another and current perspective on all things Carmel that relate to design, building permits and future planning. Her expertise can be helpful to those residents wishing to build, remodel or make changes to their properties.

The Carmel Residents Association welcomes members and friends to an

evening of serious dialogue centered on the very future of this small, cherished enclave of involved citizens by the sea. Members and guests may have specific questions they would like to ask our panelists. Please feel free to send those questions to our editor: Tom Parks, Box 1304, Carmel, CA 93921 or mrtobypal@comcast.net

We will meet Thursday, January 30, Carpenter Hall, Sunset Center at 5:00 pm. Enjoy a glass of wine at a casual social hour

with your neighbors after the program. It’s free and open to all. ■

CRA Program *The Future of Our Town*

Thursday, January 30th
5:00 pm

Carpenter Hall
at Sunset Center
Mission St. south of 8th Ave.

*Wine social hour will follow.
Free and open to all.*

Please remember that January is membership renewal month. Please see envelope inside this issue.



We Look, But Do We See?

Perhaps I am being too protective of our Village, Carmel-by-the-Sea, with my concern for the small stuff—and of course, my thinking is colored by the fact that I moved here so long ago. Yet,

ans. However, a harder issue to resolve is the interior big-city lighting in downtown shops which does little to enhance the ambiance of our small-town Village. In earlier times when we walked around at

our town, it is those very streets with tree canopy that gives us a feeling of a warm hometown.



PHOTO: NIC COURY

Sharing this view was Nore Winter, a Colorado-based design consultant invited to Carmel years ago to help develop design guidelines. He promoted the importance of trees as well as rustic fences as a unifying force, defining Carmel as a small village in a forest. The Planning Commission is in the process of reviewing Nore Winter's guidelines. Now seems the time to bring him back to assess the changes, for better or worse, which may have taken place in the twenty years since he was last here.

One recent change becoming more evident is the trend toward modern architecture juxtaposed with our charming, sometimes whimsical houses. This can work against the community's vision for our neighborhoods (see photo this page). Visitors come here to escape their hectic lives in the cities. They don't want to see harshly lit stores, stark modern buildings on treeless streets. They come here to immerse themselves in the culture, beauty, warmth and tranquility of our quaint village lifestyle.

As I said in the beginning, my concerns may be small stuff, but taken cumulatively, such details can erode the image we work so hard to create and maintain. Again, as we look, do we really see? ■



This photo is worth 1000 words.

Visitors come here to escape their hectic lives in the cities. They don't want to see harshly lit stores or stark modern buildings on treeless streets.

we often look but do not see, as things change though time. And so, it becomes even more important that we guard our distinctive small-town character by taking into consideration the details that have made our Village so unique.

For example, the lighting in our commercial district has become an issue of concern. Fortunately, we now have aesthetic lighting on our Ocean Ave medi-

night, soft light coming from the shops and restaurants would spill out onto the sidewalks and create a romantic glow.

Another detail of concern is the need for more trees in our right of way (ROW). This is city-owned land between a front fence and the street edge. However, homeowners are allowed to improve and beautify their property by planting trees in the ROW. As we walk or drive through

Strategic Planning Session

This past month the City conducted a strategic planning session. The CRA was represented at this meeting and the highlights are posted on the What's New section of our website. Community engagement turned out to be the top priority and the CRA is committed to working hand-in-hand with the City to help with this critical issue.

The CRA Board of Directors wishes all our members and the community a safe and healthy New Year!



Our latest Voicemap tour has been released! Downtown Carmel-by-the-Sea in an Hour Walking Tour is approximately 2 miles and as the name implies, takes about an hour to complete. It is full of information about Carmel's history and its' founders. You can purchase this tour and the other available Carmel walking tours at the Chamber Visitors Center, online at the Voicemap App or on Trip Advisor. To get all the info on the tours and related blogs go to: <http://bit.ly/carmeladventures>.



Crafting a Marketplace

On a cold Saturday morning around 4:00 am, my Mr. Coffee was cranking out a large thermos of coffee. Armed with this and some hot chocolate, my sister Cheryl and I made the short walk to the Sunset Center parking lot. Except for an illegally parked Mercedes the lot was empty. By 4:30 am, 18 city employees and volunteers as well as a few of Carmel's finest were in action. Carmel Towing was set to remove the Mercedes but the CPD was able to contact the owner who happily removed the vehicle himself. Within a span of two hours, this space would be transformed into a wonderland of 84 craft vendors and by 9:00 am hundreds of customers would be browsing an array of hand-crafted goods at the 2019 Homecrafters Marketplace.

Just before the sun came up I purchased some fresh pastries from Nielsen's Market for our appreciative work crew. Since I had decided to make this my next "Out and About" article I spent a few minutes with three of the early arriving vendors.

At 5:30 am City Administrator Chip Rerig checked in Sally Snyder from Carmel Valley. Sally creates unique items from ceramic, enamel and silk screening; and plants a variety of her pots with succulents. She also sells staghorn ferns on wooden backboards. This was her 2nd year at the Fair and she remarked, "I love this show! It is professionally run and well worth the effort to participate." She graciously donates a percentage of her proceeds to support a local grassroots effort called Solid Earth that aids unsheltered women on the Peninsula.

A few minutes later, Sara Burns, in her 15th year working the Fair, arrived and set-up opposite my "barista" table. Sara is a metalsmith/jewelry artist from Carmel Valley who learned her craft at Monterey Peninsula Collage 20 years

ago. All of her work begins as either a flat sheet of metal or round wire which she forges, corrugates, solders or etches to create beautiful earrings, necklaces, pins and pendants. While Sara sells her work



2019 Homecrafters Marketplace

in shops, she is a regular at craft shows. She told me, "I've done shows all over the country, but this one is well supported by the locals and I'm fortunate because they love my work. It's a great show!"

The next to arrive were the "Groovy Glass Blowers" comprised of three artists, Nancy Francioli, Mark Stephenson and Alan Masaoka. These three have been blowing glass together for 16 years and have participated in the Marketplace for 14 of them. While Alan makes glass work his full-time profession, Mark, by day, is a marine biologist and Nancy a dental hygienist. Alan told me, "We participate because of our love for this community. This is a creative social gathering where we meet wonderful people many of whom

come back each year to acquire more of our glass creations."

The Homecrafters Marketplace is part of a coordinated effort under the auspices of one of the best kept secrets in the Village...the Communities Activities Commission (CAC). Margi Perotti, the Community Activities Coordinator, manages this event as well as ten other

city sponsored events. The CAC issues approximately 40 permits each year and while they make it look easy, it's not. Every event that takes place in the Village has to be extensively planned. All those parking signs & porta-potties popping up overnight don't happen by themselves!

Simultaneously this year the Woman's Club sponsored a holiday craft sale and there was another at All Saints Church. The Carmel Foundation held their Annual Holiday Bazaar and the Church of the Wayfarer had a Holiday Faire. These events, and others like them, capture the spirit of what makes Carmel the special place that it is and should always be. It's great to live in a community that cares about its artists. ■

Starting from Scratch

By Doug Schmitz

You have just been elected to the city council of a new municipality. You have no public governance experience. Your agency has no regulations or laws, no zoning ordinance, no police department, only two “staff” members who were

Supervisors certified the election results, which it did on 31 October. The Board of Trustees held its first meeting on 6 November, a celebratory session of swearing into office Board members Peter Taylor, George Beardsley, Eva K. deSabra, D.W. Johnson and A.P. Fraser. Fraser was selected as President (Mayor) of the Board. The City Clerk, J.E. Nichols, a member of the volunteer fire department, also took the oath, as did L.S. Slevin as treasurer. Ordinance Number One was approved, setting forth the time and place (first Tuesday of each month, at 7:30 pm) at a location where a sign was to be posted proclaiming the Board would meet there. (The first meeting was at J. W. Hand’s real estate and insurance office.)



Mr. George F. Beardsley, member of the first City Council of Carmel-by-the-Sea (Contributed by Mrs. D. E. Nixon.)

elected on the same ballot as you but have no previous governmental involvement. The city you now govern has no paved streets, no storm drainage system, no fire hydrants, no sewer system, no street lighting, no budget for fiscal guidance. There are no local rules to direct the council on its internal functioning, how often it should meet, how to notify the public of its meetings, no established physical location for its gatherings. Oh, where to begin? Welcome to the board of the newly incorporated City of Carmel-by-the-Sea in November and December 1916.

Elected on the day of the incorporation vote, 26 October 1916, the original leaders could not begin creating a city until the Monterey County Board of

ing, the minutes noting that the structure was “...on the northwest corner of Ocean Ave and Dolores St.” On the agenda for that meeting, which commenced at 7:35 pm, were communications from the County Assessor and the District Attorney regarding the official boundaries of Carmel-by-the-Sea and the status of Road District Tax Money due the new City. Correspondence was also read during the meeting from a number of California cities in response to the Carmel clerk’s request “as to their methods of collecting taxes, licenses, salaries of their officers, etc.”

Fraser appointed Taylor and Johnson to meet with agents of Monterey County Water Works on “fire mains and hydrants”

and authorized the Clerk to solicit bids for the publication of official City notices. Midway through the session, there was the reading of the second city ordinance, entitled “An Ordinance Establishing Rules for Conducting the Proceedings of the Board of Trustees of The City of Carmel-by-the-Sea, and Providing For The Punishment Of Any Member Or Any Person For Disorderly Behavior At Any Meeting Of Said Board.” The Board then directed the Clerk to have the new regulation published in the Pine Cone.



An appearance was made by Mr. Thomas Reardon offering to “erect a building for the Board” on the northeast corner of Ocean Avenue and Lincoln Street for a city hall. In a future meeting, the Board would turn down this option. Reardon’s lot, along with several properties owned by others, would later be sold to Ella Reid Harrison for the future site of the Harrison Memorial Library. At this meeting, Fraser appointed deSabra and Taylor to meet with Reardon and “to investigate” and report back.

Nichols was given authorization to seek information from the League of California Municipalities for copies of ordinances of other cities regarding bonding of officials, business licenses, a municipal “pound,” aka animal kennel, rules pertaining to “Trees Not To Be Cut Without The Permission Of The Board” and regulations regarding the punishment for the discharge of firearms within the City.

The meeting concluded with the discussion of a City Seal, the Board tentatively accepting “the one (1) with the design of the Old Mission.” The final motif would be adopted at a future conclave.

Trustee George Beardsley moved, with a second by Trustee Taylor, that the second meeting of the Carmel-by-the-Sea Board of Trustees adjourn “until the next regular meeting to be held, Jan. 2, 1917 as per Ordinance No. 1.” The 5 December meeting adjourned at 10:10 pm.

The new Board was on its way. So was the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea. ■

David Maradei — Honor those who Honor Youth

In a program sponsored by The Community Partnership for Youth, Carmel's David Maradei was justifiably honored for his many years of watching over and mentoring the young people of Monterey County. The theme, "Honor Those Who Honor Youth" fits more than comfortably

ocean-side village called Carmel-by-the-Sea. How'd that happen?

I had never been to Carmel. One day a long-time pal and I decided to drive down to see what all the talk was about. We visited the beach and the forest and



David Maradei

with the man who has been our neighbor for over forty years. An inveterate traveler, station master of our Post Office, former City Council member, Executive Director of the Child Abuse Prevention Council of Monterey County (and there's more), Mr. Maradei has just recently settled down to retirement. Not for long, we suspect.

■ Raised in Illinois, migrated to San Francisco by way of Denver and Portland, you settled down in a little

the little, perfect ocean-side Village. That's when I decided to return. This was in '66. So, I came back, it wasn't a visit at that time, I stayed—and I'm still here.

I had worked for the postal department in San Francisco for a short time and so I applied to the postmaster in Carmel for a job. And it turned out to be a wonderful job, 1975-1991. Here I was in a position to meet most of the residents of this little Village. Box holders didn't just come for their mail pickups, but to connect—talk, gossip, share ideas.

■ In the early nineties you turned in your postal badge and looked to Europe for quietude, and even adventure.

I chucked it all. That is, I put my few possessions in storage, said goodbye to my friends and flew out of town. Never to return? No, I knew where I wanted to live, I just wanted something else for what I decided was one year. I'll never forget the feeling as I sat in the clouds on my way to a new adventure. I reached in my pocket and realized I didn't own one key. I was free.

By Tom Parks



I spent a year in a tiny town in Italy, a life-affirming experience, and one that I've never forgotten—every detail, every friendship found, every surprise around every corner.

■ On your return to your home in Carmel you were encouraged to enter local politics. You sat on a few commissions before considering a run for City Council where you served for four years. Can you give us a sense of that experience? And what are your thoughts regarding city government today?

During my tenure, 1982-1986, I believe we accomplished a great deal in governance relevant to upgrading dated tracking systems, hiring, monitoring staff, etc. It was a good and productive time.

Today in Carmel? The public voted and they got what they wanted. There is, too many times, an over emphasis on the business district. I understand this—it's taxes, and the City needs the revenue. But since the founding of this Village over 100 years ago it is writ large that Carmel is primarily a residential town. Which begs the question: business over residents? No. But businesses and tourism seem to loom large in the minds of the folks at City Hall.

■ Your work with and in support of young people is very much on your mind these days after 19 years of serving disadvantaged youths.

I now have the time to write. I'm preparing a book about my most fulfilling undertaking: that of mentoring a young man with virtually no future, but a youngster with humor, intelligence and humanity. We spent a year in Europe together. This young man graduated college, made a life for himself and today is the Senior Fellow of the Green Alliance in London, England. The upshot? I learned more from him than he ever learned from me.

Many thanks, David. A remarkable journey. ■

VIP Program Update



The CRA is proud to announce that our Village Incentive Program (VIP) is turning 1 year old this month! Enthusiasm continues to grow as our members understand the importance of shopping and dining locally. We now have 48 businesses participating in this program. All you need to do is show your VIP card to receive offers exclusively for our members.

The latest VIP participants include:

- Chef Pèpe’s Vesuvio, as well as his Little Napoli, Bistro Italiano, where you will receive 15% off your total bill at either location.
- Carmel’s Bistro Giovanni has also been added to the VIP program where they offer 10% off your entire check.

For a full list of participating restaurants & merchants go to: carmelresidents.org/vip/.

CRA ALERT

MARCH 3—AN IMPORTANT DAY FOR OUR VILLAGE

Sales taxes are a reality all over the country and all over the world.

In Carmel, our town, sales taxes pay for maintaining our green infrastructure, our beach, forested natural areas, our sidewalks, our civic buildings and add to the list, the obligation to fund Sunset Center.

On March 3 Carmelites will be asked to vote a ½% increase in sales tax for 20 years with a return estimate of \$4.5 million each year. This increase is essential and in keeping with so many cities and small towns throughout the State.

The Carmel Residents Association enthusiastically supports this sales tax measure. Please mark your ballots for protecting and sustaining life in a place that we all cherish.

+ Red Cross Blood Drives

- Thursday, January 30 - Capital Insurance Group in Monterey 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, February 4 - Church of the Wayfarer in Carmel-by-the-Sea 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, February 19 - Shoreline Church in Monterey 10:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Saturday, March 14 - Quail Lodge and Golf Club in Carmel Valley 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Saturday, March 21 - The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Seaside 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Blood drive information can be found on the Red Cross website at redcrossblood.org for both address information and for making appointments. You can also call 1-800-733-2767.

Experience the “Art of the Plate”

Keep your eyes open for info about how to join in on the first annual Carmel-by-the-Sea Culinary Week, January 19-26, 2020. Experience the “Art of the Plate” when more than 25 restaurants within our one-square-mile Village will offer special prix fixe menus, incentives, and immersive events throughout the week. It’s a great way to try some new eateries in town or go back to your favorites.

Adios Marc!



CRA Board presents certificate to Marc

At his last meeting as Planning Director of Carmel-by-the-Sea, the Carmel Residents Association presented Marc Wiener with a framed letter of appreciation. We hope Marc will hang this certificate when he gets to his new office in Laguna Beach and keeps it as a reminder of his years of pleasant interactions with the residents of this Village.

Membership Month

Here we are at CRA renewal month. We invite everyone, property owners and renters alike to join or renew. And we ask that you please invite your friends to be a part of our dynamic organization! Please use the membership envelope enclosed in this issue or go to carmelresidents.org to find the online form and enjoy all the benefits of being a member of the CRA including our very timely publication, *The Voice!*

Thank you very much for your renewals, donations and volunteer contributions. We present many civic events and your help is greatly appreciated.

2019 Holiday Gala



2019 Holiday Gala

Over 100 Carmelites gathered Saturday, December 14th to celebrate another year of being good stewards of our beloved Carmel-by-the-Sea. La Playa was decked out in holiday fashion as we celebrated with good food, wine and conviviality. The live and silent auctions were a great success and it was heartening to see the involvement of our new members. Many thanks to Sue and Fred Taylor for chairing the event and to Sherry Williams and Linda Southers for the auction items. La Playa staff did a terrific job and much gratitude to local winemakers who supported the event including Caraccioli, De Tierra, Morgan, Dawn's Dream and Blair as well as donations from many local businesses.

CRA Membership Management Update

As our membership approaches a record 700 Carmelites, our Board has approved putting in place a new system which will manage the sign-up/renewal process online with credit card payments, allow members to maintain their own profile, view an event calendar and regis-

ter and pay for CRA events online. The new website will also be used to survey members and host online forums and blogs to improve community engagement. This system will be rolled out in the first quarter of 2020.

Floating for Halloween



CRA Halloween float

Another year of thanks to Brian Stock and Roger Eddy for their lively music at the annual Halloween parade. Special thanks to the Walker family for providing the flatbed truck which seemed magically to transport our waving and enthusiastic President, Barbara Livingston, along Ocean Avenue. Vice President, Fred Bologna handled the décor, assisted by Dick Stiles, Ann and Bob Nelson and Mike Brown. Someone on the street yelled, "I love a parade!" So does the CRA.

CRA Board Nominations

Once again it's time for members to nominate potential candidates for our Board. Please send a petition signed by three CRA members. It must be accompanied by a short paragraph focused on the person's talents and interests in contributing to our Board.

A petition must be received by March 1, 2020. Please send to the nominating committee chair, Mary Condry at P.O. Box V, Carmel, CA 93921.

CRA Social Gatherings

DINES OUT! is offering something different on Tuesday, March 3, 2020. On this evening we invite you to gather in the bar area of Anton and Michel Restaurant, on Mission between Ocean and 7th at 5 pm to spend time with both old and new friends. We will enjoy no-host wine, cocktails and small bites from the bar menu. We hope you can join us for this casual social experience. We look forward to seeing you there! No RSVP necessary.

By Mary Condry



Memorial Gifts



Marjorie Perrine
by CRA Board

Elsa Chiodi
by Carla and Jeff White



CRA Communications Team

Barbara Livingston, Mary Condry,
Tom Parks

Voice Editorial Board

Monterey Bay Design
Voice Design & Production
Website Design & Production

Margaret Byrne

Communications Director

Dale Byrne

Staff Photographer

Nancy Twomey
Facebook Manager

Carl Iverson and Vicky Kou

Voice Distribution

Mary Condry
eMail Manager

Frankie Laney
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Place
Stamp
Here

CRA Board of Directors

Barbara Livingston, *President*

Fred Bologna, *Vice President*

Tim Twomey, *Treasurer* | Darlene Mosley, *Secretary*

MEMBERS

Dale Byrne, Daniel Cardenas, Janine Chicourrat, Mary Condry,
Ann Nelson, Tom Parks, Ann Pendleton, Dick Stiles,
Ken White, Jon Wolfe

The Carmel Residents Association is committed to the protection and enrichment of the traditional quality of life in Carmel-by-the-Sea and the preservation of its heritage and natural beauty through education, community activities and advocacy.

The CRA does not sell, trade, lend or in any other way share our members' information with any organization or company.

CHEERS & CHIDES

 **CHEERS** To planning director Marc Wiener for his job promotion to Director of Planning in Laguna Beach. We would like to chide him for leaving us but the opportunity for advancement is too great for him to have turned down. Good luck to you Marc and thank you for your years of being with us.

 **CHEERS** To Sunset Center staff for their unfailing good humor and cooperation in helping us arrange and set up for our CRA programs.

 **CHEERS** To Chip Rerig our city administrator for his emailed Friday letters which he sends out weekly. The Friday letters are full of information about the Village and are very helpful to the residents living here.

 **CHEERS** To our new City Forester Sara Davis. Welcome to the City family Sara!

 **CHEERS** To our beloved local fire responders who quickly aid local folks in their time of need.

 **CHIDES** To the Sunset Cultural Center for discontinuing operation of the Forest Theater Guild at the Forest Theater. The Guild has been producing plays at the theatre since its founding in the early 1900s.

 **CHIDES** City Hall has done residents no favor. In their wisdom they have passed a new ordinance to free up 39 downtown housing units which for in perpetuity could remain available as high-rent, short-term rentals. Look for more advertising, more traffic, and more threat to the character of this Village.

 **CHEERS** To Ashlee Wright for conducting a successful and positive Scout House listening session at City Hall.

 **CHIDES** It's not that it's bad. It's just that it's ordinary. The new façade on the west side of Dolores, between Ocean and 7th. This is strip-mall architecture. So out of character for a Village where residents strive to preserve what makes Carmel-by-the-Sea special. City Planning, are you listening?

 **CHEERS** To those downtown businesses that decorate their store fronts and restaurants and hotels with glittery little white lights. This helps get us into the holiday season and we thank them very much.



The Cypress Inn dressed up for the Holidays