



SANTA ANA

WEST FLORAL PARK

CALIFORNIA

WEST FLORAL PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION / POST OFFICE BOX 6097 SANTA ANA CALIFORNIA 92706 / ISSUE 6 JULY 2004
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Letter from the Vice President

My name is Gary Castro and I am the 2004 Vice President of West Floral Park Neighborhood Association. I was introduced to West Floral Park at a very early stage of my life, as I was born and raised in Santa Ana. I have some distant memories of playing in Jack Fisher Park and visiting some of my parent’s friends who lived in this wonderful neighborhood. I attended grade school at St. Anne’s Catholic School and split my high school years between Mater Dei High School and Saddleback High School. As I grew older I spent most of my time near my home in the southwest part of the city; I had sadly forgotten about West Floral Park and all of its charms. After high school, I moved out on my own to Belmont Shore, an area of Long Beach. I spent eight wonderful years there and it is there where I met my partner of 10 years, Steven.



Steven and I were reintroduced to this area after attending the Annual Freedom Fest, hosted by neighboring Floral Park. At that time we were looking to buy our first house together and really wanted to stay in Long Beach. But after that one trip back, and seeing the beautiful trees, the amazing homes and most of all, these incredible neighbors, we knew we had to re-evaluate our options. Seven months later, and thanks to Nichole Doughty, we moved into our home on 19th street in May of 2002.

My duties as Vice President this year have focused primarily on **membership**. I am extremely happy to say that this year we reached some incredible new heights. Almost 25% of you have become paying members of our neighborhood association. That is an incredible increase from years past. **So thank you!** This I believe is due in part to all the wonderful volunteers; volunteers who give so much of their time putting on all these incredible events, the people you see out on Saturday morning cleaning up the center medians and the volunteers who distribute all the flyers for the events and this newsletter. These neighbors have made visible what this neighborhood has to offer and we are seeing first hand where all our money goes to...right back to us and to our beautiful neighborhood.

Since that wonderful day in May, Steven and I have been very active with the association, and have met many wonderful people, some of whom have become very good friends. I hope you will do the same. **Get involved, attend an event!** Let’s all do our part in preserving the charm that is an integral part of West Floral Park, and let’s keep on enjoying these amazing fun filled events!

I look forward in seeing and meeting more of you at the future meetings and events.

Sincerely,

Gary Castro



WEST FLORAL PARK

IL PASSPORTE ITALIA

This year’s progressive dinner was “favoloso”! The theme of the event encompassed a tour of Italia, which included a beautifully designed passport accompanied with tickets for the guests. The gala had a wonderful turnout of nearly 150 family and friends from West Floral Park and Jack Fisher Park neighborhoods.

The first tour destination was Ancient Rome hosted by the Mulkerins on River Lane. Drinks and appetizers were enjoyed while viewing the almost life-size Ancient Roman Coliseum and listening to Italian opera music. The Mulkerins set the stage by opening their lovely home for all to enjoy.

As the sun began to set over the Coliseum, the tour leisurely moved to the Italian Countryside where well-appointed tables awaited with grapes, bread, cheese and olive oil. A variety of Italian entrees adorned the buffet tables for guests to select their dishes. As with any Italian family gathering, the food was abundant. A local family restaurant favorite, Roma de Italia, provided some of the entrées. The decorations were exquisite. Lights were strung over the dining tables and in the trees for additional ambiance. Rick Amborski and Mel Steiner opened their beautiful home for all the tourists to enjoy.

As the evening came to a close, the tour ended at the Henderson’s beautiful Palazzo Riviera in Venetia. A candle lit pathway guided tourists to the Grand Canal of Venice that included a uniquely designed gondola. Featured at the various tables were tantalizing Italian desserts and flavored coffee.

The wonderful evening was capped off with a drawing for several prizes, which were graciously donated by Santa Ana Realty and Orange Coast Metro Magazine. Santa Ana Realty provided a basket filled with Italian goodies, Orange Coast Metro Magazine gave an Italian dinner gift certificate and three other prizes were purchased by WFPNA.

Many thanks to the gracious hosts and hostesses: Mark and Deana Mulkerin; Rick Amborski and Mel Steiner; Henry and Cheryl Henderson. The Social Committee would also like to thank the neighbors and friends for their donations of appetizers, entrées and desserts and for those who worked behind the scenes to set up and tear down the various “destinations”.





WEST FLORAL PARK

Postcards from Italy





WEST FLORAL PARK

Third Annual Wine Walk

After two very successful wine tasting events focusing on wineries from California, this year's chairperson Nichole Doughty expanded our taste buds with various wines from countries all over the globe. Thus, the creation of this year's theme "Wines Around the World". This event has become a staple of the spring season and Nichole and her crew did not disappoint. Held on a beautiful Saturday twilight, the wine tasting featured wines from Spain, Italy, France, Australia, and as far south as Chile, just to name a few. We saw a record 86 friends and neighbors enjoying three and a half hours of a wonderful array of wines, food and desserts! A perfect mix of fun with that special touch of class!



The gracious hosts for the event were Roy and Joyce Brown, Ed Flohra and Juan Hernandez, and Steve and Nichole Doughty. Their hospitality was amazing! To all the volunteers: Dean Guzman, Gary Buse, Steven Mendoza, Steve Tancredi, Judi Fine, Joan Squillacioti, and Lisa Speer, this event was so successful due to all of your hard work!!



And finally, a special thank you to all the wonderful neighbors who donated their time and energy along with some incredible desserts.

Nichole, congratulations on an incredible event, we thank you for your efforts. Can't wait for Spring 2005!!





WEST FLORAL PARK

Restaurant Review

CHILI PEPPER

167 S. MAIN

ORANGE CA

92868

714-693-2840

The splash to your senses begins as you drive into the parking lot. Entering the Chili Pepper restaurant is like stepping onto an island. Upon entering the restaurant, one is immediately taken by the warm hospitality, the vivid color, the casual flair and the high energy of the Chili Pepper Restaurant.

The staff welcomes you with open arms and a great smile. When possible, you are seated immediately. The meal begins with chips and salsa followed by a round of margarita's. The choices are endless with many options of tequila available.

The meal of the day was, and always is, Arroz Con Pollo. I have had many versions of Arroz Con Pollo, but this is the only restaurant where I continue to order this delicious meal of boneless pieces of chicken on a bed of rice covered with a Ranchera sauce. The meal also comes with sour cream, guacamole, Spanish rice and refried beans.

The large hot plate is served quickly, but not until after an appetizer is promptly delivered to your table. The appetizer that arrives (with order of a combination) is a small bite size burrito that is great when dipped in the salsa.

Once the meal is complete, the waiter also brings by an apple filled dessert that is just enough to end a great meal. Something this restaurant does is adjust to their customers . . . when I have wanted to get out quickly, I am able to get in and out of this restaurant quick without feeling rushed. When I want to have a nice long relaxing meal, they allow for that as well. I can't say enough about this restaurant; it continues to be a favorite of mine.

Review by: Steven Mendoza

Next issue of the newsletter . . .

THE HUNT FOR THE BEST BREAKFAST BURRITOS IN SANTA ANA





WEST FLORAL PARK

Beautification Committee Center Median Clean Up Day

On Saturday July 10, 2004, the beautification committee hosted a mini-clean up day. The purpose – to clean up and thin out the center medians on Towner and Lowell Streets.

The committee passed out flyers to the area homes to see if they could get some people to join us...wouldn't ya' know it... the donuts were enticing enough to get three residents to assist the committee members. With the new help, the committee was as able to complete this task in only 90 minutes. A special thank you goes out to the following ladies came out and spent some time with the committee and helped continue the tradition of beautifying WFP.

- The mother and daughter team of Debbie Freeman and Donnielle Freeman of 2827 Towner, both newcomers to the WFP.
- Sylvia Barden of 1102 Riviera.

A big thanks also goes to the following event participants: Danny and Guida Quon, Henry Henderson, Brad Greenamyler, Gary Buse and Steve Mendoza.

West Nile Virus

West Nile Virus has arrived in Southern California. West Nile virus (WNV) is a potentially serious illness. Experts believe WNV is a seasonal epidemic in North America that flares up in the summer and continues into the fall.

WNV affects the central nervous system. Symptoms vary. For 1 in 150 people, symptoms are severe. These symptoms may last several weeks, and neurological effects may be permanent.

Up to 20 percent of the people who become infected will display milder symptoms which can last for as short as a few days, though even healthy people have been sick for several weeks.

Approximately 80 percent of people (about 4 out of 5) who are infected with WNV will not show any symptoms at all.

Most often, WNV is spread by the bite of an infected mosquito. Mosquitoes are WNV carriers that become infected when they feed on infected birds. Infected mosquitoes can then spread WNV to humans and other animals when they bite.

When you are outdoors, use insect repellents containing DEET (N, N-diethyl-meta-toluamide). Follow the directions on the package.

Many mosquitoes are most active at dusk and dawn. Be sure to use insect repellent and wear long sleeves and pants at these times or consider staying indoors during these hours.

Hooray for the Red White & Blue

The spirit of West Floral Park was in the air at our Annual 4th of July parade. Nearly 100 people gathered for this patriotic event. All ages and a few pets joined the Santa Ana Fire Department for a parade around the neighborhood.

Bikes, wagons, unicycles, roller blades, scooters and strollers were adorned with America's colors. Spirit awards were given to the children with the most decorated vehicles. Keeping with the spirit, parade participants enjoyed red, white and blue Popsicles.

Thank you to Eric and Starlene Arel for organizing this event and Advance Vending in Monrovia for donating the ice cream and the Santa Ana Fire Department for leading the parade.

Light-colored clothing can help you see mosquitoes that land on you. Make sure you have good screens on your windows and doors to keep mosquitoes out.

Get rid of mosquito breeding sites by emptying standing water from flower pots, buckets and barrels. Change the water in pet dishes and replace the water in bird baths weekly. Drill holes in tire swings so water drains out. Keep children's wading pools empty and on their sides when they aren't being used.

Call Vector Control at 714.971.2421 if you find dead crows or other birds that may be infected with WNV.



WEST FLORAL PARK

FORE !

A beautiful blend of warm sunshine, cool breezes, and the smell of fresh cut grass greeted this year's participants in the 2nd Annual WFPNA Golf Tournament held May 8th at the Riverview Golf Course. Players from Jack Fisher Park and Floral Park 'mixed it up' with some of the 'local duffers' to stage a hotly contested battle for tournament champion. There was even some great play by newcomers and beginners that impacted the final standings. Great trophies and prizes for the serious players combined with just enough quirkiness (Golden Egg Ball and Odd Implement Hole) made for a nice balance of competitive vs. fun golf.

A desperate battle was waged for first place between the defending champion and 'The Team Built To Win'. There were many anxious moments from start to finish – the old saying of "Hit it and Chase it" was never more evident. The winner and once again reigning champion was the team of Steve Doughty, Graham Kjestrup, and Rich Dutrisac. Congratulations!

The Tournament Committee would like to express their sincere appreciation to Rick Powell (Lowell Lane) and Roger Dunn Golf Stores for their player package and prize contributions – great towels Rick! Thanks goes to Mastercraft Homes for this year's trophies, to Kris Olsen, LPGA, for her prize donations, and to Riverview Golf Course for having the course in great shape and for providing the tasty BBQ afterwards.

Be sure to put this event on your calendar next year – the tournament will be moving to September to balance out the WFPNA social calendar.

I want to extend a personal thank you to Shelli Horan, who ensured this year's tournament was up to the high standards that we have come to expect at all WFP events.

Steve Tancredi
Tournament Coordinator





WEST FLORAL PARK

Upcoming Events

July

Board Meeting July 27th at Gary Castro's home

August

General Meeting August 3rd 7pm at Jack Fisher Park Cabin

Fourth Annual Concert in the Park Saturday, August 21

For more information, call Julie Stroud at 714.835.7691

Board Members & Committees

Lisa Speer	President	542.2209
Gary Castro	Vice President	542.5828
Steve Tancredi	Treasurer	231.8667
Davana Greenameyer	Secretary	567.9294
Cheryl Henderson	Social Com	547.3605
Joan Squillicioti	Welcome Com	543.2486
Mel Steiner	Beautification Com	269-4138
Judi Fine	Communication Com	542.5232

Want to Run an Ad?

The West Floral Park Neighborhood Association is delivered quarterly to over 650 homes and businesses. We can “get the word out” to folks in this neighborhood at very reasonable rates. Choose from full-page ads to business card size. Run your ad in every issue or whatever suits your needs. Interested? Contact Judi Fine at 714.542.5232 or by email at jfine@sbcglobal.net.

General Meeting

The next General Meeting will be held at the log cabin in Jack Fisher Park and is scheduled to start at **7 pm. on Tuesday, August 3rd.**

The agenda includes:

- An OCTA representative will discuss what is happening with the 22 freeway.
- A member of the Santa Ana Planning Commission will discuss “Mansionification” or what is and is not allowed when considering a remodel.
- St. Joseph's ballet will discuss their upcoming program.

Bring a big stick to roast marshmallows in the fire pit after the meeting. All the ingredients for smores will be provided, so save room for smores!

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Visit our website at www.westfloralpark.com for more information on upcoming events. Pictures featured in this issue and more are posted on the West Floral Park Neighborhood Association website.