

# BURLINGAME NEWS

### **Burlingame Block Party 2010 A Success!**



This year's Burlingame **Block Party** was a big hit! There were activities for the entire family. The kids enjoyed face painting and visiting the "Wizards Castle." The adults had raffle tickets for fine dining and an assortment of prizes. Our city council-

man, Todd

Gloria and candidate for

Board of Su-

pervisors,
Steve Whitburn were in attendance. The block party is
intended to be a fun event for the whole neighborhood
and is an opportunity to build community spirit by getting
people of all ages together. Check out more of the fun
we shared on page 6. Thanks to Teri Sullivan, Grant
Merkel, Vance Walker, Ernie Smith, Connie di Girolamo
and Jim Velier for making this year's event a success.
The BHA Board would like to thank all those neighbors
that helped out –your time was greatly appreciated, and
vitally needed. We look forward to next year's party even
more! If you missed this year's Block Party, some of the
Burlingame mugs (\$5), hats (\$15) and visors (\$10) are
still available. You can email inquire@burlingamesd.com, or call Grant at 619-501-4483

if you are interested in purchasing one or more.

### **Burlingame Centennial 2012**

We're less then two years away from our centennial celebration and it's not too early to begin the planning. A steering committee has been formed, with Ginny Sherwood representing the Burlingame Club, Vance Walker representing the BHA, and Kathy Garcia as chair.

We believe our centennial year should be fun and engaging for all who live in Burlingame, and to celebrate our special neighborhood camaraderie. We'd like to raise awareness of the unique history of Burlingame, and the wonderful people who live here and the events that occur today. Finally, we want to make sure that we can cover our costs for the centennial events and maybe have some extra to donate to a charity significant to Burlingame.

We're now in the process of generating ideas and would like your input as to what you would like to see during our centennial year.

Some suggestions include a kickoff ceremony on January 13 (official date the tract opened to the public), home tour & car show, walkabout with original homes, block party (family event), history exhibit display, and 'birthday party' for houses.

Other ideas include a time capsule, a monument, medallion in intersection, palm tree planting, sidewalk markers, and park or canyon improvements.

**Get Involved**—Volunteers are needed for future committees:

- Research teams (current life and history)
- Fundraising/sponsorship
- Publicity
- Events
- Finance
- Volunteer organizer
- Burlingame alumni organizer

As we progress, we hope to have information on the BHA website. In the meantime, if you have an idea for a centennial event, wish to be part of a subcommittee, or just want to give us your thoughts, email us at: kathleengarcia@att.net or leave a message at 619-284-2858.

#### **FALL CALENDAR**

**BHA Monthly Meetings** 

October 13
November 10
December 8

**Toyland Parade - December 4** 

Burlingame Club
Cookie Exchange - December 16



#### **BHA Board of Directors**

Grant Merkel
President
619-501-4483
grantmkl@hotmail.com

Ernie Smith
Executive Secretary
619-282-9342
lentsmith@cox.net

Michael King Treasurer 619-787-6153 mwking@earthlink.net

Connie di Girolamo 619-281-3886 arroyoarts@cox.net

Jim Velier Secretary 619-756-6205

Vance Walker 619-640-8262 wvancewalker@cox.net

Betty Ball 619-281-2531 b.ball1@cox.net

### Editor's note...



All changes are more or less tinged with melancholy, for what we are leaving behind is part of ourselves. - Amelia Barr

After six years in the Burlingame community, it is with mixed feelings that we have put our house up for sale. Part of us hopes it sells, and part of us hopes it doesn't. Reflecting on our time in the neighborhood, we will miss some of these people (and fur folks):

*Jerome Gombert*. What is his fig tree doing in our yard? Why does my French roll off his tongue?

Jake di Girolamo. Possibly the cutest critter in the hood, although Maggie Zumtobel warms everyone's heart too!

Jake's parents, *Connie* and *Pete*. *Pete*, why are my fabulous sculptures adorning your yard? *Connie*, please return our dog as soon as he is trained.

Jim Velier. Who else knows what the heck is growing in our yard? Wait! Maybe the Sherwoods!

Marty McDaniel. Marty has provided us with so much Burlingame history, including a flyer from the sale of our house in the 1980s. The flyer stated the house was built in 1910 (who knew?) and was an ambassador's home for the duration of the exposition. The flyer also stated, "This small area, rich in the history of San Diego, is now deemed a historical area, and its strict CC&Rs are intended to preserve its ambiance." Ya gotta love those strict CC&Rs!

Vance Walker. Why is my little yellow car parked in front of your house?

Plum Pottery Annie. The gal is just plain happy and content. May it rub off on us all!

Although we may physically leave Burlingame, our hearts remain and we will take all these wonderful memories with us. I will miss working on the newsletter. It's really been fun and a great chance to meet with the neighbors and hear their "old house" stories! The newsletter will now be in good hands under Ginny Sherwood.

- Dee Randolph

### Incoming Editor's Intro...



Helping Dee just a little bit with this issue has made me aware of all the work she has put into getting a timely newsletter to each of the 188 homes in Burlingame this past year. I will do my best to continue her standard. So I'm asking for your continued assistance as well, to

provide the articles that we enjoy and need. Please contact me in the next couple months with articles or ideas for the January issue. I live at 2403 San Marcos and my email is vjsherwood@yahoo.com.

- Ginny Sherwood

### Hello Neighbors!



Sara Preece is collecting used wine bottles for a recycling project she is planning for her children. She plans to build a playhouse and would love to re-use your wine bottles. You can drop them off or she can pick them up. Contact Sara at sbpreece@gmail.com

### **Opening Burlingame Archive!**

By Ginny Sherwood

Valerie Lake's persistence has paid off! As she says, "following the turtle approach to problem solving." Valerie started her quest to gain access to the Burlingame materials in the San Diego Historical Society Library when she was Chair of the 2008 Home Tour.

Valerie knew that Alice Saare, Valerie Fritz and Judy Taylor had worked on organizing several boxes of donated Burlingame Club items years ago. But since then, the San Diego Archives staff had been cut so much that volunteers could not be trained to work in the library. Valerie went every few months, offering to volunteer to do anything that was required to prepare the Burlingame boxes for public access. She has been doing this for three years.

Early this September, Valerie, armed with her large printed scrapbook of the 2008 Burlingame Home Tour, took me with her to talk to the Historical Society Archivist again about volunteering. With the added incentive of our upcoming 2012 centennial celebration, the Archivist, Jane Kenealy, agreed to train us as volunteers to work on the nine Burlingame boxes.

We went to work immediately, and are thrilled by what we've seen. There are over a hundred files on individual houses that were prepared in the early 1980s when Historic District designation was first proposed by the BHA, along with related BHA correspondence.

Most of the boxes are Burlingame Club ledgers, scrapbooks, photos and correspondence dating back to 1913. Just one example is the November 1979 letter Sara Over, president of the Burlingame Club, wrote "TO INTER-ESTED BURLINGAME HOMEOWNERS" proposing a new BHA "to address our current problems, needs issues and status within the city". We all know what happened after that.

All these items should be inspiration for our Centennial celebrations. If have any question or comments, talk to Valerie Lake or Ginny Sherwood. In addition, we are looking for the remainder of the 1980 files on individual houses that might be stored in your attic or garage, or anything else important to include in our Burlingame Archive at the San Diego Historical Society.

# Kid's Corner



Spider webs can create a creepy, crawly scene for Halloween decorations, but Spider webs are a beautiful and unique creation that can also be used to help explain the place of spiders

in ecosystems. Although many people may be familiar with spider webs from seeing them in nature, not everyone will understand how they are created or the vital role they play in keeping down insect populations.. A fun Halloween project that's sure to draw attention is a display of preserved spider webs that you've gathered from nature. The best time to find perfect webs are in the morning after the sun has a chance to dry the dew that will collect on the strands. Look around sheds, bushes, and gardens. Items you will need:

- Black letter size construction paper
- Silver spray paint
- Flour or talcum powder
- Can of clear acrylic spray (low luster)
- Can of aerosol glue

This project is best achieved with two people; One to hold the paper and one to detach the web from it's anchor.

- 1. Carefully coax the spider to leave the web with a fanning or waving motion from your hand.
- 2. Take the silver spray paint can and hold it back far enough to mist the web. Do not overspray.
- 3. Lightly blow on a dusting of flour or talcum powder.
- 4. Let the spider web dry.
- 5. Spray aerosol glue onto a piece of black construction paper and allow it to get tacky
- 6. While the glue is wet, press the paper against the spider web
- 7. Carefully and slowly push the paper against the entire web and have your partner cut the anchor lines that hold the web in place
- 8. Let the sun dry the paint before you top coat with clear spray
- 9. Apply a coat of spray varnish over the entire web and paper.
- 10. Place the paper on a flat surface and anchor down the corners so it will dry flat.

Try collecting the next day as that same spider will diligently go back to work constructing another web usually in the same place.

Compare this web to the first to see if there are any differences. Display the webs to show how spiders spin webs of different sizes. Use the display for Halloween decorations.

# Halloween Safety Tips



"Trick or treat!" That's the phrase shouted with glee by many a youngster across the country every Halloween night. But before your ghosts and goblins trick or treat this year, parents should keep in mind these trick or treating safety tips to make sure the only howls are those of fun.

• Have each child carry or wear something lit, such as a

flashlight, glow bracelet or necklace, or flashing attire for visibility. Light-up shoes are also practical, and ever-sonoticeable on a dark Halloween night.

- Require well-fitting shoes to be worn; preferably sneakers. While adorable in the store as a costume accessory, kids planning to go trick or treat should wear sturdy shoes and not the princess high-heel, too-large boots, or other types of shoes often shown with costumes. Save those types of shoes for costume parties and not when a child is going trick or treat. Their feet--and most likely you who may end up carrying either the shoes or the child--will be thankful.
- Avoid costumes that drag on the ground. While cute initially, costumes that drag can trip up little feet, get caught on bushes, and create a tussle that sometimes results in the child wanting to remove the costume. Remember, kids who trick or treat want to be costumed AND comfortable.
- With the thought of comfort, **pick costumes that are bathroom-friendly as well.** On this same subject, parents should pre-plan a bathroom stop along the way (a friends' house will do and is a good time for a water break as well), or at a public facility if driving.
- Be sure a child's mask allows full visibility and breathing. Spiderman masks, for example, sometimes only have small eye slits and nothing for the nose or mouth. Parents should try on masks for size and not hesitate to cut out larger openings for a trick or treater's comfort. If possible, find a mask that "breathes" and is easy to put on and off. The types of mask that easily can slide up on the head and then pulled down are best.
- Trick or treaters should walk, not run, and should never cut across lawns or driveways. Obstacles could exist that aren't readily visible in the evening.
- Only carry flexible props, such as knives, swords, ninja items, etc., that can't cause injury if a kid accidentally falls. No play prop should resemble the real item; and consider leaving play weapons at home and not part of trick or treat night. Remember, some individuals are offended by seeing small children carry these items; and trick or treating should be a fun and positive experience for everyone.

- Only trick or treat at houses that are lit. Residents who do not wish to be bothered by trick or treaters often leave off their lights as a sign; respect their preference by only going to houses that are lit.
- Be sure kids don't get over-heated and keep hydrated. Plan costumes according to weather; don't have your child dress in an adorable lions costume with heavy fur and hood if you live in states where temperatures could still be in the 80s in the evening. Be one of those creative parents who accessorizes jackets or thinks "cool comfort" for their kids.
- Think "practical" over "cute" when picking a trick or treat goody bag or container. Some of seemingly-fun ones sold in stores are heavy--before any treats are added; others are too long and will drag the ground or have sharp edges that could scrape against tender skin. One of the best and simplest suggestions is have kids utilize a backpack to keep their hands free except for perhaps a flashlight.

# Suggestions for residents/homeowners for making Halloween a fun night of trick or treat:

- Pick up objects in the yard, sidewalk, or driveway that could create safety issues and be sure any tools are safely put away. Check hoses, flower pots, and extension cords.
- Think "trick or treat safety" when decorating. Safety experts recommend using plug-in or battery-powered jack-o-lanterns instead of using a live candle. If you do opt for a live flame, make sure it is away from any possible exposure to trick or treaters' costumes or where they will be walking or standing.
- **Keep your house well-lit and inviting**, or if going for a spooky home theme, make sure trick-or-treaters know your house has a welcome-mat extended.
- Be sure your pets are secured and put away, or appropriate arrangements are made. Some pets become frightened; others may become territorial or even aggressive. You don't want your pets scaring trick or treaters any more than you want kids frightening your pets. Be especially careful with cats, who might dart out of open doors.
- Carefully **consider treats such as healthier food alternatives** than candy. Non-sweet items like crackers, chips, or raisins could receive thumbs up from parents. Some also give the "treat" to trick or treat by way of pencil, spider ring, glow in the dark decal, etc.

Regardless of whether you are a parent of a young child, a resident who most likely will be inundated with happy ghosts and goblins, the key to Halloween is to stay safe, have fun, and make it a "spook-tacular" activity for all!



### THIS BAWDY OLE HOUSE

By Carol Estes



We moved into our home at 2672 San Marcos Avenue on July 29, 1971. It was a very bright and beautiful Saturday morning. We immediately noticed that we were probably the "young folks on the block"—the only family with a child on either side of the street.

Our house was built in 1929—east across 32<sup>nd</sup> Street and south of Nutmeg—when there were still open fields where the young boys would hunt for rabbits and other creatures. The house origi-

nally had three bedrooms upstairs, plus a small room adjacent to the living room which we have used as a reading room. A three-story addition was "tacked" on to the northwest corner of the house about a decade later. It included 2 additional possible bedrooms. So, at that point, there was the equivalent of six rooms that could serve as bedrooms which is a critical to the colorful history of our home.

In 1971, many of the residents had been living on San Marcos Avenue for 45-50 years or more. What a wealth of history they shared with us; maybe more than we wanted to

### **Burlingame Club Off and Running**

The first meeting of the 2010-11 Burlingame Club was held on September 16 under the able leadership of our new president, Colleen Townend. The business included selecting homes for future meetings and updating information for a new yearbook. Valerie Lake volunteered to be in charge of that. We shared concerns about several members who have been ill or had surgery: Paula Goodman, Nancy Tarbell, Virginia Taylor and Betty Ball. A card will be sent to each of them from the club.

Several members will participate in the North Park Historical Society tour of the North Park commercial core on Sept. 25. There was some interest in our participating in the Toyland Parade on Dec. 4 but the real enthusiasm was for having a craft night/potluck supper in November. Colleen will coordinate this. The annual cookie exchange will be on December 16.

The next meeting will be at the home of Dee McQuaide on Oct. 21. Ginny Sherwood will act as co-hostess. The program will be to view the DVD SOHO put together to celebrate their 40th anniversary. It seems to fit as we're all interested in historic preservation. We look forward to a full year of activity and invite you to join us. Secretary - Pat Taylor

iknow! There was Hazel Wells who, with her late husband, had built their home on San Marcos in the early 1920s. Then, down three doors from us lived Ben and Mildred Woody who had built their home in 1926 for \$5,000.00 USD. One day Mrs. Woody was showing me her album with photographs beginning from the time her family first arrived in San Diego. In the process of telling me about the different photos, she told me a tale about our house.

During WW II, our house was a rental and the Woodys would notice young sailors often entering and leaving our house after dark. A couple of years later, the tenants moved out and new tenants moved in. Even before they could unpack, the new tenants began being inundated by young sailors asking for different girls. At this point in her story, Mrs. Woody giggled and whispered to me—"Your home use to be a house of ill repute during the war."

This story was verified about a half-dozen years later. Back in the 1980s, the neighbors around  $32^{nd}$  & Maple Streets would have a once-a-month garage sale. One Saturday, while my husband Don was looking over the goods, an elderly gentleman approached and asked—"Don't you live in the old Radovich house?" When Don replied in the affirmative, this gentleman went on to relate how "I use to play the piano there in the evenings back during the War when your house was used as a cathouse."

If the walls in this old house could speak, we might not want to hear what it has to say!

"The follies which a man regrets most in his life, are those which he didn't commit when he had the opportunity." - Helen Rowland

### **North Park Historic District Tour**

By Pat Taylor

Though there were only eight of us, the North Park Historic Society came through and gave a wonderful tour of the commercial district. We were able to look at buildings we've walked/driven by many times and appreciate them anew as we learned more about when they were built, for what purpose, and by whom. Names we've heard before: Hartley and Klicka, have more meaning for what they contributed to North Park's development. The perspective from the top of the parking garage was astounding as we were able to pick out buildings we knew, and others our guide George told us about. The cost for the tour was \$10.00; well worth it and we each received a booklet of all the buildings we had learned about. This was the second time for me and I enjoyed it thoroughly.

Thanks to Katherine Hon for putting together the tour and accompanying us (also husband, Steve) on Saturday.



### **Burlingame 2010 Block Party Sponsors**

Burlingame and the Burlingame Homeowners Association (BHA) would like thank our 2010 Block Party donors and sponsors. The businesses listed below supported our raffle through their generous donations. We encourage all our neighbors to repay their generosity through your loyal patronage.

Absolute Skin	Clarity Candles	The Crove
Absolute Skin	Clarity Candles	The Grove 3010 Juniper St
2340 30th St	3022 Juniper St	San Diego, CA 92104
San Diego, CA 92104	San Diego, CA 92104	
(619) 239-1010	(619) 640-5903	(619) 284-7684
http://www.absoluteskin.com/	http://web.mac.com/claritysoap	www.thegrovesandiego.com
Lulu's	Café Madeleine	Mazara Trattoria
2348 30th St	2248 30th St	Corner of 30th St. & Juniper
San Diego, CA 92104	San Diago CA 02104	·
(619) 521-2026	San Diego, CA 92104	(619) 284-2050 or (619) 284-2095
www.lulusbytravisparker.com	(858) 864-8122	www.mazaratrattoria.com
Mythology	Plum Pottery	Rebecca's
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San Diego, CA 92104	San Diego, CA 92104	San Diego, CA 92104
(619) 523-1132	(619) 584-7151	(619) 284-3663
www.mantadirect.com		www.rebeccascoffeehouse.com
South Park Fitness	Station Tavern	Vagabond
2215 30th St	2204 Fern St	2310 30th St
San Diego, CA 92104	San Diego, CA 92104	San Diego, CA 92104
(619) 316-2333	(619) 255-0657	(619) 255-1035
www.southparkfitness.com	www.stationtavern.com	www.vagabondkitchen.com
Alchemy	Grant's Marketplace	Genseng Yoga
1503 30th St. (at Beech St.), San	2953 Beech St. (Beech & Dale) San	2985 Beech St
Diego, CA 92102	Diego, CA 92102	San Diego, CA 92104
(619) 255-0616	(619) 231-0524	
www.AlchemySanDiego.com		(619) 338-YOGA (9642)
	imaslob.org	www.ginsengsandiego.com

## **Burlingame 2010 Block Party Sponsors**

Hamilton's Tavern	South Bark Dog Wash	South Park Abbey
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San Diego, CA 92102	San Diego, CA 92102	San Diego, CA 92102
(619) 238-5460 www.hamiltonstavern.com	(619) 232-7387 www.southbark.com	(619) 696-0096
Café Calabria	Cardamon Café & Bakery	De Luca's
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www.caffecalabria.com/	(619) 546-5609	(619) 280-0448
		http://mydelucas.com/
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www.fidoandcompany.com/	(619) 640-3376()	(619) 255-7049
		http://searocketbistro.com/
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San Diego, CA	San Diego, CA 92101	Realtor
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