

March / April



What's Happening in Crest

This issue of The Crest Sun begins with a large amount of thanks. First of all to the local unit of The Kiwanis Club for their efforts to paint the Crest Library. They came out one Saturday after their meeting and began scraping and sanding and in a couple hours were able to put on the primer. Look for pictures of them inside.

More thanks go to Terry Shimamoto for the donation of the paint. When 5 gallons wasn't enough, Terry very graciously supplied the second 5 gallons and the trim paint.

Thanks to the men who sprayed on the first coat and will finish the base coat and then paint the trim, Graham Smith and Dennis Plunkett.

We hope you like our new color. We want the library to be as warm and inviting on the outside as we try to make it in the inside.

If you have not been to a library lately, you may be surprised to find that libraries are not the same as they once were. The Crest library is considered to be the hub of the community. You can come there for information, to meet your friends, use the computers (more are coming!), send a fax, even check out books and videos.

We are working to get an active group of teens and pre-teens for crafts, games, and hobby time. Some of our customers are learning to knit.

We hope to offer very soon, senior coffee and chat sessions.. A chance to learn to use a computer, check out the new government prescription drug plan and more...

Come see us!

More thanks go to our loyal readers and supporters. Your donations and your patronization of our sponsors provide the funds to print the newsletter. This is our only expense. We have no paid employees.

If you have information to share, please call **Chris at 447-5826** or **Betty at 442-7083** or send it to

Chris at winters72@hotmail.com
Betty at blucas@thecrestsun.com

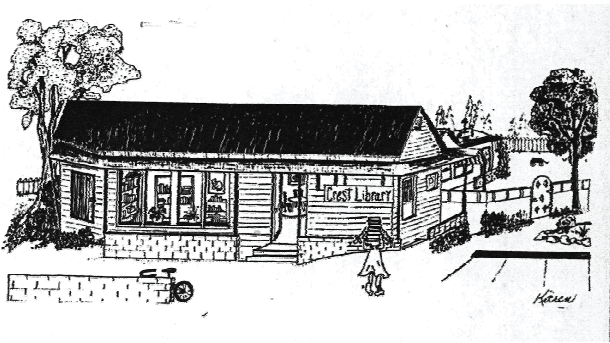
The next deadline is April 19

The Crest Sun
A Newsletter for Crest

Contributing Editor...Christina Seebold
Editor... Betty Lucas

We are not responsible for problems that occur as a result
of information in the

Crest Library Corner



105 Juanita Lane

619- 442-7083

Our Fax Number 619-442-4972

We can send and receive faxes for you

Our Window to the World

A branch of the San Diego County Library

Please note our hours...

Tuesday 12 to 8
Wednesday 10 to 6
Thursday 10 to 6
Friday 10 to 5
Saturday 10 to 3

Coming Events at the Library

March 14, Book Club meeting at 6 PM
March 15, Make and Take a Craft 3-4 PM
March 28, Puppet Show at 6:30 PM

April 11, Book Club at 6 PM
April 13, Easter Party at 3 PM
April 25, Patty Hall entertains at 6:30 PM

Reader's Express 7 day Check Out- No Reserves

The Last Templar
The Two Minute Rule
The 5th Horseman
The House
The Fallen

Raymond Khoury
Robert Crais
James Patterson
Danielle Steel
T. Jefferson Parker

Library Services

We can send and receive
faxes for you!

We can make copies

Computer help.

Dirty Blonde

Lisa Scottoline

Visit YOUR Library

South Lane Park

With all the spotlight on South Lane Park, regarding the eucalyptus trees in the park, the Crest Historical Society has graciously opened their files on the park, so that we might give you the following information on the park's history. The park is located on South Lane, between Eucalyptus Drive and Albatross Street.

Reprinted from *ECHOES*, Volume 6, Number 2, April 1996

In 1974 the Crest Civic Group began work to acquire vacant land extending north from South Lane for a park in Crest. It took four years and \$140,000 to obtain the land (SB174), a grant from the state provided \$103,000. The rest of the money was acquired through fees established under the Park Land Dedication Ordinance. That site is now South Lane County Park.

Reprinted from *ECHOES*, Volume 8 Number 1, January 1998

In October 1988, Ann Holton wrote this article in her column "Crest Chronicle" printed in *BACK COUNTRY TRADER*

SOUTH LANE PARK

Originally, Suncrest Incorporated gave property to the Baptist Church for building a retirement home. The home was never built. The property reverted to the County who later sold it to a private party.

On October 24, 1974, The Crest Civic Group wrote a letter to the county asking them to acquire this 10.5 acre site for a Crest park. It took four year before it was included in the local Parks Implementation Program because the Park Land Dedication Ordinance fund for our local park planning area was insufficient to cover acquisition costs. No federal or state grants were available as a supplement to that fund until 1978.

From May 30, 1978 to March 14, 1979, there were hearings before the Board of Supervisors, The Environmental Review board, The Board of Supervisors (again!), the Planning Commission, the CPO, the Parks and Recreation director, the California State Parks and Recreation director, the executive committee of CPO, the State Clearinghouse and the Board of Supervisors (again!). finally the property was acquired by the County for the sum of \$140,000. The understanding was that no development would occur until both development and maintenance revenues were identified. Nine years have passed but no revenue has been forthcoming.

Meanwhile, the park is in its natural state. There are 30 unpaved parking space and an equestrian trail– according to County documents.

The Crest Horse Group/ E-crest-rians, Inc. was granted a non exclusive use and occupancy permit for the five acres closest to South Lane. Through their efforts, the Horse Ring and an announcer's both for horse show competitions were constructed. It is they who keep that area clean and clear. The park is a County Park and open for anyone to use; however, use of the horse ring area should be cleared through the Crest horse group.

ECHOES is the quarterly newsletter of the Crest Historical Society. For information on membership, please contact Dorothy Miller at 444-0968 or the Crest Library 442-7083

OUR BACKYARD BY CHRISTINA SEEBOLD

SOUTH LANE PARK UPDATE:

On Thursday February 9th, I attended a community meeting at the Resource Center with Larry Duke - district park manager for the county. The county had contracted with a forensic arborist who determined that 300 of the 341 trees in South Lane Park need to be removed. The criteria used by the arborist to warrant the removal, is a government chart showing the likeliness of hazards of trees or branches falling on people. The removal was scheduled to begin on Feb. 13 continuing for 2 ½ weeks. The 41 trees to remain, were scheduled to be pruned, and the removal of the 300 to follow. The county parks department gave no public notice to any property owners in Crest, including those adjacent to the park property.

No input was sought from any agency in the community. No consideration was given to any other aspect of the value of the trees to the residents of Crest. In our general plan we are supposed to have tree lined streets, (eucalyptus species being our main historic non-native), and a rural water shed/wildlife corridor in the center of the southern part of the community. In these tall trees, hawks, owls and other raptors nest and hunt. The water table is particularly high there, and the extensive root system keeps it from being a perpetual swamp. Our community has already suffered a tremendous loss of air purifying vegetation, and habitat from our town's core as well as the surrounding area. Larry Duke said that the equipment to be used will produce a deafening noise, and dust cloud over the area, as it is so huge it can grind and spit out entire trees, turning them to mulch. I felt that it was unprofessional, for residents to be left in the dark until one business day prior to the scheduled removal.

Previously Mr. Duke had given out information that 41 trees were to be removed. 25 minutes into the meeting, with Mr. Duke and the arborist frantically searching the report, they finally agreed with each other that the 41 trees are the only trees to be saved. Crest residents should have a say in the plan for managing the park, and spending grant money to "improve" it. There

are hazards all over the county, but we do not destroy everything that has the potential to hurt us.

Resident Graham Smith had another arborist look at the park, and he disagreed with the extreme nature of the findings. The arborist hired by the county specializes in forensic science, as a consultant on cases where people have been injured or killed by falling trees. As such, his point of view is a bit narrow in focus. No environmental impact report has been done, and Mr. Duke admitted that the county had no specific plan for the future of the park is in the works, just a vague suggestion that there will be some kind of reforestation. The access to water for maintaining a large planting of new trees is not currently adequate in South Lane Park.

Since the meeting, I have spoken with Amy Harbert – Parks Public Relations and she said that they want to replant only native trees: i.e. oaks and sycamores. This may be a good idea, and if natives can be included in the park, that would be great. However, 41 trees remaining in the park will be eucalyptus.

Some community members, myself included, feel that we may want to plant some species of eucalyptus that are not prone to hazardous branch dropping, and are not susceptible to lerp psyllid, and beetles. Some reasons for this are.

1. the history of the park and community
2. a fast growth rate that will insure an established planting on a quicker timeline creating shade, privacy, and height for raptors, at a much faster rate than the natives
3. the high water table that the eucalyptus will tap into sooner, helping to keep the low areas from becoming a bog.

After the cedar fire, natives were planted in the park with assurances from Dave Martinez of the county parks department, that the removed and pruned eucalyptus would be maintained so that the newly

planted trees would not be competing for sun, nutrients, and water. This did not happen. Future natives may have difficulty growing in competition with the existing eucalyptus.

Linda Chase has said that from what Larry Duke told her recently, they will probably run out of time before hawk nesting season (March 15) to remove all the trees. They will then have to wait until nesting season is over. She said "the prudent thing to do would be to ask folks to put together a proposal that we can share with Dianne Jacob when she is at the CCA meeting on March 21st. It should not be a time for discussion or complaint- we should have the whole thing written out with solutions and options suggested. That way she has something to talk to Parks about rather than a list of complaints from the community." I concur.

If you have specific concerns, call Larry Duke, District Park Manager at 858 694-3045

NANCY JANE PARK: The temporary building for the resource center is scheduled to remain until the end of July. Meanwhile, the parks department is planning some improvements. Additional walkways will be created, and the best surprise is the planned addition of a beautiful new gazebo/bandstand to be located in the southeast corner! No timetable for this project has been set. Look for it to appear soon on the agenda of our local planning group.

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Random Thoughts

by Millie Colburn Walker

Things We Do For Love

When my favorite husband was still alive I did a lot of things for him that I thought would make him happy. I wanted to make him glad that he'd married me. I also did not ask him to do things for me that might make him unhappy. I never asked him to take out the trash because I knew he hated to do that.

I cared how he felt and treated him like I thought he liked and it must have worked because several people who knew him have told me he always spoke highly of me. When I was raising four children I did and said some things that were not always so good but I mostly did things that I thought would make them feel loved and wanted. I was lax in discipline but doubled up in attention and affection. It worked because they all have told me they know I love them. One time a young woman I work with said she wanted to thank me because I was the first person who was nice to her. I have always been nice to others but this being so nice may show a flaw when you look at the whole picture of me and my interactions with others and my reactions to how I am treated by others. I may complain if I am not treated like I want to be but I don't hold a grudge. I am, by nature, a nurturer, a massager, a peace maker. I'm not one of those people who say yes to everything but face to face if someone asks my honest opinion of them or an idea they had I may sugar-coat my answer.

I have seen a lot of relationships that I would like to get right in the middle of and straighten them out. I know a couple who fights almost constantly but are not both mad at the same time. He will do something that she doesn't like and she will react by acting mad and he does his best to get her forgiveness. Then he tires of trying and just as he loses it and shows his anger at her for being so stubborn she gives in and then it's her turn to plead for him to forgive her. That's when I have to leave or I will meddle. I know people who, when faced with the possibility of an argument, will just walk out and leave the other person wondering what happened.

The ways people treat each other amazes me and there are two of them that I know I could never again live with. One is to be ignored and the other is to be belittled. Either way sends the message to me that I am not good enough and I really have had enough of my self-esteem being punctured. I have seen people get into an argument and bring up things that should have been settled in the last few arguments. I have heard people say things to each other that had someone said that to me I would have left, especially after the umpteenth time. If someone says to a mate or a friend during an argument, "I am tired of you being so mean to me, I hate the way you treat me", that is understandable in the heat of anger but if they say, "I don't know why I am still with you because you are so ugly and you look like a sick monkey," that's just wrong.

Personal looks should not be attacked, especially if that person is ugly and does look like a sick monkey. People who attack others with words against them that depict something that person represents is the worst kind of treatment and I just cringe when I hear it. I knew a woman who was smarter than her boyfriend and it was obvious to everyone who knew them. When they got into an argument she would use bigger words that would confound him and

when he became confused she called him stupid. Why he stayed with her no one could figure out but why she stayed with him also seemed wrong.

In movies and commercials a woman walks up to her mate and asks, "Do I look okay in this or does this dress make me look fat?" We all know that pretty much any answer he gives her will be wrong and no matter how much I tried to convince him that I wanted to know the truth my favorite husband would refuse to answer that type of question. He would not answer even though he knew me well enough to be fairly sure that I would not blame him if his answer was not what I really wanted to hear. But because he didn't want to take any chances I loved him enough to not ask. He loved me enough to respect me even though I did not always do or say everything the way he would have liked. When I see or hear someone in any type of on-going turmoil in a relationship I want to say something but then that might not be so nice and I do have that reputation to maintain.

CREST FIRE SAFE COUNCIL

Crest Fire Safe Council (CFSC) has been researching a phone notification system and company to alert our residents of any emergency. This could consist of fires, flooding, earthquake info, etc. In addition, we can use this system for community events, road closures, or any items of interest that would affect our community.

The system we have selected is OneCallNow. This is the premier communication product from MyTeam1 Corporation offering telephone services to non-profit organizations. They are based in Troy, Ohio and their services include telephone and internet services with phone banks that have the ability to call your home, cell and work phone within a matter of minutes.

At this time, CFSC is absorbing the cost of set-up. We encourage you to send back the requested info ASAP. Our deadline for returning information is March 31st. Our fees are based on the data we collect from our community. This costs you nothing and could possibly save your life. Please drop off your info at the library, the resource center, the school, the stores, or drop it in the CCA mail box at 113 North Park Drive. During the last two weeks of February look for your Crest Fire Safe members to be standing on corners and at the stop sign at the bottom of the hill to collect this information from you.. or you can mail it to 120 N. Park Dr .El Cajon, CA 92021. Your privacy will be protected.

For further info on this system you can access the website at www.onecallnow.com.

Crest Fire Safe Council

Kandhy Franklin-Collins,
Kathy Fiedor,

Debbie Milligan-Fox
Noelle Carranza,

Vicky Williams

GREAT NEWS!!!! The Crest Community Wild Fire Protection Plan has been signed by Supervisor Bill Horn, California Department of Forestry, and the District Fire Chief. You may ask, what's the big deal? It means that your Crest Fire Safe Council (CFSC) will be able to apply for more grants which will help with fuel reduction and better communication means for you.

STUDENTS GET GOLD "C" CARDS IF THEY TURN IN THEIR " ONE CALL NOW" COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM TO THEIR TEACHER. Turn them soon, don't be left out!

AMERICAN FIRE RETARDANT CORPORATION: We were given information for fire retardant paint that will give you extra time to get out of your home and not cost a lot more at the CCA meeting. A demonstration was given involving painted wood. After minutes of keeping a flame on the painted wood, the fire went out and the area was cool to the touch. The singed area was scraped off making it ready to be prepped for painting. Flyers and information on this product are on tables at the Resource Center. There is also a video to watch which is very impressive, come on in.

HAM RADIOS ARE HERE: A quick Ham Radio presentation was made by Pat Bunsold, a Crest ham radio expert. He brought his hand-held radio and demonstrated different aspects of the radio. We were directed to a website for more information and for instructions on getting a ham license: www.arrl.org. Pat also talked about the benefits of being a hammer and getting out of Crest when all of the phones are down. He talked about a Family Response System radio which all residents may want to get. I know there is a budget in the grant that we applied for to make sure we purchase enough for CFSC and block wardens. The cost of being involved and having the beginning equipment and license was under \$100.00.

CREST PTA NEWS

Dear Parents and Neighbors:

In this technological age, it is important for parents to discuss internet usage with their child. Lately, as you might have heard , the popular site, www.myspace.com , has been in the news. If you have a child able to use the internet or not, please take some time to go to this site. Register yourself and see how easy it is to view endless pictures, stories, etc. of young kids. This is a child molester's dream. At this website, kids have entered their real names, addresses, friends' names and addresses, phone numbers and many have uploaded overly provocative pictures of themselves. Even if you know your child is not on this site, a friend of theirs may have put your child's name and info on it. I'm sure as a parent you would not like to be the last to know.

Take some time to talk to your child about this and the dangers to them and their family. A good article is available on the National PTA Website, simply by going to www.pta.org and searching for "Internet Safety". Please check this out today; it might save someone's life. It is also important to write your congress people and representative and express your feelings.

On a lighter note:

On March 31st, Crest School will be doing it's JOGATHON! This is a big event for us and all sponsorship money goes directly to the school to help with events throughout the year. So, kids, get your running shoes ready! Our Spring Break will be April 3rd-April 14th. On April 21St, we will be having BIKE RODEO, preceded by a great assembly on Bike Safety. So tell your kids to polish up their bikes and make sure they have a helmet!

On May 18th, Crest School will have it's OPEN HOUSE. It will be a great event, starting with a PTA Association Meeting at 6PM where we will introduce and elect our new PTA officers for the next school year: 2006-2007. There will be an ART SHOW presented by the Art Docents in the Multi-Purpose Room and our annual BOOK FAIR! Parents will be able to browse and purchase their children's favorite book selections. PTA will also be hosting a FREE ICE

CREAM SOCIAL with the help of the 6th graders. A special donation will be given to the 6th Grade Fund for their hard work at this event.

Audit News:

Our PTA just finished and approved their half yearly audit and we are happy to announce that it came out to the penny, thanks to the hard work of Vicky Williams, our treasurer.

Cookbook News:Our chair people are currently working on a supplement for the "A TASTE OF CREST" cookbook and we need your recipes! Our final deadline for entries is March 15th. We are hoping to gather another 200 recipes. This Volume #2 will fit right into your existing cookbook and will have its own index and dividers for easy viewing.

The cost is very low and affordable for everyone! Please send up to 5 recipes to crestrecipes@cox.net or bring to the school office, attention PTA Recipes. All recipes need to be typed on an 8-1/2 x 11 sheet , must include a title, ingredients and directions, your name and phone #. Your phone # will not be published, it's just for us to help check up on errors, typos, etc.

Have a great Spring!
Karin Weiss
PTA President

crestptanews@cox.net
www.crestschoolpta.com

**Theater Organ Society of San Diego
2006 Concert Series
on the 4/24 Mighty Wurlitzer**

located at
Trinity Church
3902 Kenwood Drive
Spring Valley, CA 91977

Tickets at the Door
\$10 Members – Non-members \$12

Saturday, March 11 at 7 PM George Breed Silent Movie Night
Breed returns again to present 1928 classic, *Show People*. This 8 reeler features Marion Davies, William Haines, Charles Chaplin and Douglas Fairbanks. With Greg's accompaniment and commentary this film will provide a memorable evening.

May 21 at 3 PM Donna Parker in Concert
July 16 at 3PM Mark Herman in Concert
September at 10 PM Jelani Eddington in Concert

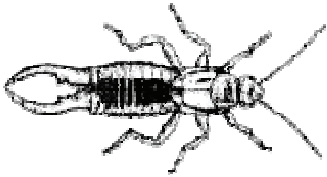
November 11 at 7 PM Clark Wilson Silent Movie Night the classic *Wings* silent movie

For information regarding the concert series or to order tickets, please contact:

Jackie Porter 619-286-9979
or mail your check made out to TOSSD
5568 Barclay Avenue, San Diego, CA 92120

Critters in Crest

Earwigs
By Shelton Stanley



Earwigs are distributed all over the world. To me, "pincher bug" is a descriptive enough name and everyone knows what critter you are talking about. They belong to a relatively small order of insects called *Dermaptera*. The order *Dermaptera* contains about 1,100 species of earwigs. The common earwig (*Forficula auricularia*) is a member of the suborder *Forficulina*, the largest group of *Dermaptera*. The common earwig, also known as the European earwig, is the most numerous species of earwig.

Earwigs are found in all sorts of climates: tropical, temperate and arid places. In Crest, I have found them in tree crotches, under tree bark and between pieces of wood and plywood, as well as under a fake vine my wife had hanging in the bathroom. The fake vine fell once and revealed two earwigs holed-up there, so I threw the fake vine away. My wife threatened to buy another fake vine to hang in the exact same spot, but she found the one I threw away and hasn't re-hung it, yet. Maybe she doesn't like earwigs in the bathroom?

Earwigs are frequently found in large sleeping groups. I once found "a large group" sleeping between two sheets of full-sized pieces of plywood outside, before I had a chance to bring the plywood inside. There must have been thousands of them! I gave them a good dose of EPA approved and applied insecticide, labeled for insects that included "earwigs".

Earwigs are generally 0.75 inches (18 mm) in length. They have slender, elongated and flattened bodies. Their color is a reddish-brown, more brown than red, viewed from a distance. Earwigs have two pairs of wings. Common earwigs, like those seen in Crest, have two incomplete sets of wings, making them virtually wingless and completely flightless.

Earwigs have chewing mouthparts and simple eyes. They have 12-15 segmented antennae. The most obvious characteristic of earwigs is their pinchers, located on the tip of the abdomen, or tail. These pinchers are used for defense and capturing food. (I never knew the part about capturing food! As a kid, they used to pinch me, but not for food, I'm sure!) They can also damage seedling vegetable sprouts and chew holes in young flowers. They also feed on aphids and other insects, which is good.

Pincher bugs, I mean earwigs, live about one year. They are omnivorous and primarily scavenge for food by eating organic and decaying stuff. Some species use their pinchers to capture and eat small spiders, mites, flies or caterpillars.

Female earwigs mate indiscriminately and lay eggs in early spring. The female lays a clutch of 20 to 50 smooth whitish eggs under ground. (More prolific than rabbits!) She protects her eggs from intruders, including her mate(s) if necessary. While guarding her eggs, she frequently licks them to prevent fungal infestations. Once the eggs are hatched, the female will care for her young until their first molt, when they are old enough to fend for themselves.

The name "earwig" came from an early European *erroneous* belief that earwigs were dangerous to humans. Superstition had it that while a person slept, an "ear" wig would crawl into their ear and bore into their brain. Once in the brain, the earwig would lay its eggs. You can imagine the rest!

This belief is completely false, since earwigs are harmless animals that have never attacked humans (or other animals) in this manner. A human who carelessly handles an earwig, though, can receive a mild pinch from the earwig's powerful pincers.

You can trap earwigs using rolled-up newspaper or pieces of old hose. Place them near plants and then shake them out into a bucket of soapy water the next day. The water only needs a drop or two of soap. The soap breaks the surface tension of the water, thus allowing the water to drown the bugs.

Frequent trapping will reduce populations to tolerable levels.

St Louise de Marillac Church

<p>Thank you for supporting our Thrift store!</p> <p>We are open every Tuesday from 9 AM to 3 PM.</p> <p>+++++++</p> <p>On March 15th we celebrate the feast day of our Patroness St Louise de Marillac.</p> <p>We will be having a Pot Luck dinner in the Parish Hall on Sunday, March 19th</p> <p>If you would like to attend and for information on the dinner, please call Betty at 447-6143</p>	<p>We invite you to our Lenten Services</p> <p>Ash Wednesday Mass at 8 AM and 7 PM</p> <p>Adult Education Series, in the Parish hall Psalms- Songs from the Heart Monday, March 6 Monday, March 13 Monday, March 20</p> <p>Stations of the Cross 7 PM every Friday beginning Friday, March 3 to April 7</p> <p>Holy Week</p> <p>April 8- Palm Sunday Vigil- Mass at 5:30 April 9- Palm Sunday, Masses at 8 AM and 10:30</p> <p>April 13- Holy Thursday, Mass at 7:30 PM</p> <p>April 14- Good Friday, Stations of the Cross- 3 PM Good Friday Mass at 7:30 PM</p> <p>April 15- Holy Saturday Mass at 7:30 PM</p>
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	April 16- Easter Sunday Masses at 8 AM and 10:30
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**The Youth Group will be holding a car wash in the Parish Parking Lot
Saturday May 13th from 11 AM - 2 PM
St. Louise de Marillac Church
2005 Crest Dr. Crest**

**Donations accepted.
All profits go toward youth group activities**

On top to the Hill

Crest Historical Society

Would you like to know how Nancy Jane Park got its name? Did you know that there once was a public swimming pool in Crest or that many years ago there were two clubhouses in our community?

If you would like to know more about the history of the place you call home, you might enjoy attending a Crest Historical Society workshop. Founded in May of 1989, the Crest Historical Society has grown from the original 11 members to the current 73 with several lifetime members. Workshops are held on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 1:00 PM. in the Crest Library and are a good time for members or the public to look at old pictures, ask questions, learn about the early days of Crest or perhaps, share your own memories of life in Crest.

Should you wish to join the Crest Historical Society, annual dues are \$2.50 for seniors, \$5.00 for an individual, and \$10.00 for a family. Members receive 4 issues of the informative and interesting *ECHOES* newsletter. Questions about membership or ??? Please call Dorothy Miller at 444-0968.

Old Cell Phones Needed

Many of us are aware of and have noticed the lovely Disabled Fishing Pier for Children installed by the Kiwanis at Santee Lakes Preserve. Now the Rancho Santee Lions Association is building a Sensory Garden for the Sight impaired to enjoy as well as for the education of our school children. Please help by donating your used cell phones and empty laser and inkjet printer cartridges. These may be dropped off at three Crest Locations:

**Crest Resource Center- Monday- Thursday 9-4
Crest Library
2015 Suncrest Bl- across from Crest School**

Diane Brehm

SDYCS Critical Hours Youth Programs at the Crest Resource Center

After school program for youth ages 7-10 (3 to 5pm)

After school program for youth ages 11-17 (5 to 7pm)

Special classes Schedule

Art classes (All ages 7 years +)

March 6th and 20th 3:30 to 4:30

April 3rd and 17th

May 1st and 15th

Karate Classes ages 6 to 10 years --TBA

Crest Coordinating Committee for Fire Recovery

120 North Park Drive, Crest, CA 92021

(619) 328-0900

Crest Community Rummage Sale

Start cleaning your closets!

Saturday --May 20

8AM to 3 PM

Nancy Jane Park

Sponsored and Organized by

Susan Lee Cooke

REMAX HOMETOWN REALTORS

619-322-8832

Crest Residents in the News

Jimmie Johnson By now, even if you are not a fan of NASCAR racing, you have probably heard the name Jimmie Johnson, Jimmie is a former Crest resident and still has family living here. NASCAR is Americas fastest growing sport; on February 19, Jimmie won the Daytona 500 and has been making the rounds of the talk shows. Some of you can say you knew him when...

Dena Rosenberger, a Crest resident, is a science teacher at El Capitan and has traveled both to the North and South Poles. Both of her trips were sponsored by the National Science Foundation. You can track her travels at <http://www.arcus.org/TREC/VBC/index.php?showtopic=1089> On April 18, 7 p.m. Crest's own Antarctica and North Pole Explorer, Dena Rosenberger will give a talk and slide show! See the UnionTribune article about her in the 2-23-06 issue or go to her web site.

Earth Discovery Institute

The Earth Discovery Institute (EDI) is seeking volunteer docents to guide students in environmental education at Crestridge Ecological Reserve. Crestridge is a 3,000-acre ecological reserve on the north side of Crest. EDI is rooted in the belief that young people and the natural environment need each other to thrive. San Diego is anticipating a dramatic population surge in the coming two decades. Communities are searching for ways to accommodate growth while preserving a unique and treasured environment. San Diego, home to more biological diversity and unique imperiled species than any other place in the country, is looking to its young people as the future stewards of these resources. The Earth Discovery Institute prepares these upcoming generations of leaders.

In each of the past 3 years students from 4th-12th grade have visited the Reserve as part of a cutting-edge effort that addresses curriculum content standards for each relevant grade level through outdoor, hands-on activities. The students' experience also includes 'service learning.' Through activities such as native plant restoration and sustainable building construction, they learn the importance of giving to the environment and the community, making the Reserve and the world healthier for their contribution.

Volunteer docents are needed to serve as instructors for the students. An ongoing time commitment of 4 hours per week is required. Training will be provided. Contact Cathy Chadwick at 619-749-5767 or chadgroup@aol.com.

Trails Enthusiast of all interests or Land Managers,

San Diego County Trails Council (SDCTC) has launched a new web site to serve the San Diego region. Membership is FREE so please join if you care about our local trails. It only takes a moment to make sure your voice is heard. Hikers, mountain bikers, equestrians, birders, land management professionals and others can discuss trail issues, post events, read news and connect with the San Diego trails community. Go to www.SDCTC.com and join today.

Key features of the site include:

~~Trail Message Board – All visitors are encouraged to read, post and discuss any trail issues or questions that may be on your mind.

~~Trails Calendar – Got events? List them here to help get the word out. Looking for something to do, check the calendar.

~~Links – Visit our links page for connections to organizations and land managers. If you think we've missed someone, make a suggestion.

~~Donate – Although individual SDCTC membership is completely free, we do rely on donations to help support our programs and events.

And don't forget to join SDCTC for FREE!

San Diego County Trails Council Dedicated to the acquisition and preservation of riding, hiking and mountain biking trails in San Diego County www.sdctc.com

Kandhy Franklin-Collins
SDCTC [sec/treasurer](mailto:kfrankli@sdco.k12.ca.us)
kfrankli@sdco.k12.ca.us

Local Services Offered

Need Home Repair Work Done?

I do

Drywall Patching

Taping and Texturing

Tile

Home Repairs

Crest Resident for 30 years

Don---- 619-447-0793

For Yard work ask for Ryan

Good rates

447-0793

Fill dirt needed in Crest -- Call Jerry at 619-447-5674

CREST COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION - CCA

The meeting commenced at 7:10 p.m. The secretary's minutes from the January meeting were read. Linda Chase asked for a correction to the minutes. The ten computers which SDYCS wishes to donate are to be used for the Critical Hours after-school program, not to the children of Crest in general. Dan Wilson made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Debbie Goettsch seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

General Fund	\$21,567.28
Reconstruction Fund	\$9,327.77
	\$30,895.05

End-of-year totals were announced. Dan Wilson made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Connie Gipson seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Kandhy Franklin-Collins introduced the members of the Fire Safe Council. She explained the goals of the council and details of a grant which has been written and our new phone emergency alert system. Negotiations with the county are ongoing. She also described various efforts being coordinated.

GREAT NEWS!! The Crest Community Wild Fire Protection Plan has been signed by Supervisor Bill Horn, the California Department of Forestry, and the District Fire Chief. You may ask, "What's the big deal?" It means that your Crest Fire Safe Council (CFSC) will be able

to apply for more grants which will help with fuel reduction and better communication means for you.

STUDENTS GET GOLD "C" CARDS if they turn in their "ONE CALL NOW" community notification system to their teachers. Turn them in soon – don't be left out.

Ray and Phil from AMERICAN FIRE RETARDANT CORPORATION showed a film about fire-retardant paint which will give us extra time to evacuate our homes. The paint is very reasonably priced. A demonstration involving painted wood was given. After minutes of holding a flame to the painted wood, the fire extinguished naturally and the area was cool to the touch. The singed area was scraped off, making it ready for paint preparation. Flyers and information on the product are available at the Crest Resource Center. There is also a video which is very impressive.

A brief Ham Radio presentation was made by Pat Bunsold, a Crest hammer. He brought his hand-held radio and demonstrated different aspects of the radio. We were directed to website www.ARRL.org for more information and for instructions on obtaining a ham license. Pat also talked about the benefits of being a hammer and evacuating Crest when all of the phone lines are down. He shared that the antennae at his home can reach worldwide communication. Also,

most information received during the Cedar fire was via ham radios. He encouraged all residents to purchase a FRS (Family Radio Service) for very little cost. Kandy Franklin-Collins added that there is a budget in the grant proposal for radios for the CFSC and block wardens.

NEW BUSINESS:

President Noelle Carranza requested volunteers for the annual audit. Tim McMaster, Cathy Kolbenschlag, and Andy Knutson volunteered.

Connie Gipson announced that County Tax Assessor Greg Smith will be our guest speaker on May 16, 2006.

Linda Chase informed us that she has met a Crest resident who will conduct a workshop on developing a non-profit status. He will be present at the Resource Center on Thursday, March 9 at 2:00 p.m. This will be an information-gathering session only; no decisions about the CCA will be made at that time. Also, any resident of Crest needing personal information about non-profit organizations may attend.

COUNTY SUPERVISOR DIANNE JACOB will be our guest speaker on March 21, at 7:00 p.m. She will discuss present and future issues of our unique community. Have your questions ready.

Crest Resource Center Director Linda Chase announced that a grant which Dianne Jacob made possible will allow the resource center to remain in operation until July, 2006.

Treasurer Jackie Grace suggested that everyone begin fundraising ideas. She shared that no budget for the CCA has been prepared.

Past-Chairperson of the Regional Planning Group Tim McMaster shared a list of projects which the planning group is attacking. A copy of that list is available at the Crest Library in the CCA Minutes file.

Phil Goettsch suggests asking Dianne Jacob how we might organize a Community Center. He believes many grants are available to Crest; we need to know to access them.

CLUBHOUSE UPDATE: Phil Goettsch was on hiatus for three weeks, due to personal commitments. He is now working only on Fridays, Saturdays, and Mondays. He lost his key volunteers due to injuries at other locations. The exterior will be finished in three working days. The plumbing is nearly done. Phil is searching for donations on materials for the retaining walls. He is still hoping that Frazee Paint will donate the paint needed. He also needs a drywall contractor to volunteer. Anyone willing to work will be gladly accepted on the days listed above.

For March, door prizes will be donated by Noelle Carranza, Valerie Samson, and Dave Jones. Dessert will be provided by Brandi Farris, Laurie Jones and Jackie Grace.

Judy Becker made a motion to adjourn. Jackie Grace seconded the motion. The motion was carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

NEXT MEETINGS TUESDAY, MARCH 21 and TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 7PM, RESOURCE CENTER

**COUNTY SUPERVISOR DIANNE JACOB
MARCH 21**

Crest Coordinating Committee for Fire Recovery

We have good news! Through the efforts of Dianne Jacob's office and SDG&E we were awarded a grant that will enable us to stay open and operating until the end of July 2006. Thanks to all in the community who sent in donations to support us!

As of February 10 there are 127 houses in Crest that have passed final inspection, and 223 houses in process or under construction. These numbers are from the Crest Fire Department.

Save these Dates: CCA Guest speakers: March 21, 7 PM. Dianne Jacob County Supervisor DIANNE JACOB will be at the Crest Resource Center to speak to the community about current East County issues. If you have specific concerns that need to be addressed please present them in writing. She will be here to support our new Fire Safe Council and give us an update on how other communities are doing in their Fire Safety Programs.

May 16, 7 PM. Gregory Smith, County Tax Assessor will be here to give us a report on our property taxes.

Remember CCA meets on the 3rd Tuesday of every month.

Do you want to be on the CCA email list? Please send your request and email address to: crestcca@yahoo.com If you are a member and are not getting our email notices please give us your new email address at the above address.

**All God's Creatures Great and Small
By Barbara Gates**

I had a most unusual experience with a rat in Crest recently. I showed up to the school to pick up my two kids, and there was a "buzz" about something to do with a "save the rat petition." I

had to ask. Apparently, a very large and scruffy rat had made his way into the lunch area and was content to dine *with* the kids – I'm told he liked the grapes the most. The custodian had confined this visitor and wasn't exactly sure what to do with him – he was friendly; not to mention the kids did have a petition!

Having some limited experience with animal rescue, I put him in a box and took him home. Any time you're faced with such a situation, it's tempting to turn your back because you're just not sure what to do. But I've learned that there is always a solution if you're willing to open your heart and just take it one step at a time. One phone call to *Project Wildlife* (a San Diego wild animal rescue group) and a couple of emails led me to a rescue group for tame "small exotic animals" – rats (and guinea pigs and bunnies, etc). Who knew there was such a thing? When I brought this little guy – now named "Scabbers" to Wee Companions Rescue, they determined he was in fact a domestic, but orphaned rat. I was moved by this organization's commitment to help these often misunderstood, yet sweet creatures – anyone who's ever had one for a pet can tell you how social and smart they are! We hated to give him up, but he wasn't safe in a house full of cats. Wee Companions Rescue will foster him and try to find a caring home.

As a tag to the happy ending of my rat story, I have a short and sweet story about a mouse. As much as I love animals, mice can't live in my house! Using a humane mouse trap, I was able to catch the mouse living under my stove that had eluded my 5 cats. As the kids and I set the little guy free out in the surrounding hills – far from any homes - my son commented, "It sure feels nice to do something nice." It sure does. If you would like to borrow an effective and humane trap, please contact me at: BarbnJimG@aol.com

Below are instructions for building your own "Homemade Humane Mousetrap" that works well for multiple mouse populations.

1. Place dry oatmeal and a dab of peanut butter in a small, plastic wastepaper basket
Set the basket in an area frequented by mice – traps set along the wall are usually more successful than those set out in the open.
2. Lean a flat piece of wood against the rim of the basket (like a ramp), or construct a ladder of books or bricks that the mice must climb to get to the rim of the basket.
3. The mice will jump in for the food but will be unable to climb back up the slippery surface.
4. Once caught, the mice can be safely released outside, and the trap can be reset.

CHECK THE TRAP AS OFTEN AS POSSIBLE to avoid unintended death of mouse.

Remember, the best and most humane way to keep out rodents is to "rodent-proof" your home. There are 3 conditions that promote rodent inhabitation:

- 1) structural deficiencies that provide entry,
- 2) housekeeping practices that provide a place to live (a filthy house) and
- 3) food that is out and available.

For more information on rodent proofing and humane trapping visit:

<http://www.helpingwildlife.com/housemice.asp>