

Dillon Beach Lights
Published by the Oceana Marin Association
Late Spring 2011

Welcome to OMA's effort to improve communication and build community by sharing important or interesting information with each other. This volunteer project is supported by the OMA Board with the intent to publish electronic newsletters via email two or three times a year for interested members. This first edition is being mailed as part of a regular member mailing, but to receive future editions, you must indicate an interest by contacting the Webmaster at OceanaMarin.org with your preferred email address and ask to be included in the distribution. *If you have no access to email, contact **Sharp Property Services** (415) 898-8366 and request a paper/mailed copy.* Members are invited to suggest columns/topics, share good or other news, or additional subjects of interest by contacting the editor, Candy McCorkell. (see below)

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By now you have received the introductory material from our new **Property Management Company**, hired by the Board to handle all the administrative functions that go into running a homeowner association. Some members may recall a previous management company used for a while with mixed success. After utilizing much volunteer effort the last 2+ years to keep the OMA going (a thousand thanks to the Board members, spouses, former board members, several kids, parents and assorted good souls) the Board carefully considered candidates to take over the job, and as of March 1, Sharp Services came on board. They have 20 years of experience, are well versed in the Ca. State requirements which govern homeowner association management and finance, (aka: Davis-Stirling Act) and as a bonus, have also taken over the workings of the **OMA website (see previous paragraph)** Do check out it out for important contact information; Board Members and Sharp Property Services, as well as Board and Design Review Committee Minutes, Agendas and other areas of interest to members. It is also where this newsletter will be posted.

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Depending on your preference, you may want to keep in mind to pencil on your calendar as "Stay Home", "Sign Up", or "Cheer Them On" **Aug. 20**. The 18th annual **Holstein 100** bike ride to benefit West Marin Senior Services begins this year at Petaluma High (due to construction at Tomales High) and continues all day on roads all over Marin and Sonoma County following similar routes as in years past depending on the length of ride chosen.

Recent conversations with **Liza Crosse**, aide to **Supervisor Steve Kinsey Dist. 4 Marin County (West Marin, including Dillon Beach)** about the **Coastal Commission** and **Lawson's Landing**, topics of interest to many in town, yielded the following: A final decision should be made July 13, 14, 15 at the Coastal Commission meeting (Santa Rosa) regarding the proposed plans for a redesigned campground, a new "Lawson's Center" complex, a sewer system, etc. These improvements would be built in phases as time, money and permits allow over several years. Still in play is the Sand Haul Rd. as main access to and from the campground from just past Elephant Rocks to a new gatehouse and entry just beyond the current gate. This would take much traffic off Dillon Beach Road and town streets, and would provide the tsunami and emergency evacuation route that is currently indicated on the maps from **Marin County Office of Emergency Services**. Supervisor Kinsey believes there may be other money available to fund the necessary improvements to create a true evacuation road, not just a green line on a map as it is now. (A new Tsunami Evacuation route sign has recently been installed at the campground end of Sand Haul Rd., which is all well and good, so there's hope to see it paved and open to campground traffic.) The scheduled July Coastal Commission meeting plans to have the matter of Lawson's Landing on the agenda. Check the Coastal Commission website or call 415 904-5200 the first week of July to find out which day.

Much to the benefit of West Marin, Steve Kinsey has been appointed a member of the Coastal Commission, so keep your fingers crossed. His staff has planned for him to attend the OMA Member Meeting July 16 at Tomales Town Hall; come hear what he has to say about this, and other issues relevant to our community.

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Our beloved **Tomales Fire Station** offers a service to those who may need some assistance changing smoke alarm batteries or whose smoke alarm is more than 10 years old. Call 878-2464 during regular business hours and ask them to help you out. This is a free service. If you can afford to purchase your own 9v batteries, that would be helpful but is not necessary.

Unfortunately, various visitors to the coast overused a long-standing service to the community, and Marin Co. fire stations will no longer give a stranded motorist gasoline. They are not licensed to 'sell' gas, so cannot accept money, and were being asked to provide gas for more and more people during a time of budget cuts and service reductions. Remind visitors and renters there is NO GAS at Lawson's Landing since the fuel bunker was removed last year, no gas from the fire department, and the three closest options are Bodega Bay, Point Reyes Station or Petaluma.

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A new community service opportunity has become available. Check out the '**Volunteer Driver Program**' funded by a federal grant to cover \$.35 a mile for driving seniors to medical appointments and on errands through **West Marin Senior Services**. Those in need are encouraged to find their own drivers; volunteers 'work' for a friend and not on call, there are no set hours, and the opportunity to help local seniors in need has become even easier than before. Contact **Chloe Cook**, Volunteer Coordinator at 415 663-8148X114 or chloe@wmss.org.

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You may want to check out some interesting things happening in **Bodega and Valley Ford**. Bodega's well-known surf shop has been named Best in Sonoma County, and along Bodega Highway through town there are new shops and eating possibilities. **Ruby Slippers** has opened in an historic 1854 building with all sorts of wonderful and fun furnishings, housewares, cookbooks and such the owner Rosemary has found on her own treasure hunting expeditions. She also is open to consignment if you have treasures you would like to send on to their next new home. At the **Casino** (not really a casino-a play on the Consini owners' name) a restaurant/bar in the old roadhouse mode, a new chef, Mark Malicki is cooking several nights a week. You may remember the old Saint Rose he ran a few years ago. There are plans to put in a barbecue and do oysters in the summer. In Valley Ford, the **Valley Ford Market** has an expanded deli and meat market (warning-the house made beer & garlic sausages are seriously addicting, as is the smoked salmon), cheese from the **Petaluma Cheese Company**, and grass fed beef, organic produce and eggs from **Valley Ford Farms**. A new place is in the works to open soon in the old **Route One** diner space, **Estero Café** at 14450 Highway One, so we will have something else to explore one of these days.

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Candy McCorkell is a part time resident of Oceana Marin and amateur newsletter editor. Please feel free to offer suggestions, photos, artwork, articles, poetry, or anything else you think might be of general interest to members at kittiesmama@comcast.net or 925 930-9045