

United Mutual Status

it in the following week's paper. I explained that I had been present at the meeting in question, that I had asked the questions and that I knew the truth. I felt it important that the truth be given to the residents as soon as possible. My letter did not appear in the Nov. 3 paper, but my latest communication with Barbara Potter, Globe editor, was that it was "in the system for Nov. 10." Therefore, if it was printed, you may have already read it. For those of you who have not seen it, it has been included in this newsletter as follows;

"The out of court settlement by Third Mutual against PCM whose managers were enriched year after year by unapproved Incentive Plan bonuses resulted in a mutually satisfactory resolution. The attorney fees were recovered completely and the cost to this community was zero! In addition, Third Mutual received substantial financial compensation. Mr. Blodgett's letter, which was published in this section of our community newspaper, was completely incorrect. To my knowledge, Mr. Blodgett never attended any of Third Mutual Finance Committee meetings. He was not present at the July meeting when I questioned the sizeable 'contribution' which Third Mutual received and which showed up in the review of the financial records. It was not a member of the Board who violated confidentiality in responding but a member of the financial services staff who described it as a 'contribution.' When I asked, 'Who made this huge contribution?', the same staff member simply stated, 'It was a contribution.' No Board member has ever violated the confidentiality of the settlement agreement, by stating the dollar amount. The only statement given was one reflecting that which was agreed upon by both parties, 'a mutually satisfactory agreement had been reached.'"

Letters to the editor frequently are written by the same few who refuse to accept facts. It would be far more beneficial to this community if they would just do two things. First, get your facts straight before sounding off and second make an attempt to understand financial information.

Nancy Robinson

The United Laguna Hills Mutual Assessment packet for 2012 is scheduled for mailing November 21st. It will include information required by law to be sent annually to members such as the Monetary Penalty Schedule, insurance information, and other disclosures along with the notice of the Basic Monthly Assessment for the coming year. The Basic Monthly Assessment, without property taxes and property insurance, will be \$527.46, an increase of \$8.61. The GRF portion went up \$8.04 and the United Mutual portion went up only \$0.57. The table of assessment components compares the 2011 and 2012 assessments. Imagine 100% equals \$1.00. The 2012 Basic Monthly Assessment breaks down like this: 24.4% goes to Direct Mutual Operating Expenses, 21.2% goes to Mutual Shared Operating Expenses, 15% goes to United's Reserves, and 39.4% goes to GRF for Operating and Reserve Contributions. Looking at the Basic Assessment in the 2012 Business Plan (formerly known as the Red Book) under Direct Mutual Operating Expenses: General Maintenance Expenses are 16.6% and Water & Sewer are 6.7%; under Mutual Shared Operating Expenses: Landscape is 12.7% and Mutual Shared Maintenance Expenses are 5%; and under GRF: 6.7% of the Total Basic Assessment goes to GRF Reserve Contributions. The United Board is trying to keep assessments under control and will focus on increasing efficiency and reducing costs in all areas. Currently several projects are being re-evaluated.

The United Long Range Landscape Committee has been meeting with a Landscape Architectural firm to develop a Master Plan for the Mutual. The United Master Plan is ready and will be presented in an Open Meeting Friday, November 18th at 1:30 p.m. in the Board Room at the Community Center. The meeting will be televised.

Resident feedback is appreciated.