

Villa Avanti

Community Association

FEBRUARY 2023



"We envision a community that offers an inspiring lifestyle and quality of life, and is a desirable place in which to live and enjoy the benefits of family, friends and community."

Board President's Message

It seems like we just turned the corner on 2022 and now it's already February 2023. Is it just me or is time really going faster now that I've turned the half century mark? The term, "Carpe Diem," really hits home. It's time to 'seize each day,' and also cherish each moment.

The winds have been howling lately, and it was bitter cold for a few weeks by West Coast standards. Both inside our houses and out, there was a chill in the air. It seems that, with the new natural gas prices, layers of clothing were the order of the day. Not to worry though, those warm summer days are just around the corner. Be sure to have your A/C checked in May or June.

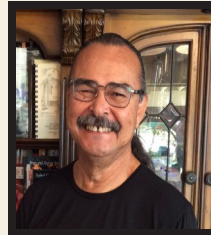
One area of concern from many members is the issue of falling limbs from nearby trees. We are happy to report that there were no incidents of limbs down during the recent high winds and rains. We are about to start services that will trim all of our Eucalyptus trees each year, if needed, instead of staggering them out over the course of a few years. This will eliminate the perception that only select trees are being trimmed.

As always, each of you are invited to attend our bi-monthly Board meetings. Starting in January and every other month after that, the meetings will be held on the second Wednesday, starting at 9:00 a.m. and lasting about two hours. At the start of the meetings, all owners are given time to speak. And, since we have an online option, you can do it from the convenience of your home computer! Just call the Avalon office for more information if you have an issue to discuss or want to say hello.

Speaking of Board meetings, elections for Board directors are just around the corner. If you've ever thought about serving on the Board and volunteering your time to help your community, applications are being accepted until February 27, 2023. Again, just call the Avalon office for more information. Whether you run or not, PLEASE VOTE! Ballots with directions will be mailed out for your convenience. In closing, there are two public service announcements to share:

- Some community members are not managing their pet droppings along walkways. Please do so. There are bags and trash cans in each of our three parks for your convenience.
 - Others are not paying their share of the monthly dues. The rate is \$42 per month, which is a two-dollar increase due to the price of doing business. Please notify your bank, if necessary, to increase your deduction. Please write a check to Villa Avanti for any past amounts that are due.
- Thank you for your time and attention. Steve Escoto, President

MEET THE BOARD



Steve Escoto
President



Jay O'Neil
Vice-President



Serina Ortiz-Tomlinson
Secretary



Richard Schlottman
Treasurer



Laura Reich
Director at Large

A note on new home colors! At present we are working with Dunn Edwards on 24 new color schemes for our HOA. We will not have different areas anymore for our color schemes, it will be just 24 different schemes for everyone to choose from. The old colors will be out except for the most popular and we will not approve for you to repaint in old colors that are not in our new Color Scheme's. So if you are planning on doing a re-paint you may want to wait and see what we have coming in the next few weeks! The Board would like our homes to be more cohesive and not a mod-podge of different colors.

Using Drones in HOA Communities:

Hobbyists make up most of today's drone pilots. For many, the simple act of flying an aircraft is enjoyable, similar to radio-controlled airplanes. But, hobbyists are not the only ones who have an affinity for drones. These unmanned aircraft are used in a wide array of fields. For instance, photographers and videographers use drones to capture amazing scenic shots. Real estate agents use drones to market and sell properties. Homeowners' associations could also benefit from drone use. Communities with common areas that cover an extensive area can use drones for better observation.

What Does the Federal Law Say?

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulates all aircraft and air travel, including drones. However, drones are a relatively new technology in the aircraft industry. Hobbyists must abide by a few FAA drone regulations, such as:

- The drone user must be at least 13 years old;
- They should register their drones with the FAA;
- Drones must not travel faster than 100 miles per hour or fly over 400 feet;
- Drones can only fly during daylight hours;
- Drones must not only within five miles of any controlled airspace (with limited exceptions);
- Drones must remain in the pilot's line of sight while in flight;
- Drones must not fly over anyone not involved in the flight; and
- Drones must not fly under or within close proximity to covered structures.

Like hobbyists, commercial-use drones must also follow FAA drone regulations, such as the pilot must be at least 16 years old and pass an examination to have a required remote pilot certificate with a small UAS rating.

What Do State Laws Say?

Aside from federal regulations, drone pilots in California also must be wary of laws at a state level. The California State Legislature has passed several pieces of drone-related legislation into law.

Common HOA Resident Concerns:

While HOA communities can certainly benefit from the use of drones, there are some unavoidable pitfalls associated with them. A common drawback is invasion of privacy. Residents are naturally worried about drones being used by "peeping Toms." There is also a risk of drone operators using their aircraft to trespass on other residents' properties. Another complaint many HOA residents have is safety. It is easy to lose control of drones, especially when flown by amateurs. Apart from privacy and safety concerns, some residents may just feel that drones are a nuisance. Some models of drones make a loud noise that can disrupt peace in the community. Other residents may simply dislike the sight of drones flying around the neighborhood.

While Villa Avanti currently has no drone rule, we ask that all community members be considerate of others' privacy and follow all State and Federal rules when considering flying drones in the community.

Home of The Quarter

Our choice for Home of the Quarter is a beautiful one-story home located at 31908 Corte Montecito. Vickie Hill is the owner of this cute home, and her husband Rick Jones takes pride in caring for the yard. Over her 15 years in our neighborhood, she has re-done the whole house and yard. I love her blue door! Thanks for keeping up with our beautiful neighborhood and taking pride in your home!

Architecture Committee Chair

