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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE VENTURA KEYS ASSOCIATION

Issue Number 1

October 1982

Here is the first issue of what is intended to be a bimonthly newsletter to help keep both property owners and renters up-to-date on what is happening in the Keys. The editors plan to stress positive ways we can work together to maintain, and possibly even improve, the terrific lifestyle we share in this neighborhood.

This first issue will answer the basic question: What is the Ventura Keys Association all about? Future issues will bring you reports on current activities of the Board of Directors and will keep you informed on what is happening at City Hall, the Port District, or elsewhere that might have an effect on the Keys.

We would like to see this newsletter become a forum for exchanging ideas, so if you have any questions, comments or announcements of general interest, please participate by sending them to:

Newsletter  
Ventura Keys Association, Inc.  
Box 1086  
Ventura, CA 93002

Be sure to include your name and phone number in case we need more information. We look forward to receiving a lot of interesting material to use in the next issue, which should be out about December 1.

NAME THE NEWSLETTER CONTEST

The editorial staff was unable to come up with a suitable name for this publication, so we decided to have a "Name the Newsletter Contest." Send in your entries, and we will select a winner, who will be awarded a custom-designed Ventura Keys T-shirt.

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## THE VENTURA KEYS ASSOCIATION

The most often heard question from Keys residents is, "Why is there an owners association and what does it do?" When Pacesetter Homes, Inc. developed the Ventura Keys Tract in the mid-1960's, it imposed a set of mutually beneficial CC&Rs (covenants, conditions and restrictions) upon the property. The Ventura Keys Association was subsequently formed to enforce the CC&Rs. You should have received a copy of the CC&Rs with your escrow papers, but if not, just send a note to the newsletter, and we will see that you receive a copy.

The CC&Rs also set up an Art Jury, a related though separate body, which is sometimes confused with the Association Board of Directors. There will be an article on the activities of the Art Jury in the next issue of the newsletter.

The primary function of the Association is the upkeep and improvement of its three pieces of property: (1) the big beach at the corner of Seaview and Beachmont, (2) the little beach at the corner of Surfriider and Sailor (on the island), and (3) the property on both sides of Peninsula at Harbor, which constitutes the main entrance to the Keys.

At the membership's request, the Keys Association is also currently working on the following projects:

1. The Keys Association is actively working with the City of Ventura to have stop signs installed on corners where there have been membership complaints of fast or reckless driving. By having these signs installed, we hope to prevent serious injury to Keys residents.
2. The Keys Association is attempting to convince the city to close Beachmont to vehicle traffic at the barranca. Beachmont has become a major access road to the harbor area, and, with the completion of the Harbortown development, traffic will increase even more. In our proposal, access would still be possible by bicycle or pedestrian traffic and emergency vehicles. The opponents of this closure may be the mobile home park residents. Many of them would rather use Beachmont than Harbor because they feel it is difficult and dangerous to make a left turn onto Harbor. With the Harbortown development, a stop signal will be installed at the intersection of Harbor and Schooner, and we anticipate this will reduce or eliminate the opposition.
3. The Keys Association is conducting dialogue with the city concerning the best way to keep the channel to the ocean open to all boats year round and to permanently solve the silting problem created by the

barranca dumping into the harbor at the entrance to the Keys channels.

4. The Keys Association is also working to reestablish the Advisory Committee to the Portobello Maintenance District as a means of showing the city and the Port District our interest and communicate our concerns about the Keys waterways.

5. The Keys Association is working with the city to establish regular intervals for street cleaning that can be posted. This will allow residents to have their cars off the streets on those days. An additional benefit, we hope, will be the removal of abandoned vehicles from our streets.

These are the projects your Keys Association is working on at this time. Your input in writing on these projects is welcome. We would also appreciate your suggestions as to other projects with which you believe your Keys Association should become involved.

#### BARBEQUE

The recent barbeque was a huge success, with at least three generations of Keys residents (over 250 in all) getting together with their neighbors to enjoy a perfect Ventura afternoon complete with good food and super music provided by Fast Lane. Special thanks should go to Joan Shugar for creating the banners hung around the neighborhood, to the Hartley and Colliti families for supplying the electricity, to Lefty Polito of Ventura Rubbish for all the extra trash cans, to Kris Liserani for designing the flyers, and to the Association directors and their families and friends for all the planning and hard work. If you missed it, don't make the same mistake next year!

#### MEMBERSHIP

The Ventura Keys Association has 280 paid members. With a potential membership of over 800 owners alone, we still have tremendous potential for increasing membership. Membership is a bargain at almost any price -- for \$15 it's a steal!

The larger our paid membership the greater our clout with the City of Ventura. The question that is asked time and time again in meetings with political bodies is, "How many people do you represent?" With 500 members we would represent a clear majority of owners (400 would probably be enough given the number of members who own more than one piece of Keys property) and would double our revenue. Think of what we could do for the Keys!

## THE KEYS DUCK

Along our waterways a feathered mother swims followed by her brood. One, two, three little white ducks, miniature copies of their mother; then four, five earless, quacking, spotted puppy dogs. No! Puppy dogs don't quack. These are ducks! THE KEYS DUCK.

This writer remembers when we only had mallards, but the Keys being the inviting place to live that it is must have been telegraphed throughout duckdom, which has resulted in new immigrants of different backgrounds. Yes, I remember the swan-like fowl some declared was a "goose," while others assured "swan." I can recall seeing white ducks emerging on our vistas, but this duck seems to be a hybrid of our own.

My first introduction to the "Keys Duck" was disconcerting, to say the least. First mistaken as floating panda bears lost by a boating child, your wine drinking scribe was wondering if it was the sun or the Soave that was making those panda bears quack. Our duck has inherited a fine strong quack.

The question of taste has arisen in reference to the Keys Duck; that is, how edible is this waterfowl? Well, rumor has it that Keys resident Sam Ferraro is considering adding Flaming Keys Duck Marsala to his menu when he reopens his restaurant.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- There is one position open on the Art Jury. Those interested please contact Betty Hawk for details at 642-6631.
- Those interested in serving on the Board of Directors or those interested in nominating someone they feel would be a good candidate please contact Lou Liserani at 642-6867.
- If you are a member of the Association, you should have received your new Keys car window sticker. It sticks on the inside of your window facing out, and it is suggested you apply it to your rear window.
- It's not too early to start thinking about home and boat decorations for the annual Parade of Lights. We want to have really good participation this year. More about this in the next issue.