

Quarterly Business Meeting

(Note changed date)

Saturday, April 17th, from 10am-noon
Alumni House - 3564 Ramona Dr

Special Guest:

Nancy Parrish of Old Riverside Foundation
will speak on the May 15, 2010 Home Tour Theme,
“A Walk In the Woods”

Coffee, tea and water will be provided

Additional agenda items will include regular reports and -

- Presentation of HWSA Mission Statement
- Councilman Mike Gardner with relevant updates
- Annual Neighborhood Conference

RSVP Cindy 248-9209

or email Judy at WoodStreets@aol.com

Old Riverside Foundation's Annual Vintage Home Tour – May 15 Step Back in Time - Experience life in Riverside at the turn of the 20th century

Old Riverside Foundation, a non-profit organization for historic preservation, is planning its Annual Vintage Home Tour, Restoration Faire and Vintage Mercantile for Saturday, May 15 from 10 am until 5 pm. The ticket price includes a self-guided home tour, one gratis raffle basket ticket, and admittance to the Restoration Faire and Vintage Mercantile. The Vintage Mercantile will feature antiques and collectibles along with the return of the Tour Basket Raffle opportunity.

Tickets will be \$15 pre-sale / \$18 day of tour and may be purchased on the internet at www.olddriverside.org and are available at these Riverside locations: A to Z Printing, Mrs. Tiggy Winkles, Mission Galleria, Center Lumber, Gardener's Cottage, Woodcrest Library and Moreno Valley Flower Box. If ordering by mail, send a S.A.S.E. with a check made out to "ORF" to: Home Tour Tickets, 8410 Cleveland Ave., Riverside 92504.

All homes on the 2010 tour are located in the Wood Street Historic District.

Please check our web site or call 509-7682
<http://www.olddriverside.org/Events/eventshome.html>.

To receive updates, let us know who you are, your phone and email. Contact Judy 788-9310 - WoodStreets@aol.com
Help offset HWSA costs: Suggested donation \$12 annually payable to HWSA, 3581 Elmwood Ct 92506



WOOD **STREETS** **QUARTERLY**

Newsletter of the *H*istoric *W*ood *S*treets *A*ssociation

Volume 9, Issue 1

Riverside, California

April 2010

HWSA President Cindy Jensen

Dear Neighbors,

I would like to welcome Andy Bryant again to our Board as the Vice President. I am looking forward to working with him. In the future you will be seeing a lot more of Andy as he gets his feet wet.

There are a lot of things going on in the neighborhood and the community at large. I've had Judy send out weekly reports on the Magnolia grade separation and she has received positive feedback and appreciation. You may have noticed road dividers on Riverside Ave. at the train tracks at Merrill. We understand that the dividers are the first step to meet Federal requirements to silence the horns at that intersection.

I hope you have all filled out your National Census form. This is a way to getting grants and federal monies the city needs to provide us with many of the services we enjoy. I also have been informed that there have been low returns for the census forms, and thus there is a concern that the community is incorrectly represented in the count.

The Neighborhood Conference "Seizing our Destiny One Neighborhood at a Time" is coming up on June 5. It is subtitled "Creating the City of Your Dreams Now!" It will be held once again at California Baptist University. I am again on the committee that is hosting this event. We are looking forward to new sessions and topics, as many of you have attended the same sessions for a number of years. There will be additional informative, hands-on sessions like Disaster Preparedness and Green environmental classes. There is a change this year – in order to be able to put on this spectacular event there will be a \$5.00 charge for breakfast and also for lunch. It will feature the same great menu and delicious variety of foods. Raffle tickets will be given at check-in, with great prizes (like dinner at the Fire Station, a Walk with the Mayor on Mt Rubidoux, lunch with your councilman, helicopter ride, and more).

Our Summer's End Barbeque will be titled "Creating a Neighborhood of our Dreams." We will be having a story board at the BBQ that will allow you to share what a neighborhood of your dreams would be like. So put those thinking caps on – your assignment for the next few months (should you choose to accept it) will be two-fold:

- 1) Think of a short motto that describes our neighborhood (HWSA) that could be easily memorized.

- 2) Share your thoughts on what a neighborhood of your dreams would look like.

You can send mail to me at 3475 Ramona Dr or e-mail chrisjen28@sbcglobal.net. The Board will pick a winner in each category, and a prize will be awarded to the best ideas. This message will NOT self-destruct,

Cindy

January 9 Meeting Highlights

Chris Jensen, Secretary

Seventeen members attended the New Year Potluck and meeting, along with guests Councilman Mike Gardner, Nancy Sturmer of the Old Riverside Foundation, and Pamela Hogan of Fox Theater Foundation.

Pamela Hogan - Fox Theater Foundation

Fox Theater Foundation is the theater's fund-raising arm. Pamela explained that sponsorships are available. You can sponsor a seat with your name on it for two years for \$250. She led discussion on Fox Theater's gala re-opening (January 15) and the theater marquis, which had been the subject of much controversy.

Mike Gardner

Fox Theater. Mike continued the Fox Theater marquis discussion, confessing it has been the subject of more calls and email messages than any thing else since he took office. The new Preview Lounge will feature a replica of the old marquis.

Downtown. The main Library will be completely redesigned and have a new building. The Municipal Auditorium and the Museum will be re-fit as well. Downtown Wednesday Nights will return this summer as a family-oriented event. A new hotel is planned for 5th and Main.

Officer Reports

Cindy introduced HWSA's new **Vice President**, Andy Bryant of Castle Reagh Pl, who expressed gratitude to David Vangness for starting things and staying with it so long. Andy looks forward to working with Cindy and for the neighborhood.

Hospitality: Terri Donnelly reported several new residents to the area.

Green Team's Pat Silvestri described the water-conservation workshop to take place January 24.

Complete minutes were emailed February 1. If you wish a copy, please contact Chris Jensen (see below).

Historic Wood Streets Assn

President: Cindy Jensen	248-9209	Vice President: Andy Bryant	784-6815	Newsletter, Email Notices: Judy Mahoney 788-9310	Office of Neighborhoods	826-5195
Secretary: Chris Jensen	248-9209	Treasurer: Ursula Vogelsang	686-2090	WoodStreets@aol.com	Preferential Parking:	826-5366
chrisjen28@sbcglobal.net		Hospitality: Terri Donnelly			Police non-emergency:	3 - 1 - 1

"How to Garden" Tour April 25

The Wood Streets Green Team is hosting a "How-to-Garden" Tour on April 25 from 1 to 5 pm. The tour will feature four private gardens within the Wood Streets neighborhood that demonstrate sustainable gardening techniques. Edible landscaping (fruit trees and veggies), composting, drip irrigation, and water-efficient landscaping will be showcased. A local expert will be on hand at each garden to answer visitors' questions. Suggested donation is \$5 to help fund future Green Team events. More info can be found at the website www.woodstreetsgreenteam.ning.com.

Mission Statement

The Board of HWSA wishes to thank all who participated in formulating our Mission Statement. All suggestions were reviewed, and on March 25 the Board officially adopted the following, which was created incorporating wording from the various versions.

"The mission of the Historic Wood Streets Association (HWSA) is to speak in a unified voice in addressing concerns and maintaining a high quality of life in this neighborhood of unique and historic homes. Collectively, we will strive to maintain a communication network to ensure a safe and secure neighborhood to care for each other and our homes."

HWSA Motto Contest

Along with our Mission Statement, we would like you to help us develop a motto – one or two lines, something that could be easily memorized – that sums it all up.

Send your suggestion to Chris Jensen, 3475 Ramona Dr. (email chrisjen@sbcglobal.net). The best suggestions will be read at the July 10 meeting.

Free Gardening Workshop April 18

The WOOD STREETS GREEN TEAM (WSGT) is presenting another free workshop on April 18 from 3 to 5pm. Mark your calendars. The coordinator of this event, Pat Silvestri, says this event is a continuation of the gardening workshops held last year.

The April 18 program will cover two main topics:
1) Vermiculture/Composting With Worms and 2) Integrated Pest Management/a Natural Way to Control Pests.

The session on Composting with worms will be led by Karen Griffith, a Master Composter trained under the County Waste Management Department. She will show us how she uses worms in her composting and also how she uses the compost she makes.

The second session on Pest Control will be presented by Dr. John Bethke, entomologist with the UC Davis, University of California Cooperative Extension Service. John will discuss using common good bugs to destroy harmful bugs, plants that attract the good bugs, and plants that are more resistant to pest damage. He also will show us how to obtain expert advice from the Extension service to help solve problems you may have in your gardens. Each presentation will be followed by a Q and A period for those who have questions about the topics.

The program will be held at the Hall of Fame on the RCC Riverside campus. If you drive to the event, you can park in the garage on Magnolia and then follow the green signs to the location of the Hall of Fame, which is in the Student Center. For more information about this program, call Pat at 369-5223.

Neighborhood Conference June 5

The theme for this year's Conference is "Seizing Our Destiny – One Neighborhood at a Time," and will be held at California Baptist University, 8432 Magnolia Ave., 7:30 am to 5 pm. The conference is a great way to learn about the City and find new strategies to improve the quality of life in your community. There are educational workshops, inspirational speakers, and networking opportunities. Visit booths of various City departments and service organizations for information and free handouts. Pre-registration is ongoing now until May 25. Register online at the link below this paragraph, or call the City at 826-5195.

<http://www.riversideca.gov/neighborhoods/Forms/NeighborhoodsConferenceForm.aspx>.

The day's festivities will include a welcome from the Mayor and presentation of the Neighborhood Spirit Award Winner and Jack B. Clarke Good Neighbor Award Winner.

Neighborhood leaders will share how neighborhoods can be transformed from a collection of houses and businesses into a caring and proactive community.

Note that this year there is a nominal \$5 fee for lunch, as well as \$5 for breakfast. (Well worth it at CBU's cafeteria.)

Mail Carrier

When we learned that our long-time regular mail carrier Robert was being reassigned to another route, we sent out an email to let neighbors know. We received a number of responses, all expressing their appreciation for Robert, his efficiency, friendliness, consistency! Good news – Robert is back on our route. Ours is a difficult route for mail carriers, and we are fortunate to have such great service.

How Did "Wood" Get Into Wood Streets?

Ann Frenkel

The HWSA is delighted that this year the 19th Annual Vintage Home Tour sponsored by the Old Riverside Foundation is featuring the Wood Streets Historic District! You may think that this area is called the "Wood Streets" because so many of the street names end in wood (e.g., Larchwood, Beechwood, Elmwood, etc.)

Actually the "wood" in the Wood Streets comes from Dr. Edward H. Wood, a British-born physician who lived in Riverside during the early part of the 20th century. In 1910, Dr. Wood, who was active in real estate, began subdividing the area, first creating Homewood Court, named after himself. Many of the subsequent street names followed suit, ending with "wood."

The area was ripe for subdivision at this time. In 1909 in order to connect Magnolia Avenue with downtown Riverside, the city decided to fill the Tequesquite Arroyo and establish a direct route from Arlington Avenue to Main Street, thus creating the "finest avenue in America," according to the *Los Angeles Times*.

Our namesake Dr. Wood and his family lived in the Wood Streets around Homewood Court. He became President of the Riverside Medical Society in 1914.

However, his later life was touched by tragedy. In 1918 he lost his first-born daughter Lois when she was killed in a car accident at age 19. Distraught over his daughter's death, Dr. Wood moved to Laguna Beach where he eventually became the president of Citizen's Bank. Then in 1925 he faced a second tragedy when another daughter Marion was run over by a truck at age 16 coming home from school.

Today the Historic Wood Streets District (bounded by Beechwood Place, Magnolia Avenue, and Ramona Drive) represents one of the most unified collections of house styles in Riverside from 1916 to 1940, encompassing Craftsman, Spanish Colonial Revival, Tudor Revival and Colonial Revival.

2010 Census

The 2010 Census is a count of everyone living in the United States and is mandated by the U.S. Constitution. Strict confidentiality laws protect the respondents and the information they provide.

While April 1 is officially designated as Census Day, the Census Bureau will continue to accept 2010 Census questionnaires by mail through mid-April. Beginning May 1, census workers will begin going door to door to households that failed to mail back their forms -- a massive operation that costs taxpayers an average of \$57 per household versus the 44 cents it takes to get a response back by mail.

The City of Riverside is urging its residents to make participation in the 2010 Census a priority. If you have not received your questionnaire or misplaced it, contact the Census Toll-free helpline at 1-866-872-6868 or visit www.2010.census.gov.

Wood Streets Area Yard Sale April 24

Tarbell realtors Rose Mary & Larry Utesch have arranged to advertise a Yard Sale event for Saturday, April 24 for all the Wood Streets. They will promote the event in print media, and provide a sign for your yard if you wish. (Riverside has strict ordinances against posted signs on City property.) To include your address, contact them at 682-6789 or lru@tarbell.com.

Riverside Go Transit Offers Savings Agency tickets

On December 14 a new program dubbed 'Riverside Go Transit' began. Its goal is to help take cars off the road and increase use of public transportation. The program offers all Riverside residents the opportunity to purchase Riverside Transit Agency bus passes from the City at substantial savings: 30-day passes will be discounted by 30% and 7-day passes at 25%. This will drop the price of the 30-day general use pass from \$50 to \$35, and the 7-day pass from \$16 to \$12.

"Reducing air pollution and helping relieve traffic congestion is what this program is all about," said Riverside Mayor Ron Loveridge. "Recently named California's first Emerald City by the Department of Conservation, this program is further evidence of Riverside's clean and green focus."

Passes can be purchased online at riversidegotransit.com, or in person at the 4th floor Public Works counter in City Hall at 3900 Main St., Riverside, CA 92522.

Treasurer's Report

Annual \$12 dues are voluntary. Your generosity helps fund the newsletter, meetings and events during the year. Balance at February 28 was \$601.78.

Calendar

- **Quarterly Business Meeting April 17**, at 10 AM Alumni House – 3564 Ramona Dr
- April 18 – Gardening Workshop
- April 25 – How to Garden Tour
- **Quarterly Business Meeting July 10th**, 10 AM
- National Night Out (Ice Cream Social) August 3 in the evening
- HWSA Annual BBQ September 18 in the afternoon
- **Quarterly Business Meeting October 9th**, 10 AM

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." ~ Margaret Mead

To receive updates, let us know who you are, your phone and email. Contact Judy 788-9310 - WoodStreets@aol.com
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