



# HOWLINGS

## FROM LOBO

*HOME BEGINS AT THE CORNER OF TRIUNFO AND LOBO*

JAY CORDELL

A Quarterly Newsletter

SPRING 2008

### CHEER AND JEERS

**CHEERS** Barre and Willow Rorabaugh who have purchased Pegasus Ranch. They have 25 years of experience in the management of equine training and boarding facilities and are doing a great job of polishing Pegasus. If you get a chance, stop by and see for yourself. Congratulations and welcome to Barre and Willow.

Editors note: Thanks for not being another Barry and Sue, three would be too many

**CHEERS** to Kristen Cordell who was born and raised on Lobo Canyon. Kristen and new husband Andrew Plusko are living here, and I wonder if that wasn't Kristen's prerequisite for saying yes. Congratulation to all of the Cordells and now Pluskos too.

**Cheers** to Ivan Willig who will be graduating from The College of the Atlantic in June. Wasn't it just yesterday that Ivan was that runny nosed skinny kid?

**Cheers** to Columbine Culberg for receiving the President's recognition at The "Coastal America awards" ceremony for her work on the "Thank You Ocean" campaign. [www.thankyouocean.org/](http://www.thankyouocean.org/)  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=1-V3WCAAo1w](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1-V3WCAAo1w)

**Cheers** to Terry and Tom Webb whose LARGE photo appeared in the Acorn for a book signing at their store. Great mug shots guys.

Jeers has been suspended in favor of an editorial.

### Who is Shooting up the Canyon?

Has anyone noticed the three bullet holes on the big, reflectorized arrow signs indicating the turn at the blind curve on Triunfo? It seems they were made by the same person(s) who also shot through Shyam Reyes' mailbox (3430). Shyam has not replaced the mailbox so the bullet entry and exit holes are still there. This nighttime shooting spree occurred early Sunday morning, January 28, around 1 a.m. A report was made to the Sherrif's Department who came out to look at it. They wrote it up as vandalism.

One person who was awake at about that time heard 3 gunshots. But apparently



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than that were fired to have produced four bullet holes. Whether this incident is "kids out of control" or some other more sinister "target practice," it is unacceptable and must be stopped. This is our home and open weapons are an invasion of our privacy and safety. Anyone who has any knowledge of this, please contact the Sheriff's Department or notify the editor of Howlings.

If you have any ideas as to how we—as a neighborhood—can best deal with preventing a recurrence of this incident, please contact the Editor or any Triunfo Lobo Canyon Association board

### **Board of Directors**

**Michael Frawley- President**

**Chris Willig- VP**

**Randy Bilslund- Treasurer**

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**Kevis Foley- Corresp Secy**

**Shyam Reyes- Webmaster**

**Paul Culberg- Newsletter**

The bylaws are posted ,

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

as are previous newsletters.

## **TRAFFIC - AGAIN**

I cannot recall a newsletter that did not speak to speeding in the canyons. The result has been the posting of speed limits and our lobbying, successfully, to be an authorized site for radar control. One of our board members has actually been sited for speeding.. It seems as though everyone speeds, not just the non residents working in the canyon. Many years ago, before the Frawleys moved into the Canyon, there was horse trainer, Rob Ferber and his 10 year old son living at 31559, which had a deep Arizona crossing. One morning on my way out of the canyon I came upon Rob's son lying dead in the road, bicycle rent and bent, after having come out of he driveway onto the road and was instantly killed by a pickup in his path. A boy on a bike coming across the arizona crossing was very hard to see early in the morning which made for a tragedy beyond my ability to absorb. To this day, I am haunted by that scene. Any of us that drive the length of Lobo regularly can tell stories of negligence, speeding in the middle of the road, through the curves, folks coming across Lobo Creek and stopping too far out into Lobo, or barely stopping before turning onto the street and worse, some idiot with a death wish flying across the creek and broad turning onto Lobo without either stopping or looking. Such and incident occurred to my wife on her

birthday in February at 31449 Lobo. Leah came home pale, drawn, and very angry. She was lucky for she had seen the pickup coming across the creek and definitely swerved hard left into the oncoming lane and the driver of the pickup either never saw her or did not care as he sped into a left turn onto Lobo, just inches from Leah's car. Had Leah not swerved then, she would have been the 2nd traffic death on Lobo. This, I have learned was not the first time of a problem at that location. In speaking to our neighbors there, I learned that there is an addiction treatment center <http://www.serenity-manor.com/> that shares that driveway and neighbors have spoken to the owner several times about the residents speeding. I spoke to the owner myself and he sounded truly concerned and promised to look into the incident and call me back in an hour. I am still waiting. Every edition of this local rag speaks to the traffic hazards that abound, from the parking on the street that constricts the roadway to the excessive speed that is endemic. I can write these pieces quarterly and perhaps some of the readers, if they

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actually read this sheet, may register a bit of, "good for Paul", but deny to themselves that they are in any way guilty. Well, damnit, we are all guilty of speeding, drifting into the middle of the road or just not paying attention. Accept it and make it part of your consciousness. Do we have to see another death to wake us up?

What a pretty little bird a frog am  
Him ain't got not tail at all  
Almost hardly,  
When him walk him hop.  
When him not walk, him sits on his  
Tail that him ain't got at all  
Almost hardly

[For the grammar police.](#)

## Woodpeckers in Your Backyard!

We have several species of woodpeckers here in southern California, but you are likely to see 3 of these species more often than others - the Acorn, the Downy and the Nuttall's.

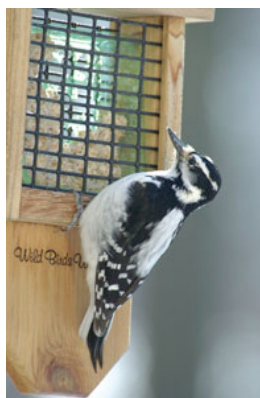
You'll seldom find just one Acorn Woodpecker - they hang around in big groups because, frankly, it takes a lot of birds to collect and store their food. A communal group of acorn woodpeckers can put away up to 50,000 nuts a year. And their diet would be.....? If you guessed acorns, you're partly correct. But the acorn woodpecker also eats fruit, other seeds and insects. They'll come to both seed and suet feeders in your backyard, and if you've got poison oak lurking somewhere on your property, they'll gobble up those berries, as will many other birds. (In fact, poison oak is one of the top ten plants you can plant to attract a wide variety of birds. Of course, you have to plant

it somewhere out of the way, where you don't come in contact with it!)

The Downy woodpecker is the most common of all North American woodpeckers and also a relatively small one. The males and females of this species tend to eat in different locations in a tree during various times of the year - the males stay up towards the tops of trees and the females forage on the lower branches. Downy woodpeckers feed on a variety of stuff, including insects, especially harmful, wood-boring ones. They'll also come to feeders for sunflower seeds and suet.

The Nuttall's woodpecker has the most limited range of the woodpeckers in our area and, in fact, are found in their greatest numbers here in California. Although you'll often see or hear the Nuttall's in oak trees, acorns make up only a small part of their diet. They also eat insects like beetles, caterpillars and ants. They like fruit, nuts and sap and also go ape for the berries of poison oak. The Nuttall's is a primary cavity nester - meaning that it excavates its own nest rather than inhabiting a cavity created by another bird - and therefore provides nest sites for many other species.

Credit Wild Birds Unlimited



## MEMBERSHIP IN

TRIUNFO LOBO  
COMMUNITY ASSOC. IS  
EASY.

NOTIFY :

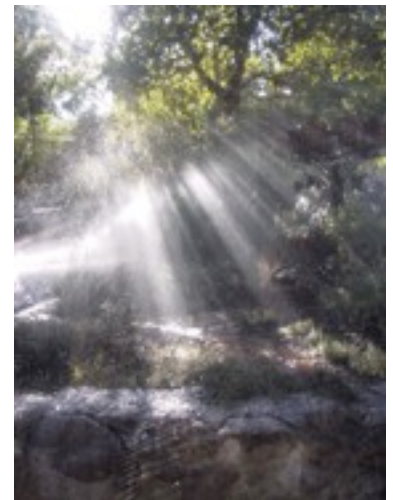
[howlings@lobocreek.com](mailto:howlings@lobocreek.com)

And send a check for \$35.00

To: TLC

32063 Lobo Canyon Rd  
Agoura, Ca 91301

Be a part of your community,  
Get involved.



Sun through the Oaks.

## COMMENTS:

Please send comments to;

[Howlings@lobocreek.com](mailto:Howlings@lobocreek.com)

I have numerous comments from previous newsletters that I have decided not to print for they re all so complimentary that it would appear to be self congratulatory behavior, so, help me by sending your comments and letters.

This newsletter is now distributed electronically. If you have neighbors who complain just have them send me their email address.

## Editorial

I have started riding the canyon on my bike, of late , and I see and experience the canyon in a very different way. I get to visit with neighbors, and I see the amount of trash on the roadsides, paper and styro coffee cups, fries bags, cigarette butts, plastic cup covers, and construction paper of all kinds are ubiquitous. I see the speed that people drive and though it sounds like every other newsletter, our residents are as guilty as the visiting workmen. Lobo Canyon is posted at 25 mph and Triunfo 40 mph. Being on a bike is frightening enough when the speeders rocket by, and I can only imagine the fear that the folks walking and on horseback have as trucks and cars catapult down the center of the road. Our roads are dangerous enough as they are but, added to the stress of the increased traffic, is the irresponsible parking by the Donlons in the middle of Lobo. I have come to refer to this area as "The Isthmus". How long has it been, 4, perhaps 5 years? Whoever it is that parks so as to narrow the roadway clearly does so in order to save 20 or 30 steps. Across the street by the creek there apparently is parking off of the street, and there is even a considerable break in the fence. Just think, this much added exercise from across the street adds up to better than 4 miles over a year. It is healthier to make the walk across the street. The other big thing that I have noticed is the truck storage and parking lot business that has sprung up. It is hard enough for the folks on Lower Lobo and mid Triunfo having the bright lights from the "movie house" but add to it the insult of hundreds of cars per week coming into the canyon Many I have spoken to are really fed up. ME TOO!

This being an editorial allows me to express my opinion. This used to be a quiet secluded very special place, and it has become a storage dump, a parking lot, and a place where people think it OK to grade so it looks like a strip mine. I mistakenly thought that people who moved here were looking for a slower, cleaner pace and place. Rocketing down the canyon to save a minute to and from the supermarket or school obviously defies that lifestyle. What happened to the community that cared not only about it's domain but what is happening to the surrounding areas that effect us in ways we do not initially see? Based upon the apathy that I have found, the "head in the sand" attitude, this once pristine, quiet, secluded lifestyle is being squandered and lost forever. It sucks.

Far Right: Parking lot in central Lobo

Right: wider view

Below: the isthmus on Lobo



Below: an accident at Lobo and Triunfo

