

# The Mussell Messenger

Published by the Santa Maria Valley Senior Citizens Club (SMVSCC)

510 East Park Avenue, Santa Maria, CA 93454

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## February 2021



**Carolyn  
Cabrera**

### President's Message ~

Good Day to all my fellow Club Members! As I sit at my table eating breakfast, I'm thinking about our Club, the desire to meet together, and what the future will bring. We do not know – no one does – but we can do SOME things to make the situation better. It was fun to take part in the "Zoom" virtual tour of the Point San Luis Lighthouse.

Our next "Zoom" virtual meeting will be Monday, February 1, with a guest speaker from Central Coast Community Energy (3CE), a community-owned public agency that sources competitively priced electricity from clean and renewable energy resources (*see more information on page 4*). If you are able to participate in these "Zoom" programs, please join us.

Keep calling friends and family. It helps make the hours alone not so long. Go outside and sit in the sun, watch the birds, and hear them sing ~ that is a real joy!

Keep going my friends – we can do this! Stay safe and continue on in your journey of life.

Thank you all for sending in your membership dues, and if you want your card mailed back, don't forget the self-addressed stamped envelope. Much love and friendship!!!!



## RECREATION & PARKS DEPT. REPORT

When I compose this message each month, I always read what I submitted for the newsletter issue a year ago. In the February 2020 issue I promoted events that all sound so "normal." There was a pet adoption day to help seniors find a "Furr-ever Valentine," a Father-Daughter Dance, and a dance lesson designed for couples on the evening of Valentine's Day. All events were planned and held before the pandemic hit.

Wow ... what a contrast to where we are today. This is the new normal: I am alone in the office of the Mussell Center, wearing a mask, and today's staff meeting will be done over the phone in order to stay socially distant. We receive several calls per hour with people registering for Drive-In Bingo, and I really look forward to seeing our customers when we are able to gather for these drive-in events. What a difference a year makes!

This year the Recreation and Parks Department is hosting a **Drive-In concert on Thursday, February 11, from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. at the Mussell Center**. The concert will feature the Monotones Trio who will be singing songs that fit with a Valentine's theme. There is no charge to attend, but **advance registration is required** by calling 805-925-0951 ext. 2260.

Another fun idea is to register for the **February "Take and Make" classes** to practice your flower arranging skills by making a sweet Valentine's Day centerpiece, or you can learn how to make hot "Cocoa Bombs" that are sure to put a smile on the face of anyone who gets to taste this trendy, decadent treat. Register for the classes online at **[www.cityofsantamaria.org/register](http://www.cityofsantamaria.org/register)**.



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## 2021 Officers & Committee Chairpersons

President:	Carolyn Cabrera	805-448-0623	ccabrera48@verizon.net
Co-1st Vice President:	Annie Lawrence	805-903-3170	calligrapher.annie@gmail.com
Co-1st Vice President:	Kathleen Marshall	805-608-1381	kathleenmarshall17@yahoo.com
Co-2nd Vice Presidents:	Ray & Alice Torres	805-931-0305	pelon@charter.net
Treasurer:	Christel Kurth	805-332-3328	kurth1313@comcast.net
Recording Secretary:	Judy Lindquist	775-813-5186	judybluenote@gmail.com
Corresponding Sec.:	Laura Selken	805-406-9989	laura.selken@gmail.co
Director of Purchasing:	George Tise	805-925-6322	gtot58@aol.com
Receptionists:	OPEN	Contact Carolyn	if you are interested
Sunshine:	Simone Gillogly	805-925-6267	
Travel:	Kathy Doty	805-937-0314	dudoty@comcast.net
Recreation Coordinator:	Barbara Wiley	925-0951, ext. 2264	bwiley@cityofsantamaria.org

## February Birthdays!

Joe Razo	1	Roberto Limon	17
Carol Thaler	3	Anita Ritenour	18
Victoria Randolph	4	Bobbi Eggleston	19
Jim Snowdy	4	Barbara Fleming	19
Eileen Armijo	6	Andrea Maidment	19
Val Brose	6	Renate Mechtold	19
Gary Shaw	6	Bob Turner	19
Jane Bringley	7	Rosemary D'Amato	21
Herb Sisti	7	Richard Santana	21
Toni Loayza	8	Slim Juhl	22
Dru Haas	10	Norm Rushing	22
Denise Sky	11	Beth Shurtleff	22
Lydia Marson-Polito	12	Patti Martinez	23
Madeline Barns	13	Sue Salling	23
Dorothy Olevsky	13	Nancy Kunishige	25
Carol Garrymore	14	Christel Kurth	25
Tara Hoffmann	14	Jessy Rushing	25
LaVonne Brawner	16	Mella Griffin	26
Ruth Limon	16	Jose Loayza	26
Herb Gerfen	17	Margaret Campbell	27
Arthur Hernandez	17	Sharon Hoff	27
Gail Homer	17	June Miller	27

If any dates are incorrect or missing,  
please contact Laura Selken at 805-406-9989  
or email her at [laura.selken@gmail.com](mailto:laura.selken@gmail.com).

## Dial 211 for Vaccine Information!

## February Anniversaries!

Ralph & Rosalie Foster	3
Jose & Toni Loayza	10
Herb & Judith Sisti	14
Joe & Grace Mendoza	15
Bob & Freddie Newman	16
Dave & Jerrie Carey	19
Alan & Cindy Eft	27

## The Sunshine Corner

If you are aware of any club members who need a bit of "sunshine" ~ not feeling well, hospitalized, going through a difficult time, or have suffered the loss of a loved one, **PLEASE call Simone** at 805-925-6267. Leave your name & number in case she needs to contact you.

## Get Well Soon

**Bob Newman & Freddie Newman**

## In Sympathy to ...

the family of  
**Lois Gadsby**

**RECREATION & PARKS DEPT. REPORT** [continued from page 1]

Each of us probably has stories of the contrast of life “BC” (**B**efore **C**COVID-19) and life as it is today. The lessons learned ... the new ways we do things now that we never dreamed of in the past ... what we miss the most ... and some old things we did “forever” that we do not miss at all. I have included some **reflection questions** below. If you’re a writer, they could be a writing prompt for your journal or a letter to a loved one. If you’re seeing loved ones on video chats, you can ask them these questions as a conversation starter as a way to check in with them to see how they are coping during these challenging times. To **send me your responses**, please do so in email to **[bwiley@cityofsantamaria.org](mailto:bwiley@cityofsantamaria.org)** or **mail it** to my attention at the Recreation and Parks Office, 615 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria, 93454. (I love reading your cards and letters!) I plan to use your feedback to help me better understand how Senior Club members have been impacted by COVID-19 and how your wisdom and resiliency have helped you adjust to the “new normal.” Please include your contact information so that I can seek permission to use them in a future column.

- 1) How are you changed from the person you were one year ago?
- 2) The best thing that happened in 2020 was \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) Once this pandemic is over, I am eager to go \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) There seems to be a baby boom linked to the year 2020. If you wrote a letter to one of those babies for them to understand what life was like when they were born, how would you complete this sentence: “I know it’s hard to imagine, but in the year 2020 we actually \_\_\_\_\_.”
- 5) What excites you about 2021, and what is on your wish-list to do this year?
- 6) What piece of advice would you offer to your fellow Senior Club members to help them cope with the new normal?
- 7) What have been the most challenging adjustments you have made due to the pandemic?
- 8) Have you found the “silver lining” of our current situation? Have there been any positives for you and/or your family?

We miss you and send you our very best wishes for a **Happy Valentine’s Day**! I’ll see you at the Center for our drive-in events!

~ *Barbara Wiley, Recreation Coordinator* • 805-925-0951 ext. 2264 • [bwiley@cityofsantamaria.org](mailto:bwiley@cityofsantamaria.org)

**Please Renew Your Membership by March 1, 2021.**

RENEW  
MEMBERSHIP

**We need your support to keep going!**

RENEW  
MEMBERSHIP

**Please, send your check for \$20 per person to PO Box 6688, Santa Maria, CA 93456**

**(please, include a SASE if you wish to have your membership card prior to the Mussell Center reopening.)**

**Visit our website: [smvscc.org](http://smvscc.org)**

You’ll find the most recent newsletter on the home page, along with special events and important information. Explore other areas of the site by clicking on various sections in the upper right side. Visit the **Senior Resources** section for the latest on senior scams or fraud, as well as COVID-19 information. Please contact Laura Selken ([laura.selken@gmail.com](mailto:laura.selken@gmail.com) or 805-406-9989) if you have any suggestions on additional items for us to include on our website. We want your feedback!!



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# The Mussell Messenger

## Santa Maria Valley Senior Citizens Club Newsletter

*Monthly Virtual Program*

*Monday, February 1, at 4 p.m.*



Central Coast  
Community  
Energy

Central Coast Community Energy is locally controlled and governed by board members who represent each community served by the agency. Beginning in January 2021, 3CE will be sourcing electricity from clean and renewable sources on

behalf of all electricity customers in Santa Maria, as well as the communities of Guadalupe, Northern Santa Barbara County, Solvang, and cities across San Luis Obispo County.

Guest speaker, **Oswaldo Martinez**, will provide an overview of the agency's services, key benefits to the community, frequently asked questions, and enrollment options available until March 31st.

Click on this link to join the Zoom meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88630880008>

Or you may use **any** phone to join the meeting by dialing: **1-669-900-6833** and providing the following Meeting ID when prompted: **88630880008**.