

Country Club Park Chronicle

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2008 • VOLUME 4 • ISSUE 3

A PUBLICATION OF THE COUNTRY CLUB PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION www.countryclubpark.net

Message from President-Elect

Tom Smith

KEEPING OLD PARTNERS - MAKING NEW FRIENDS - GETTING THE WORK DONE

Literally, the year 2009 promises to be a banner year in Country Club Park. In partnership with the LA/CRA, Herb Wesson's Council District 10, and other public and private agencies, an actual banner will be placed on the corner of Olympic Boulevard and Wilton Place. The banner will announce the creation of a new park on that site. This example of a beneficial partnership typifies the relationships the Country Club Park Neighborhood Association has been able to forge over the past few years under the leadership of Edmon Rodman. My goal is to continue this approach and to expand on his achievements.

We need to strengthen the partnerships we have and continue to build new relationships that promote our neighborhood. Where best to find the new friends we need but right in our own backyard? Our current team is strong; Board members and other neighbors have stepped up to get the work done. But however energetic our current team, we need more help from our neighbors to keep up the momentum.

What would you like to see

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Country Club Park Neighborhood Association Presents . . .

Holiday in the Park



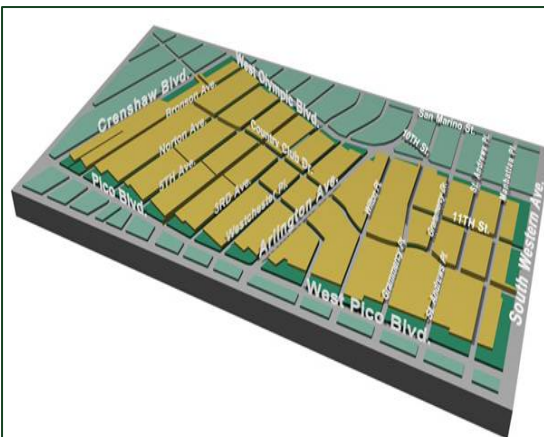
Come join your neighbors in this festive celebration

Date: Saturday, Dec. 13, 2008

Time: 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Location: Avatar Meher Baba Center
1214 South Van Ness Avenue
LA, CA 90019

- Fun kids' activities provided by Juliet Curry from SmART Space 5:30 - 7:30
- Chinese Food catered by King Fu
- Donations needed for charities (more info inside the newsletter article)



Message from Our Former President Edmon Rodman

Everyone, turn on your porch lights." It was at my first community meeting as president that I asked you to begin to think differently about our community—lighting it up seemed a good start. Light makes us feel safer and says to neighbors, "I care about your well-being."

That night was the beginning of an almost three year journey with you and our board of directors to not only secure our homes and streets, but green them with trees, while carefully preserving the architecture and neighborhood feel of Country Club Park.

Very happily now and with great confidence in the neighborhood's future I am stepping down as President. Our new President, Tom Smith, insightful, hardworking, and forward-thinking former VP was elected by the CCPNA Board of Directors in October. He will, as Association president, be directing our overall improvement and preservation efforts.

I am proud of our progress. You should be too. Country Club Park is now protected by an Interim Control Ordinance; several demolitions have been stopped in their tracks. Our HPOZ is on track, and thanks to

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Message from the President-Elect (from p. 1)

accomplished in the neighborhood? Bring your ideas forward and let's see what more can be done.

We've focused on building community awareness by putting out this newsletter, holding our annual Saturday in the Park summer celebration, publishing an annual Country Club Park calendar, and having an annual Holiday Party (come this Saturday! -- December 13, 2008). What else should our neighborhood be doing to keep us communicating with each other?

We've monitored property development issues around us. We are working with City officials to ensure that the scale and style of new buildings conform to our existing structures. To this end, the Country Club Park Historic Preservation Overlay Zone (HPOZ) ordinance is currently moving through the City's bureaucracy. Once in place, we will need the support and help of neighbors to keep it effective. Can you help promote this major effort to keep Country Club Park a residential community?

We've tried to clean things up a bit and encourage community responsibility. In partnership with KYCC, we've planted new trees on our streets and in our yards. We're trying to get a handle on graffiti. We're staying in touch with the police officers who patrol our streets. Would you like to help by, maybe, coming up with the ultimate dog poop solution?

There's plenty to do. We're limited only by our imaginations and the availability of bodies to do the work. We all have the same goal in mind: a vibrant and safe Coun-

try Club Park residential community. There are meetings to convene, hearings to attend and new ideas to generate. I look forward to hearing from you.

Tom Smith

tom.smith@countryclubpark.net



Winter Holidays in Country Club Park

by Megan Song



The Holiday Season is upon us! Join us on Saturday, December 13, 2008 at the Avatar Meher Baba Center from 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm. Bring your family and friends as we come together to celebrate the Holiday Season. The Holiday Party is a great chance to make new friends and meet your neighbors.

Feast on great Chinese food from King Fu, homemade baked goods from some of our gourmet neighborhood chefs, and enjoy the festive atmosphere. There are activities for everyone to enjoy!

Juliet Curry from SmART Space will bring some great tools and craft supplies for the kids to create holiday artwork—everything from making wreaths and snowflake ornaments to reindeer sculptures. These activities will be available to our little ones from 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm.

Once again, neighbor and professional photographer Rob Hewett has graciously volunteered his talents in the form of a lovely gift to us all. Come in your holiday finery or casual togs, and Rob will take group photos! We will have a decorated set where families and friends can have their photos taken, and they will be printed on the spot!

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Message from the Former President (From p. 1)

the CRA and Councilman Wesson, our new park is coming! For our financial well-being, contributions come to us from neighborhood filming.

With Kids playing, couples strolling, neighbors sharing news, dogs out for a walk, there is a sense of community ownership.

Our neighborhood enjoys improved relations with local businesses, religious organizations, community agencies and city government, and an atmosphere of improved interaction and dialogue between neighbors.

I like it that when we meet we can have serious, respectful discussions, give and takes, filled with ideas and direction even when we don't agree. Don't you?

How has this all been possible?

With hard work, dedicated and caring leadership, especially from the Association's officers: Tom Smith, vice president—doing what it takes to get the job done; Regina Jones, treasurer—creating new levels of security, transparency and investment; and John McCarthy, recording secretary—writing, calling everywhere, anyone on our behalves.

How has this all happened?

It happened with your participation. It's the result of our showing up at city hearings and planning meetings, attending neighborhood committee meetings, giving us direction with your emails, letters and suggestions, "over the fence." It's a result of your generous financial support.

Thank you in so many ways.

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Message from the Former President (From p. 2)

For planting a tree, thank you. For baking a cake, for handing out a newsletter, for making the call when you saw something wasn't right. For asking good questions and listening to good answers: All thank you.

Thanks as well to the neighbors who have given generously of their time and efforts to serve on the Association's board of directors. Thanks to:

John Longmuir, who keeps a watchful and dedicated eye on the neighborhood through our Zoning and Land use committee.

Maisha Clossan, for chairing our incredibly successful Events Committee, producing community building events like Saturday in the Park and the Holiday party. For creating a Welcome neighbor program.

Trang (Ky) Ho who has taken leadership roles creating our beautiful community calendar, and who spearheaded our efforts to relieve households from unnecessary flood plain insurance,

Prem Goyal who has worked towards bringing us the calendar and improving and helping to create CCP's first website.

Shin-Yong Earl Kang for creating a Korean language insert of the newsletter.

Pamela Whittenbury, for bringing her organizational expertise to bear on our efforts, publishing our newsletter, and making sure our community dollars go farther.

Virginia Longmuir, former Recording Secretary for helping to get the party started—literally by chairing and envisioning our community's first Saturday in the Park.

Gary Song, former board member for protecting our neighborhood by becoming a champion zoning variance researcher and HPOZ supporter.

Sequoia Mercier, former board member for adding her spirit to our organization and for making our neighborhood entertainment history come to life through our Neighbors of Note.

Newsletter editor Holly Eubanks for energizing our neighborhood with her farsightedness, and raising our spirits and level of awareness with this newsletter.

Chanel Wickland, for fundraising, which made many of the Association's projects become reality, and for being a link to the Korean Community.

Rich Schmidt for stepping up and co-chairing this year's Saturday in the Park.

And to OPNC, it's board, and especially its president Chris Elwell, for their support of our efforts toward historical preservation.

Thanks to you all.

To successfully continue our progress, Tom and our Board of Directors, me included, will need your energies and support. There is so much yet to be done.

Almost three years ago, Holly Eubanks stood on my front porch and asked, "Edmon, did you ever think about becoming Association president?"

I thought she was kidding.

Little did I know that her question would lead to an effort by all of us to turn on the lights—unleashing the positive energies of a community in so many ways for so many people.

Folks, keep your porch lights on.



Winter Holidays in Country Club Park (cont'd from page 2)

During these festive times, please consider those who are less fortunate. We are taking up collections to donate to two chosen charities.

The Los Angeles Youth Network is a program for young teens living on the streets. They provide the necessary housing and shelter these kids need.

However, they need our help. Please consider donating boys and girls clothing for ages 12-17. They are in need of new/used, but clean clothes. Keep the winter months ahead in mind, and donate items such as:

- sweaters, jackets, jeans, warm caps, etc.
- toiletries such as shampoo, body wash, deodorant, etc.;
- towels, blankets and other day-to-day items;
- canned foods, boxed cereal and other breakfast items (all non-perishable).

Finally, keep in mind our little furry friends in local shelters who are in need of a home and loving family. Consider adopting a pet this holiday season—imagine the joy and fun a new kitten or puppy will bring to your home! We will be making a contribution to a local animal shelter; please donate new or old (but clean) towels and blankets, newspapers, or a roll or two of paper towels. These simple items—some of which we regard as discards—can be very useful to others.

We hope to see you at the party!

*Thanks, from Country Club Park's
Holiday Party Committee!*

Wilton Place Pocket Park —• UPDATE •—

By Perry McLamb

Who would have thought that giving up a Wednesday evening to attend a meeting about a pocket park could be both informative and fun?

Certainly not I. But at about five o'clock that evening, my computer's calendar popped up a reminder..."Pocket Park Meeting at 6:30." I groaned. I had completely forgotten about it—and had been looking forward to vegging out in front of the TV that night after a long day. But there it was.

So I called my neighbor and asked how she was getting there. She offered to drive. (What a gift!)

We arrived at the Avatar Center to discover a table covered with goodies—not the least of which were some of those enormous, mouth-watering Cosco muffins.

So I grabbed a muffin and settled in as Tom Smith opened the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance and introducing the

architects, Steve Rasmussen Canadian, who is based in San Francisco; and Glen Dake, of Silver Lake.

This project is the joint effort of a number of City agencies and organizations, including Councilman Herb Wesson's office (District 10), Country Club Park Neighborhood Association, the Community Redevelopment Office, (CRA), the Korean American Chamber of Commerce, the Koreatown Youth and Community Center (KYCC) and the Department of Recreation and Parks.

The architects explained that the development of the pocket park would be a collaborative process among all the principals, and that they were here to guide us through the process.

In a workshop format, participants were given the opportunity to share their ideas, visions, and concerns for the project. Since this was the initial planning session, we were just getting ideas on the table—not ruling any particular concept or suggestion definitively in or out. Neighbors had definitely given the project some thought—we discussed everything from a play space for children, to signage defining the neighborhood,

to improving spaces outside of, yet within view of the park..

Emerging as an early focus was the tree—do you know the one? The huge ficus that dominates the sidewalk in front of the location for the park. The room seemed equally divided between those who wanted to keep the tree, based on it's size and longevity in the neighborhood, and those who wanted to replace it with better placed trees, which wouldn't push up and destroy the sidewalk.

All these questions and more will be brought before the community when we meet again on December 16th. During the next phase of planning, the objective is to work collaboratively to winnow the workable from unworkable concepts.

We were also asked, before the next meeting, to check out the location during different times of the day, to experience the reality of the space. What can be seen that isn't visible on a map?

We all left quite excited—not just about the future park, but by the shared decision making as well.

So with any luck, by next time this year, that eyesore strip of land on the corner of Olympic and Arlington should be transformed into a beautiful gateway park for our neighborhood, that we can all enjoy.

For this to happen, we'll need the help and input of everyone we can round up from the neighborhood. So mark December 16th on your computer's calendar and when it pops up to remind you, instead of groaning, think of those wonderful muffins - and how much fun you're going to have with your neighbors as we all work together to develop a beautiful new space for our community.



Eat at El Cholo,

Help Country Club Park!!!

By John McCarthy

From January 1, 2009 through March 31, 2009 El Cholo is going to prove itself a great neighbor to the residents of Country Club Park. When Country Club Park residents eat at El Cholo and present the El Cholo/Country Club Park Dining Card, a donation will be made to the Country Club Park Neighborhood Association. This money will help the CCPNA with all of its community activities including the establishment of the Historic Preservation Overlay Zone.

Here's how it will work:

1. Make sure you have a Dining Card with you EVERYTIME you eat at El Cholo between January 1 and March 31.
2. Cut out the following card.



3. Print the following information on the back of the card. (See facsimile, following.)
4. Use the card on your first visit. When you need more cards, call John McCarthy at (323)732-8118

Print name on back of card to WIN!

Name: _____

Addr: _____

Tel: _____

(You could win a FREE MEAL at a drawing to be held at the beginning of April).

and he'll tell you where to get them.

5. There must be one resident of Country Club Park in the dining party. **The donation is good on parties of 4 or less.**
6. At the end of the meal, present your Dining Card to the server and make sure to SIGN THE BACK OF THE CARD and INCLUDE YOUR PHONE NUMBER! (You could win a *FREE MEAL* at a drawing to be held at the beginning of April).
7. In early April, the controller at El Cholo will tally up all of the receipts and present a check to the CCPNA.

For years the residents of Country Club Park have dined at the historic El Cholo Restaurant. Now we are offered a chance to eat their great food and have them say "thank you" by donating to our neighborhood association. See you at El Cholo!



Surf's Up at Gelaco

By Megan Song

As most of you know, "Gelaco" has reopened with a different atmosphere and a new owner. Adrienne Lee welcomes you to come in and check out the new vibe in the place. She's offering a special December promotion just for Country Club Park, so mention that you're from the community and enjoy \$5 off of your next \$20 purchase and if you purchase one Gelato, you'll get a small one for free!

With free WiFi, you can browse the web and enjoy a nice scoop of Espresso Gelato or your favorite flavors. Check out the imported chocolates from Europe, as they're sure to intrigue your palate. So come on in and get some great snacks while surfing the Internet or simply reading a newspaper.



Gelaco offers DELICIOUS Italian Ice Cream, Espresso, European Chocolate, Tea and unique gift items... It is located at 3600 W. Olympic Blvd, Suite 4, LA, CA 90019 (323) 737-0097



Call 311, One call to City Hall, Toll Free number for information on 1,500 city services.

Join the Nice Guys...

Trade a Favor

Website information submitted by Trang (Ky) Ho-Feusner

Are you familiar with the website called...



Google it and you get this description: "Daily Candy is the insider's guide to what's new and cool—up-and coming fashion designers, sample sales, restaurants, useful services, and must-have..."

It's a very readable, fun website with tips and trivia for the contemporary reader. Their bulletin for September 26, 2008 featured an article entitled "Swap in the Name of Love," and features a website called Trade a Favor. Trade a Favor is a Facebook application, and once you're signed up, you are eligible to "exchange services and goods without the use of that highly unreliable currency known as money."

Check out the website tradeafavor.com; there's a You Tube video you can watch that gives additional details



Over 28,000 health and human service programs throughout Los Angeles County 24 hours per day, 7 days per week



On October 24, Country Club Park Board member Regina Jones was honored by the Black Hollywood Education Resource Center and African American Film Market Place.

At their 15th Annual Festival, Regina was presented with their Lifetime Achievement Award for her work as a publisher and publicist.

This is an auspicious award, and we in Country Club Park want to acknowledge her for her lifelong achievements in the industry. But in addition to this, we want to acknowledge her for the service she has contributed to the community as treasurer. or her work am writing on behalf of the Black Hollywood Education Resource Center and our

So to the 2008 Honoree, Regina Jones, we offer heartfelt CONGRATULATIONS!!!

You can support the work by attending films, panel discussions, and special programs.

For more information about upcoming events, visit

<http://bherc.org/>

and

http://bherc.org/Film_Festivals/AAFMarketplace/pressRelease.html



Let's Get Cookin'

Several months ago, Megan Song invited you to send in your favorite recipes for a Country Club Park "Best of the Best" cookbook.

Here is one for your holiday table.

Cranberry Relish

2 oranges

1 pound of fresh cranberries (as found in a bag, usually in the produce section—not frozen)

1 1/2 — 2 cups sugar

1/2 teaspoon cardamom

1/2 cup raisins

1/2 teaspoon allspice

Cut unpeeled oranges in quarters and remove seeds. Put the orange quarters and cranberries through your food processor, using a coarse blade. Stir in the sugar. If desired, gently stir in additional orange sections, or mandarin orange sections, along with the raisins, allspice, and cardamom. If you like a hint of nutty flavor, add chopped walnuts or pecans.

Cover tightly; refrigerate 24 hours before serving.

Submitted by Holly Eubanks, who found the recipe in the Los Angeles Times on November 12, 1979. She describes it as delicious—sweet and tart!

To submit the best of your holiday fare, contact Megan at:

Megan Song

eatyourdesserts@gmail.com

1064 South Gramercy Place

Los Angeles, CA 90019



October Board News

Election of officers to the Board of Directors occur annually in October.

Nominations for the new Executive Committee were presented and approved.

Our new officers are as follows:

President: Tom Smith

Vice President: Pamela Whittenbury

Treasurer: Prem Goyal

Secretary: Maisha Closson

The Neighborhood Association thanks those Board Directors and Officers who have worked so selflessly and tirelessly for the past three years. And to our new officers, congratulations and many thanks.

American Cancer Society plans for 1101 Arlington

Tom Smith updated the Board on the American Cancer Society Hope Lodge. Tom and Edmon walked around the property...the escrow has been extended to make sure that all variances will be approved. There is now a preliminary site plan mock up that shows what the Hope Lodge will look like. Tom and Edmon were very impressed by the plan. The architect was very careful to be representative of the entire neighborhood in his initial drawing.

Wilton Place Pocket Park

The architect is on board and the steering committee has met. There will be 3 community meetings. There will also be another steering committee meeting on October 31, 2008. Tom showed an example of a flyer that will be dispersed to our neighborhood as well as surrounding areas to announce the community meetings.



November Board News

By Maisha Closson
Secretary, CCPNA

The Board of Directors is accepting applications for the open director position. If you are interested please send a bio to dst30@hotmail.com (my email address). I will forward it to the entire board so that you can be considered for the position.

Pamela Whittenbury has been 'proactively' contacting neighbors about renewing their membership for the Neighborhood Association with much success. If you know of a neighbor who would be interested in contributing, please urge them to do so. Your contributions go toward helping us publish this newsletter, put on social events and maintain the gates.

We are on track in the pursuit of our HPOZ (Historic Preservation Overlay Zone). Neighbors have been extremely helpful with volunteering their time to take the photos needed as part of the data collection for this effort.

Calendar News

The 2009 Country Club Park calendars will be distributed at the annual holiday party to be held Saturday December 13th at the Avatar Meher Baba Center. The calendar will once again highlight the beautiful and diverse architecture we are so fortunate to have in our neighborhood. As you browse its pages, keep in mind how important preserving these structures is to a community like ours.

THE CALENDARS ARE FREE TO ALL NEIGHBORS WHO ATTEND THE HOLIDAY PARTY.

(LIMIT ONE PER HOUSEHOLD)

This Newsletter...

Is brought to you by the Board of Directors of the Country Club Park Neighborhood Association. These individuals volunteer their time and considerable energy for the good of the neighborhood. Support your Neighborhood Association...volunteer, get involved!

Your Board of Directors:

President: Tom Smith

Vice President: Pamela Whittenbury

Treasurer: Prem Goyal

Recording Secretary:
Maisha Closson

Corresponding Secretary:
Pamela Whittenbury

Director: Edmon Rodmon

Director: Regina Jones

Director: John Longmuir

Director: Trang (Ky) Ho

Director: Shin-Yong Earl Kang
Kang

Newsletter Editor:

Holly Eubanks

Keep on the lights in Country Club Park!



Country Club Park Neighborhood Association

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER EVENT: HOLIDAY PARTY!!!

Date: Saturday December 13

Time: 5:00 p. m. til 8:00 p.m.

Location: Avatar Meher Baba Center

1214 South Van Ness Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90019-3520

Country Club Park Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 19512

Los Angeles, CA 90019-1028

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