

## *Dillon Beachcomber*

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While we have all enjoyed our extended stretch of beautiful fall weather and wrapping up the last of the outdoor chores here's hoping by the time your read this, rain arrives!

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Those of you who are regular readers of the OMA Board and Design Review minutes (posted on OMA website every month) know there have been ongoing discussions and changes in the works regarding **paint colors** for homes in our area. You should have received the "Pre-Approved Color Palette for Siding and Roofing" memo in the late Nov. mailing outlining the updated list of colors. The basic "browns or grays, or left to weather naturally" remain, with the addition of some new green shades. The new color palette of 'pre approved' colors is based on Dunn Edwards and Kelly Moore colors, although OMA does not require (or recommend) specific brands. To be clear you don't have to limit yourself to pre-approved colors and you may select any brand of paint or stain, but the color must conform to OMA standards for approval. Also note the Design Review Committee has voted to limit exterior paint schemes two (2) colors applied to a house; more than two requires specific approval by the DRC. For all exterior work, including paint, the process remains the same: Submit DRC Appendix 2-B with \$500 refundable deposit and \$300 road fund fee, your contractor's name if applicable, owner signatures, etc. to Sharp Property Services. Then, put a 24" x 24" sample of the color on the actual building you are planning to paint (not a sample board) for DRC to check (available only on weekends) and when you have received the go-ahead, paint away. [Editors note: I found both the Dunn Edwards and Kelly Moore websites clunky and annoying-what seems like the simple task of pulling up color charts is almost impossible. Drive to the paint store and get color chips in person; faster and easier than messing with all their marketing jazz...]

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**Everybody's best friend:** A reminder to residents, part timers and owners of vacation rentals that it is common courtesy to **pick up your dogs droppings** and put them in your garbage. It is also an important public health issue. Just let's be responsible about our dogs. And to remind hikers, again, only OMA members and their guests may use the 10' wide easement to the Estero. Be sure you have an OMA sticker or hang tag on your car before leaving for your hike, and leave Fido or Fluffy home, as no dogs are allowed.

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**Dale Holmes** has been the **Safety Patrol** for Oceana Marin as long as most of us can remember. Over the years, he attempted to handle most everything that was asked, and members became accustomed to him as something of a quasi law enforcement officer. For liability and safety reasons, that aspect of his job with OMA has ended. He continues to be committed to his job as OMA's Safety Patrol in our community, but it is simply to provide **safety** in Oceana Marin in situations where law enforcement or another government agency is not responsible. Criminal behavior means you should call Marin County Sheriff's Department or the CA Highway Patrol. Dale does not corral livestock or remove dead animals—call Animal Control. Nor does he settle disputes between OMA residents. Residents should always try resolving issues with neighbors themselves. Only after personal attempts to solve a problem fail, then filing a formal complaint documenting the issue should be sent Sharp Property Services who will forward the notice to the OMA Board. We are so fortunate Dale remains committed to his position as OMA's Safety Patrol and ensuring the continued safety of the OMA Community.

**Dillon Beach Emergency Response Team** has been busy with their usual drills, and with the assistance of a \$5,000 gift from OMA has completed a third shed, this one between Maui and Kona, to store equipment and supplies for use during any future emergency. This brings OMA's donations to DBERT to \$10,000 in the last two years (found in the OMA Budget materials under Safety/Maintenance Expense line, as is the additional \$1,000 gift to Tomales Volunteer Fire Company <http://www.getreadydb.com> for more information or to volunteer.

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**Lawson's Landing** is still working on their master plan goals to bring the campground into compliance with environmental laws and stay in business. Recently, a swale was graded between the seawall area and some seasonal wetlands, hydro seeded and will soon allow for more camping spots in that area. A good source for news from the campground is to look at their Facebook Page <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Lawsons-Landing>

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OMA members should have received **election materials** and news of the Sat. **January 18 Member Meeting** at Tomales Town Hall, 1pm, social hour to follow. If you have signed up for electronic delivery, you have saved OMA time and money vs. the mailed paper packet. Contact Sharp Property Services to sign up. If you prefer hard copies via US Postal Service, that option is always available to every member.

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If you are a relative newcomer to life at the coast, you might want to investigate the available insurance from the two emergency helicopter companies that serve our area, **REACH** and **CALSTAR**. Without the inexpensive (\$30-\$50 per year per family) insurance, a medical evacuation can cost \$20,000 or more. Also, AAA members with Premier membership can qualify for coverage if flight evacuation becomes necessary if you are more than 100 miles from your home. <http://www.reachair.com> <http://www.calstar.org>

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Many folks with homes built since the 1980's have some number of the ubiquitous **ceiling can lights**. Our house had 36 of them when we bought it, all painted black, in a near fatal case of what we call ceiling acne. If you are as sick of some of yours as we were with ours, there are inexpensive and fun replacements out there you can easily do yourself. The Big Box stores have inexpensive kits with an assortment of shades that allow you to swap out the can trim for a pendant, no tools required! Climb up and unscrew the light bulb, pull down the trim ring of your light, screw in the adapter for the new light where the old bulb was, and you are in business. Lighting supply houses can also get different trim rings to allow larger or different bulbs for either flat or sloped ceilings, and lots of catalogs and/or online merchants have an array of choices. Check out the bling from <http://www.recesslightshade.com> that would be a hoot in a bathroom or ladies office.

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**Help wanted: The Tomales Regional History Center** would love to have some new volunteers to staff the desk on weekends and greet visitors. Call Ginny Magan at 878-9443 for more information or to sign up.