



the VOICE

OF THE CARMEL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

MARCH ■ APRIL 2017

CRA Moving Forward Part II: TOWARD SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

Carmel-by-the-Sea is a great place to live. It's also a great place to visit. Nothing illustrates the multifaceted nature of our charming mini-city more clearly than tourism. In line with that, tourism will be the subject of the next installment of the CRA's program series, scheduled for Thursday, March 23, 5 p.m. at Carpenter Hall.

Dubbed the Carmel Tourism Forum, the program is open to CRA members and the public alike and is admission-free. The theme of the evening is "Toward Sustainable Tourism." Together with other Monterey County tourism stakeholders, we'll be looking at how to build a tourism business that is sustainable both environmentally and economically, and always mindful of community values. CRA board member David Armstrong will moderate a panel including Amy Johnson, chair of the board of directors of Visit Carmel and operator of Carmel Country Inn; Monta Potter, retiring President and CEO of the Carmel Chamber of Commerce; Dave Mosley, CRA member, former Carmel city council candidate and member of the Planning Commission's restaurant ordinance subcommittee; Rob O'Keefe, vice president/chief marketing officer, Monterey County Convention and Visitors Bureau and Janine Chicourrat, general manager of Portola Hotel & Spa and member of the CRA board. The discussion will be followed by a question-and-answer session, winding up with wine, snacks and conversation.

Revenues from tourists – especially coveted overnight visitors – help lift downtown hotels, shops and restaurants. Moreover, tourism funnels significant

funds to Carmel-by-the-Sea's \$20 million municipal budget, as city officials are quick to point out. Some of that money is used to maintain and repair city infrastructure. It should be. The hulking sport utility vehicles, pick-up trucks on steroids, minivans, motorcycles and cars – not to mention the enormous tour buses that huddle outside Carmel Plaza like elephants at a watering hole – stress city streets with their weight, bulk and sheer numbers.

You get a lot of on the one hand this, on the other hand that, with Carmel's leading economic driver. Sometimes the complexity of tourism is hard to fathom – and hard to manage.

Consider Car Week. Most of the nine-day-long series of events take place around the county outside Carmel. Still, Car Week, held every August, is the most disruptive event of the year in Carmel. This is due in large part to the large number of people who pour into the city on the day of Concours on the Avenue, some driving vintage vehicles without modern spare-the-air catalytic converters.

The historic, unique and eye-wateringly expensive cars of Concours on the Avenue are great fun to look at, and many people – visitors and locals alike – love them. The impact of that brief influx, however, on pretty, cozy Carmel is considerable. One of the square mile's cultural jewels, Harrison Memorial Library, shuts down for the day rather than try to compete with the noise and crowds on closed-off Ocean Avenue. Quiet residential neighborhoods are thick with the parked cars and arrivals and departures of engine-revving sightseers.

At day's end, car fans speed out of town, mufflers optional.

That said, Car Week's organizers also raise and donate large sums of money to local charities and worthy non-profit organizations. The Carmel Foundation is but one example of a community asset that depends on Car Week to help fund its estimable services for seniors. Replacing that funding wouldn't be easy for the 67-year-old institution.

Some virtues of responsibly run tourism cannot be quantified. Not a few residents of Carmel-by-the-Sea first came here as visitors. Visiting Carmel gives out-of-towners a chance to learn about Carmel's character and traditions; and for locals to learn about the cultures of others.

So, yes, on the one hand this, on the other hand that. Tourism is complex. That's why the CRA is gearing up to address the pros and cons of tourism in our speaker series - and in follow-up programs. Questions to consider include: Should we tweak the way we market the area as a travel destination? Should we impose daily limits on the number of tour buses? Should we limit tourism by turning parts of Highway 1 into a toll road, as some in Big Sur have suggested?

What do you think? Come to the meeting. Listen. Question. Consider sustainability. Let's talk it over.

THURSDAY MEETING
MARCH 23RD

Time: 5:00 pm
Location: Carpenter Hall
Sunset Center
Mission St., South of 8th

Free and Open to the Public



We're "Spreading the News"

The editorial board takes great pride in the publication of CRA's *The Voice*, but then, we could be prejudiced. Receiving feedback from our readers is so important. We are always interested in improving our work, but need your input to help us keep moving forward.

Here is how we put the paper together:

Page One is dedicated to the next program/meeting. Page Two holds the President's Message. Page Three is generally reserved for commentary. Pages Four and Five have been devoted to a Village Profile and a story from Old Carmel, but these features will become intermittent to allow space for some innovations. Pages Six and Seven contain the City News and Views and CRA News and Views sections. Page Eight is reserved for items of particular import to CRA members.

CRA has an editorial board like newsrooms all over the world. We meet to plot, examine, develop and discuss ideas for the articles that appear in *The Voice* and programs that we will offer during the year. Our editorial board includes Richard Flower, David Armstrong, Barbara Livingston and Tom Parks.

The editorial board invites you to send us your comments. What pages do you read? What categories interest you? What would you like to see added? Subtracted? Do you have a Cheer or Chide to share? You

can email us, write us, or call us. The newsletter contains information on how to reach us.

clogging our streets and sidewalks? Of course, we appreciate and understand that they are our tax base, but we also fully understand that it costs taxpayers

"Because 2017 is CRA's 30th anniversary year, we wanted to make it forward-looking with speakers/programs of great interest and importance for the future of our village."

Recently, CRA member Molly Doty contributed some ideas for developing new future articles. Molly's input prompted the editorial board to consider adding a new feature: "CRA Investigates...." to allow us to examine issues perhaps unexplored by the City staff or council.

Cheers and Chides had been one of our past successes, so we decided to open our January/February *Voice* with an entire page of Cheers and Chides. Based on comments so far, this looks like a keeper and future issues will feature more Cheers and Chides.

When we met late last year to consider our direction for 2017, we decided to focus on CRA: Moving Forward. Because 2017 is CRA's 30th anniversary year, we wanted to make it forward-looking with speakers/programs of great interest and importance for the future of our village.

For January, we started with a bang. David Shonman, coastal biologist, who wrote Carmel's Shoreline Management Plan, spoke to a large audience about the future of Carmel Bay and Beach—in particular, looking ahead to how global warming will affect our shoreline.

In considering our March program, we knew that tourism is a hot topic. We wondered, can tourism be sustainable? What is the carrying capacity of our village for the masses of tourists/visitors who come here, now year-round,

substantial sums of money to care for these inundations-- more police, more public works employees, more sanitation, more road work, more sidewalk cleaning, more trash and garbage on the beach, more cigarette butts downtown and at the beach and shoreline path. What are all those costs? Are they a fair tradeoff for the loss of our serenity year-round?

David Armstrong, a former staff writer for the *San Francisco Examiner* and the *San Francisco Chronicle* and currently a CRA member and editorial team member of *The Voice*, will moderate a panel of stakeholders representing different perspectives about tourism: business owners, innkeepers and residents. In planning the program, we met with Council member/mayor pro tem Carrie Theiss, long time head of the Carmel Innkeepers Association and Monta Potter, President and CEO of the Carmel Chamber of Commerce. Monta has given us a bit of hope that with strategic planning and great effort, Carmel might develop a sustainable tourism program.

CRA is committed to its mission to protect and enrich the traditional quality of life in Carmel-by-the-Sea through education, community activities and advocacy. To accomplish that mission we must keep our membership informed. Toward that end, we're "spreading the news".

"Our editorial board invites you to share your comments."

Proposed City Goals

At the beginning of each year, the city staff proposes a set of “goals” for consideration in the preparation of the next fiscal year’s budget. This year, staff has recommended 11 new goals.

ADDRESSING THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM BACKLOG

With the passage of Measure D and rebounding revenues, the city has been positioned to accomplish a relatively robust list of capital improvement projects. However, insufficient staffing has hindered the implementation of funded projects in previous fiscal years, resulting in a gradual accumulation of a backlog. The goal is to have 50 to 60 percent of this year’s projects completed or underway by the end of the fiscal year.

TWO GOALS NECESSITATED BY CHANGES IN STATE LAWS

Recent changes in California laws require accommodation in Carmel’s municipal codes. An ordinance must be adopted to bring accessory dwelling units into compliance with state law, while maximizing local regulatory authority to the extent feasible.

Furthermore, one or more ordinances must be adopted to regulate recreational marijuana in the city. Again, this is an issue of preserving community character, while accommodating new state mandates.

FOUR GOALS TO IMPROVE EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF CITY SERVICES

One goal seeks the hiring and training of personnel to fill open positions in the Public Works Department. Though several new positions have been added to this department during the past few years, some positions remain unfilled.

Another goal addresses deficiencies in work areas, particularly in the Public Works office. That office was constructed in the 1960s and was last remodeled in the 1980s. Too few work stations are available; and the area for receiving and accommodating the public is inadequate.

Carmel’s Municipal Code provisions governing its personnel system were last revised in 1987. They should be updated to reflect current law and modern human resources practices.

Some city policies and practices related to benefits and payroll may not comply with current federal, state and local laws and regulations. A thorough HR audit should be conducted to identify problems.

SHORT-TERM RENTALS

Despite Ordinance 89-17 that prohibits the transient rental of residential property in the Single-Family Residential (R-1) district, the city has seen a growing number of short-term rentals, perhaps because of the popularity of short-term rental websites. Over the past year, the city has increased its focus on this issue and has brought several properties into compliance. Nevertheless, there are still several properties in violation; staff is in the process of building a case against each of these properties and recruiting outside assistance on this task.

LIBRARY RENOVATION

Library staff regularly face two significant problems. First, they must provide 21st century library services in facilities designed for early- to mid-20th century library services. Second, a significant portion of the main library building is inaccessible to individuals with mobility problems. With substantial financial support from the Carmel Public Library Foundation, the staff and library trustees have completed the first two phases of a

program seeking solutions. A nationally-respected expert on public libraries was retained to survey existing facilities, meet with staff and other stakeholders, and conduct a community meeting seeking patron views. Subsequently, Group Four, an architectural firm specializing in library design, was retained to study the two library buildings to further identify problems. This new goal seeks to complete the initial planning process by retaining an architectural firm to plan needed renovations and project their costs.

SUNSET CENTER LONG-TERM LEASE NEGOTIATION

Since 2003, the city has contracted with the Sunset Cultural Center, a nonprofit corporation, to manage the Sunset Center. There is a one-year extension on the agreement and negotiations must continue to achieve a new contract.

PRESERVING MILITARY PRESENCE ON THE PENINSULA

Maintaining the presence of the military installations, namely the Presidio and the Naval Postgraduate School, is a vital concern for all Monterey County communities. Carmel provides housing and lodging, dining, shopping, recreational and cultural opportunities for permanent and visiting military personnel, their families and friends, as well as for civilian employees. Thus, the city is a stakeholder in their continued presence.

Resident comments and suggestions about these goals are welcome, either directly to the city council or through CRA, by emailing carmelresidents@gmail.com or by telephoning a member of the board of directors.

Walking Through Town WITH DAVID ARMSTRONG

One of the pleasures of living in Carmel-by-the-Sea is the town's walkability. From our home, tucked inside the northeast corner of the village, my wife and I often set off on walks. One of our frequent destinations is the downtown business district, 10 minutes away on foot.

We walk downtown for the reasons other Carmelites do: exercise, errands, the library, shopping, dining and retrieving our mail at the post office. More broadly, we walk to take the commercial and cultural temperature of the village. We want to see how things are going.

A recent walk downtown suggested that temperatures are running hot and cold.

HOT: Downtown, with its restored and repurposed heritage buildings, is as pretty to look at as ever.

COLD: Some behavior on city streets is much less lovely to see. (*More on this below*).

HOT: Downtown is usually crowded, especially weekends and holidays, even in winter and spring. Occupancy in city hotels hovers around a respectable 70 percent per annum.

COLD: Some businesses are obviously struggling, perhaps because Carmel has loaded up on many businesses that are very much alike, art galleries most especially. Carmel is reportedly home to 80 to 100 commercial art galleries, raising the question: How many galleries can this small city support?

On a recent walk, my wife, Georgina, and I spent time on north Dolores Street in the non-profit Carmel Art Association Gallery, with its exhibitions of member-artists' paintings and sculptures. We lingered in the outdoor garden, host to sculptures, a mural and well-designed landscaping. It was nice to see gifted local artists featured. Some other downtown galleries include local talent as well, of course.

BUT NOW, COLD. Our perambulations both on and near Ocean Avenue took us past several cavernous former gallery spaces. Many operating galleries were devoid of customers when we visited, or nearly so. How are so many galleries going to stay in business when they have to slice the art-market pie into so many pieces? Should Carmel limit the number of art galleries that open in the square-mile? Can it?

Downtown Carmel-by-the-Sea is also rich in restaurants; and the village is to a modest extent a destination for casual eating and fine-dining. Mark that down as Hot, or at least Warm.

COLD: Downtown may well have too many restaurants, and too few that stand out for their cuisine or distinctiveness. Innovative newcomers and foodie favorites are packing them in, but some long-time haunts have been shutting their doors or reducing their hours.

Walking around downtown with open eyes and ears tells you two things for certain: The long-term virus of sidewalk touts has not abated; and public smoking is still common.

At Ocean and Dolores, a young woman standing in the open doorway of the Ocean Skin Care Boutique called out to me: "Hi, guys! We have beautiful products for your wife." Many people, residents and visitors alike, prefer to take a walk in peace instead of receiving unsolicited come-ons.

Elsewhere on Ocean, we watched incredulously as two men, puffing on cigars, staggered across the center divider and ducked between cars to reach the far side of the busy avenue. Which is worse, jaywalking or second-hand smoke?

We watched visitors, newly decanted from a tour bus, as they strolled along Ocean to the Court of the Golden

Bough with ice cream cones and, often, cigarettes in hand, dropping still-fuming butts on the sidewalk. Most were smoking within 25 feet of businesses, a violation of state law. But then again, maybe no one told them this. There is not much visible signage letting tourists know what is expected.

One commercial category that feels overloaded, but may not be, are downtown's winery-owned tasting rooms. Most of them are buzzing; some are scenes of robust drinking. On south Dolores Street, we peered into a tasting room/art gallery that combined tastings and paintings. Wave of the future?

In sum, the "weather" downtown is both wonderful and worrisome. This account spends more time on worrisome, because currently that's what we need to address. Meanwhile, it's still often fun to stroll through town. We are fortunate. Many American communities aren't walkable and some have no downtown.

NEW LIFE FOR GENTLY-READ BOOKS

Intrepid volunteers of the Friends of the Harrison Memorial Library are once again busily collecting books for their annual sale in August at the Carmel Mission school gym. This year marks their 50th annual sale of used books and other media. Book lovers and bargain hunters from all over California will descend on Carmel searching for precious volumes to match their passions. Volunteers are available every Tuesday morning from 10:00 to 12 noon in the Book Room at Sunset Center, entered from the lower parking lot off San Carlos and Tenth. They welcome donations of clean, gently-used fiction and non-fiction, collectibles, children's books, DVDs and CDs. All proceeds from the August sale go to library materials and programs. In 2016, as in previous years, they donated over \$20,000 to the library.

CHEERS & CHIDES



CHEERS for the mud, the wet, the cold, the thunder and lightening, the wind, the sprung umbrellas, the puddles, the soaked morning newspaper, the clogged downspouts, the power outages, the floods, the flood warnings, the hail... AND THE RAIN!



CHIDES to the editors of *The Voice* for cheering the no-longer-existent Carmel Fire Department in the January/February issue. Carmel is now served by the Monterey Fire Department and the cheers belonged to them.



CHEERS to the Carmel Public Works Department for adopting a new policy whereby tree companies stand by on a rotating basis to clear downed trees and solve other problems during winter storms. As a result, power is restored faster and more efficiently.



CHIDES to the entire City Council for putting the size, number and parking fee structure of tour buses on the back burner of their 2017-18 goals.



CHEERS to Mark and Helen D'Olivera for coordinating CRA's beach cleanup for so many years. Their hard-to-fill shoes were donned by Lauren Banner.



CHIDES to the people who violate Carmel's policy by failing to remove downtown holiday lighting by January 15. Year-round improvement of downtown lighting may be an issue for consideration, but let's keep holiday lighting a traditional part of our holiday festivities and not just a humdrum nightly occurrence.



CHEERS to Council member Janet Reimers for being the lone voice to oppose the establishment of bike rental shops downtown when our sidewalks and streets are already so clogged with pedestrians, cars, and buses.



CHIDES to California American Water for using very soft temporary asphalt to patch city streets the company had just dug up – asphalt that promptly washed away when winter rains came. City officials say the rugged, badly pitted streets in northeast Carmel, where CalAm buried replacements for antiquated pipes and storm drains, will be professionally repaved with permanent asphalt this summer – on the taxpayers' dime. Shouldn't CalAm, a water company, anticipate the probable effects of running water? And why not replace the pipes before the rainy season begins?



CHEERS to the Century Cinemas at Del Monte Center and the Lighthouse Cinemas in Pacific Grove for providing premium seating for performances by some of the world's greatest companies. Telecasts of the Metropolitan Opera, preeminent ballet companies, and Broadway and London theater performances are shown at the Century Cinemas; and telecasts from Royal Shakespeare Company performances in London and Stratford-upon-Avon, London's National Theatre and Royal Opera, and Moscow's Bolshoi Ballet are shown at the Lighthouse.



CHIDES to the growing number of drone hobbyists who are using the Carmel Beach as their airdrome. The air above the beach belongs to the gulls, the pelicans, and the other shorebirds;



and beach lovers want to hear the ocean's roar, not the staccato of drones.

CHEERS to the Carmel Police Department. Two CRA members walking on the Scenic Road pathway smelled smoke and saw flames from an illegal wood fire on Carmel Beach and glimpsed a second would-be burner trying to ignite damp driftwood on the sand close to the bluff. The members called the Carmel PD. It responded promptly to enforce the winter burn ban. Coastal biologist David Shonman, who was on the beach, reports, "I was very impressed by how well the Carmel PD officer handled the situation. He was friendly and clear, and got his message across very effectively." Well done.



CHIDES to the Monterey County Vintners and Growers Association. Executive director

Kim Stemler, asked by the Carmel City Council to justify the MCVGA's request for money for its Winemakers Celebration under the Discretionary Funds Grant Program by quantifying its benefit to Carmel, replied only that the annual outdoor wine-tasting brings "vibrancy." Last year, it brought public intoxication. After asking good, tough questions, the City Council voted to give the MCVGA all the \$3,000 in public money it asked for. The non-profit group – comprised of for-profit members - did agree to pay for policing the paid, ticketed event this coming May and promised to survey attendees to see how many are staying overnight in Carmel. Who is tasked with following up to ensure it's done in an organized manner?



CHEERS to the business owners who regularly sweep the sidewalks in front of their stores. Civic pride at its very best!

NEW POLICE CHIEF

Paul Tomasi was appointed Carmel's Police Chief and Director of Public Safety, replacing Mike Calhoun who retired in January.

"CALL BEFORE YOU DIG" PROGRAM

New laws require utility companies to mark abandoned subsurface utility lines before any excavation takes place. These colorful street markings will prevent accidental utility line hits during excavation activities.

MISSION TRAIL NATURE PRESERVE "WEEDIES"

The Friends of the Mission Trail Nature Preserve are not just "tree huggers" and they have the lower back pains to prove it. Recently a group, self-identified as "weedies", worked on tidying up and spreading wood chips at the new Mountain View entrance to the Preserve in preparation for landscaping. Their projects continue. Weather permitting, willing helpers are welcome at 9:30 each Saturday morning.

CENTENNIAL TIME CAPSULE

A ceremony to bid farewell to the time capsule, containing souvenirs that characterize Carmel at the close of its first century, was held on January 27th. This event signaled the close of centennial year celebrations.

CARMEL ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

The library's Local History Department has been conducting oral history interviews, collecting memories and stories from long-time Carmelites. Interviewees to date include former mayor Charlotte Townsend, former city councilor Barbara Livingston and longtime residents Niels Reimers, Vince Torras Jr. and Don Barry. The project's

purpose is to gather and record memories of Carmel as it was, from people's earliest memories of the town, to what's happening today. Interviews are recorded and available for viewing at the Local History Room. Local History Librarian Katie O'Connell directs the project.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Carmel's Chamber of Commerce has moved to new offices on the third floor of Carmel Plaza. (The visitors center is on the 2nd floor.)

NEW FIRE STATION DESIGNATIONS

Monterey County Emergency Communications is implementing new computer aided dispatch software. Under the new system, every fire station in the county will be identified by a station number. The fire station located in Carmel is Station 156. The primary ambulance located at that station will be identified as Medic 15.

ILLEGAL DOWNTOWN BUSINESS SOLICITATIONS

The city has been working with several skin care businesses, enforcing a municipal code requirement that all business is conducted within an enclosed structure. Employees of these businesses have been verbally soliciting customers in a manner that is inconsistent with code requirements. Such solicitation degrades the character of the business district. Citations have been issued and additional compliance options explored.

SUNSET CENTER PROMOTION

The Sunset Center staff recently hosted the national sales team for Monterey County's Convention and Visitors Bureau to emphasize the facility's use as a conference center. Among such events was the annual Western Medical Research Conference held in January.

WHO'S HAPPY NOW?

Coastal Living Magazine has named Carmel-by-the-Sea the happiest seaside town in California. We are also second-happiest on the West Coast. And eighth-happiest nationwide.

ADOPTING A POCKET PARK

The Community Planning and Building Department is seeking commercial property owners and their tenants with green thumbs to adopt and voluntarily landscape the cut-out area located in the city's right of way in front of their buildings. Willing "adopters" should get an application at the Community Planning and Building Department. The application process is free, and the city has recommendations to help with complying with city standards. Richard Kreitman is the innovator of this program.

PARKLAND IMPROVEMENTS

Significant improvements have been accomplished at two of Carmel's parklands. The children's playground in Forest Hill Park has been refurbished. A new wood border replaced the 35-year-old original wood border and playground-safe wood chip fill was blown in to bring the play surface up to fall-protection standards. A grant from the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District paid for this project. The Mission Trails Nature Preserve boasts a new Mountain View entrance including a new stairway, ramp, benches and viewing area. That project was jointly financed through Measure D funds, by Friends of Mission Trails Nature Preserve and the Barnet Segal Charitable Trust.

CRA

NEWS & VIEWS



CRA DINES OUT!

Manga Mi! CRA is happy to announce the next CRA Dines Out! on April 19th, 2017 at Vesuvio. It's sure to be a night of good comfort food and spirited conversation for all who attend.

Vesuvio has a great menu planned starting with a choice of white bean soup or Caesar salad. For the main course you will have a choice of classic Sgt. Pepe's 1944 meat lasagna, or either chicken or eggplant Parmigiana with pappardelle and Alfredo sauce. Coffee and tea and a traditional tiramisu complete a meal sure to make us feel as if we'd spent an evening with friends in old Napoli. House red or white wine will be available for purchase at \$7 a glass, as will a no-host full cocktail bar.

To be sure you're included, please reserve your place by sending a check for \$40 per person, payable to CRA and with your choice of entrée, to Darlene Mosley, PO Box 1135, Carmel 93921. Vesuvio is located at the corner of Sixth and Junipero. We are looking forward to a fantastic evening with family and friends.

DUES RENEWAL

Dues for the 2017 membership year are now payable. Individual dues are \$35, family dues are \$50 and Benefactors (members who support our community outreach projects) pay \$100.

As the result of a mailing problem, some members did not receive their dues renewal letters and/or their January/February *Voice*. If you did not receive

either or both, please call Membership Chair Chris Gaspich at 620-1764 or Barbara Livingston at 626-1610.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

CRA's bylaws state that any member may add nominees to the slate for the election to the Board of Directors by submitting a petition signed by 10 members in good standing. The names of individuals so nominated will be added to the slate on ballots submitted to the members in May. Nomination petitions must be sent to CRA, PO Box V, Carmel, CA 93921 by April 1, 2017.

BEST SELLER

Paul Fridlund, co-owner of Carmel's Pilgrim's Way Bookstore, reports that *Stories of Old Carmel*, CRA's tribute to the city's centennial year, was the store's best selling book in 2016. The book contains 57 stories about people, places and events in Carmel's colorful history. Although published for the centennial, the book probably remains the best-available collection of Carmel lore.

Some stories, like Perry Newberry's efforts to stop the paving of Main Street and Judith Anderson's star turn in *The Tower Beyond Tragedy* at the Forest Theater, may be familiar. Other tales — such as Captain Sharkey's ruse as a government spy sent to Carmel to expose a nefarious Communist plot, or Charles Lindbergh piloting gliders in Carmel Highlands, or Edward Kuster's first-in-America production of *The Threepenny Opera* at the Carmel Playhouse, or the unsolved mystery of the beheading of the Buffano statue of Johan Sebastian Bach in Devendorf Park—are often forgotten.

Stories of Old Carmel is illustrated with vintage photographs, woodcuts, drawings and cartoons. It's a treasure trove in every sense of the word. In addition to Pilgrim's

Way, it is available at River House Books, Carmel Bay Company and the Carmel Drug Store.

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

At its March 23rd meeting, CRA will present a Certificate of Appreciation to the Sunset Center in recognition of its significant contributions to the cultural life of Carmel.

BEACH CLEANUP

Lauren Banner, the new chair of CRA's traditional beach cleanup sessions, has announced the dates for this year:

March 18	July 15
April 15	August 19
May 20	September 16
June 17	October 21

Volunteers gather at the foot of Ocean Avenue at 9:00 A.M. They first enjoy a bit of socializing with coffee and cookies. (Treats are also provided for dogs that come for a morning's outing.) People bring their own gloves, but all other equipment is provided.

NEW PARKS PLAY

CRA member and playwright Tom Parks will present his new play *The Last Word* for a four-week run, opening April 21st at the Cherry Center Theatre, Fourth and Guadalupe. It stars Carol Daly, Mitch Davis, and Alyca Tanner. Call 717-7373 for tickets.

CRA COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Newsletter: Barbara Livingston, David Armstrong, Richard Flower and Tom Parks (*Editorial Board*),
Bonny McGowan (*Design and Production*),
Mary Condry (*Proofreader*), Christine Rue and Jon Wolfe (*Photography*), Carl Iverson and Vicki Kou (*Distribution*).
Other: Kathy Fredrickson (*E-Blast Manager*),
Dick Dalsemer (*Email Manager*),
and Darlene Mosley (*Dines Out*).

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The CRA Board wishes to assure our members that we do not sell, trade, lend or in any other way share our mailing list with any organization or company. This list is held in the strictest confidence for our organization's use only.

The Erl Lagerholm Bequest

Fran Vardamis

CRA has learned it is the recipient of a most generous bequest from the estate of longtime member Erl Lagerholm. In granting this and other bequests, it was Erl's intent to recognize the value and importance of non-profit community groups working for the benefit of the village of Carmel-by-the-Sea.

A venerable and beloved Carmelite, Erling Lagerholm was born October 4, 1922 in Attleboro, Massachusetts. After completing his education, he enlisted in the Navy and served as an officer during World War II, continuing in a successful and fulfilling Navy career until his retirement in 1982.

Following in the footsteps of his parents, Erl moved to Carmel in 1988. He more than repaid a warm welcome to

his new home by becoming an active contributor to the community. He was a tireless traveler, crossing the Atlantic in an 80-foot sloop. He climbed Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa and many of the highest Appalachian peaks. He trekked in Alaska, British Columbia, Peru and New Zealand. Amid his many travels, he found time to share a lifetime of experience by serving on several local boards and planning committees.

Erl Lagerholm passed away in February 2016. A many-faceted gentleman, his wit and his warmth are missed by those who were fortunate to have known him and to share his long and remarkable life.

But that is, happily, not the end of the story. Erl's contributions to Carmel will continue well past the time he left us at

the age of 92. Thanks to his generous bequest, CRA, Carmel, and the recipients from a variety of community projects will benefit from his generosity far into the future. CRA welcomes Erl Lagerholm's bequest and suggests that a legacy gift, such as his, is a fitting way to continue serving the community long after the donor is no longer with us.

**Karen and Frank Mulvaney
made a generous donation
to the CRA
In honor of the
CRA's Board of Directors**