

Whitley Heights Civic Association



VOL. 9 NO. 2

FALL 1982

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

BRIAN MOORE

Events are moving swiftly for Whitley Heights this autumn of '82 and I would like to "update" some of our projects for your information.

We have had our first meeting with the Los Angeles City Attorney and Councilwoman Stevenson's staff to determine the legalities and procedure of street closure for our District. Robert Primes has covered that first meeting at length in his article for the newsletter. There have since been several more meetings with real progress made by the Closure Committee of the Board and an invaluable ad-hoc committee from the general membership that I appointed to assist the Board in this project. They are Bert Deixler, Paul and Karen van Weeldon, Karen Newman, Al Marsella and Burton Ray.

We will be in close touch with City Hall during the next few months on this closure issue. If all is favorable, and I believe I can be optimistic about this, we will call a general meeting sometime in the next few months to share our findings with the membership.

Crime has remained at the center of our focus. We have been successful in initiating a narcotic abatement process against the Bowl Motel, long a painful thorn in the side of our Las Palmas residents. I have been informed by the narcotics division of the L.A.P.D. that the owner of the motel, Mr. Abesoun Hemaratanatoun, has voluntarily evicted all his tenants, closed the premises for remodeling and has promised to re-open a registered, security operation under on-going surveillance of the narcotics division. This action was achieved in four months. We had been told previously that the minimum time for abatement closure was sixteen months to two years.

The halfway house on Holly Hill Terrace has been given until November 15th to close its operations or face criminal charges by the City, according to the investigative officer

of Building and Safety. This is good news indeed, for there were many uncertain moments in this case.

You may notice that the Padre Hotel is attempting some efforts at cleaning up. In September, due to the many complaints from our members about the Padre and Ojai Hotels, I asked Councilwoman Stevenson to have them inspected by the "Slumlord Task Force." She responded immediately and both buildings are now under order to comply with Building and Safety; Health; and Fire codes that were found to be grossly violated in both structures. In addition, a sniper fired from the Padre just after the inspection and wounded Mr. Warren Silverberg, the sales representative for the new Premiere Condominiums. He is recovering nicely. The sniper was never found despite a four hour cordon of the area. Mr. Silverberg had supported our position against the conditions at the Padre, and prior to the sniper attack had written Mrs. Stevenson to that effect.

We have been petitioned by that part of the original Whitley Heights that remains to the east of the Freeway to rejoin our Association. After much discussion and a very pleasant inspection trip to Iris Drive where several residents opened their homes to the Board, it was decided to welcome them back to the Association on a provisional, working basis leaving the final decision of the reunion to the membership vote at our next general meeting. There are thirty homes represented, and all but two or three are in excellent shape.

We have had a good summer. Our auction was a winner and I am happy to report the many enthusiastic "reviews" that were received for our Annual Party. The presentation of the books to the Hollywood Library, all 3,000 of them, has drawn many thanks from the community. And last but not least, please read with pride the announcement in the newsletter regarding our new official National Historic status. Congratulations.





SERVICE RECOMMENDATION

CAROL GILBERT

How many times have you asked one of your neighbors to recommend a plumber, a baby-sitter, a roofer or an auto mechanic? And how many times have you asked others for a recommendation? I've been on both sides of the fence a number of times. Because so many of us are periodically in search of a recommendation of a service person, the Newsletter Committee of the Board decided to try to establish a Service Recommendation File.

If you think this is a worthwhile endeavor, and if you have a service person with whom you are particularly pleased, be it a tree-trimmer or a house-sitter, could you write down that person's name, phone number, address and occupation. Also include your name and phone number. Either send the information to me at 6776 Milner Road or give it to your local Board representative. Once our file is established, if you are in need of a particular recommendation, contact one of the members of the Newsletter Committee: Edmund Balin, Raquel Cagan or myself. We'll get back to you as quickly as we can with the information you need.

OUR GENEROUS FRIEND-

BRIAN MOORE

Mr. Vance Otis of Vance Otis Realty has long been a generous friend of Whitley Heights. He has now come up with an offer to aid our closure plans. If he sells a home in Whitley Heights, he will donate 3% of his realtor's commission up to \$1,000.00 for our closure fund. This is truly generous of him and offered in the very best of community spirit. Thank you, Vance.

CHARLIE SMITH

GINI COLVIG

Charlie Smith, longtime resident of Wedgewood Place and past president of the Whitley Heights Community Association, died August 23rd after a brief illness. Charlie and his lovely wife Peg moved on the Hill 28 years ago, where their son Josh was born in 1963. Charlie's varied activities throughout the years include being an executive at NBC Radio in the 40's and helming his own advertising agency, which continued until he retired in 1979. The Hollywood Y.M.C.A. benefited by his fund raising efforts. Charlie has been extremely active in Whitley Heights affairs, having served on the Board of Directors both before and after his tenure as President in the early 70's. He also always contributed his artistic talents towards all of our Hill endeavors. For many years, he served as a senior warden and vestry member of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church.

Charlie's love of Baja California was legend to all who knew him. His fondness is particularly expressed in his many sculptures depicting Mexican life which we hope to view when they're on display at the church.

Thank you Charlie for giving so much of yourself. We miss you.

CONGRATULATIONS-

BRIAN MOORE

Congratulations to Bail Flatley of 2040 Whitley Ave. for his beautiful new tile roof. In replacing a burned out composition roof with a Spanish Tile roof, Bill has not only enhanced the appearance of his own home, but of all those homes around him. Thank you, Bill.

If you have any articles or topics you would like to submit for the next newsletter, send them to Carol Gilbert, 6776 Milner Road.

VACANCIES-

BRIAN MOORE

Three homes on the Hill left vacant by the death of their owners are now for sale. The Caroline Anderson home at 6680 Whitley Terrace, the Walt Davis home at 6666 Whitley Terrace and the N. Sabovitch home at 2025 Grace Ave. have all been placed on the market. We hope that the new owners will find much pride in these fine homes.

KULINARY KUDOS

EDMUND BALIN

A longtime resident of Whitley Heights is being deservedly recognized for her cooking prowess. Long a legend on the hill where her exquisite baked goods have brought top dollar from knowing gourmets at our yearly auctions, her recipes have been published in the L.A. Times and Lawry's Restaurant Cookbook. More recently she has been honored with an award from the American Beef Institute. Congratulations to a generous and thoughtful lady, Candy Barnhart!

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BARN UPDATE

EDMUND BALIN

By the time this newsletter reaches print and is delivered to you the now famous Lasky-DeMille 'barn' may be your new neighbor...right next door in the Bowl Parking Lot. "The Barn has found a home" proclaimed Supervisor, Edmund Edelman in the invitation he sent to your board of directors and, I'm sure, other more major and minor celebrities. The invitation was for a 'dedication ceremony' on Fri. Nov. 12 at 9:30 AM in the Bowl Parking Lot. One wonders who will show up at that early hour for this event, but surely it will include Brian Moore and Tod Jonson from your board, since they have been invited to sit on the governing board of the 'barn' as it slowly sheds its rural image to become the Hollywood Movie Museum.

BEST WISHES-

EDMUND BALIN

Congratulations and best wishes are in order for our neighbors on the other side of Highland. They now have their own area organization which they have named Hollywood Heights.

This new association was formed after Brian Moore, our president, met with some of them and described the advantages of forming a neighborhood organization. Bordered by Whitley Heights and Outpost, both areas with organizations of long standing and recognizing that neighborhood associations can work together to resolve common problems, they formed in just a few months.

Hundreds responded to their first flier and Tom Glover generously offered the Yamashiro Inn as a place to meet. The following people were elected to the Board of Directors of the new Hollywood Heights Association.

Grayce Baldwin, president
Elliot Johnson, vice-pres.
Barbara Betlem, Secretary
Don Wakefield, Treasurer

Scott Chambers	Larry Rupprecht	Theo Wilson
Linda Deutsch	Bob Shafer	Larry Wolfe
Tom Glover	Bernard Sparer	Morgan Woodward
Jack MacFarlane	Nita Thomas	

Herb Berlin, Bill Harlicker and Nonnie Vishner will serve as an alternate Board member.

A few of the outstanding architectural treasures in their area are The Yamashiro Restaurant, built in 1913 as a private residence and designed by Franklin M. Small. The High Tower, ca. 1920, is a small version of a Bolognese tower. The Freeman House (1962 Glencoe Way) was designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. The DeKeyser duplex (1911 Highland) was designed by R.M. Schindler and The Magic Castle, ca. 1909, was one of Hollywood's first estates.