



Winter 2025 Newsletter

RANCHO DEL CIERVO
HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

EDITOR - TANYA PAYE

Note from the President

2025 has been quite an eventful year. I am proud of the work that the HOA has been doing these past few months. I am equally, if not more, excited to share our upcoming projects and events as they become relevant. I made a commitment to the Board and the residents of our wonderful neighborhood when I became President a year ago. I have enjoyed the work we have been doing and hope that you feel that I have been upholding that commitment.

With that said, I am sure that 2026 is going to be an even better year for RDC! In order to make that happen, we need your help! We have wonderful new committees that need members. For more information, see the article on the last page of this newsletter.

We also need residents to complete the FireWise Survey that was sent out via email. We need this vital information to maintain our FireWise Certification as well as tailor the programs and activities of the HOA. Grant Aaron, FireWise Chairperson, and I will be going door-to-door to conduct surveys for residents that have not completed their surveys online. I promise the survey will take less time online than it will in person - 15 mins or less (we've timed it).

I would also love to hear ideas from residents on ways to increase socialization throughout the neighborhood, such as a book club or the Whiskey Club hosted by my husband, Eirik.

I look forward to the year ahead and would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season and Happy New Year!

With Enthusiam,

Tanya Paye

Inside this issue:

RanchFest- 2

Annual Meeting - 3

FireWise Update- 4

Tidbits - 4

Whiskey Club - 4

Births - 5

Obituaries - 5

Committee Info - 6



Luke, of Central Coast Snake Services, and RdC neighbors
RanchFest 2025

RanchFest, our annual picnic, was held at Tuckers' Grove Area 5 on September 28th. The weather was overcast and mild, and the neighborliness was warm! We met newly-arriving neighbors (not quite moved in) and celebrated long-time residents (Joanell Scala, since 1964). Ages ranged from 6 weeks to 93 years (again, Joanell). The "jitney" service from the parking lot was enjoyed by young and old alike.

Copious amounts of food were provided by DJ's Catering, along with snacks, soft drinks, wine, a keg from Draughtsmen Aleworks, and wonderful salads and desserts provided by neighbors. Kids enjoyed running around on the grass of "Kiwanis Meadows" (at the back of Tucker's Grove), which we had all to ourselves.

This year's RanchFest featured two special presentations: a live snake demonstration from the Central Coast Snake Services, and our friend, Kate Furlong, talked about what's new with the Santa Barbara FireSafe Council. Board President, Tanya Paye, led group games and distributed safety-related packets to all families, along with special prizes for scavenger-hunt winners.



Annual Meeting - January 7, 2026

The Annual Meeting of the Rancho del Ciervo HOA will be held on Wednesday, January 7, 2026, in the media room at Community Covenant Church, 5070 Cathedral Oaks Road.

The meeting starts at 7:00 PM and ends around 8:30 PM. Refreshments will be served. Remote attendance is possible via the link bit.ly/rdchoa_meet. (No special app necessary; it's a web page.)

We will be hosting two Guest Speakers from the Santa Barbara County Fire Safe Council at our meeting - Charlotte A. Zeamer, Education Program Manager and Kate Furlong, Community Resilience Program Manager. They will be leading a practical, homeowner-friendly talk on defensible space and home hardening—two of the most effective ways to reduce wildfire risk.

Defensible space focuses on how vegetation, landscaping, and outdoor items can affect your home's vulnerability to fire. Home hardening means making your house itself more resistant to embers, heat and flames through special retrofits and material choices, many of the most important ones being easy to do and inexpensive.

You'll learn what matters most in fire-smart maintenance practices and home retrofits, where to start, and how small actions can make a big difference. There will be a Q&A after the info session.

Owners will also vote in the Board election. Currently the Board has nine members. Seven have terms that run through 12/31/2026; two are up for re-election to two-year terms:

- Tanya Paye (President) - 2026
- Barry Schoer (Vice President) - 2025 – up for re-election
- Mike Fay (Treasurer) - 2025 - up for re-election
- Elizabeth Nordblad (Secretary) - 2026
- Grant Aaron - 2026
- Dennis Gilles - 2026
- Allan Hunt - 2026
- Michael Petrich - 2026
- Cory Van Elderen - 2026

We've got room for a tenth member of the Board – if you'd like to be nominated, contact Board President Tanya Paye at rdelciervo@gmail.com.

Apart from Board membership, you can help your neighbors in other ways, such as:

- Assisting with the FireWise survey (door-knocking in some cases)
- Hosting potluck “zone parties” to encourage socialization
- Joining the Emergency Network as a committee member or Zone Captain

The Board would like to give special thanks to Judi Van Elderen for volunteering to serve as Chairperson of our Hospitality Committee. The Hospitality Committee welcomes new residents as well as sustaining the well-being of residents who may be in need for various reasons.

If you have a product or service that you would like to add to our new Resident Care Packages, please contact us at rdelciervo@gmail.com.



Potential Insurance Discount

Several residents have obtained discounts on their property insurance as a result of our neighborhood being designated "FireWise". Some residents have reported discounts of up to 10% off their annual premium. Insurers known to give discounts are State Farm and the California Fair Plan. Other insurance companies may also offer discounts. Please contact your insurance agent to inquire. Insurers will need to see the FireWise certificate and the Fire Map, both of which are available from our website at ranchodelciervo.org/firewise.

Take the Survey!

If you haven't already done so, please fill out our FireWise survey at ranchodelciervo.org/firewise/. It will only take 15 minutes (or less), and it is an essential component of following our 3-year plan and maintaining our FireWise status. In addition, it will help you identify hazards on your property. And it helps us keep our contact records up-to-date. The survey is confidential and used ONLY by the HOA. FireWise Chair, Grant Aaron, and President, Tanya Paye, kindly request that residents submit the survey by December 31, 2025. Residents that have not responded by this deadline will be added to our door-to-door in-person survey schedule.

tidbits

- The HOA Board would like to support our residents in their endeavors whenever possible. If you are having an estate sale, need some help around the house, have a job posting, or any other info you need distributed to our neighborhood, please email us at rdelciervo@gmail.com. We will review your request and as long as we find it to be within our guidelines, we'll notify our mailing list.

RDC Whiskey Club

If you enjoy GOOD Whiskey, Bourbon, Cognac or any well-aged libation, join the RDC Whiskey Club. 2nd and 4th Thursday every month - location and time will go out with an email blast once weekly.

No religion, no politics, NO PROSECCO. Just good times with good drinks.

If you are interested in joining, please send an email to losnords@gmail.com or text Eirik Paye at (805) 452-8988. Open to all residents over the age of 21.

We are also looking for additional hosts so please let us know when you message if you are able to occasionally host this low-key event at your home.

Births

Sophie Holmes, born July 29, to Michael and Camtu Holmes. Sophie joins older sister Aria as the family moves into their home on upper Camino Rio Verde.



Ronan Wahler, born in July, to Ben Wahler and Olivia Martinez. Ronan (shown in baby carrier) joins older brother Caden in the family home on Camino Rio Verde.



Obituaries



Kari-Unn Paye

August 6, 1940 - August 14, 2025

Kari-Unn Paye, long-time resident on Camino Rio Verde, disembarked for the great mystery on the 14th of August, 2025, surrounded by a broken-hearted and loving family for whom she'd given everything in her 85 years of life. She was an exceptional mother, grandmother, wife, and inspired artist. She leaves behind her husband of 60 years, Jeff; son, Eirik; daughter-in-law, Tanya; and two wonderful granddaughters, Aimée and Alyssa. Kari-Unn moved into RDC with her husband and son in 1978.

Gayle Lorraine Briggs

April 29, 1935 - July 27, 2025

Gayle Lorraine Briggs, age 90, of Santa Barbara, California passed away on Sunday, July 27, 2025. She was preceded in death by her husband, Bob, who passed away in 2015. Gayle and Bob moved into their new home on Camino Meleno in 1969, and raised their sons Robert, Marc and Patrick in the family home.

Committee Information

The HOA Board would like to invite residents to join one (or more) of our committees. We have something for everyone!

Emergency Network

Chairperson: Tanya Paye

Assists residents of RDC in preparing for and dealing with a future emergency, wildfire or other disaster. The committee consists of a Chairperson, Zone Captains and supporting members.

FireWise

Chairperson: Grant Aaron

Leads community wildfire risk reduction through education, organizing mitigation projects (like creating firebreaks, chipper days), developing action plans, and fostering resident participation to protect homes and property from wildfire threats. This committee acts as liaison with fire departments, promote safer building/landscaping practices, and work to maintain Firewise USA® recognition.

Family Fun

Chairperson: Position Open

Plans and organizes family friendly events, outings, and programs for residents with children ages 12 and under.

Senior Fun

Chairperson: Barry Schoer

Plans and organizes events, outings, and programs for residents age 65 and older.

Beautification

Chairperson: Wendy Fereday

Plans and organizes Clean Up Days and other beautification throughout the neighborhood.

Hospitality

Chairperson: Judi Van Elderen

Welcomes new residents as well as sustaining the well-being of residents who may be in need for various reasons.

Thank you for reading!



RANCHO DEL CIERVO HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION	
www.RanchoDelCiervo.org	P.O. Box 782, Goleta, CA 93116
(805) 364-3005	rdelciervo@gmail.com