

# Neighborhood News

Real Neighbors, Real Neighborhood

**Summer 2009** 

### 2009 Calendar of Events

General Meeting Thur., July 9th, 7pm \*Note loction is 1118 N. Freeman

Summer Movie Night Sat., July 11th

Fall Clean Up Sat., October 10th

General Meeting Thur., October 15th, 7pm

> Fall Concert Sat., October 24th

Holiday Party Sat., December 13th

#### New Page 5 Feature

Check out the new Real Estate Section now authored by your neighbor and long-time Washington Square resident, Jason Isley of Seven Gables.

For more info go to www.washington-square.org

Santa Ana, California

#### Message from the President, Nancy Lutz:

Punny how the mind works. I was reviewing the responses to our membership drive and I realized how many senior citizens have been long-time residents of Washington Square and decided to focus my message on a few of them. In order to protect their privacy I will refer to them by street only.

When have a couple on Baker who moved from Des Moines, Iowa to Santa Ana in 1950. The husband was with the Army Air Corp unit conveniently stationed at the facility which is now the parking lot for Eddie West Stadium. They had several children so they needed a large house. They liked the neighborhood and were close to a Lutheran church. The wife briefly wrote an article entitled "Hello Santa Ana" under the pen name of Nancy Newcomer in a small newspaper known as The Globe started by two gentlemen, one of whom was Sky Dunlap, an instructor at Santa Ana College. They no longer drive, but a caring neighbor and fellow church-member gives them a ride on Sundays. They are both proud and pleased with what is going on in the neighborhood.

We have a resident who came to Santa Ana in 1952 and purchased their home on Westwood in October 1959. They needed a bigger house at the time and fell in love with their Westwood home. The husband worked in the construction industry and it was not uncommon for him to drive to Los Angeles or Camp Pendleton on a daily basis to a job site. There were no freeways then, so his day would sometimes begin at 4:00 a.m. and end late in the evening. In spite of this, they were never interested in leaving their family and friends in Santa Ana.

Next we have acouple on Baker who moved into their larger home in 1959. The husband taught at Wilson Elementary School for 38 years. They only had one car which the wife used unless her husband had after-work meetings. All of their children graduated from Wilson, Willard and Santa Ana High. When their daughter was about four years old she was riding her tricycle south on Baker toward Civic Center, which was not a cul-de-sac at the time. Some suspicious men drove by eyeing the little girl and when their neighbor saw what was happening, went out to protect her. This couple still appreciate their good, caring neighbors.

Lastly and again on Westwood, we have a neighbor who, with her husband, moved from a Santa Ana home on Cubbon Street where they owned and operated a country store selling paper Americana and collectibles in the front, and they lived behind the store. When the store was closed they went to Italy for awhile. Upon their return they moved to their home on Westwood in 1989 partly because the street reminded them of the trees around their former home in Sacramento. Also, it has a small building in the rear where they could store the inventory from the store. The husband worked for many years as the manager of Bidwells, a fine men's store on I ido Isle

There are many, many more seniors living in the neighborhood who have interesting life stories and backgrounds. I appreciate their contribution and am glad they have remained in Washington Square. If you have an interesting story to tell about yourself or living in Washington Square please let me know.

Sincerely, Nancy Lutz President, Washington Square Neighborhood Association Page 2 Neighborhood with pride

### Washington Square invites you to

Be neighborly

Saturday July 11<sup>th</sup>

- Ginema in the Square-Free Morie Vight

It's a first! Instead of the annual summer party it was decided to mix it up a bit and have a movie night. The idea was started by David Jirik who last summer did a few movie nights in his Towner Street backyard. The crowds were much smaller but everyone who attended loved it. So David's company, Heliotrope Studios, has a large portable screen and a video projector which he offered to us for an evening of "Cinema in the Square" and this event was born.

Next came the research to pull this off. We need a dark, quiet place to properly view and enjoy the movie. Skulking the streets in the dark, the committee found that our darkest place is the cul-de-sac at 16th west of Towner where there's no street light.

We are renting chairs which will be set up theatre style in the street. And what's a movie without popcorn? So there will be popcorn and some soft drinks and water. To qualify for the freebies, you need to check in and get a handstamp and if you want other snacks or beverages, you can certainly bring them.

Your help is needed for setup, popcorn duty and teardown. If you're available to help, come out early as it takes a few people to set up the big screen alone. Other than that, it's just the chairs, beverages and popcorn--which compared to our other events--is a breeze! Show up or call Nancy Lutz for more information on volunteering: 714-836-9110.

Wine Walk was awesome!

It was a great event. We've had nothing but positive remarks on the 2009 Wine Walk and we hope to see you at the 2010 event which is already in the planning stages.

If you have an interest in being on the committee, call Nancy Lutz to get in on the fun.

Your Wine Walk Committee: Tom and Nancy Lutz, Sam Puzzo and Carol Frank, David and J-L Jirik, Javier and Laura Garcia, Oldrich and Ivana Unger, Ray and Jean Poppa, Jim and Carina Pantone.

A shoutout and special acknowledgement: to Sam Puzzo and Carol Frank. Without them this event simply would not happen and we are deeply grateful.

### howdy neighbor!

As neighbors depart Washington Square, and new families arrive, please reach out and welcome our new residents. We are known for our sense of neighborhood and by offering a smile, a handshake and you may make a new friend.

If you happen to live near a family that has recently moved-in, please make the effort to stop by and extend a friendly welcome from all of us.

If you are new to Washington Square, please introduce yourself to your new neighbors. You'll probably find this is a friendly place to call home.



The Washington Square Neighborhood Newsletter is published quarterly by the Washington Square Neighborhood Association. WSNA is a non-profit mutual benefit community association established in 1984. WSNA is an officially recognized neighborhood by the city of Santa Ana, California. Currently the volunteer Newsletter Committee is chaired by Jean-Louise Jirik who gets a lot of help from you. If you have suggestions or story ideas, you can email her at jljirik@heliotropestudios.com

Love this neighborhood! Page 3

### Neighbor Spotlight: Jason Isley

You will be hearing a lot from Jason Isley in future newsletters so we thought we'd introduce him formally.

Residents, meet Jason.

Jason meet residents.

"Hi everyone!" says Jason.

Well, that's done so now we can get on.

Jason currently lives on Freeman Street, is a 10 year resident of Washington Square, and a lifetime resi-

dent of North Santa Ana. He was raised next door in Floral Park making him a true home boy and neighborhood expert in the real sense.

We are fortunate that he has agreed to supply the real estate section of the newsletter beause he's also been in real estate for 10 years and is passionate about our neighborhood and lifestyle in Washington Square. In fact, some of you reading this may have worked with him as your real estate agent or listing agent to get into the house you are in now.

When asked, Jason extols his appreciation for the unique architecture and different personalities of the houses in Washington Square. Most important is the unique sense of community that is impossible to find in most other locales.

Please greet and say hello to Jason and his wife as they sroll through the neighborhood, usually with their basset hounds.

### **Attention CrimeStoppers**

Washington Square residents are known for how we watch out for ourselves and each other. Safety is everyone's concern because crime is a serious problem and it is in our best interests to be informed. Good news--the internet has just made it easier to do so.

The website is www.crimemapping.com. You can sign up for alerts or visit anytime. Enter Santa Ana and view the various police activity for a period you select. The graphic (right) shows a screen capture which displays the crimes in Washington Square (outlined) on a recent Saturday.

As you see, WS was relatively crime free for the day. Usually there are a few spots of activity but you will see that compared to some other neighborhoods in Santa Ana, we have quite a low level of criminal activity. It probably helps that we are located adjacent to the main police department and have watchful neighbors.



Have a great summer everybody! from your WSNA board and volunteers.

Page 4 Keeping the spirit alive

### Got a suggestion?

name

address

By George, I'd love to help make this a better place to live. Here's my suggestion: (or email to newsletter@washington-square.org

zip & phone



Clip and mail to WSNA PO Box 4435 Santa Ana 92702

## Garbage Garbage Everywhere ...

It's a fact of life and it's probably not you. But have you noticed the increase in litter on our streets? Maybe we're just out more now that it's warm and the days are longer so litter is more evident. If so, you're not the only neighbor who's noticed. Does it make ya wonder why we went through all the trouble and expense of getting our unique garbage cans purchased and installed?

Nobody wants to live with trash so here's the plan:

- 1. When school starts again the board will (again) contact the two schools in the neighborhood. Both will be asked to reach out to parents and students with a reminder to pick up after themselves and their children as they walk through the neighborhood.
- 2. Use the newletter to ask neighbors like you who are reading this article to pick up trash they happen to see and dispose of it. We will all thank you!
- 3. Ask you, the wonderful WSNA neighbors, for additional ideas. Please contact us by email with any and all suggestions or use the form above.

### Website Usage Stats www.washington-square.org

We received great feedback from the neighborhood and our readers for including website numbers for last quarter. So David Jirik, our Webmaster, again pulled updated monthly website usage stats for you for the month of May 2009:

Unique visitors: 2187
Total visitors: 3645
Pageloads: 13,472

Interestingly, the top search string (search that brought visitor to WSNA website) "burrell's bbq". Go figure.

Remember: Membership in Washington Square Neighborhood Asociation is open to everyone. Renters, homeowners, former residents--it doesn't matter because we are a *neighborhood association*, not a homeowner association. We are an all volunteer organization of fellow neighbors who strive to keep our streets friendly, safe, clean and enjoyable.

We hope you participate and enjoy the events, newsletter and website which you and your neighbors, the WSNA volunteers. produce for you.

### Car insurance with **PERSONAL SERVICE.**

No extra charge.

At State Farm\* you get a competitive rate and an agent dedicated to helping you get the coverage that's right for you and the discounts you deserve. Nobody takes care of you like State Farm. Contact me. I'll prove it.





Monica Martinez Drevon, Agent Insurance Lic. #: 0F8705 I 3816 S Bristol Street Santa Ana CA 92704 Bus: 714-966-2679

LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOR, STATE FARM IS THERE. Providing Insurance and Financial Services. Se habla espanol.

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company
State Farm Indemnity Company
Bloomington IL statefarm.com

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### Jason's Neighborhood

### Real Estate Recap

by Jason Isley

Available Properties: Louise Street Freeman Street Lowell Street	Bedrooms 3 2 2	Baths 2 2 2	SquareFt. 1,542 1,640 1,004	Price \$290,070 \$341,000 \$400,000	for sale
Pending Properties: Baker Street Baker Street Louise Baker	Bedrooms 3 3 3 3	Baths 1 2 1 2	SquareFt. 1,500 1,606 1,358 1,369	Price \$269,000 \$299,900 \$319,900 \$349,000	in escrow
Closed Properties: 1522 N. Rosewood 1509 N. Rosewood 912 N. Freeman 1322 N. Baker 1302 N. Olive 1011 N. Towner 1604 N. Towner 1501 N. Freeman 1116 N. Baker 1106 W. 16th Street	Bedrooms 3 4 5 3 2 3 3 3 7 4	Baths 1 2 3 1 1 2 2 2 4 2	SquareFt 1,060 1,387 2,300 1,212 1,300 1,640 1,493 2,000 4.080 2,235	Price \$259,000 \$275,000 \$284,000 \$300,560 \$300,000 \$341,000 \$294,000 \$458,750 \$570,000 \$475,000	SOLD!



Jason Isley
Office 714-665-7134
Cell 714-478-6750

jasoni@sevengables.com

www.jasonisley.com



Clip and save:

### 2009 Neighborhood Event Calendar

Thurs. July 9 WSNA General Meeting 7pm

Sat. July 11 Summer Movie Night

Wed. **August 5** WSNA Board Meeting 7pm

Wed. September 2, WSNA Board Meeting 7pm

Wed. October 7 WSNA Board Meeting 7pm

Sat. October 10 Fall Clean Up

Thurs. October 15 WSNA General Meeting 7pm

Sat. October 24 WSNA Fall Concert

Wed. **November 4** WSNA Board Meeting 7pm

Wed. **December 2** WSNA Board Meeting 7pm

Sun. **December 13** WSNA Holiday Party 2pm



Looking for a Place to...

Meet new friends, sing in a choir, or perhaps you are simply looking for a place to call your own, or a group with whom to nurture your soul, or the souls of your family.

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

600 N. Main

www.fpcsa.org 714-542-7253



### Looking for something fun? Don't forget the budget-friendly



The Santa Ana Zoo wants to share the magic of music and joy of nature. Their series of concerts, "Sunset at the Zoo" is a great way to spend a summer evening with the family. There are two more in the series, June 28th and July 19th 5:30-7:30pm. Take a picnic and join your friends, old and new, for an evening of live music, coffee, dessert, train rides and, of course, animals. Check their website for more details, www.santaanazoo.org.



On the internet? Surf into our website <u>www.washington-square.org</u>. It's available 24/7 to quench your curiosity and quell your questions.



Neighborhood Hero presentation is June 25th where Washington Square's own **Tom Lutz** will be honored for his tireless work to make this Santa Ana neighborhood better.

If you are available to attend, the festivities are at the Com-Link meeting 6/25, 7 p.m. at the Police Depatment's Community Room. Otherwise you can congratulate him as he slaves at our events or as he cleans the grafitti off our trash cans. We all owe him a big thank you for being so dedicated.



### Garbage cans a little bedraggled?

FREE REPLACEMENT and repair is offered by Waste Management. There's no reason to suffer with cracked lids, broken/missing wheels or cracks in the can itself when all it takes is one little phone call to 714-558-7761.

When you call, they will instruct you on the procedure and deliver the appropriate new cart to your curb.

Love this neighborhood! Page 7

### Your Washington Square

Babysitters and Petsitters

714-651-4243 Babysitting: Jennifer Holden Petsitting: Jean-Louise Jirik 714-543-9079

#### Babysitters needed! Join the exciting, high-paying world of babysitting by attending "Babysitter's Boot Camp"

Introducing The American Red Cross Babysitter's Boot Camp--A 5-day training for kids 11-15 who want to learn how to be a great babysitter! The course is fun, fast-paced, with hands-on activities, exciting videos, role-plays and lively discussions so prospective babysitters and their "employers" the confidence and peace of mind that they can properly handle emergency situations and have fun with children under their care.

Where: American Red Cross Orange County Chapter When: June 22-26 OR July 13-17 OR August 10-14. 9-4:00pm. Questions? Contact the American Red Cross at (714)481-5346 or mcatanzaro@oc-redcross.org



### **City Contact Information**



Code Enforcement 667-2780 647-5062 Police Services 834-4211 Police—non emergency 565-4044 Construction Engineering (Ongoing Street Construction) Design Engineering 647-5640 Street Design

Sidewalks Flood Ratings

647-5641 Development Services 647-2791

Street Work Permits

Private Utility Permits Water Applications 877-STOP TAG Graffiti Hotline 647-3380 Obstructing Trees & Bushes 647-3380 Potholes Sanitation (Overgrown Yards) 647-3380 Shopping Cart Removal 800-252-4613 647-3380 Street Cleaning Street Lights (Edison) 800-990-7788 Street Lights (City) 647-3380 Traffic Engineering 647-5673 General Traffic Concerns 647-5673 Neighborhood Traffic 647-5645 Permit Parking 647-5612 School Traffic Concerns 647-5612 647-5611 Traffic Signals Traffic Control Plans 647-5605 Street Striping 647-5605 Trash Pick Up & Dumpsters 558-7761 Tree Trimming 647-3380 647-5454 Water Bill Water Engineering 647-3320

#### For code enforcement issues: call Joe Rodriguez **Washington Square's dedicated Code Enforcement Officer** 714-667-2734

Joe Rodriguez is a consummate professional and has a track record of response to us. He brings a depth of knowledge and valuable years of experience in the field, all right here in Santa Ana, and he will do his best to solve your problem. In addition he is an expert on lawns and lawncare. He knows everything (honest) and you can call him anytime for some reliably on-the-mark advice.



#### DID YOU KNOW?

- It is illegal to dispose of hazardous waste in personal or public trash cans and it is punishable by a \$25,000 fine. This includes motor oil, housepaint and other toxic substances.
- Trash containers are not to be put out on Sunday before 4:00 PM and must be taken in by 12:00 midnight Monday evening. Trash containers must be stored so they are not visible from the street.
- Garage/Yard Sales are only allowed on the first weekend of March, June, September, and December, Saturday and Sunday only. Items must not be put out before 7:00 AM and taken in by 4:00 PM. No new merchandise is allowed to be sold.
- Cars are never to be parked on the lawn. Inoperable vehicles are not allowed on the street or in the driveways and cars can not remain in the street for more than 72 hours without being moved. Inoperable vehicles are vehicles that are either damaged, flat tires, and do not run.
- Front yard fences require a building permit and can not be over 30" high. The permits are free. Contact the building department 667-2700 for more information. Maintain your wood fences by keeping them painted and in good repair.
- Store Shopping Carts are a blight when left on the street after they are stolen from stores. The solution? If this applies to you, please use your own folding shopping cart (pictured at left) instead of stealing them from stores to transport your purchases. It is expensive for the city to pick them up (\$75 each time) and you can buy your own for around \$10-25 at nearby stores. It's an investment in good neighbor relations.





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### Washington Square

PO Box 4435



Santa Ana CA 92702

#### NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

We welcome new volunteers. As you can see below there are very few residents active at making this a truly outstanding place to live. Any help you can give is appreciated so please call Nancy and talk about opportunities to serve. We remain committed to WSNA and having fun while making it happen! It's never boring.

#### 2008-2009 Board Positions

President	Nancy Lutz	836-9110		
<b>Vice-President</b>	Lynnette Verino	835-0473		
Secretary	Ivana Unger	972-8503		
Treasurer	Oscar Garza			
Members at large:				

Jean-Louise Jirik 543-9079 Jean Poppa 836-6430

#### **Committees and Block Reps:**

Membership	Laura T. Garcia	836-8128
Website	David Jirik	543-9079
Newsletter	Jean-Louise Jirik	543-9079
Comm-Link	Jean Poppa	836-6430
Hospitality	Tracy Simons	552-4871

#### **Block Representatives**

Area I Louise North of Washington	
Randy & Tracy Simons	558- <del>4</del> 871
Area 2 Louise South of Washington	
Bobi Keenan	953-9516
Area 3 Baker North of Washington	
Laura Ruiz	568-1660
Area 4 Baker South of Washington	
John McGuinness	836-1971
Area 5 Rosewood	
Kelly Manson	571-0704
Area 6 Westwood North of Washingto	on
Rob&Maco Long (949	387-4446
Area 7 Westwood South of Washingto	n
Wendy Boelter (949	375-2485
Area 8 16th/Towner North of 15th	
Gil Melendez	542-3398
Area 9 Towner North of Washington	
Russ Bartlett	564-9080
Area 10 Towner South of Washington	
Javier Garcia	836-8128
Area II Freeman North of Washington	١
Margaret Klase	972-8951
Area 12 Freeman South of Washington	
Juan & Virginia Bernal	836-7448
Area 13 Lowell South of Washington	
Christine Cwiertny	835-9464
Area 14 Lowell North of Washington	
Jon Wilson	550-0599
Area 15 Olive North of Washington	
Delmy Savilla	
Delitiy Savilla	906-4309
Area 16 Olive South of Washington	906-4309
	906-4309 972-8503
Area 16 Olive South of Washington	
Area 16 Olive South of Washington Oldrich & Ivana Unger	
Area 16 Olive South of Washington Oldrich & Ivana Unger Area 17	

## Location Change for the July 9 General Meeting

more info: www.washington-square.org

Normally our quarterly neighborhood meetings are held at Wilson School but this quarter we had to get creative thanks to statewide budget cuts and the summer recess.

On July 9th the general meeting will be held at the home of Tom and Nancy Lutz in the backyard at 1118 N. Freeman. We will gather for the usual pizza, beverages and information exchange.

The program will include Marty Shirey of SAPD who has recently replaced Bill Nimmo as Westend Commander. We hope Cmdr Nimmo can attend so we can show our appreciation for his generous assistance to us in the past.

Louis Durado, Interim Dean at Santa Ana College, will give an update of the goings on at the college and last, there will be a moderated, timed discussion with all neighbors on issues affecting us. You are welcome to join in the discussion however, in the interest of time and good neighbors, all concerns must be presented with a proposed solution.



### The Washington Square Vendor Network

Accountant	Alex Schneider	667-8114		
Keys & Locksmith	Ivan Rivera	953-6720		
General Contractor	Tom Lutz	835-6130		
Handyman	Ken Clark	809-6884		
Stone/Brick Design & Installations				
	Frankie Mata	478-2304		
Electrician	AJN Electric			
	Andrew Nunez	782-4740		
Notary Public	Therese Thomas	318-1455		
Realtor	Laura Tobias Garcia	883-3314		
Home Loans & Reverse	Mortgages			
	Brandie Nava	200-583 I		
Preschool	Denise Davey	543-1813		
Sylvia's Wigs & Accessories		545-1307		
Professional Audio/Vide	eo, Event and Technology			
Heliotrope Studios	David Jirik	545-0222		
All-natural raw pet food	1			
CoolPets Raw Gourmet	t Jean-Louise Jirik	545-0700		
State Farm Insurance	Monica Martinez Drevon	966-2679		
Wedding Photography	Photography by Ricardo			
	Ricardo Barrera	836-4041		

We promote business and services provided by Washington Square residents and any owner of a local business may be included. This list will be published in every newsletter as a way to inform you of the opportunity to patronize your own neighbors. Please check them out and if you need one of these services, be sure to call them first! If you want your business listed, email or give us a call with your info.