



Contact Us

SUNSETMESA.ORG

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For President put *President* in the subject line

For Treasurer put *Treasurer* in the subject line

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Architecture Committee: sunsetmesaac@gmail.com

Next Board Meeting: Monday, September 12th @ 7:30pm via Zoom (please email for link)

Presidents Message by Seth Fonti, President

STEADY AS WE GO

I hope everyone is having a relaxing and enjoyable summer; it feels like the first semi-normal one in years. It is good to see the activity in the neighborhood and broader community. Good luck to everyone who is starting the school year off, and congratulations to those embarking on the adventure that is a new school! If there are any tutors or babysitters in the neighborhood, we'd love to post a note on your availability in the newsletter. You can email us at smpoaboard@gmail.com.

As we laid out in the last newsletter, the Board is working on delivering results on behalf of the community within the framework of our initiatives focused on strength, security and sustainability. In recent weeks we successfully completed the distribution of NOAA radios, held a bilateral Board meeting with Pacific View Estates ("PVE") on the path forward for safety, galvanized the effort to bring back our community block party (major kudos to new Board Member Kristina Pabst) and pushed forward a path to partner with PVE and a private homeowner on visual surveillance.

After nearly 70 days of no criminal activity in the neighborhood, we had an unfortunate incident on coastline which was driven by a transient on foot breaking into several houses. This individual was forcefully detained and apprehended by LASD thanks to our ADT officers, another example of a dedicated and present patrol being able to react quickly. However, despite some fear mongering, we remain one of the safest and best places to live in Los Angeles, and clearly there is no better testament to that than the numerous families of bunnies who have actively colonized the Mesa.

We continue to focus on a multi-pronged approach to safety, in coordination with law enforcement and Pacific View Estates HOA leadership. As stated at the annual meeting, progress is not always linear and we continue to push forward efforts to add value to the community and focus on results.

Along that vein, please review the initiative spotlight on the Architecture Committee and block party initiative in the attached – without community support these efforts cannot reach their full potential. As we close out the summer months (not weather), please don't forget to check out the great exhibits at the Getty Villa and the upcoming Malibu Chili Cook-off!

Spotlights

[Mesa Block Party](#)

[Page 2](#)

[Safety Update](#)

[Page 3](#)

[Treasurer's Report](#)

[Page 4](#)

[Mesa Museum](#)

[Page 6](#)

[Emergency Prep Report](#)

[Page 7](#)

[Memos from Ms. Mesa](#)

[Page 9](#)

Initiative Spotlight - Return of the Mesa Block Party!

We're looking for volunteers and sponsors to join the Block Party Committee and help plan an awesome community event! Please email smpoaboard@gmail.com if you are interested!



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

MUSIC	\$500
TABLES	\$500
CHAIRS	\$500
PETTING ZOO	\$500
CRAFT TABLES	\$250
FACE PAINTING	\$250

BENEFITS TO OUR SPONSORS

- ★ Thank You Acknowledgement in the Mesa Monthly Newsletter
- ★ Family Name Signage in Recognition of Support at Party
- ★ Sunset Mesa Gift

Community Safety Update

Goals

- Dedicated 24/7 Patrol
- Strategic Visual Surveillance
- Emergency Preparedness
- Inform Community on Trends

Initiatives

- Path to 24/7 Patrol – ADT
- Flock Surveillance
- Emergency Response Protocol
- Newsletter Communication

Metrics Dashboard

1

Last 30 Days
Source: Compstat

Crime Incidents

200

as of August 25, 2022
Source: ADT

ADT Clients

- After no criminal events for 80 days, early August saw activity
- In early August, a mentally disturbed transient on foot entered the neighborhood on Coastline and committed several burglaries. ADT responded to a call for help from a non-client house and ultimately engaged and apprehended the suspect after a physical altercation with two ADT officers. The suspect was ultimately arrested and charged.

Initiatives Update

- **Patrol – Patrol - ADT client count remains flat vs. prior month at ~200. ADT dedicated patrol was key in physically stopping and apprehending a transient who perpetrated the burglary described above.** ADT in this instance responded valiantly to a non-customer call for help. ADT remains the recommendation of both SMPOA and Pacific View Estates HOA Board's due to the focus on achieving dedicated patrol at a cost-efficient level for the broader community.
- **Camera Surveillance –** Board is completing final due diligence on camera proposal in conjunction with our partner HOA in Pacific View Estates. This tool remains a visual deterrent and postmortem investigation tool for law enforcement, but our strategy needs to be multi-pronged.



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SMPOA Treasurer's Report

Summary SMPOA Financials for July 2022	
Banc of CA (BCA) — Business Checking	\$ 19,965
Stifel Investment	\$ 363,352
TOTAL SMPOA ASSETS	\$ 383,318
CY-2022 Dues Collection	\$ 100
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 100
QuickBooks Training	\$ 300
QuickBooks Fees	\$ 1
Newsletter Printing June	\$ 233
Inspector of Elections Balance Due	\$ 1,075
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 1,609
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$ (1,509)
Stifel Investment Portfolio Activity	
Income & Distributions	\$ 2,095
Unrealized Gain/Loss	\$ (1,220)
NET CHANGE IN STIFEL PORTFOLIO	\$ 874

Net Operating Income for July 2022 was net negative \$1,509. Revenue of \$100 was straggling 2022 dues, Expense totaling \$1,609 comprise QuickBooks consulting, newsletter printing and the balance due to the Inspector of Elections supporting the 2022 Mesa Annual Election.

Current Getty cards are available - feel free to contact smpoaboard@gmail.com. If you would like your Getty card right away please send a stamped addressed envelope to the Treasurer (address on invoice).

We still have a number of people with **outstanding balances across the community totaling +\$100k.**

Many members have paid recent dues but have existing balances from 2012-2019. You may be unaware or the balances may be in error. When I took this role I owed dues from 2018 and had no idea!

That said, a **gentle reminder that dues are not optional for membership benefits** in the Association including Architecture Committee support.

Please reach out to the Treasurer to review and either 1) confirm your account is current, 2) fix wrong balances or 3) close out correct balances.

A grateful thanks to everyone who has already.

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This Month in Emergency Preparedness

EARTHQUAKE SAFETY

This month, we are focusing on what to do if you are at home during an earthquake.

The good news is that much of your previous disaster planning has already prepared you for both a wildfire *and* an earthquake, so you are well on your way to being able to tackle this particular challenge!

To review previous tips, see the past several months' editions of the Sunset Mesa-ge; the hard copy L.A. County Emergency Survival Guide that was delivered to your doorstep, last July; and [LA County Emergency Disaster Preparedness Safety Tips](#)

Much of disaster planning and practice is not to produce a really specific plan, because you cannot anticipate the exact circumstances that you will face. Rather, such exercises help to develop the mental and emotional resilience that you will need to successfully function when disaster hits. We have a responsibility – to ourselves, to our families, and to our community – to be prepared!

During An Earthquake

- ❖ Stay calm!
- ❖ If you are indoors, stay inside. Stand against a corner or a wall near the center of your house, or take cover under a table or desk. Hold on to your cover; if it moves, move with it. Overall, stay as low as possible, and protect your head and neck. Stay away from windows, heavy hanging objects, large mirrors, tall furniture and brick/stone fireplaces.
- ❖ If you are in bed, hold on and stay there. Protect your head with a pillow.
- ❖ If you are outdoors, stay outside. Stay in the open, and away from power lines, chimneys, buildings, walls, or anything else that might fall.
- ❖ Animals are good at finding safety. Small pets can be held, and caged pets can be left in their enclosures.

After An Earthquake

- ❖ Check yourself and others for injuries. Provide First Aid for anyone who needs it.
- ❖ Be careful around broken glass and debris. Wear sturdy shoes/boots. Likewise, protect your pets' paws.
- ❖ Put out small fires, if you are able, or call for help.
- ❖ Check water, gas and electric lines for damage. If any is damaged, shut off valve/breaker. Do not touch downed electric lines!
- ❖ If you smell gas, open windows and doors, and evacuate immediately. Try to call the utility company. Do not turn on your gas stove, or use matches or anything with a flame. Clean up spills of hazardous or flammable products. When it is safe, call the gas company for help in re-lighting your gas pilot.
- ❖ Turn on the radio for updates and instructions. (KNX 1070 AM and KNX 97.1 FM are possible channels.)
- ❖ Stay off of the phone, as much as possible. Use it for emergencies, only, to avoid taxing the system.
- ❖ Expect aftershocks.
- ❖ If the shaking lasts for 20 second or more, a tsunami may result. Lucky for us, Sunset Mesa is at a high enough elevation for us to be safe in our homes. Do not drive onto PCH to avoid it!

This Month in Emergency Preparedness (cont.)

Over The Next Few Days

- ❖ If you don't have water service, you'll need your emergency water supply. Another source of fresh water is your water heater tank. If you're unsure about the safety of any water, boiling for 2-5 mins. will purify it. (It may not smell good, but it will be safe to drink.)
- ❖ If there is no gas/electricity, camping equipment and barbecues that run on propane can be used to cook and boil water, outdoors.
- ❖ If you evacuate, leave a message at your home telling family members and others of your intended destination.

Remember, it is not a matter of if an earthquake will strike, but of when. **Don't panic; be prepared!**

Your Sunset Mesa Realtor & Neighbor

Teresa LeGrove

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Selling, Buying & Leasing for Over a Decade

AC Report for August

There were no site visits for the month of August.

Volunteers requested! The AC is a dedicated team of residents some of whom have served for years. Please email us if you're interested in helping!

The Mesa Museum

"Distinctive luxury appointments" that were advertised in the original Sunset Mesa promotional booklet. Anyone still have the "Rodale push-button silent action switches"?



Distinctive luxury appointments reflect the deep-down quality throughout each custom home'

- 3 Indoor patio
- 3 Choice of Armstrong Tessera Corlon or Amtico pure vinyl tile in entryways, kitchen within specified selection.
- 3 Exterior doors of Northern ash, fir or pine with architecturally-designed patterns.
- 3 Interior doors of rubbed ash.
- 3 Fireplaces of used brick, natural stone, marble or tile, with raised hearths and log lighters.
- 3 Solid oak beam fireplace mantels.
- 3 Interior planting, with indirect lighting.
- 3 Gaffers & Sattler built-in range with oven and hood, gas or electric at your option.
- 3 Modernaire Hood over Range with indirect lighting and hidden exhaust fan.
- 3 Waste King "Sparkle Rinse" built-in dishwasher.
- 3 Waste King "Hush Model" disposer.
- 3 Pomona tile kitchen counters.
- 3 Moen "Lifetime" chrome faucets in kitchens, second baths.
- 3 Built-in china closets, in choice of birch or ash and stains within specified selection.
- 3 Built-in chests and drawers in master bedroom closets.
- 3 Built-in kitchen spice shelves.
- 3 Built-in living room book shelves.
- 3 Choice of Satin Brass, Porcelain, Antique Copper or Satin Chrome cabinet hardware in kitchen and baths by one of five recognized brand names.
- 3 Pomona tile pullmans, walls, counters and splashies, in baths.
- 3 Master Bath hardware by Artistic Brass, in choice of Hawaiian Shell, Rose Versailles, or Contemporary in imported Italian marble.
- 3 Kohler of Kohler bathroom tubs, lavatory bowls.
- 3 Universal-Rundle Charm toilets.
- 3 Nutone bathroom heaters and exhaust fans.
- 3 Huge walk-in closets.
- 3 Recessed lighting by Pryne.
- 3 Extensive use of sliding glass doors by Premiere.
- 3 In-place "rough-in" plumbing for wet bar.
- 3 Dreamlite dining room dimmer switch.
- 3 Rodale push-button silent action switches.
- 3 Windows of clear-view leaded, stationary and clerestory glass by Hollyview.
- 3 Choice of the finest quality Sinclair wall colors and wall papers (Sinclair paints have passed stringent governmental tests and are used by the U. S. Government and leading builders everywhere).
- 3 Lightcraft, Mathews & Wood lighting fixtures, within specified selection.
- 3 100,000 BTU Utility forced air heating systems.
- 3 Genuine Lath and Plaster wall construction.
- 3 Insulated ceilings by Johns-Manville.
- 3 Electro-lift, remote-controlled garage doors.
- 3 75-gallon Republic electric water heaters.
- 3 Roofs of wood shingles, shake or rock.
- 3 Cantilevered roof decks.
- 3 All utilities underground (for safety, efficiency, not to obstruct view and the problem of having overhead lines -) in and paid for at tremendous cost to sub-divider is supplied to every home.

3 NOTE—Appointments and Equipment Vary According to Models and Floor Plans.

Emergency Preparedness Committee Report

As given by Rick Silver at the June SMPOA Annual Meeting

I presented at last years HOA meeting a report based on the initial progress of the committee, and our outlined goals for the June 2021-June 2022 period. Those goals involved developing closer relationships with our District 3 liaison for unincorporated LA County, LA County Fire and Sheriff's Department, the Office of Emergency Management, Topanga T-Cep(The safety group that covers all of Topanga Canyon), and outreach programs available to the City of Malibu that might be able to be extended from PCH and Topanga to PCH and Coastline. In addition, we sought to establish an emergency communication system within Sunset Mesa for notification of our residents regarding evacuation orders or updates. We have achieved each of those goals, and more. As a chronological report of events:

- ❑ The Committee had the LA County Board of Supervisors District 3 office publish and supply to us at no charge, Emergency Survival Guides, which with their help and those of the committee were distributed to every home in July,2021
- ❑ In August, we/Sunset Mesa received official designation from LA County Fire and Sheriffs Dept., and the Office of Emergency Management of our status as Emergency Notification Zone 10 east. This was an effort that began in 2018 after the Woolsey fire, when we had no power, no directions on evacuation, PCH was a traffic mess, and many who left the Mesa could not get back in due to a roadblock on PCH and Sunset. Sunset Mesa, not being part of the city of Los Angeles, Malibu, or Topanga, was always an island onto itself in terms of emergencies. Now, we are fully recognized in planning and/or notification events from all agencies that have jurisdiction in our area. After that designation, we were invited to and participated as a committee in the LASD/Disaster Communication Services DCS team Virtual Fire Drill along with Topanga T-Cep, which simulated an actual brush fire emergency deep in Malibu, which virtually threatened our neighborhood. The committee participated in this initial drill and understood what efforts we need to focus on to protect the neighborhood in this type of event.
- ❑ Soon after that event, our neighborhood experienced multiple brush fires both on PCH coming up the front hillside, and on the rim facing Topanga Canyon to the south and west. The source of those fires was from homeless encampments and cooking fires from some of the full-time illegal RV parking on PCH, and those living in the hills surrounding us. Committee member Miles Mogelesciu represented us at various meetings with the county and contacted the necessary agencies to extend the Malibu Homeless task force and Outreach Services' Team Wildfire Prevention Program over a matter of months to physically move out the homeless encampments around the hills behind the Mesa. Those relationships allowed us to have the county extend the Malibu Initiative for No Overnight Parking to clear out the 30-40 permanent RV and car campers that were living below our

Emergency Preparedness Committee Report

neighborhood. In addition, he successfully lobbied against a halt in that program when one of the illegal RV dwellers sued the county without merit for implementing the program. Our relationship with LASD Lt. Chad Watter continues to this day, and the result along the highway has been amazingly successful.

- ❑ The board hosted representatives of LA Sheriff's department for a discussion on homelessness, and specific crime issues in the Mesa. They agreed to beef up patrols, and despite funding issues, pledged to research a potential substation closer than their current headquarters for quicker response times. The committee, the HOA board, and the Sunset Mesa Safety Group has hosted multiple meetings with LASD representatives to continue to lobby for support to protect our neighborhood in terms of emergencies, and for security reinforcement.
- ❑ Current projects we are undertaking are full implementation of the 2-way radio system, specific home hardening recommendations for fire and earthquake protection, and considering the serious drought we are experiencing, a water conservation project sponsored by LA County. The committee also is pursuing with CalTrans, CHP, Public Works, and Dept of Beaches and Harbors the potential for Hillside collapse on the ocean side of PCH and potential for the shutdown of the highway if the slope fails. The committee has worked with Caltrans, which informed me yesterday that it took 12 months to produce the new No Parking Signs that were ripped down on PCH over the past 2 years, and the new Coastline Dr. signs that were blown down in a windstorm and are ready to be mounted and put into service. Our biggest initiative was the establishment of a 2-way radio program for our emergency communication and notification system throughout the Mesa. Grant Graves did an amazing job writing the proposal, establishing the parameters, applying for an obtaining the FCC licensed channels which will be owned by the HOA in perpetuity, and is in the process of programming the initial group of radios purchased.
- ❑ The HOA board subsidized the project at the cost of \$1,000, which will be immediately recouped after the programmed radios will be available to everyone at approximately a nominal fee of \$20-\$25., allowing a cushion for future radio purchases as demand determines. I will have Grant explain the last part of this presentation, followed by a presentation of LASD Deputy Rick Baldi, our Community Outreach Services Team rep for Sunset Mesa

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Memos from Ms. Mesa

Cocktail of the Month

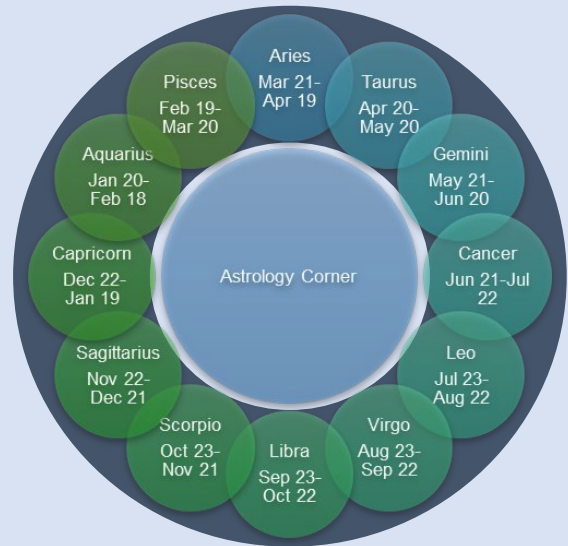
By Ms. Mesa

Sun's Out Buns Out

- ★ 1 oz Light Rum
- ★ 1 oz Triple Sec (Curacao, Cointreau, or Grand Marnier)
- ★ 1 oz Fresh lime juice
- ★ 1 oz Orgeat Syrup (They do carry this at our local Vons, however it can be hard to find. One can substitute simple syrup mixed with a few drops of Almond extract)
- ★ 1/2 oz Dark Rum

Rumor has it, the "Sun's Out" was first crafted in our very own Sunset Mesa the summer of 1979, when a skateboarding resident was flying down Castle Rock and tumbled to his own demise, creating a large tear in the back pocket area of his jeans. Together over this cocktail, his crew toasted his speed wobbles and laughed off his sloppy dismount.

*** To make this a "Skinny Buns," double amount of rum and lime and make a larger batch.



Ms. Mesa's Astrology Corner

What your dream front yard is if your sign is...

- ❖ **Aries** Mar 21-Apr 19: *A half pipe.*
- ❖ **Taurus** Apr 20-May 20: *Perfectly landscaped with butterflies.*
- ❖ **Gemini** May 21-Jun 20: *A hedge maze.*
- ❖ **Cancer** Jun 21-Jul 22: *Three rose bushes for each grandparent you deeply love.*
- ❖ **Leo** Jul 23-Aug 22: *Sunflowers.*
- ❖ **Virgo** Aug 23-Sep 22: *Evenly spaced yet thirsty daffodils.*
- ❖ **Libra** Sep 23-Oct 22: *Overgrown succulents.*
- ❖ **Scorpio** Oct 23-Nov 21: *A wall.*
- ❖ **Sagittarius** Nov 22-Dec 21: *Daisy chains.*
- ❖ **Capricorn** Dec 22-Jan 19: *A play set for the kids.*
- ❖ **Aquarius** Jan 20-Feb 18: *Koi Pond*
- ❖ **Pisces** Feb 19-Mar 20: *Zen garden with rake.*

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