



# The Green Sheet

Volume 8 Issue 3 March 2005

San Marino Chamber of Commerce Newsletter

## Nancy Billings Announces Her Retirement



In January, Nancy Billings, one of the owners of Shutters, announced her retirement. Nancy has been an important voice in the San Marino business community for two decades. First, as the founder and owner of Cricket's, a unique gift store, she set a fine example of how a small retail shop could serve an ever-growing circle of customers. People

traveled from many surrounding communities to purchase her specially selected gift items. She exhibited excellent taste in the items she presented to her customers and displayed them attractively. "High quality and unique style at reasonable prices," is the way someone characterized the store.

While owning and operating Cricket's, Nancy accepted the presidency of the Chamber of Commerce in 1998, at a time when the Chamber desperately needed reorganizing. During her two years in office, she supervised the updating of the Chamber office, the birth of the Chamber Green Sheet, the renewal of the monthly Chamber mixer tradition, and worked with the City of San Marino to re-establish channels of communication between the City and the business community. She was instrumental in attracting retail businesses and restaurants to San Marino. She formed a committee to celebrate the first Christmas Around the Drive.

In March 2003, after closing Cricket's, she began a partnership with Ceil Mortimer, Barbara Brereton, Denise Wines and An Jungerhaus. This group of women opened Shutters in the former Cricket's location on Huntington Drive. She led the new store through its infancy and proved that the same quality and taste would continue in the new store.

The San Marino business community is indebted to her work and accomplishments over the years. She has been tireless in her dedication to the Chamber, to the business community and to the City of San Marino. Nancy Billings has been an example for others to follow. We wish her well and are grateful for her influence upon us.

## Spotlight on New Member: EZ Lube

EZ Lube of San Marino celebrated its grand opening on Friday, January 28 and 29th. In two days, 600 cars went through the three bays for a full-service oil change. The two-day celebration



*Left to right are Jack Brown, City Manager Rob Wishner, EZ Lube Store Manager Enrique Zaragoza, Councilperson Betty Brown, E. L. Braun and Manish Patel from EZ Lube Corporate, Chamber President Barbara Veenstra and Chamber Vice President Wayne Carter.*

featured free hot dog lunches, Starbucks coffee, prizes and a Saturday afternoon appearance by the Laker Girls for motorists while they waited.

San Marino City Council Members and Chamber Board Members were on hand to welcome

EZ Lube Vice President of Operations A. L. Braun, who arrived for the ribbon cutting ceremony.

Over the last 15 years, Mike Dobson and Rick Teasta, owners of EZ Lube, have seen their company grow from a single location in 1988, to 50 locations throughout Southern California. EZ Lube offers customers quality, expertise, and convenience for the proper maintenance of their vehicles. EZ Lube is dedicated to preserving the health and value of the customer's vehicle. The company's preventative services have been engineered to protect and enhance the customer's vehicle. EZ Lube performs services on nearly 1,000,000 cars a year including vehicles in corporate accounts like National, Avis and Enterprise car rental companies, as well as Warner Bros. and GE Capital.

Store manager Enrique Zaragoza stated, "It takes about fifteen minutes for our teams to complete our 14 point full-service oil change. This service includes more than just the oil change. Interior floors are vacuumed, wiper blades are inspected, and many of the autos fluids are checked. We offer this service to all San Marino Chamber members at a \$10 discount. Just mention that you are a Chamber Member."

**EZ Lube** Enrique Zaragoza, Manager  
2995 Huntington Drive, San Marino, CA  
626-486-0192

## Important Dates

Tuesday, March 8, Chamber Board of Directors,  
8 a.m. at Cal Am Water

Thursday, March 10, Chamber Mixer, Wells Fargo Bank

Green sheet on the web.  
See story on page 6.





### San Marino Chamber of Commerce

2304 Huntington Drive  
San Marino, California 91108  
626-286-1022 Fax 626-286-7765  
[www.sanmarinochamber.com](http://www.sanmarinochamber.com)  
snmarinocofc@earthlink.net

#### Board of Directors

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Citizens Business Bank  
626-281-0083

VP Wayne Carter  
Johnson Butler & Co.  
626-799-5200

Secretary  
Anne Turk  
Anneticipation  
626-300-0996

Treasurer  
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Raul Saenz  
Cal-Am Water Co.  
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Fred Sohl  
Crowell Weedon & Company  
626-665-2758

Soma Wana  
Coldwell Banker  
626-449-5222

Lisa Watkins  
Sylvan Learning Center  
626-285-1382

Staff  
Eve Estrada, Office Manager  
286-1022

## New Chamber Members

**EZ Lube**  
Enrique Zaragoza, Manager  
2995 Huntington Drive,  
San Marino, CA 91108  
626-486-0192

**Brandon Gauthier**  
2995 Huntington Drive,  
San Marino, CA 91108  
626-486-0192

**New York Life Helen Lee**  
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323-459-9198

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San Marino, CA 91108  
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**Tongdang**  
Thai Restaurant  
John Mekpongsaton  
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San Marino, CA 91108  
626-300-1010  
[www.tongdang.com](http://www.tongdang.com)

## Renewing Chamber Members

### Number of Years of Chamber Membership

Bewley Allen Cadillac	41 yrs
Titan Travel	27 yrs
Dr. Jack Hamilton, DDS	
& Dr. Ronald Estrada, DDS	19 yrs
Diana Dee's	18 yrs
Licher Direct Mail	17 yrs
Campagna Roofing	11 yrs
MONY Group - Emile Bayle	10 yrs
Women's World	6 yrs
Brian Hopper - Property Owner	5 yrs
Law Office of Diane M. Comi	4 yrs
Coldwell Banker - Old Pasadena	
/Sarah Rogers	2 yrs
Johnson Butler & Company	2 yrs
San Marino Firefighters Association	2 yrs
Dr. Stefan Zweig, DDS	2 yrs
Curves	1 yr

## The Green Sheet Newsletter

### Editor

Judith Thrush Carter 626-795-0357  
jthrush@socal.rr.com

### Graphic Design

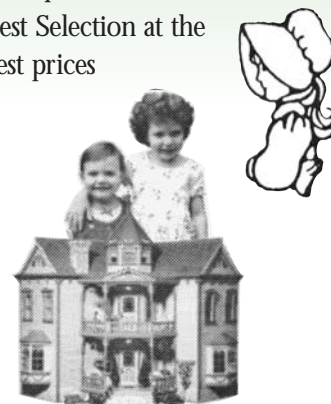
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12:00-4:30 P.M. DAILY 12:00-2:30 P.M. SUNDAY  
CLOSED MONDAY



**San Marino**  
932 Huntington Drive  
San Marino, CA 91108  
626.300.1010

**Brentwood**  
11677 San Vicente Boulevard  
Brentwood, CA 90049  
310.820.3200

**HOJION**

[TONGDANG.COM](http://TONGDANG.COM)



## P.M. Jacoy Site of February Mixer

Attendees stepped over a specially constructed bridge to enter P.M. Jacoy Menswear on the evening of Thursday, February 10, for the first San Marino Chamber Mixer of 2005. The shop was buzzing with conversation as wines of the Riboli family were poured. San Antonio Winery donated the fine wines. Julienne Brasserie provided platters of smoked salmon, plates of pate and brie and chips and salsa. First time attendees mixed with new and longtime members amid the racks of beautifully tailored suits and fine men's separates. People clustered around a slide show of photos from 2004 mixers and Chamber activities. Raffle ticket sellers Fred Sohl and Wayne Carter sported new, specially designed Raffle Aprons. Chamber President Barbara Veenstra thanked host Tony Jacoy who drew the winning raffle prize numbers. Barbara presented gifts to the winners. Emily Button of Fremont Centre Theatre was the winner of the business card drawing and spoke about their upcoming play, "National Pastime."

The Chamber thanks Tony Jacoy, Julienne, San Antonio Winery for making the evening so successful. Donors of raffle prizes included Johnson Butler & Company, Z Sushi, The UPS Store, Crowell Weedon and Company, Nick Boswell Photography and Anneticipation. We are grateful to them for their donations.



*Platters of delicacies from Julienne.*



*Chamber President Barbara Veenstra (Citizens Business Bank) calls a winning number during the raffle.*



*Marc Goddard accepts his gift from President Barbara Veenstra*



*Host Tony Jacoy and Jose Guzman (Oak Knoll Barber Shop), who won the \$200 gift certificate to P.M. Jacoy Menswear.*



*Aaron Scheible (Glabmans Fine Furniture) is a happy winner.*



*Fred Sohl (Crowell Weedon & Co.) models the new Raffle Apron.*



*Mixer attendees in conversation.*

The San Marino Chamber of Commerce

# March CHAMBER MIXER

Thursday, March 10  
5:30-7:30 p.m.

Hosted by  
**Wells Fargo Bank**

2355 Huntington Drive  
San Marino, Ca. 91108

Members \$8 Non-Members \$11

The public is welcome

626-286-1022



## Chamber Restaurants Support San Marino Schools



On Wednesday, February 9, B-Man's Teriyaki & Burgers contributed 15% of their day's receipts to Huntington Middle School. The manager said it was one of their busiest days. They plan to continue to support the local schools in April with a similar day supporting San Marino High School.

Then on Wednesday, February 23, newest Chamber member Tongdang, offered diners both take-out and dine-in Thai dishes from 11 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. with 25% of the day's receipts donated to Huntington Middle School.

See the enclosed flyer for the San Marino Seafood dates that will benefit the schools.

Our hats are off to these restaurants for their dedication to helping the fine schools of San Marino.

Tom and Mary Bristow display a plaque awarded to them. Their San Marino UPS Store rates tenth of all the UPS stores in greater Los Angeles for the amount of business generated. The store is in the top 7% in the United States. The Bristows now have three UPS Stores. In addition to the one in San Marino, they have one in Pasadena and their newest store at 560 West Main Street, Suite #C, Alhambra.

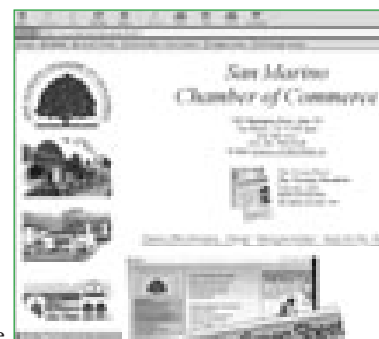


## The Green Sheet Has a New Home on the Chamber Website

Beginning in February, the Green Sheet was available in electronic form as well as hard copy. If you go to [www.sanmarinochamber.com](http://www.sanmarinochamber.com), you will find a Green Sheet icon. Click on it to open a pdf file of the newsletter. Everything is there – photos, ads, and articles. Check it out!

The Chamber Board decided to offer this option because the printed copy arrives late to some of our members. The March issue should be available on the web the last week of February – a full week before the one delivered by the U.S. Postal Service.

An interesting note is that this web version was a cooperative effort of Reva Mattson, who designs the Green Sheet, and Webmaster Chris Datwyler. Reva worked on her computer in San Gabriel and Chris did his part using computers in Laos, Bangkok and other exotic places as he traveled. We had to wait until he returned to give him a real life, Pacific Standard Time thank you.



*The San Marino Chamber of Commerce*

## APRIL MIXER

*Thursday, April 14*

*5:30-7:30 p.m.*

*Hosted by*

*Friends of the San Marino Library*

*1890 Huntington Drive  
San Marino, Ca. 91108*

*Members \$8 Non-Members \$11 The public is welcome*

*626-286-1022*





## The Chamber Page



### Chamber Board Meetings

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 8 a.m. at California American Water Company at 2020 Huntington Drive, San Marino.

March 8	July 12	October 11
April 12	August – No Meeting	November 8
May 10	September 13	December – Asanti
June 7		

The Executive Committee of the Chamber meets on the first Monday of each month at 4 p.m. in the conference room at Citizens Business Bank, 980 Huntington Drive, San Marino.

### 2005 Mixer Schedule

March 10 – Wells Fargo Bank  
 April 14 – Friends of the San Marino Public Library,  
 May 12 – Crowell Weedon & Company, location TBA  
 June 8 – Huntington Library  
 July 14 – TBA  
 August – No Mixer  
 September 15 – Citizens Business Bank  
 October 13 – Glabmans  
 November 9 or 16 – A Stitch in Time/Hodge Podge  
 December 8 – Asanti

### Notes From the Utility Companies

As Southern California Gas customers use their heaters to fight the lower winter temperatures, The Gas Company wants to remind eligible customers about rebates of up to \$200 for purchase and installation of qualified new energy-efficient appliances or home improvement products that can help customers lower monthly energy bills.

Income qualified customers who may need assistance paying their winter electric bills can apply to Southern California Edison's Energy Assistance Fund (EAF). EAF is funded by Edison International shareholders, contributions by Edison International employees, as well as customers who donate to our EAF fund. Customers must apply in person for EAF at one of 100 community agencies that are distributing funds. For agency locations and more information on EAF and other assistance programs, please call SCE at (800) 655-4555.



## March 2005



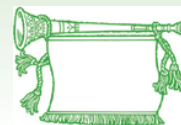
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 National Anthem Day	2	3	4	5
		Doll House Lady March 1-5 Miniatures 25% Off Sale				
6	7 Curves Food Drive	8 San Marino Seafood fundraiser Chamber Board Meeting, 8 a.m. Cal Am Water Operation HOPE at GEO Chiropractic	9	10 San Marino Seafood fundraiser Chamber Mixer, Wells Fargo Bank 5:30 p.m.	11	12 San Marino Seafood fundraiser Thurner Open House, Lacy Park, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Chouinard/Videotheque Film Series, 8 p.m.
13	14 San Marino Seafood fundraiser	15 The Ides of March	16 San Marino Seafood fundraiser	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19 Opening Night of National Pastime at Fremont Centre Theatre Chouinard/Videotheque Film Series, 8 p.m.
20 Vernal Equinox Palm Sunday	21	22 Wildlife Day	23	24	25 Good Friday Purim	26 Chouinard/Videotheque Film Series, 8 p.m.
27 Happy Easter	28	29	30	31 Cesar Chavez Day	Place your Business Event Store Sale or opening on our Monthly Chamber calendar! e-mail your Chamber information to Judy Carter at <jthrush@socal.rr.com> or fax to 626-796-3905	





# Heard Around Town.....

## News and notes about San Marino



🐾 **The Huntington Library, Art Galleries and Botanical Gardens** recently announced that it has received a \$1 million gift from actor-writer Steve Martin to support American art exhibits and to help the institution acquire American art. As the Huntington expands its exhibit space with the addition of the Lois and Robert F. Erburu Gallery, this gift is quite timely. Martin has also loaned American paintings from his own collection to the Huntington.

🐾 **GEO Chiropractic** is sponsoring Operation H.O.P.E. again this year. They are Helping Other People Eat on Tuesday, March 8, when they will accept two bags of non-perishable groceries in exchange for chiropractic care. Food will be donated to the Salvation Army.

🐾 The new owner of the Tribune building hopes to use it as an office building. They are not planning to modify the exterior. They value its architectural/historical significance -- that's good news.

🐾 **Curves San Marino**, 30 Minute Fitness and Weight Loss Center, will be joining the Curves International Inc's 7th Annual "Curves Food Drive" to benefit local food banks. Anyone joining Curves the week of March 7th may bring a bag of groceries and have the normal service fee waived. Anyone may drop off non-perishable food items at Curves, 2920 Huntington Drive, during business hours during the month of March. The Curves Food Drive promotion allows the franchises to help more women reach their fitness goals, while giving back to the community simultaneously. Last year, the Curves food drive collected over 4,000 tons of food for local communities.

🐾 **Diana Dee's Stationery** sent more than 250 Valentine cards to soldiers around the world as a part of the Soldiers Angel Project. Diana Dei thanks all of the Chamber members and people in the community who supported this effort by writing notes to soldiers.

🐾 **Sunrise Senior Living at San Marino** celebrated its Grand Opening on Thursday, February 24. There was a ribbon cutting, remarks by city officials from San Marino and San Gabriel and tours of the new facility. Public open houses were held on Saturday, February 27 and Sunday, February 28 at the Victorian-style residence. Chef Lisa Johnson and her team prepared refreshments and local musicians provided entertainment.

🐾 **Former Chamber President Robert Nafie** celebrated his 25th anniversary as Head of Clairborn School. In late January, he was honored by three hundred people at a party at the California Club. To mark this milestone, the school has established the Robert W. Nafie Endowment Fund.

The school was established in 1926 and currently enrolls 424 students in pre-school through eighth grade.

🐾 Congratulations to Andrew Yip, who is this year's President of the **Chinese Club**. He will be supported by a very able Chinese Club Board this year.

🐾 School tours of the **Huntington Gallery** began in 1936. Recently these tours have been suspended while that historic building undergoes renovation. When the work is complete, tours will resume. Students will enjoy tours of other areas of the Huntington complex in the meantime.

🐾 Suzie Minoux is the new owner of **San Marino Stationery and Party Shop**. She takes over from Mike and Barbara Allison, the previous owners. Suzie is the granddaughter of the founder of the store, Carl Saare, who opened for business in 1954. Welcome Suzie to the business community next time you are in the neighborhood.

🐾 **Artist's Inn and Cottages Bed & Breakfast** has a mid-week mini-vacation you might want to try. It is called "Elmer Dills Mid-Week Special," and features two nights accommodation at the Artists' Inn and Cottage B & B, two gourmet breakfasts, two afternoon teas, two passes to the Huntington Library and Gardens, and dinner for two at the incomparable Raymond Restaurant. (Excluding Holidays and Special Events.) Packages start at just \$360, double occupancy; suites are slightly higher. To book, call 626-799-5668, e-mail [artistsinn@artistsinn.com](mailto:artistsinn@artistsinn.com). Or check out the website at [www.artistsinn.com](http://www.artistsinn.com)

🐾 This month's **Chouinard/Videtheque** film series will feature two double features. The first, on Saturday, March 12, is called, "Way South of the Border," and will show Marcel Camus, 1959 version of Orfeo Negro (Black Orpheus) and Perry Henzell's The Harder They Come (1972). On Saturday, March 26, the theme is "Double Suspense" with Alfred Hitchcock's Shadow of a Doubt (1943) and Francis Ford Coppola's The Conversation (1974). Showings are at Chouinard, 1020 Mission, South Pasadena at 8 p.m. Admission is free.

🐾 Open house for the Thurner House at Lacy Park is scheduled for Saturday, March 12 from 10 a.m. to noon. This 1929 building was home to the first park superintendent. It will now be headquarters for the **San Marino Historical Society** and will be open for recreation classes and community meetings.

🐾 Look for a five-day sale, March 1-5 at **Doll House Lady Miniatures**. Hurry on down to 2327 Huntington Drive and you will receive 25% off everything in the store. Call for details, 626-793-7433.



# The Green Sheet

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Use your Chamber Membership to advertise your business. Call the Chamber at (626) 286-1022 or send items to The San Marino Chamber of Commerce, 2304 Huntington Drive, #202, San Marino, CA 91108. We can also design and produce your ad.