



A Road Less Traveled Peace Corps Volunteers David & Wendy Banks



What are the odds that a recently retired couple from Carmel-by-the-Sea would decide to leave their comfortable lifestyle, home, family and friends, join the Peace Corps, travel 9,723 miles to a village in Tanzania, work 27 months in this developing country to help their fellow human beings improve their lives and in the process promote world peace and make a difference? Against all odds, David and Wendy Banks did just that.

This globe trotting couple will be our speakers on January 26 at Vista Lobos. The illustrated presentation chronicles their odyssey in taking "A Road Less Traveled." They will share with us their experiences and adventures while living and working as Peace Corps volunteers in Malindi, a rural agricultural village of about 2,000 people.

The Peace Corps was established in 1961 by President John F Kennedy

to encourage mutual understanding between Americans and people of other nations and cultures. This past September in Washington D.C., the Peace Corps celebrated its 50th Anniversary honoring the 200,000 plus Americans who have served in 139 countries over the past five decades. It's no surprise that this dynamic duo hopped on a train to take part in the celebration and camaraderie inherent in belonging to such a remarkable group of people who answered their country's call. When asked what drew them to the Peace Corps, Wendy and David both agreed it was a desire to "give back something to the world that had given them so much."

David and Wendy met at the University of Pacific in Stockton, married in 1962 and continued with their studies. He graduated from the School of Pharmacy and she graduated with a Liberal Arts degree heading to a fifth year curriculum

to become a credentialed teacher. As luck would have it, David read in the paper that a drug store was for sale in Carmel-by-the-Sea. David and a partner bought the Carmel Drug Store in 1968. It goes without saying that the happy couple packed their bags and moved to this one-square-mile "Village in the Forest".

The Banks have four children and ten grandchildren. It's been said, "The most valuable gift you can give your family is a good example." For many years, they have contributed mightily to our community, both professionally and through their volunteer work.

Our speakers took "the road less traveled" and that made all the difference in their lives, as well as the lives of others. Get ready for a virtual reality experience that will fill you with amazement and joy, sadness and hope.

Meeting

THURSDAY • JANUARY 26

Speaker: David & Wendy Banks

Time: 4:45 p.m.

Location: Vista Lobos Meeting Room

(on Torres between 3rd and 4th)

"A Road Less Traveled"





Barbara Livingston

THE CRA'S VISION FOR CARMEL

Making sure that the city of Carmel values and protects our resources, our community, and our traditions.

It's that time of every other year when our thoughts turn to Carmel's municipal election. This issue of CRA NEWS features articles relating to the election and to the Candidates' Forum, which over the years has become a village tradition. Each campaign season the Carmel Residents Association, with the cooperation of the City of Carmel, holds a Candidates' Forum for the benefit of Carmel-by-the-Sea voters.

Red, white, and blue patriotic bunting will decorate Sunset Center's Carpenter Hall for the Candidates' Forum on Wednesday, February 29, 7-9 P.M. It will be moderated by Monterey County District Attorney, Dean Flippo. The candidates for Carmel's April municipal election will respond to written questions submitted by the audience. Chair Roberta Miller advises early arrival to assure a seat at the Forum and to enjoy refreshments before the prompt 7:00 P.M. start time. The entrance to Carpenter Hall is on Mission Street, southwest of 8th Avenue. Doors will open at 6:30 P.M.

Thinking of our election brings to mind the oft-asked question: Why doesn't Carmel combine its election with the federal election in November or with the state in June? The answer is always the same. Yes, it would save the city money and yes, more Carmel voters would go to the polls, but in Carmel-by-the-Sea we don't like to share our elections. For better or worse, it is one of our traditions

that sets us apart from other cities. The saying "All politics is local" is a truism in our village where small town politics and small town elections dominate all other issues for at least three months.

To know who's running for office, all we have to do is pick up our mail at the post office in February and March and run the gauntlet of candidates, sipping coffee (gratis from Friar Tuck's restaurant), handing out literature, offering handshakes and opportunities for a quick chat.

But there is a better way to come to a decision about which candidates to support – attend the Candidates' Forum for an up-close and personal look at the candidates running for mayor and for council. You will be able to hear the candidates' off-the-cuff responses to penetrating questions posed by Mr. Flippo. Other ways to learn about the candidates are through the local papers and by attending "coffees for candidates" hosted by Carmelites in their homes.

The Carmel Residents Association does not endorse candidates. We choose, instead, to offer our community the opportunity to attend our Candidates' Forum and make up their own minds.

About 10 years ago, the ancient Athenian Code was personalized as a "Vision for Carmel" by Carmel resident, Karen Ferlito. Candidates for office as well as current and future elected and appointed officials, residents and business people could not do better than to adhere to the nine tenets of Karen's "Vision for Carmel":

1. We choose to have a village that serves both residential and business community needs.
2. We choose to have a village that values and conserves our beach, our forest, our open spaces and our historic properties.
3. We choose to have both fiscal responsibility and sustainability in our city government as well as the services that enhance our quality of life.
4. We choose to support the arts, the historic traditions and the cultural and social events of our village.
5. We choose to have a village that is safe, well maintained, and welcoming to residents and visitors alike.
6. We will work together as citizens to achieve our mutual goals and respect our differences and strive to understand each other.
7. We choose to look to the past for continuity and to the future for inspiration.
8. We will support and defend the ideals, the historic traditions and other sacred things of our village.
9. In all these ways we will transmit our village both as greater and more beautiful than it was transmitted to us.

We look forward to greeting you at Carpenter Hall on February 29. In the meantime, the Carmel Residents Association's Board of Directors wishes each and every one of our readers a healthy and happy New Year!

Hostelry tax rebates for redevelopment

A WINDFALL FOR INNKEEPERS?



Residents should be skeptical of an ambitious program presented to the City Council called the Hostelry Capital Improvement Incentive Program. It has the potential of being a Pandora's Box of unintended consequences if insufficient thought is given to long-range effects.

In simple terms, the program contemplates granting rebates to Carmel's hostelrys some of the Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) they collect on behalf of the City, offsetting some of the costs of capital improvements to their properties. The goal is to make inns more attractive to visitors, eventually yielding more TOT through higher room rates and occupancy. The proposal's laudable aims do not necessarily mean that it meets the test of sound public policy. (Palm Springs is currently the only California city with such a program designed to lure new hotels and increase convention business.)

TROUBLING ASPECTS

The program creates a gift of public taxpayer money to motivate private commercial property owners to increase the value of their holdings. This is a windfall for inn owners, who might very well renovate property with or without rebate money. The prospect of public funds increases the value of any property sold to new investors and developers. The innkeepers get most of the benefits of the investments while the City reaps a modest return.

There is no sunset clause to this incentive program, no restriction on hostelrys reapplying every ten years, and no protections provided for workers who may be displaced by renovations.

Furthermore, the total amount of rebates an innkeeper receives bears no relationship to actual cost of a renovation.

DUBIOUS ASSUMPTIONS

The incentive program rests on a couple of dubious assumptions. First, it assumes that some renovations will occur only with a city subsidy; in fact, any investment that proves beneficial to the city should be done by the innkeeper without public assistance. Second, it assumes that any increase in an innkeeper's revenue over an historical base period would be attributed to the renovation, and thus entitled to the tax benefit; but the plan does not account for other means of revenue enhancement, such as advertising, which also would receive this favorable treatment (but does not provide the City with any tangible physical upgrades).

HEADING DOWN A SLIPPERY SLOPE

Attempting to return more TOT to city coffers through this plan does not warrant the city's risk of lost revenue that could drain city coffers for years to come. Twenty percent of Carmel's lodging inventory can qualify for rebates every year. In five years, every Carmel inn could be reaping rebates that continue for 10 years. If the City were to increase the TOT to 12% (an increase of 2% over the current rate), that move would help offset the City's loss of revenue that goes to the rebate program.

If innkeepers get TOT rebates to improve their properties under this program, why not rebate property tax to residential owners to do the same? Residential repairs and upgrades increase values

and one home can increase the value of all others on the same block. Higher home sales reap higher property taxes for city coffers. Why stop there? Business owners could then seek return of collected sales taxes supposedly to improve their businesses. Selling more results in collecting more sales tax, right?

The City currently operates on a bare-bones budget, does not provide all the services it should and has nothing left to cut. The incentive program could siphon needed money for infrastructure repairs, CalPERS obligations, and salaries for employees the City needs to hire. The Council may believe that the incentive program could provide additional revenue to meet such needs, but that requires a serious leap of faith. Too many variables and uncertainties need to be addressed and enforcement mechanisms must be added to the plan.

After further refinements, this program will return for a Council vote. Let's hope the Council thinks about the long-range implications before acting. If this incentive program is adopted, it could bring with it new legal challenges that would tie it up in the courts for years and incur more legal fees for Carmel. The history of governments attempting to provide tax incentives to motivate desirable end results is replete with disappointments, squandered funds, and efforts on the part of recipients of public generosity to game the system to maximize their benefits. It very often does not lead to sound public policy.

Royal Calkins

NEWLY APPOINTED MONTEREY HERALD EDITOR



Congratulations on your new appointment as Editor of the Herald. What might be your new responsibilities? What changes can we expect?

Well, I've been the editorial page editor for several years. I continue in that capacity. I am now the editor of the entire newspaper. Add to that the good news that I will be at my desk five days a week rather than the cutback to three of last year. Will there be any changes? I hope so. These are rough times for newspapers. I'm always open to changes for the better – for our readers. I'm an optimist.

The CRA naturally looks first of all to the local coverage. Can we, as readers, expect that local coverage will continue to have top priority on your watch?

Not only will we continue to concentrate on our local communities, but we'll be doing more and more of it. And that coverage will be reasonable and fair and respectful of differences of opinion from all sides.

Is there an editorial board at the Herald? If so, is there a consensus as to a certain day's choice of subject, or is this at the discretion of the Executive Editor?

There is. Gary Omernick is the Publisher who sits on the board along with James Herrera, Graphics; Mazi Kavooosi, Circulation. And myself. Yes, we almost always reach consensus. I make the final decisions.

In Carmel we have an election next year. Is it the Editor and the editorial board's policy to interview the candidates for Mayor, City Council? Has the paper ever endorsed a candidate?

We interview all candidates, both for Mayor and for City Council. And we do endorse. We have supported Mayor Sue McCloud in the past. We felt she had the best interests in mind for the village and was strong enough to get things done.

It is said that serious newspaper readers peruse the front page and turn next to the editorial page, looking for the letters to the editor that appear in most issues. How and by whom are these letters chosen for publication? In fact, many of the correspondents can be quite critical of the paper.

The Editor makes the decisions as to which letters to print. I can tell you that we publish 90% of all letters that cross my desk. Yes, we get our share of criticism and I have no problem printing these comments. I'm cautious when we receive the occasional nasty or mean or personal letters. And I'll even call the writer giving him a chance to tone down his rhetoric. There have even been times when someone with something to say, a person who can't write or use email, will call me and dictate his letter. Yes, that has happened. Happy to do it.

Mayor McCloud is not seeking reelection after serving 12 years, longer than anyone in Carmel's history. Some would say we're just around the corner of a new beginning. What are your thoughts about Mayor McCloud and her tenure?

She has had our support in the past as I have said. She's a hard worker, cares about her town, is paid practically nothing. At the same time she has been known as a controlling leader. There has been a lack of transparency in City Hall that has upset many citizens. She has chosen not to run this time. I think there will be some

welcome changes in village government. My guess is that Jason Burnett will be the next mayor of Carmel.

Let's assume that the Herald is neither conservative nor liberal. Of course you've been accused of being both from time to time – letters to the editor will bear that out. As the Editor, how do you strike a balance? Do you consult with the editorial board? Are both sides (conservative and liberal) represented on this board?

Yes, of course the board looks at these things. I'm the most liberal on the board. The others are moderate conservatives I would think. Editorially we probably tilt to the left. I'm talking about opinion. The news is what it is and we are unbiased.

There has been a noticeable cutback in the Herald's coverage of the arts, from music to theatre and even a columnist here and there. Many people read a local newspaper for social and intellectual events and for information on popular entertainment. Thursday's "GO" section publishes a calendar of most events but fewer in-depth pieces such as music and theatre reviews. Is this economics speaking?

Absolutely. It's certainly not my desire, this cutback. I'd like nothing more than to reverse what has happened to our staffing and contract people. This is a vital community where art in so many forms thrives. I give coverage of the arts high priority.

We thank you for your time and again send our congratulations to you, Royal Calkins, the Herald's new Editor.

I have the best job in the world. A job I've had my eye on all my life. I started out at the Fresno Bee and stayed for 19 years. Moved on to the Santa Cruz Sentinel for two years as City Editor. Came to the Herald in 2000. And here I am — where I want to be. Send me a copy of this profile.

We have.

Election Night Parties at City Hall

A CARMEL TRADITION

Popular images of Carmel can be misleading. An image lingers of “The Seacoast of Bohemia” which has long since vanished, if it ever existed. The real estate section of The Pine Cone suggests Carmel is an enclave of “the one percent.” But in reality, it is a community of mostly neighborly people quietly leading inconspicuous lives of reasonable contentment. The majority treasures the village and its matchless environment. Probably more than in most communities, residents take a lively personal interest in the government of their village. Among other manifestations, that interest motivated the tradition of gathering at City Hall on election night to monitor the counting of ballots.

The tradition probably began with the election in 1984. At that time there were four precincts scattered around the village. The origin of the idea is unclear, but when the polls closed after that election, several residents, together with at least some of the candidates, came to City Hall to hear the results. A radio was set up on the dais of the council chambers. As ballot counts by the County Elections Department were broadcast, they were entered on a blackboard.

This event caught the fancy of candidates and residents alike. Consequently, a much more substantial event was planned by the City Clerk and her staff for the next election. The County Elections Department sent their staff members to City Hall with a ballot counting machine. When polls closed at the four precincts, the ballots – with police escort – were brought to the council chambers. A board listing all candidates was set up on the dais. Immediately before ballots arrived from the various precincts, the counts of

absentee ballots were posted. As counts from each precinct were completed, the results were reported to the City Clerk. In turn, she reported them to her assistant who entered them on the board. This became the procedure for the next several years, remaining essentially the same when the number of precincts was reduced to two.



Dina Ruiz interviews Barbara Livingston during the 1992 election festivities at City Hall.

Because the size of Carmel’s electorate is relatively limited, candidates are often separated by very few votes. This situation sometimes creates suspenseful evenings as margins shift back and forth. Usually the count is completed by 9:00 or 9:30 P.M. and margins are sufficient that winners are known, but on rare occasions margins have been so small that outcomes were uncertain until the election was certified a week or so later.

As the tradition continued through the 80s and 90s, it became more festive each year. Vases of spring flowers were scattered around the chambers. Punch bowls and trays of goodies contributed by local merchants filled tables in the

center of the room. No formal acceptance or concession speeches were delivered, but successful candidates were suitably feted. These individuals maintain glowing memories of these evenings – one former mayor describes them as “warm and raucous.”

The election night party assumed a considerably different character the night Clint Eastwood was elected mayor. Representatives of the national media were eager to cover the event. In fact, there was so much interest that the Chamber of Commerce selected, by lot, a single television station to cover the event.

Sadly, Carmel’s election night parties have become less festive in recent years. Residents who treasure the celebrations as representing the best of village democracy in action have reason for concern. There is great value in an event that symbolizes joining together after vigorous campaigns to honor the winners

but, simultaneously, to recognize the importance of working together to preserve and improve life in our village.

Economics may direct that Carmel’s separate election must give way to combining our election with a general election. Can election night celebrations continue if such a merger occurs? Many logistical problems exist, but solutions can be found, because these celebrations are an important tradition in the life of our village.

The writer gratefully acknowledges the assistance of Jeanne Brehmer, former Carmel City Clerk, and several former mayors and members of the city council in the preparation of this article.



Community CALENDAR

■ CRA GENERAL MEETING

Thurs., Jan. 26th, 4:45 p.m.
David and Wendy Banks
"A Road less Traveled"
Vista Lobos (Torres w/side btwn 3rd and 4th)

■ E-WASTE COLLECTION

Sat., Jan. 28th, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Vista Lobos parking lot
Torres, s/s between 3rd and 4th
Discard your old electronics.

■ CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tues, Feb. 7th, 4:30 p.m.
City Council Chambers

■ CRA DINES OUT

Thurs., Feb. 23rd, 6 p.m.
Christopher's Restaurant
Make your reservations by 2/17

■ CARMEL CANDIDATES FORUM

Open to the public
Wed., Feb. 29th, 7 p.m.
Carpenter Hall, Sunset Center

■ CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tues, Mar. 6th, 4:30 p.m.
City Council Chambers

■ SAVE THE DATE

CRA 25th Anniversary Party
Monday, May 21st

ONGOING CITY MEETING DATES:

All held in City Council Chambers, Monte Verde between Ocean and 7th. Check with City Hall for updates. <http://ci.carmel.ca.us/>

City Council, 1st Tues., 4:30 p.m.
Forest and Beach Commission, 1st Thurs., 1:30 p.m.
Planning Commission, 2nd Wed., 4 p.m.
Community Activities and Cultural Commission, 2nd Tues., 9:30 a.m.
Historic Resources Board, 3rd Mon., 4 p.m.
Library Board of Trustees, 4th Wed., 9 a.m.

Please see the CRA's website for the schedule of meetings and events.
www.carmelresidents.org

CRA Dines Out AT CHRISTOPHER'S RESTAURANT



"Dines Out" Chair Barry Swift and Co-Chairs Kathleen Swift and Mary Ellen Thomas have selected Christopher's Restaurant on Lincoln between 5th and 6th for the CRA members' dinner on Thursday, February 23, 2012.

As dusk arrives, Christopher's Restaurant lights up its charm making a warm and cozy ambiance that's welcoming and very relaxing. This is one of Carmel's most exciting dining experiences. Award winning chef/owner Christopher Caul is preparing a dinner for our members that is sure to please. He will be showcasing the finest, freshest, seasonal ingredients the Central Coast has to offer. Come and enjoy!

Please send a \$35/person check, **payable to CRA**, with your entrée choice and your phone number, **to arrive no later than February 20**, to CRA Dines Out, P.O. Box AC, Carmel, CA 93921. The price includes tax and tip.

You will be notified if you have been placed on the waiting list. If you reserve space and must cancel, please call Kathleen or Barry at 625-1426 so your place can be given to someone else.

Cocktails 5:30 pm
Dinner 6:00 pm

Here is Christopher's tempting menu:

■ FIRST COURSE CHOICES

Roasted Butternut Squash & Pear Bisque
~OR~
Wedge of Iceberg Lettuce with Creamy Pancetta Bacon Dressing, Gorgonzola Cheese and Croutons

■ ENTRÉE CHOICES

Stuffed Petrale Sole with crabmeat and shrimp in a light lobster sauce
~OR~
Chicken Cordon Bleu (chicken breast stuffed with gruyère cheese and black forest ham)
~OR~
Pork Loin piccata style with lemon caper sauce

All entrées served with seasonal roasted root vegetables and whipped potatoes

■ DESSERT CHOICES

Apple Crumb Pie with Ice Cream
~OR~
Brownie with Ice Cream

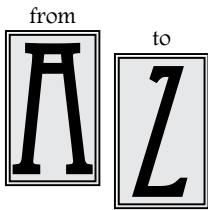
Coffee or Tea

Red or white wine will be available at \$6 per glass (tax included). Cocktails at \$7.50 (tax included) plus tip.

Members IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Due to unprecedented sold-out houses in October of last year, Paris is Paris is Paris is Paris — Gertrude Stein in Paris, is reopening the one-woman play at the Carl Cherry Center in Carmel on March 16, 2012 for a two-week only reprise. There is the possibility of an extension of an additional weekend. The play stars Carol Daly and is written, produced, and directed by CRA Board Director, Tom Parks. Box office opens March 1, 2012. Watch local newspapers for details.

Carmel-by-the-Sea



EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT CARMEL!

Copies of "Everything you need to know about Carmel from A-Z" are free and available for the asking at 626-1610. These comprehensive and informational booklets were written and printed as a community service by the Carmel Residents Association.

The Carmel Chamber of Commerce annually publishes a dandy guide to businesses in Carmel and the local area. To pick up a copy, visit City Hall or the Chamber office west side San Carlos between 5th and 6th.

Favorite PLACES

HAPPY FEET Something new in town!. Drop in, or make an appointment to enjoy a fully clothed massage at Happy Feet on Dolores Street, east side between 7th and 8th. For more information, call 622-9158.

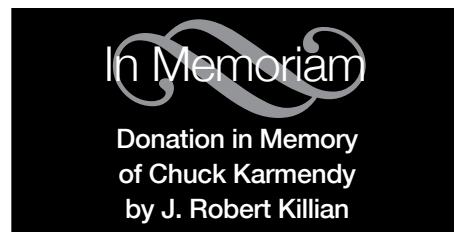
AND MERRY GOOD TIMES WERE HAD BY ONE AND ALL!

CRA members had a wonderful time at the Holiday Cocktail party held at the Carmel Art Association.



CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION

From time to time, the Carmel Residents Association awards Certificates of Appreciation to businesses that contribute greatly to the quality of our village life. The Carmel Art Association was honored in December for 85 years of service to our community. Eco Carmel, a resource for green living and natural health, will receive the award in January.



CARMEL FOOD COMPANY Sally and Jud Weill like the menu and ambiance of Carmel Food Company, a charming European bistro owned by Roger Harned located in a courtyard on the west side of Junipero between 6th and 5th.

WHAT IS CRA ALL ABOUT?

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.

BECOME A MEMBER!

It's easy to become a member of the Carmel Residents Association.

- Visit us online:
www.carmelresidents.org
- or email us:
carmelresidents@gmail.com
- or call us: **626-1610**

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Old Carmel	Richard Flower
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	James Emery
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Illustrations	Kelly Steele
Design & Production	Bonny McGowan
Copy Editor	Sarah McGowan
Beach Cleanup Coordinators	Helen and Mark d'Oliveira

did you KNOW???

E-WASTE RECYCLING FOR CARMEL RESIDENTS **HOSTED BY THE CRA, WASTE MANAGEMENT & CITY OF CARMEL**

A Free and Easy Way to Help Keep Carmel-by-the-Sea Clean and Beautiful!
Carmel area residents can drop off select items for recycling on Saturday, January 28, 2012. Bring your unwanted appliances to a free e-waste recycling drop-off event, hosted by the Carmel Residents Association, Waste Management and the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea.

■ **WHO:** Carmel Area Residents. No commercial deliveries accepted.

■ **WHAT:** Free drop-off for select items:

Cell phones, computers/CPUs, computer monitors and peripherals (speakers, mouse etc.), smoke alarms and detectors, microwaves, DVD players, alarm clocks, fax machines, home and office phones, keyboards, printers, stereos, TVs, VCRs, radios, modems, CDs, floppy disks, electronic games and other media.

■ **ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED:** Any unit with sludge or liquids, dehumidifiers, household hazardous waste, large appliances such as refrigerators, stoves, washers and dryers, and non-decontaminated medical equipment.

■ **WHERE:** Vista Lobos Park, Carmel
Enter Vista Lobos Park from 3rd Avenue between Junipero and Torres.

■ **WHEN:** Saturday, January 28
10:00 am to 2:00 pm

■ **HOSTED BY:** Carmel Residents Association, Waste Management & City of Carmel-by-the-Sea

■ **MORE INFO:**
Call Joe Cadelago 831-331-0764

■ **MEDIA INQUIRIES:**
Jay Ramos, 831-633-7878
WM District Manager, Recycling
Barbara Livingston, 831-626-1610
President, CRA
Heidi Burch, 831-620-2000
Asst. City Administrator
City of Carmel-by-the-Sea

CARMEL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

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Welcome

TO CARMEL



THE CARMEL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION IS PLEASED TO SEND THIS ISSUE OF THE CRA NEWS TO ALL PROPERTY OWNERS IN CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA.

We're your neighbors. We live in small vintage cottages; we live in large wood shingled two stories; we live in rambling, sometimes "jerry-built" garden nooks. But what really matters is we live in Carmel, arguably one of the most beautiful, accessible and charming villages in America.

And you live here too. Maybe not as full time residents—you may come and go on weekends and special holidays. There's every chance in the world that you spend a few summer months in your house. And if you do we hope you're enjoying being part of our – and now your – community.

Chances are that over the years you've longed for a place to call home in Carmel. And here you are at last. A lovely place to be? Well, was there ever any doubt?

If you haven't yet discovered some of the advantages of the village and some of its landmark buildings, entertainment venues, and cultural sites, let us list just a few.

There is our Harrison Memorial Library, an architecturally significant building designed by one of California's premier architects, Bernard Maybeck. You'll find the library on the northeast corner of Ocean Avenue and Lincoln. With identification you may apply for a card and five minutes later walk away with an armful of books.

The Sunset Center, a vintage building and former grammar school, is home to the world famous Bach Festival. The Monterey County Symphony plays the Sunset in season. Special performances, lectures and conferences are booked throughout the year. Admission prices are reasonable.

Oh, by the way, there is an ocean just to the west of the village. And a forest wherever your eye may wander. Carmel has many hiking trails, along with special



tours of former homes of artists, writers, and poets. In the Park Branch library at 6th and Mission you will find the Local History Room and the children's library.

You need not go hungry in Carmel. There are restaurants on every street and every block – at least it seems so. What would you like to eat tonight? Just take a walk and flip a coin. Shopping? Anything from a diamond ring to a dustpan. From a wedding cake to a cake of soap. From a seascape to a surf board.

Carmel has been waiting for you. Your neighbors welcome you. After all, many of the 4,000 plus residents were newcomers at one time just like you, no different from you.

And who are we? The people who are sending you this letter of welcome? We're the members of the **Carmel Residents Association**. We've been serving the residents of this village for 25 years. We exist to preserve the beauty and way of life for our citizens. "The Carmel Residents Association is a non-profit, civic, social and, when necessary, political organization whose members are determined to keep Carmel-by-the-Sea a good place to live as well as a good place to visit. The CRA provides a wonderful opportunity for local residents to get acquainted with their neighbors, develop friendships and become involved in the community."

Who are we? That's who we are. And now we want to invite you to join us, to be a part of the village you care about.

From all of us at CRA we extend a welcoming hand. Carmel-by-the-Sea is a special place. Communities need special people. You have chosen to be here. Therefore you are special to Carmel.



Carmel Residents Association



As a CRA member,
you will enjoy ...

The Carmel Residents Association is a civic and social organization whose members are determined to keep Carmel-by-the-Sea a good place to live as well as a good place to visit.

Since the founding of the CRA in April, 1987, more than 600 of us have joined together to help preserve the residential character of our community and to protect our urban forest, our pristine beach and our other irreplaceable natural assets.

All residents of Carmel-by-the-Sea and its sphere of influence, those who own second homes here, and owners of the local business community are eligible to join.

Many out-of-town home owners find that membership in the Carmel Residents Association keeps them informed about upcoming events and local issues or developments which could affect their property.

We hope that you will use the enclosed envelope to join, and that you will participate in our many activities.

We welcome you as a member!



■ GENERAL MEETINGS

Five times a year, we meet on the fourth Thursday of January, March, May, September, and November with timely, stimulating speakers and discussions.

■ "DINES OUT"

Five times a year, we dine together at one of Carmel's fine restaurants—support for local business and fun for members.

■ BEACH CLEANUP

Eight times a year, on the fourth Saturday, 10 a.m., we clean our white sand beach. Refreshments are donated by local businesses.

■ CRA NEWS

Five times yearly, this newsletter is mailed to our members with information on important local issues and events.

■ CITIZEN OF THE YEAR CELEBRATION

In the spring, we honor someone who has significantly advanced Carmel's residential values.

■ FIESTA IN THE FOREST

In August, members enjoy a barbecue at Indian Village in Pebble Beach.

■ GALA HOLIDAY EVENT

In December, a Gala Holiday event is held.

■ CRA SPONSORS:

Certificates of Appreciation for businesses and individuals who enhance our village character, and impartial public forums for local elections.

CARMEL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION MISSION

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.

Post Office Box 13, Carmel-by-the-Sea, CA 93921
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We invite you to join us!