

# Carmel Valley Association

To preserve, protect, and defend the natural beauty and resources  
of Carmel Valley and the County of Monterey

YOU ARE ENTERING

Carmel  
Valley

CVA Newsletter ~ February 2009

www.carmelvalleyassociation.org

## Coming Events

Feb 8, 2-3:30pm

**Carmel Valley Voices**  
Pat McAnaney, historian  
*Songs of the Presidents*  
a musical romp through 200  
years of presidential campaigns

Mar 8, 2-3:30pm

**Carmel Valley Voices**  
Bruce Weaver, PhD  
*What is science, anyway?*  
Monterey Institute for Research  
in Astronomy (MIRA) senior  
astronomer will look behind the  
scenes of astronomical discovery

Mar 22, 2pm

**Carmel Valley Association**  
**Annual Meeting**  
Community Room  
Del Mesa Carmel  
500 Del Mesa Drive  
(at Carmel Valley Road)

Apr 19, 2-3:30pm

**Carmel Valley Voices**  
*Theatrical performances*  
By members of the  
Carmel High School  
Drama Department

Unless otherwise noted  
**All Carmel Valley Voices**  
**Programs are held on**  
**Sundays, 2-3:30 pm, at**  
**(NEW LOCATION)**

**Sanctuary Bible Church**  
**Falsh Hall**  
**8340 Carmel Valley Road**  
**(at Schulte Road)**

**FREE OF CHARGE**

*An independent committee will be named to campaign for CV incorporation*

# LEADERSHIP

## Presidential Nominee Statement

Working with the CVA Board is an incredible experience. The amount of dedication, research hours, and commitment to preserving Carmel Valley's rural character is amazing. Every Board member not only does their job, but does it above and beyond the call of duty. If residents only knew how really valuable a resource CVA is to our community! Our way of life here has a lot to do with the Herculean efforts of this volunteer group of caring people. I am honored to learn from them and to be serving with them.

—Christine Williams

## New Board Member Statements

**Peter Stern** received his BS and MS degrees from UC Davis ('68) and studied for an MBA at UC Berkeley. He learned the wine business, working for giants like Gallo, Mondavi and Lohr, before developing "Les Pierres," a high-end vineyard marketed by Sonoma Cutrer. Stern and Associates, a consulting firm founded in 1981, focused on developing new wineries and winery products, including Kosher wines; correcting production problems; and improving efficiencies of existing wineries. It serviced clients in France, Italy, Hungary, Spain, Argentina, Israel and the United States. Peter also was a founder and the CEO of Neocork Technologies, the first company to develop and manufacture synthetic corks. Retired since 2007, Peter has served on CVA's Water Committee.

**John Walton** is Research Professor of Sociology at UC Davis. He was Distinguished Professor of Sociology at UCD, 1978-2004 and previously held a similar post at Northwestern University. In 2001 he was a Leverhulme Trust Fellow in the United Kingdom. John has held offices in both the American Sociological Association and the International Sociological Association. In 2005 he received the Robert and Helen Lynn Award for Distinguished Career Achievement in Community and Urban Sociology from the American Sociological Association. The author and editor of twelve books including *Reluctant Rebels* (Columbia University Press, 1984), *Sociology and Critical Inquiry* (Wadsworth, Third Edition 1993), *Free Markets and Food Riots* (Blackwell, 1994), and *Western Times and Water Wars*. John's most recent book is *Storied Land: Community and Memory in Monterey* (University of California Press, 2001). He has also written some two hundred articles, chapters, essays, and reviews in the areas of historical sociology, international development, social movements and collective action, and environmental sociology.

Nominees for  
Carmel Valley Association  
Board of Directors, 2009

### Officers

**Christine Williams**  
President

**Tim Sanders**  
1st Vice President

**Donna Kneeland**  
2nd Vice President

**Sandy Schachter**  
Secretary

**Robert Greenwood**  
Treasurer

**Glenn Robinson**  
President Emeritus

### Directors

**Max Chaplin**

**Pete Jones**

**Rod Mills**

**Todd Norgaard**

**Margaret Robbins**

**Loren Steck**

**Peter Stern\***

**John Walton\***

(\*Messrs Stern and Walton are new to the board. All others are incumbent members.)

Members of Carmel Valley Association may nominate other candidates by petition. For thirty (30) days from the mailing of this notice (until March 5, 2009), the secretary of CVA will accept written petitions. To be accepted these petitions must be signed by 15 CVA members in good standing. Mail them to CVA Secretary, PO Box 157, Carmel Valley CA 93924. If no petitions are received, the above slate will be accepted as voted in as of March 20, two days before the annual meeting.



## President's Letter

By John Dalessio

**H**ello and Goodbye. After ten years on the CVA Board (seven as either President or President Emeritus), I'm retiring - with relief, and regrets.

CVA's work over this decade has been focused on protecting the rural nature of Carmel Valley and trying to create a rational plan for its future. The overriding problem has been and remains systemic.

A majority of County Supervisors, who determine our fate, are (and demographics dictates they always will be) from the Salinas Valley. These supervisors know and care little about Carmel Valley. They do, however, know and care about campaign contributions, often from those who want to pave over Carmel Valley. "Pay to Play" is alive and well in Monterey County.

The CVA Board and the vast majority of CVA members have concluded that the only way that Carmel Valley can protect its rural nature is to become a self-governing town. Then, the residents of Carmel Valley will control local taxes, our rate of growth, the condition of our roads and other local issues.

Two independent studies have shown that we pay more taxes to the county than we receive in services from the county. Both studies were supervised by LAFCO, an independent government body. **The inescapable conclusion from the studies is that an independent Town of Carmel Valley will be able to afford better services or collect fewer taxes, or both.**

Facts you need to know when Carmel Valley becomes a town:

- You will have more police protection every day and night;
- You will pay the same property tax (Prop 13);
- If you own a business, you will pay the same business tax (Prop 218);
- Your kids will go to the same schools (Carmel Unified School District);
- Your firemen will still be your firemen (Special Districts);
- Road problems will be addressed by someone who knows and drives our roads;
- You will obtain permits and licenses in Carmel Valley, not in Salinas.
- Your postal address will not change (US Postal Service);
- You will not be required to install sewers; and,
- Your elected representatives will live in Carmel Valley, and will know how we want to live.

Those of us who actually have protected Carmel Valley's rural nature (rather than just talking about it) know that becoming an independent town is the only way to save Carmel Valley. Please join us in this effort.



*Top: November CV Voices speaker Craig Hohenberger, director, Hilton Bialek Habitat Center at Carmel Middle School*

*Above: CVA board member Christine Williams welcomes January CV Voices guest Bradley Zeve, founder and CEO, Monterey County Weekly*

## Congratulations!

**F**ormer 5th District Supervisor and long-time Carmel Valley resident **Karin S. Kaufman** was the unanimous recipient of the 4th Annual Paula B. Wainwright and Peace Award, presented by the Carmel Valley Women's Network (CVWN) at the Hidden Valley Music Seminar on December 5, 2008. On the same occasion, the Carmel Valley Women's Network Lifetime Achievement Award was awarded to time CV resident **Grace Darcy**, co-founder and Executive Director of the Network. Darcy, with four friends, founded the Professional Women's Network of the Monterey Peninsula in 1983, an organization dedicated to women in business that remains very active. In 1990, Ms. Darcy and Paula Wainwright founded the Carmel Valley Women's Network as an activist group, with the goal of enhancing and preserving the pristine beauty of the Valley. She was a reporter for many years in New Jersey, New York and Carmel Valley.

*Below: Carmel Valley south-southeast panorama from mid-Valley overlook on Carmel Valley Road*



# ley Gallery



Top right: December CV Voices speakers, children's authors Lynn E Hazen and Elizabeth Robinson, surrounded by their many new CV fans

## Pulse of Carmel Valley

By "The Doctor"

The Doctor specializes in the health of Carmel Valley. Like all good practitioners, the Doctor likes to observe carefully, and ask lots of questions. The Doctor knows that information is necessary for good health, and a healthy valley is a happy valley. So step into the office: the Doctor will see you now.

CVA is lucky to have shoulder specialist Rod Mills in residence. Rod focuses specifically on the shoulders of Laureles Grade. He regularly organizes a group of expert consultants who clear out the junk left behind by those with unhealthy habits. So if you've been admiring the fine, blemish-free shoulders on the Grade, be sure and give Rod a pat on the back.

A CVA member with 20/20 vision caught a work crew burying construction debris down by the riverside, across Carmel River from Arroyo Carmel and Riverwood neighborhoods. The project's manager claims that he's had his own lab work done and there's nothing toxic in the debris. However, the Doctor's been in practice long enough to be a wee bit skeptical of non-scientific claims. Construction debris contains asbestos, lead paint and arsenic, among other poisons. The Doctor recommends that those lab results be exposed to the light of public scrutiny immediately.

Two students at Carmel High were recently overheard engaging in a lively, freewheeling debate about the merits of Carmel Valley incorporation. What warmed the Doctor's heart was the way that the students conducted their discussion: both were thoughtful and respectful throughout. The Doctor thinks these two wrote the perfect prescription for the community's incorporation debate: facts, facts, and more facts.

As part of CVA's "Valley Voices" lecture series, Monterey County Weekly publisher Bradley Zeve recently gave a talk about the state of newspaper publishing in the internet age. The Weekly always provides a refreshingly clear (if occasionally profane) view of the events that concern us here in Carmel Valley, be they local or international. The Doctor particularly enjoys the Weekly's Calamari Column, which is always good for the heart.

Craig Hohenberger, director of the award-winning Habitat at Carmel Middle School, gave an earlier Valley Voices lecture. The Habitat is a rare jewel, used by CMS science classes for bird banding, native plant propagation, organic gardening, and animal and insect studies, and by classes across the curriculum in art, history, nutrition and writing. Meanwhile, the Doctor has discovered that the proposed development at Rancho Canada will have a severely negative impact on the Habitat. The thicket where bird banding takes place will be torn out and replaced by



*Continued, left column*

a multi-story condo building; wildlife corridors from the river to the Habitat will be destroyed; noise and pollution will disrupt both nature and the learning process. Moreover, the Doctor's been hearing that much of the affordable housing at Rancho Canada will now be set aside for Pebble Beach employees instead of Carmel Valley workers as promised, and wonders why this project is even being considered. Perhaps some bariatric surgery is in order.

CVA is lucky to have so many fine volunteers who spend their time doing good for the valley. Special thanks are due to outgoing board president John Dalessio and board members Paula Lotz and Priscilla Walton. Their efforts have been a real shot in the arm to keep the valley healthy and strong. Be sure and let them know how much you appreciate their years of service.

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 Carmel Valley CA 93924

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**Board of Directors**

- John Dalessio, President 659-7046
- Tim Sanders, Vice-President - Land Use 625-4324
- Donna Kneeland, Vice-President - Outreach 625-0929
- Sandy Schachter, Secretary 659-5877
- Robert Greenwood, Treasurer 625-5316
- Glenn Robinson, Pres. Emeritus 659-1152
- Eleanor Avila, Historian 624-1156
- Max Chaplin (President, Carmel Valley Forum) 484-0244
- Peter Jones 625-3679
- Paula Lotz 659-5226
- Rod Mills, Chair - Lands and Trails 659-3745
- Todd Norgaard, Co-Chair - Water 620-1316
- Margaret Robbins, Co-Chair - Water 624-1153
- Loren Steck, Chair - Membership 626-8761
- Priscilla Walton 659-1519
- Christine Williams 659-1307

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

**What the heck is LUAC?**

By Janet Brennan, Chairperson, Carmel Valley LUAC

Land Use Advisory Committees (LUACs) are established by the County Board of Supervisors for each of the planning areas in unincorporated Monterey County. Members of the Committees are appointed by the Planning Commission based on recommendations by the Commissioner who is the liaison for each LUAC. The focus of the LUACs is evaluation of specific land use projects to be heard by the Zoning Administrator or the Planning Commission. Sometimes other duties are assigned to LUACs by the Board of Supervisors or Planning Commission, such as review of LUAC Guidelines and General Plans (such as the latest, GPU5). LUACs have no role in enforcing permit conditions or mitigation measures. Responsibilities are identified in Guidelines which were recently updated by the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors.

The Carmel Valley LUAC (CVLUAC) has 7 members. While there are no specific qualifications for the position spelled out in the

Guidelines, CVLUAC has several members with planning and construction backgrounds. The CVLUAC meets the first and third Monday of each month at St. Philips Lutheran Church in mid-Valley with meetings starting at 6:30pm. Agendas are posted on-line at the Monterey County Planning Department’s website (under Planning Information) and are distributed to affected property owners.

LUACs give voice to community concerns that the County might not otherwise receive. People who might be unable to attend meetings in Salinas because of their times and locations can typically attend evening LUAC meetings in their own communities. LUACs are also familiar with local issues and concerns. This is particularly pertinent to Carmel Valley where land use takes center stage. LUACs also solve problems locally before they escalate into major battles and litigation.

Members of the Planning Commission generally value recommendations from the LUACs and rely on them to identify local and neighborhood concerns. In many cases, site visits by LUAC members and staff are the only on-the-ground review that projects receive. LUACs add an important element to land use decision-making in Monterey County - an element that we hope makes a difference.

**Nine Good Reasons to Join CVA Now**

- Best way to keep track of government and developer activities in Carmel Valley
- Best way to stay informed about Carmel Valley environmental issues
- Best hope for preserving Carmel Valley’s rural character
- Best way and place to bring your ideas forward for a fair hearing
- CVA members include experienced experts on issues such as water, land use and the workings of local governments
- CVA has an effective relationship with outside experts and consultants
- CVA has a proven track record of working on behalf of the citizens with local groups, the county and the state
- CVA does its homework and presents factual information
- CVA’s website is loaded with updated information and links to agencies with relevant data and expertise

Any adult residing in or owning real property in Carmel Valley is eligible for active membership. Organizations or homeowners associations are eligible for associate membership.

Annual Membership is \$20 for individuals, \$30 for families, organizations and homeowners associations.

Carmel Valley Association is a 501 (c) (4) non-profit corporation.

Visit our website:

[www.carmelvalleyassociation.org](http://www.carmelvalleyassociation.org)

**Become a CVA member!**