



WELCOME TO THE FIRST EDITION OF CASA VERDE SOL

By Bernadine Bogdanovs, Publisher

As most homeowners and residents are aware, "Casa Verde" is Spanish for "green house." Thus, "Sol" seemed a fitting name for a newsletter since it's Spanish for sun -- like our local Palm Springs newspaper. But SOL was also selected because it is warm, healing, bright, and it sounds the same as the English word for "soul." I am a 30-year homeowner at Casa Verde who has many years of memories here. Casa Verde is a great deal more to me than an investment or real estate opportunity; it's where I have seen many friends and families come and go over the years. So, the sound of the word "soul" is meaningful to me and perhaps others whose souls have been touched here at Casa Verde.

The idea of publishing a newsletter, independent of the HOA Board, was presented to me by a homeowner who had become frustrated trying to communicate with the board. Unfortunately, it's a story all too familiar to me, so I gave it some thought and this is the result.

Interestingly enough, the contents you are now reading were written just a few short hours after news broke that Russia was closing down media outlets to the west. Casa Verde's issues are menial in comparison to those affecting the world today, but Casa Verde is home to several people who might appreciate news about Casa Verde outside of a monthly HOA meeting. Casa Verde Sol invites both homeowners and tenants to contribute. Feel free to submit your ideas, stories, announcements, photos, artwork or opinions about what you think Casa Verde Sol should include. All beneficial and worthwhile content will be considered.

SECURITY PROBLEMS AT CASA VERDE

By Bernadine Bogdanovs

As a current candidate for the 2022 Board of Directors it has become abundantly clear that many residents are concerned with the "lack of security." At a recent "Meet the Candidates" Zoom meeting I asked a fellow candidate if he was aware that Casa Verde has had a ten-year contract with Maxwell Security. Although he is a homeowner of two units at Casa Verde, he seemed embarrassed that he was running for a board position and was unaware that Casa Verde already has a security firm in place to handle security issues. Hopefully, he's done some homework and learned that Maxwell Security is available 24/7 to Casa Verde residents. There is no fee or charge to call them day or night. As the only armed security firm in the city, they provide back-up for the Palm Springs Police Department, and they're always in the neighborhood because they patrol the Movie Colony Neighborhood. Their typical response time to arrive at your front door is approximately 10 minutes. I know, I've used them!

Ten years ago, I ran for the Board for just this reason. While sitting in the hot tub one evening, a man approached a young couple and proceeded to attack the young man. I jumped out and called 911, but PSPD took 2 hours to arrive! It was that terrifying incident that motivated me to seek bids and ensure that a contract was established. Maxwell Security would not be contracted by the City of Palm Springs PD if they weren't responsive and capable.

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"The greatness of a writer has nothing to do with subject matter itself, only with how much the subject matter touches the author."

— Boris Pasternak





2022 CASA VERDE ELECTION FOR THE BOARD

By Bernadine Bogdanovs

I cannot recall a time when Casa Verde homeowners have had such a large selection of candidates to choose from. Under most circumstances this would be a good thing. Personally, I thought it would be excellent to get new people on the board who, from an outsider looking in, don't do much more than "keep the lights on." However, these days, "keeping the lights on" is no small task, and Henrik Tolstrup deserves far more credit than I have given him in the past for "keeping the lights on." Yes, Henrik is frugal, but that is far better than having a board member who overspends and cannot explain the finances year-after-year as Henrik has done. Henrik has done a commendable job over many years to "keep the lights on" and keep our monthly HOA fees the envy of all of our neighbors.

There are many things I would like to change about Casa Verde and many things I think could have been done better, but one thing is for certain, Casa Verde would be in far worse shape if Henrik had not been as dedicated as he is to Casa Verde. I know how to admit a mistake, and I was gravely mistaken when I thought we needed all new representation on the Board of Directors. However, I also know that it is imperative that Casa Verde have Board members who live on-site year-round. *This makes Henrik and Donna Lanphear the two candidates most deserving of your vote for the 2022 Board of Directors.* You simply cannot have a Board of Directors, living off-site, out-of-state or out of the country, and expect them to make wise decisions that affect residents who are living at Casa Verde when they themselves are not!

Recently, the Supreme Court of Oregon ruled that Nicholas Kristoff could not run for Governor because he could not show that he has been a resident for three consecutive years. In Oregon and other states throughout the country, a candidate who cannot show they are residents for a minimum of three consecutive years is not is not considered qualified to make decisions that affect the greater population.

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Mr. Kristoff was the front-runner. He raised more money than all other candidates, and, as a two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning writer at the *New York Times*, Mr. Kristoff would have brought a celebrity-like status to the state of Oregon, had he been allowed to run and succeeded. Still, with so much in his favor, the Supreme Court of Oregon would not allow him to even run. Likewise, Casa Verde cannot afford to have a governing Board stacked with people living off-site, out of state or out of the country and be allowed to enforce rules that affect Casa Verde residents. During the summer months, for example, residents are subject to power outages during extreme heat. How can a board member living off-site make comprehensive decisions that directly impact residents who live year-round at Casa Verde?

RECALL OF NUNZIO SISTO

Opinion by Bernadine Bogdanovs

Homeowners have received a ballot with a green sheet of paper asking for a yes/no vote on the recall of Nunzio Sisto. However, there is no information on the sheet as to why Mr. Sisto is being recalled! How can a homeowner be expected to vote intelligently without information explaining why this man is being recalled? I would like to think that this was an oversight on the part of the Board, but I also think it is inexcusable. Based on that simple fact alone, I think Mr. Sisto is owed an apology and the homeowners are owed an explanation and promise that this will not occur again in the future. Are we supposed to rely on gossip to form opinions on how to vote? If someone is the subject of a recall, allow them the consideration of being allowed to defend themselves, and provide honest and reliable information as to why this person is the subject of a recall.

CASA VERDE SOL ENDORSES THE FOLLOWING CANDIDATES FOR THE 2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

1. Henrik Tolstrup
2. Donna Lanphear
3. Bernie Bogdanovs
4. Vote AGAINST the Recall of Nunzio Sisto