PLA Joins the 21ST CENTURY!

This quarterly newsletter is a member benefit that will keep coming to you as long as you keep your membership up to date. We’re looking at eventually delivering the same, quality community news you’ve come to depend on – all electronically. Someday. Rising postage, printing costs and environmental concerns (we ARE about trees, after all) have caused us to consider an alternative to a printed newsletter.

We’re taking baby steps. Many of you may have received our recent e-blasts. We hope to send monthly updates about what we’re up to, as well as timely notifications about community meetings and issues. We already make this newsletter available online through our web site, and will continue to do so. We also plan to announce newsletter publication through our e-blasts, with links to articles and the community calendar.

Want to stay in the loop? Go to our web site, www.plaweb.org, and click Join the PLA’s E-Mail List on the first page. You will be asked to enter your e-mail address. If you choose to NOT be on the e-mail list, you can always unsubscribe by clicking an unsubscribe link in the e-mail.

“NO TRUCKS!”

Was the cry at a Community Meeting at the Point Loma Library on September 9. About 200 people crowded into the library’s community room to hear representatives from BioFuels and San Diego Gas & Electric, and Councilman Kevin Faulconer announce an alternative proposal to a controversial project that would allow trucks filled with compressed natural gas to use Point Loma’s streets as a transportation corridor.

The project, as explained by BioFuel representative Frank Mazanec, would transfer excess methane gas from the Point Loma Wastewater Treatment plant as a renewable energy source – producing 4.5 megawatts of renewable energy 24 hours per day and preventing 12,000 metric tons of greenhouse gasses from entering the atmosphere every year. The gas would be used to supply clean fuel cells generating renewable electricity at UCSD and an additional site.

The problem voiced by Homeowners for a Green and Safe Point Loma, an ad hoc group representing the community’s concerns, is not the project’s laudable environmental benefits, but the transport mechanism with its associated noise, pollution, damage to roads – and the danger inherent in transferring a highly flammable substance on residential streets. Also on their list of complaints is the City Council’s endorsement of this project with no notification of residents, and no requirement for an Environmental Impact Review or traffic study.

PLA at night!

Have you always wanted to see what the Point Loma Association is up to but can’t make the 7:30 a.m. monthly meetings?

Here’s your chance! We’re hosting an evening PLA Board meeting on Wednesday, October 14 at 7:00 p.m. in the downstairs room at the Bali Ha’i.

There will be reports from your elected officials or representatives: Councilman Kevin Faulconer, Mayor Jerry Sanders, Assemblywoman Susan Davis, Lori Saldana, the Port, and more.

From your PLA Board, there will be a Chairman’s report, Treasurer’s report, and Committee reports, which include Beautification, Summer Concert Series, Membership, Annual Dinner, Port/Airport/Harbor Drive projects, Historical Subcommittee, Utility Boxes, and Traffic.

We’ll also have reports on timely issues affecting our community.

Have an issue? Let us know by coming and sharing it with us! Or, let Tony Calabrese know so it can be placed on the agenda.

In addition, our various committee heads will be there to meet you and tell you how you can be involved!

For information, e-mail Tony Calabrese at Tony.Calabrese@pointlomabank.com. The Bali Ha’i is located at 2230 Shelter Island Drive. (619) 222-1181

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LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE

IN MEMORIUM
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Officers
Tony Calabrese, Chair
Bob Vacchi, Vice Chair
Andy Hollingsworth, Treasurer
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T. Morgan Hollingsworth  Maureen Summers

Chairpersons
Beautification: Ron Brooks
Membership: Patti Adams

Newsletter editor: Kerri DeRosier
kerriderosier@gmail.com

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Chairman’s Message
By now, most of you have received your new Point Loma Association Membership Cards. Why the cards? Our purpose is to create greater awareness of the PLA and encourage members to use Point Loma area businesses. The cards confirm to merchants the importance of their business to local residents.

Welcome to the new year. It’s been another great year for the PLA and all the organizations that work together to make Point Loma the Picturesque and Culturally Rich community we call home.

Stay tuned for the PLA Board meeting on the evening of September 9. PLA Board members get advance notice of a solution crafted by Councilman Kevin Faulconer: to use SDG&E’s existing fuel lines to transport methane from the treatment plant instead of 45-foot 38-ton Super Jumbo Tube trailer trucks barreling down Point Loma’s streets six times a night, six days per week.

“I’ve been a proponent of this project because of its environmental benefits, and I’ve always believed there was a better way to transport the gas,” said Faulconer.

SDG&E representative Ahmad Solomon stated, “The research indicates [using existing lines] is feasible.” He also noted that the plan would be beneficial for SDG&E’s goals for having 20% of their energy source from renewable energy. Solomon stressed that SDG&E needs more time to conduct a feasibility investigation, but said it most likely would be completed within the next two months.

Two hundred people attended the PLA Board meeting to hear about Faulconer’s approach to finding an alternative solution. Faulconer said that he expects to have another meeting in which the timeline will be presented.

To keep abreast of the project’s status, go to www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/c2/cdo/. When we learn of the meeting, we will notify those of you on our PLA e-list blast.

Garden Award
By Betty Allman and Judy Garrett

This month’s Garden Award is presented to Jackie & Ken Frederick at 3030 San Eljo. They bought their La Playa home six years ago and have spent the last two years relandscaping both the front and back yards. Only the large specimen plants remain and the front yard is a beautiful combination of stone, walkways and waterwise gardening. Mature, tall trees provide shade to protect the trees ferns and cascade over the wondrering pathways.

Point Loma Native Plant Reserve work parties are the 1st Saturday and 3rd Sunday of each month, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Volunteers are needed to help water and care for this unique public park. Corner of Mendocino Blvd. and Greene St.

CLIMATE CHANGING PLAN – OASIS Classes at the Library:

COMMUNITY CALENDAR
The Point Loma Garden Club has meet-ings and workshops at the UPSSE Hall on the second Wednesday of every month at 10:00 a.m. For information, go to www.plg.org.

Flowers, Art and All that Jazz:
October 16, 1:00 - 5:00 and October 17, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. - Featuring entries in Floral Design and Horticultural grown collection, local exhibits, art and plant sale. Free.

Ocean Beach Canine Carnival
Sunday, October 25, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. - Doggy Rhodies Park. (West side): A Halloween carnival for dogs, with costume contests & prizes for the best costumes, crate, food, and games. For information, call Melanie Nickel, (619) 225-8703.

Point Loma Native Plant Reserve work parties are at Dusty Rhodes Park (west side) Sunday, October 25, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Come for the food! “Taste of Bartell Hotels” will be offering free food samples.

This is an ongoing long term project and we hope that local merchants will offer discounts to our members that we will soon post on our web site. If you’d like to offer a member discount, please contact me.

We’ve also decided to use a little modern technology. Members who have provided their email address to us will receive important notices related to events in Point Loma via a program called Constant Contact. Don’t worry: we won’t “spam” you to death. We’ll only use it for meeting or event dates or issues we feel are important to our members. I’d like to thank Kerri De Rosier for getting this up and running. If you’d like to receive these email updates, please let us know.

I’d also like to thank Kevin Faulconer and his staff for responding so quickly with a potential solution to the methane gas trucks rolling through Point Loma. The Point Loma Association fully supports the recommendation to use existing SDG&E gas lines to transport the reclaimed methane gas from the Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant. This was an excellent example of the community coming together to find a solution. Councilman Faulconer and San Diego Gas and Electric representative Matt Awbrey have time and time again responded to our questions and concerns effectively.

If I had a hat I’d tip it to them.

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At the PLA Board meeting the morning of September 9, PLA Board members got advance notice of a solution crafted by Councilman Kevin Faulconer: to use SDG&E’s existing fuel lines to transport methane from the treatment plant instead of 45-foot 38-ton Super Jumbo Tube trailer trucks barreling down Point Loma’s streets six times a night, six days per week. “I’ve been a proponent of this project because of its environmental benefits, and I’ve always believed there was a better way to transport the gas,” said Faulconer.

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While John Pederson, Homeowners for a Green and Safe Point Loma representative, applauds Faulconer’s approach to finding an alternative solution, he said: “The problem is that trucking is not off the table: we demand that it be taken off the table.” Councilman Faulconer stated unequivocally that he does not support trucking. Working together, Faulconer suggested another meeting about the project’s timeline.

Faulconer said that he expects to have another meeting in which the timeline will be presented.

To keep abreast of the project’s status, go to www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/c2/cdo/. When we learn of the meeting, we will notify those of you on our PLA e-list blast.

Ice cream at 10:00 a.m.

Why not? The Point Loma Association’s “Mean Green Team” and other community members gathered Tuesday, September 1 at Dana Middle School to receive the “Dreyer’s Slow Churned Neighborhood Salute,” which included complimentary Pecan Crunch, Chocolate Fudge Brownie, and other frozen delights.

Debbie Hall with the Mean Green Team wrote an essay about the Team’s efforts in Point Loma for Dreyer’s contest, making this hard-working crew one of 1,500 selected nationwide to receive the “Neighborhood Salute.”

Congratulations, Mean Green Team! And thanks to Debbie for recognizing their efforts.

New gate on Silvergate

The PLA wants to recognize the beautiful new gate that has been installed at the end of Silvergate in the Wooded Area. The gate leads to four new single family executive style residences that replaced four existing homes.

The project was developed by Lincoln Property Company/Clark Realty Capital, LLC.

Want to nominate a home with a lovely garden? Email Judy Garrett at judy Garrett@cox.net.

Folks being social at the Social.

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Nearly a year later, La Playa resident Dave Purcell reflected on the arduous process. “It has taken years to get the approvals to move forward on this,” he said in an e-mail. “In particular, our cove and the storm drain repais had complications and conflicts in attempts by Kevin [Faulconer] to move the ball forward. Approvals had to be forthcoming from the Coastal Commission, the Port District, County, Caltrans, Army Corps of Engineers. Navy also as they own the fuel line easement that crosses the driveway... Last but not least, Mike Aguirre pulled the financing after it had all been approved. Very frustrating for everyone.”

At the ceremony, Mayor Jerry Sanders called this project “an example of necessary projects that have been put off for years and years and years.” He continued, “Neighbors in this Point Loma neighborhood have been very concerned about this collapsed storm drain. They’ve had a very vocal champion in Councilman Kevin Faulconer.” He noted that this storm drain is one of more than two dozen in need of repair across the city.

Taking his turn at the mic, Councilman Faulconer thanked everyone for their perseverance. “This project wasn’t an easy one, but it’s an important one... important from storm runoff, from a water quality standpoint, the beautiful environment here in La Playa Cove – but it’s also been a safety issue.” The councilman especially thanked the Purcell and Harris families for spearheading the repair effort. For their part, Dave Purcell and Ron Harris got “shovel honors” for the photo op.

Dave Purcell would like to get your feedback on improvements along the path, as it is uneven in a number of places. He needs to know what some homeowners have done at the far north end of the cove path, smoothing it and using decomposed granite to make walking easier. The Port has also placed rocks along that end of the shore to prevent erosion. The middle and south ends don’t have protection against erosion and several times during storms, parts of the path have been washed away, making walking especially risky. If you support improving the path or have questions, e-mail Dave at dave3110@gmail.com.

**Beautification update**

I t has been a VERY busy three months for the Beautification Committee. There’s so much to tell – we’ll tell you in pictures. Thanks to Cecilia Carrick for providing most of the pictures and captions!

**Chairman’s Message, continued**

Beautification is our primary function and was the core reason our organization was founded. I can’t say enough about the work of Ron Brooks and The Mean Green Team. They need a slogan, “Neither wets, nor dirt, nor graffiti, nor trash, nor speeding cars, nor the homeless, nor heat of day stays these stalwart volunteers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds.” (I may have stolen a little of that from the Greek historian Herodotus and the US Postal Service.)

As always, we’re looking for new members or volunteers. We could really use people with website expertise willing to donate their time to make it more up to date and interactive. If you’d like to help out or volunteer with any PLA projects, please contact me at (619) 243-7901.

Thanks

Tony Calabrese

**Mean Green Team projects/officers**

Speaking of the Mean Green Team, you need to know that their list has grown and is always evolving. Here they are, with the folks charged with leading each one:

1. **The Village**
   - Maintenance and Master Plan: Bruce Cook, Graffiti: Dave Brown

2. **Rosecrans jacarandas**
   - Karen Davis

3. **Nimitz Medium**
   - Urban Corps youth (RJ, Michael Avbarry, Christian Gutierrez, Joe Carreon and Edgar Romanza) help spread wood chips in the Nimitz median across from Dusty Rhodes Park.

4. **Nimitz On Ramp**
   - The Point Loma Beautification committee celebrates the completion of their latest project. The on ramp from Catalina to Nimitz now mirrors the off ramp with the same plantings of Jacarandas and Canary island Pines, Bougainvillea, acacias, rosemary and sticks of fire succulents.

5. **La Playa Storm drain cleanup!**

6. **Velasco**
   - We thank Moses Sanchez and his Total Green Landscape effort, Drew Patocki, Urban Forester, for always leading us in the right direction, and Dan Bohnett from SDG&E for donating and delivering the trees. Lastly, we thank the anonymous donor whose monetary gift made it all possible.

7. **The Point**
   - Thanks.

8. **Nimitz Off Ramp**
   - Debbie Hall

9. **Nimitz On Ramp**
   - Jodie Bruhn

10. **Nimitz Pork Chops**
    - Karen Davis

11. **Poe & Capistrano**
    - Jodie Bruhn

12. **Dana Middle School**
    - Ron Brooks

13. **DeWey School**
    - Dorothy Lord

14. **Tennyson Triangle**
    - Ed Streicher

15. **Dana Sycamore Path**
    - Burch Erle

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For a current list of discount offers, check out our web site at www.plaweb.org.
**Beautification Update, continued**

Jim Miller of Mower Unique graciously offered his trailer to haul green waste whenever we need it — so we took him up on his offer! The Mean Green Team cut up a dead tree along Nimitz West and moved it to the side of the road. We called Jim, and by 4:00, the tree trimmings were picked up! Jim not only donates his time, but pays for the hauling fees. Here’s Jim with Ron Brooks.

Thanks, Jim! [mowerunique@cox.net]

**Other Beautification news**

**A letter to Point Loma’s Thoughtful Benefactor:**

Your generous anonymous gift enabled the PLA Beautification Committee to complete the on-ramp from Catalina to Nimitz Boulevard. It now matches the two-year-old plantings on the opposite side.

Our dependable contractor, Moses Sanchez of Total Green Landscaping, installed irrigation and planted bougainvilleas, acacias, rosemary and succulents. San Diego Gas & Electric kindly donated three healthy Canary Island Pines and three Jacarandas.

Hundreds of community members pass the area each day and surely join the PLA in extending sincere appreciation for this thoughtful gift!

**The PLA Beautification Committee**

**Newsracks** Ron Brooks reported at the September meeting that ALL of the newsracks in front of Winchell’s donuts on Rosecrans have been removed! Next up: weed removal.

**Longs Parking Lot** Concerns about the blighted and unsafe conditions at the closed Longs parking lot were reported to appropriate officials — and within days — the site was cleaned up. Said Ron Brooks: “We of the Point Loma Beautification Committee would love to know how this all came about so expeditiously. Bravo to you all.”

**Dana Middle School** After meeting with the Mean Green Team, school officials agreed to repair the irrigation system, remove some vegetation and put down a layer of mulch for weed suppression. The Mean Green offered to water the area so that the lilies could be removed more easily and to add the area its routine maintenance schedule.

**Old Von’s Neighborhood Action** The old Von’s building site on Rosecrans was recently cleaned up and benches and planter boxes were removed to discourage the homeless from being there. Don Bremnerman, musical director of Point Loma Presbyterian Church, had contacted Von’s in his annual Christmas season to complain about their lack of attention to the site and the homeless issue. After getting nowhere, he finally threatened to go to the press. Von’s had a cleanup work group out there the next day. Many thanks go to Don for his perseverance on behalf of the whole community.

**Cañon Sycamore Path** You won’t believe your eyes when you drive by! Urban Corps cleared tons of weeds to make it walkable again. Thanks to Burch Ertle for tracking down the appropriate City contact to get the cleanup onto their crowded schedule. Said Celeste Trepte, “It’s the PLA who calls and makes sure it gets done. It doesn’t just happen.”
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Assemblywoman Susan Davis visits the September PLA Board meeting...

At the September Board meeting, Assemblywoman Susan Davis stopped by to discuss President Obama’s Health Care Reform initiative, and to lend her support to keep the Village Post Office open. She stressed that her health care priority is to eliminate “defensive medicine,” to close drug company loopholes, and to make healthcare affordable and efficient.

This couldn’t happen in Point Loma...could it?

Think all those medical marijuana dispensaries are only in Ocean Beach and Pacific Beach? Think again. Like a cat and mouse game, operators are opening and the City is doing its best to shut them down. One operator began to set up on Rosecrans, next to Moment Cycle Sports. That permit was denied. Now, there are reports of one attempting to go in at 2720 Shelter Island Drive, under Fiddler’s Green.

According to Matt Awbry at Councilman Kevin Faulconer’s office, the eight dispensaries originally authorized by the City have been given notice that they are in fact an unauthorized land use. “There is nothing in the City’s Land Development Code to regulate these,” he said. “The City has stopped issuing land use authorizations for medical marijuana dispensaries.” The city has also initiated a task force to determine regulations and zoning issues for dispensaries.

“My biggest concern is the City currently has no land use policy for medical marijuana cooperatives,” said Councilman Faulconer. “That means a cooperative can open next to a school or playground, and that is not good. I would like to see land use policies that regulate where cooperatives can operate.”

According to District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis, an estimated 60 medical marijuana dispensaries are now operating in San Diego County. Using marijuana for a medical condition is legal under Proposition 215, which passed in 1996. However, those supplying it aren’t allowed to make a profit. The District Attorney’s office, which raided 14 dispensaries last month, found otherwise.

If you see suspicious activities linked to medical marijuana, call the Police hotline at (619) 531-2000.

Continued on the next page
The Mean Green Team embarks on a project to help the San Dana Middle School:

[Image]

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Peters, David Jarrell (City Deputy Chief Operating Officer, Public Works), Councilman Kevin Faulconer, David Purcell, Mayor Jerry Sanders, Patti Boekamp (City Director of Engineering and Capital Projects), Ron Harris

19 at NTC Promenade: 2690 Historic Decatur Road.

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Both pictures show each storm drain as of September 16, 2009. Work had begun!

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Nimitz Median: Urban Corps youth (Lu Michael Arberry, Christian Gutierrez, Joe Carreon and Edgar Ramirez) help spread wood chips in the Nimitz median across from Dusty Rhodes Park.

Five truck loads of wood chips were delivered at the Nimitz median across from Barnes Tennis Center and Dusty Rhodes Park. Beautifying these medians is a huge project ... distribution. Next up: getting permits from the City to let us beautify this eyesore that is the entry way into Point Loma.

Dana Middle School: The Mean Green Team embarks on a project to help the San Diego Unified School district park up the school’s front parking lot it will be a joint effort. Left: Dave Brown and Ed Steicher trim one of the trees. Right: The Mean Green Team meets with Thomas Back, Landscape Services Supervisor for the San Diego Unified School District and Dana Ryan, Dana’s Principal.

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Tony Calabrese

Mean Green Team projects/officers

Speaking of the Mean Green Team, you need to know that their list has grown to 15 ongoing projects! Here they are, with the folks charged with leading each one:

1. The Village

   Maintenance and Master Plan: Bruce Cook, Cropped, Dave Brown

2. Rosecrans Jacarandas

   Karen Davis

3. Nimitz West

   Jess Walker, Bob Sherman

4. Nimitz Median

   Jodie Bruhn

5. Nimitz (Ed’s) Triangle

   Ed Steicher

6. Nimitz Off Ramp

   Debbie Hall

7. Nimitz On Ramp

8. Nimitz Pork Chop

   Karen Davis

9. Poe & Capistrano

   Jodie Bruhn

10. Dana Middle School

   Ron Brooks

11. Dewey School

   Dorothy Lord

12. Tennyson Triangle

   Ed Steicher

13. Cañon Sycamore Path

   Burch Erle
At the PLA Board meeting the morning of September 9, PLA Board members got advance notice of a solution crafted by Councilman Kevin Faulconer: to use SDGE’s existing fuel lines to transfer methane from the treatment plant instead of 45-foot 38-ton Super Jumbo Tube trailer trucks barreling down Point Loma’s streets six times a night, six days per week. “I’ve been a proponent of this project because of its environmental benefits, and I’ve always believed there was a better way to transport the gas,” said Faulconer.

SDGE representative Ahmad Solomon stated, “The research indicates [using existing lines] is feasible.” He also noted that the plan would be beneficial for SDGE’s goals for having 20% of their energy source from renewable energy. Solomon stressed that SDGE needs more time to conduct a feasibility investigation, but said it would most likely be done within the next two months.

While John Pederson, Homeowners for a Green and Safe Point Loma representative, applauds Faulconer’s approach to finding an alternative solution, he said: “The problem is that trucking is not off the table: we demand that it be taken off the table.” Councilman Faulconer stated unequivocally that he does not support trucking. Working with the project’s timeline, Faulconer said that he expects to have another meeting in which the timeline will be presented.

To keep abreast of the project’s status, go to www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/c2/. When we learn of the meeting, we will notify those of you on our PLA e-list blast.

This month’s Garden Award is presented to Jackie & Ken Frederick at 3030 San Elijo. They bought their La Playa home six years ago and have spent the last two years re landscaping both the front and back yards. Only the large specimen plants remain and the front yard is a beautiful combination of stone, walkways and wisteria gardening. Mature, tall trees provide shade needed to protect the tree ferns and cascade over the wandering pathways.

Their home is a perfect setting for events. Need to book your next event? E-mail Judy Garrett at judygarrett@cox.net.

**New gate on Silvergate**

The PLA wants to recognize the beautiful new gate that has been installed at the end of Silvergate in the Wooded Area. The guard leads to four new single family executive style residences that replaced four existing homes.

The project was developed by Lincoln Property Company/Clark Realty Capital, LLC.

**Ice cream at 10 a.m.?**

Why not? The Point Loma Association’s “Mean Green Team” and other community members gathered Tuesday, September 1 at Dana Middle School to receive the “Dreyer’s Slow Churned Neighborhood Salute,” which included complimentary Pecan Crunch, Chocolate Fudge Brownie, and other frozen delights.

Debbie Hall with the Mean Green Team wrote an essay about the Team’s efforts in Point Loma for Dreyer’s contest, making this hard-working crew one of 1,500 selected nationwide to receive the “Neighborhood Salute.” Congratulations, Mean Green Team! And thanks to Debbie for recognizing their efforts.

Want to nominate a home with a lovely garden? E-mail Judy Garrett at judygarrett@cox.net.

**Garden Award**

By Betty Allman and Judy Garrett

PLNU Community Day

On October 17 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., join Point Loma Nazarene University and event sponsors for a day of food, fun and festivities. Activities include an ice cream social with University President Dr. Bob Brower at 2:00 p.m., historical tours, music performances, plein air painting demonstration, and a wellness area with massage and karate demonstrations. Come for the food! “Taste of Bartell Hotels” will be offering free food samples.

Bring the kids for hayrides, a pumpkin patch, pony rides, puppet shows, bounce houses and a climbing wall. And don’t miss your chance to win a scooter donated by Point Loma Scooter!

The college is also holding an electronics recycling drive for computers, cell phones, TVs and batteries. Bring a pair of new or gently used shoes to fit San Diego Rescue Mission.

For more information, visit www.pln.edu/FallFestival or call (619) 849-2298. The event takes place rain or shine.

Folks being social at the Social.

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**PLA Joins the 21ST CENTURY!**

This quarterly newsletter is a member benefit that will keep coming to you as long as you keep your membership up to date. We’re looking at eventually delivering the same, quality community news you’ve come to depend on – all electronically. Someday. Rising postage, printing costs and environmental concerns (we ARE about trees, after all) have caused us to consider an alternative to a printed newsletter.

We’re taking baby steps. Many of you may have received our recent e-blasts. We hope to send monthly updates about what we’re up to, as well as timely notifications about community meetings and issues. We already make this newsletter available online through our web site, and will continue to do so. We also plan to announce newsletter publication through our e-blasts, with links to articles and the community calendar.

Want to stay in the loop? Go to our web site, www.plaweb.org, and click Join the PLA’s E-Mail List on the first page. You will be asked to enter your e-mail address. If you choose to NOT be on the e-mail list, you can always unsubscribe by clicking an unsubscribe link in the e-mail.

**“NO TRUCKS!”**

Was the cry at a Community Meeting at the Point Loma Library on September 9. About 200 people crowded into the library’s community room to hear representatives from BioFuels and San Diego Gas & Electric, and Councilman Kevin Faulconer announce an alternative proposal to a controversial project that would allow trucks filled with compressed natural gas to use Point Loma’s streets as a transportation corridor.

The project, as explained by BioFuel representative Frank Mazanec, would transfer excess methane gas from the Point Loma Wastewater Treatment plant as a renewable energy source – producing 4.5 megawatts of renewable energy 24 hours per day and preventing 12,000 metric tons of greenhouse gases from entering the atmosphere every year. The gas would be used to supply clean fuel cells generating renewable electricity at UCSD and an additional site.

The problem voiced by Homeowners for a Green and Safe Point Loma, an ad hoc group representing the community’s concerns, is not the project’s laudable environmental benefits, but the transport mechanism with its associated noise, pollution, damage to roads – and the danger inherent in transporting a highly flammable substance on residential streets. Also on their list of complaints is the City Council’s endorsement of this project with no notification of residents, and no requirement for an Environmental Import Review or traffic study.

**PLA at night!**

Have you always wanted to see what the Point Loma Association is up to but can’t make the 7:30 a.m. monthly meetings? Here’s your chance! We’re holding an evening PLA Board meeting on Wednesday, October 14 at 7:00 p.m., in the downstairs room at the Bali Ha’i.

There will be reports from your elected officials or representatives: Councilman Kevin Faulconer, Mayor Jerry Sanders, Assemblywoman Susan Davis, Lori Saldana, the Port, and more.

From your PLA Board, there will be a Chairman’s report, Treasurer’s report, and Committee reports, which include Beautification, Summer Concert Series, Membership, Annual Dinner, Port/Airport/Harbor Drive projects, Historical Subcommittee, Utility Boxes, and Traffic.

We’ll also have reports on timely issues affecting our community.

Have an issue? Let us know by coming and sharing it with us! Or, let Tony Calabrese know so it can be placed on the agenda.

In addition, our various committee heads will be there to meet you and tell you how you can be involved!

For information, e-mail Tony Calabrese at Tony.Calabrese@pointlomabank.com. The Bali Ha’i is located at 2230 Shelter Island Drive. (619) 222-1181

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**IN MEMORIAM**

Jeffrey Q. Pastorino spent the past 15 years on this bench at the corner of Rosecrans and Avenida de Portugal. He died at the age of 52 on August 25, 2009.