Winter 2013

Oktoberfest Raised over $23,000!

Over 400 people gathered at the Kona Kai to see old friends, bid on auction items, cheer beautification award winners, and learn about beer. Special thanks to Chris Kramer from Karl Strauss Brewing Company, Mike Hinkley from Green Flash Brewing Company, Jack White from Ballast Point, and Greg Koch with Stone Brewing Co. for their enlightening and entertaining program.

Many thanks to the Auction donors who helped raise much needed funds for our community (see insert). All of their efforts and contributions help make Point Loma the community we all cherish. Special thanks to our table sponsors: we had a record number!

Congratulations to Karen Davis, a deserving winner of the Lighthouse Award. See the article on page 3. And congratulations to our Beautification Award winners:

Con Pane Rustic Breads and Cafe - Attractive Signage
Dr. Dave De Rosier Dental Office - Attractive Signage
Point Loma Seafoods - Outstanding Architecture
La Playa Trail Association - Chinese Fisherman’s Monument (Ned Daugherty, designer)
Silver Gate Yacht Club - Sailor on the Mast Sculpture (P.J Dixon, James Nelson, Brian Thomas, Designers)

Southwestern Yacht Club - Sea Artwork
Ferrell Reed accepts the Award for Sharon Zell of Hope Garden

Not pictured: Westy’s Antiques and Tavern - Creative Signage

The Plaque Project lives on!

Honor a loved one with a plaque by a tree! $350 for a 7 x 5 plaque commemorating your loved one at your chosen tree location. For information, call Robert Jackson at (619) 987-1970.
Chairman’s Message

After attending the ribbon cutting ceremonies at Intrepid Landing, the new promenade connecting Shelter Island to Harbor Drive, I thought: Paradise just got better. That project, as often happens, took vision, collaboration, hard work and persistence to bring it to fruition.

Accomplishments that improve our neighborhoods and make headway against our problems result when we get involved, work together and use our civic vision to find cooperative solutions. The Point Loma Association is looking for people in our community who want to join our Board of Directors and help us improve paradise.

We are eager to welcome you aboard. For information, e-mail me at carrick@cox.net.

Our Mission:

PLA is an organization of residents and businesses committed to improving the quality of life in Point Loma through beautification, education, charitable activities and civic collaboration.

Garden Award

Enjoy the Christmas whimsy of the family at 3608 Del Mar Avenue! Any time of day it takes on new dimensions as you think, “Oh, my gosh...does he need HELP?” Christmas Cheer Indeed!!

Beautification Update

Pork Chops! Take a look at the pork chops at West Point Loma and Nimitz! Multicolor geraniums and pink rock roses have been planted and the trees have been trimmed. Thanks to Jim Patrick, who made a donation to the project in honor of his mother, Alice.

Said Karen Davis: “The job is not complete—ceanothus plants need to go in, and in late February, the tall bougainvillea and lantana will be trimmed back heavily. Once everything grows in, it should show tremendous improvement.”

Many thanks to John Noble of Coastal Sage Gardening for giving us a great deal on plants. We appreciate his ongoing support of the PLA.

Graffiti Update: Point Loma was hit very hard with graffiti after the Thanksgiving holiday. The suspect associated with the Point Loma Library vandalism has been arrested. SDPD Gang Unit Officer Bill Miles stated: “Please let everyone in the area know as this sends out the message that the community will not tolerate vandalism!” We thank Officer Miles and the SDPD for their diligence, and to Graffiti busters Cecilia Carrick and Betty Allman for painting over the graffiti right away.

Catalina and Cañon medians: It’s been one year since the PLA beautified the medians at Catalina and Cañon. Look how they’ve grown!

We have heard you.

Thanks to all of you who responded to the survey sent following the Annual Dinner. This is what you told us:

• Shorten the program
• Shorten the awards portion of the program
• Keep the food light: serve appetizers, cocktails and beer and wine
• Try a different venue.

So, stay tuned as we start our planning for next year’s event with your recommendations.

December 2011

December 2012

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**Urban Corps:** We thank Urban Corps of San Diego County for sending a community improvement services crew to Cañon Street to clear weeds and debris. Crew Supervisor William Lee led a group of 10 Corps members in removing 80 cubic yards of waste and overgrowth over a one week period.

The beautification work was sponsored by the City of San Diego Streets division.

Urban Corps is a local non-profit youth job training and education program.

All Corps members participate in physical training before going into the field or to school each day. The youth work four days per week and attend school one day per week.

For more information about the Urban Corps program and their services, visit www.UrbanCorpsSD.org.

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**Why Karen Davis won the Lighthouse Award**

Karen Davis was “recruited” (coerced, is more like it) by her neighbor Hugh Story in 1994 after retiring from the Navy and moving to San Diego. She worked by Hugh’s side for many years, and then honored him by spearheading the Hugh Story Memorial Rose Garden at Liberty Station. She continues to work with the City, San Diego Rose Society volunteers and the Mean Green Team on maintaining the garden.

Karen is one of eight original, card carrying members of the Mean Green Team. Now she leads over 30, volunteering at almost every event. She is the contact point person for almost every project and knows virtually everyone involved in Point Loma Beautification. She is a master gardener, a tireless recycler and a loyal and dependable friend to Point Loma.
Karen also works very closely with the city’s Urban Forester, Drew Potacki, to ensure that our trees are healthy and, like her predecessor, tries to get trees donated whenever she can!

“I’ve loved working with Karen on the Beautification Committee for the past 16 years,” said Jodie Bruhn. “She’s a competent organizer, dedicated Master Gardener, dependable team member, fine community role model for our organization, and always a loyal friend of highest integrity. She is fond of fine art, lost rabbits, giving speeches, and collard greens! One of Point Loma’s finest!!”

What’s new at NTC Liberty Station
By Kerri De Rosier

If you’ve been to “Friday Night Liberty” lately, you’ve no doubt seen a lot of new galleries, museums and studios. As a matter of fact, NTC at Liberty Station is now home to 50 museums, galleries, artist studios, dance companies, educational groups and other organizations dedicated to showcasing San Diego’s creative community. Next to Balboa Park, NTC Liberty Station is the largest collection of arts groups in San Diego.

A big achievement in nine years. That’s how long Executive Director Alan Ziter has witnessed openings and closings, shepherded construction projects, and lured arts organizations to the 28-acre expanse. “The first building opened in February 2006. When I first got here, the only thing that was here was homes and High Tech High,” said Alan. The NTC Foundation just oversaw the completion of Phase 2, the renovation of eight buildings. If you renovate—will they come? New tenants have moved into Barracks 14, 15 and 16, while Barracks 2 and 3 sit empty. Barracks 17 is an Events space that can host up to 100 people. “We’re pleased with the quality of groups we’ve found to fill the space,” said Alan, “despite the face that a lot of nonprofits expect the space to be [nearly] free, like Balboa Park. Our tenants have to pay rent, and we pay an HOA fee to cover landscaping, security and parking.”

The NTC Foundation has renovated 15 of the 27 historic buildings. One of the remaining buildings is Luce Auditorium—Building 35, where the Foundation has funded a study on the viability of using it for a performing arts/cinema center. The study will be complete mid-winter 2013. “We need funding for construction drawings,” said Alan. “It will be a $15-20 million dollar project.”

The project has made it this far with $63 million in fundraising. Major sources of funding include City Redevelopment funds (which are no more), tax credits from the Federal government, and private sources. “The challenge is always money,” said Alan.
Thanks to our Auction donors
A. L. Jacobs and Sons Jewelers
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Ivy Hill Seasonal Baked Goods
Jean and Dave Laing
Joseph Wambaugh
Judge and Mrs. Thompson, Peter Thompson
Karen Davis
Klonie Kunzel
Kona Kai Resort Spa and Marina
La Jolla Playhouse
Lance Murphy and Dr. Janette Larsen
Linda Fox
Maja Pilates
Auction donors, cont.

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Sally Bixler
Sammy’s Woodfired Pizza
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San Diego Hardware
San Diego Marine Exchange
San Diego Opera, Ian Campbell
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Seabreeze Books
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Shades Ocean Front Bistro
Southwestern Yacht Club
Stan Nadel and Cecilia Carrick
Stone Brewing Co.
Stumps Family Market
Team Frankie Lane
Ted and Hillary Kay
Tender Greens
The Venetian Restaurant
The Wine Pub
To The Point Eatery, Kristen Keltner
Unity of Three Body Works
Volare Italian Dining
Windward Vineyard, Paso Robles, CA
Another challenge? “Getting people to turn LEFT onto Truxton Road from Roosevelt, instead of right, towards Vons and Trader Joe’s,” joked Alan. He’s hopeful that the opening of Stone Brewing just north of the project will encourage more left turns. “It will bring a lot of activity to the end of the area.”

And then there’s signage. The area’s historical designation “is the biggest complication,” said Alan. “38,000 cars go by every day, but a lot of people don’t know what’s here.” He’s making do with smaller signs in front of buildings, and Las Patronas just donated funds for an electronic message board along Rosecrans. “I look at NTC Liberty Station as more of a neighborhood than a shopping plaza,” said Alan. “People have to drive in to see what’s here.”

Asked about the next project, Alan would like to see Officer’s Quarters C and Gatehouse 198 at the top of the list. He also envisions a busy cafe at the pumphouse between the Central and North Promenades.

While there have been many hurdles, Alan Ziter keeps on. His motto: “Advance the ball a little every day.”

Following is a summary of the new tenants at NTC Liberty Station. And make sure to attend Friday Night Liberty on the first Friday of each month. For information, go to www.NTCLibertyStation.com.

**Building 175:** Theatre Arts School of San Diego offers theatre classes for children and youth.

**Building 176:** Liberty FIRST Robotics designs innovative programs to encourage young people to pursue opportunities in science, technology and engineering.

**Building 202:** Hire Heroes USA is dedicated to creating job opportunities for U.S. military veterans and their spouses through employment training and corporate engagement. Travis Manion Foundation provides outreach to survivors of fallen service members, veterans and students.

**Quarters D:** SCOUT @ Quarters D offers interior decoration, color consultation and home staging services.

**Barracks 14:** Ballast Point Gallery provides multi-cultural experiences in the arts for adults and children. Point Loma Tea sells whole leaf teas, unique blends and accessories from around the world. Come to The Hot Spot Ceramic Painting and Candle-Making Studio to paint your own pottery and create chunky candles.

**Barracks 15:** Brandiose Studios is a graphics design firm whose specialty includes designing official logos for Major League and Minor League baseball teams. FlightPath Intaglio Studio offers equipment and basic supplies for artists working in etching and relief printmaking media. Studio E is a gallery of paintings by Emily Halpern. Taylor Grace Designs is a custom floral design studio. Ron’s Studio is woodworking artist Ron Slayen’s studio, where he creates intricate designs. Yellow Book Road is San Diego’s largest Children’s Book Store.

Continued on the next page
Meet Sam Webb

by Cecilia Carrick

You’ve seen him shuffling along the streets of Point Loma with his cane and trash grabber. Meet Sam Webb, a model Point Loma citizen! Somewhat beyond the usual street-wandering age, you may have missed him about our neighborhood. We caught up with him one day for this interview. With twinkling eyes, cap, shoulder bag and trash grabber in hand, he told us he works seven days a week, 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., walking 7-8 miles/day, methodically patrolling designated PL areas. Absolutely no horseplay here though; Sam spends his entire day picking up litter and debris from our streets. Call him an Energizer Bunny… A native Californian, born in Holtville in 1916, Sam is 96 years young! Sam was by trade a machinist who was praised for his unique innovations and engineering skills. His passion to “invent” has always been paramount. Whether with his parents at Webb Manufacturing Company in Imperial Valley or as a master machinist at Ryan Aeronautics or in the Engineering Dept. at Scripps Oceanography, Sam has always been regarded as having the skills and acumen of an accredited engineer. He retired from Scripps in 1960 to tend to his wife who has since passed. He is now a full time and generous model volunteer for Point Loma. Thanks, Sam, for all you do.

Barracks 16: Casa Valeria Galeria Baja represents an array of artists from Mexico. Women’s Museum of California encompasses a museum, library, research archives, oral histories, events and educational programs devoted to the history and accomplishments of women.

Barracks 26: California State Parks Southern Service Center provides for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California.

By Kerri De Rosier

When you think about the USO (United Services Organization), what’s the first thing that comes to mind? Bob Hope? Marilyn Monroe? Dances? Yes — the purpose of the USO is to provide morale and entertainment to troops overseas — but it does a lot more than song and dance.

I met with Bobby Woods, SgtMaj. USMC (Ret.), Director of the USO Neil Ash Airport Center, to talk about plans for a new USO building at Lindbergh Field, and left with a new understanding about all of the resources the USO provides.

Some USO History: In 1941, as it became clear that the nation was heading into World War II, six organizations mobilized to support the growing U.S. military: the Salvation Army, Young Men’s Christian Association (YMCA), Young Women’s Christian Association (YWCA), National Catholic Community Services, National Travelers Aid Association (now Traveler’s Aid) and the National Jewish Welfare Board. Those organizations are represented as the six stars on the USO logo.

The USO Neil Ash Airport Center was built in 1993, across the street from Terminal 1. In 2010, it moved to the end of Terminal 1 for the airport expansion, and in July 2013, will go back across the street – in a brand new, state-of-the-art building.

The Airport Center serves as a way-station for traveling military members and their families, and is the largest USO airport center in the world, with more programs than any other USO in the nation.

They get troops coming and going. After coming into San Diego, new MCRD recruits are welcomed at the gate with bags full of food and other goodies, then they come through the USO Airport Center before boarding a bus to MCRD. Before they leave, they have a place to hang out, eat, play video games, rest, and log on to the Internet and Skype. After 12 weeks of grueling training, they get to go home for ten days, and return to the Airport Center, where a bus awaits to send them to additional training at Camp Pendleton.

The USO Airport Center is run almost entirely by volunteers who make sandwiches, plan activities, and organize the many food and beverage donations.
The Airport Center serves about 200 troops per day, and served a total of 123,000 troops in 2011. They will be moving back into the new, 10,000 sf building complete with a courtyard in July, 2013. SgtMaj. Woods is especially excited about the barbecues and the new laundry facility.

Want to help? Contact SgtMaj. Woods at (619) 235-6503 or e-mail bobby@usosandiego.org.

Promenade from Shelter Island to Harbor Drive!

Have you been wondering when you’ll be able to walk or ride your bike from Shelter Island to Harbor Drive without having to dodge cars? Your wait is over. On a sunny day mid December, Tom Driscoll of Driscoll, Inc., Port officials and others cut a ribbon and moved a gate, clearing the way for a public promenade providing the missing link between Shelter Island and Harbor Drive.

If you thought you had to wait a long time — your wait was no match for the Driscoll family. “Dad and I had been working on getting development plans approved and environmental issues resolved for this project since the last America’s Cup held in San Diego in 1995,” said Tom Driscoll. A plan was drawn up in 2003, with conceptual approval in 2006. (“Dad” is Gerry Driscoll, who passed away in March 2011.)

The project is part of a new development called Intrepid Landing, named after an America’s Cup vessel skippered by Gerry Driscoll in the mid-1970s. The project includes a recently completed, 40-slip marina, a restaurant, three new commercial buildings and office space. Designed by The Miller Hull Partnership, the buildings will be modern interpretations of maritime industrial sheds. The project is expected to begin in January 2013.

The development is a partnership between Driscoll, Inc., which owns Driscoll’s Boatyard and Driscoll’s Wharf on Shelter Island, and William Ayyad, president and founder of United Development Group, Inc.

**Peninsula Community Planning Board**
Meets third Thursday, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.
3701 Voltaire Street

**Ocean Beach Town Council**
Meets fourth Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.
Masonic Center
1711 Sunset Cliffs Blvd.
jimmusgrove@mac.com

**Point Loma Library**
3701 Voltaire Street

**Point Loma Assembly**
Meet second Thursday, 4:00 p.m.
Point Loma Assembly
3035 Talbot St.
(619) 887-9313
www.plassembly.org

**La Playa Trail Association**
Meets second Tuesday, 2:30 p.m.
US Bank
1331 Rosecrans St.
Charles Best, 223-3418

**Point Loma Association**
Meets second Wednesday, 7:30 a.m., Bali Hai

**Beautification:** First Tuesday, 8:00 a.m.
San Diego Yacht Club

**Membership:** First Friday, 4:00 at US Bank
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