# Pala Del Ama Waads Hameawners Association

1965 60 2025

# Celebrating Sixty Years Of Community

**Residential Directory** 

# 2025 PDAW Directory

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# **Board Members**



Vande Garner President



Kourt Williams **Treasurer** 



Jasimen Philips **Secretary** 



Frank Hays Membership Database Coordinator



Tammy Brown First Vice President



Jose Lopez Beautification



Barbara Blankenship Social Committee Coordinator



Christian Sanchez Design Assistant



Richard Alves Second VicePresident



Jim Phillips Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)



Venest Evans Welcome/Bereavement Cooordinator



Vince Ramos System Admin

# RESOURCES

From emergency services to street repairs, this list connects you to key local resources. Keep these numbers handy to stay informed and get the help you need!

### LA County Sheriff – Carson Station

- (310) 830-1123
- ${\stackrel{\scriptstyle \sim}{_{\odot}}}$  1356 S. Avalon Blvd., Carson, CA 90745
- lasd.org

### LA County Fire Dept. – Station 36

- 🕲 (310) 834-3110
- ⊙ 127 W. 223rd St., Carson, CA
- ⊕ fire.lacounty.gov

### California Highway Patrol (CHP) Dispatcher

- (310) 516-3355
- 2 19700 South Hamilton Ave., Torrance, CA

### LA Police Department - Harbor Division

- (310) 522-2042
- 2175 John S. Gibson Blvd., San Pedro, CA 90731
- LAPD Online Harbor Station

### Los Angeles County Public Works

pw.lacounty.gov/explore-public-works/report-a-problem/ Download the Works App (Best way to report issues

### **Urgent Requests:**

(800) 675-HELP (4357)
 Road & Sidewalk Maintenance:
 (310) 326-3881
 Weed Control/Street Sweeping/Trees/Park:
 (310) 348-6448

### Palo Del Amo Woods Homeowners Association

- (213) 267-1775
- 90710 P.O. Box 661, Harbor City, California
- palo@delamowoods.org
- pdaw.org

### Southern California Edison (Power & Street Light Outages)

🕲 (800) 611-1911 – Report an Outage

Southern California Gas (Gas Leaks) (800) 427-2200

### Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)

- (562) 432-6951
- ✓ 4811 Airport Plaza Dr., Suite 500, Long Beach, CA

### Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Service

- (800) 773-2489
- <sub>②</sub> 1400 N. Gaffey St., San Pedro, CA

### **Other Non-Emergency Numbers**

Banner (Damaged): (626) 458-3129 Bus Stop Amenities: (626) 458-3907 Catch Basin Maintenance: (562) 861-0316 Curb, Gutter, Sidewalk Repair: (310) 348-6448 Graffiti Abatement: (800) 675-4357 Building Construction Permits: (323) 820-6500 Pothole & Pavement Repair: (800) 675-4357

Shopping Carts (Abandoned): (800) 992-4778 Street Light (Broken): (800) 618-7575 Street Sweeping: (310) 348-6448 Traffic Light (Inoperable): (800) 675-4357 Trash/Illegal Dumping: (888) 253-2652 Tree Maintenance: (310) 348-6448 Sewer, Drinking Water, Flood Control: (800) 675-4357



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- ) V.A.
- USDA
- Foreign National
- Bank Statement Loans
- Reverse Mortgage
- Refinance
- Renovation Loans
- DPA- Downpayment Assistance

# **Sixty Years of PDAW**

### by George and Marney Wilde

In the fall of 1963, newly married, we moved to California from Boston. George had accepted a position with Space Technology Laboratories (later STL; now Northrop-Grumman). Our first California home was an apartment in Torrance which we selected primarily because, perishing from the late September dry heat of househunting during a heatwave the landlord at one complex, unlike others we'd encountered that day, offered us not only a tour but also cold water and a cool place to sit down. We were not, as you can surmise, very experienced at house-hunting.



In early 1965, now a family of three, we were ready to purchase a home. We did consider several near our apartment, but it was soon obvious that if we considered homes just a bit east of that area, we could, for the same money, get a larger, brand-new house in a new tract, and the proximity to the freeway would shorten George's commute to work. Several features of these new homes in a tract called Palo Del Amo Woods were appealing: the homes already occupied looked attractive; with lawns and fences already established we could envision what our new home could become. The model we liked best had an enclosed staircase; with a baby just

learning to walk I was afraid of turning him loose on an open stair and also, in this model the closet space was extraordinarily generous. We liked the separate bedroom/bath with enclosed laundry space just off the garage; it offered possibilities for later years. The underground utilities within the tract were a strong selling point, too; at that time, this was a novelty. A particularly strong "plus" was the information provided when we first went over the contract with the escrow company—this neighborhood had no racial covenants; in other areas we considered, we were informed, that was not so. Thus, from the beginning, we were able to enjoy the benefits of a diverse neighborhood—exactly what we wanted for ourselves and our future children.

When we moved in we found so few people living here on the south side of PDAW that mail wasn't delivered; we had to get it at the Harbor City post office. Daily I took our baby out in his stroller to count how many more houses needed to be occupied, anxious to reach that magical 50% occupied that was required by the post office. The surrounding area was sparselypopulated compared to Torrance; strawberry farms were common; sidewalks were sparse, and no stores were yet within walking distance. We soon met our neighbors and were able to tap into their home-ownership advice; George started investigating how the soil could be improved so we could start a lawn. So many things to consider for new, naïve homeowners! But already there was a homeowner's association coming into fruition and we soon saw the advantages that would bring. One early, valuable resource was the vetting that association members were offering to all of us-knowledgeable recommendations of possible contractors of all sorts to assist everyone in making wise choices in home improvement projects. The associationcreated neighborhood newsletter and telephone directory, frequently updated, were so helpful! We pitched in to help out with creating the newsletter.

When we look back on our ownership here-the only home we've lived in since our marriage over 60 years ago, we know that we made a good decision. Of course there have been a few issues—the oil wells and train didn't disappear "within months" as promised by the real estate salespersons; a mobile home park appeared where we'd hoped for a library and park. Those three pine trees given to us in small pots that we were expected to plant so that The Woods would eventually be "the woods" proved impractical to nearly everyone. But quite a few less-desirable proposed businesses have never appeared thanks to the work of our homeowner association leaders, whose tenacity was quickly realized by government officials who controlled the permit processes—a proposed pool hall/bar and a possible school unsuitable for the inadequate space it hoped to occupy, to name two. At one time so many children lived here that the local

elementary school was, unfortunately, on double-session but our two children were always able to safely walk to school across the overpass and play with nearby friends without constant adult-provided transportation.

Homeownership in PDAW has proved to be a good economic investment too!

# Venest L. Henry-Evans

Broker • REALTOR® Notary Public • DRE# 00495024

310.293.8662

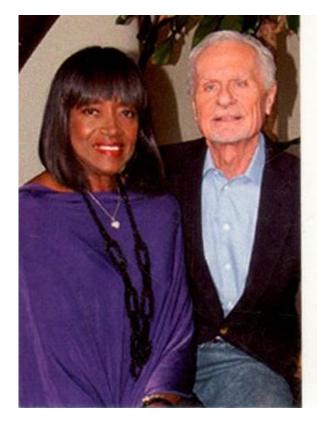
# **Dave Evans**

Broker · REALTOR\* · DRE# 00868757

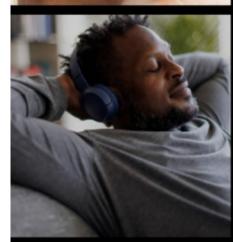
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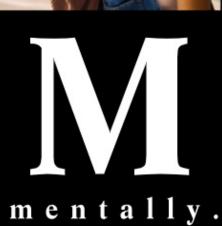
Fax: 310.258.9987 EvansRealty@earthlink.net

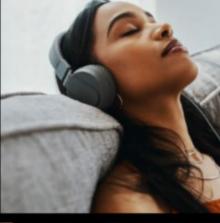
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Cell Phone: 310-994-6425 Email Address: CBaylark1@gmail.com Thank you to those in the community who showed up to Casa de los Angelitos Open House in September. It was great meeting you!



If you would like to donate the following items please call our office at: **310-325-8208.** 

-cleaning supplies -personal hygeine -toilet paper -laundry detergent

# Growing Up in Palo Del Amo Woods

by Judy (Sakamoto) Green

My parents, Joe and Ruthie Sakamoto, owned a small business, Budget Nursery, located on Carson Street, near Figueroa Street. Our family of five (parents, much older brother, me, and little sister) lived behind our nursery in a very small three-bedroom one bath home. Mom ran the nursery during the week while Dad and his crew were out landscaping homes in various areas. I'm sure that's how he found Palo Del Amo Woods. On Sundays, Dad would stay at the nursery. Sometimes he would leave the employees in charge and take us to Cabrillo Beach or some other place.

One Sunday, on Mother's Day, Dad took us for a drive. My sister and I got into the car with Mom. She asked where he was taking us. He said it was a surprise. Our drive ended in front of a big house on Doble Avenue. The house was open. No realtor; just us. I don't think the inside was quite finished yet. The front and back yards were all dirt. We walked through the house with excitement. The size of the master bedroom, master bath, den, and living room were so spacious! We had never seen a house like this before.

I especially liked the little "closet" near the front door, across from the entry closet. In my mind, it was going to be a great playhouse for us girls, but Mom had other plans. Looking back, I'm sure Dad wanted to buy the house. He just wanted Mom's approval. We all **LOVED** the house. AND, it was less than three miles away from our nursery. It was perfect!

I was eight years old when we moved in. I think it was August. Not sure, but the weather was sunny and warm. Some houses were still vacant, and there were fields all around. Back then, the culde-sac was quiet. While moving in, a cute little energetic dog ran into our house. He welcomed us into the neighborhood. When he wouldn't leave, we went to find out where he lived. Diagonally across the street, we met his family, the St. Amant's. Tuffy, the dog, tried to visit us at other times too.

Some other fond memories...

- We were the first on the block to have a pool, so the moms and kids on our block would come over to visit and swim. It was so much fun! Eventually some of the other neighbors built pools.
- Dad installed a Rainbird sprinkler on the roof to cool the house down on hot summer days. After swimming, my friends and I would lay out on the upper level of the backyard where there was still sun in the afternoon. We'd hear the sound of the sprinkler rotating. It was our warning to move our towels away from the house or get wet.
- Homeowners made Christmas trees out of plywood. After they were decorated, the trees were placed in front of each house. It was so pretty to see all the trees lit up at night. I'm sure there was a picture of them in the PDAW Newsletter.
- One night there was a knock on the door.
   When we opened the door, there was Mr. St Amant (Tuffy's "dad") fully dressed in a Santa suit. Although we knew it was him, my sister didn't. That night "Santa" made a little girl very happy.
- All the parties! All the family gatherings, having friends over, pool parties, slumber

- Our cul-de-sac was closed off a couple of times for block parties. I remember picnic tables in the middle of the street, neighbors eating together, talking, and us kids/teens playing volleyball.
- When the houses on 245th Street were vacant, there were no walls around them. Some of us kids would walk in between the houses, straight through to a field behind them where we sometimes played baseball. On our street, we rode bikes, swam, played outside games, and played Hide and Go Seek in the dark. It was a time when we could go Trick or Treating, receive an apple or homemade cookies and not be afraid to eat them, even if we didn't know the neighbors outside of our block. We stayed within the boundaries of the Woods and felt safe.

I lived on Doble Avenue until I got married. For 30+ years after, I lived just a mile north of my parents, so I saw them often. When my parents passed, the house became mine. It's still my favorite of all the houses I have lived in. If my circumstances were different, I would move "back home" in a second. Even though I haven't lived



in the Woods for many decades, my heart will always be there. Thankfully, I can stay connected to what's going on in PDAW through the HOA meetings. This house on Doble was one of Dad's greatest investments. After 60 years, Palo Del Amo Woods still looks great. She has aged well, and there still seems to be a strong sense of community. Perhaps it's because the HOA works so hard for the residents.

Happy 60th Birthday Palo Del Amo Woods!



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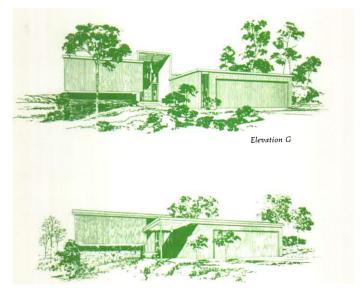
# **Model Houses**

Palo Del Amo Woods in Harbor City was developed in the 1960s as a model of suburban living, offering a mix of single-story ranch and tri-level homes designed for comfort and functionality. With four-bedroom, three-bath layouts, zoned living spaces, and natural wood finishes, these homes reflected the mid-century modern aesthetic and were recognized in publications like the Los Angeles Times. Today, the neighborhood retains its original character, with many homes still standing as a testament to the era's thoughtful design.

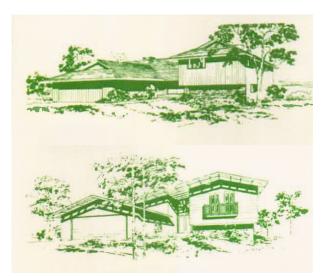
## The Continental

This home plan was the first prize winner of the American Builder Magazine National Home Design Competition.

Dramatic hit of the 1965 Los Angeles Home Show, featuring unique use of natural wood throughout, is the newest contemporary star on the Southland home horizon. – The Continental features four bedrooms and three baths arranged into three living zones.



2,295 Square Feet.



### **The Diamondhead**

Quite possibly the most popular home in theneighborhood. Below is th copy for the home:

California's most honored home—selected by a Los Angeles Times panel of housewives as one of the five most outstanding home values in the Southland, proudly owned by more than 1,000 Southern California families. The Diamond Head's tri-level plan features four bedrooms, three baths and rumpus room.

2,295 Square Feet

# **Back Down Memory Lane**

The 60th Anniversary of Palo Del Amo Woods is a wonderful milestone, and it's a perfect moment to reflect on the importance of community, its residents, and the collective spirit that has made the neighborhood what it is today. Like many neighborhoods, it's more than just a place to live. It's a space where memories have been made, friendships have blossomed, and generations have come together to create a sense of belonging. Over the past six decades the community has seen changes, but it's the enduring sense of unity that has remained constant. From neighborhood events to small acts of kindness, the strength of our community lies in the people who call it home.





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### Inflation



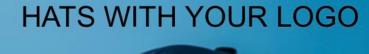
# 1965

1 gallon milk	\$1.05
Average car sedan	
McDonald's hamburger	
1 gallon of gas	
Haircut	
Average starter home	\$21,500
Minimum wage	\$1.30

# 2025

1 gallon of milk	\$4.59
Average car sedanover	\$48,000
McDonald's hamburger	\$2.49
1 gallon of gas	\$4.381
Haircut\$50.0	0-120.00
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PALO DEL AMO WOODS 2025



# The Map

Here's a map of the neighborhood, complete with street names and lot numbers. Whether you've lived here for years or you're just finding your way around, it's a handy guide to the place we call home.

# Grant African Methodist Episcopal Church



Phone: 323- 564-1151 ( Call and leave a message and we will return your call)







# Celebrating 60 Years of Community Achievement

As we celebrate the 60th anniversary of Palo Del Amo Woods, the HOA is proud to highlight some of our key accomplishments that have helped build a connected, engaged, and thriving community.

# 1. Streamlined Payment and Communication Solutions

Zelle Payments: Membership payments can be accepted via Zelle, making it easier and more convenient for residents to pay dues.

**PAYHOA:** This all-in-one solution helps the board manage memberships, process credit card and checking account payments, and communicate with the community seamlessly.

**Updated Website:** A newly refreshed website provides residents with easy access to essential resources and community information.

2. Enhanced Communication and Outreach Quarterly Newsletter: Our newsletter is distributed both in paper and digital formats, ensuring that residents stay informed about HOA news, community updates, and events.

Board Engagement: The Board of Directors is committed to actively communicating with residents, addressing concerns, and staying ahead of emerging community trends.

# 3. Annual Events that Strengthen Our Community

**Two Yard Sales:** Providing an opportunity for residents to declutter and connect with neighbors.

**Block Party:** A fun community celebration that brings everyone together to enjoy food, music, and camaraderie.

Adopt-A-Family: In partnership with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services, the residents provide a variety of donations to a selected family in need during the holiday season, fostering the spirit of giving.

**Holiday-A-Rama:** A cherished tradition that celebrates residents who go above and beyond in decorating their homes for the holidays.

### 4. Ongoing Resident Engagement

**General Meetings:** Held every other month, these meetings offer a platform for residents to discuss challenges, ideas, and connect with local and state agencies and representatives to address community needs.

Together, these accomplishments represent the HOA's commitment to fostering a strong, inclusive, and vibrant community for all residents. We look forward to continuing to build on these achievements in the years ahead.

### Thank you for being part of Palo Del Amo Woods HOA!

### 2025 GRANT AME CHURCH FREE TAX SERVICE February 1st - October 15th, 2025

The IRS's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) programs offer free basic tax return preparation to qualified individuals:

- People who generally make \$72,000 or less
- Persons with disabilities; and
- Limited English-speaking taxpayers

For more information or to schedule an an appointment, Call 310 650-0651 Grant AME Church - 10435 South Central Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90002

### 58 Years of Love, Dedication and Gratitude

by Marlene Mancuso



I've been here for 50 almost 58 years and I am very happy to be here. I came from Pennsylvania via New York and came to California with love in my heart for this beautiful state. I have had nothing but joy with my neighbors,we used to have block parties here barbecues swimming pool parties. I remember all the wonderful times that we had and some of my neighbors are still originals not many but I'm one of the originals and I am telling you that I have been with the homeowners group from day one I have never missed the year of paying my dues.

I used to help clean the graffiti off walls, clean the sidewalks, clean gutters all the way to Sepulveda with my husband, children and grandkids and happy to do so because we were proud of our neighborhood children. We helped to keep the neighborhood clean for many years. We did it when there was no one else doing it just a few of us and I was happy to do so.

I am happy to pay dues to the group because I know the money is being used wisely. I appreciate the graffiti being removed from the walls professionally I hate seeing that and I am so proud of my neighborhood, my neighbors are the best neighbors in the world and my friends. I am grateful for PDAW for all the things you fought for for us. I remember fighting for the bridge I remember fighting for sheriffs to come here and the fire department to come more expeditiously. I remember all the things that you fought for on our behalf.

No, I haven't attended meetings in the latter years. I've had numerous surgeries. I've been gone for four months in rehab and am doing well, but it doesn't matter God is my strength. And you are a blessing to me so thank you for all that you do and never take it for granted that we do not thank you because we do thank you and we so appreciate you thank you God bless our community!!



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# Pala Del Ama Waads Hameawners Association

1965 60 2025

# Celebrating Sixty Years Of Community

**Residential Directory**