

EUCALYPTUS HILL IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2023

FROM THE PRESIDENT

AS WE ALL MOVE FORWARD

It's been my honor and privilege to serve as the board president of the Eucalyptus Hill Improvement Association for the past four years. Our association has experienced the challenges of the aftermath of the Thomas Fire and debris flow, the pandemic, high fire danger with red flag warnings, and most recently a rainy, windy winter. By promoting the installation of locking mailboxes, and keeping cars locked on the street and driveways, with no visible valuables

inside, we have eliminated crimes of opportunity to keep our neighborhood safer. Through all this, we have emerged stronger than before.

Bill Yeates will be my successor and will likely be confirmed at our annual meeting. I am very confident that Bill will take our association to new heights and bring an improved sense of community to the Eucalyptus Hill neighborhood. I will be leaving you in very competent hands! I will continue to serve as a board member and I'd

like to take this opportunity to thank you my fellow board members, block volunteers, as well as the membership, for all your warm, positive feedback, but more importantly for your continued support for our organization. EHIA could not do what we do without you! Thank you for everything!



Loy Beardsmore, EHIA President

JOIN US FOR THE EUCALYPTUS HILL IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, May 21, 3–5 p.m.

815 Cima Linda Lane

Guest Speakers:

**Neal Graffy,
Local Historian**

and

**Super Bee,
Rescue & Bee Removal**

Please join us to meet and greet your neighbors and learn more about our community.



NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE

BILL YEATES—LIVING THE DREAM

A native of Northern California, Bill Yeates was educated at the University of Colorado Boulder, earning a masters in business administration (MBA) degree with a focus on accounting. He started out with one of the Big 8 CPA firms, which became PWC, staying for six years. Bill then took a major fork in the road and joined a startup accounting firm named Hein & Associates, and soon thereafter bought-out one of the two founders. He helped turn this firm into one of the top twenty-five CPA firms in the country, with offices in three states. Years later the firm merged with Moss Adams. An amazing success story.

Over Bill's forty years of financial accounting, his career evolved to specialize in strategic planning, public and private equity and debt financing, mergers and acquisitions, financial reporting, and business development. His more specific expertise, for a number of years, was dealing with oil and gas public companies. He was on several executive committees of the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA), primarily dealing with financial reporting of public companies. During this time, he also assisted foreign accounting firms to become "registered" and continue their financial reporting responsibilities for SEC registrants. He was fortunate to have clients throughout the world and twice traveled west around the world visiting clients.

In what some would say a more exotic role, Bill was also on the board of a public gold company in Africa, as the chair of their Audit Committee. He said he genuinely enjoyed the experience and wished he could have worked with more foreign public companies in such a fashion. In a more formal aspect of his career, he was honored to be appointed to the Financial Accounting Standards Advisory Council (FASAC), which is comprised of senior executives of major companies, educational scholars and accountants, that advises the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) on its current and strategic initiatives. The FASB sets the accounting and financial reporting standards for all commercial companies in the US. Bill also served on the board of several nonprofits in Denver and was known as "mayor" of his block for organizing block parties.

It became very clear to me (my own career was related to accounting) that Bill's unique career in accounting was extraordinary. He was on the executive committee of an accounting firm of over 300 accountants and he traveled extensively. I asked about his wife, Gail, and all the traveling and yes, she did accompany him on many trips abroad.

On a more personal note, Bill was first married in Colorado and has two children and two grandchildren who are still living in Colorado. He later married Gail whom he met in Denver, who also had two children and three grandchildren. At the time, Gail taught elementary school focusing on students with special needs, primarily with autism. She is retired now and so is Bill. And, since Bill joined Gail in visiting her family here in Santa Barbara for many years, they decided to buy a home here as the snow in Denver got to be too much for them.

Bill says he likes golf, reading, and traveling—though with all the traveling he has done over the years, he's happy to just sit back and enjoy Santa Barbara.

Bill, was first introduced to EHIA by his neighbor and EHIA board member, Tom Schleck, who brought over a "welcome kit" and familiarized him with the EHIA organization. Tom was immediately impressed with Bill and coaxed him to attend a meeting and join the board. Then, after being warmly received by the board and recognizing his leadership qualities, it was a unanimous vote that he would assume the position of president this June. Bill is looking forward to his new responsibility and support from the board members. His goal is to become more personally engaged with our Eucalyptus Hill community, and to build on the association's great tradition of creating a supportive and engaged community of neighbors. —Sue Burk



NEIGHBORHOOD BEEKEEPING

Neighborhood beekeeping is a practice that has been around for centuries, and it is becoming increasingly popular in urban areas. Beekeeping not only provides a source of honey and beeswax but also helps to pollinate nearby plants, which benefits the environment.

However, some people are hesitant about having beehives in their neighborhood due to concerns about safety and the possibility of being stung. To address these concerns, beekeepers should take steps to ensure that their hives are well-maintained and properly secured.

Additionally, educating neighbors about the importance of bees and how they can coexist with them can help alleviate any fears or misconceptions.

Santa Barbara has implemented regulations and guidelines for urban beekeeping to ensure that it is done safely and responsibly. With proper education and precautions taken by beekeepers, beekeeping can be a safe and beneficial addition to any community. There are also companies that will allow you to foster a hive, that will come to your home and set up and maintain a hive for a fee.

This time of year, you might encounter a swarm of bees. It's important to call for help to



Bees like this one are important pollinators, traveling from one plant to the next,

rescue a hive before they get into an attic. Services such as Superbee Rescue can sometimes help: superbeerescue.com.

Join groups like the Beekeepers Guild of Santa Barbara (beeguildsb.org), where you can learn and take classes. You can also join Google Groups, Santa Barbara Beekeepers.

Overall, neighborhood beekeeping can be a rewarding hobby that not only provides sweet rewards but also helps support local ecosystems.



READY SBC ALERTS AND ZONEHAVEN

Santa Barbara County will be adding an additional mapping tool and notification system. This will not take the place of Ready SBC Alerts—at least not yet—but will make mapping and evacuation information better targeted. It is called Zonehaven and is an app you will be able to download to your phone, tablet, and computer to give you accurate information about evacuations. Knowing your zone will be critical!

As they implement this system, we will be hearing much from our first responders encouraging you to: “Know your zone.” If there is a wildfire or any emergency, this is how we will know if we are in an impacted area. Zonehaven is being used in other counties with great success. As the city and county move forward with this, we will all be learning more.

NEIGHBORS LOOKING OUT FOR EACH OTHER

It is important to look out for our neighbors, especially if they are away from home. Not only does it prevent potential burglaries and vandalism, but it also shows that we care about the safety and well-being of those around us. By keeping an eye on their property and reporting any suspicious activity, we can help deter criminals from targeting empty homes. Additionally, if you are a part-time resident, we are hopeful that you are maintaining a well-kept appearance of your property and have security devices or a security service provider to keep your home, and those of others, safe.

After all the rain this year bushes, hedges, and weeds are growing in abundance. Please trim these back from the street to promote safety as we all enjoy walking in our neighborhood.

Additionally, foxtails are a common sight in yards and parks, but they pose a serious danger to pets as well as humans. These grasses have sharp, barbed seeds that can easily penetrate skin, causing infections and abscesses. They can also get lodged in ears, eyes, noses and throats of animals, leading to severe pain, discomfort, and even death. It's crucial to keep your pets away from foxtails by avoiding areas where they grow.

Let's work together to create a safer and more welcoming neighborhood by looking out for all our neighbors, both two- and four-legged.

WHY BELONG TO YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION?

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS & AWARENESS

EHIA's volunteer member efforts have built a strong response network. Our goal is to help our small community be self-sufficient in disasters when first responders are overwhelmed. Our system has been praised by local emergency experts, and other homeowner groups are now following our lead.

Our efforts include:

- **Email networks** to homeowners from our board and block volunteers.
- **Block volunteer program** with forty-four block volunteers who have collected data on their blocks regarding special needs, skills, and equipment.
- **Emergency preparedness** by encouraging neighbors to prepare for disasters.

Your Membership helps with our:

- **Radio network:** a base station, repeater system, battery back-up, antenna, and nearly forty radios with trained operators throughout the Eucalyptus Hill neighborhood.
- **Website:** www.eucalyptushillia.com.
- **Red Flag Warning program** ready to activate in high fire danger weather conditions.
- We have numerous **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** trained neighborhood volunteers.

These programs require a constant inflow of volunteers. If you would like to join our collective effort, we welcome any time you can offer. Email us at info@eucalyptushillia.com for more information.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Your \$40 annual membership in the Eucalyptus Hill Improvement Association is an investment in your neighborhood. Memberships paid now will cover one year of dues. Our website can also process membership payments, so visit www.eucalyptushillia.com/renew-or-join to join today! If you would like to renew your membership or join by mail, please use the form below and send this with your check to the address at the bottom of this form.

Name(s)

Address

City

State

Zip

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Email(s)

Comments or suggestions

IS EHIA A FIREWISE COMMUNITY?



families. It also shows that we care about our community's safety and are willing to take action to prevent disasters. In addition, being part of a Firewise Community can lower insurance premiums for homeowners. Insurance companies recognize the value of these preventative measures and reward those who take them seriously.

We have been asked by residents if we are a Firewise Community. At the present time we are not. We need to divide our neighborhoods into smaller pods or units, and we will need volunteers to help communicate with their neighbors to make this happen. It's not difficult and

Living in a fire-prone area can be dangerous, but there are steps that we can take to reduce the risk of wildfire. One of the most effective ways to protect our homes and communities is by becoming a Firewise Community.

A Firewise Community is a group of residents who work together to create

a safer environment in which to live. This involves taking proactive measures such as clearing brush and debris from around homes, using fire-resistant materials for construction, and hardening of homes. By becoming a Firewise Community, we can reduce the risk of wildfires and protect our homes and

there is help available.

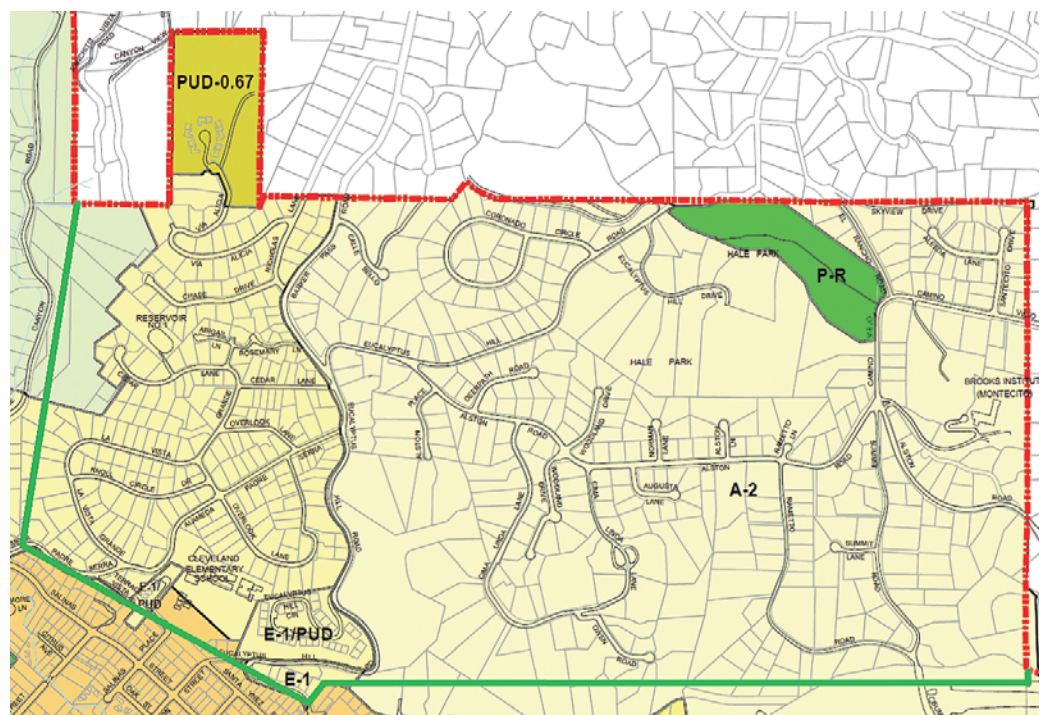
If you are interested, please contact Loy Beardsmore at loyalbme@gmail.com and let her know you'd like to become involved. Let's work together to become a Firewise Community and protect ourselves from the devastating effects of wildfires.

DO YOU HAVE A POOL PUMP?

A pool pump can be used to draw water from a swimming pool or other water source to spray onto wildfire. This can help to extinguish the flames before they spread too far.

Using a pool pump for wildfires is an effective and affordable solution that can save lives and property. It's easy to install, requires minimal maintenance, and can be operated by anyone with basic knowledge of how to use it. They can help protect your home and community, and if you must evacuate, firefighters can use them.

EHIA MAP



EHIA BOARD

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