



*Northwest view*

*Little did we know an emergency evacuation was going on in our canyon while we were at a concert in L.A. This is the view from our driveway- after sneaking past the road block and hiking to our house.*

*Power was out, so we packed up a few essential things in the dark and found our remaining cat our neighbors were unable to capture while we were gone.*

*After hosing down the surrounding hills, Jill takes off with the cat to Tammy and Steve's, who live at the entrance of Hasley Canyon.*

*As the fire rages on throughout the night, Tim stays with the house on ember patrol. At this point the news is all about Malibu, and nobody seems to know there are fires elsewhere.*





South view from front yard

*The next morning the worst of it seemed to be over and the wind cleared out the smoke. Jill came back to the house and unpacked the cats and a few things. Two hours later, cats and car were packed up again as the winds shifted and a wall of fire came over the ridge in a new direction...*



Southwest view



West view

*We watched from the driveway as the super scooper saves our neighbor's house on the opposite hill.*



*The fires continues to burn during the day to the north and west of us.*

*North view from guest bedroom*



*Throughout the day as the winds blow to the west, we witness countless scenes like this and watch our fantastic fire crews battle the flames.*

*Northeast view*



*The fire to the north subsides but the fire to the west starts to work its way down the hills.*

*As the sun sets we are sad to see the helicopters and planes go home...*



*View from our gazebo*



*Exhausted from lack of sleep, too much adrenaline, lack of food and the inconvenience of no power, Tim decides to barbecue something that's thawing in our refrigerator. An odd time to be cooking on a gas barbecue and eating melting ice cream. Our view during the dinner hour...*

*By midnight, the ground crews have the fire under control as the last of the flames burn to the white fences bordering the homes below us. For once the flames have subsided and only small patches of fire remain. At this point, there doesn't seem like there is nothing left to burn around us and things are under control.*

*Tim finally decides to take a much needed rest. Jill too anxious to sleep, stays awake on fire watch. At 3:30am she realizes that it's starting to smell smoky again. Looking into the dark night, everything looks good on the west side of the house but looking to the east she can see a new wall of flames coming down the hill, ominously headed towards the house. A battalion of fire trucks with their red lights flashing silently, eerily appear through the haze and flying ash. The winds are starting to pick up at furious pace. Jill urgently wakes up Tim and once again evacuates with the cats.*

*Thinking we had gone through the worst of it, Tuesday proved to be the most intimidating...*



*Sunrise looking northeast from the guest bedroom window*



*The fire as it closes in on the neighborhood*



*Once again, our fantastic fire fighters contained the worst (and hopefully the last) fire in our canyon by mid-day Tuesday. To our knowledge, only sheds and barns were destroyed.*

*Tim stayed with the house throughout the duration so the photos are from his viewpoint. Our neighbor down the street is a fireman so it was reassuring to know he was around. At this point we are just tired and smoky and thought the pictures would do a better job of explaining what we've been dealing with. There's more to the story but will save that for a later date. Right now we are just trying to get back to normal mode.*

*Thanks to all of you who called, emailed and offered us your homes as a place to stay. We heard from so many people that we haven't heard from in years. We are truly overwhelmed by everyone's outpouring of concern. And special thanks to Tammy and Steve for rescuing our cats when they had so many animals of their own to worry about.*

*Our hearts go out to all those people who lost their homes and to all the firefighters who are still out there battling the blaze.*