



0000H, so
good!

HOWLINGS

FROM LOBO

HOME BEGINS AT THE CORNER OF KANAN AND LOBO

JAY CORDELL

A Quarterly Newsletter, when we are lucky

SPRING 2009

CHEER AND JEERS

CHEERS to Victoria Ann Willig of Stelle Middle School in the Las Virgenes Unified School District; who was awarded **Teacher of the year**. She also was runner up in the state competition. Don't you love celebrity in the canyon. A big congratulations.

CHEERS to Randy Bilsland for negotiating the Miller corner plan which will start construction shortly. See the graphic plan at www.triunfolobo.org

CHEERS to Debbie Virin who walks the Canyons every morning and picks up trash along the way. She deserves 3 CHEERS, RA, RA, RA!

CHEERS to Kris Cordell Plusko for setting up a Community group to post relevant news, services wanted and other bits if news. Sign up and use this as a way to reach your neighbors <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=73798695711>

JEERS to the unsightly posting of services on posts, trees and stuffed in mailboxes. Postings should be posted on the site above or by email to: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=73798695711>

JEERS to all of those who speed in our canyons.

UNKEPT PROMISE.

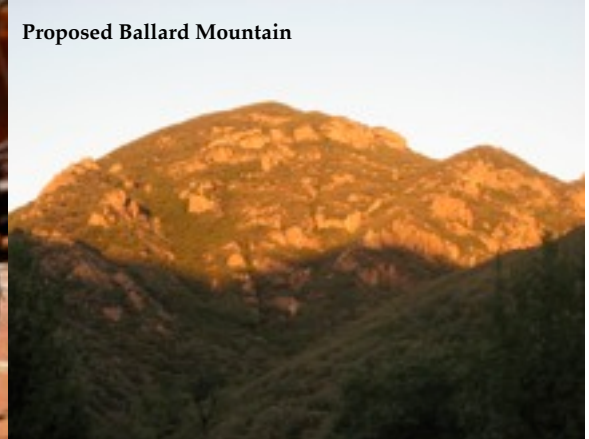
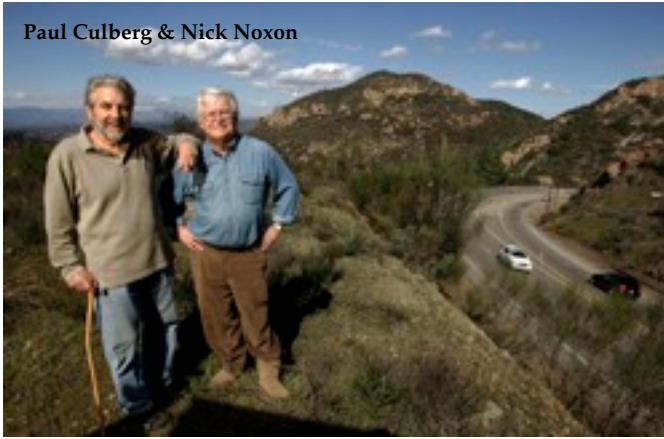
As editor of Howlings I had decided that I would stay away from traffic issues for I found that for every single newsletter since 1992 I have railed against the speeding and parking and irresponsible driving in the canyons. Your association has, over the years had traffic studies, posted speed limits and even lobbied and received radar status with the CHP. I cannot keep that promise for I have had numerous calls and conversations about just those issues with only one addition.

1. Parking continues to be an issue when the parked cars are not off the roadway but protrude into the street.
2. Garbage cans should be brought in from the street on the evening post pickup. Too many of us have a tendency to leave them in the street for days at a time. All they do is further constrict the already narrow roadway.

Promise continued next page

1. Speeding is an ongoing and maddening continuum. Despite our blaming the migrant laborers, the fact remains that we residents are even more guilty. Several of the most offended have taken it into their own hands and have been calling the CHP to schedule radar for the canyons. The last time, a board member was actually ticketed. This is one expense that can be avoided in these difficult financial times.

RECOGNIZE THIS MOUNTAIN?



MOUNTAIN IN THE NEWS

On March 4, 2009 The Los Angeles Board of Supervisors adopted a motion brought by Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky to rename a prominent and for much of the canyon, dominating mountain, from it's current name "Negro Head Mountain, to Ballard Mountain. Actually the original name, which the news services refused to print was "Nigger Head Mountain" a despicable racial epithet. For the whole story:

<http://www.theacorn.com/news/2009/0305/community/026.html>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Any and all interested in running for a TLC board position please notify Kevin Foley, recording secretary.

Kevin@foleyphoto.com

The election will be held at the June annual meeting.

Board of Directors

- Paul Culberg-President Howlings@lobocreek.com
- Randy Bilisland Treas bmcontractorsinc@sbcglobal.net
- Michael Frawley -VP mlfmlfmlf@aol.com
- Yosef Rosen Secretary yos@shiny mind.com
- Kevin Foley Recoring Secy Kevin@foleyphoto.com
- Chris Willig ewaterm@earthlink.net
- Shyam Reyes Webmaster srreyes@gte.net

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ NEEDED NOW!!!

A very large thank you to all who have pledged a contribution to the beautification of the corner at Lobo and Triunfo. Actual construction will begin April and it is time to send your in pledge. Please send or give it to any of your board members and or Mail to:

Paul Culberg
32063 Lobo Canyon Rd
Agoura 91301



UUGGHH- this will be beautiful

SPRING CLEANING

When you look at your garage this spring, there is much to be disposed of so here is how to get rid of that stuff. George Carlin had another word for that “s_____”!

WHERE TO GET RID OF STUFF

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE: DISPOSE of HHW where it was purchased or at a local round-up. Call 888-CLEANLA (888-253-2652) or check out www.ladpw.org/epd/hhw/schedule.cfm for schedule of round-ups.

APPLIANCES: Major appliance Recycling Service, 800 960 2125 or www.marsventura.com/appliance.htm There is a fee.

Computers; Goodwill Industries, 323 223 1211 or www.goodwillsocal.org

No pickup;

Los Angeles Department of Public Works collection event (also accepts cellphones, TVs, and printer cartridges, 888 clean la or <http://ladpw.org> (no Pick up

1800 got-junk?, www.1800gotjunk.com; SoCal Computer recycling collection events (free) or pick up (fee) 310 626 8180, or www.socalrecyclers.com; also takes radios and other electronics.

General Household goods; Salvation Army, 800 95 truck or www.satruck.com;

Society of St Vincent de Paul, 323 224 6280, or www.svdpla.org

Tires; Los Angeles Department of Public Works waste and tire collection events held periodically, <http://lapdw.org> (no pickup)

Tools and Building items; Habitat for humanity outlets called ReStores, www.habitat.org/env/restores.html (no pickup)

Also watch for periodic collection events sponsored by your city or county.

THE PESTS OF THE CALIFORNIA SYCAMORE

The California sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*) is the iconic tree of Lobo Canyon. People come from all over the area to photograph our sycamores. I have found photos of Lobo Canyon sycamores in several different books, including my daughter’s biology text when she was in college. They are the almost perfect deciduous natural-looking tree for our native landscape. But if you want a tree with a more formal silhouette, you can plant the London plane tree (*Platanus x acerifolia*), which is used as a street tree all over Europe and in Beverly Hills, too.

LEFT: Example of die off. Note Mistletoe cluster in the center.

CENTER and RIGHT: examples of heavy infestation. Only serious pruning can save these trees.



What makes the local sycamore tree only *almost* perfect are the two naturally occurring pests that most of the trees are subject to, and a few actually succumb to their predations. In both cases, it is much more likely for a healthy tree to withstand infection than an unhealthy tree.

The first, and least deadly, is anthracnose, a fungal disease which seems to infect almost every sycamore in the canyon. It is what causes the new shoots and spring leaves to wilt and die. Because it is a fungus, it is dependent on winter rains and nighttime fog to help the spores re-infect the trees every spring. The drier the springtime weather, the less wilting you will see. Do not call an arborist to help save your tree from anthracnose. It will not die. But if you take some precautions, you can help reduce the degree of infection. The fungus overwinters in cankers, twigs, or plant debris. In the fall and winter, clean up the dead leaves and branches that naturally fall off the trees. Either dispose of them by throwing out in your green waste can, where they will probably live to go on and infect other plants, or compost them with manure in your own yard. If you compost, make sure you do it properly, so that the compost pile heats to a temperature hot enough to destroy the fungus. Try to avoid irrigating the trunk of the tree which will just splash water on the canker, where the fungal spores are propagated, spreading them to previously uninfected sites.

The second pest, which can be deadly, is leafy mistletoe, a parasite whose seed is spread by both birds and wind. Mistletoe is the big green clump that remains on the sycamores in the winter after they have lost their leaves. Because it is a parasite, it actually roots into the tree by piercing the plant's surface and then steals water and nutrients from the tree. Eventually, the tree can lose its vigor and die from the infection. You can see this happening on several trees in the middle of the canyon where the part of the tree above the mistletoe has already died. The best thing to do about mistletoe is to attack it as soon as you see it growing on your tree. The longer it is left, the more likely it is to spread to other trees or other branches on the same tree. The infected twig or branch must be cut and removed. If you just cut the mistletoe, the root in the tree will remain behind to re-grow. It seems to me that the mistletoe in the canyon has gotten a lot worse in the last few years, probably due to our prolonged drought, which has sapped the naturally occurring sycamores of their health and vigor.

Both of these pests are part of the native ecosystem, so clearly the sycamores are meant to survive them, but part of their survival arsenal is to reproduce freely from root sprouts and by generously sowing their seed. If, when clearing your land for weed abatement, you cut down either the new shoots arising from the roots or the new shoots that were seeded in and sprouted by the winter rains, you will destroy their opportunity to replace their older, dying selves with younger, new ones. This is the natural cycle.

Write me at leah@lobocreek.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES. FROM THE 3/26/09 MEETING.

http://www.triunfolobo.org/TLCminutes/TLCminutes03_26_09.pdf