

OCTOBER 2021

TORREY WOODS ESTATES



torreywoodsestates.com

THE ARROYO SORRENTO ROAD NEIGHBORHOOD

As we are all aware, there has been some conflict between the residents of Torrey Woods Estates and the established residents along Arroyo Sorrento Rd. (ASR). As I've pieced together some of the history about ASR, I've become more appreciative of what these folks have done over the years to preserve their "agricultural community" and why it was difficult for them to accept a development like ours with the increased traffic, safety, and security concerns. And we are the beneficiaries of some of those 'battles they have fought and won... once acre building lots, as an example. The story below is as accurate as I was able to make it, mostly as a result of conversations with long time residents Anne Harvey and John Dean.

The Road was dedicated in 1911 and was given its name by a resident (maybe the only one at that time) who wants to make sure it wasn't associated with the Del Mar Terrace area which, at that time, was inhabited by those lowbrow "racing" folks. And she took the name obviously from Sorrento Valley which was already named by then. From that time until the early 50's, apparently it was mostly agricultural. (John Dean's house is on the sign of an old "bean barn.")

In the mid 50's, for whatever reasons, some "good old boys" (mostly from Texas) bought up a good share of the property in the area. And of course, at that time there was no water supply and no sewer lines... just wells and septic tanks. One of the major purchasers was a Mr. L.W. Southerland (pronounced Sutherland). Mr. Southerland was, apparently, quite an entrepreneur and bought and sold, among other things, 200 U.S. Military Surplus (officer) houses .

These houses were apparently of quite good materials (Marine plywood, for example) and were designed to be portable (prefab houses if you will). So, he bought them, disassembled them and reassembled them here on some of his property, which he then sold or rented, or sold the house outright for people to erect on their own property.

For many years these were the only houses in the area. (Anne Harvey's house, built in 1957, was the first house here built from scratch.) A few of these houses still remain in the area..., for example the house high up on the hill above Arroyo Sorrento Place (with the concrete reinforced bluff). The street, Tierra Del Sur is Spanish for Land of the South and is named after the Southerlands. Two members of the Southerland family still live in the neighborhood.

During the mid 50's a number of UCSD students and professors started settling here either as owners or renters, in many instances into the military surplus houses that Mr. Southerland had constructed. This was partially due to the proximity to the campus also partially due to the anti-Semitism that was prevalent in real estate selling in the La Jolla area at that time. At one time the area was known as "art hill" due to the large number of students and professors living here from UCSD's art department. A few of the old UCSD residents still live here... Anne Harvey, the Harrisons and the Antons.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President - William Caldarelli
Vice President - Todd Pizzi
Secretary - Myra Pelowski
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Member-at-Large - John Meanley

NEXT MEETING DATE:

October 19, 2021

6:30 P.M.

Location: Teleconference

The final agenda will be posted at least 4 days in advance of the meeting. *You may obtain a copy of the agenda by contacting management at (951) 491.6866.*

IMPORTANT NUMBERS:

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During this time the area was not a part of the city of San Diego. Even then, the city had a master plan for the greater Carmel Valley area, so they wanted some control over the development of the area so that this area would not grow at a faster rate than other parts of the area, yet they didn't want the expense of paving a road, supplying water, installing fire hydrants, and maintaining fire protection since it was so far out in the country.

So, finally, in 1971, in order to control the rate of development, the city and the property owners came to an agreement... that the area would be become a part of San Diego if the city would bring water to the area... and that residential building sites would be one acre minimum. The city agreed, and in 1975 installed a 4" water supply pipe.... which was sufficient to provide water to the residents, but not large enough to sustain population growth, nor supply fire protection... so the city never built fire hydrants nor provided fire protection....nor, for that matter, did they pave Arroyo Sorrento Rd as promised.

So, being a part of the city, the homeowners here paid property taxes for many years, yet did not have fire protection. In fact, fire protection did not come until just a few years ago, in 2000, when the road was paved.

At one time, the Minister/ Writer Norman Vincent Peale owned the property and house that overlook the ocean and lagoon from the bluff on the farthest western side of the area. He was, supposedly, planning to build a church and retreat on that site. One interesting house on ASR (that is hardly visible from the street) is on the right-hand side as you come up the hill just before you get to the first stop sign. This house was designed and built by the sculptor/ artist James Hubbell. The "Hubbell House" (as it's called) was described as "a sculpture that you live in," and is, indeed, a quaint house. Among many other things, Mr. Hubbell did all the mosaics at the Del Mar Plaza and the (recently introduced) monument for the San Diego River project.

So, as you can see, our little canyon area has an interesting history.... and the people who have lived here for some time have fought hard to preserve it.... so, we owe it to them to try to make the transition as peaceful and respectful as possible....and, in so doing, make the new Arroyo Sorrento area as nice, albeit different, a place to live in the future as it has been in the past.

This article was written in March 2004 by one of our long-time TWE residents, Bob Friedman. We wanted to share the history of our neighborhood through his lens.

HOMEOWNER ASSESSMENTS

The payment address for assessments

is :
Torrey Woods Estates
PO BOX 513380
Los Angeles, CA 90051-3380

SIGN UP FOR COMMUNITY E-NEWS

Sign up to receive news and updates pertaining to our community association via email including bulk item pick up days. To sign up, please register from the "Account Notifications" page once you have logged into The KPPM Connection at www.kppmconnection.com.

ACCOUNT ONLINE PAYMENT FEATURE

You may make one-time ACH payments through www.kppmconnection.com. In addition, Keystone Pacific is excited to introduce recurring online ACH payments. Please visit www.kppmconnection.com to access your online payment account. You may still access your account using your current email address and password. If you have not registered for The KPPM Connection, please have your new account number readily available.

Reminders:

For after-hours association maintenance issues, please call 949-833-2600 to be connected with the emergency service line.

Please call 9-1-1 for life-threatening emergencies.

Trash Pick-Up Day - Tuesday (green), and Wednesday (regular and recycle). Containers can be placed at the curbside no earlier than Monday evening. Green waste (Tuesday pickup) and Trash/Recycle (Wednesday pickup).

