

Calendar

- Quarterly Business Meeting and New Year Social January 9, 2010 - 10a-noon, Alumni House
- Green Team Workshop January 24, 3-5pm
- Next Newsletter delivery date – March 27
- Quarterly Business Meeting April 10
- Neighborhood Conference June 5, 2010
- National Night Out August 3, 2010

Treasurer’s Report

Balance November 1	607.33
Deposits	37.00
Interest	.51
Expenses	(9.00)
Balance December 1	635.84

Dues are voluntary. Your generosity helps fund the newsletter, meetings and events during the year.
Have a wonderful Christmas and a happy, healthy 2010!
– Ursula Vogelsang, Treasurer.

Art Gallery Seeks Volunteers

Due to budget cuts, the RCC Art Gallery needs your help! Dr. Schwerdtfeger, Vice President, Academic Affairs, RCC Associates, is seeking volunteers who would be able to spend an hour or so each week to help them keep the Art Gallery open. If you think you might be interested and would like more information, you may contact Dr. Schwerdtfeger at Riverside City College (951) 222-8493. Thank you! – Carla Lordan.

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**Quarterly Business Meeting
& Annual New Year Brunch
Saturday, January 9, 10am-noon
Alumni House - 3564 Ramona Dr**

**Special Guest:
Pamela Hogan, Fox Riverside Theater Foundation Coordinator**

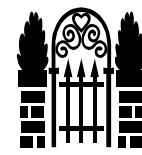
Potluck Brunch

Coffee and tea will be provided, and anyone wanting to bring a treat to share to celebrate the New Year will be appreciated. Thanks - Cindy

Agenda items will include regular reports and -

- Proposed HWSA Mission Statement
- Mike Gardner will be there with an update of our area. He will also address what is involved with a name change of a street.
 - Pamela Hogan on Fox Theater.
- Cindy will share on the Mayor’s Neighborhood Governance program

**RSVP Terri (951) 686-2090
or email Judy at WoodStreets@aol.com**



HWSA President Cindy Jensen Message

Dear friends and Neighbors,

As we start a new year there is always excitement and a little sadness. None of us can believe time goes by so quickly, and another year has passed. Our own daughter Rakhia was only eight when we moved here and now she is eighteen and will be graduating from high school in June. Off to college she goes beginning a “new adventure.” She is leaving Mom and Dad behind to get into mischief.

We are all looking forward to the possibility that the economy will get better. There are many projects that will continue to progress in the city. The underpass at Magnolia and Merrill will start in January. How excited we all will be to find new creative ways to jockey around the project until it is finished! It will be the talk of the town all year! We never will be bored for conversation. We could have contests, giving prizes for the person who takes the least amount of time going from point “A” to point “B.” Seriously though, I am glad they are starting the process. Having had a husband on the city fire department who had to deal with getting emergency vehicles maneuvered around the stopped trains had been a challenge to say the least.

I hope all of you are looking forward to the grand opening of The Fox Theater. I know I am! It looks like they have some wonderful programs planned for the future. Pamela Hogan from The Fox Theater foundation will be with us for our January 9th meeting at the Alumni House to give an update and presentation on all that is store for us.

Know that all of you are forever on our hearts and minds . We wish you all the most blessed, peaceful, prosperous, and safe new year.

Fondly, Chris & Cindy Jensen

November 7th Meeting Report

Cindy greeted the ten residents and guests at 10:15, and supplied copies of a City of Riverside survey, encouraging everyone to participate.

Harrison Heublein: Grade Separations, 91 HOV

Cindy introduced Harrison Heublein, representing Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce, who led

discussion on the 91 HOV Lane and the Magnolia Grade Separation.

HOV lane of the 91 –start date is unknown due to state funding problems. There will be a public forum before the project starts. It will run from Adams on the 91 to the 60/215 interchange on both sides of the freeway.

The Ivy bridge will be replaced, but that will cause it to be closed. The 14th street bridge will be modified. Sound-walls will be built, but they are not part of the current plan

Grade Separation at Magnolia and the tracks. The illustrated plans were shown. Many businesses have moved and buildings have been torn down in preparation for the project. Construction will begin in February 2010 and take 18 months. Traffic will be shifted to Riverside Ave and Brockton and Palm.

Other grade separations to come are at Streeter Ave., Columbia Ave., and Riverside Ave.

Lynn Anderson, News of Ward 1

Cindy introduced Lynn Anderson (field representative for Councilman Mike Gardner).

Lynn’s contact numbers are (951) 826-5242 and 312-0475. Mike Gardner’s contact numbers are (951) 941-7084 and (951) 826-5242.

Tickets for the Fox Theatre are available at www.foxriversidelive.com.

If you have a crime to report call Riverside Police at 9-1-1 or the non-emergency # (951) 787-7911.

The downtown walking mall was scheduled to be completed prior to November 26, 2009 in time for the Festival of Lights.

Reminder – please support our local businesses by shopping Riverside for the holidays

Other Business

Vice President’s position to be filled in January by Andy Bryant.

Treasurer reported a balance of \$606.82.

Hospitality Report – Terri Donnelly

- New neighbor Ruth West (Larchwood Pl.)
- Deaths in the neighborhood – Margaret Sharp, Dana Charter, George Metcalfe, Bruce Sisco
- Births–Brusselback, Colaluca

November 7 Business Meeting, cont'd

Leadership Training. Cindy congratulated Ron Chick, Carol McDoniel, Robin Arostegui and Pat Silvestri for completing eight weeks of leadership training. There (was) a reception and graduation ceremony November 17 at City Hall

Suspicious activity in the Larchwood alley and neighborhood – Cindy and Chris spotted a group of young men in the alley behind a residence and asked them to leave. They left without incident. Cindy called 9-1-1, and within seven minutes there were three squad cars on scene.

“Victorian Christmas Celebration” - Robin Arostegui handed out information about the December 11 fundraiser at Heritage House

Close and clean up – 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Chris Jensen, Secretary

New HWSA Vice President Andy Bryant

We are very happy to add Andy Bryant, of Castle Reagh Place, to the HWSA Board of Directors as Vice President, a position filled by David Vangsness for the last several years. Andy brings with him a great personality and leadership skills that will help even out some of Cindy's workload. Welcome aboard, Andy.

We are thankful for the years of service given by David Vangsness, who really got the ball rolling in the first place for our neighborhood association. He and his family deserve another round of applause from grateful neighbors!

Green Team Report**Next Workshop: Sunday, Jan. 24, 2010 3-5pm****“Water 101: How to Use It, How to Lose It”**

Location to be announced. No RSVP necessary – just come! Topics covered:

- * Wood Streets Green Team Annual Report
- * Riverside's Water Resources
- * Introduction to Drip Irrigation - Featuring Kerwin Russell, Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District
- * Q&A - Bring all your water questions!

Green Team Website Being Renovated

Check out all the new (and developing) pages on our website: <http://woodstreetsgreenteam.ning.com>. Let us know what other information you'd like us to provide, and join in on the discussion groups!

Green Team Members Tour Recycling Station

Ever wonder if the stuff you put in your blue bin ever gets recycled? We found out--it does! For pictures and an excellent flyer on what you can and can't put in the blue bin, click the links under “Burrtec Transfer Station Tour” heading on the following web page: <http://woodstreetsgreenteam.ning.com/page/recycling-1>

Home Water and Energy Evaluations

Riverside Public Utilities offers free home energy and landscape irrigation evaluations. To schedule an evaluation, call the following numbers.

Water Evaluation : (951) 683-7691

Energy Evaluation: (951) 826-5485

Green Team 2009 and 2010

The Wood Streets Green Team has had an exciting year. From our first organizational meeting last January through three well-attended workshops on home gardening, solar power, and water-efficient landscapes, we've successfully begun to provide resources to Wood Streets residents to live more sustainably. Thank you all for your tremendous support!

This next year we plan to expand our efforts. While continuing our workshop series on topics such as composting, recycling, weatherization, and non-toxic households, we will also offer a Wood Streets sustainable garden tour and focused, smaller “practicums” on various topics. We will also start a promotion campaign on irrigation efficiency and an advocacy campaign to facilitate alternate forms of transportation in Riverside. We have big plans, and we want to hear from you what YOU want from YOUR neighborhood Green Team!

Riverside's Water Quality Good

Finally, as a member of the Riverside Board of Public Utilities, I would like to switch hats and respond to recent reports concerning the quality of Riverside's water supply. Please rest assured: Riverside's water is completely safe to drink, and it meets or exceeds all State and Federal health requirements. We will provide much more information on this topic at our January 24th workshop, but if you have immediate questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season. See you on January 24th !

Justin Scott-Coe, Wood Streets Green Team
(951) 369-3350, jscottcoe@earthlink.net
<http://woodstreetsgreenteam.ning.com/>

Hospitality Chair – Terri Donnelly

It's wonderful to see so many new people moving in to our neighborhood. If you recently moved in, and haven't connected with HWSA, we'd love to hear from you. Contact Terri Donnelly, Hospitality Chair 686-2090, and you'll receive a nice welcome package. Also provide us your email so we can inform you of neighborhood activities.

Thank you! Best holiday wishes to you all.– Terri.

A Home Full of Creativity**3558 Beechwood Place**

One of the most satisfying things about historical research is that “aha!” moment when bits of the puzzle fit together. In the case of Ben and Mary Hansen's charming 1936 Beechwood Place home, they told me the original owner Mrs. Garat was connected to the Barker Brothers Furniture Company known throughout Southern California. Marie Garat, the widow of a shepherd, lived there until her death at age 89 in 1960. In 1930, her daughter Josephine married C. Lawrence Barker, president of Barker Brothers. Josephine Garat Barker then entered the world of moneyed Los Angeles high society, and in 1936 (despite the Depression!) was able to help her mother move out of her modest Riverside rental and build a home on Beechwood Place.

The builder of the house was Stanley Ray. According to the Hansens, the architect was Herman O. Ruhnu. That would make this house one of the earliest structures designed by the renowned Riverside architect. The house is a fairly typical cottage of the period; however, there are some striking French features, such as a semi-mansard roof, extensive arched doorways, and shutters. Marie was born in France; she and her husband Joseph were probably of Basque origin. Many of the original details are still visible, including the “California Cooler” (an early form of refrigerator) that has been converted into the coffeepot station.

The Hansens moved here in 1964, and have created a very unique space which includes a full woodworking workshop. Here Ben, a retired industrial arts instructor, teaches woodworking skills to children throughout the year. For fifty years the Hansens have held a “Christmas workshop” where friends and church members come to make holiday toys and gifts. With Mary's music-making (she sings and plays the piano), this is a home where things are created. What a wonderful example of Wood Streets living! –History Chair, Ann Frenkel.

Email Alerts and Announcements

Whenever we hear of suspicious activity – or an actual break-in or other incident - in the neighborhood, we send an email to you alert if we have your email address. It's a good supplement to Neighborhood Watch. The emails are sent out “blind copy,” which means you are the only one who sees your email address.

Spam Blockers. Since our emails go out to over one hundred addresses, they are a logical candidate for scrutiny by spam blockers. Several individuals aren't getting our HWSA e-mailings because they are being blocked as possible spam. Please go into your spam-blocking controls and “allow” emails from WoodStreets@aol.com.

Homes Without Newsletters! If you've moved but haven't told us, no newsletter is delivered to your house if we have an email address for you. You still get the email newsletter, but the house you moved from is skipped! Please let us know. Also, if you know of a neighbor who needs the newsletter, please contact us! Thank you! And a big thank you to all our delivery volunteers. – Judy.

Christmas Tree Collection

(starts the December 26 and continues for 3 weeks)

- Collection will take place with your normal sanitation pick up.
- Christmas trees will be collected with your greenwaste.
- Flocked Christmas trees will be collected with your regular trash.
- Please cut your holiday tree into 4-foot sections and place at the curb next to the green container.
- Please place sections of flocked trees inside the brown can.
- Please remove the stand, ornaments and all decorations.
<http://www.riversideca.gov/trash/holiday-schedule.asp>

**Did You Know?**

On the 3rd Saturday of every month, City of Riverside residents may show their utility bill and dispose of their bulky trash and yard waste for free at the Agua Mansa Transfer Station, 1780 Agua Mansa Rd, Riverside, 92509.