



THE KEYS BREEZE

Issue Number 11

August/September 1984

NOTES

This issue will be brief because my mind is on other things this summer, such as the Olympics and vacations, but there are a few important items to note.

- The 3rd Annual Keys Barbeque will be on September 15. Plan to leave that afternoon free to enjoy the usual good food, music, and socializing. Many of you have mentioned to me that you would be happy to help the Keys Association in some way - here's your chance. If you can help set up, cook, serve, whatever, call Ginger at 642-0890 after 4 P.M. to volunteer.
- Board President Dennis Trenten wrote to the City of Ventura asking for information on the proposed freeway on/off ramp at Peninsula we mentioned in the last issue. The city responded that Caltrans has no money at this time for the project and Ventura's traffic engineers will be studying the situation. The Keys Board intends to keep a close watch on this issue.
- Work is beginning on our project to beautify the Keys entrance at Harbor and Peninsula. Will Hoag has been in contact with the apartment owners on either side of Peninsula to get permission to use their water and electrical hook-ups. We sure appreciate their cooperation.
- 1984 dues checks are still trickling in, and we are now approaching 300 paid Keys Association members - a pretty good number but not as good as it could or should be. If you have not sent your \$15 in yet, please do not feel you are too late. We will gladly accept 1984 dues through December 31. The address once again is: Ventura Keys Association, P.O. Box 1086, Ventura, CA 93002.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Last month several Keys residents accepted the gracious invitation extended by the Keys Harbor Condominium Association and attended the Neighborhood Watch meeting at Harbortown Point. Officer Ray Ramirez, Ventura's Crime Prevention Officer, showed a film, distributed brochures, and explained how we can protect ourselves and our property against crime.

One effective theft deterrent is Operation Identification which has been in Ventura for ten years. The police department has engravers you may borrow to engrave your driver's license number on your valuables. When you return the engraver the police will give you stickers for your windows indicating your belongings are identified. This program works because a thief has a much more difficult time trying to sell marked merchandise, and trying to remove the engraved number is too time-consuming and not very effective.

The simplest crime deterrent is too often overlooked - call the police when you see or hear something suspicious. People hesitate to call the police for a variety of reasons: they do not want to bother the police; they do not think it is important enough; they do not want to get involved; they do not want to be thought of as a nut or a nosey neighbor. Officer Ramirez's response to all these excuses is that the police are here to serve you and you should get what you pay for. Also, think of what might happen if you do nothing.

There are about 100 total police officers in Ventura but not many on our beat (which extends from Catalina to Mills Road and from the hills to the ocean) during any particular shift. The officers work a fixed beat for up to two years in order to make them more familiar with the area, but they cannot possibly detect all the suspicious activity without our help. Furthermore, the police often are not able to investigate some of the incidents they might witness, due to Supreme Court restrictions on police activity, unless there has been a citizen's complaint. In other words, they need to be able to show "probable cause".

The film illustrated the Neighborhood Watch program, a super crime deterrent, in which a group of neighbors get together and agree to look out for each other. To organize a Neighborhood Watch program on your block (or part of a block), make a date with Officer Ramirez and invite your neighbors over for a meeting. Officer Ramirez will tell you how to get organized and provide your block with a Neighborhood Watch sign, 100 of which have been donated to the program by Home Savings.

The Ventura Police Department also has a vacation watch program. If you are going to be gone more than three days, notify the police and they will drive by occasionally. Be sure to let them know where you can be reached or who to call if there should be a problem.

In the next issue we will list some of the suspicious things you should report as printed in Officer Ramirez's pamphlet titled "What is Suspicious? or When to Call the Police."

"BLUE MOON"

We have learned that some of our Keys kids are engaging in a novel recreational activity this summer - "mooning" the Bay Queen as it passes through the Keys with its load of sightseers. Oh, what a sight they have been seeing! The skipper is not amused and reports he is now armed with a Polaroid camera. Won't identifying the culprits be intriguing?

KEYS BEAUTIFUL

For a while there I thought parts of the Keys were looking a bit shabby, but lately there has been a lot of sprucing up going on. At our last Board meeting several houses were recommended for mention in this column: Marvin Belew's house at 3015 Seaview has a new nautical paint job; the Ishikawa's house at 1231 Beachmont has lovely landscaping with an Oriental flair; and the Gaines' house at 3050 Bayshore has a newly painted, bricked and shingled facade.

Now if we could just do something about all the "For Sale" signs. Do all of you really have to leave? Isn't there something we could do to convince you to stay?

THE KEYS BREEZE is the bimonthly newsletter of the Ventura Keys Association. Direct news items, comments, and questions to: Newsletter, Ventura Keys Association, Box 1086, Ventura, CA 93002. Editor: Sue Liserani (642-6867)

CORRESPONDENCE

Besides hand delivering the newsletter to each house and apartment in the Keys, we also send copies to all the absentee owners to keep them up-to-date with what is happening. We are pleased with the favorable response we have been getting and want to share this note from Keys owner Paul Castenholz who is currently living in Colorado Springs:

I appreciate very much your newsletter and read it thoroughly every time it arrives. When the snow falls too heavily I envision all you fortunate people enjoying the water and sun of the "Keys".

As you may know we purchased the 1st lot in Ventura Keys after a fitful night's sleep in our car at the sales office. One day our residency will resume in that super place.

Thanks,

Paul Castenholz

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