

West Campus Point Faculty Housing Homeowners Association

An Occasional Newsletter April 2008











Welcome David Carr and Anna Lopez

#966, moved in January 2008

Pictured on right with David's 101 year old Grandmother

David Carr is an associate professor in the Department of Geography. He was hired in 2004 and specializes in population-and-environment issues with ground-breaking research completed on migration and deforestation in Guatemala's Mayan Biosphere Reserve. This is David's first appointment as a professor and he is excited to be part of one of the friendliest and most prestigious geography departments in the US. Anna Lopez, David's fiancee (wedding date TBD), will be graduating with her PhD in Geography from San Diego State University this summer. Her dissertation focuses on urbanization and health in West Africa. As you might expect from geographers, David and Anna love traveling. As a matter of fact, the information for this article was obtaines while they were in Chapel Hill, North Carolina on their East Coast conference tour which included six states over five weeks. They will be on another academic tour this fall covering North Africa, Europe, India, and Bhutan. Wine tasting ranks high on their list of fun activities. They are members of the Carr Winery that has a tasting room in Santa Barbara. David and Anna's choice in wineries reflects their sense of humor because they are not related to the winery, but still chose the wine club for its name. The NCAA Basketball Tournaments catch their attention and they follow it religiously (especially since David earned his graduate degree at UNC Chapel Hill). If you share their penchant for wine tasting, college hoops or Red Sox ball games they would love your company for these endeavors.



Homeowners Manual

The WCP Hospitality Committee is revising the 1992 Homeowners Manual to be available on the WCP website and to give to new homeowners. The manual will include a letter from the board, a list of useful contacts, and information from the CC&Rs. Please keep a look out for the survey in regards to this revision which will give you an opportunity to contribute your thoughts and desires for the manual. If you are interested in being more involved in revision process or the Hospitality Committee in general. Please contact Allison Moehlis at moehlis@funblaze.com.

April 2008

We've Got a Winner!

Congratulations Sahar El Abbadi, daughter of Amr El Abbadi and Janet Head (#943), whose robotics team, the D'Penguineers, won both the San Diego and Los Angeles regional competitions.

The competitions they attended in San Diego and Los Angeles were two of over forty regional competitions worldwide coordinated by FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology). Each year, FIRST creates a different robotics challenge for high school students to compete in. The D'Penguineers are Team 1717 with their robot "Penguin Bot 3," and were one of 50 teams to compete in their regionals. Sahar comments that "[they] did not expect to win" in San Diego, given the heavy competition. On an alliance with two other strong teams, they came out victorious after several extremely close matches. The competition was fun because Penguin Bot 3 performed the way the D'Penguineers had wanted it to.

After winning in San Diego the experienced D'Penguineers proceeded on to Los Angeles where the competition was not as stiff. Penguin Bot 3 paired with the Beach Bots during the elimination rounds, and winning was more certain. The rules of the game that the robots participate in are pretty intricate, but the general idea is to build a robot that will knock giant 40-inch diameter yoga ball-like spheres off a 6.5 foot high rack, zoom over to a bouncing ball, pick it up off the ground, and hoist it back over the rack. Penguin Bot 3 is a \$13,000 robot whose funding comes from local sponsors and took 6 weeks to build. Every part of the robot was built by members of the team in the Dos Pueblos machine shop, with the exception of parts that needed to be welded, which were taken to a local sponsor, Valley Precision Products. As a result, the team worked long hours on the robot, sometimes even until 4 am. "When you work with a group of 30 kids for that long, you can't help but bond with them, we've all become really close because we've gone through so many ups and downs together," Sahar commented.

Now the D'Penguineers are off to the national competitions in Georgia for some more fun. Penguin Bot 3 is a product of the Dos Pueblos High School's Engineering Academy lead by Amir Abo-Sheer, a teacher at DP, who was an engineer in the private sector before deciding to become an educator. Sahar is one 32 students involved in academy, eight of whom are girls. For more information on the program visit dpengineering.org.



D'Penguineers, Sahar in front row, 3rd from right.

LRDP

Public Hearing for the UCSB Long Range Development Plan
Tuesday, April 29th @ 7pm, Embarcadero Hall, Isla Vista
Written comments will be accepted until June 23rd at 5:00pm
www.uscsbvision2025.com

WCP on the Web

Visit www.westcampuspoint.net to find the blueprints and CC&Rs for West Campus Point. It is here where you can register to become a member of the WCP email list and crucial email list and to learn more about the leak remediation project through the online forum.

Attention!

Meeting for all WCP Homeowners with Hal Fremer
12:30 pm Sunday April 27
Facilities Management
Building 594, The Learning Center
Mesa Drive, UCSB campus