



# Kent Woodlands Journal

Newsletter #304

March 2021

The monthly newsletter of the Kent Woodlands Property Owners Association

## President's Note

### Building Community by Getting to Know Our Neighbors: Melanie Vetter — Journaling, Storytelling and Life Coaching

Our neighbor Melanie Vetter and her husband Chip moved to Kent Woodlands in 1999 and raised their three children, Matt, Anne and Douglas, in our beautiful neighborhood. Melanie credits living in Kent Woodlands for creating a love of nature and hiking in all three kids, who are now all in their 20's. The five Vettters still love to hike together when everyone's home.

Melanie believes your story is the key to the life you want. She's helped hundreds of people find more joy and resilience and move more fully into the life they long to live by helping them dig into their stories. She teaches workshops and classes at COM, Book Passage, West Marin Seniors, The Hivory and many others, and also through her own company, Wellfleet Circle. Melanie didn't start her career as a story, journaling and life coach; in fact her path started as a lawyer.

Growing up in Greenwich Village, New York City, Melanie never imagined she'd live in California. She met her husband, Chip, when they were both students at Harvard Law School, and fellow members of the law school rowing club. And despite both being "East Coasters," they decided to mix things up and accept jobs at law firms in San Francisco in 1983. Both eventually left their law practices to pursue other careers.

After practicing law and then moving to the business side of real estate investments, Melanie left the corporate world to raise her kids and also raise needed funds for non-profits such as SFMOMA, Adopt a Family of Marin, Kentfield Schools and others. She started a non-profit, Tax-Aid, with two fellow attorneys in 1988, that still helps low to moderate income families by providing free tax advice. Tax-Aid has returned tens of millions of dollars to the communities of the Bay Area.

Chip moved to investment banking at two of the preeminent San Francisco-based investment banks (Montgomery Securities and Robertson, Stephens), eventually rising to Head of Corporate Finance and Co-Head of Investment Banking at Robertson, Stephens. He left banking to become a teacher at The Marin School for 17 years where he was a beloved teacher. After leaving The Marin School he has been tutoring high school students through Bridge the Gap, Canal Alliance and 10,000 Degrees.

Still searching for her calling, Melanie found it through teaching as well. She was inspired by the principles of "Guided Autobiography," and developed ways to help people find more meaning, joy and resilience through writing about and reflecting on their stories. She continues to teach these methods, which help her clients figure out what they really value and how to move forward using that knowledge.

She feels grateful to live in Kent Woodlands during this time, the natural beauty is soothing and also uplifting. One aspect of the pandemic that Melanie sees is the increase in loneliness. Studies have shown that doing creative endeavors with others helps decrease feelings of isolation and loneliness. She has offered free journaling groups during the



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*(Melanie Vetter — Continued from front page)*

pandemic as an antidote to isolation. She would love to offer an emotional boost to her neighbors through free monthly journaling sessions (on Zoom). Please contact Melanie at [Melanie@wellfleetcircle.com](mailto:Melanie@wellfleetcircle.com) if you're interested.

A gift for you: to help Kent Woodlands neighbors connect with the power of your story she's making available a free resource: "3 Steps to Having a Meaningful Life You Love." You can find it at [wellfleetcircle.com/meaningful-life-you-love/](http://wellfleetcircle.com/meaningful-life-you-love/). The exercises in "3 Steps" will help you begin to gain clarity on what you really value and show you the way to your best self and to the life you long for.

For more information about Melanie and what she does, go to Wellfleet Circle at [wellfleetcircle.com](http://wellfleetcircle.com).

— Ann Becker, President

*The President's Note is intended to build community by spotlighting local residents. It is not an endorsement by the Association of any commercial product or service.*

*If you know of a Kent Woodlands resident who would be a good subject of a "President's Note," let me know by sending an email to [info@kwpoa.com](mailto:info@kwpoa.com) with "Possible subject of President's Note" in the subject line.*

## PLEASE CHECK YOUR PERIMETERS FOR TRASH!

Driving or walking through our neighborhood, trash is frequently visible along the roadways. Many times, the trash may fall along the perimeter of your property in a place you may not necessarily see it.

We ask that all homeowners periodically take a walk around the borders of their property and check for stray



garbage that may have landed on or near it.

And, of course, please take care not to litter along our roadways!

## Sheriff's Report

The following is a recap of Sheriff activity in Kent Woodlands during January 2021:

Alarm Activations	4 Activations
911 Hang-Up	4 Incidents
Vacation Homes	4 Homes
Vacation Checks Completed	11 Checks
Extra Patrol Requests	5 Checks
Welfare Checks	0 Incidents
Citizen Assist	2 Incidents
Civil Advice	1 Incidents
AOA Fire	4 Incidents
Assist Outside Agency	0 Incidents
Verbal Disturbance	1 Incidents
Noise Complaints	0 Complaints
Arrests -Warrant/Crime/Misc.	1 Arrest
Thefts	1 Incidents
Vandalism	0 Incidents
Traffic Stops / Veh. Invest.	1 Stop
Parking Complaints	2 Complaints
Suspicious Vehicles/Persons	1 Incidents
Traffic Accidents	0 Accidents

Submitted by Deputy Doug Allen

## **Architectural Applications: March 2021**

**Please note:** This newsletter is your **official notice** from the KWPOA regarding property improvements submitted for approval by the Architectural Committee. Please review this section very carefully as some planned development may affect you. Note that Architectural Committee actions are not final until ratified by the Board of Directors.

### ***THIS MONTH'S ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW MEETING: March 16, 2021***

**Important Notice:** Due to the ongoing Covid-19 situation, AC meetings will be held via video- or teleconference until further notice. Please email [mbarber@kwpoa.com](mailto:mbarber@kwpoa.com) for participation instructions. As this situation continues, it may be necessary to reschedule or change the format of AC meetings. Accordingly, please consult the KWPOA event calendar at [kwpoa.com](http://kwpoa.com) for any meeting changes.

<b>Property Address</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Category/Project Description</b>
<b>New Applications for March</b>		
421 Crown	Poplawski	C-4 Significant Change in Appearance
7 Laurel Way	Ponti-Quaroni	C-4 Significant Change in Appearance
21 Rancheria	Katz-Cooley	C-4 Significant Change in Appearance
226 Woodland	Raabe	C-12 Time Extension
<b>Applications Approved in February</b>		
65 Rancheria	Hemmeter	C-2 Minor Addition
<b>Applications Continued in February - next meeting to be decided</b>		
None		
<b>Open Enforcements</b>		
14 Madrone (enforcement on hold)		
421 Crown (enforcement on hold)		
<b>Exempt and Administratively Approved Applications</b>		
100 Rock	Kelly	Solar installation

**ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Ann Peckenpaugh Becker (Acting Chair and Board Representative), Bruce Raabe, Cori Snyder Schuman, Julie Johnson, Tom Nicholson

**AC COORDINATOR:** Michael Barber ([mbarber@kwpoa.com](mailto:mbarber@kwpoa.com))

**MEETINGS:** Held via tele/videoconference on **the 2<sup>nd</sup> and/or 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of each month from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.** To be noticed in the newsletter and placed on the agenda, COMPLETE applications must be received by the 21<sup>st</sup> of the preceding month (or the Friday prior if the 21<sup>st</sup> falls on a weekend or holiday). All calls concerning Architectural Committee matters should be directed to Michael Barber at the KWPOA office at 415-721-7429 or via email at [mbarber@kwpoa.com](mailto:mbarber@kwpoa.com). Materials and applications may be mailed to P.O. Box 404, Kentfield 94914, or delivered to the office by appointment only.



Kent Woodlands Property Owners Association  
PO Box 404  
Kentfield, CA 94914

## Regular Board Meeting

**Thurs. March 25, 2021 - 6:00PM via videoconference.**  
**Contact [jwilliams@kwpoa.com](mailto:jwilliams@kwpoa.com) for log-in information.**

- Call to Order
- Public Comment
- Approval of February 25, 2021 Meeting Minutes
- AC Report and Ratifications
- Hazard Mitigation Specialist
- Pet Clean-Up Stations
- Road Improvements for Pedestrians
- Fire Safety Report
- Officer Reports
- County Update
- Social Events Update
- Administrator's Report
- Next Regular Board Meeting Agenda
- Adjourn and Reconvene in Executive Session

### Executive Session Agenda:

- Call to Order
- Approval of February 25, 2021 Executive Minutes
- Enforcements and Legal Matters
- Personnel
- Adjournment

*(This is a preliminary agenda. Final agenda will be posted at our office 96 hours prior to meeting.)*

## KWPOA Contact Information

**Mailing address:** PO Box 404, Kentfield 94914  
**Office address:** 1010 Sir Francis Drake Blvd. #200  
Kentfield, CA 94904  
**Phone:** 415-721-7429  
**Web Site:** [www.kwpoa.com](http://www.kwpoa.com)  
**Email:** [info@kwpoa.com](mailto:info@kwpoa.com)

## Board Members and Staff

Ann Becker, President/AC Rep	<a href="mailto:abecker@kwpoa.com">abecker@kwpoa.com</a>
Bitsa Freeman, Vice President	<a href="mailto:bfreeman@kwpoa.com">bfreeman@kwpoa.com</a>
Sara Wardell-Smith, Treasurer	<a href="mailto:swardellsmith@kwpoa.com">swardellsmith@kwpoa.com</a>
Kirk Baierlein, Secretary	<a href="mailto:kbaierlein@kwpoa.com">kbaierlein@kwpoa.com</a>
Noah Hagey, Director	<a href="mailto:nhagey@kwpoa.com">nhagey@kwpoa.com</a>
Matt Kursh, Director	<a href="mailto:mkursh@kwpoa.com">mkursh@kwpoa.com</a>
Jeff Leh, Director	<a href="mailto:jleh@kwpoa.com">jleh@kwpoa.com</a>
Jeanne Williams, Administrator	<a href="mailto:jwilliams@kwpoa.com">jwilliams@kwpoa.com</a>
Michael Barber, AC Coordinator	<a href="mailto:mbarber@kwpoa.com">mbarber@kwpoa.com</a>