

## NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The November Board Meeting Minutes will be published in the next (January) issue of the Meadowlark.

## A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*Paula Provoznik,  
Executive Director*

Hard to believe another year has gone by. Even harder to believe we are already looking forward to the next swim season. The membership committee has been hard at working preparing for the 2002 Membership Renewal Drive. Membership Renewal Drive packets should arrive at you home the 1st week of January. Please look over the material carefully and note the few date changes for this year.

The **Early Bird deadline** for Full Swim Membership is 5:00pm **Friday February 1st**. Full Swim Membership before this date is **\$720.00**. After Feb 1st, the cost of Full Swim Membership goes up to \$770.00.

The Final Deadline to join as a Full Swim Member is 5 pm Fri. March 1st. The Fee is \$770.00.

For Greenmeadow Residents only there are again two other options for joining the Association.

Senior Limited Swim. The age for eligibility is 60 and the swim hours are restricted to Morning off-peak hours. Daily Sun-Sat until 2:00 pm. If you have any questions regarding this option please contact Paula at 494-3157.

Fair Share Membership for Residents of Greenmeadow is an option that allows you to remain

active in the association and receive discounted rates on programs. Although use of the pool is not included with this membership, it is a great way to show your support for the association.

The age for Senior Fair Share has also been lowered to 60 this year. Fair Share Membership is \$160.00 while Senior Fair Share Membership is \$80.00.

Please join the 2001 Board of Directors at the Annual Holiday Open House on December 2nd from 2-4 pm at the home of John and Kathleen Wilson. This was a great success and a lot of fun last year. The Wilson's have graciously offered to host this a second year in a row. Thanks John and Kathleen! Children are welcome accompanied by a parent. Please bring your holiday spirit and a plate of your favorite hors d'oeuvres. Drinks will be provided.

Meet the New 2002 Board of Directors on Wednesday Jan 16th at the Greenmeadow Community Association Quarterly Meeting.

7:30 pm kicks off the Social portion of the meeting with refreshments provided.

8:00 Is the scheduled start time for a guest speaker. The Association Meeting follows the speaker. Quarterly meetings are held in the Community / Preschool building.

I hope you can join us in kicking off the new year and welcoming a new Board of Directors. This would also be a great time to drop off your membership renewal forms. I will personally be available to receive your membership form and payment.

## Be a PANDA

### Learn How To Help Organize Your Community During Emergencies

I would like to encourage my Greenmeadow neighbors to participate in the PANDA (Palo Alto Neighborhood Disaster Activities) program offered by the Palo Alto Fire Department's Office of Emergency Services.

I just went through the course and now as an "emergency responder" I should be able to help organize our community should the need arise. I like knowing that I can contribute in a positive way. In addition to my learning new skills, my family now has a cool picture of me putting out a fire!

You can get more information about upcoming courses by calling 650.617.3197 or emailing oes@city.palo-alto.ca.us or visiting their office at 3750 Middlefield Road, PA.

—Helen Golden  
650-494-3461

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## SLOW DOWN ON CHARLESTON!

Police to Use Radar on  
Charleston to Catch Speeders

*From The Gunn Connection for  
Thursday, November 6:*

The Palo Alto Police Department has actively started speed enforcement on Charleston Road, between El Camino Real and Middlefield Road. The Transportation Division, in conjunction with the Police Department, has recently completed engineering and traffic surveys. For the first time since the speed trap law went into effect, staff was able to justify the 25 mph prima facie speed limit on this segment of Charleston, due to using the new provisions of the law which allow "residential density" and "pedestrian and bicycle safety" factors when conducting engineering and traffic surveys.

To see the Gunn Daily Bulletin...

<http://www.gunn.palo-alto.ca.us/~info/daily.html>

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## CHALLENGER SCHOOL PROPOSAL FOR INCREASED ENROLLMENT

Residential density, quality of life and traffic safety are concerns to Greenmeadow residents who enjoy the walkability of this part of town. A proposal by Challenger School at the corner of Middlefield and Charleston is likely to increase traffic on the Charleston school corridor, impact safe routes to school (Nelson Drive, through Mitchell Park route), and in general, impact pedestrian and bicycle safety as well as the school commute from the Greenmeadow neighborhood.

Challenger School has submitted a proposal to the City of Palo Alto Architectural Review Board and the City Planning Department regarding the addition of a

new middle school at its site on the corner of Charleston and Middlefield. Challenger School plans to increase enrollment/faculty by about 260. The school would like to open the entrance on Charleston across from Cafe Sophia, which is not currently in use, add new buildings to accommodate the increase in enrollment, and modify the current entrance on Middlefield Road.

Greenmeadow was represented recently at a meeting on 10/25 at the City Planning Department by Myllicent Hamilton and Mary Anne Deierlein (GMCA Civic Affairs Committee), and by others in the broader community concerned about the Challenger proposal, and the increase in traffic it will generate.

One of the existing traffic problems occurs on Nelson Drive near Charleston during morning and afternoon commute hours. Hoover School only permits right hand turns in or out of the school from Charleston. Hoover parents coming from the west frequently turn right onto Nelson, make a U-turn at El Capitan, return to Charleston and turn left at the light in order to turn right into Hoover to drop off or pick up their children.

This traffic problem may be worsened if the Challenger School driveway is opened on Charleston, and is restricted to right turns only. Challenger parents dropping off or picking up their children and wanting to return east on Charleston will likely turn left on Nelson, make a U-turn on El Capitan in order to return the way they came.

The City Planning meeting on 10/25 had several positive outcomes:

Enhanced communications with City Planning and Transportation about our neighborhood concerns, interests and effort on school commute traffic

safety

Coordination among departments in order to review the Charleston Corridor Study, Traffic Engineering and Traffic Calming measures, and new input from City/Public School Traffic Safety Committee meetings

Another meeting to review the proposal again

The Challenger School proposal is still under review and the plan is likely to be modified. A future meeting to review modifications, give input, discuss issues is open to anyone interested in attending. If they cannot attend, they can write or email:

John Lusardi, City Planning Dept.

email:

[john\\_lusardi@city.palo-alto.ca.us](mailto:john_lusardi@city.palo-alto.ca.us)

phone: 329-2561/voice mail

The Challenger School proposal is on the agenda of the next City/School Traffic Safety Committee meeting. These meetings are held monthly and are attended by City Transportation, City Traffic, PAPD, and Public School Representatives to review and coordinate traffic safety measures, programs, and items brought to the attention of the group. Currently, only Palo Alto Unified School District schools are represented in these meetings. Mary Anne Deierlein attends these meetings representing Fairmeadow Elementary School.

Future meetings will likely include representatives from Challenger School as well as from other private schools in our community.

— submitted by Mary Anne Deierlein  
and Myllicent Hamilton  
(GMCA Civics Affairs Committee)

## IN MEMORIAM

Jack "Sandy" Snodgrass, a well-known member of the Greenmeadow community who lived for many years at 362 Parkside with his wife Mary, died September 30 of stomach cancer in Medford, Oregon.

He was born in Los Angeles on June 20, 1923, and served in the U.S. Coast Guard from 1942 to 1946. He was a teacher, administrator and consultant in the Palo Alto Unified School District for 14 years, serving as the Family Life Coordinator for the district during the 1960s and 1970s. During that time, he provided a well coordinated, comprehensive K-12 Family life/sex education program for the district that was considered a model for the country.

He also worked at the Oregon Forestry Department for one year and was a consultant for the California Framework for Health Education at the kindergarten through junior college levels.

In the 1980s, after Cubberley High School was closed, he spearheaded the effort to "save the Cubberley track." He formed a committee of interested neighbors to help him put pressure on the school district to keep the track open for the public to use. His frequently published newsletters kept everyone up to date regarding the progress being made toward that end. The fact that the track is still being enjoyed today by exercise walkers and joggers is his legacy to the community.

He is survived by his daughter, Mary Lou Snodgrass of Chico, who was one of the recipients of the Greenmeadow Scholarship Award; Scott Snodgrass of Mountain View; and Sandy's longtime companion, Ruth Griffin of Medford, Oregon.

— Adapted from obituary in the *Palo Alto Weekly*, November 14, 2001.

## ANNUAL GREENMEADOW HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Please mark Sunday, December 2, from 2:00 to 4:00 PM, on your calendar and join your neighbors and fellow Greenmeadow Community Association members at the SEVENTH ANNUAL GREENMEADOW HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE at the home of Kathleen and John Wilson, 440 Adobe Place.

Attending this event will give us all an opportunity to thank the 2001 board members who have worked tirelessly this year on our behalf. In particular, we will be honoring President Celeste Johnson, who is completing her second year as our top leader and her third year on the board; Vice President Rob Schreiber, who is completing his fifth year on the board; Treasurer Satish Menon, who is completing his third year on the board; Secretary Meri Gruber, who is concluding her two year term; Assistant Secretary Breht Napoli, who also is concluding his two year term; Assistant Vice President Sharad Patel, who was appointed to the board in June; and Assistant Treasurer George Thompson, who served on the board until September, when he resigned.

In addition to thanking these board members, we will have numerous opportunities to visit with longtime friends and neighbors and to meet some of our newer members who have recently moved into Greenmeadow. Just remember to bring along our holiday spirit of good will and a plate filled with our favorite holiday finger food.

See you all at the Wilsons on Sunday, December 2!

— GMCA Leadership Development Committee (Jack Hamilton, Laura Johnson, Sigrid Pinsky, JoAnn Revis)

## WALT AND KAY HAYS HOST ROUND THE LIVING ROOM DISCUSSION

On Tuesday evening, November 13, nearly 20 Greenmeadow residents gathered at the home of Walt and Kay Hays, 355 Parkside, for a round-the-living room discussion to welcome a number of families who had recently moved into Greenmeadow.

The following "newcomers" and "longtimers" participated in the lively discussion along with the Hays: Norman Adams (291 Parkside), Jane Ardley (352 Parkside), Linda Balint (4003 Scripps), Marti Campbell (330 Parkside), Koushik Datta and Stacy Budin (342 Parkside), Joe Doniach (290 Parkside), Leslie Ekings (345

Parkside), Jack Hamilton (4014 Ben Lomond), Ray and Lisette Narragon (217 Creekside), Laura and Carroll Rankin (372 Parkside), and Jane Shih (335 Parkside).

More round-the-living room discussions are being planned for the future. If you would like to attend one of these events, call one of the Membership Committee Co-Chairs: Claudette Klein (856-1690), JoAnn Revis (493-2990) or Kathleen Wilson (494-6032).

— Submitted by the GMCA Membership Committee

Get the Meadowlark on the Web!

[www.greenmeadow.org](http://www.greenmeadow.org)

## 2002 GREENMEADOW BOARD ELECTS OFFICERS

On Wednesday, October 17, at the Greenmeadow Community Association (GMCA) quarterly meeting, the Association elected four new members of the 2002 GMCA Board: Mary Anne Deierlein, Andrea El-Danasouri, Russell Reid and Brian Sakai.

At its November meeting, the GMCA Board appointed Lanie Wheeler to fill the un-expired portion of the two year term of George Thompson, who resigned from the Board in September. Lanie's term on the Board will expire on December 31, 2002.

Paragraph 10.6 of the GMCA by-laws reads as follows: "Within 30 days after the election of new members, the new Board shall hold an organization meeting and elect its officers for the coming year. These shall consist of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Vice President, Assistant Secretary, and Assistant Treasurer."

Accordingly, on Wednesday, November 8, all seven members of the 2002 GMCA Board met and elected their officers for the coming year. Attending the meeting were the following 2002 GMCA Board members: Mary Anne Deierlein, Andrea El-Danasouri, Celeste Johnson, Sharad Patel, Russell Reid, Brian Sakai and Lanie Wheeler. Jack Hamilton, representing the GMCA Leadership Development Committee, facilitated the meeting.

At the meeting, a discussion was held that focused on the roles and functions of the seven Board officer positions, and on the interests of each 2002 Board member with respect to those positions. The individuals present agreed that the offices and GMCA committee liaison positions on the 2002 Board would be filled in the following manner:

**President:** Russell Reid

(President's Advisory & Leadership Development committees)

**Vice President:** Celeste Johnson (Pre-School & Swim Team committees)

**Secretary:** Mary Anne Deierlein (Civic Affairs & Social committees)

**Treasurer:** Lanie Wheeler (Finance & Emergency Preparedness committees)

**Assistant Vice President:** Sharad Patel (Buildings & Grounds committees)

**Assistant Secretary:** Andrea El-Danasouri (Architectural Review & Communications committees)

**Assistant Treasurer:** Brian Sakai (Membership & Pool committees)

In addition, Sharad Patel agreed to assist Mary Anne Deierlein

with respect to her liaison work with the Social committee, and Russell Reid agreed to assist Andrea El-Danasouri with respect to her liaison work with the Architectural Review committee and to assist Lanie Wheeler with respect to her liaison work with the Emergency Preparedness committee.

Board members also agreed to consider a proposal that Board meetings in 2002 will be held on the first Monday of every month.

Following a discussion of the need for a second meeting of the 2002 Board members to plan their goals and objectives for the year 2002, the individuals present agreed that they will meet for that purpose on Thursday, December 13, at 7:00 PM.

— Submitted by the GMCA Leadership Development Committee  
(Jack Hamilton, Laura Johnson, Sigrid Pinsky, JoAnn Revis)

## MEMBER NEWS & NOTES

### Generation-3

To the list of third-generation Greenmeadow residents now growing up in our little corner of paradise, add the name Jackson Douglas Chalmers. Born to Sheryl and Chris Chalmers (450 Adobe) on November 2 at El Camino Hospital, the little guy took twenty hours to show up, finally appearing at 4:15 AM. He'll be living in the same house owned for many years by his grandparents, Bob and Suzanne Chalmers.

### Big Five-Oh

Jack and Mary Healy (306 Diablo) first met at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia in 1949. Jack, a Wisconsin boy, was a summer student in geology from MIT and Mary was a local girl. Last month at the Ladera Oaks Country Club they were guests of honor at a gala

marking their fiftieth wedding anniversary. There was music, dancing, a lavish dinner and a warm testimonial. Old friends and family, 150 guests, came from far and near. A classmate of Jack's from MIT was there from Calgary as was a friend from Pismo Beach whom they met as newlyweds in Louisiana 49 years ago. Eleven folks, relatives and friends, came in from Nova Scotia; every one of them had attended the wedding in Antigonish fifty years ago! Former neighbors from the 60s at 321 Diablo, Ken and Gloria Schuffell were there from Danville. And, of course, many old friends from Greenmeadow attended: John and Gen Berwald, Gary and Sonia Bradski, Esther Eisenberg (and David and Claudia), Elaine Hatfield, Sam Kempton and Barbara

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Member News & Notes *continued*

Ortez, Matt and Leigh Rowe, Bob and Mary Shaw, and Dave and Lanie Wheeler. The big bash was put together by the Healy's son, Paul, and son Brian's wife, Connie. The Healys came to Greenmeadow in 1966 from the Denver area for Jack's new job at the USGS in Menlo Park. They raised five kids here: Anne, Joan, Paul, Brian and Tucka (Margaret). All of them swam for Greenmeadow, but Tucka preferred dry land and ultimately became an All-American soccer player at UC Berkeley. Add our warmest best wishes to Jack and Mary Healy.

## Citizens of the USA

Greenmeadow residents Yaqun Pei and Bohai Zhang (190 Parkside) voted in an American election for the first time last November 6th. Natives of China, Yoqun, Bohai and their daughter Linda all became US citizens last summer. Yaqun came to this country in the 80s to get his Ph.D at the University of Texas. Bohai and Linda joined him there. The family moved from Los Altos to Greenmeadow in late 1992. Yaqun is employed at Exodus; Linda graduated from Gunn last year and is a sophomore at Harvard.

## Best of the Best

Two years ago, the Gunn High boys' cross-country team finished dead last in the SCVAL El Camino Division finals and failed to qualify for the Central Coast Section (CCS) meet. Last year showed improvement, when the Titans reached CCS and finished ninth. Gunn coach Ernie Lee hoped this season would bring his team another step closer to qualifying for the State Meet and per-

haps achieving that goal next year. Well, the Titan team is a year ahead of schedule after running off with the CCS Division II title last month on a windy, rainy day on the 2.95-mile Crystal Springs layout. Their combined time was a team record; every one of Gunn's five scorers ran a personal best, led by a 33-second drop by freshman Garrett Reid. "That's a healthy chunk of time," said Coach Lee of his performance. Garrett, the son of Russell and Beth Reid (4022 Nelson), won the frosh-soph division at the El Camino Division finals a few weeks prior to earn his spot on the CCS team. Good luck at the big meet, Garrett. (Palo Alto Weekly)

## Textbook Case

What do you do when you are being disturbed by a noisy neighbor? Suffer in silence? Call and ask politely for them to stop? What if that doesn't work? Confront them angrily? Call the police? Retaliate? Well, there's usually a right way to solve any problem and a group of residents on the 3800-3900 block of Nelson Drive may have found one to theirs. After years of suffering from being awakened by an assortment of loud noises from Piazza's Market in the very early morning hours, despite repeated requests for quiet, they have acted. It started with a letter from Elisabeth Seaman to the neighbors which began, "I wonder whether you are ever annoyed by early sounds...from...the trucks that deliver products to Piazza's market? If you are and would like us to try to do something to improve the situation, please read on." The letter then describes Elisabeth's own contacts over the

years with the store manager, Dennis, and the owner, John Piazza, Jr. which were cordial, but improvements were minimal and short-lived. Her letter goes on to suggest a neighborhood get-together for some brainstorming and concerted action. That proposal brought together a group of eleven residents: the Berquists, Colins, Liberatores, Pinskys, Nguyen and Dang and, of course, Elisabeth. That meeting came up with numerous noise sources (ten in all, such as slamming truck doors or dumpster lids) and sixteen ideas on how to alleviate the situation, ranging from delivering after 6 a.m., posting "quiet" signs and moving/soundproofing the loading dock to working with the police to enforce the city noise code and boycotting the market. But it was felt that the first step should be for them to talk directly to John Piazza and work together on a resolution of the problem and agree on a reasonable timeline to fix it. A letter describing the situation was written and sent to him. As a first step he was invited to come to Nelson Drive some morning (unannounced!) and listen for himself. Surprise of surprises, soon afterwards Mr. Piazza did drop in early one morning and experienced the racket first hand. Things quieted down right away and have, for the most part, stayed that way for two months now. Putting him in their shoes (slippers!) worked. Now they are hoping that he continues to crack the whip.

*Please phone or send member news to Dick Pollak. tel. 493-3148 or e-mail to [rjpollak@svpal.org](mailto:rjpollak@svpal.org)*

ALL Meadowlark submissions must be made by the 15th of the month in order to appear in the next month's issue! Submissions may be e-mailed to [info@greenmwadow.org](mailto:info@greenmwadow.org), or brought by the pool office during business hours. Please call 494-3157 with any questions.

## CHANCE MEETING PAYS BIG DIVIDENDS FOR NEW RESIDENTS

For Ross and Diane Hinchcliffe (260 Parkside Drive), it was going to be just another uneventful evening out at a local night club with their own group of friends. Little did they know when they first locked eyes with each other from where they were sitting on opposite sides of the bar that it would be the beginning of a lifelong relationship.

"We spotted each other from across the bar and toward the end of the evening, Ross walked over and introduced himself," recalled Diane. "I ended up giving him my phone number, but he didn't bother to call me for three weeks. When he finally did call me to ask me out on a date, I said no just to be spiteful."

Fortunately it didn't end there

for the Hinchcliffes, and, according to Ross, "the rest is history." Diane and Ross dated for three years and then they got married. The wedding took place in 1988 in Manchester, England, Diane's home town.

Thirteen years later their family has expanded to include two daughters, Ashley (12) and Robyn (11). Ashley is a seventh grader at JLS Middle School, and Robyn is a sixth grader at Terman Middle School, which is temporarily housed at the old Garland Elementary School on North California.

"When we first came to the U.S. in 1997, we rented a home in Los Altos Hills that was just inside the Palo Alto Unified School District boundaries," Diane said.

"This fall we started looking for a home to rent in Palo Alto so that I wouldn't have to drive so many miles every day, taking the girls to school and to their after school activities. Also we wanted to make it possible for the girls to be able to spend more time with their school friends."

"We had heard about Greenmeadow from our friends Kate and Paddy Clarke, who are good friends of Andrew Zeif and Melissa Dougherty (345 Parkside Drive). We were told that Greenmeadow was really a nice community. Also, I had seen Greenmeadow from a distance for several years because of taking a golf class at Foothill College at Cubberley."

"We learned that Jane Schopbach's home at 260 Parkside was for rent by reading an ad in the Palo Alto Weekly. I liked the floor plan, the landscaping, Jane's garden, and the fact that it was close to the schools. Ross trusts my judgment so much that we signed a year's lease before he even saw the house. All four of us like the house and are really glad to be in the community."

Diane's taste in architecture and landscaping was developed during her upbringing in Manchester, a city in the north of England. She graduated from Hazelgrove High School in 1980 and that fall enrolled at Stockport College in Manchester. Four years later she had earned a diploma in Business Studies. Her first job out of college was at the Royal Bank of Scotland in Manchester. She worked there as a loan officer, until the family moved to the U.S. in 1997.

Ross grew up in London. He attended Hatfield Grammar School and graduated from there in 1977. Fresh out of school, he joined the Royal Air Force and later enrolled at a military academy called Hal-

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## Re[de]fined Humor

The Washington Post held a contest for readers in which they were asked to supply alternate meanings for various words. The following were some of the winning entries:

1. **Coffee** (n.), a person who is coughed upon.
2. **Flabbergasted** (adj.), appalled over how much weight you have gained.
3. **Abdicate** (v.), to give up all hope of ever having a flat stomach.
4. **Esplanade** (v.), to attempt an explanation while drunk.
5. **Willy-nilly** (adj.), impotent
6. **Negligent** (adj.), describes a condition in which you absentmindedly Answer the door in your nightie.
7. **Lymph** (v.), to walk with a lisp.
8. **Gargoyle** (n.), an olive-flavored mouthwash.
9. **Flatulence** (n.) the emergency vehicle that picks you up after you are run over by a steamroller.
10. **Balderdash** (n.), a rapidly receding hairline.
11. **Testicle** (n.), a humorous question on an exam.
12. **Rectitude** (n.), the formal, dignified demeanor assumed by a proctologist immediately before he examines you.
13. **Oyster** (n.), a person who sprinkles his conversation with Yiddish expressions.
14. **Circumvent** (n.), the opening in the front of boxer shorts.
15. **Frisbeetarianism** (n.), The belief that, when you die, your soul goes up on the roof and gets stuck there.
16. **Pokemon** (n), A Jamaican proctologist.

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Welcome Hinchcliffe Family *continued*

ton College that is located in Buckinghamshire. He graduated after three years with a bachelor's degree in Aeronautical Engineering.

Four more years of service in the Royal Air Force were to follow, with assignments in all parts of the world. "I left the military in 1985," recalled Ross, "and went to work in Saudi Arabia for the Saudi Air Force. Actually I was an employee of British Aerospace, the largest aircraft manufacturing company in England. British Aerospace had sold a large number of aircraft to Saudi Arabia in those years, which meant that it had to supply technical support to the Saudi Air Force."

Ross and his engineering colleagues trained Saudi engineers in how to maintain the planes the government had purchased from British Aerospace. "Diane and I saw each other every fifteen weeks for three crazy weeks," Ross said. "In between, we exchanged phone calls, letters and tapes."

Returning to England in 1988, Ross tied the knot with Diane and continued working for British Aerospace for a while. Then, from 1989 to 1994, he worked for a UK consulting company, where he ran the sales operation and served as general manager of the business.

Ashley, their first child, was born in 1989. Diane stayed at home for six months taking care of the new baby, and then returned to her job at the bank on a part time basis. "Lo and behold, surprise, surprise," Diane exclaimed, "thirteen months after Ashley was born, along came Robyn." With a toddler plus another baby making demands on her, she took a year's sabbatical from the bank, with the assurance that she could have her regular job back when she returned.

In 1994, Ross left the UK consult-

ing company and went to work for a U.S. cad cam software company, Parametric Technology Corporation, which was headquartered in Boston. He ran the UK sales operation for three years. At that point, a former colleague at PTC, who had taken a position with Object Design in Boston, offered Ross a chance to come to California and go to work for Object Design at its office in San Mateo. Ross jumped at the opportunity and is currently Western Regional Director for the company.

Diane has been a stay-at-home mom ever since coming to the U.S. Looking for opportunities to volunteer in Greenmeadow, she helped with the set up for the Haunted Pool party just before Halloween. In the process, she made friends with Kari Sreenivasan, who was the chair of the party committee. Both Diane and Ross are looking forward to attending the Annual Greenmeadow Holiday Open House on December 2 and to meeting more of their new neighbors.

A warm Greenmeadow welcome to Ross, Diane, Ashley and Robyn. Please record their phone number (493-2116) in your Greenmeadow Directory.

— Jack Hamilton



*Happy Holidays!*



## ASSOCIATE MEMBER BUYS HOME OF HIS DREAMS IN GREENMEADOW

Recently separated from his wife, Associate member Joe Doniach was looking for another place to live when he saw the 'For Sale' sign in front of Doug Mecham's house at 290 Parkside. "I knew right away that it was just what I wanted," Joe said.

I've been an avid lap swimmer at the Greenmeadow pool ever since our family became Associate members in 1989. To be able to walk across the street to the pool to swim I knew would be a great luxury. And since I usually swim laps in the morning when the water exercise class is being held, I figured I also would be able to keep up connections with all my friends in that class."

"We moved to Palo Alto in 1987 and bought a house on Kipling Street, about a mile north of Greenmeadow. We enrolled our three year old twins, Sam and Bridget, in the Parents Nursery School on Louis Road. We learned about Greenmeadow from another parent who lived on Creekside at the time." Joe and Ann put their names on the Associate member waiting list and two years later they were able to join the Association.

"All these years Greenmeadow has been the place to hang out," recalled Joe. "We would come down from Kipling and stay the whole day at the pool. We would either bring a picnic lunch or a picnic dinner with us. We've made many friends here, including resident families as well as other Associate members. The twins took swimming lessons here, and we had many a birthday party for them at the pool. Bridget ended up on the swim team for a few years and became a life guard this

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Welcome Doniach *continued*

year.”

“Our family has participated every year in the 4th of July festivities, the various potluck picnics in the Greenmeadow park and, of course, the twins have attended many of the Greenmeadow Halloween parties. Bridget has become very good friends with Elisabeth Johnson (4017 Ben Lomond) and Cailen Cooke (4022 Ben Lomond).”

Sam and Bridget will be spending part of their time with their father in Greenmeadow and part of their time with their mother on Kipling. Of course, much of their time will be spent at Gunn High School where they are juniors. Sam is a tight end (6' 2"; 200 lbs) on the varsity football team, and Bridget swam last year on the Gunn JV swim team.

Born in Liverpool, England, Joe lived mainly in London until he was 13 when his parents emigrated to the U.S. The family, including Joe's four brothers and sisters, moved to Menlo Park because his father had assumed a position as Professor of Applied Physics at Stanford, where he still continues to teach and do research. Joe graduated from Menlo Atherton High School in 1972, and enrolled that fall at UC Berkeley.

After a year Joe left college and in January 1974 got a job as an auto mechanic at the Briarpatch Cooperative Auto Shop on Park Blvd. While working there, he took flying lessons at the Palo Alto Airport. “As soon as I got into a plane, I knew that I wanted to become an airline pilot,” Joe said. “So I got all the necessary licenses and then realized that I needed a college degree to get a job as an airline pilot.”

“I studied at San Jose State during the 1977-78 academic year, and in the summer of 1978 a friend and I flew a Cessna 140 to

Oshkosh, Wisconsin, to participate in the annual fly-in for private pilots. While in Wisconsin we visited the University of Wisconsin in Madison. I instantly fell in love with the campus, which in the summer is gorgeous. After returning to Palo Alto, I transferred my credits from UC Berkeley and San Jose State and enrolled that fall, without realizing how cold the winters in Madison would be.”

Joe graduated in 1980 with a degree in Applied Math, Engineering and Physics. His first job was with a small commuter airline based in Fayetteville, Arkansas, flying 19 passenger turbo props. Six months later, he went to work for Midstate Airlines, a commuter airline based in Stevens Point, Wisconsin, and flew all over the mid-west for two years. It was while he was flying for Midstate that he and Ann were married in January 1982.

The next stop was with Pacific Express Airlines in San Francisco, but it went bankrupt six months later which prompted a move to Midway Airlines in Chicago. “It was very hard to get jobs in the early 1980s with the major airlines,” recalled Joe. “Finally, in 1985, United started hiring and fortunately I was hired. I've been with United ever since.”

Joe started as a Flight Engineer on the Boeing 727, then in regular intervals he became a Co-Pilot on the 737, 757, 767 and 747. Two years after the twins were born in 1984, he transferred to San Francisco and in April 1987 he brought Ann and the family to Palo Alto. In 1990 he became a Captain on the 737, and in 2000, he became a Captain on the Airbus, A320, which seats about 140 passengers.

In the summer of 1995, the family went on an extended summer vacation and rented their home on Kipling to Rich and Penny Ellson. While living there that summer, the Ellsons experienced Green-

meadow and became so enamored with the neighborhood that in September they bought the house at 513 El Capitan. “I feel very good about the fact that the Ellsons were introduced to Greenmeadow through us,” Joe said.

After completing their preschool education at Parents Nursery School, Sam and Bridget attended El Carmelo Elementary, JLS Middle School and are now at Gunn. Joe has two stepsons from Ann's first marriage and has just become a step-grandfather with the birth of Simon in October.

Joe has a small two-seater plane that he parks at the Palo Alto Airport. Called a Citabria, it looks a lot like a Piper Cub, according to Joe. “I'm teaching Bridget and Sam to fly, and if anyone in Greenmeadow would like to get a bird's eye view of their home, just give me a call.”

A warm Greenmeadow welcome to Joe, Sam and Bridget! Please record their phone number (813-9767) in your Greenmeadow Directory.

— Jack Hamilton

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## Mecham Farewell Get-Together

Drop in to say good-bye to Doug and Ross Mecham. Doug has sold the house and is moving to Oregon. Ross will be traveling until he begins law school next fall (Anna unfortunately will be taking exams at UC Santa Barbara and can't leave the campus.

**Sunday December 2, 7-9 p.m.  
at Mark & Carolyn Dobervich's,  
241 Parkside Drive**

If you think of it and want to, bring a plate of cookies to share. If you don't think of it, don't worry! Just come, reconnect with neighbors you don't see as often as you'd like, and say good-bye to a couple of guys who have contributed much to the Greenmeadow neighborhood.