

THE MARINVIEW

The Marinview Community Association Newsletter - Spring 2025

Your Home, Your Community | We Are Stronger Together

Activate Your Membership TODAY

**Fire Mitigation, Heavy Brush Clearing, Fire Safety, and Evacuation Planning,
and Social Outreach**

Board Members: Elias Olson (President), Fred Stemmier (Treasurer), Greg Tranah (Secretary), Tim Požar (Newsletter), Bernard Catalinotto, Leonel Figueredo, Shana Katzman, and Ray Rosen

www.marinview.org

The President's Message

Spring brings tall grass, increased fire danger, and thankfully, the goats, our friends in our continuing fire mitigation efforts.

As most of you know, Marinview has been rated a Firewise community by Firewise USA®, a recognition program administered by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), for the past 16 years.

This rating affords residents a **POTENTIAL DISCOUNT on HOMEOWNER'S INSURANCE**. Check with your insurance carrier to see if they offer it.

It is important that we all pay our annual dues to support our continuing efforts to provide an increasingly safe community.

Your dues go toward paying for:

- The annual appearance of the goats to clear our flammable vegetation.
- Services contracted by your association to provide ongoing fuel reduction and safety in our beautiful community.
- Upkeep of the Marinview entrance

An envelope is enclosed for your convenience to pay your dues.

You can also pay through PayPal at Marinview94941@gmail.com. If using PayPal, please include your street address and email address.

When you submit your dues, please include your email address. We need your email address to notify you of emergencies and to send you occasional community-relevant news. Rest assured, your email address will not be distributed and will be used strictly for selected essential communications related to Marinview.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact me at: mvca@marinview.org

Treasurer's Report

I'm happy to report that things are still running smoothly on the MVCA financial front. We maintain a strong financial position with adequate reserves for our planned budget in the coming year. As mentioned in the previous newsletter, we hired Teri Wayne as our part-time bookkeeper to assist with record-keeping and administrative support. This has proven a great decision, allowing us to maintain accurate financials and timely reporting.

We want to acknowledge the recent retirement of our long-time landscaper, Steve Eardmann. Steve has dedicated years to keeping our community entrance beautiful, and we're incredibly grateful for his hard work and vision. We wish him and his wife all the best in their well-deserved retirement! With Steve's retirement, we replaced much of the aged irrigation lines and systems and are working with Arturo Ramirez and his team for our ongoing upkeep and plant management. Several

plants are reaching the end of their natural cycles and will be replaced with reserves saved in our accounts this spring. Welcome aboard, Arturo and team, and watch our garden as it evolves!

Thank you for your continued support of the Marinview Community Association!

Fire Report

First, we thank the MarinView residents who support the MarinView Community Association (MVCA) through annual dues.

Fire mitigation is one of the MVCA Board's primary focuses, and a good portion of your dues is spent on it. These efforts and expenses include the annual "goat" visit, landscape maintenance, and heavy brush clearing.

These efforts also include active participation with FireSafe Marin in their activities and the establishment of positive working relationships with the representatives of the government agencies that manage the open spaces in and around MarinView, including the US Park Service (GGNRA), Marin County, the Tamalpais Community Services District (TCSD), and the Southern Marin Fire Department (SMFD). Because of these relationships and in recognition of our efforts to create and maintain a safe community, we have been the beneficiaries of both financial and material (SMFD) support from these entities.

Still, these efforts have not prevented some insurers from canceling policies in our community.

If you are unfortunate enough to receive a policy cancellation notice, ask your insurer what changes they would require you to make to reinsure you. After presenting my insurer with all of the "home hardening" steps I had taken, I was advised that they

would only reconsider reinsuring me if I reside my house with "Hardie-board" type material.

Fortunately, as a veteran, I was able to get insurance from USAA. Their rates and coverage were comparable to what I had with Travelers. In the process, I discovered that family members and past and present federal government employees may also be insurable through them.

If you also encounter challenges at insurance renewal time, please email the Board with any information you glean from your insurer and solutions you may find so that we can distribute helpful information to other community members.

One additional resource for insurance concerns is Fire Safe Marin.
<https://firesafemarin.org>

Leonel Figuered, Chair, Architectural Committee

The Goats are Here.

As usual, our hairy friends have returned to Marinview. Just about everything is anticipated to be the same as in recent years: same starting point, route, and ending point; likely no guard dog but the herder will continue to have his two, small herding dogs; the herder's trailer will again be parked on the sewer berm above Tam Elementary's parking lot – for his privacy, please avoid taking that route to school for the few weeks the goats are in town; and, lastly, as always, please be mindful of the slightly electrified fencing used to corral the goats and keep a close eye on children and pets, particularly dogs.

The last few years, we've instructed the herder to run the paddock fence as close as possible to homes, *but* things like topography and plantings may constrain his ability. Also, if you have sensitive plants, trees, landscaping, etc. that you do NOT

want the goats to disturb (because they will), please let Marinview Goat Master Jim Burns know – (415) 272-8258. You can also let Jim know if you have any concerns or questions you would like passed along to the herder or manager.

Preparing Yourself and Your Home for Wildfire.

Fire Safe Marin is an excellent source of information for preparing yourself and your home for wildfire:

<https://firesafemarin.org>

Here we provide specific recommendations from Fire Safe Marin for home vent and gutter safety. Please visit the website above for more valuable information on home hardening.

Vent Safety Recommendations from Fire Safe Marin:

- Where possible, use manufactured and California-approved vents to retrofit existing attic, soffit, basement, foundation, and gable vents.
- Alternatively, cover all existing vent openings with 1/8-inch or 1/16-inch wire mesh.
- Standard 1/4" screens are ineffective and should be replaced or retrofitted.
- Do not use fiberglass or plastic mesh because they can melt and burn.
- Protect vents in eaves or cornices with baffles to block embers, backed by 1/16" wire mesh (mesh alone is insufficient).

Visit the Fire Safe Marin website for product recommendations:

firesafemarin.org/harden-your-home/fire-resistant-vents/

Gutter Safety Recommendations from Fire Safe Marin:

- Regular clearing is necessary to reduce fire risk.

- Repair decayed roof deck boards in overhanging eaves.
- Metal gutters are recommended over plastic gutters in fire hazard areas.
- Gutter guards or covers are recommended to reduce leaves and debris buildup.
- Gutter guards do not eliminate the need to clear and maintain gutters.
- Regardless of the cover style, all gutters must be free of leaves, needles, and vegetation.
- Like the rest of your roof, you may need to clean it more often during the summer if you live where leaves, needles, and debris will likely fall onto it.

Fire Safe Marin strongly discourages using foam insert gutter guard materials, even if the manufacturer claims they are fire-resistant.

Visit the Fire Safe Marin website for gutter recommendations:

<https://firesafemarin.org/harden-your-home/fire-resistant-gutters/>

MarinView Community Association on Nextdoor

All MarinView residents and homeowners should subscribe to the Nextdoor Tam Valley MarinView Community Association (MVCA) subgroup. This is the platform used to notify MVCA residents of official notices from the Association, which will include Emergency Alerts, Board Meetings, the Newsletter, PSAs, and any other information that the Association may deem of value to our community.

To join the MVCA subgroup, you can scan the QR code below or ...



Go to:

https://nextdoor.com/g/f5rg25kvn/?is=groups_section_rhr and click "Request to Join." You must be a resident of MarinView to be included.

Upcoming Events

By the time you get this, we will have had our board meeting on May 13th. The next Marinview Board meeting is July 8th, at 7 PM. The public is welcome. Please contact us at marinview94941@gmail.com for the Zoom link.

Membership Dues

If you have not paid your 2025 Marinview Community Association dues, please send your \$125 payment at your earliest convenience using the enclosed envelope to:

Teri Wayne
Teri Wayne & Associates LLC
749 Sun Lane
Novato, CA 9494

or via PayPal at

marinview94941@gmail.com. Checks should be made out to Marinview Community Association. **If you use PayPal, it's crucial to include name and address information to track members in good standing.** You can check your status by visiting <https://marinview.org/wp/dues-status>

Please fill out your email address in the form below.



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2025 Annual Membership Dues – Marinview Community Association \$125 per Single-Family Residence; PayPal: marinview94941@gmail.com

Name(s) _____ Amt. enclosed: \$ _____

Address _____

Email 1 _____ Email 2 _____

Phone 1 _____ Phone 2 _____

Preferred Method of Contact in Emergency (circle all that apply): Text/Email/Phone/Nextdoor

Suggestions for the Marinview Board meetings/comments email: marinview94941@gmail.com