

**SUMMER
ISSUE
2010**
Volume 2, Issue 4



The Antler

By and for the community of Deerhorn Valley

PO Box 862, Jamul, CA 91935

Email: TheAntler@DeerhornValley.net

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NEW: ONLINE SIGNUP

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Help Us Keep *The Antler* Coming Your Way.

Didn't receive the last (Spring) *Antler*? Then you're not on our *Antler* eMail List! We ran into a major USPS glitch and were only able to send the last issue out digitally by email.

We want to make *The Antler* as available as possible. Email allows us to print more (color) pages, include more photos, publish more frequently, and save \$1600/year in printing, postage, and fees! But— we don't want to miss those of you who do not have an email address, or would just prefer to read something you can hold in your hands.

If you'd like to receive *The Antler* by mail, we'll send it to you First Class. All we ask is that you help with the mailing and printing costs by contributing \$5. (That really is enough to pay the costs for a year :-D) ...We'll make sure you get every issue.

SIGN UP ONLINE FOR e-DELIVERY

www.deerhornvalley.net/antlersignup.html

REQUEST A PRINTED *ANTLER*

(Delivered by 1st Class MAIL!)

~\$5 will cover printing & postage~

(checks to "DV Community Assoc.")



Mail to **THE ANTLER**

c/o DEERHORN VALLEY COMMUNITY ASSOC.

PO BOX 862, JAMUL, CA 91935

MISSING A RECENT ISSUE OF *THE ANTLER* ?

Download current and past issues from:

www.deerhornvalley.net/antler.html



A future project is to scan and upload archived copies of *The Antler* and earlier DV newsletters— back to 1980's and beyond. Have scanner, need help! Contact Kim or Ariele:

TheAntler@deerhornvalley.net

WWW.DEERHORNVALLEY.NET

VOTING... DEERHORN VALLEY STYLE



DEERHORN...
by the NUMBERS

June 8, 2010

#563300

Precinct Number

621

Registered Voters

96

Mailed in Ballots

123

Votes cast at the polls

35%

Turnout

If you missed going down to Fire Station #37 (Precinct 563300!) on June 8th, then you missed a real happening.

Voting in Deerhorn Valley is something pretty special. Where else do you find the precinct staff (all DV'ers) wearing their voting day best: matching t-shirts. (Rumor has it that they may even be sporting a *new* look come November!)

Under the leadership of Precinct Inspector, **Sandra Ignosci**, the Deerhorn Team creates a non-partisan, welcoming atmosphere. Assistants **Susie Norton** (bilingual services) and **Sarah Evosevich** (touch-screen inspector) contribute not only their skills, but their smiles as well.

"We are so grateful to CalFire for allowing us to use our fire station," says Sandra. Surprisingly, our neighbor, Dulzura, has no place where they can vote in person, and everyone is simply sent a mail-in ballot. Convenient— yes.



Voting at the Deerhorn Fire Station...
Sandra Ignosci, Sarah Evosevich, Susie Norton,
and Firefighters Eric and Lars Sandvig

Fun... well, they sure miss out on the high-fives and meeting up with friends and neighbors. No political talk... just hugs, hi's, and smiles all around.

First-time voters in DV are royally celebrated with cheers, applause, and (maybe) a desktop drum roll. I'm sure *that* is a never-to-be-forgotten voting experience.

Sandra says, "I love all the people

coming in. I've watched children grow up. Now they're in elementary school. Friends come in and talk horses... People stop and say thank you. When **Emily Bennett** comes in, it's like a ray of sunshine. Those things make it all work."

The day began at 5:30 am for the precinct staff. After polls closed at 8:00 pm, ballots had to be counted and delivered to Jamul by 9:30. Count the hours... it was a LONG day!

Our local firefighters, **Lars Sandvig** and **Eric Sandvig** were up early to lend a hand. Thanks, guys!

Coral Thuett and **Horst Leuschner** worked the polls in Indian Springs and spread a bit of Deerhorn spirit to our down-hill neighbors.

A big "thank you" to all of our Voting Team and Voters. You are a wonderful example of all that is right in Deerhorn Valley.
-KH

SPECIAL WILDFIRE SECTION from THE ANTLER... TO CLIP & POST... ✂

This information was compiled from *Ready, Set, Go!* and *Cal Fire Evacuation Tips*.

WILDFIRE EVACUATION TIPS

GET READY...

LONG BEFORE FIRE THREATENS...

- Register your cell phone, email address, and VoIP phone for Reverse 911 calls (all landlines are automatically included): READYSDIEGO.ORG

...Prepare an Evacuation Checklist and Organize:

- Critical medications, glasses, contact lenses.
- Important personal papers and photos.
- Insurance papers and contact person/phone#s.
- Essential valuables.
- Fire survival kit: battery-powered radio, spare batteries, emergency contact numbers, ample drinking water, etc.
- Pet and livestock transport, limited amount of pet food.
- Change of clothing, toiletries.
- Cell phone and **charger**.
- Critical papers and effects in a fireproof safe.
- Evacuation Map with at least two routes.*

*During an evacuation law enforcement/ emergency personnel may determine your route. Follow their instructions.

GET SET...

- Locate your Evacuation Checklist** and place the items in your vehicle.
- Park your vehicle facing outward and **carry your car keys with you**.
- Alert family and neighbors
- Move flammable furniture to the center of the room, away from windows and doors.
- Remove flammable window shades and curtains and close metal shutters.
- Gather up flammable items from the exterior of the house and bring them inside (e.g., patio furniture, children's toys, doormats, etc.) or place them in your pool.
- Turn off propane tanks.
- Have a ladder available and visible for firefighters
- Shut off the air conditioning.
- Locate your pets and keep them nearby.
- Prepare farm animals for transport.
- Place connected garden hoses and buckets full of water around the house.
- Don't leave sprinklers on or water running - they can waste critical water pressure.
- Move propane BBQ appliances away from structures.
- Cover-up. Wear long pants, long sleeve shirt, heavy shoes/boots, cap, dry bandana for face cover, goggles or glasses. 100% cotton is preferable.
- Leave windows closed.

GO!

IF YOU BECOME TRAPPED...

...While in your vehicle:

- Park your vehicle in an area clear of vegetation.
- Close all vehicle windows and vents.
- Cover yourself with wool blanket or jacket.
- Lie on vehicle floor.
- Use your cell phone to advise officials – Call 911.

...While on foot:

- Go to an area clear of vegetation, a ditch or depression if possible.
- Lie face down; cover up.
- Use your cell phone to advise officials - Call 911.

...While in your home:

- Stay calm; keep your family together.
- Wear long sleeves and long pants made of natural fibers such as cotton.
- Call 911 and inform authorities of your location.
- Fill sinks and tubs with cold water.
- Patrol inside your home for spot fires and extinguish them.
- Keep doors and windows closed, but unlocked.
- Stay inside your house. Stay hydrated.
- Stay away from outside walls and windows. *It will get hot in the house, but it is 4-5 times hotter outside.*

AFTER THE FIRE HAS PASSED:

- Check your roof for smoldering or embers.
- Check inside the attic for hidden embers.
- Patrol your property and extinguish small fires, sparks or embers.
- If there are fires that you cannot extinguish with a small amount of water or in a short period of time, call 911.

HELPFUL NUMBERS & LINKS

Ready,Set,Go! Wildfire Action Plan (LA County publication)
www.deerhornvalley.net/ReadySetGo.pdf

Wildfire... Are You Prepared? FEMA Publication
www.deerhornvalley.net/FEMAWildfireList.pdf

Fire Station #37 (Deerhorn Valley): (619) 468-3030

SD Sheriff (non-emergency dispatch):
www.sdsheeriff.net (858) 565-5200

Reverse 911 cell phone/email registry: www.ReadySanDiego.org

SD Rural Fire Protection District:
www.sdruralfire.org (619) 669-1188

East County Emergency Alerts Signup: www.EastCountyMagazine.org

San Diego County Emergency Homepage:
<http://www.sdcountyemergency.com/>

Live Lyons Peak cameras (updated every 2 minutes):
<http://hpwren.ucsd.edu/cameras/LyonsPeak.html>

CAL FIRE (wildfire safety, red flag warnings, fire status):
<http://www.fire.ca.gov/>

UNTIL YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH IT... *By Dan & Marge Connors*

Dan and Marge Connors lost their home in the Harris Fire. They share their story 32 months later:

What does it feel like to lose your home? Surprisingly, it wasn't as bad as we would have thought. Our home was a 6" high pile of ashes. There was not much point in looking for stuff, as it had been vaporized. While we did have a few sick-to-the-stomach moments about stuff we would never see again, there is absolutely nothing to be done about it--so you must move on. It's just stuff! You will have lots of money to buy more stuff. Memories are in your head.

Our relatives from Michigan all offered to come out and help us sift through the ashes. But we found the sifting of ashes to be personal and fatiguing; too depressing to involve others. We did find something that we highly recommend: we got remarried. We rented an inn for a weekend, gave everyone five months notice, asked for their help, and had a wedding ceremony with tuxedos, bridesmaids, and a registry. The event distracted us from the constant pressure of rebuilding, and we got big hugs and new dishes.



Marge & Dan Connors... Re-started and re-wed.

Best advice we heard from the Cedar Fire survivors (thanks, guys!): Never love anything that can't love you back.

Until you've been through it, you will likely not understand all the intricacies of your homeowner's insurance. For us, it resolved to this: every reimbursement was related to the amount of dwelling coverage: contents, unattached structures (which includes your wellhead), damaged

trees, debris removal. If you have two homes on your property, but only one policy, your second home's maximum coverage is most likely a percentage of the main home (ours was 15%). If your second home is worth more than that, get a separate policy.

Be sure your insurance policy is for replacement, not depreciated value. The smartest thing we did was to take digital photos of our entire house every few months: every wall, drawer, cabinet and closet. The insurance company will meticulously price everything. We actually dumped about 200 pictures to a flash drive and gave the flash drive to our insurance adjuster. For \$15, it was money well spent.

The second smartest thing was to scan our photos and slides. They were not lost. Now we keep the backup drive in our vehicle ready to go.

Your homeowner's policy may cover living expenses if you are asked to evacuate (even if your home is unaffected) - check on this while you are making your "Ready" plans.

The rules for what the insurance company will reimburse for living expenses seem to be somewhat vague and vary by company. You are dealing with a maximum amount of money, and when it's gone, you are on your own. Start saving all receipts immediately. From talking to others we think the average time to get back into your new house will be about 21 months; plan your living expenses so you don't run out of money.

We were aware of a lot of people who did not have enough insurance. Just remember that you're purchasing a product and you, not the insurance company, set the insured amount.

After we rebuilt, we spent a lot of time trying to figure out how to do it right. Here is some of what we discovered:

The County is going to make you follow their rules, which are based on actively fighting inside structure fires and passively resisting outside fires. As the fire approaches, chances are real slim you will have electrical power or landline phone. Sprinkling your house with water isn't likely to work unless you are on a gravity-feed water system higher than your house. The generator

won't work because there will be insufficient oxygen to support internal combustion. Driving off at the last second isn't going to happen because your car engine will not work either. Frozen stuff will last for 36 hours in a closed refrigerator/freezer with no power, but then has to be thrown away. Your insurance company will probably reimburse you for the food, but not for the generator to keep it from spoiling. We ended up purchasing no special equipment. If our power goes off, we head for the big city for dinner.

We met some new folks to the area at the *Ready, Set, Go!* briefing (thanks, Chief!) who seemed scared about wildfires. The chances of getting injured or killed from a wildfire are pretty slim— if you take responsibility for yourself and don't do anything stupid. To put it in perspective, if there is a huge wildfire heading towards Deerhorn Valley, it might be a great time to renew your memories of Disneyland, or Las Vegas, or Palm Springs. You don't have to stay here and have a nervous breakdown. It is out of your hands. Go somewhere else. Come back when it is safe.

We were here during the Cedar and Harris fires. During the Cedar fire, we were in our home for five days— without power, air conditioning, smoke everywhere, and very poor news coverage. During the Harris fire, we were asked to evacuate and left for a week. It was both much safer and much less nerve racking to just go.

The bottom line is this: do what you can now to be ready to leave, such as defensible space, fire-resistant structures, records and the like set aside, photos on a hard drive, and hard drive in your vehicle. Then if a fire pops up, just leave-- before everyone else leaves-- it gets crowded at Disneyland! Trust the experts; if you're asked to evacuate you will not be thinking clearly enough to follow a list you can't find. During our evacuation, we were too shaken to remember where we put the list, and only had 20 minutes notice. If there is a mandatory evacuation, leave with the idea in mind that you may never see your things again. A list will ease the pain--practicing using it will make it more likely that you can find it.

DEERHORN DIRECTORY ~ LAST CHANCE! (Really!)

Assembling our post-fire Deerhorn Directory has been (and still is!) quite a job. The Harris Fire brought so many changes, and often we find we have lost contact with many who lost homes and are living elsewhere. If you are in touch with former neighbors, please let them know we'd like them to receive the Antler, or have the option of being listed in The Directory.

Here are our two last efforts to include as many residents (past and present) as wish to be listed:



OPTION #1: MAIL THE DIRECTORY FORM

Use the pre-addressed envelope we enclosed (thank you for adding the postage!) *If you already did this, there is no need to send it again, unless you wish to update your information.*



OPTION #2: SUBMIT ONLINE:

<http://www.deerhornvalley.net/onlinedirectoryf.html>

SAMPLE DIRECTORY LISTINGS



YOU choose the information you want to list.
No extra charge!

THE MAXIMUM DIRECTORY LISTING INCLUDES :

- Name
- Phone(s)
- Mailing Address
- Street Address
- Email(s)
- Ranch Name
- Occupation/Business/Group Affiliation (space permitting)

THE MINIMUM DIRECTORY LISTING INCLUDES:

- Your Name And A Phone Number, Mailing Address, or Email

YOU TELL US HOW YOU WANT TO BE LISTED!

EMERGENCY LIST INFORMATION: If you wish to include special information for emergency responders, use the back of the form, or the special box online: persons who may have difficulties evacuating, medical situations, elderly, etc. This information will be passed along to our Fire Station emergency responders.

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>DOE, JOHN AND JANE 12345 Honey Springs Rd. PO Box 123, Jamul, CA 91935</p> <p style="text-align: right;">468-XXXX 858-XXX-XXXX janedoe@abc.net</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>"LAID BACK ACRES"</i></p> <p>ABC Electric, DVCA, Ham Radio</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Keep on truckin'"</i></p> | <p>DOE, JOHN and SMITH, JANE 12345 Honey Springs Rd. "RANCHO PALOMA"</p> <p>DOE, JOHN johndoe@abc.net</p> <p>SMITH, JANE PO Box 123, Jamul, CA 91935 468-XXXX</p> |
|---|--|

DEERHORN VALLEY BUSINESSES & CLASSIFIED

JAMUL & BEYOND...

BEACON HILL LLAMA FARM

Dr. Ruth Baak www.llamajeans.com
Visitors Welcome – Call for Appt .
(619) 468-3074 ~ (760) 715-6644



ALL STAR COMPUTERS

Web Design, PC & Laptop Repair – Tutoring
(619) 468-3118
info@allstarcomps.com

MARY KAY COSMETICS

Ariele Johannson, Ind. Consultant
(619) 468-3327 (619) 916-7634
www.marykay.com/arielej

1 OF A KIND WREATHS 4 YOU

Seasonal~ Special Events~ Birthdays
(619) 820-6881 – (Mother Grundy)
mountngrl@wildblue.net

SPURGEON WELL & PUMP

Mike Spurgeon, Owner
Honey Springs Road
(619) 248-1787



DUBÉ VINEYARDS

2516 Honey Springs Road Tel/Fax: (619) 468-0030
info@dubevineyards.com



BARRICADE FIRE-BLOCKING GEL

Tom Lamb, Distributor
(619) 463-8408 (619) 985-0178 (cell)
Tom@FireGelSystems.net

BLIND JUSTICE

Home Inspections, Tree Removal & Chimney Service
(Mother Grundy)
(619) 820-4188 Bjustice4u@gmail.com

CLASSIFIEDS

STEELE CANYON HS RIDE-SHARE? Do your students attend Steele Canyon HS? Are you interested in ride sharing from Deerhorn Valley?

DEERHORN VALLEY COMMUNITY YARD SALE? Would you like to take part in a big DV Yard Sale this Summer?

For these posts, please contact Anne Evosevich:
aevosevich@wildblue.net or (619) 466-7415

J&L WATER TRUCKIN'

(619) 669-3888



Joe Jeffers Larry Baldwin
(619) 733-3388 (619) 807-8701
\$95 for 2500 gallons

REAL ESTATE RESULTS



(619) 669-6622

Vicki Beers ~ Marcia Spurgeon
(619) 733-3388 (619) 807-870

Classified ads for businesses located in Deerhorn Valley are free as space permits. For other local businesses the cost is \$25 per issue.

Contact Kim or Ariele:

theantler@deerhornvalley.net or 468-3218
*Ads and contributions help cover our costs.
Thanks!*