



THE LAGUNA GREENS GUARDIAN



Vol. 14, Issue no.6
November/December 2009

The Laguna Greens Guardian is published bi-monthly by the Laguna Greens Neighborhood Watch, Inc.
9570 Castledale Ct.
Elk Grove, CA 95758
Michael Jones: Coordinator
(916) 684-5803
Email: mjones53@comcast.net
Mitch Jang: Co-Coordinator
Teresa Jones: Treasurer/Editor
Colleen Childers: Secretary
John-Joseph Bello: Block Captain
www.lagunagreens.org

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS TO THE ORGANIZATION!

The Laguna Greens Guardian is the official publication of Laguna Greens Neighborhood Watch, Inc.



FALL MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 19, 2009 JEANNIE WOMACK PARK

Michael Jones commenced the meeting at 4:10p.m. In attendance were: Arnel Alimano, Eric Childers, Todd Eberle, Betty Hughes, Mitch Jang, Michael and Teresa Jones, Louaida and Raymond Martin, Reggie Taylor, Dan Walsh, and guest speaker **Denise Costello, Crime Prevention Specialist for Elk Grove Police Department.**



After introductions were made, Michael thanked the new secretary, Colleen Childers. Her husband, Eric, is substituting for her today. Todd motioned to waive the reading of the minutes from the last meeting. Motion was seconded and carried unanimously. Teresa gave the treasurer's report. Ending balance as of August 31, 2009 is \$1,438.97. Michael noted that the \$500 grant CitiBank gave to staff active in communities is no longer

available. We must continue to be more diligent with our budget. Motion to pass the treasurer's report by Mitch Jang. Motion was seconded and carried unanimously. Michael handed out a new brochure on identity theft from the Elk Grove Police Community Service Center. The brochure is informative. Michael reviewed the latest crime statistics published by the Elk Grove PD on their website, www.elkgrovepd.org. Laguna Greens is located in Beat 2, Section 2103. Other than two recent burglaries, our area is quiet relative to other parts of Elk Grove. The most frequent crime reported is larceny, which includes all theft and shoplifting. Denise Costello noted an increase in shoplifting of staples such as diapers and food, domestic violence, and a minor increase in residential burglaries. Economic stress maybe the cause. The Laguna Greens Winterfest is scheduled for December 19, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. There will be a holiday decorations contest judged by Don Nottoli and prizes. The Elk Grove PD presented Laguna Greens with a certificate of appreciation for its participation in the 2009 National Night Out. 2010 will be Laguna Greens' 15th anniversary. Michael asked everyone to think of ideas of how to celebrate. All ideas are subject to approval by the treasurer. The Jeannie Womack Park playground is scheduled to be replaced in February 2010. Denise advised that we should

make our safety concerns known. Denise gave an update on Elk Grove PD's crime prevention activities and distributed new cling stickers and magnets with Elk Grove emergency and non-emergency numbers. The cell phone 911 system is now in place so that 99% of all cell phone 911 calls will be automatically routed to Elk Grove PD's dispatch instead of the Highway Patrol. Calls made from highways 5 or 99 or near those freeways may still go to the Highway Patrol, which is appropriate. Denise announced the Tip Soft program, which allows citizens to report criminal activity by text message and remain anonymous. Sending a text message to CRIMES (274637). Then, type "Tip732" followed by your message. The Tip Soft system is just one of the ways Elk Grove PD is focusing on teens. The Police Activities League (PAL) and the development of a diversion program that would focus on keeping at-risk teens out of the criminal justice system is another program. The Elk Grove nuisance ordinance is an effective tool in getting compliance. Statistics on the number of complaints and citations will be available. Denise learned about a portable wireless infrared surveillance system that could be used to monitor trouble spots and then moved to follow crimes. She is working on creative ways to fund the system. An Elk Grove PD crime analyst reports that in three burglaries, entry has been made by breaking in the front door or side door between 11:00

a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Denise recommends replacing the standard strike plate screws with longer 3" screws to reach the wall stud. It is also important that the dead bolt extend at least 1.5"; to keep the door from the garage to the house locked at all times. Take advantage of the free security survey and vacation check program offered by the Police department. Denise is chairperson of the August 2010 neighborhood watch National Night Out in conjunction with Elk Grove's 10 year anniversary as a city. Any ideas for how to make it special are welcome. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m. Thank you Eric for an excellent job.

ELK GROVE POLICE DEPARTMENT

www.elkgrovepd.org
 Website for "Crime Prevention Tips" and "Online Reporting".

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

| | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Emergency | 911 |
| Emergency cell phone | 714-5111 |
| 24 Hour Non-Emergency | 714-5115 |
| Traffic Issues | 478-8300 |
| POP Officers Sec. | 478-8123 |
| Service Center | 478-8100 |
| Graffiti Hotline | 478-8231 |
| Parking Enforcement | 478-8160 |



WINTERFEST 2009

As mentioned earlier, we will continue our Christmas light decoration contest **Saturday, December 19, 2009 6:30pm.** Start Planning. Let's make this year even more creative, decorative and festive.

Thanks to Andres Negrete, and Bogdan, Boguslav, Radimir Mandzyuk and Lori, Chris, Brea, Becky Murakami for their assistance in distributing newsletters!

INFORMATION FOR DONORS

The Laguna Greens Neighborhood Watch, Inc. is an IRS recognized 501-© (3) tax-exempt not-for-profit charity. All contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. The contributions are used for educational materials, public activities and supplies.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

A Happy New Year!