

G'bye monarchs: have safe trips

March is the last month that monarch butterflies are here on the coast, resting and hibernating; then they will begin their journeys across the western landscape where they will reproduce. In October we'll welcome them here for our mild winter. New information says that we should remove our milkweed and, **instead**, provide native nectar producing plants for them now and in the fall. See Sharon's (sp. 75) article from the Feb. 15th Sentinel for suggestions; a copy of it is on the laundry room bulletin board. For more information: <https://xerces.org/save-western-monarchs/> and a binder with the articles about monarchs in it on the green cabinet in the clubhouse.

We travel

Sharon (sp. 75) visited New Zealand for 3 and a half weeks to add to the list of birds she's seen. The group of 8 was congenial, and the guide and his wife even hosted them for a tasty barbecue at their home. Bed and home looked good after being away for a long while. How many new birds, Sharon? 107, she says! She loved the incredible scenery, especially the snow-covered mountains on the South Island and the mossy ferny forests on all 3 islands.

Len (sp. 76) and Sandy (sp. 11) saw her son play trombone in Paul Anka's band in Palm Springs. Remember Paul? Of course the performance was wonderful! The three of them took the Mt. San Jacinto State Park aerial tramway up to 9000 feet for lunch, viewing and walking in the snow, counting the multitude of wind turbines below in the valley. The Palm Spring Art Museum, three floors of it, showed off its art from ancient days to tall totem poles made of backpacks/golf cases/carrying cases: one blue, one red, one black. Visits to LACMA (Los Angeles County Museum of Art) and the Getty Museum gave them their fill of art...for now!

Seabright State Beach Plant Restoration

Grace (sp. 80) volunteers to weed/restore native plants on a bluff overlooking the beach. Her picture is in the Feb. 21 Sentinel. Thanks, Grace.

Is it luck?

Jean (sp. 43): I think we are lucky to live in our community. We might not have known many, or any, of the people here had we lived in another part of town, in a "regular" neighborhood. What a loss that would have been. I cherish the opportunities to know others here, and to give and receive their help and friendship." As Mr. Rogers said, "Won't you be my neighbor?"

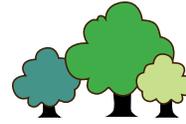
Our committees

In Feb. and Mar. our committees are reformed. Members, and the chairman of each, request Board approval at its March meeting. Join any committee by going to a meeting or contacting the chairman. Joining one, (or more!) is a way to learn about what the committee does or to contribute your skills. You don't need to "know all about it" to be a committee member; you can be a "learner". It would be helpful if every resident were on at least one committee. How about you? Committees are listed at the bottom of page 2 of this newsletter. See you at a meeting?

Lost & Found

A pretty 'turtle' necklace was found. If it's yours please contact Jan, our office manager.





Jan responds...

...to your requests that residents not park in visitor spaces, including those by the Brommer St. wall, unless a worker is using his/her driveway. Parking in the street is to be for a short time and only for loading/unloading.

Our Board of Directors

Thanks to President, Ken (sp. 20); Vice President, Mathilde (sp. 71); Secretary, Aileen (sp. 60); Treasurer, Jean (sp. 43) and members Ray (sp. 3), Judi (sp. 25) and James (sp. 53) who take the helm this month.

Thanks to the outgoing members who've served at least two years: Joyce (sp. 9) and Jeanne (sp. 48).

It takes some time to be on the board, and it's an excellent learning experience and an opportunity to help and serve our community. Come to the meetings!

Clean your bird feeders

Birds pass diseases to each other via bird feeders. Help prevent this by "washing the dishes"!

Mesh nyjer seed "socks": wash in sink using dish soap; they dry quickly. Refill with fresh seed often.

Hummingbird feeders: Use an old toothbrush and a tiny brush for cleaning. After washing, immerse feeders in a mix of alcohol (1 part) & water (10 parts) for at least 10 minutes; rinse with water before filling. Or...sterilize by cleaning and then swishing out with hydrogen peroxide, then rinsing with water. Red dye in hummingbird food is detrimental to birds' health: red color on the feeders attracts the birds.

Suet cages: spray with a bleach/soap combo, then brush, and rinse with a garden hose. The birds thank you: Tweet!

More gardens to view

At the clubhouse entrance, colorful succulents and rocks, thanks to Carol (sp. 56)

The solar fountains in the front of Jean/Pete's garden (sp. 43), and Sharon's garden (sp. 75)

A gnome's house by Chris and Dan's mailbox (sp. 17)

Spring bulbs at Chris' (sp. 22) as well as Joanna's (sp. 67) and elsewhere in our park...

It's raining, it's pouring

What's that about snoring? Let's continue our careful use of water. Who knows what next season might bring rain-wise, and it would be prudent to greet it with full reservoirs.

St. Patrick's Day

Come to dinner at the clubhouse on Saturday 3/16 at 5pm. See your flyer for details.

Door handles!

Paula (sp.74) wanted unique, antique metal door handles for her dining room cabinet. "Looking through my cache of weird acquired hardware, I found some out-of-date Turkish Lira. Joseph (sp. 6) and I stamped these coins, making them convex/concave (possible belly dance jewelry). But belly dancing seemed out of the question...for me: get my drift??!! I looked for ideas on how to attach the Lira to the little doors...and I discovered D.Lawless Hardware on line. They make a little nut which can be epoxied onto the coin, creating the door handle! Crazy little company in Illinois that has wonderful weird hardware."



Seeds, weeds, seeds, weeds...

Control weeds by removing them before they go to seed. Pull them out, or spray with full-strength vinegar which will kill most weeds. Seeds are next year's weeds for you and your neighbors. Article on weeds submitted by Carol (sp. 56) who reminds us that home/space inspections will take place soon.

Monthly Park Fees: Due on the 5th business day of the month.

Board Meetings: 4th Wednesday of the month, 6:30pm, clubhouse

Finance Committee: 3rd Wednesday of the month, 5:00pm, clubhouse

AC/MC Meeting: 1st Monday of the month, 5:00pm, clubhouse

Garden Committee: 2nd Wednesday of the month, 4:30pm, clubhouse

Handmade: 3rd Tuesday of the month 1:30 - 4:00 pm at the clubhouse

Bookmobile: Every other Tuesday 2:30-3:00pm, outside Clubhouse

Emergency Assistance: Requiring Police, Sheriff, Fire Dept, Ambulance : 911

Any other urgent assistance: Call Joyce (sp. 9) or Ray (sp. 3)