



Mira Mesa Town Council

February 2010

February will be a busy meeting with Carl DeMaio, who was unable to attend the January meeting due to an emergency dental procedure (ouch!). As always, we welcome his visit and the information that he passes along to us. In January, Mayor Sanders presented his "State of the City" address; Carl will bring us up-to-date on new changes and possibilities that may be ahead of us.

Bridget Lambert of the National Conflict Resolution Center/San Diego Mediation Center will also be with us. It has been several years since the NCRC has been with us, and we welcome their return. The presentation they have planned for us will be informative and insightful.

Please join us on Monday, February 1, at 7 p.m. in the Mira Mesa Library. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** The proposed closure of San Diego libraries has not yet been implemented. Therefore, the MMTC meetings will remain on MONDAY until further notice. Please check our website regularly for updates—www.MiraMesaTownCouncil.org.

Carl DeMaio, Councilmember, District 5



On June 3, 2008 Carl DeMaio was elected to the San Diego City Council to represent District 5. DeMaio's pledge to the voters was simple: Clean Up City Hall. His goals include balancing the budget, reforming the pension system, fixing crumbling infrastructure, and restoring ethics and accountability to every level of city government. Outside of his work as a local government watchdog, DeMaio was a businessman who founded two multi-million dollar companies by the age of 30.

Carl DeMaio is an active member of the community helping with numerous non-profit organizations in San Diego. He has made constituent service a top priority in his Council office and is working to improve the quality of neighborhoods in his District.

Bridget Lambert, National Conflict Resolution Center

The National Conflict Resolution Center (NCRC) is a full service alternative dispute resolution provider, based in San Diego, California since 1983. NCRC provides and promotes collaborative dispute resolution and conflict management to individuals, organizations, and society through education, training, and client services. "Of particular interest to the Town Council," said Ms. Lambert, "I would like to focus on community mediation services and community conflict management training, two programs funded by the County of San Diego".

Bridget Lambert has been a part of the San Diego Alternative Dispute Resolution community since 1995, when she was trained as a community mediator by the San Diego Mediation Center. She has experience as a mediator, arbitrator, and program administrator. Currently she is engaged as an Outreach and Education Coordinator for NCRC's Community Exchange Program, which teaches conflict resolution and management skills to community leaders.

Inside this issue:

Monthly Meeting Notes	1
Local Numbers	2
President's Message	3
What's New?	3
Elected Officials	4
Last Month's Meeting Minutes	6-7
Calendar	8
Support Our Advertisers	9
Business Members	10
Membership Information and Application	12

Mira Mesa Town Council Meetings

Town Council meetings provide a public forum for community issues relating to civic, cultural, social, educational and recreational development and improvement in the area. Regular meetings are held the first Monday of each month at the Mira Mesa Public Library from 7 to 9 p.m., with no meeting held in July.

Agenda for the **February 1, 2010** meeting:

- ◆ Carl DeMaio, City Councilman, District 5
- ◆ Bridget Lambert, NCRC

The next MMTC meeting is **Monday, March 1, 2010**

Visit us online at www.miramesatowncouncil.org

LOCAL NUMBERS

General County Services Information

2-1-1 San Diego 2-1-1

Emergency Services

Police/Fire/EMS 9-1-1
Poison Control 1-800-222-1222

Criminal Activity

Police Community Relations Office 858-538-8120
Suspected Arson 1-800-472-7766 (47ARSON)
Gangs 619-531-2847
Graffiti 619-525-8522
Non-emergency crime or suspicious activity e.g.
belligerent person, car/building alarm,
nuisance bar, underage drinking 858-484-3154

Utilities

Fire hydrant open 619-515-3525
Gas leak 800-411-7343
Power/phone line downed 619-811-8081
Tree limbs in power lines 800-411-7343

Nuisances

Animal, dangerous 619-236-2341
Animal, dead 858-492-5060
.....5pm-7am or weekends & holidays: 619-573-1276
Animal manure (dog) 619-338-2283
Animal, rodents/rats 858-694-2888
Building abandoned or dangerous 619-236-5500
Car abandoned or inoperative 858-495-7856
Noise (loud) 619-236-5564
Code Compliance 619-236-5500
Trash: uncollected, overflowing dumpster, trash-
strewn lot, or recyclables 858-492-5055

Streets & Environment

Bus shelter damaged 619-231-1466
Manhole cover missing or damaged 619-515-3525
Street, flooded 619-527-7500
Street, light out (see below for traffic lights) 619-527-7500
Street, pothole 619-527-7500
Street, sink hole or collapse 619-515-3525
Street, traffic light non-functioning 619-525-8650
Swimming Pools..... 858-689-6296
Weeds overgrown, fallen trees, or clogged
storm drain 619-527-7500

MIRA MESA TOWN COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 2010

PRESIDENT

Ted Brengel, Ted@TedBrengel.com

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT (PROGRAM CHAIR)

Pam O'Donohoe, pam1220@aol.com

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT (MEMBERSHIP)

Maria G. Pankau, mgpankau@hotmail.com

TREASURER

Jeff Stevens, jeffstev@san.rr.com

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Hang Chau, hchau39@gmail.com

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Bari Vaz, BariVaz@sbcglobal.net

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MEMBERS AT LARGE

Marlon Austria, maustri1@san.rr.com
John Daley, jedaleyiii@aol.com
Mike Davis, mike.davis.sd@gmail.com
Sandy Smith, miramesarealty@gmail.com

Want to help your community, but don't know how?

Mira Mesa is made up of people just like you who are looking for ways to get involved in the community. Whether you are interested in local planning, parks and recreation, community appearance, family events or something completely new, there's a place for you.

Ongoing community groups include:

- **BANNER DISTRICT COMMITTEE**
- **CLUSTER SCHOOLS COUNCIL**
- **COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP**
- **COMMUNITY PRIDE COMMITTEE**
- **FOURTH OF JULY COMMITTEE**
- **HEROES**
- **MMTC STREET FAIR COMMITTEE**
- **MAINTENANCE ASSESSMENT DISTRICT COMMITTEE**
- **RECREATION COUNCIL**
- **RETIRED SENIOR VOLUNTEER PATROL (RSVP)**

Come to a Mira Mesa Town Council general meeting or contact one of our directors for more information. Also see page 6 for specific meeting times and locations.

President's Message

By Ted Brengel, MMTTC President

A Sad Note

Let me start by mentioning that we have lost a long-time community volunteer and valued friend with the passing of Orlando Vernacchia. He will be dearly missed.

New Restaurant

One piece of breaking news that I verified last week is that the old Stuart Anderson location that has been demolished in recent weeks will be the new home of a Chick-Fil-A restaurant. Chick-Fil-A is a nationwide firm specializing in chicken cooked in peanut oil. I understand that they will open in three to four months.

Shopping Carts

A number of members have expressed concern over the years about all the shopping carts littering our neighborhoods. It seems that there are a number of people in Mira Mesa who use shopping carts to transport their purchases from various stores to their homes. Then, rather than returning the carts to the store or keeping them on their own property, they simply push them into the public right-of-way for everyone to see. And while both theft of carts and littering by leaving them on the street are illegal, neither act is sufficiently onerous to draw the attention of the authorities.

Members of the Town Council have put forth a number of ideas to curb this problem, but so far nothing has been done. Some stores in the area, Von's for example, use the California Shopping Cart Retrieval Corporation (CSCRC) to collect abandoned carts. Others have store personnel collect the carts, and one, Walgreens, has an electronic cart containment system that locks the cart's wheels when the cart is pushed beyond the edge of their parking lot. And the blight continues apparently unabated. If you have any ideas on this problem please pass them along to me. I hope to have someone from CSCRC address us at a future meeting in hopes that we can gain a few insights from them.

Membership

Please remember to speak with your neighbors about joining MMTTC.

Please join us at the meeting on February 1.

Rains Come to Los Penasquitos Canyon Preserve

By Pam Stevens

On Thursday, January 21, the third and heaviest day of rain in a very wet week, the scheduled bimonthly meeting of the Los Penasquitos Canyon Preserve Citizens Advisory Committee was canceled due to weather and the threat of flooding in the area surrounding the historic Penasquitos Adobe Ranch House, where the group meets. On Friday, Jan. 22, City Ranger Gina Washington, emailed CAC members and others interested in the Preserve that Penasquitos Creek rose on Thursday to the point that they had to evacuate their ranger office on the east side of Black Mountain Road.

"I wanted to let you know that we are still here, but just barely. The creek really rose to the point we had to evacuate our office. The streets surrounding us, Black Mountain, Mercy and Carmel Country Roads, were all flooded/closed at different points throughout the day. The storm drains just couldn't handle the water coming off the streets," Washington wrote.

Washington cautioned hikers, bicyclists, and equestrians that heavy rains close Preserve trails until further notice.

"It will be sometime before we are able to even get into the canyon to do a thorough inspection of the damage. I know there will be a lot, so we need to brace ourselves for a long closed stretch. There were very strong winds during the storm and with as much ground saturation as we have, there are surely many trees down and/or teetering on the edge all over the canyon. Please protect yourself by staying off the trails. We needed this rain, but not so much at one time. Please bear with us as our small crew makes the needed repairs on the trails," Washington asks.

Anyone willing and able to help with the crew making trail repairs on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings, 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., can contact Senior Park Ranger Gina Washington, 858-538-8066, gwashington@sandiego.gov, for more information. The crew meets at the City Ranger office next to the Canyonside Stables (equestrian center) on the east side of Black Mountain Road.

The Penasquitos Adobe Ranch House, 12020 Black Mountain Road, is actually located at the west end of Canyonside Park Drive and is part of the San Diego County Parks. For more information call the County Ranger office at the Adobe, 858-484-7504.

For information about the Friends of Los Penasquitos Canyon Preserve see www.penasquitos.org.

For more information about the LPCP Citizens Advisory Committee, contact Chairman Marvin Gerst, mgerst@ucsd.edu, or Mira Mesa Community Planning Group CAC representative Pam Stevens, pstevens@san.rr.com.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

City Council District 5: Carl DeMaio

Ph. (619) 236-6655, Fax (619) 238-0915

E-mail: carldemaio@sandiego.gov

Website: <http://www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd5/index.shtml>

Representative to Mira Mesa John Ly, JwLy@sandiego.gov

San Diego Unified School District Board, District A: John Lee Evans

Ph: (619) 725-5550, Fax (619) 297-5624

E-mail: board@sandi.net

District Website: <http://www.sdcs.k12.ca.us/>

Website: <http://www.sandi.net/board/evans.pdf>

Mayor, City of San Diego: Jerry Sanders

Ph: (619) 236-6330 Fax: (619) 236-7228

E-mail: JerrySanders@sandiego.gov

Website: <http://www.sandiego.gov/mayor/>

Representative to Mira Mesa: Stephen Lew

County Supervisor District 3:

Pam Slater-Price

Ph: (619) 531-5533

E-mail: pam-slater@co.san-diego.ca.us

Website: <http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/cnty/bos/sup3/>

Representative to Mira Mesa: Erica Holloway

County Supervisor District 4—Ron Roberts

S.D. County Administration Center: 1600 Pacific Highway
Room 335,

San Diego, CA. 92101

Ph: (619)531-5544

E-mail: ron-roberts@sdcounty.ca.gov

Web site: <http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/cnty/bos/sup4/>

Field Representative: Woo Jin Shim

State Assembly, 75th District:

Nathan Fletcher

9909 Mira Mesa blvd., Ste. 130,

San Diego, CA 92131

Ph: (858) 689-6290, Fax: (858) 689-6296

Website: : <http://www.assembly.ca.gov/fletcher>

Capitol office: State Capitol Room 3141 ,

Sacramento, CA 95814

Ph: (916) 319-2075.

Field Representative: Melissa Thomas

State Senate, 39th District: Christine Kehoe

2445 Fifth Avenue, Suite 200

San Diego, CA 92101

Ph: (619) 645-3133 Fax: (619) 645-3144

Representative to Mira Mesa: Andrew Kennerly

Congressman, 50th District: Brian Bilbray

San Diego County Office: 462 Stevens Ave. Suite 107

Solana Beach, CA 92075

Ph: (858) 350-1150 Fax (858) 350-0750

E-mail via website: <http://www.house.gov/bilbray>

Field Representative: Andrew Lund

Governor: Arnold Schwarzenegger

State Capitol Building Sacramento, 95814

Ph: (916) 445-2841, Fax: (916) 445-4633

Local office: 1350 Front St., Suite 6054, Sixth Floor

San Diego 92101

Ph: (619) 525-4641

Website: www.governor.ca.gov.

San Diego Community College District Board, District B: Bill Schwandt

bschwand@sdccd.edu

Website: <http://www.sdccd.cc.ca.us/public/district/trustees/schwandt.html>

HEROES Helps Out A Local Hero

By Mike Davis

On the morning after Christmas, eight community members braved the early morning cold and skipped the day-after-Christmas shopping events to assist a man who has given much to the Mira Mesa community. Orlando Vernacchia is a man who can recall when Black Mountain Road was a dirt trail, and has been volunteering with numerous Mira Mesa non-profits since that time. Chosen as the Mira Mesa Town Council's "Volunteer of the Year" in 1989, Orlando was still actively following community events until November, 2009.

Declining health and a recent heart attack prevented Orlando from doing some much-needed painting and repairs on his home. HEROES and a team of volunteers took on the task of painting the fence, shed, and some exterior areas of the home, as well as minor interior repairs. Thanks go to volunteers John Malo; Bruce Brown; Dave and Bari Vaz; Karen, Tom and Jeff Burger; Cathy Kruesser; and HEROES Chairman Mike Davis,.

Sadly, Orlando Vernacchia passed away on January 4. His contributions to Mira Mesa will never be forgotten.

Top Right: HEROES volunteers Bruce Brown and Dave Vaz paint the exterior of Orlando Vernacchia's fence. Bottom Right: Mike Davis of HEROES touches up the new paint on Orlando's storage shed



Mid-March Celebration of Life Planned in Memory of Orlando Vernacchia

By Pam Stevens

On Tuesday, January 12, San Diego City Councilmember Carl DeMaio adjourned the City Council meeting in memory of longtime Mira Mesa volunteer Orlando Vernacchia, who passed away on January 4 at the age of 92.

Now friends and fellow volunteers are planning a celebration of Orlando Vernacchia's life to take place in mid to late March at the Verne Goodwin Mira Mesa Senior Center. Organized by the Board of Governors of the Senior Center and the Golden Friends, with the help of the Mira Mesa Town Council, Recreation Council, RSVP, Planning Group, and others, and in coordination with Orlando's son, Dennis Vernacchia, who is also a Mira Mesa resident, the tribute is scheduled to take place near the date of Orlando Vernacchia's birthday on March 16.

Plans are now under discussion for something as a tangible memorial to Orlando Vernacchia, as well.

Anyone interested in making a donation to the Senior Center in Orlando's memory can do so by writing a check to "Mira Mesa Senior Center" and writing "in memory of Orlando Vernacchia" on it.

For more information, contact either John Malo or Chuck Sweet, or call the Golden Friends office at the Senior Center on weekdays, 858-578-7325.



Orlando Vernacchia (right) with the RSVP at the 2003 MMTC Street Fair

Banned Book Club to Discuss "Fanny Hill" in February

By Pam Stevens

In February the Mira Mesa Library's Banned Book Club, a book group with a "freedom to read" theme, will discuss the eighteenth century erotic classic, "Fanny Hill," by John Cleland.

"Fanny Hill: Memoirs of a Woman of Pleasure" was first published in England in 1748 after being written while the author was in debtor's prison. It is considered the first English language erotic novel and is one of the most prosecuted and banned books in history. Anyone interested in talking about this thought-provoking title is welcome to attend and participate in the discussion. The group meets the last week of the month at the Mira Mesa Branch Library at 7 p.m., either on Monday, February 22, or Tuesday, February 23.

We still don't know for sure what changes in branch library hours may be coming as a result of City budget cuts. While it had been announced in December that branches would be closed on Mondays in the future, future branch library hours are now under discussion between the City and MEA (the Municipal Employees Union) on behalf of Library staff.

If the Mira Mesa Branch Library continues to be open on Monday evenings, the Banned Book Club will continue with its current schedule of meeting the last Monday of the month at 7 p.m.

If branch libraries switch to a Tuesday through Saturday schedule, as was proposed in December, branches would likely be open on Tuesdays as well as Wednesdays from 12:30 to 8 p.m., so the meeting would switch from the last Monday to the last Tuesday of the month. Anyone interested can email me, Pam Stevens, or call the library for meeting date updates.

As a reminder, titles for discussion in future months are:

March - The Year of Magical Thinking, by Joan Didion

April - Ragtime, by E. L. Doctorow

May - A Grave in Gaza, by Matt Baynon Rees

June - Cat's Cradle, by Kurt Vonnegut

July - The Bookseller of Kabul, by Asne Seirstad

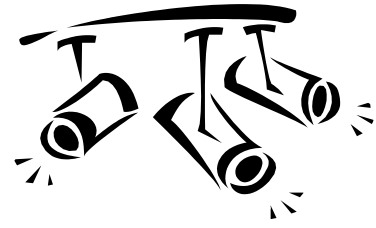
August - no meeting

September - annual book selection meeting

Mira Mesa Library Branch Manager Lien Dao has asked me if I'd also be willing to facilitate a discussion of this year's current One Book, One San Diego title, "Outcasts United," by Warren St. John. It's the story of the Fugees, a soccer team composed of boys who are refugees from war-torn countries in Africa, Asia, and elsewhere around the world, and their life in once-sleepy Clarkstown, Georgia, a small town outside Atlanta that became a center for refugee resettlement. The date for that discussion is to be announced, but it will likely take place some time in March or April.

For more information, email Banned Book Club facilitator Pam Stevens, pstevens@san.rr.com, or call the Mira Mesa Branch Library, 858-538-8165.

Highlights of the January 4, 2010 MMTC Meeting



POLICE AND FIRE REPORTS

Police Department (Officer Susan Steffen)

- ◆ No report.

SD Fire Department (Capt. Myers)

- ◆ No report

ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

City Councilman Carl DeMaio (John Ly)

- ◆ Councilman unable to attend due to emergency surgery.
- ◆ Christmas Trees can be put on the curb until Jan 23rd or dropped off at Miramar Landfill free of charge.
- ◆ Bus route 880 may be changing due to low ridership, and will go straight downtown.
- ◆ Mira Mesa businessman is suing city to get his business tax returned.
- ◆ No update on Salk Elementary.

County Supervisor Ron Roberts (Woo-Jin Shim, new community relations officer)

- ◆ December 21st, H1N1 vaccine is available to everyone. For more info see www.sdcounty.ca.gov or call Woo-Jin Shim.
- ◆ Swine flu prevention tip sheets available at meeting.
- ◆ Responding members pointed out the vaccine is available at minimal cost from Walgreens.
- ◆ Crime Prevention Expo Feb 25th in Linda Vista.

COMMUNITY GROUP REPORTS

Community Pride Committee (Jim Brown)

- ◆ Some residents who are forced to leave their home are leaving trash in driveways. Contact the city for removal.
- ◆ Neighborhood Code Compliance, 619-236-5500, call to tell them about illegal signage on Miramar road.

Mira Mesa Theatre Guild (Alexander Nguyen)

- ◆ Next meeting is Thursday, January 21, 2010, at 6pm
- ◆ \$1 membership and anyone can join.
- ◆ Response to last month's question: Why did we have to take off the roof for Monster Manor? Answer: Fire code 914, amusement buildings except for 1,000 sq ft or less, must have sprinkler system.
- ◆ Fire sprinkler installment systems cannot be purchased and used every year. Unable to find temporary systems.
- ◆ 1500 attendance; made the same amount as last year because of increased ticket prices/lower expenses. Gross \$19,000.

Recreation Council (Joe Frichtel)

- ◆ Next meeting is on Tuesday, Jan 12, 2010 (2nd Tuesday of every month).
- ◆ Budget meeting 9 (at Gil Johnson), 7 pm in the craft room this Thursday.
- ◆ (Bruce Brown) Paint the fence program last year was successful. Is there money in the budget for this year? Would like to request \$3,000 to continue painting project. Item will be put to a vote next month (also, Frazee sells paint to MMTC at cost).

Mira Mesa Library Banned Book Club (Pam Stevens)

- ◆ Meets last Monday at Mira Mesa Library; may need to be moved to last Tuesday of every month.
- ◆ Next meeting scheduled for Jan 25, 2010.
- ◆ Will discuss Ralph Ellison's "Invisible Man".

Los Penasquitos Canyon Preserve (Pam Stevens)

- ◆ Holiday Party at ranch house was successful.
- ◆ Councilmember Sherri Lightner was present.
- ◆ Docents provide guided tours.
- ◆ Friends of the Canyon Preserve also do guided hikes in the preserve.
- ◆ Citizen's Advisory meeting on Thursday, January 21st at the Ranch.

Mira Mesa Community Planning Group (Bari Vaz)

- ◆ The last meeting of the Hillery DAR Subcommittee will be on Thursday, January 14th, 6 pm at Qualcomm.

Mira Mesa Chamber of Commerce (Sandy Smith)

- ◆ Chamber of Commerce is hosting Casino Night to serve as (1) Fundraiser for 4th of July, and (2) opportunity to network.
- ◆ Chamber is working on identifying Mira Mesa's identity for a branding program.

MIRA MESA TOWN COUNCIL BUSINESS**President** (Ted Brengel)

- ◆ Talk to friends and neighbors about joining the Town Council. E-mail will be forthcoming to pass on to friends.

Treasurer (Jeff Stevens)

- ◆ Beginning balance \$85,465.29; Income \$356.60; Expenses \$1,397.99. Net cash flow (\$1,041.39; Ending Balance \$84,423.90.
- ◆ Full calendar report 2010: Ending balance almost identical to starting balance.
- ◆ Looking for volunteers for Budget Committee
- ◆ Question: Why do we carry such a large balance? Answer: Historically MMTC has been a very poor group. We are making money from Street Fair and haven't spent it. Gradually over time we have gotten closer to spending what we bring in annually.
- ◆ Question: Can we forecast returning membership dues to \$10/year? Answer: Haven't heard it was a problem. We can consider it if we hear that it will increase membership from young people.

NEW BUSINESS**Designing Power Boxes** (Mike Davis)

- ◆ Leo Angelo Reyes, a local artist and participant in Mira Mesa's annual "Chalk the Walk" program, presents designs.
- ◆ Motion to support Mike Davis and Leo in designing and painting a few trial boxes; moved by Mike Davis, seconded by Bruce Brown, approved by 22—1 vote with 1 abstention.
- ◆ Final approval required from SDG&E.
- ◆ HEROES is donating money for the trials.
- ◆ A few concerns/suggestions: Great to tie in Mira Mesa's "brand; Could be a distraction; Artwork should not be complex; Would like to involve high school students; Can help give MM a more youthful appearance.

Forming Budget Committee (Jeff Stevens)

- ◆ \$12,000 is reserved for our scholarship account.
- ◆ Budget Committee volunteers include: Mike Davis, Sandy Smith, Maria Pankau, Bari Vaz, Joel Weil.
- ◆ Committee will meet before MMTC board meeting and once after to finalize.

Financial Review of Books Needed (Jeff Stevens)

- ◆ Joseph Weil volunteered to do review.

New Checks for MMTC Account (Jeff Stevens)

- ◆ Request to purchase new checks and check stamp that do not say "WAMU". Motion passes unanimously.

Open Forum

- ◆ Alexander Nguyen requests MMTC support for 2010 Monster Manor, their 10th Anniversary. Monster Manor is asked to submit a proposal. Sandy Smith noted that Monster Manor is the biggest money making event in Mira Mesa.
- ◆ Non-Profit Executive Council meets last Tuesday of every month. Next meeting is January 25th.
- ◆ Orlando Vernacchia is not doing well. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.
- ◆ San Diego Foundation just launched 2060 Initiative. They will do a series of town hall meetings to come up with a plan and will pressure city council, representatives, and communities to implement the plan. Bari Vaz and Sandy Smith are forming an exploratory committee to meet with SD Foundation, identify criteria for report, and will ask representatives to put together our own plan.

Happy Valentine's Day!

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 2 —Groundhog Day
 February 10—Chinese New Year
 February 14—Tet (Vietnamese New Year)
 February 14—Valentine’s Day
 February 15—President’s Day
 February 16—Mardi Gras

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

1ST MONDAY / February 1	TOWN COUNCIL MEETING (MMTC) — 1st Monday (no meeting in July) — Mira Mesa Library — 7:00 p.m. 1st Tuesday after library hours change
1ST TUESDAY / February 2	GOLDEN FRIENDS (SENIOR CENTER) — Every Tuesday (business meeting on 1st Tuesday) - Mira Mesa Senior Center—10:00 a.m. MAINTENANCE ASSESSMENT DISTRICT — 1st Tuesday, — Mira Mesa Senior Center— 7:00 p.m. (subject to change)
1ST WEDNESDAY / February 3	KIWANIS, SCRIPPS-MIRA BRANCH — Every Wednesday —Mimi’s Restaurant — 7:00 a.m.
2ND MONDAY February 8	Mira Mesa Town Council Board of Directors—Mira Mesa Senior Center—6:45 pm (6:00 pm at Library for September meeting) MIRA MESA CLUSTER SCHOOLS COUNCIL—Mira Mesa High School Media Room—6:00 pm
2ND TUESDAY / February 9	GOLDEN FRIENDS (SENIOR CENTER) — Every Tuesday (business meeting on 1st Tuesday) - Mira Mesa Senior Center—10:00 am RECREATION COUNCIL (PARKS) — 2nd Tuesday —Lopez Ridge Rec. Center — 7:00 p.m. BLACK MOUNTAIN MASONIC LODGE #845 F.&A.M — 2nd Tuesday — Mission Valley Scottish Rites Center — 7:30 pm
2ND WEDNESDAY / February 10	KIWANIS, SCRIPPS-MIRA BRANCH — Every Wednesday —Mimi’s Restaurant — 7:00 a.m. 4TH OF JULY COMMITTEE — Mira Mesa Senior Center — 6:30 p.m. EXCHANGE CLUB OF SAN DIEGO—2nd and 4th Wednesday—Mandarin Garden Restaurant (Mira Mesa Blvd) — 6:30 pm
2ND SATURDAY / February 13	FIL-AM SR. CITIZENS ASSN — 2nd Saturday — Mira Mesa Senior Center — 10:00 a.m.
2ND SUNDAY/ February 14	FAASDNC Meeting—12:00pm—Mira Mesa Recreation Center
3RD TUESDAY / February 16	COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP—3rd Tuesday —Mira Mesa Senior Center—7:00 p.m. GOLDEN FRIENDS (SENIOR CENTER) — Every Tuesday (business meeting on 1st Tuesday) - Mira Mesa Senior Center—10:00 a.m. MIRA MESA WOMEN’S CLUB —3rd Tuesday - Mira Mesa Presbyterian Church — 7:00 p.m. TEEN CENTER (THE EPICENTRE) OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE — Call Epicenter for next meeting date and time. MIRA MESA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE—Location Varies—6:00pm
3RD WEDNESDAY / February 17	KIWANIS, SCRIPPS-MIRA BRANCH — Every Wednesday —Mimi’s Restaurant — 7:00 a.m. FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY —3rd Wednesday — Mira Mesa Library — 7:00 p.m.
3RD THURSDAY/ February 18	COMMUNITY PRIDE — 3rd Thursday — 8605 Pagoda Way — 6:30 p.m. LOS PENASQUITOS CANYON PRESERVE CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE —3rd Thursday, odd months — Penasquitos Adobe Ranch House, 7 p.m. SR CENTER BOARD OF GOVERNORS— 3rd Thursday— Mira Mesa Senior Center Black Mountain Democratic Club-3rd Thursday-7-9 p.m., 10550 Caminito Flores (Mesa Village Rec. Hall 1) HALLOWEEN COMMITTEE — 3rd Thursday — Mira Mesa Rec. Center — 12:00 p.m. (June, August, September, October only)
4TH MONDAY/ February 22	BANNED BOOK CLUB —Last Monday of each month except December at the Mira Mesa Library. 7 PM.
4TH TUESDAY / February 23	GOLDEN FRIENDS (SENIOR CENTER) — Every Tuesday (business meeting on 1st Tuesday) - Mira Mesa Senior Center—10:00 a.m. MIRA MESA THEATRE GUILD — 4th Tuesday — Mira Mesa Rec. Center — 6:30 p.m. (Board), 7:00 p.m. (General)
4TH WEDNESDAY / February 24	KIWANIS, SCRIPPS-MIRA BRANCH — Every Wednesday —Mimi’s Restaurant — 7:00 a.m. STAKE HOLDERS — 4th Wednesday, every other month —Mira Mesa Library, small conference room — 6:00 p.m. EXCHANGE CLUB OF SAN DIEGO—2nd and 4th Wednesday—Mandarin Garden Restaurant (Mira Mesa Blvd) — 6:30 pm
4TH THURSDAY February 25	STREET FAIR COMMITTEE (SENIOR CENTER)-4th. Thursday—6:30 PM April through October




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Visit the Mira Mesa Town Council
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Mira Mesa Town Council thanks all of our Business Members for their continued support of our efforts and the Mira Mesa community.

To become an MMTC Business Member, please complete the application on the back of this newsletter.

Did You Know?

February is National "Return Shopping Carts to the Supermarket" Month!

Fight the Blight! Return Your Cart, Don't Leave It On The Street!

Mira Mesa Cluster Schools Council

By Erik Basil

Thanks to all who attended our January meeting of the Mira Mesa Cluster Schools Council. For those who were unable to attend, here is a summary of some of the issues discussed:

Gang Awareness & Prevention Strategies training: Wednesday, Jan. 27th, 2:40pm, in the Media Room of Mira Mesa High School. OPEN to school staff, parents and other adults in Mira Mesa. Offered as a service of Mira Mesa HS' training program for their staff and parents, this training session is geared toward parents and staff interested to know and understand gang culture, current issues and trends for "stealth gangs" in our schools, how to recognize gang graffiti and to differentiate it from "copycat styled" art, as well as prevention strategies for parents, teachers and administrators. The program will last 90 minutes.

School Choice Fair, Jan. 30th: The Cluster members have agreed to work together on a jointly run table/set of tables SDUSD's event at Balboa Park from 10am to 3pm. This event is geared toward parents and kids seeking information about K-12 school opportunities and especially where they have a choice of schools to choose from. Each member school in our cluster will prepare some material about their school for posting and distribution at the Fair and we'll coordinate together to ensure every school is represented throughout the day. Principal Eric Takeshita is our lead organizer, and can be reached at etakeshita@sandi.net.

Family Science Days, free at the Convention Center: Feb 20-21. Parents, teachers, and students may browse interactive exhibits, learn about cool science jobs and soak in information designed for middle- and high-school students by formal and informal science educators seeking to promote an interest in science among the general public. Stage shows every 30 min from noon to four and exhibitors including the American Society of Plant Biologists, Birch Aquarium, SD Zoo's Conservation Research. Go to www.aaas.org/meetings/2010/program/fsd for information.

If you've got ideas or suggestions you'd like to see your cluster of schools work together on, please contact me and, as always, join us! Our next meeting will be Monday, February 8th at 6pm in the Mira Mesa High School Media Room.

Mira Mesa 4th of July "Casino Night"

By Sandy Smith

"Casino Night", the annual fundraiser to support the Mira Mesa Community 4th of July, returns this year with the theme "Mardi Gras". Casino Night is scheduled for Friday, March 12, beginning at 5 p.m. The Country Inn and Suites, 5975 Lusk Blvd., will again be the site of this fun-filled fund-raiser.

This year, Casino Night will get a boost from the Mira Mesa Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber is committed to supporting the Mira Mesa Community, and the annual 4th of July event is one of Mira Mesa's most popular community events. The event is also an excellent chance for Mira Mesa businesses to say "thank you" to their employees and clients, by sponsoring a game table or auction item.

Businesses and individuals interested in sponsoring game tables can download a sponsorship form from the Mira Mesa Town Council website—www.MiraMesaTownCouncil.org. Additionally, auction items are being sought for Casino Night and donors will receive tickets to the event. Donation forms are also available at the MMTC website.

For additional information, or to sponsor a table or donate an auction item, contact Bonnie Apple at 858-784-3676 or Bonnie.Apple@expresspros.com, or Sandy Smith at 858-361-5229 or sandysmt@san.rr.com.



Mira Mesa Community Vision

By Bari Vaz

The San Diego Foundation recently announced their "Regional Vision Initiative", an effort to create a long-term regional vision for San Diego. As part of this process, the San Diego Foundation will engage the community through "extensive media outreach, workshops, and grand-scale convenings and town halls."

In an effort to ensure that the desires and visions of Mira Mesans are included in this process, the Mira Mesa Community Vision process will ask the residents of our community an important question:

How do YOU envision Mira Mesa in the next 50 to 100 years?

Over the next few months, the Mira Mesa Community Vision committee will work with groups such as the Town Council, Chamber of Commerce, and Planning Group to help involve all segments of the community to develop OUR plan—how Mira Mesa sees its future. We must stand up and be counted, and make certain that the voice of Mira Mesa is heard.

The MMTC would like to thank the Mira Mesa Shopping Center, LLC for their continuing support in providing postage for the MMTC newsletter.

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Mira Mesa Town Council Annual Membership Application

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<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Individual (\$20) with _____ Companion Members (\$10 each)		<p><i>There will be a \$25 charge for all returned checks.</i></p> Check # _____ Amount: \$ _____ .00	
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<input type="checkbox"/> Associate Member (non-voting — \$20)			

The Mira Mesa Town Council is a nonprofit volunteer organization. Membership dues are used to defray the costs of operation, such as printing and distributing the Newsletter, maintaining the website (www.MiraMesaTownCouncil.org) and other approved council activities.