



BURLINGAME NEWS

BNA ANNUAL MEETING REPORT & Board Election

The Burlingame Neighborhood Association members met March 14 for the Annual Meeting, at Mazara Trattatoria, with pizza and salad for all who attended.

Grant Merkel, as President of BNA, welcomed everyone present. He then reviewed the activities of the year, and recognized individuals who particularly contributed to successful BNA events. Those recognized were Ernie Smith for the Yard Sale and Centennial Calendar, Kathy Hodges and Stephen Hill for Dumpster Day, Robbie hhhh for Robin Taylor for Palm Pruning, Paula and Steve Cook, as well as local realtor Kim Hawley for extras at the Block Party. Then praise and gratitude for a wonderfully festive evening was extended to the coordinating committee of the Centennial Anniversary Party, which included Kathy Garcia (Chair), Jerry Doran, Kim Hawley, Valerie Lake, Ginny Sherwood and Vance Walker.

The seven candidates for the Board were introduced with brief comments. With a quorum present, ballots were marked, collected and counted with the following elected to the Board: Grant Merkel, Michael King, Jim Velier and Kathy Hodges were re-elected and Barry Green, Peter Osetek, and Ginny Sherwood were newly elected to the 2012-2013 BNA Board. More about the new Board members in the next newsletter!

Other meeting news is at the end of this newsletter.

BURLINGAME HISTORIC HOME TOUR

*****JUNE 2*****

Tickets for our Centennial Home Tour can now be purchased! At our neighborhood BNA website, www.burlingamesd.com, you can use PayPal. Or send a check for \$25 per ticket to Burlingame Club, 2526 San Marcos Ave., San Diego 92104 with a note for "Home Tour 2012." The Tour booklet picked up at 3117 Laurel June 2 will be your ticket.

Anyone living in Burlingame who purchases one or more tickets for the Tour, in the next week, will be listed in the printed Tour booklet as a "Friend of the Home Tour."

We still need docents for three hour shifts, morning 10 to 1 or afternoon 1 to 4. These six 1912 houses are all very unique homes that you will enjoy showing off to people touring. Information about the history and features of the home you work in will be provided. It is not necessary to be an "expert" on historic homes. This is your opportunity to tell others about our interesting neighborhood and officially designated Historic District of San Diego.

And if you become a member of the Burlingame Club next year, you will have a say in where the proceeds will be donated. In the past, donations have been made to McKinley School, Women's Empowerment International, Rachel's Women's Center, ElderHelp, Voices for Children, etc.

**BNA Monthly Meetings at
Mazara**

June 13

July 11

August 8

BNA Board of Directors

Grant Merkel

President

619-501-4483

grantmkl@hotmail.com

Peter Osetek

Executive Secretary

619-

posetek@oseteklaw.com

Michael King

Treasurer

619-787-6153

mwking@earthlink.net

Jim Velier

Secretary

619-756-6205

Kathy Hodges

858-775-1516

khodges858@gmail.com

Ginny Sherwood

619-280-1682

vjsherwood@yahoo.com

Barry Green

619-795-7565

barry@innergameofmusic.com

BURLINGAME CLUB

May 17 Dinner

June 2 Home Tour

Editor's note...

CALL TO EVERYONE WHO LIVES IN BURLINGAME!

Support the Centennial Home Tour June 2 in some way! Buy tickets and take friends, be a docent for 3 hours, distribute flyers at places where there is interest in historic preservation, advertise,...

And thanks for everything you are doing to support the Burlingame Club's contribution to our Centennial!

Contribute to the newsletter! Some have, but I'd like to hear from more of you. It can be ideas or write-ups. This is your neighborhood news. For example, I see you mothers, fathers and kids getting together and having fun all around the neighborhood, but I don't get anything for or about kids/parents. For example, some parents and kids comments on the Easter Egg Hunt to accompany the photos. Next time, send me photos *and* comments. Thanks in advance for your help with the next newsletter.

Ginny Sherwood, Editor vjsherwood@yahoo.com

North Park Historical Society Burlingame Walking Tour, May 19

NPBS will conduct a walking tour of Burlingame based on Donald Covington's book, *Burlingame, the Tract of Character*. This a *walking* tour intended to promote our Burlingame Home Tour inside six homes. For details go to <http://www.northparkhistory.org/>.

Old House Fair June 16

Don't forget the free **Old House Fair** June 16 where you can talk with a variety of businesses that work on historic/old houses, from foundations to gardens. The SOHO San Diego booth is always there with "Ask The Experts." **Plus** there is musical entertainment, food, kids activities, free walking tours, and much more. More at theoldhousefair.weebly.com.

BURLINGAME DUMPSTER DAY JUNE 16, 8am to Noon

Two 40-foot dumpsters from EDCO will be on Kalmia and San Marcos Saturday morning from 8:00 until noon for large trash. **No** separate dumpster for green material this year. "The Metal Guy" will be collecting. The details of this opportunity will come in a later email.



Comments selected from the Guest Book at the Centennial Party.

“We wanted crooked streets, a sense of neighborhood and real wooden baseboards” (Petersen)

“New to the neighborhood – 3 months – and already love it!” (Weller)

“So proud to be here” (Tarbell-Green)

“We grew up in this house, 1946-1956!” (Kupiec ladies)

“Saw the house on a winter evening in 1973 and had to have it!” (Weiks)

“I love my neighborhood” (Martineli)

“Saw it Friday and by Monday it was mine, 1977” (Lake)

“It has been interesting to see the positive change as young families have moved here – it’s a wonderful place to bring up kids” (Draper-Papageorge)

“I still think of Burlingame as my home” (Kooperman)

“The neighborhood has gotten better and better.” (Koppany)

“I was always into condo living, no messy yard to take care of...but when I saw my future wife’s home and met the neighbors, it was obvious where we would live when we married. Condo sold, messy yard here I am.” (Rapaport)

“A great neighborhood to raise kids” (Crawford)

“Just joined the neighborhood and we love our new house. Switzer Canyon, and the walkable shops and restaurants areas are a plus.”

The Burlingame Centennial Guest Book will be at the Block Party Sept. 8. You have a few months to prepare what you want to say about living in Burlingame.

2013 BURLINGAME CALENDAR IN PLANNING STAGE

The committee who brought you the spectacular 2012 Centennial Burlingame Calendar are planning one for 2013. Since only six houses were built in 1913, we are suggesting that the twelve months of 2013 have photos of the 6 houses and the other months picture activities of the neighborhood. The September photo will be a group photo taken of everyone at the Block Party. More details will be forthcoming, but start now to look for your best pictures of Burlingame, or take some new ones.



BURLINGAME CLUB REPORT

Warm hearts and open hands were in ample supply at the April Burlingame Club meeting. As an April tradition, members collected items requested by Rachel's House for their clients and were able to donate 6 large bags.

The invited speaker for the evening, Kathy Watkins, was very enthusiastic about the goals, mission and successes of Rachel's House Tomorrow Project, which provides work readiness training for homeless women. The social entrepreneurial program was developed in 1994 to give homeless women worthwhile work and to provide them opportunities to change or to improve their circumstances, and to earn a small stipend.

Club members were all inspired by the work being described and bought soup and rice mixes offered by The Tomorrow Project. Six bags of collected items and a check were also given.

Officers for the next year were selected as follows: Maureen Ostrich - President, Ginny Sherwood - Vice President, Pat Taylor - Secretary and Julie Ellison - Treasurer. These officers will be inducted at the annual potluck to be held on Thursday, May 17 at Ginny Sherwood's home. All women in Burlingame are invited to join us.

Usually the Club takes a break until September. Not so this year! The Burlingame Club's Centennial Home Tour will take place Saturday June 2nd. Some docents are still needed for the six two-story home. Please contact Valerie Lake or email vlake@ucsd.edu to say you can help.

SWITZER CANYON BRIDGE ENHANCEMENT

Switzer Canyon, adjacent to Burlingame to the north, has been inspiring the neighborhood's residents to action for many years. The Burlingame Homeowners Association (now BNA) was formed in the 1970s to stop development in the canyon. That was successful and Switzer Canyon was eventually purchased as an open space preserve by the city of San Diego in 1987.

Since 1956, Switzer Canyon has been bisected by the 30th Street earthen in-fill causeway/bridge, which replaced the original 1908 trolley bridge. Today its primary function is a high traffic road moving cars north-south.

Robin Taylor became a BNA Board Member in 2010 to work on improving that area and slowing the traffic that speeds past her home on 30th. She reports that Burlingame and greater-North Park residents have been meeting monthly since January 2011 to develop an enhancement and traffic calming plan for the bridge. In the last year there have been several meetings with City staff and the North Park Maintenance Assessment District (MAD) to better understand the steps necessary for developing proposals, identifying funding sources, and selecting methods for vetting formal proposals through City channels.

Robin is very pleased that the group has made great progress on all fronts. A meeting with the architect Kataro Nakamura, who developed the original 2000 bridge enhancement design, was particularly encouraging. Mr Nakamura has committed to helping the group modify his design and get it implemented. The City Street Engineers will be looking at the design to determine feasibility. Robin's group hopes to present a plan at an upcoming MAD meeting.

MORE FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING

Elected Representatives spoke and answered questions:

On behalf of Toni Atkins, Senior field representative, Lindsey Masukawa, briefly discussed legislation pertaining to: 1) financial assistance for college students and 2) regulatory credentialing requirements adversely affecting actively serving members of the armed forces.

City Councilmember Todd Gloria began by acknowledging the neighborhood's Centennial year and offering praise and recognition for the continuing service of Stephen Hill. Addressing issues related to the City's finances, he stated that pay and pension costs were being reduced while increased revenue and decreased costs for contracted services were helping to push the budget into the black for the current year. These favorable improvements in the city's finances have lowered the cost of borrowing and enabled the rollback of service cuts affecting community centers, libraries, and the police force. He asked for our patience, as these reinstatements of service and staffing will take time.

Addressing the growing urban horticulture movement, Councilmember Gloria detailed new conditions and stipulations to municipal ordinances regulating community gardens, micro-scale produce sales and the keeping of chickens, goats, and honey bees. He then went on to talk about evolving concepts relating to the return of street cars and trolley service within several of our Uptown neighborhoods.

Questions from the audience covered a range of concerns. The deteriorated and neglected condition of portions of Pershing drive was voiced with the reply from Mr. Gloria specifying that this was a Caltrans issue requiring persistent public complaint to move the process forward. When asked about the seals in La Jolla, Mr. Gloria stated that this was a rather contentious issue with ongoing mediation between opposing factions; current barriers and restrictions regulating access will be maintained while the cost and feasibility of future site improvements seeking to mitigate contested aspects of the situation are considered. When asked about re-election, the councilman did note that a challenger had filed the necessary paper work to run in the upcoming election and that the new boundaries of his district will alter the nature of his campaign. Lastly, Mr. Gloria spoke about progress and future efforts in addressing the needs of the homeless within San Diego. He described the purpose and positive impact of the World Trade Center check-in center operation and spoke about his commitment to finding both public and private monies that would sustain this highly successful effort.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.
Reported by Jim Velier, BNA Secretary.

