

JUNE 2004

<http://www.uhills.uci.edu/>

<http://www.uhills.org/>

Editors: Lauri Barwick and
Nina Macdonald

HRB MINUTES - May 4, 2004

Attending: Aileen Anderson, Jeff Beckwith, Brian Cummings, Rachel Gamby, Michele Walot, Wayne Sandholtz, Andrew Herndon, Ron Reid

The Garden Park - There has been an ongoing problem at the garden at Los Trancos and Vista Bonita with illegal activities including drug dealing disturbing immediately adjacent houses at all hours of the day and night. The activity has been increasing with the onset of warmer weather. Police have been called out almost daily culminating in arrests at gunpoint. There have been occasional small fires there as well. Last month twenty two people gathered to discuss the situation with ICHA Management and UCI Police. Despite increased patrols and monitoring by UCI Police and posting of a new sign specifically warning against such activities the problem has persisted. Impacted residents are now asking for help from the HRB and ICHA.

Because of the costs of an ongoing increased Police and CSO presence, a more permanent and cost effective solution being considered is the installation of a fence and gate on Los Trancos with keyed entry (the same as the pools, tennis courts, etc.) We requested that ICHA Management draft a letter to University Hills' residents explaining the situation in detail and requesting feedback concerning this proposed front fence and gate.

UH budget –The HRB reviewed the University Hills cost center budget for next year, which will be sent to homeowners in June. There will be a \$3/mo increase in homeowner dues rising to \$44/mo. ICHA holds \$1.2 million in reserves. Townhomes have a reserve of 89% of expenses, condo associations hold 96% and the association holds 84%. The HRB recommended that the cost center budget be sent out with the current year's figures for comparison and an explanatory letter.

Architectural Reviews

- A homeowner from Twain came to request approval for a gate in the back wall of her garden. Due to a full agenda and the need for more information from ICHA Management we deferred full discussion until the June meeting.
- The HRB approved a proposed addition to a house on Dickens.

Committee Reports

- There will be a study to gauge Engineering Quad noise levels from two lower Schubert locations as well as from Murasaki.
- The problem of nonresident homeowners was discussed with the need to re-examine the ground lease.
- The Dog Park and Parks Committees will be meeting on May 5 to continue the discussion on future Gabrielino Park play structures and design.
- The construction defect in the Gabrielino pool has been repaired.
- Montessori will be charged \$200 for pool access for summer swim lessons.

New Business

- The HRB reviewed a summary of vandalism incidents and resulting costs to our community prepared by ICHA Management for inclusion in the June newsletter. Please see separate item.
- ICHA Management access to the listserv was temporarily suspended last month. The HRB has reviewed the feedback from the four individuals who objected to them being given access and voted to re-establish their access to both post and read listserv items, when the web master can ensure that they won't have access to existing archives of listserv postings..
- The Southern Radial construction will commence in late June. The sidewalk there will be at street level with landscaping up to the houses. Augmentation of existing planting and future landscaping design will begin soon. The

gate in phase 8 at O'Keefe and Murasaki will remain open for access to the greenbelt area. A stairway down to the Southern Radial sidewalk was discussed. It was suggested a bench be placed at an enlarged landing on the stairway.

- Lower Schubert condo owners' complaints about pedestrians cutting through their landscaping and their request for a fence to block access to Peltason was discussed.
- Phase 8 homeowners are reminded about the need to landscape their yards in some fashion within one year of purchase. There was a complaint about a dog run in one yard that had not been approved by the HRB. The HRB requested that ICHA Management follow up with relevant residents.
- Renewed noise complaints are surfacing about basketball backboards left in cul de sacs or on streets. The HRB will enforce the requirement that they be stored off the street when neighbor's complaints are not heeded by the owners of the equipment. These pieces of equipment threaten University Hills' insurability.
- A trial sample of the proposed new light fixtures for Townhomes is mounted at 8 Blake for examination.

---Respectfully submitted, Michele Walot

NEW PLAYGROUND AT GABRIELINO PARK: WE NEED YOUR HELP!

As part of the planned improvements to Gabrielino Park, a new playground will be going in, hopefully sometime next academic year. The Uni Hills volunteer Park Planning and Use Committee has been working with ICHA and the HRB on developing the specifics. One possibility we are looking at is a "community built" playground, in which Uni Hills children and their parents actually design and then build the playground themselves, with the assistance of a company who specializes in this kind of activity. The way it works is that there is a "design day" in which all interested children and their parents come to the playground site, meet the designers/architects, and in a hands-on way, help create a completely unique playground for our neighborhood. Then, several months later the community, with professional supervision, puts it all together over a 4 or 5 day period. Both the design day and the build days are festive "barn raising" types of events.

Leathers and Associates has facilitated the building of over 1000 such playground around the country, including one in Santa Barbara. They've done huge ones and small ones. The playgrounds meet all safety codes, are beautiful to look at, and offer exciting and different features for older as well as younger children. (I've been told by one 15-year-old that she still likes going to the one in Santa Barbara when she visits her grandparents...) Their web site (www.leathersassociates.com) has more info, as well as pictures.

In order to pull this off, however, we will need about a dozen individuals to agree to be on a committee to help spearhead the effort. (We also need to ensure that ICHA has adequate funds, but hopefully that will come.) If you are interested, please contact either Simon Cole at scole@uci.edu or Liz Phillips at ephillips@gsm.uci.edu. If you want this to happen, please consider volunteering!! If there doesn't seem to be adequate interest in the community for this type of effort, the Park Committee will still pick out individual pieces of playground equipment that will make a very nice and hopefully unique playground.

---Liz Phillips, Park Planning and Use Committee

UC IRVINE SUMMER HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

This program is designed to assist students in grades 10-12 in the preparation for college. The program consists of lower division college courses (run through UC Irvine Summer Session), college skills seminars, and courses in recreation, information technology, and pop culture. Students can select courses from one or all areas. Courses run from June 28 through August 4. For more information or to request a brochure, go to summer.uci.edu or call (949) 824-5204.

STREET BIOGRAPHY – FUERTES [\[fOOer'tEs\]](#)

(One in a series continuing to appear in the newsletter)

Louis Agassiz Fuertes (1874-1927) was the American artist and naturalist whose paintings of birds and wildlife illustrated important twentieth century ornithological publications. Born in Ithaca, New York, Fuertes was named after the Harvard professor and naturalist, Louis Agassiz.



At an early age, Fuertes was fascinated by John James Audubon's *Birds of America*, and he began to draw birds. Although he was a poor student in every subject except art, Fuertes graduated from Cornell University in 1897. Two years later, he was asked to join the Harriman scientific expedition to Alaska. Fuertes' meticulous and exquisite drawings from that trip earned him a reputation as the most important bird artist in America. (Fuertes, as Audubon, shot the thousands of birds he sketched, arranging the carcasses in lifelike poses.)

At the height of a successful career that included illustrating articles for "National Geographic" and his own three-volume *Birds of Massachusetts*, Fuertes agreed to join the Abyssinian Expedition (present day Ethiopia) in 1926. He returned the following year and died two months later in a car accident in New York at the age of fifty-two.

UC IRVINE CAMPUS RECREATION - 2004 University Hills Summer Aquatics Program

[Editor's Note: All the information regarding the University Hills summer swimming program, including the schedule of classes and the registration form, is available in the May Newsletter, both the online and printed versions.]

About the Program

UC Irvine, Department of Campus Recreation will again offer the swim instruction program at University Hills. This program, group lessons, is open to children age 3 years and up. Only University Hills residents are eligible for these swim lessons. All lessons will be offered at the "upper" pool in University Hills (near the tennis courts). Instruction will begin July 12, 2004. Classes will be offered in three two-week sessions, which will meet 3 days a week (Monday-Wednesday-Friday). All classes are 25 minutes in length and taught in the mornings between 9:00am and 12:00 noon. Classes will have a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 5 students. All children will receive a UCI Campus Recreation Swim Certificate. All instructors have completed Red Cross certification in Lifeguard training along with UCI's in-service training program. This program is supervised by the Campus Recreation staff.

Dates

Session 1 July 12-July 23 2004

Session 2 July 26- August 5, 2004

Session 3 August 9-August 19, 2004

Enrollment: First day of sign ups at the "upper" Uni Hills pool, Wednesday June 2, 4:30-6:00pm

Enrollments will continue for all classes through Campus Recreation Services in the Anteater Recreation Center. The office is located on the second floor and is open from 8am – 6pm. You may pay with cash, check (payable to UC Regents) or credit card (Visa/ Master Card). Bring the form to the office or mail the completed form (**with signed waiver**) to: **Campus Recreation Services, 680 California Ave., Irvine, CA 92697-4515**. Please register no later than the 5 days prior to session to ensure confirmation and to allow staff to make any class adjustments that are need for each session.

Cost. \$35

Levels: Levels 1-4 are listed on the enrollment forms. These will be used as our guidelines and will be adjusted and adapted to meet the individual participants. We will attempt to group students by age and ability.

Private Lessons

Private lessons will be offered through UCI Campus Recreation and taught by our staff of instructors. Private and Semi-private lessons are available for children 2.5 and up. The lessons will be available 9am -12noon, space permitting, and in the afternoon between 2:30pm and 4:30pm. The Private lesson schedule will vary to accommodate pool use and staffing demands. Private swim lesson sign ups will be available at the ARC beginning Monday, June 14th. **Cost:** \$14 for privates, \$16 or semi-privates (\$8 per student) for a 25 minute lesson. Semi private children must be at the same level, and must be grouped by the participants.

ARC Swim Lessons

Swim classes will also be offered through Campus Recreation at the Anteater Recreation Center. Adult lessons as well as children's classes are offered. These classes will include more advanced levels. It is a larger pool and more appropriate for those levels. This year lessons at the ARC are open to the children of UCI Students*, UCI Faculty*, UCI Staff*, and all ARC members.

*Do not need to be ARC members to sign their children up.