Dillon Beachcomber

Fall/Winter 2015

"If you don't have anything nice to say about someone, maybe you're not trying hard enough." Mom

My favorite weather geek Daniel Swain at Weather West has very interesting observations in his blog about the upcoming El Niño; here's hoping he's right and we get our two known leaks fixed before rain comes! Check him out at www.weatherwest.com or on Facebook, if you do that sort of thing.

DBERT (Dillon Beach Emergency Response Team) is urging everyone to prepare for any future natural or other disaster with the understanding out here at the end of the earth, it may be several days before we can expect assistance from any outside agency. Maybe the possibility of a spectacular rain event has you thinking this is the year to get your **family disaster kit** together. Too much to think about? What if you could just order one complete? Check the various offerings at www.GetReadyGear.com, which include home survival kits (including a clever port-a-potty), car kits & "go bags". Amazon.com & other shopping sites have kits; I like the Mountain House "Just in Case" buckets of assorted dried foods, to which we add our own things like Peet's coffee, pet food, and the medicinal bottle of brandy. Take a look at some nifty solar flashlights now available online, order several and give to people you love. My personal advice to anyone who has a cell phone is to get a solar charger for it, which will give you some charge, even indoors on a cloudy day. If you have battery power, you may be able to text during an emergency, even if you can't make calls.

OMA Election – Board of Directors: Once again OMA has had no nominations beyond those of the 3 current members whose terms are expiring; all have agreed to serve another 2 years: Thank you Dick Kapash, Bob Bell and Jane Miller, who will therefore be elected by acclamation as provided in the CCR's.

The OMA CC&R Committee continues to work on updating and revising the existing (legal) document which governs how we as an incorporated Homeowner's Association function. Member input and suggestions for changes, deletions or additions are welcome and encouraged. Previously, some members sent comments that were related to Design Review rules. The CCR's include the DR Committee as part of the governing document but not the actual rules, so those suggestions will be considered during any future work on the Design Review Rules. Much of what will eventually be submitted to the membership by the Committee will remain similar to the current CCR's, with current citations for various CA civil, corporations, vehicle, business & professionals codes, civil procedure, etc. Various 'housekeeping' items will have been cleaned up, with consistent fonts, indents, grammar and other minor errors corrected. The Committee is dedicated to producing an updated, revised document in accordance with their good faith belief as to what is in the best interest of OMA Membership. All members are welcome to attend the Committee meetings to observe; agenda/date/time of meetings are posted on the OMA website, with a paper copy on the bulletin board at the Dillon Beach Post Office the week before the next meeting. The Committee has met 5 times at the Oceana Marin office (back door off driveway) 460 Oceana Dr., corner of Ocean View. When the Committee has completed their work, the document will go to the Oceana Marin Assoc. attorney for review, to insure what is produced complies with current CA law governing incorporated homeowners associations. The finished product will then go out to the entire membership for vote, which will be to accept or reject the entire document as it is written with a choice of either a yes or no.

Zing Socks and the Dan Marino Foundation might be just what you need to lively up your winter wardrobe or holiday gifting while doing some good, too. Autistic and learning-disabled young people design socks based on a challenge, like being shown a checkerboard, and the kids take it from therecreating a design with overlapping checkerboards and a bright orange stripe. The objective is to help challenged young people get an education; designing socks brings out, and helps build their creativity, plus provides some income that helps them achieve Dan's academic objective. These are sold as men's socks, but unless you have super small feet, anyone should be able to wear them. www.zingsockclub.com

First Light Farm & farm stand at 4588 Bodega Ave. Petaluma is a familiar stop for people who go to and from Petaluma, but now, the all organic farm is producing CSA boxes (Community Supported Agriculture is the fancy name) of assorted produce in two different sizes, a large share available every or every other week (\$25 ea.), or a half share (\$15 ea.) every week. Membership also allows you free access to the farm during the season, and with the available clippers, you may pick your own bouquet from the flower garden Wed. – Sun. 11-5, as well as a newsletter, recipes, farm events and work days as you wish. Currently, there is not enough demand for a delivery to Dillon Beach, but they have kindly started a wait list for us and as soon as 10 people sign up, we're good to go. Hopefully by spring, at least that many will have signed on and we can get yummy fresh organic produce, grown by local people for local eating delivered! Check them out at www.firstlightcsa.com or call Lisa (707) 637-6269 murgatroyd.lisa@gmail.com You can also get CSA boxes if you go pick them up at a current drop site.

Long time OMA Treasurer, Bob Bell has recruited a successor, and while he continues as a member of the Board of Directors, he becomes the Assistant Treasurer. The new Treasurer, appointed by the Board is Pat Martini, long time OMA member and owner on Kailua Way. Currently a part time resident, she is looking forward to spending more time in Dillon Beach, so not only will we have a new treasurer, also another Artist In Residence and neighbor. Thank you Pat, and Bob, for working out a smooth transition to this very important job in the Association, and special thanks to Bob for his many years of service.

Poly-wood outdoor furniture crossed my radar in 2014, thank you Freddie Frietas and Katrina Bruce. It is made the way "Trex" and other manufactured (HDPE) lumber is. We find it comfy, maintenance free and attractive. The chairs we bought even fold and tuck under our patio table for storage. There are tons of different styles and colors, tables, accessories, and best of all, it comes with stainless hardware & a 20-year guarantee. From my place on the actuarial tables, I never have to buy outdoor furniture ever again. The downside is a fairly sturdy price to go with the sturdy chairs, but averaged out over the years, you might want to take a look. Friedman's in Santa Rosa sometimes has some on display and can order many different items for you, and the online shopping sites have lots to choose from. I worked with www.Fifthroom.com to get exactly the low back nautical chairs I wanted, and found them to be most helpful. I loved the free shipping that also delivered them right to my front door.