



Whittier Historic Neighborhood Association

September 2008

NEWS

Volume IX, Issue 3

Please Join Us

for the

First Annual

WHNA

Neighborhood Picnic

At Central Park

Saturday, September 20, 2008, 3 - 6 PM

All Neighborhood Residents Invited

Free Hot Dogs, Ice Cream & Drinks

Fun for Everyone!

Games for Adults & Kids

2008 HOME TOUR

Saturday, October 25

Over the past several years, I have spent many evenings strolling through the streets of our neighborhood. In fact, you may have seen me and noticed my habit of pausing in front of many homes, taking in the sights of the architecture and old-fashioned charm. It's not uncommon to see streets with Craftsman bungalows interspersed with Victorians, Spanish Revivals and Colonial Revivals, all of various sizes. Someone once asked



2008 Tour Home

me what it was about this neighborhood that made it cohesive,

considering that absolutely no two structures are the same. Those of us who love this neighborhood know the answer: time. It took decades and entire eras to grow into itself, with generations of Whittier residents building the homes that give each street a distinguished, yet cohesive identity allowing our neighborhood to stand the test of time.

While evening sidewalk tours are always fun, if you're interested in

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MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

By Rosie Seelt

WHNA secretary, Diane Parra Wilcox, lives in a charming rented cottage in one of our neighborhood's few remaining bungalow courtyards. She moved there in 1993 following her marriage to husband, Robert. During the ensuing years, she has created a wonderful garden along the perimeter of the cottage. It overflows with an eye-catching variety of beautiful plants. She and Robert happily share their home with pet cats, Eire and LaNina, as well as a menagerie of friendly wild critters. Diane loves living in Whittier and says she was immediately captivated by the area's friendly people and suburban country atmosphere created by its tree-lined streets, older homes and nearby hills.

Diane was born and raised in Brentwood, California and received a



Diane Parra Wilcox

B.A. Degree in English from U.C.L.A. After working in the journalism field for 25-years, including a stint as public relations director with international advertising agency Bozell, Inc., she has retired to write historic fiction

novels. She recently completed her first book, *Eneme*, which has been sent to a Dublin publisher. Her hobbies include gardening, making things from stained-glass, drawing, walking and taking road trips. Her most recent trip was a one-day visit to Santa Barbara for a French celebration of Bastille Day. She and Robert are now eagerly looking forward to their next trip, a visit to the Grand Canyon this coming fall.

Diane says she became a WHNA member to, "get to know her neighbors better and to help preserve the integrity and small-town charm of historic Whittier." She first learned about the association when a WHNA block captain delivered newsletters to all of the rental cottages in her bungalow court. Diane also says she, "enjoys participating in WHNA activities and has met a lot of wonderful, concerned and dedicated neighbors and friends."

2008 Audit Report

On June 9, 2008, we the undersigned examined the financial records of the WHNA Treasurer for the fiscal year beginning June 1, 2007 and ending May 31, 2008. We do hereby stipulate that we found them correct; and that the balance in hand on May 31, 2008 for the General Operating Checking Account was \$1,3204.66, and for the Home Tour Checking Account \$7,924.36, and for the Certificate of Deposit \$16,051.81.

Audit Committee
(signed)
Leon Bennett
Barrie Cruickshank,
Maureen C. Dickson

SPIDER ALERT

Neighbor Judy Jansen has found a few brown widow spiders in her garage and backyard over the past several months. Like its better known "cousin" the black widow spider, the brown widow's bite injects venom into its victim. The main symptom is severe local pain. The spider is not very aggressive, does not defend its web, and bites are not common.

According to the San Diego Natural History Museum's internet Field Guide, the color intensity and pattern of the brown widow can vary from light tan to dark brown and the undersides of both the females and males are marked with an hour glass. Judy describes the spiders found on her property as having brown bodies in the same shape as the more familiar black widow with spotted legs and an hour glass mark on their undersides. Unlike the round, smooth egg sacs of the black widow, the brown widow's egg sac is round with numerous short spikes. Its web appears messy and can be found in buildings as well as gardens.

To view pictures of the brown widow and learn more about its habitat and control, please see the San Diego Natural History Museum's internet Field Guide at www.sdnhm.org/fieldguide/inverts/latr-geo.html.

UPTOWN WHITTIER SPECIFIC PLAN ADVANCES TO CITY COUNCIL

By Jim Sass

With encouragement and consultation from the WHNA and other organizations, the City of Whittier commissioned the development of a "specific plan" for the Uptown Whittier area. The renowned urban planning firm of Moule & Polyzoides has worked with the city and residents for more than two years to bring the Uptown Whittier Specific Plan to life. This plan will provide a vision and guidelines for improvement and development of the 185-acre area bounded by Painter, Penn, Pickering, and the alley just north of Hadley. The Whittier Planning Commission approved the current version of the plan on July 24. Upon final approval by the City Council, the plan will replace a specific plan from 1989.

Moule & Polyzoides have placed great value on the historic character and existing assets of our Uptown area. These assets include being "highly walkable," having many locally-owned businesses and restaurants, being home to many civic organizations and churches, and the historic buildings and homes that have been restored for current use. On page 1:1, Moule and Polyzoides state: "The goal of the Uptown Whittier Specific Plan is to leverage these assets, and shape the area into a destination and urban experience."

The Uptown Whittier Specific Plan includes many different principles and guidelines for improvement and positive development of the area. Highlights

of the plan include maintaining a distinctive and historic character, a pedestrian-friendly orientation, a "park once" system, including both local and national retailers, mixed use of properties (e.g., stores and housing in the same building), diversity in types of housing, partnership with Whittier College, and overall high standards for design. A "form-based code" will be applied to regulate the types of buildings and businesses that will be allowed in the different "zones" of the Uptown area.

Although both residents and merchants are excited about the plan, there are some controversial areas. Merchants have expressed concerns about zoning restrictions and parking plans. Preservationists oppose the inclusion of an architectural style called "California Contemporary." Residents are concerned about potential traffic and parking problems that the plan might bring to surrounding neighborhoods.

A recent version of the plan is available for download at <http://www.insidewhittier.com/cgi-bin/site.cgi?uptownsplan>. As the plan is likely to have a tremendous influence on the future of Uptown Whittier, it is worthy of our time and careful consideration. The City Council plans to begin considering the plan before the end of summer. The WHNA encourages neighbors' active participation in the council's process of considering and approving this plan.

LOST & FOUND PETS

By Risha Schodlbauer

We all know how heart-breaking it is to lose a family pet. WHNA would like to help our neighbors when they find themselves in that unfortunate situation. We propose organizing a service that would get the word out via email to all of our members notifying them about lost and found neighborhood pets. If you are interested in being a part of this effort by volunteering to be the contact person, please call Joseph Aguilar at 562-693-1208. The contact person must be willing to have their name, email address and phone number printed in our newsletter for neighbors to be able to contact when they lose or find a pet. In turn, the contact person would then email all pertinent information to our members.



Love Thy Neighbor

The theme for this year's Neighborhood Holiday Decoration Contest is **Love Thy Neighbor**. All neighborhood residents are encouraged to participate in the contest which will take place on Thursday evening, December 11. There are no fees or entry forms to fill out. All you need to do is have your decorations on display and your lights turned on and contest judges will automatically look at your decorations as they drive through the neighborhood inspecting decorations. As in past years, awards will be given out in several different categories including best lawn display, best decorated block, most elegant, best front porch display, and more.

WHNA Makes Annual Donations



Cecilia Parra, Katie Sullens,
Cathy Schmierer & Joseph Aguliar

At our general meeting this past May 15, WHNA President Joseph Aguliar presented Lou Henry Hoover School Principal Kathy Schmierer and students Cecilia Parra and Katie Sullens with a check for \$1000. The money will be used to help the school purchase furniture for its library. In addition to Hoover School, WHNA also made a \$500 donation to the Women and Children's Crisis Shelter and a \$75 donation to the Whittier Public Library.

2008 Home Tour Cont.

catching a more in-depth view of our neighborhood's historic treasures, don't miss the 2008 WHNA Home Tour on Saturday, October 25, from 10 AM to 4 PM. Every year, lovers of history look forward to the annual opportunity to get an inside tour of five of Whittier's most stunning and well-preserved homes of the past. Allow our knowledgeable docents to take you and your friends on a room-by-room trip through the past. Or, if you would like to help our neighborhood out by volunteering as a tour docent, please call Karen Stoltz at 562-464-9543.

This year's tour homes, built between the years 1911 and 1928, include two Colonial Revivals, a Craftsman, a Mediterranean Revival and a Spanish-Influenced Bungalow. In addition to these homes of distinction, you'll see an impressive collection of classic automobiles; listen to vintage music played on an original phonograph and meet tour guests from all over Southern California. All proceeds benefit the Whittier Historic Neighborhood Association, which proudly protects and preserves the beauty of historic Whittier, educates residents on the process of restoration and helps our local Lou Henry Hoover Elementary School.

Tickets will go on sale September 20, 2008 for \$15 at the following locations: Pour Le Bain, 6721 Greenleaf Avenue, the Whittier Museum, 6755 Newlin Avenue, and the Whittier Art Gallery at 8035 Painter Avenue. Tickets may also be purchased on October 17 and 24 at the Whittier Farmer's Market on Philadelphia Street. On the day of the tour, tickets will be available for \$18 at the Home Tour Ticket Booth, located at 6318 Washington Avenue. For more tour information, check out our website at www.whittierhistoric.org.
Ed's Note: The neighbor who wrote the above article wishes to remain anonymous.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

As the 2008-09 membership year continues, WHNA is pleased to recognize and thank those residents who help to support our neighborhood association. In addition to paying for WHNA's administration costs, their dues also help to enhance the quality of life for every resident in our neighborhood.

Dues received as of 8/15/08:

Alfonso & Angela Acosta-Salazar
Joseph Aguliar
Barbara Alaniz
Kathy Alaniz
Connie Alaniz & Robin Rivera
Doug & Sheryl Anderson
Doris & Cathie Arcadi
Jose Aviles
Leon & Karen Bennett
John & Brenda Brinegar
Tom Buczala
Dixie Buxbaum
Debra Canham
Rafael & Gail Chabran
Danny Chan
Ignacio & Sarah Chavez
Charles & Maria Claver
Fran Coeur
James & Debbie Cross
Barrie & Ruth Cruickshank
Dorothy Dettor
Linda DeVries
Maureen Dickson
Larry & Liz Dorn
Tomas & Lorena Duran
Tony Edelen
Mr. & Mrs. R. G. Ewing
Ellen Fitzgerald
Nick Fusano & Jo Wheeler
Don & Sue Gale
Joe & Kathy Goldman
Dorothy Grey
Janice Harbin
Ken Henderson
Susan Hubbs
Kevin & Jan Hussey
Maureen James
Judy Jansen
Mary Jones
Joyce Kaufman & Bob Marks
Allene Kersh
Fred & Shelia Kerz
Mary Jo King
Norm & Theola Kirschenbaum
Tim Kung & Laura McEnaney
Victoria Landeros-Lopez
Peter & Tomoko Lennihan

Michael & Traci Long
Robert & Julie Lontok
Don & Peggy Mathews
Ceci Medina
Molly & Rick Mendoza
Laurel Meyer
Jeff & Lin Miller
Charles & Madeline Minear
Susan Mitchell
Laurie Monck
Maria Morales
Gloria Mount
Frances Muller
Robert & Sabron Newton
Rudy & Marie Ortega
Araceli Ortiz
Patricia O'Toole
Diane Parra-Wilcox
Carlos & Cecilia Perez
Jerry Preciado
Raquel Preciado
Beverly Prentiss
Fred & Margaret Ramirez
Nick & Gabriela Rangel
Jerry Rankin
Monica Redfox
Ron & Pam Reeder
Richard Salazar
Joann Sarachman
Jim & Carina Sass
LeRoy & Vivian Schmaltz
Risha Schodlbauer
Bruce & Rosie Seelt
Margot Smith
Fritz & Ann Smith
Bob & Karen Stoltz
John P. & Toni D. Swick
Ruth Thomason
Richard & Claudia Todd
Dani Tucker
Edith Van Campen
Belle Velasco
Justine Whitehead & Amit Dhawal
Mahlon & Gwen Woirhaye
Leonard & Paula Woo
Mildred Woore
Anne & Larry Young

(Please report any errors or omissions to
bnrseelt@verizon.net.)

WHNA Calendar of Events

Thurs., September 18 7:00 P.M.

WHNA General Meeting

Sat., September 20 3-6 P.M.

WHNA
Neighborhood Picnic
Central Park

Thurs., October 16 7:00 P.M.

WHNA Board Meeting
6543 Washington Avenue

Sat., October 25

WHNA Home Tour
10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Uptown Antique Street Fair
Philadelphia Street

Thurs., November 20 7:00 P.M.

WHNA Board Meeting
5810 Friends Avenue

Sat., December 6

Uptown Christmas Parade
Greenleaf Avenue

Thurs., December 11

WHNA
Holiday Decoration Contest



NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME REPORT

Whittier Historic Neighborhood Association
 P.O. Box 754
 Whittier, CA 90608
 www.whittierhistoric.org

The Whittier Historic Neighborhood Association is a nonprofit membership organization.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Joseph Aguilar, President 693-1208
 Araceli Ortiz, Vice President 505-2787
 Diane Parra-Wilcox, Secretary 945-9914
 Janice Harbin, Treasurer 696-0543
 Rosie Seelt, Newsletter 698-1457
 Karen Stoltz, Home Tour 464-9543

BLOCK REPRESENTATIVES

Doris Arcadi, Karen Bennett, Debra Canham,
 Fran Coeur, Kathy Goldman, Janice Harbin,
 Myra Hilliard, Molly Mendoza,
 Sabron Newton, Araceli Ortiz,
 Diane Parra-Wilcox, Jo Jarachman,
 Risha Schodlbauer, Rosie Seelt,
 Margo Smith, Bob & Karen Stoltz,
 Gwen Woirhaye

BOUNDARIES

North: Orange Drive
 West: Greenleaf Avenue
 East: Painter Avenue
 South: Central Park Historic District

DUES are \$10 per year (June 1-May 31)
 per household.

The WHNA Newsletter is published
 three times per year in January, May
 and September.

Date/Time	Offense	Location
May 01 - 9:30 AM	Larceny Vehicle	6200 block Friends Ave.
May 04 - 6:50 PM	Narcotics	5800 block Washington Ave.
May 06 - 1:48 AM	Misc. Crime	6300 block Bright Ave.
May 06 - 5:32 AM	Grand Theft Auto	6200 block Friends Ave.
May 07 - 12:32 PM	Narcotics	6500 block Friends Ave.
May 09 - 4:06 PM	Narcotics	6500 block Friends Ave.
May 10 - 7:51 PM	Misc. Crime	6500 block Friends Ave.
May 11 - 1:55 PM	Grand Theft Auto	13300 block Bailey St.
May 18 - 9:07 PM	Misc. Crime	6200 block Greenleaf Ave.
May 21 - 11:15 AM	Narcotics	6200 block Painter Ave.
May 21 - 7:36 PM	Narcotics	6500 block Friends Ave.
May 31 - 10:48 AM	Burglary Residential	13000 block Broadway
June 03 - 7:56 PM	Vandalism	13100 block Beverly Blvd.
June 08 - 3:05 PM	Vandalism	6200 block Washington Ave.
June 08 - 8:26 PM	Misc. Crime	6200 block Bright Ave.
June 18 - 12:09 PM	Vandalism	6700 block Friends Ave.
June 19 - 9:36 AM	Larceny Vehicle	6200 block Friends Ave.
June 24 - 9:18 PM	Misc. Crime	6300 block Bright Ave.
June 25 - 10:05 AM	Vandalism	6300 block Greenleaf Ave.
June 25 - 10:42 AM	Larceny Vehicle	6000 block Washington Ave.
June 28 - 9:44 PM	Assault Simple	6200 block Greenleaf Ave.
June 29 - 2:50 PM	Larceny Vehicle	13200 block Beverly Blvd.
June 30 - 9:12 AM	Larceny Theft	6200 block Washington Ave.
July 01 - 3:30 PM	Burglary Residential	6300 block Bright Ave.
July 02 - 6:42 AM	Assault Aggravated	6200 block Friends Ave.
July 02 - 7:35 PM	Vandalism	6300 block Bright Ave.
July 04 - 2:26 PM	Larceny Vehicle	5800 block Friends Ave.
July 05 - 12:58 PM	Vandalism	13200 block Hadley St.
July 05 - 11:20 PM	Misc. Crime	6200 block Washington Ave.
July 06 - 2:47 AM	Narcotics	13000 block Camilla St.
July 14 - 5:45 PM	Misc. Crime	6300 block Bright Ave.
July 17 - 6:02 PM	Misc. Crime	5800 block Washington Ave.
July 23 - 7:14 PM	Misc. Crime	5800 block Washington Ave.
July 26 - 11:02 AM	Vandalism	6200 block Painter Ave.
July 27 - 5:06 PM	Grand Theft Auto	6200 block Friends Ave.
July 19 - 7:37 PM	Burglary Residential	6000 block Washington Ave.

Crime information provided by the Whittier Police Department.

2008/2009 WHNA Membership Coupon

Join Today! Annual dues of just \$10 per year (June 1-May 31), per household, help WHNA pay for flyers, three yearly newsletters, cost for general meetings, the Annual Holiday Decorating Contest and miscellaneous administration costs for its ongoing operation.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Please make check payable to: WHNA
 P.O. Box 754
 Whittier, CA 90608

Renewal New Member