

# NEW MONTEREY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWS

MAY 2013

NMNA



This postcard image shows that where Hopkins Marine Station is today, was once the site of Pacific Grove's Chinese Fishing Village known as China Point.



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## Dates To Remember

### • May 13, Monday, 7pm

NMNA community meeting. Open to all.  
Speaker: Jon Hill

### • May 15, Wednesday, 6:30pm

Talk and tour of Monterey  
Conference Center

### • June 10, Monday, 7pm

NMNA community meeting. Open to all.

*NMNA monthly meetings are normally held at Hilltop Center, 871 Jessie Street on the second Monday of the month.*

## Neighborhood Meeting: Jon Hill to Speak

The next monthly meeting of the NMNA features *MPUSD trustee Jon Hill* who will give us an update on the new Superintendent chosen to replace Marilyn Shephard who is ill. He will answer questions concerning the direction the board is headed and how important the forthcoming election could be for the District. **Monday, May 13, 7pm at Hilltop Center.**

## Conference Center Remodel

Monterey's conference center, the little engine that generated over \$500 million in economic impact so far

over its 36 year lifetime is showing its age. The City is being asked to pony up over \$30 million in upgrades and repairs to shine up the old girl.

Because of the importance of the project and its large cost, our sibling association from the *Monterey Vista Neighborhood* has organized a tour, presentation and Q&A discussion to inform residents about the plans and their effect on our city, our budget, and us. Meet at the Conference Center on **Wednesday, May 15th, at 6:30pm for a tour of the present facility, and at 7:15pm for the presentation and Q&A discussion of the Preferred Alternative Plan just endorsed by the City Council.**

## It's Your Neighborhood

Soon it will be our turn in the City's spotlight as staff finishes up with updating the Specific Plans of the North Fremont and Old Town neighborhoods. It will be our chance to give them a list of the things we want changed and the things we want left alone. Once adopted, these requests become the rules the City follows for regulating the development of the neighborhood. Your association is working on it now and *we invite your ideas*. For example, are we happy with the tenant/owner

mix? Are the streets balanced between parking spaces and right of way? Are your neighbor's changes to his house improving the value of yours? Is your view adequately protected? How will you be affected as the trees mature? Are City services adequate?

*Let us know what you think.* Attend a meeting and speak up. Your neighborhood is your town. Attend the town meeting and help frame the future.

## Landlord Alert

**Not all** non-owner occupied homes demonstrate the same pride of ownership that usually exists with resident home owners. It becomes more apparent as the weather improves. Weeds begin to grow, limbs begin to sag, the effects of winter storms are apparent. We appreciate the high level of maintenance and repair most people keep of their homes, and hope that everyone will stop for a moment to see if his or her house adds to or detracts from the overall ambiance of the others on the street. Help is available to those who need it. Be proud of your home and respectful of others. If you see one that needs a touch up perhaps the resident would appreciate a hand.

## Membership Dues: 2013 NMNA Membership Form

Basic: \$10

Additional Support: \$20

or

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to  
NMNA and Mail to:

P.O. Box 2642

Monterey, CA 93942

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Deliver my newsletter via Email:  Yes  No

Comments/Suggestions?: \_\_\_\_\_

## Walk and Learn

**History buffs and those who prefer** a reason to go for a walk will have two related events coming up that they may find interesting. *Gerry Low-Sabado and Don Kohrso* will present the CSUMB film, *By Light of Lanterns: an Untold History of Monterey's Chinese Fishermen*, on **May 16, at 7:00 pm** - Location: Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History. Free to Museum members, non-members \$5.00. You may recall the original Chinese village was located on the northwestern beach at New Monterey's border before relocating to the beach at the foot of Hoffman Avenue. Lantern Lane is named in memory of that settlement.

**On Saturday, May 18**, there will be a talk followed by a walk. *Professor Emeritus Sandy Lydon*, will talk at 2pm about "Feeding the Hungry Ghosts: The Resurrection of Pacific Grove's 160 year-old Chinese Legacy". Location: Chautauqua Hall, Pacific Grove. Refreshments.

At 3:30 pm, at the Natural History Museum a Walk of Remembrance will go on a half mile scenic walk to the historic site of the village accompanied by a Chinese Lion Dance Team and Gerry Low- Sabado.

## More History Buff Stuff

There is an upcoming "Talking History" Series on three Sunday afternoons.

- **May 5: Dr. Susan Shillinglaw**, "To Carol Who Willed It": Carol Steinbeck and The Grapes of Wrath.
- **May 19: Dennis Copeland**, "Saga of the Life and Times of Jane Bushton Allen: From Australia to Gold Rush California."
- **May 26: Jerry Welling**, Frances Alder Elkins, successful interior designer of the Monterey Peninsula

All presentations are upstairs in Colton Hall and are from 2 - 3 pm. Call 646-5640 to make seating reservations. Event is FREE.

## One Example of an Area of Concern

**Board member Ken Wanderman queries** "I just came across this video that reports to be a plan to redesign Custom House Plaza and fill it with cars. In an era when cities are spending scarce resources to create pedestrian only spaces to attract tourists, why is Monterey going in the other direction? Are other people as scared by this as I am? *What can we do as a neighborhood association?*

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=vAS7cp7aJTs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=vAS7cp7aJTs)

## Safety Stressed For Pedestrians

**Anything But a Car** is the theme now endorsed by the City as it continues to develop its MMMM Plan- the Monterey on the Move Multi-Mobility Plan that encourages people to travel about town by foot, bicycle and bus instead of by automobile. How safe is that, was

the question put before the Parks and Recreation Commission recently. Have you tried walking on the Rec Trail on a recent Saturday afternoon? In response the City has embarked on an awareness program designed to encourage safer use of the Trail and heightened consciousness of road sharing.

*It reminds us* that it is unlawful to ride any wheeled conveyance, such as a bicycle, roller skates/blades or skateboard in an unsafe manner anywhere on the Monterey Recreation Trail. (Section 22-13 of the Monterey City Code). For a full list of trail rules, please refer to the latest issue of the Monterey Recreation Activities Guide or go online to [www.monterey.org/rec](http://www.monterey.org/rec). And remember, while they are little, bicycles have as much right to the road as any other vehicle. You don't want to test that theory in court.

## What's On Your Agenda?

**Your board tries to help citizens** with their concerns three ways. *First*, citizens are asked to verbalize their issue and the solutions they seek to a board member who then will provide some fill in assistance with regard to rules, precedents and methods that may be employed to affect a result.

*Secondly*, your board will offer assistance to resolve the issue at the lowest, closest level.

*And finally*, your board will guide, and often endorse the person to the City office that can best address the concern.

With that in mind, there are a couple of issues that come up and we wonder how broadly the concern is shared. For instance, are you bothered by air traffic noise? Are you disturbed by lighting originating beyond your property, often called trespassing light? Are you irritated by neighbors' trash cans that are inadequately attended to? Do weeds or debris, including abandoned vehicles reflect upon the extrinsic value of your property? These are some of the issues that we hear about and we would appreciate hearing from you as well so we can judge how prevalent they are in our community.

## Possible Fire

**One might see smoke and flames** from buildings on lower Lighthouse Avenue soon. Forewarned is fore (four) alarmed that it may be involved in the razing of the Azevedo property buildings in preparation for new construction.

The fire department will use the opportunity as a *training event* and control the conflagration as it consumes the ancient edifices.

**2013 NMNA Board Contacts**

**Sharon Dwight - President - Secretary - NIP 375-0841**

**Ken Wanderman- Vice President**

**Bob Evans - Treasurer 372-8323**

**Nancy Runyun**

**Howard Fosler - 649-6935**

**NMNA Website**

[newmontereyneighborhood.org](http://newmontereyneighborhood.org)