

The Peninsula Pelican

The official letter of the Alamitos Bay Beach Preservation Group
"Serving the Peninsula community since 1966"

Jan/Feb 2007



It's January again – the beginning of a new year and time to welcome our new Board members – Christie Peck, Randy Peck, and Phil Osterlind, who join your 10 returning directors. They are a fine addition to an amazing and very hard working board. We are all involved in many activities, and look forward to a rewarding and productive year.

I am your new president of the Board of Directors. I have lived on the peninsula for 25 years. Upon my retirement as COO/CFO West Coast for a major PR firm, I became active in Garden Club serving as Historian, Recording Secretary and currently as Treasurer. I served as Secretary on the ABBPG Board of Directors in the mid-80s, but work interfered at that time. For the last 2 years I have been Vice President of the Board. I am looking forward with anticipation (along with some trepidation!) to working with City representatives, the Board of Directors, and ABBPG membership.

KUDOS TO LINDA MCCULLOUGH. She has spent countless hours since 2003 and has done a super-human job of spearheading the fund raising for the median and the median refurbishment itself. The moment we have been waiting for has occurred – the Rock has been installed. And isn't it perfect! I can't imagine anything more ideal. Thanks, Linda for all your effort.

I would like to thank Kelly Asper for all she has done as President. She will be a tough act to follow, and I am glad she is staying on to be Advisor/Parliamentarian.

Thank you, Stevie Anderson for putting together a most successful Santa-by-the-Bay. It was enjoyed by all and the weather cooperated -- it was cold as the season should be.

I often reflect on how fortunate we are to live in this neighborhood. So many are involved in making this happen. None work harder than your Board of 13 volunteers who give countless hours of service to this community. My goal this year is to encourage more of our residents to participate. Your Board welcomes any help and participation from the

neighborhood. Contact the committee chairs or me, and I will put you in contact with the appropriate board member. Please look at all the Director's reports in the newsletter as well as their areas of responsibility – and become an active contributor.

We would like you to see and use your Board as a resource to interface with the city. Please recognize we can't please everyone all the time. There will be disagreements, but, we are all neighbors here, and we can respect each other's opinion and solve our differences in a tolerant and understanding manner. I am convinced we can all work together to achieve the common goal of keeping our neighborhood unique, happy and safe.

Plans are underway for our first neighborhood meeting sometime in April or May. The meeting will cover disaster preparedness led by the CERT committee and possibly will have vendors with relevant supplies. I cannot stress enough the importance to our community of everyone being prepared.

Our 2007 membership drive is underway. Check your newsletter for renewal envelopes, or visit our website, www.lbpeninsula.org, where you can also keep up on all Peninsula activities.

I would like to hear from you – your compliments and complaints. But, please don't yell at me. Email is the best way to reach me (please be sure to reference ABBPG in the subject line). If you do not have access to email, a phone call is fine.....both contacts are listed below.

Happy New Year!
Jeanne Muench, President
jeannemuen@aol.com
(562) 439-2841



Upcoming Events:

Current:
2007 Membership Drive

April/May:
ABBPG General Membership Meeting. This will be an important meeting on Emergency Preparedness

ABBPG BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2007)

President
Jeanne Muench
jeannemuen@aol.com

Vice President
Rick Turrentine
Treasurer
Jo Anne Arthur

Secretary/Historian
Randy Peck

Directors
Stevie Anderson
Kelly Asper
Rob Bellevue
Rick Brizendine
Lynne Driscoll
Peter Hogenson
Linda McCullough
Phil Osterlind
Christie Peck

ABBPG
PO Box 3535
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Next to the Last Step

A cold January 11 was a triumphant day in the life of the Median Beautification Project. This day was marked by setting of the peninsula entry rock designating “The Peninsula”. Linda McCullough, chairperson of the Median Committee, reports this milestone is the next to the last in the completion of the Median Beautification Project. All that is left to go from here is to install the Donors Recognition Plaque to be placed at the end of the Peninsula in the turnaround area close to 72nd Place.

The history of the entry rock goes back to the beginning of the Median Beautification Project where conceptual designs began in 2001. The entry rock was a key part of this project plan. The master median plan was principally designed by Landscape Architect Graham Stanley. All efforts were in full cooperation with Long Beach Dept. of Public Works.



Crane Moves into Place to Erect the Rock

Securing of the entry rock started in 2004 and presented many challenges. First it required the selection of the stone. Cold Spring Granite of Minnesota was selected as the provider. A source quarry was identified in Clovis, California.

Construction was by Salco Landscaping Service, which is headed by Arborist Frank Spina. Construction was coordinated with and followed closely behind the Peninsula sewer replacement and new paving project completed about 3+ years ago.



The Peninsula Rock Suspended Heading for its resting place.

A suitable piece of granite was selected by the McCulloughs and Driscolls. Milling of the stone was started when a fatal flaw was discovered. The stone engraver and the quarry manager selected another rock. Milling and engraving of the second stone was successful. The completed rock was then loaded on a heavy truck early in the morning of January 11, and the truck with its valuable cargo made its way from Clovis to our Peninsula. To place the stone on its foundation many efforts had to be coordinated. An installation crane needed to be procured as well as traffic permits so the impact on Peninsula traffic would be minimal.

All work had to be completed in a safe manner. And sure enough on that cold date the crane arrived and was put into position, the stone hooked up to the lifting gear, and the 7,000 lb. stone was lifted off the truck and placed safely on its foundation.





Linda McCullough at the final placing of the Rock.

In the following days the construction crew completed the curbing around the stone and installed the lighting and other features. Truly this rock adds to the beauty and uniqueness of our Peninsula.



*Linda McCullough & Lynne Driscoll
"All Cool Now"*

From the Median Committee perspective this is a wonderful start to the new year.

A full Thanks for Service from the Median Beautification Committee Members

Linda McCullough	Chairperson
Members	
Kelly Asper	Mary Alice Braly
Russ Calderella	Dana Christie
Lynne Driscoll	Brig Knauer
Ruth McCree	Jeanne Muench
Suzanne Poulsen	Cyndi Seibert
Carol Senske	Lindsay Shields-Green
Stephanie Siemer	Bobbi Vial
Bonnie Walker	

OTHER COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT NEWS

Median maintenance is continuously monitored and numerous reminders are sent to the Parks, Maintenance and Marine Department that handles our contract.

The Underground Utilities Committee is resuming their meetings and plans to meet with different interested utilities to try and secure both a cooperative and cost effective approach to undergrounding our utilities. The Toledo project still has not been given a \$\$ number from the utilities to take to their community. I believe it has been over a year since they were told it was imminent.

Our Peninsula community will not be committed in any way till a realistic number is taken around and presented to all property owners for a signature expressing their **INTEREST ONLY** in the project. Edison told the President of ABBPG that Edison considered the replacement of all their utility poles and transformers to be of utmost importance for the protection of life and limb to themselves and the residents of the Peninsula. They said they were going to bid their replacement project whether we voted for undergrounding the utilities or not. *What a shame to have them replace all the ugly poles, cob webs of lines, and control boxes without putting them all out of sight and out of harms way underground.*

Linda McCullough

The 2007 ABBPG Membership Drive -- A great opportunity to Join now!!

Included in this issue of the Peninsula Pelican is membership information and forms which residents may use to join ABBPG and also support our concerts in one action. We hope you will renew your support of our Peninsula Organization. ABBPG is your neighborhood voice to the City of Long Beach – the more Peninsula residents that we have as members, the stronger that voice becomes. Your ABBPG Board of Directors works closely with the City to ensure that our beaches, streets and sidewalks are properly maintained. Your Directors also have on-going communications with the Long Beach Police Department to make them aware of safety and security issues that are of concern to all our residents...making the Peninsula one of the safest Neighborhoods in Long Beach!

All Peninsula residents are welcome and encouraged to join ABBPG for a nominal amount. Your membership dues cover a donation to maintain the Peninsula’s Christmas Trees-in-the-Bay; upkeep of our newly landscaped median; the publication of our bi-monthly newsletter and hosting of our community website www.lbpeninsula.org; training of our Community Emergency Response Team (CERT); sponsoring Santa Claus at 62nd Place for the kids each December; and providing for our popular Summer Concerts.

The Peninsula’s residents, collectively speaking with one voice through ABBPG, can have an impact with the City and other governmental entities far beyond that of an individual. Your membership and involvement makes a difference. For Questions and Information contact:

Lynne Driscoll at 439-5376 or bayshore2@charter.net --or,
Stevie Anderson at 439-1606 or stevieanderson@verizon.net



Check out
our
Website

www.lbpeninsula.org

Find valuable information about our organization and links to other resources including city services, aerial maps, lists of donors, CERT information, photos of our events, past issues of the Peninsula Pelican newsletter and lots more!

Security Committee

Several Peninsula residents indicated an interest in participating on our Security Committee. We plan to have a Committee meeting in late January or early February and will contact each of you with date, time and place. If you are not one of those that signed as interested and would like to join the Committee, please call the undersigned. Topics to address are Ocean Blvd. speeding, 72nd Place problems and your concerns.

A significant milestone was reached in the Long Beach Police Department East Division – for the first time since records have been kept there were no homicides (the Peninsula is located in the East Division). However, due to the large number of cars in the neighborhood, auto burglary and auto theft are still high along with residential burglary – so keep your doors and windows secure and don’t leave valuables (including cell phones) visible in your cars.

Peter Hogenson, Security Chairman

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

January 9th was the 150th anniversary of the largest earthquake in recorded history in California – 7.9. Over the last 1000 years these have occurred at about 150 year intervals. The goals of Peninsula CERT include: 1) providing a group of trained residents capable of providing basic emergency response to help Peninsula residents during the period after an event during which City services are not available; and 2) encouraging all residents to be prepared to sustain themselves and their families for at least three days without electricity, gas and water service.

We are planning a CERT night in April during which Long Beach CERT will show the devastating effect an earthquake will have in Long Beach. For more information on CERT or to become a member please contact one of the following Peninsula members.

Christie Peck (ABBPG CERT Director) at Christie@thepecks.com, or

Peter Hogenson at 439-3361