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WASHINGTON SQUARE
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSN.
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October, 1987

Volume I, Number 1

Introducing the Washington Square Newsletter

You are holding in your hand the first copy of the Washington Square newsletter. It is designed to bring you news about our neighborhood, the issues that face us, important meetings we should attend, some background on our neighbors and a look at some of our interesting homes. It will have space for want ads so if you or your children have services to offer or goods to sell, you will have an opportunity. If you are a member of the Washington Square Association, you will receive this newsletter every other month. Because of mailing costs, non-members will receive only the first two issues. So join today. If you have any articles that you would like to see in the newsletter, Call 542-4665.

Be Sure to Attend - October 7, 1987

The Washington Square Neighborhood Association will hold a general meeting on Wednesday, October 7, 7:30 p.m., Wilson School, Room 5. You will receive valuable updates on issues that impact our neighborhood such as permit parking and the Bristol Street widening. In addition, a representative from the Santa Ana Police Department will be speaking on how we can protect ourselves from crime. It is an important meeting--be sure to attend.

Home Improvement Hint

When it comes time to take years of paint off door hinges, knobs, handles or heater grates, don't scrape the paint off--this could scratch the metal. Instead, take the hardware off (you may want to take some notes on how you got it off so you can make sure to get it back on the right way), and boil the items all day, if necessary, in TSP and water. The paint will lift right off and you can take a fine piece of steel wool and some polish to make it look almost like new. A rotary polishing wheel and some polish will also work. If you are considering replating the hardware, don't worry about taking the paint off. The plater will do it for you when it is replated.

Fix Up The Outside Of Your Home And Get A Rebate

Did you know that you can receive a rebate from the City for fixing up certain things on the outside of your home?

Many people have found that the rebate program allows them to paint, do front yard landscaping, re-roof, make repairs to the front of their homes and driveways, and even add awnings. To qualify you must have a certain income level and the repairs or improvements must be visible from the street. To get more information, call Darl Incedon, 647-5876.

Washington Square Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 4435
Santa Ana, California 92701

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A Letter From the President . . .

Dear Neighbors;

We have GOOD NEWS! The Eddie West Stadium Swapmeet will end September 30, 1987. The Santa City Council voted 5 to 2 not to permit swapmeets in the open space zones. The swapmeet supporters attacked our neighborhood as being racist because we do not like living next door to their commercial operations. Councilman Dan Grisct who represents the southern half of Washington Square strongly supported our viewpoint. On the other hand, Councilman John Acosta, the representative for the northern half of Washington Square said, "It is purely a racist issue by many people who live in Washington Square and north of 17th Street." Councilmembers Dan Grisct, Wilson Hart, Ron May, Pat McGuigan, and Dan Young voted to end the swapmeets. Councilmen John Acosta and Miguel Puidido voted to continue them. The Stadium swapmeet was given an eviction date of September 30.

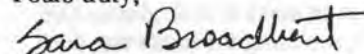
I was reminded that November elections are just around the corner when Rob Richardson contacted our association. Rob is a former Washington Square resident and graduate of Wilson School who has announced his candidacy for the Santa Ana School Board. You will have a chance to hear Rob and all the candidates at a Voters' Forum on Wednesday, October 21, 1987, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Police Annex hosted by the Santa Ana Neighbors for Excellence (S.A.N.E.).

The Washington Square Neighborhood Association will hold a general membership meeting for all members and interested neighbors on Wednesday, October 7 at 7:30 p.m., Wilson School, Room 5. The topic for this meeting will be Neighborhood Crime Prevention. Our area has recently experienced an increase in household burglaries. We can combat crime - come and find out how! Updates on the Neighborhood Plan and the Permit Parking program will also be discussed.

I remember not long ago, neighbors saying to me, "Sara, you can't fight City Hall." Well, fortunately, I did not have to. Our association has successfully lobbied for our neighborhood and we have prevented the construction of a sports arena and apartments, ended the swapmeets, and adopted a Neighborhood Plan. We can not rest on our laurels. The Washington Avenue traffic study is ongoing, the Bristol Corridor Improvement Plan is just beginning, and our new Neighborhood Newsletter needs your help!

Join your friends and support our neighborhood. The Washington Square Association needs you.

Yours truly,



Sara Broadbent
President
Washington Square Neighborhood Association

A Note on Street Trees

One of the reasons we all moved into the Washington Square Neighborhood is because of the beautiful trees we have lining our streets. But after a while we start to take our trees for granted--after all they've always been there and probably will outlast us all, right?

Well, they really do need our care. Here's what you can do:

- . If a tree looks like it is sick, dying or needs trimming, call the Santa Ana Street Maintenance Department at 549-6920.
- . The newer trees planted several years ago on Towner and Washington need to be deep watered for at least several hours at least once a month in the hot weather. Daily lawn sprinklers will not do the job.
- . Cut or break off the new sucker growth along the trunks of the trees to promote good growth at the top of the tree.

The City cannot take care of all the routine maintenance of our trees and we must help out. If you need a street tree, new funding is set up for it. Call the Street Maintenance Department at 549-6820.

About the Ross/McNeal House 1020 North Baker

For over a year now many of us have been watching the restoration of the two story Ross/McNeal house on North Baker but few of us recognize the historical significance.

The house, the oldest residence in Santa Ana, was built in 1879 by Jacob Ross, who headed the first white family to locate in the Santa Ana area. He purchased the land from the Rancho Santiago de Santa Ana land grant and built the house at 1020 N. Baker. He later sold 75 acres of his original purchase to William Spurgeon for \$8.00 per acre. Spurgeon used the land to lay out the town of Santa Ana.

The house itself is a fine example of the Greek Revival style. The gable roof, enclosed eaves, returns, two over two windows, shiplap siding, and bay window all contribute to the feeling of restrained elegance associated with this style of architecture. The interior's high ceilings, wainscoting, wood floors, and gracefully carved staircase are considered exemplary by housing historians.

Restoration of the house was a total one. A new foundation was built; completely new plumbing and heating were installed; air conditioning was added; interior walls were stripped and rebuilt; new garages were built; new carpets, tile, cabinets, appliances, and bathroom fixtures were installed.

Fred McNeal, the great-great grandchild of Jacob Ross, is the one responsible for the rehabilitation. In all respects possible, the original integrity of the house was preserved. Even the house colors, the style of the picket fencing, and the landscape choices were based on the prevailing late 19th century standards. And those materials that couldn't be preserved in place were recycled elsewhere in the project wherever possible. (The used bricks from the original foundation, for example, are now found in the decorative insets in the driveway and walks around the house.)

The house has now been turned into three apartments. Fred McNeal says that the rehabilitation was by no means a financially profitable venture but he feels that the most important thing was to retain a part of his family's history. The Washington Square Association and all of the neighbors of Washington Square commend him for his efforts.

Classifieds

The Washington Square Newsletter accepts classified ads. If you have something you want to buy or sell, if you want to offer your services, or if you are looking for someone to do some work on your home, why not place an ad? Members may place liner ads for free (space permitting). Non-members may place 25 words for \$5.00. Business card ads are \$10.00. The WSNA does not endorse any of the advertisers. To Place ads, contact: Tom Lutz, 836-9110.

. **Flatware repairs** - Do you have a fork or spoon that have been down the garbage disposal? No matter how bad it is, there is hope. Call 543-1361.

. **Wanted** - Handyman to hang new wood screen door on craftsman style home. Call 836-9650.

. **For Sale** - I have some items salvaged from old Washington Square homes before demo; french doors, door locks and hardware, curved shower curtain and brackets. For information call 543-1361.

Join Today!

Our neighborhood is important to all of us. The Washington Square Association needs your support. Join today! Membership fees: \$10.00. Make check payable to the Washington Square Neighborhood Association.

Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Would you like to be part of a committee? _____

Return to : Washington Square Neighborhood Association, P.O. Box 4435, Santa Ana, CA 92701

C.O.P.

Meet Your Block Representatives

The following is a list of block representatives. If you should ever want crime information about your block or the neighborhood you can contact your representative.

Area	Rep. Name	Address	Phone
N. Louise	Susan VanderRoest	814 N. Freeman	835-9377
S. Louise	Al Sotelo	927 N. Louise	541-9750
N. Baker	Dan Effinger	1117 W. 15th	542-2501
S. Baker	John Galloway	1124 N. Westwood	543-7304
N. Westwood - N. of 15th	Gary Sharpe	1411 N. Towner	542-5184
Westwood - 15th to Wash.	David Smith	1133 W. Washington	541-5931
S. Westwood - S. of Wash.	Debbie Welty	1326 N. Towner	543-2686
N. Towner	Evelyn Welty	1326 N. Towner	542-8297
S. Towner	Mark Kusiak	1060 W. Washington	835-7936
N. Freeman	Sara Broadbent	1412 N. Freeman	973-4878
S. Freeman	Kathy Rosenow	1103 N. Freeman	547-5086
N. Lowell	Vacant		
S. Lowell	Tom Lutz	1118 Freeman	836-9110
N. Olive	Ralph Quiroz	1329 N. Freeman	973-4719
S. Olive	Connie Major	923 N. Olive	543-1361

Note: Unless otherwise indicated, 'N' means north of Washington, and 'S' means south of Washington.

The North Lowell C.O.P Representative position is vacant. If you would like to volunteer to fill that position, contact Tom Lutz, 836-9110. You do not need to live in that block to be the rep.

Don't Trip!

If you have a sidewalk, curb or part of the street that is cracked, broken or in need of repair, the City of Santa Ana has a new program that can repair the problem. Contact Darl Inledon, 647-5876.

A Hint to Make Your Window Screens Look Better

When you repaint your home, did you know you can paint the edge of your aluminum screens the same color as you have painted the wood of your window frames? When you do this, screens seem to disappear and no longer detract from the looks of your home.