

# **RIO DEL MAR Improvement Association**

([www.rdmia.org](http://www.rdmia.org))

## **Spring 2016 Update**



## **Full Agenda Awaits You at the RDMIA Spring Meeting at Rio Sands Hotel**

**Wednesday, April 20, 7-9 pm**

Our Semi-Annual RDMIA Spring meetings are always interesting. Beside catching up with your neighbors, this meeting will be unusually full with items specifically important to Rio del Mar residents. These are listed along with the speakers:

- RDMIA 75th Anniversary and "World's Shortest Parade" float entry: Dan Rothenbush
- Safety, crime trends, update on last year's car vandalism: Sgt. Dimick and Sheriff Hart
- June Ballot Library Tax Measure: Library Representative
- Newly approved County "Housing Element" plan and County budget: Zach Friend
- Proposed METRO bus route cutbacks in Rio del Mar: METRO representative

There will be time for questions and answers, sign ups for the RDMIA parade float, and a break to corner your neighbors. We look forward to seeing you there.



One of our goals this year is to increase our Membership in RDMIA. Members help support improving our community. Our current records indicate that less than 10% of the Rio del Mar community is contributing.

We are asking you, our current members, to help recruit new members to join RDMIA. Speaking with your neighbors about it and asking them to join is an excellent way to do it. You'd be surprised how much many of your neighbors would like to join but just never considered it. You can guide them to the [rdmia.org](http://rdmia.org) website and to its membership page as well as the page with past newsletters (in full color). If you prefer paper copies we can provide you membership applications and our latest newsletter. If you/they have specific questions about a neighborhood or issue, we are available to answer them and discuss what the RDMIA has done. Remember, there's a reason we won last year's Organization of the Year Award from the Aptos Chamber of Commerce.

As a bonus we have a raffle for those who recruit new members. When your new recruit includes your name in the "Referred by" section on the membership application, your name will be put in a drawing to win a Dinner-for-Two certificate at Café Rio. The drawing will occur at our October Semiannual Meeting.

E-mail [president@rdmia.com](mailto:president@rdmia.com) or send a letter to P.O. Box 274 Aptos Ca 95001-0274 to request the information be sent to you. Include number of copies and the street, block or addresses you intend to cover. In the area you intend to cover we can also provide a list of street addresses only that are current members of RDMIA.

Lastly, as a reminder, if you have not paid your membership yet, please do so. Membership fees are \$25 annually and can be sent to our PO Box (see address in above) or visit our website and pay through PayPal.

# 2016 Annual Membership Renewal and Information Update

The 2016 Rio del Mar Improvement Association annual dues per household:  
\$25 or \$500 lifetime membership.

Please write your check to RDMIA

Please complete the membership information update below.

Please mail you check and your completed membership update form to:

**RDMIA, P.O. Box 274, Aptos, CA 95001 - 0274**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
First Last

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Rio del Mar Address  
(if different from mailing address) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_ No computer access \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor/Referred By \_\_\_\_\_

Are you willing to receive (and/or print) the RDMIA Newsletter by email to save our mailing and print costs (please circle one): YES NO

\_\_\_ I am interested in becoming a RDMIA Board member

\_\_\_ I want to volunteer or contribute (time, \$, or in-kind) for RDMIA projects! Please call or email me.

Please let us know what you most value about RDMIA (you may check more than one):

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| ___ Controlling graffiti                                       | ___ Providing the RDMIA website                          |
| ___ Information concerning local government plans and actions  | ___ Providing RDMIA Facebook                             |
| ___ Helping to maintain our beaches                            | ___ Outreach and liaison with other local organizations. |
| ___ Landscape improvement and maintenance in public areas      | ___ Opportunities to get to know neighbors               |
| ___ Presenting interesting speakers                            | ___ Transportation/Roads                                 |
| ___ Providing the RDMIA newsletter                             | ___ Semiannual meetings for the general membership       |
| ___ Interfacing with local government about community concerns | ___ Other  |



## Our Float for the 2016 Aptos Annual July 4th “Worlds Shortest Parade”

We want you to help us celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Rio Del Mar Improvement Association. In its honor we, the RDMIA, are entering a float for all to join in Aptos' July 4th "Worlds Shortest Parade". We are asking our members including parents, children, grandparents, and grandchildren to participate. It will be a fun family memory.



A sign-up sheet will be posted at our Semi-annual meeting at the Rio Sands Hotel on April 20th. If you can't make that, e-mail [presidentRDMIA.com](mailto:presidentRDMIA.com) to let us know you will join and support us. Include the member name, street address, e-mail address, phone number, and the number of persons that will participate. We'll send you the five W's of information of who, what, where, when, and why to participate in the parade. Note: the deadline to sign up is June 1st.

In addition, we will have RDMIA Anniversary t-shirts to wear in the parade. The t-shirts will be the same as sold by the Aptos Chamber of Commerce but with the new RDMIA 75th Anniversary logo on the backs. They will be sold at cost. We're not ready to take orders because the costs are not yet known. You can reserve yours when you sign up for the parade or, again, e-mail [presidentRDMIA.com](mailto:presidentRDMIA.com) with your size (child, small, medium, large, and extra large). We're working on the details on how to order/pay at this time, so we'll follow up with you in time.



Part of the National



## Update: Village Aptos... a Developing Network for You!

It's a fact: 38% of Rio del Mar households have one or more adults of age 65 or more. Just as important, the number of residents over 70 years of age in Santa Cruz County is predicted to rise by 35,000 while the number of residents under 70 will not increase at all. Very important to our seniors is the ability to "age in place" in their own homes with the grace and independence we all deserve.

A new concept to support aging in place, "The Village Movement", is being brought to Rio del Mar. For now we call it, Village Aptos, and it is very much in the development stage. The goal of Village Aptos is to create a network of ***Neighbors helping Neighbors*** that embraces and enhances transitions of aging. It aims to provide a social connection, inter-generational interaction, and practical assistance (fixing a fence, install a printer, pick up a prescription, getting a dog walker when one goes to the hospital, etc.) that are best and easiest done at the neighborhood level and are impractical from existing County agencies (we are working with some already) or websites (such as linkAges).

A small group of us met for the first time to discuss what we think our Village should be, at least initially. There are a lot of things to discuss (what do people want, how do we support it, what are the complications, etc.) and it is going to take us several months to work through them. We are trying to understand what works at other successful villages and what doesn't. Who will man the phones? What are the costs?

This is all very new to us and we don't know where it will lead us. We'll keep you updated as we progress.

# Bus Service to Rio del Mar on the Cutting Block



To balance its budget METRO is considering the elimination of all METRO bus service to Rio del Mar, Seascapes, and beyond to La Selva (Routes 54 - 56). Service to Seacliff via Spreckels will be the only route to remain in our area. While, according to METRO, this represents only 10 percent of the ridership on those routes, it is a terrible hardship for those cut off.

We encourage all interested to visit [www.scmetroforward.com/study-documents/](http://www.scmetroforward.com/study-documents/) on the web and choose the "Capitola" option to see the proposed route changes. (While Metro "encourages" comments on the proposed routes, their "comment" link is cumbersome to use.) For information and discussion, there is a METRO event:

What: METRO Aptos Open House (Cayla Hill, 420-2581)

When: Monday, May 2nd, 3pm - 8pm

Where: Community Foundation (across from Safeway at the traffic light)  
7807 Soquel Dr.

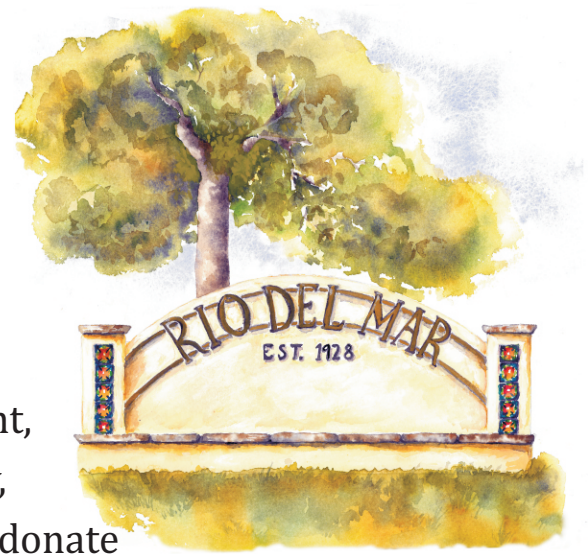
## Looking for Volunteers

We are in need of help. Areas of need include website design and maintenance and periodic landscape support (weeding and watering). Contact [carey\\_pico@yahoo.com](mailto:carey_pico@yahoo.com) if interested.

# The Gift that Keeps on Giving

*(and going green as well)*

If you like your new entry Rio del Mar sign lit up at night, there is reason to like it even more. The solar company, Allterra, that generously installed the sign lighting will donate \$500 to the RDMIA each time a new customer refers to the Rio del Mar sign when purchasing a new solar panel installation.



It's good to go green and local. Thanks Allterra!

## **We keep getting asked... when are my dues due?**

*Answer: Now.*

You are not alone if you have no idea when to pay your dues... or if you keep forgetting to do so.

In short, your \$25 annual dues cover January 1 through December 31 of each year... 2016 if you need to be reminded. If you've forgotten or delayed until your notice, your wait is over. Now is the time to send in your dues (see membership form inside). And don't worry about feeling the year's started already. Your dues support RDMIA's ongoing expenses for landscape maintenance, beautification projects, the July 4th Parade, and a thousand other things no one ever sees we do.

So please, send those dues in. And if you haven't joined, there is no better time than the present.

# Unwelcomed Fraud Advice

*IRS Collection  
Policeman's Association  
Fireman's Fund  
Credit Receivership*



Yesterday I received a call from the “Internal Revenue Service” stating they were about to collect back taxes from me and wanted to “help me” fix the problem. I took their information (name and number) and hung up immediately. Either the call was a legitimate call or it was a scam. How can one tell? You can’t. But never give them any information, personal or otherwise, to the caller or the number given.

Instead, **always** independently find that agency’s phone number using billing statements, saved web browser bookmarks, a Google search (the IRS was easy to find). or call the Sheriff’s office for advice. Don’t use e-mail as fake addresses are plentiful. Then call that number to address the issue, making sure it’s legitimate. For example, recently Bay Federal called to alert me of a debit card issue. I hung up. Then I called Bay Fed directly using a local number from their website. Bay Federal appreciated I took the care to call them directly and not fall potential victim to an agency posing as them. And I did work through the issue (stolen card number). But I could have been a bigger victim had I not followed the process of hang up, find number, then call.

Other common scams are calls for donations to Police or Firemen. I had always assumed they were legitimate until one day I asked a Fire Chief. He said they never would call for donations. Lesson learned. If you can’t find them, odds are they don’t exist.



## Save Our Shores (SOS)

The Rio Del Mar Improvement Association and Save Our Shores wants you to join us and your neighbors in a beach clean up!! School children may receive community service credit (brings forms to be signed).

The dates (so far) for 2016 are:

April 6 (Wednesday)

July 5 (Tuesday)

Oct. 15 (Saturday)

Please meet us at the Hidden Beach Park picnic tables at 9 a.m. to pickup beach cleanup supplies and sign the waiver of responsibility (available at the picnic table). The clean up takes about one hour and is very much appreciated. (Note: cancelled in the event of rain). Thank you for helping to keep our beaches clean, neighborhood friendly, and saving wildlife!!!

Questions? Contact Fay Levinson: [fayjoe1@yahoo.com](mailto:fayjoe1@yahoo.com) ,

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# RIO DEL MAR

IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

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**Directors:**

Fay Levinson

Carey Pico

Will Sutter

Jerry Cannella

**Secretary:**

Carey Pico

## Upcoming Events

**Can't Miss: Rio Del Mar Improvement Association  
Semi-Annual Meeting: Rio Sands Hotel**

Wednesday, April 20, 7-9 pm

## Save Our Shores Beach Clean Up Dates

2016: 9 am (Hidden Beach Park)

Wednesday, April 6

Tuesday, July 5

Saturday, October 15

## PVUSD No School Days

May 30 (Mon.) Memorial Day