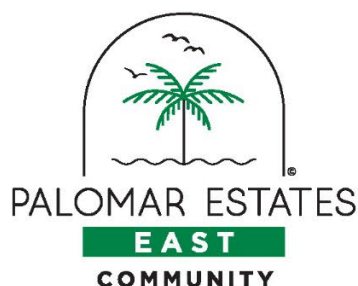




Emergency: 911

Non-Emergency: 760-510-5200 *after hours*



650 South Rancho Santa Fe Road
San Marcos, CA 92078

Kasey Koenig: Park Manager/Office
Burt Hamernick: Park Manager/Maintenance
Patty Mackey: Office Assistant
Phone: (760) 727-2010
Fax: (760) 727-2844
palomareast@gmail.com

Office Hours:
Monday-Friday 8am-12pm & 1pm-4pm

Clubhouse Hours:
Monday-Sunday 8am-9pm

Haven Management Services
Property Management Company
3491 Concourses Street, Suite 204
Ontario, CA 91761

Katie Davis: (909) 930-9750 x3005
John Davis: (909) 930-9750 x3003
Fax: (909) 930-9498
www.havenms.com

Millennium Housing
611 Anton Blvd Suite 890
Costa Mesa, CA 92626
www.millenniumhousing.com

President: George Turk
Vice-President: Lori Carraway
Project Manager: Diana Welsch
Director, Resident Services: Stacey Kazmierski
Phone: (949) 515-5100
Fax: (949) 515-5101



December Editorial



The coming of the holidays, the end of year celebrations, a new year on the horizon...

With these events can come a full range of emotions – from excitement and joy and anticipation, so very evident in children, to feelings of sadness, loss, and isolation.

And maybe in a 55+ Community (with some of us more “+” than others), this range of emotions can be even more pronounced.

In last month's editorial, I spoke about traveling to exotic places, and realizing when I returned home that much of the same beauty I had experienced on vacation was actually in my own community. I simply wasn't in a “vacation” frame of mind to notice it. Our physical surroundings are there to appreciate, if we just take the time to notice them.

Our social surroundings, however, are more dynamic and fluid. They are influenced by our perceptions.... how we interact with others, what we choose to observe, how we choose to interpret the actions of those around us.

The term, “practice random acts of kindness and senseless acts of beauty,” was first used in an essay by journalist and author Anne Herbert. It is said that she wrote this phrase on a placemat in 1982, in response to the phrase, “random acts of violence and senseless acts of cruelty.”

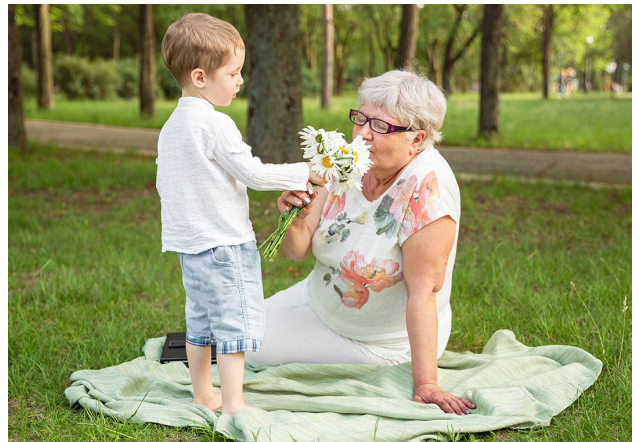
Drop us a line anytime at PEE.TheBreeze@gmail.com

In 1995, the Random Acts of Kindness Foundation (RAK) was created in the Bay Area, and was later moved to Denver, Colorado. This Foundation has encouraged a National Random Acts of Kindness Day – February 17th every year.

While that is a great start for awareness, the point is to make this a frequent practice, a lifestyle.

The Foreword to Anne Herbert's and Margaret Paloma Pavel's book, *Random Kindness and Senseless Acts of Beauty*, 2014, was written by Desmond Tutu, a South African known for his work as a human rights activist. His Foreword concludes with,

“Wherever we are, we can create beauty. Moment by moment, we can create joy. Instant by instant, we can offer kindness.”



May your Holidays and the coming year be seasoned with both beauty and kindness!

Joanne Price, Editor, The Breeze



Monthly Contributors to The Breeze

Joanne Price—Editor

Patty Gonzales—Creative Director/
Staff Photographer

Kasey Koenig, George Turk, Lanny Lippencott, the Social Club, and the PEERA Board

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**JOIN THE PEE SOCIAL CLUB ON
DECEMBER 16, 2023 FOR THE ANNUAL
HOLIDAY DINNER PARTY**

CLUBHOUSE DOORS OPEN AT 4:30PM

RESIDENTS ARE FREE

NON-RESIDENTS - TICKETS ARE \$12.00

**RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED AND CAN BE MADE
AT THE CLUBHOUSE ON:**

FRIDAY DECEMBER 1ST BETWEEN 5:30pm & 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 6TH BETWEEN 9:30am & 12:00pm

**REQUEST FOR GUEST TICKETS WILL BE PLACED ON WAITING LIST
IF SEAT AVAILABLE AFTER DECEMBER 6TH YOU WILL BE
CONTACTED BY DEBBIE JOHNSTON**

**YOU MAY ALSO CONTACT LESLIE DRANKO AT (760)295-2026 IF YOU ARE
UNABLE TO STOP BY THE CLUBHOUSE DURING THE ABOVE LISTED
DATES AND TIMES**

**DINNER WILL BE HAM,
SCALLOPED POTATOES OR BAKED POTATOES,
GREEN SALAD, VEGETABLES AND DESSERT
TEA AND COFFEE WILL BE PROVIDED
BEVERAGES OF YOUR CHOICE ALWAYS WELCOME**

Millennium Memo



What would you guess is the most expensive US city in which to live? New York? Los Angeles? San Francisco?

Nope. According to the latest ranking from a *US News & World Report*, the costliest housing market in the USA is...San Diego! For purposes of this study, San Marcos is included in the San Diego Metropolitan Area.

The study takes into account not just rents & sales prices, but also such things as average incomes. Based on a site called rentcafe.com, you'd need to earn \$95K to afford the average San Marcos apartment.

Numbers like these are why we work to make our 3 San Marcos communities oases of affordability in what is otherwise the most expensive market in the Country--along with beautiful grounds, fun amenities, and guaranteed rent controls, of course.

SPARC in Palomar

SPARC, our resident services partner, sponsored a Medicare & Fall Prevention Seminar on Nov. 1. That may sound like an odd combination, but the 33 attendees loved it.

HICAP, a State Agency, discussed changes to Medicare, while PACE demonstrated balance exercises to help prevent falls. I wish I'd been there, as my Medicare plan isn't very good. The only expense covered at 100% is embalming.

Next, SPARC put on a Scam Seminar, an always-popular event, as there are always new scams. That was at West, but I hope some of you were able to get over there.

Finally, on Dec. 19, SPARC is ending the year with a Holiday edition of Band & Bingo.

We can only imagine what 2024 will bring. A big thanks to Stacey, Devin, Ally, and the rest of the SPARC team for devoting so much time and energy in your service.

Two More Quick Notes

- Thank you for all the kind comments about how much you are enjoying the saltwater pool. We weren't sure what to expect, so we're happy you're happy.
- This month's Kudos go to the many of you who will be donating toys for needy children. Imagine all the smiling faces your gifts will generate!

Joke of Christmas Past

Q. What's the purpose of Reindeer?

A. To make the grass grow, sweetie.

Have a very Merry Christmas and have a great New Year!

George Turk

President

Millennium Housing



Kasey Koenig
Park Manager/Office

East Park

MARKET UPDATE & MANAGER'S REPORT



Burt Hamernick
Park Manager/Maintenance



Home Sales

Two homes sold and two homes are currently in escrow. There are five homes for sale.

Maintenance Update

Staff trimmed the African daisies around the clubhouse. Additional street repairs were made by adding asphalt to areas. Two water leaks were repaired. New lights were installed in the pool and jacuzzi. Fresh flowers were planted at the park entrance and around the clubhouse.

Clubhouse Kitchen Remodel

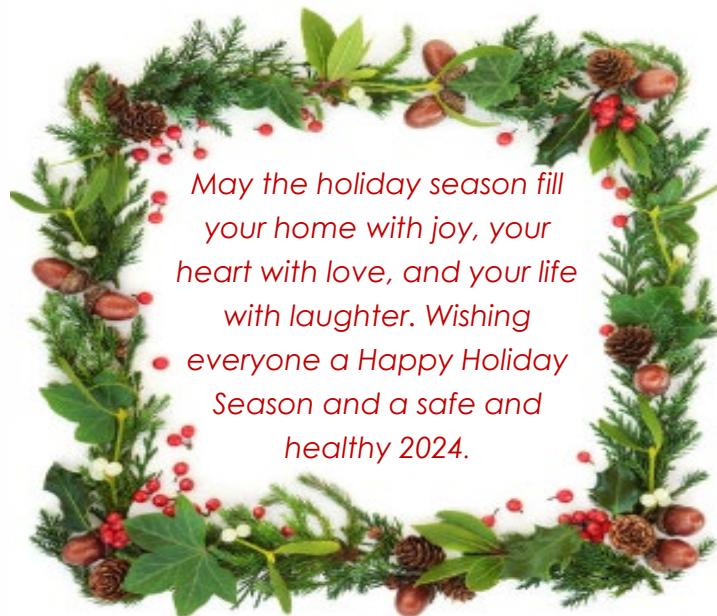
The kitchen and craft room will be undergoing a remodel beginning January 8th that should last approximately 10 weeks. We apologize for the inconvenience this will cause to our regular weekly and monthly clubhouse activities. The new kitchen will be worth the disruption to our schedules.

Contractors Hours of Operation

Work cannot begin until 8:00 am. It is also a rule that work must be completed for the day by 6:00 pm. This is a note to residents working on do-it-yourself projects. Please be considerate of your neighbors.

Short & Quick

- Storage of anything behind or on the outside of your home is prohibited. Take a walk around your property and move tools and material to your shed. If it won't fit in your home, it shouldn't be stored outside.
- You are welcome to put holiday decorations on your home and around your space. The more the merrier.



Your concerns and needs ARE IMPORTANT!

If it is not urgent or an emergency, we encourage you to email us:

palomareast@gmail.com

Palomar Estates East Residents Association

P
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A



Notifications & Activities

Cause for Celebrations

Fall is my favorite season and Christmas is my favorite holiday. For me it is a great way to roll out the end of the year with it's bright and merry cheer.

Christmas has a unique cultural impact like no other holiday. It consumes the entire month of December. Christmas is surrounded by movies, music, and food, something that no other holiday can boast. Though these are all wonderful, I truly do believe in the reason for the season.

As soon as Thanksgiving is finished, families around the world set up their Christmas lights and trees and begin playing Christmas music. While Thanksgiving, the Fourth of July, or Halloween may be celebrated for a day or two here in the USA, Christmas is wholeheartly celebrated for a magical month. Can't wait to see all the decorated homes in our village.

It's That Time of Year

At the beginning of December, you will be receiving the 2024 PEERA Board packet. This will include the details regarding the importance of PEERA Membership, the membership dues envelope, and our famous Palomar Estates East Wish List.

PEERA Board

Chair	Patty Gonzales
Vice-Chair	Gayle Cinnamon
Secretary	Susan Ewing
Treasurer	Pete Eiden

Members At Large

Beautification	Peter Del Bene
Community Resources	Joanne Price
Complaints	Paul Thiboutot
Emergency Prep	Catherine Chase
Membership	Carl Silva
Helping Hands	Merlene Heeren
Publicity	Katherine Niebur

Please kindly note that both the membership envelope and the Wish List form have deadline due dates.

Should you have any PEERA membership questions, please reach out to Carl Silva, Member-at-Large. For 2024 Wish List questions, contact Gayle Cinnamon, current Vice Chair, and beginning January 1st, Sandy Wagner, newly elected Vice Chair.

Carefully Counted Votes

A transparent and a fair election is always crucial for preserving residents' trust in the PEERA Board. We took the extra time to make sure the process was done carefully and in accord with PEERA By-Laws.

Continued next page...

Your Voice IN Our Community

PEERA Board peerasm.org

2023

Election Ballot Counting Process

For many years, the PEERA election ballots were counted at the Annual Election General Board Meeting. During these years, there were relatively fewer votes cast by residents. Thus, the counting process was simple.

For this year, however, it was anticipated that there would be a wider participation in the election process, therefore requiring a different election ballot counting process.

In fact, there were 106 ballots cast in the election. The following is a description of the ballot counting process used this year. The goal was to provide a transparent and accurate process. A video was recorded of this process in the clubhouse card room, Wednesday, November 8th.

1. The sealed envelopes were opened, and the folded ballots were removed.
2. The folded ballots were made "secret ballots" by cutting off the headers with the residents' space numbers and signatures prior to unfolding the ballots.
3. The Election Committee Chairperson then unfolded the ballots and announced the votes indicated on each ballot.

4. Two Election Committee members and the Resident Auditor marked their Election Tally Sheets in accord with the announcements. Each person sat at an individual table to avoid distractions.
5. Each person totaled their tally sheet counts.
6. The Resident Auditor then reviewed their tally sheet against the other tally sheets to confirm that all ballot counts matched.

2023 Annual Board Member Election Results

Candidates	Board Position	Votes Cast	Elected/Not Elected
Ken Hodor	Vice Chair	21	Not Elected
Sandy Wagner	Vice Chair	82	Elected
Susan Ewing	Secretary	60	Elected
Michelle Silva	Secretary	42	Not Elected
Leslie Dranko	Treasurer	80	Elected
Flechette Moran	Treasurer	22	Not Elected
Kate Niebur	Publicity	79	Elected
Earl Powell	Publicity	16	Not Elected

The following Board Members-at-Large were unopposed candidates and were also elected:

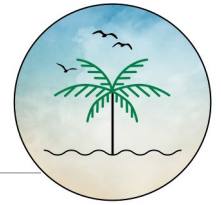
- **Beautification** – Peter Del Bene
- **Emergency Prep** – Catherine Chase
- **Community Resources** – Joanne Price
- **Helping Hands** – Merlene Heeren
- **Complaints** – Joanne Robinson

"There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about."

– Margaret J. Wheatley

Clubhouse Update

PEERA Board Kitchen Committee



"Kitchens are where we learn some of life's most important lessons."

The clubhouse kitchen will be closed the month of January into February. The details will be shared as soon as the remodel schedule dates are confirmed. During the process, management will share any scheduling updates.

Creating Our Clubhouse Dream Kitchen

Imagine that for a moment. Between cooking and cleanup, there is a good chunk of time and energy spent during an event in this one room—the kitchen. Shouldn't it be a space we love? There's no shortage of benefits of remodeling our clubhouse kitchen. Let's take a look at just a few.

More Functional Cooking Space

Like most residents' kitchens, the use is to prepare meals. The same is true for the clubhouse kitchen, but for many guests. A remodel is the perfect way to achieve culinary goals. A remodel allows us to optimize our kitchen layout. We will install new countertops, task lighting, and professional cooking appliances to transform the clubhouse kitchen into a practical cooking space.

Increased Comfort

The kitchen remodel allows us to incorporate various elements to improve the kitchen's comfort, such as a proper updraft ventilation system, keeping our current windows to optimize airflow and natural light. Proper ventilation will improve the kitchen's air quality and provide relief from excessive heat—or just the powerful smells of the latest meal—even if you loved it! We don't want to smell it for days. Another feature includes a comfortable and effective workflow. The new one-of-a-kind walk-in kitchen pantry, and an under-the-counter ice maker are just a few of our favorite things. These design elements will eliminate the unnecessary back and forth efforts of the current unproductive layout. There will be fewer 'traffic jams.'

Improved Safety

According to the Department of Energy, stoves can emit toxic pollutants, such as nitrogen dioxide. By installing appliances such as an adequate range hood, these harmful contaminants can be eliminated, resulting in safer kitchen air.

We will consider installing other safety features during our remodel as well, such as slip-resistant flooring, proper lighting, and accessible storage space for fire extinguishers.

More Storage Space

Speaking of storage, installing storage solutions during our remodel allows us to organize and declutter the kitchen. There are a wealth of affordable options, including under-counter island cabinets, customer drawer organizers, or a pull-out that fits under the sinks. The new pass-through window to the outer patio provides a simplistic yet effective way to improve our kitchen's workflow.

Higher Energy Efficiency

With a kitchen remodel, we can cut back on the clubhouse energy consumption and maintain a greener lifestyle. Switching to energy-efficient ceiling LEDs uses about 70% less energy.

Increased Savings on Utilities

A prominent benefit of efficient upgrades is the monthly savings on the clubhouse utility bill. Kitchen appliances with an Energy Star rating meet the Environmental Protection Agency's energy-efficiency standards, as they require less power. With an upgraded commercial refrigerator and a separate upright freezer, we will not be powering four separate refrigerators with chains and locks. The new appliances come with built-in locks.

Higher Home Value

Home buyers care about kitchens—69% of realtors claim that a quality kitchen is the biggest selling point in a home. Prospective residents will notice the clubhouse kitchen. In addition to a relatively high Return on Investment (ROI), our kitchen remodel will speak volumes to both residents and guests.

Approved Wish List Project

For the PEERA Kitchen Committee, deciding on focal points and design elements are the most exciting part of the renovation process. The kitchen renovation was an approved Wish List item supporting Your Voice in our community.

Patty Gonzales
PEERA Chairperson

Social Club News



2023 Social Club Board

President	Sandy Wagner
Vice-President	Cheryl Lilley
Secretary	Open
Treasurer	Debbie Johnston
Membership Chair	Leslie Dranko
Members-at-Large	Dolores Bsharah, Susie Lippincott, Pam Scott, Kathy Wortman, Sally Yeater

Holidays & End-of-Year Celebrations

What a fast year! It's hard to believe this is my last column for Social Club. I have always loved being a part of our club, in any capacity. As President, I want to thank each board member for making me look good. It has been my pleasure to work with them. We worked so well together, serious but laughing while planning our numerous successful functions. However, we know it isn't done alone. A BIG THANK YOU goes to all the volunteers for their help. We couldn't do it without you.

We again had a full house for our free Thanksgiving dinner. The Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners are provided free to all residents by Millennium. Our board and numerous volunteers work overtime doing all the cooking and preparations to make each meal a success.

❑ **December 1 – Happy Hour, 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM –** Please bring appetizers to share and your beverage of choice. We always have a great evening. See you there. **Christmas & New Year's tickets will be available/sold at Happy Hour.**

❑ **December 6 –** This will be a full day.

At 10:30 AM we have a special speaker, Jonathan Tague, Aging Program Specialist, San Diego County. He will present an informative program on Aging and Independence Service Community Programs and Resources. He will provide an overview of nearly 30 programs and services offered by AIS and other local community providers that offer support for adults 60 and older, as well as people living with disabilities, caregivers, and families. After his 60-minute presentation, time will be allowed for Q&A.

❑ **December 6 –** (Continued)

At Noon, a light lunch will be provided, followed by the Social Club's General Meeting. At this meeting, your new Social Club Board for 2024 will be announced. Congratulations to all of them! They have great plans for the 2024 events. **New Year's tickets will also be sold during this meeting.** See prices below.

❑ **December 16 – Christmas Dinner, 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM.** Again, free to residents, and \$10 for guests, so get your tickets early. As with Thanksgiving, we have a difficult time having seats available for everyone wanting to attend.

❑ **December 31 – New Year's Eve Celebration, 5 PM to 10 PM.** This will be a Small Bites Potluck. Bring an appetizer to share and your beverage of choice. Social Club will provide hearty hors d'oeuvres. Tickets for Social Club dues-paying members \$10, non-member residents & guests, \$15. Music will be provided by a DJ for dancing, with vocal performances by talented residents. A great way to say good-bye to 2023 and welcome 2024.

Again, thanks for your support this year, you are appreciated. Best wishes for a wonderful 2024.

Thoughts become things—choose the good ones.
~ Unknown



Sandy Wagner
Social Club President

Halloween Party Highlights

The Halloween Part was on October 28th. Enjoy the photo highlights below.

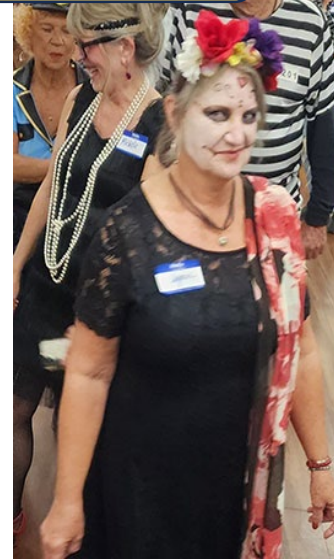


COSTUME WINNERS...

Scariest – Grim Reaper (Jay Diaz)

Best Duo – Pirates (Don & Brenda Bomar)

Best Costume – Mermaid (Pam Schaible)



**You're Invited!
to the
Palomar Estates East Social Club**

**NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY
SMALL BITES POTLUCK**

Bring an appetizer to share
Social Club will provide hearty, hot hors d'oeuvres
Bring your own beverages

Sunday, December 31, 2023 Doors Open at 5:00pm
Social Club dues-paying members \$10
Non-member residents & Guest \$15
(Guest 21 yrs. of age or older please)

**MUSIC AND DANCING
VOCAL PERFORMANCES BY TALENTED
RESIDENTS**

Tickets for sale at Clubhouse
Friday Dec. 1st 5:30pm-7:30pm and Wednesday Dec. 6th 9:30am-12:00pm

CONTACT DEBBIE JOHNSTON (760) 703-6705 WITH TICKET QUESTIONS

*Happy
New Year*

Community Resources & Activities

December 2023

All Are Welcome



Come Join the FUN!

ACTIVITY	WHO TO CONTACT AND MEETING SCHEDULES
BINGO	Debbie Johnston & Delane Johnson: Thursdays , 6 PM at West
BOOK CLUB	Social Club: 2nd Wednesday each month, 1:00 PM, East Clubhouse Cardroom.
CERAMICS	Andrea Marlin: Wednesdays, 6—8 pm, East Clubhouse, Arts & Craft Room
DANCE LESSONS	Anne Pearson (858) 610-4816: 2nd & 4th Thursdays , 2—3:30 pm, East Clubhouse
FIBER ARTS GROUP	Sally Yeater (719) 651-2866: Wednesdays , 9:30—11 am, East Arts & Craft Room
PAINT CLASS	Dawn Anguiano , dawning46@gmail.com: 3rd Tuesday , No class at East this month. (Also, the 1st Tuesday each month at Rancho Vallecitos.)
QUILTING GROUP	Social Club: Tuesdays, 9:30 am to whenever, East Clubhouse Card Room.
TAI CHI	Rudy Cobos (773) 519-6627: Fridays at 9:00 am, East Clubhouse
YOGA	LuAnn Foster (480) 203-4330: Monday: 3:00 PM Zoom, 6:00 PM Yoga West & Zoom, Tuesday: 10:00 AM Chair Yoga West & Zoom, Thursday: 10:00 AM Chair Yoga East & Zoom
ZUMBA	Saleemah (803) 463-2880: Monday: 11:15 PM West, Tuesday: 2:15 PM Zoom, Wednesday: 10:30 AM Zoom, Thursday: 11:15 AM East

Additional Park Activities

ACTIVITY	WHO TO CONTACT
Billiards	Ken Hodor
Bocce Ball	Carl Silva
Card Games	Card Room
Darts	Don Bomar
Fishing	Don Bomar
Fitness Facility	Ken Hodor

ACTIVITY	WHO TO CONTACT
Golf Putting Green	Dave Fenner
Horseshoes	Dave Fenner
Library	A.J. Jangula
Pickleball	Joanne Price
Ping Pong/ Tennis	Bill Mead
Puzzles	Card Room

Hand and Foot Card Game

By Anne Litz



We currently meet at Marilyn Fluharty's home (since Covid). We welcome more players.

Contact Anne Litz 760-846-5850 (please leave a message) or Marilyn Fluharty 218-821-0337.

We meet at 1:00 PM on Mondays and Thursdays.

Paint Class Reflections

By Dawn Anguiano

We will not have paint class in December at Palomar East. All painters will join us in December at Rancho Vallecitos for our annual Christmas party and class on December 5th from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.



We always have so much fun with our Christmas paintings! Look for the sign-up sheet on the board and put your money into the envelope. Remember that it is important to let us know who is joining the class since we need to buy the materials, depending on the number in the class.

Merry Christmas from Dawn and Donna!

Remember, the class is from 10:00 to 1:00 and the cost is just \$10.00. We provide all the materials.

If you have any questions, call Dawn at 760- 802-2170 or Donna at 760- 945-7629. Hope to see you there!

Palomar East Calendar

December

2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
NOV 26	NOV 27	NOV 28	NOV 29	NOV 30	DEC 1	DEC 2
	11:15 PM Zumba West 1:00 PM Hand & Foot* 2:30 PM Men's Bocce 3:00 PM Yoga Zoom 6:00 PM Yoga West & Zoom	9:30 AM - Quilting Group 10:00 AM - Chair Yoga West & Zoom 1:00 PM - Hand & Foot* 2:15 PM - Zumba Zoom	9:30 AM - Fiber Arts 10:30 AM - Zumba Zoom 1:30 PM - Pool/Billiards 6:00 PM - Ceramics 6:00 PM - Manipulation*	10:00 AM Chair Yoga East & Zoom 11:15 AM Zumba East 1:00 PM Hand & Foot* 4:30 PM Zumba Zoom 6:00 PM Bingo West	9:00 AM Tai Chi 5:30 PM Social Club Happy Hour 	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		10am - 1pm - Paint Class - Christmas Party & Class at Rancho Vallecitos	10:30 AM - 30 Programs & Services Available to Seniors 60+ 12 PM - Social Club Gen'l Mtg	2 PM Dance Lessons <i>The Breeze Deadline</i>		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
			1:00 PM - Book Club Meeting 			4:30 PM Doors Open - Social Club Christmas Dinner 
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	CHRISTMAS DAY 25 	26	27	28	29	30
NEW YEAR'S EVE 31						
5 PM - 10 PM - New Year's Eve Celebration 						

Repeating Events: All Calendar Activities Repeat Every Week **EXCEPT** for Those in **RED TYPE!**

Park Member News

December Wedding Anniversaries

Dec 8 Tom Erickson & Gigi Meisenholder
Dec 19 Don & Brenda Bomar
Dec 23 Camilo & Bethany Gonzales
Dec 23 David & Shirley Tisdall
Dec 27 Dan & Kathy Warren



Gone and Not Forgotten

Rosemary Church Space 372 Arrived: 05/1996 Departed: 10/2023 Passed away.

Loraine Berthhold Space 235 Arrived: 02/1980 Departed: 08/2023 Passed away.

Note: No further details were available for the residents who left us. If you have information and/or photos about someone and would like to share, please send it to: pee.theBreeze@gmail.com

Quilting Group

Sponsored by the Social Club

This group meets every Tuesday. Stop by the Clubhouse Card Room from 9:30 AM until whenever you want to! You don't have to know anything about quilting or even sewing to join us. Luckily, we have experienced quilters and willing workers. Some cut, some sew, and some tuft. If you have an eye for color, you can lay pieces out that look good together. We have a good time whether talking or working in silence.

The quilts are to be given to children in need of comfort. If you know of a group needing this type of donation, please let us know. Also, we would love to have you join us.



Park Member News

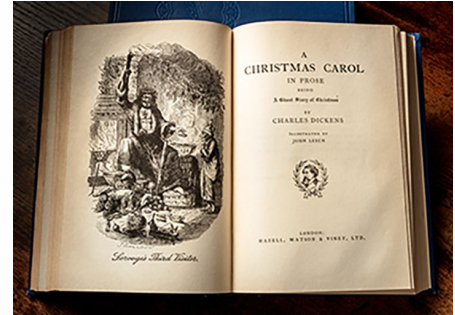
Celebrating Our December Birthdays!

1	Pen McHugh	13	Leona Shareing
2	Joanne Robinson	14	Joan Wilfert
2	Iola King	16	Charlene Erickson
2	Ken Hoder	16	Rebecca Zimmermann
3	Connie Long	17	Dolores Berenty
3	Joe Franco	18	Linda Calhoun
4	Jeanine Proulx	20	Henry Robicheaux
4	Jorge Usi	21	Sharon Noble
4	Anne Pearson	22	Becky Pena
4	Cheryl Lilley	23	Marie Losey
4	William Bing	24	Tim Curtis
5	Lori Elder	24	Judith Young
6	Lucy Wheeler	24	David Fenner
11	Lynn Pallonetti	26	Martin Dicks
		26	Esther La Fuze

Reflections for December –

The Real Reason Charles Dickens Wrote, *A Christmas Carol*

Excerpts from article written by John Broich, Associate Professor at Case Western University, in 2016.



Published in December 1843, Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* was an instant bestseller, followed by countless print, stage and screen productions. Victorians called it "a new gospel," and reading or watching it became a sacred ritual for many, without which the Christmas season cannot materialize.

But *A Christmas Carol's* seemingly timeless transcendence hides the fact that it was very much the product of a particular moment in history, its author meaning to weigh in on specific issues of the day. Dickens first conceived of his project as a pamphlet, which he planned on calling, "An Appeal to the People of England on behalf of the Poor Man's Child." But in less than a week of thinking about it, he decided instead to embody his arguments in a story, with a main character of pitiable depth. So, what might just have been [a political argument], instead became a story for which audiences hungered.

Dickens set out to write his pamphlet-turned-book in spring 1843, having just read government report on child labor in the United Kingdom. The report took the form of a compilation of interviews with children—compiled by a journalist friend of Dickens—that detailed their crushing labors.

What he wrote was that employers are responsible for the well-being of their employees. Their workers are not of value only to the extent to which they contribute to a product for the cheapest possible labor cost. They are of value as "fellow-passengers to the grave," in the words of Scrooge's nephew, "and not another race of creatures bound on other journeys."

Book Club Sponsored by the Social Club



Since the first meeting of the Book Club this past October, various books were selected for reading each month. The person that suggested the book of the month will prepare questions for group discussion. Everyone is welcome to join.

Meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. The next one is December 13th at 1PM.

The book for December is ***The Midnight Library*, by Matt Haig**. This book has a fantastic and an intriguing theme – a library where you get to try all your alternative lives and choose the best.

The book selected for January is ***The Girl Who Wrote in Silk*, by Kelli Estes**. This is the story of two women, past and present, whose lives intersect in a house on Orcas Island. It was inspired by true events, including the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act.

Park Publicity

PEERA Board Committee

Around the Town — Holiday Events

The following events are just some of the fun holiday events in our area. You can search for more events & details online.



VISTA: Jingle Terrace Live – Dec 8 to 23
Moonlight Amphitheater

San Marcos
Holly Jolly
Holiday Market
Sunday, December 3 ✨ 10am-4pm
251 North City Drive, San Marcos, CA 92078
100+ Unique Artisans & Vendors
Live Holiday Music | Great Food

SAN MARCOS – Dec 3 Holiday Market

Tree Lighting
Featuring vendor market
Saturday, December 2
2-7 p.m. San Marcos Community Center
3 Civic Center Drive, San Marcos, CA 92069
Free Photo with Santa 2 - 5 p.m.
Craft & Food Vendors 2 - 7 p.m.
Free Children's Crafts 2 - 7 p.m.
Tree Lighting 5:35 p.m.

Theme: A Beary Merry Christmas
Celebrating 120 years of Teddy Bears
26th Annual
Kiwanis San Marcos Holiday Parade
Sunday, December 3, 2023

SAN MARCOS –
Dec 2 Vendor
Market Activities &
Tree Lighting

SAN MARCOS – Dec 3 Holiday

December 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Pancakes	4	5 Holly	6	7	8 Live Reindeer	9 Live Reindeer
10 Maker's Market	11 Santa	12 Holiday Brass Band	13 Maker's Market	14 Holiday Brass Band	15 Maker's Market	16 Maker's Market Holiday Brass Band
17	18 Maker's Market	19 Holiday Brass Band	20	21 Holiday Brass Band	22 Maker's Market	23 Holiday Brass Band
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Every night: meet Santa Claus, enjoy light shows, meet holiday characters, complete crafts, enjoy Bread & Cheese eatery, and more!

VISTA: Holiday Events Calendar

Helping Hands

PEERA Board Committee, Merlene Heeren



Random Acts of Kindness...

The Breeze and the PEERA website (peerasm.org) play a key role in communicating information to Palomar Estates East residents – upcoming social events and seminars, important contact information, progress on special projects, etc.

When considering *The Breeze* content, I noticed various inspirational articles in previous issues. This article continues that tradition.

The following story is one of the 101 Stories included in the Chicken Soup for the Soul series: *Random Acts of Kindness*, by Amy Newmark.

A Perfectly Timed Gift

It was two days before Christmas, and I still felt numb. Steve had passed away in late September, and I was doing the best I could to celebrate the season. My two adult sons wanted to carry on some of our family traditions like our Christmas Eve Open House, but I knew others would end.

Every year, Steve and I always put a special gift for each other under the tree. I made sure he had something fun, and he made sure I had something from Saffees, my favorite women's clothing store. No matter what other additional gifts we exchanged, these were the two that mattered most.

Although Steve was no longer here to celebrate, I kept wondering what I could get him. That probably seemed strange to everyone, but for thirty-seven years we had exchanged gifts, and I just wasn't ready to stop. I stubbornly asked my sons, "What should I buy for your dad?"

I finally settled on naming a star after Steve. Because he was an avid space enthusiast, I knew it was the perfect gift. And I could envision him having fun seeking it out just to see the heavenly orb that now bore his name. I didn't mind not having a gift from him, except that it was just another sign that he was no longer with us.

Christmas is most truly Christmas when we celebrate it when we give it the light of love to those who need it most.

- Ruth Carter
Stapleton



Later, as I was putting the finishing touches on wrapping presents, the phone rang. It was the manager of Saffees, whom we had gotten to know quite well over the years. "Vicki, could I stop by your house after work? I've got something I need to give you."

I couldn't imagine what Bonnie might have for me because I knew Steve was too ill to have pre-arranged something three months in advance. So, I waited patiently until she arrived at the door, and to my surprise, she was holding a beautifully wrapped present to place under the tree.

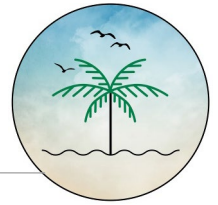
She explained that the owner of the store had suddenly awoken in the middle of the night and thought, "What about Vicki?" He knew our tradition and he and Bonnie had selected something they knew I would like. They wanted to make sure that Steve's traditional gift for me continued on what they knew would be a very difficult Christmas Day.

As I accepted this special act of kindness, it was difficult not to cry. For one last time, our tradition was honored – I gave Steve a gift of fun, and my package from Saffees was under the tree.

- Vicki L. Julian

Park Beautification

PEERA Board Committee



Holiday Decorating – There's More Than Meets the Eye

When judging the overall curb appeal of the Halloween decorating contest, we found consistency of theme, uniformity of color, neatness, arrangement, and alignment of lights with décor, and clever creativity.

We found that the top three home decorations made it impossible to choose 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. They were all equally good. Therefore, we awarded all three of them with a \$50 gift card grand prize:

- **Space 318** - Truly Traditional, Ghostly Ghouls
- **Space 135** - Crazy Creativity, Spider Spooktacular
- **Space 117** - Themed Throughout, 'Harry Potter' House

There are also many fun decorations, beyond the top three selections. Therefore, we have included the category of **Honorable Mention: Spaces 212, 230, 271, 310, & 340**. While these homes may not have been selected as the top three, we honor the residents' creativity as well as the expenditure of time and money in decorating their houses. The residents of these homes deserve recognition for the effort they make in beautifying our "village" during this wonderful season.

As we cruise into the Christmas holiday decorating contest, we will take the same approach to judging, "lead by inspiration." The top three homes will be selected for awards.

At the end of the day, we hope our home decorating contests create neighborly connections, generate goodwill, and foster a sense of community. Our goal is to keep it merry and bright, with good tidings for all!



Space 318



Space 135



Space 117



Holiday Band and Bingo!

Attend SPARC's Band and Bingo event where you can enjoy **FREE** festive live music and play bingo with neighbors and friends!

Date: Tuesday, December 19th

Time: 11am-1pm

Location: Palomar East Clubhouse

- Free Lunch
- Bingo Prizes
- Live Music
- Max of 40 residents
- Signups are mandatory.
Call the office to sign up! Sign up in the office!



Deadline to sign up for this exciting event is **December 15**. Don't wait, space is **limited to the first 40 residents** who register. Only those first 40 will be admitted.



**From home to home, and heart to heart,
from one place to another.**

**The warmth and joy of the holidays,
brings us closer to each other.**

**Wishing you peace and happiness,
The PEERA Board**

