



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS



BLUFF HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION INC

Spring 2006 • Telephone: 562-439-BHNA
E-Mail us at: bluffheights@verizon.net

Visit us at:
www.neighborhoodlink.com/longbch/bhna-la/

COME TO THE HOME BEAUTIFICATION AWARDS 7 PM • THURSDAY, APRIL 20 • HORACE MANN AUDITORIUM

BHNA SPRING MEETING

Catherine Morley

Mark your calendar for our April Neighborhood meeting. Not only will we be presenting our 6th annual Home Beautification Awards we have a very prestigious line up of guest speakers. Suzanne Frick, City of Long Beach Director of Planning & Building, and Patrick West, Community



315 Orizaba

Development Director, have graciously accepted the invitation to share with us our city's present position on policies relating to Historic Districts and Community Development. Also they will update us on the results of the recent Advisory Preservation Council Panel/Workshop which was co-sponsored by the City of Long Beach and Long Beach Heritage. This program was developed to address neighborhood needs



317 & 319 Temple



321 Coronado

relating to developing, expanding and maintaining historic neighborhoods. A special surprise guest speaker may make an appearance.



2638 & 2640 Third

As of this newsletter deadline we were not able to confirm this speaker due to her possible scheduling conflict. However, if at all possible, she will further expound and dis-

cuss preservation issues.

This year's Beautification Awards will be featured in a Power Point program with before and after photos. As always, the criteria for the awards are significant, *street visible*, exterior improvements which were completed within the previous (2005) year. The recipients will receive recognition plaques to place in their yards. We all work



3309 & 3311 Third

hard to preserve and improve our homes. If we missed your effort to improve your home please excuse us and know that your efforts are most appreciated.

Along with our police report and updates on neighborhood events this will complete the evening.

So, as you can see we will have a very interesting and informative meeting. You don't want to miss this one!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Strategic Plan.....2
- Membership Dues.....2
- Disaster Seminar.....3
- Reemergence.....4&5
- Home Remodeling.....5
- Horace Mann News.....6

BHNA HOME TOUR

Catherine Morley

BHNA will be organizing and presenting several homes and gardens which represent the special and unique qualities of living in the Bluff Heights Historic District. We will feature homes that typify the best of our neighborhood.

Continued on page 8

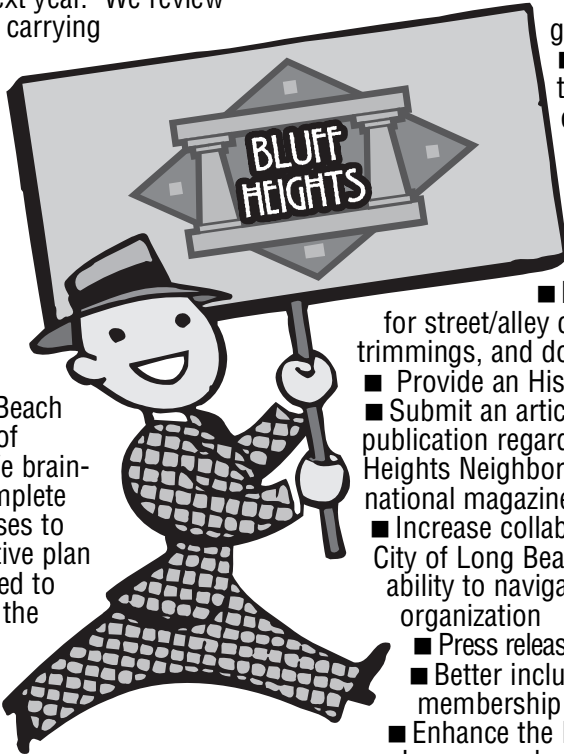
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2006 BHNA STRATEGIC PLAN

Gary Ostrowski

Each year the BHNA Board convenes on a Saturday to draft our Strategic Plan for the next year. We review those projects carrying over from the current year, input from the membership surveys, internal assessments (of our neighborhood), and external assessments (City of Long Beach and the State of California). We brainstorm and complete various exercises to draft an objective plan of what we need to accomplish in the next year to meet your needs.

At the February BHNA Board meeting the 2006 Strategic Plan was approved. Here are the highlights:

- Improve communication to BHNA members
- Improve newsletter delivery
- Expand fundraising activities
- Obtain tax-exempt status
- Complete installation of historic street signs
- Historic street lights and neighborhood markers
- Educational presentations and



- articles in the newsletter about home improvement for historic homes
- Clarify membership benefits/ provide membership perks
- Have pot lucks at the General Membership Meetings
- Facilitate and support the new city mechanism for code enforcement
- Evaluate strategies for reduction of

- trash, litter, and graffiti
- Continue with the beautification of the neighborhood
- Continue work with Horace Mann School and School beautification
- Evaluate methods

- for street/alley clean-ups, tree trimmings, and dog waste removal
- Provide an Historical Home Tour
- Submit an article suitable for publication regarding the Bluff Heights Neighborhood to a state or national magazine
- Increase collaboration with the City of Long Beach and improve ability to navigate through city organization
- Press releases about the BHNA
- Better inclusion of renter membership
- Enhance the BHNA website
- Increase volunteer participation and tap neighborhood talent
- Updates on neighborhood efforts for crime prevention and public safety in the newsletter and at the General Membership Meetings ♦

BHNA MEMBERSHIP & MEMBERSHIP DUES

Gary Ostrowski

The BHNA Membership Task Force met earlier this year and proposed action and clarification as to what BHNA Membership means and how the BHNA Membership year and payment of dues coincide. The Board approved the proposals of the Task Force as follows:

- Defining the BHNA membership year to start in July through June. Those renewing or joining April through June have membership extended through June of the next year



Cass Pulley at our popular 4th of July block party

- Raising membership dues to \$25 per individual or household starting July 1st 2006 to benefit our neighborhood improvement efforts.
- Exploring the possibility of providing membership cards and partnering with local businesses for membership discounts
- Using e-mail as an efficient means of informing membership of issues, meetings, education, or opportunities for involvement
- Providing a welcoming e-mail and/or postcard for new members

The BHNA pursues the interests of and represents the Bluff Heights Community, both members and non-members. Membership in the BHNA provides distinct benefits that non-members may not experience. BHNA Membership provides:

- That your dues go to neighborhood beautification and improvements
- Access to resources and educational opportunities
- Direct access to the BHNA Board – Your voice is heard
- Involvement in your community through volunteer and leadership opportunities
- Supporting local businesses through your involvement
- Voting rights in BHNA Elections

Become an active part of your neighborhood's effort for continual improvement and community building. Join or renew BEFORE JULY 1ST and retain the low cost of ONLY \$20 for each individual or household for membership through June 2007. Membership dues increase on July 1st. ♦

Advertisement

Visit our Beautiful Showroom
for specialty handcrafted lighting and fans by
Mica Lamp & Arroyo Craftsman

Screens ♦ Glass ♦ Keys

- ♦ Hundreds of quality cabinet Knobs & Pulls
- ♦ Hand-forged Gate & Door Hardware
- ♦ Solid Wood Spanish & Craftsman Doors
- ♦ Fine Entry & Interior Door Locks

Complete Hardware Store
929 E. Wardlow Rd. at California 462-490-2669

DISASTER SEMINAR FOR RESIDENTS

Gabrielle Weeks

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) has developed a 2 hour seminar to get the public prepared for disaster. Long Beach residents are especially concerned about being pre-



The 1933 Earthquake in Long Beach

pared to stay in their homes with no electrical or water services after watching Katrina victims on TV. CERT created a Power Point program and booklet so we can talk to groups - homeowners associations, religious institutions, community centers, work sites, anywhere where people spend time together and might need to wait out a natural disaster together. The purpose of this program is to distribute fliers and talk with people so they can better prepare themselves and their family for earthquake, flood or other emergencies. There is no cost for this. To schedule a seminar or for more information please contact :

Paul Rodriguez
 Firefighter/PIO/CERT Coordinator
 Long Beach Fire Department
 Community Services Division
 (562) 570-9313 office
 Paul_Rodriguez@longbeach.gov ◆

BHNA LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENTS

Dale Maul and John Thomas

With this first opportunity to address the residents and members of BHNA via our newsletter, we wanted to begin by thanking all you that have played a role in developing and encouraging the goals and objectives of BHNA.

Since being elected over a year ago as your Co-Presidents, we have been humbled by the progress and major objectives accomplished by our Board. After being designated the City's 17th Historic District, we began an aggressive education program to our neighborhood to ensure all residents a positive experience when seeking approvals from the City for building permit related work. Next, we applied for and received a grant to develop and install historic street signs throughout or district.

This project will be completed by the end of May. Next, we conducted strategic planning process where the Board reaffirmed our mission statement and developed goals and objectives to deliver our mission. (See the article in this newsletter for more information on our



John Thomas (left) and Dale Maul (right) BHNA Co-Presidents



Strategic Plan). Earlier this year, we held a "meet the Candidates Forum" where every candidate running for city-wide offices attended and answer questions from those in attendance. This was an extremely successful event with over 60 residents and community partners attending. Finally, we have developed an ongoing outreach program responding to our residents needs and concerns by connecting them to Council offices and City resources for handling issues and problems in our neighborhoods. Our BHNA phone number is available 24-7 and messages are checked daily to ensure timely responses to your calls for service. The Board will continue to work with community partners

and City officials to develop and maintain programs that will enhance and preserve our communities and neighborhood. Finally, as your Co-Presidents, we want to thank you for your ongoing support and confidence. We look forward to hearing from you if you have any questions or suggestions to better our wonderful Bluff Heights community! ◆

Advertisements

Tom Dougan Woodworking

Artistry In Form And Function

(714) 894-4269

www.douganwoodworking.com



Executive Real Estate
 3337 E. Colorado St.

Gil Hinojosa Jean Kulemin
 Broker Owner Broker Associate
 987-2026 987-2028

*Selling the California Coast
 From Long Beach to San Clemente ©*



REEMERGENCE

Kevin Doherty

By mid-February I could already sense the impending change of seasons. Today an excitement fills the air and I can hardly wait to get up, get out and experience the pre-sunrise air on my face. I begin each morning the same way with a requisite cup of first flush Darjeeling tea and then as the sky begins its parade of colors I'm off trotting down Colorado road heading up to the museum and then down the seashore on route to Naples Island.

Choirs of birds chirp in ever increasing numbers as Spring gains momentum. Have you yet paused to listen? Subtle fragrances in the air at times become a heady bouquet though no garden lay within sight. I'm inspired in a simple way and my thoughts turn to the garden I'm envisioning for our modest Craftsman home. How shall I create something especially meaningful that answers both practical and aesthetic needs? How best to arrive at a garden design that fits the lines of our home and also makes best use of available space? Equally important, how will I insure that I'll stay within my budget once all is said and done? If you too are feeling inspired by the onset of Spring and wish to embark on that special garden project you've been envisioning, please join me in these musings.

BEGINNINGS

There are so many ways to undertake a garden project. Some hire out the entire job while others recognize an appealing opportunity for some level of personal involvement and strike a collaborative arrangement with their chosen professionals. Still others who, because of budgetary constraints or creative disposition or both, embark on the entire project as do-it-yourselfers. The latter, while more labor intensive, offers perhaps the greatest opportunity for an education on the garden arts and an experience of self discovery and sense of place as well.

PREPARE

I love those big coffee table books with color pictures! Book Soup in the South Coast Plaza carries a plethora of garden tutorials and it's a pleasant drive on a Sunday afternoon. They have comfy couches in the store specially provided for you. Bring your appetite with you and then mix business with a variety of culinary pleasures. The Sunset Western Garden Book is still the gardeners bible so do pick up a copy. Even if you hire out the job your pre-activity investigations will be highly useful in discussions with your garden

designers. As you study the books, assess your particular situation and try to ensure that your ideas will be compatible with your practical and aesthetic needs.

DESIGN IT

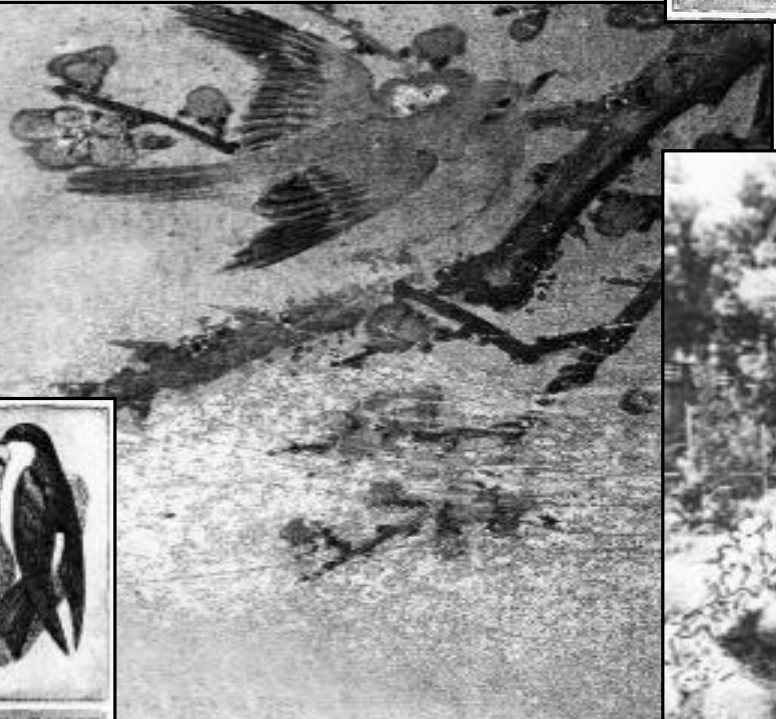
This can be done on graph paper to scale or more informally with a stick of bamboo in the dirt once the area has been rototilled. Take great care in this phase to insure that your garden will be personally meaningful to you. Historic homes are remarkably flexible when it comes to garden style. I've seen successfully rendered Tropical, Japanese, Desert Style, Country Cottage, and California Native gardens throughout Long Beach. The key to success lies in the underlying design structure. Hire a designer who can make a detailed conceptual drawing if this aspect lies outside your skill range. The payoff years down the line as the garden fills in gracefully will be well worth the expense. Otherwise you end up having to redo the



*Predawns light softly shines
through billowy beach clouds.
A lone sea gull chants her allegro to Spring.*

*Morning star steps me along sea shores edge.
Fragrant rosemary sage and thyme
evoke storied fields of bygone chaparral.*

-R.D.



overgrown garden all too soon or worse yet, your gardener routinely trims all the foliage into curious clump bushes and the design is forever lost.

HARDSCAPE

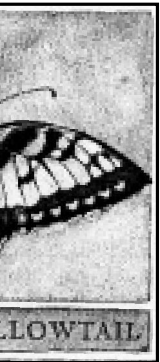
Hardscape elements such as the irrigation system, lighting and stone work deserve ample consideration. Boulders, planters and walkways provide the key underlying structure of a garden around which the soft scape elements such as trees and plants attach themselves. Choose good quality stone as opposed to the familiar recycled concrete look. Stone has tremendous vitality and potential if you tune into it. The Japanese create sheer poetry in their gardens through arrangement of stone pathways and boulders alone!

SOFTSCAPE

A world of plantings are available to you and grow well in our coastal climate. Please consider lawn substitutes whenever possible. You'll save water, reduce gardener bills and spare the world excess noise. Historic homes adore old fashioned mounding front yard gardens with drought tolerant natives and aromatic herbs. Ignore the subtle pressures to join the endlessly conforming expanse of front lawns. Be creative and find your uniqueness! Offer yourself and your neighbors a welcomed rest bit from the monotonous horizontally and you'll be a better person for it.

FURNISHINGS

Chimes, bells, tables, chairs, fiber rugs, lanterns and decorative objects humanize the garden and provide wonderful finishing touches. Always opt for quality items as they look better and last longer. After all your hard work, invite your neighbors over for refreshments in the garden. Celebrate the sense of community that your new garden affords and share secrets to success with your guests. Before you know it one of them may have you over to do the same. It could become a wonderfully catchy trend that gives us yet another reason to sing the praises of neighborhood life in Long Beach, California! ♦



Diary of a Mad Home Remodeling "Expert"

PART 1 –Suzanne Ridley

The home remodeling process is a labor of both love and frustration, but knowledge is power, so here in this diary are some bits of knowledge that can give the homeowner power! Living in a historic district has both its problems and its blessing when you are planning a remodel. Although you must retain your home's historic exterior, you can do what you wish inside – as long as it meets general city code requirements. In the next few issues, you'll get the inside story of one major rehabilitation/remodel project in our neighborhood – first hand.

First steps: Think carefully about what you want to do and consult, if necessary, with an architect or builder in advance, and possibly a civil engineering company. It is worth noting that the city requires some pretty comprehensive drawings and rumor has it that the less comprehensive the drawings, the more intensive the inspections. If you are changing the basic structure of the home, i.e. affecting the foundation, or if you are building more than one story, an engineering review and certification of plans will generally be required. This can be a rather expensive part of the job and, depending on how well-defined your ideas are, can have a large range in cost. Some architects charge by a percentage of the job's building cost and stay with the job through completion, making changes, consulting with the builder, etc. Others simply charge by the hour for preparing drawings, consulting with the city for approvals, etc. Here is where you can save a considerable amount of money by investing in a simple home architect computer program that will enable you to carefully think out your plans, put them on a computer screen, and take a virtual walk-through of your project. The walk-through is not perfect, but it does help to establish sightlines and views out of the window relative to other structures.

Once you have come to a general idea of what you want to do, it is a MUST to take the time to visit the City's Planning Department and consult with them about your plans. They will give you general advice regarding the setback requirements, amount of square feet you can add, height limits, and other issues, including the historical implications. For instance, in a historic district, you cannot install aluminum windows, or any modern-looking changes in the exterior. On the other hand, for our project we were able to get approval for eave extensions that are no longer allowed by city code, but were important to retain the historical character of our home. Here is where the historic district issue really helped. Of course, you can leave all this to your architect if you are using one, if you don't mind spending the money and don't have the time or inclination to do the legwork yourself. *Next issue: Finding a contractor, subcontractors, and getting started.* ♦

ARBOR DAY-LAST DAY IN APRIL

Cass Pulley

Traditions are built year by year. When the BHNA was formed the consensus of the Board was to make our neighborhood school the focal point of our community by building a bond between the school and residents. The first thing we did was donate a membership to the National Arbor Day society which sends educational materials and information concerning conservation for our local, state and national forests to the students. We then donated a tree to Horace Mann school to

Continued on page 8

Advertisements

THE SULLA GROUP

BARRY J. KLAZURA

FINANCIAL OPTIONS FOR YOU!

Do you have questions regarding:

- Home Insurance
- Life insurance to protect the mortgage
- IRA options
- College Education Plans
- Health Insurance
- Long Term Care
- Refinancing Options
- Private Annuity trusts
- Living Trusts
- Mutual Funds

If the answer is yes and you would like straight answers, then call for an appointment and Free consultation at either our home or office on Naples Bay or our satellite office on Atlantic Ave. off the 405. Why go to several different people for answers to questions on all of these areas? Why not sit down with one person who can help you lay out a *strategy* which will help you reach your financial goals?

And... do you have a note or trust deed you would like to sell for cash? We have a pool of individuals who are looking to pay cash for the note you hold.

Email or call me for a free financial asset outline which can be your first step toward getting a firm grasp on all your financial assets, needs and goals.

REMEMBER: WE HELP YOU KEEP MORE OF YOUR MONEY!

Call Barry at (562) 712-9905

E-mail: bklazura@charter.net

New address: 5803 E. Corso Di Napoli.

Long Beach, CA 90803





JOIN THE PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

Cass Pulley

Join the PTO for only \$10.00. Make out your check (made out to Horace Mann PTO) or use cash and drop it by Horace Mann School office. This will be collected by the President of the PTO, Stacy Hudson. The difference between the PTO and PTA is that with the PTO the money collected stays at Horace Mann School and does not go to a higher office as with the PTA. ♦

See you at the Faire!

Cass Pulley

Horace Mann Elementary School will be hosting its Multicultural Faire on Saturday, June 3rd starting at 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Cotton candy, balloons, ice cream cones, face painting by clowns, games, there will be a myriad of things to do, see and eat. Last



A festive atmosphere awaits you at the faire

year BHNA sponsored a dessert booth selling 325 pieces of cake, chocolate chip cookies and of course the favorite of all Frosted CUP CAKES. Cupcakes are still the hottest dessert among the elementary school set with chocolate chip cookies coming in second and a slice of cake number three. Do we need donations of desserts for the Faire? You betcha! If you wish to donate a dessert please call 433-7753. We need 300 servings. We also need volunteers to help man the booth with one to 2 hours shifts. All proceeds stay at Mann school for field trips to museums, the Aquarium of the Pacific, and other learning establishments. Lets back our neighborhood school--all together now! ♦



Horace Mann's students and teachers enjoy last year's the Easter Egg Hunt on Orizaba



A SPRING TRADITION CONTINUES

Cass Pulley,

The third annual Easter Egg Hunt for the Kindergarten students of Mann school took place the morning of April 14th in "the garden" at 239 Orizaba. Three classes took hand decorated bags to hunt for filled colorful plastic eggs. This walking field trip is a highlight for these children. The classes delighted everybody by singing songs and upon departing were each given a chocolate bunny. The "garden" was alive with spring flowers and rabbit decor -- a thing of beauty as usual. A tradition has been established in our neighborhood. ♦

A DRIVE THAT MAKES CENTS

Cass Pulley

February 14th launched the yearly "Penny Drive" at Mann school. Five years ago the children started a drive to collect pennies and any other loose change sitting around to contribute to the Lymphoma Cancer Fund. These students adopted a child with lymphoma. Her name is Sienna and she was then just 10 years old. All money collected went to treatments for Sienna and now at age 15 her cancer is

in remission! "See a penny pick it up all the day you'll have good luck". Yes these pennies were good luck for this child and what a marvelous character building trait it offered to the students at Horace Mann School. Congratulations to the Principal and faculty of our neighborhood school! ♦

Advertisements

Hot Spot
cafe



2708 East Fourth Street
Long Beach, CA 90814
(562) 439-8822

Monday-Friday
10% OFF
with this ad

PLEASE PATRONIZE THE SPONSORS OF OUR NEWSLETTER. Let us know if you want your ad featured: Call Dale Maul at 433-6521

*The
Difference
Is Great
Service*



3429 E. Broadway
Long Beach, CA 90803
562-433-3605
562-433-5671

**Pet Wash
Grooming
Pets
Supplies**

BUNGALOW KEV



INTERIOR-EXTERIOR DESIGN & CONSULTATION
KEVIN DOHERTY 562-434-1942

Land Escapes Inc.



Matt Latona
562.438.4481

Landscape Design • Installation • Maintenance

The House of Madame JoJo

An Intimate Neighborhood Bistro

2941 East Broadway
Long Beach, CA 90803
For Reservations Call:
562-439-3672



Antiques & Decorator Items
3226 E. Broadway (next to Cafe Piccolo)
(562) 438-9446
Present this ad for a 10% discount

"ALL THEY NEED IS LOVE"

PET/HOUSE SITTING BY SUZI

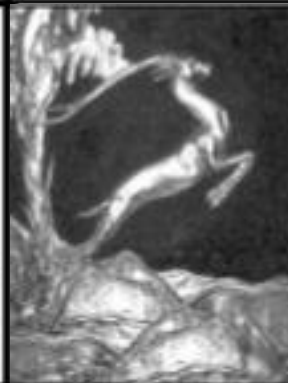
IN YOUR HOME • FEEDING • WALKING • OVERNIGHT
MEDICATIONS • PLANTS • MAIL • ETC.

**25%
OFF**
For All
New
Customers



SUZI
562-818-8012

Licensed
REFERENCES



**ART DECO
DIMENSIONS**

JOHN W. THOMAS
(562) 400-9803
jthomas@dslextrmc.com

Located inside The Vintage Collection
2122 East Fourth Street, Long Beach
(562) 433-8699



MICHAEL STOKES
562-433-2010

**MAIN STREET
REALTORS**

CARMELA ETGAR
562-505-7117



More than \$60,000,000 Sold in Bluff Heights,
Bluff Park, Carroll Park since 1996

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Joining the BHNA and becoming a BHNA Member brings you the following benefits:

- Your dues go to neighborhood beautification and improvements
- Access to resources and educational opportunities
- Your voice is heard by the BHNA
- Involvement in your community through volunteer and leadership opportunities
- Supporting local businesses through your involvement
- Voting rights in BHNA Elections

**JOIN OR RENEW BEFORE JULY 1ST
TO BENEFIT FROM MEMBERSHIP FOR ONLY \$20!**
(AFTER JUNE 30TH DUES INCREASE TO \$25 PER INDIVIDUAL OR HOUSEHOLD)

Name(s): _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

CellPhone: _____ RENEWAL or NEW MEMBER

The most efficient way to get information to you is through e-mail.
Please provide your current e-mail address:

E-mail: _____

Please check the committee(s) you would be interested in joining

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership and Recruitment. | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter/Web Production |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nominations Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Delivery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Outreach | <input type="checkbox"/> Crime/Community Policing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Horace Mann School Projects |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic Preservation/Beautification | <input type="checkbox"/> Home Tour |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic/Streets/Safety | <input type="checkbox"/> Rummage Sale |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4th of July Block Party | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Can we give you a call or e-mail if we need volunteer help? Yes No

Please send a check for \$20.00 made payable to the

BLUFF HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

TO: CHRISTINE VOTAVA (562) 439-3189

2846 Vista, LB CA 90803



Please volunteer to help with the 4th of July Block Party. Call 439-BHNA or email us at bluffheights@verizon.net

Advertisements

ALL ABOUT FISH

NOW OPEN!

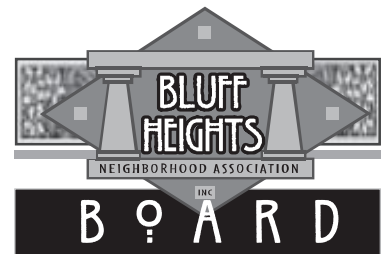
Tropical Fish, Saltwater, Goldfish and Pond Supplies
Specializing in rare and hard to find fish

FREE BETTA
JUST COME IN AND SEE US!

2535 E. Broadway Ave., Long Beach
Between Temple & Junipero
(562) 438-4148
allaboutfish@gmail.com



Bluff Heights Residents are encouraged to "BRANCH OUT" this Arbor Day



- Co-President.....Dale Maul
- Co-President.....John Thomas
- Vice-President.....Cass Pulley
- Treasurer.....Christine Votava
- Secretary.....Gary Ostrowski
- Board Member.....Ron Bird
- Board Member.....Tom Dougan
- Board Member.....Kevin Doherty
- Board Member...Barbara McPherson
- Board Member.....Catherine Morely
- Board Member.....Emily Rader
- Board Member.....Suzanne Ridley
- Board Member.....Dennis Snyder

The above board stands through 1-4-07

Next Three Board Meetings:

- May 4, 2006
- June 1, 2006
- July 6, 2006

To attend a Board Meeting call or email us at:

562-439-BHNA OR
bluffheights@verizon.net

HOME TOUR

Continued from the first page

The Home Tour will be an educational opportunity to promote the benefits for the preservation of our older homes and neighborhoods as well as a fundraiser for a future neighborhood project. If you would like to participate either by submitting your home or garden for consideration and/or to be part of the organizing committee please contact Catherine Morley. All BHN residents are encouraged to submit their homes for the tour. ♦

ARBOR DAY

continued from page 5

beautify the grounds, clean the air and establish a natural habitat for birds. 2006 will be the sixth year and the sixth tree that we will be donating to our neighborhood school plus planting 25 trees in the parkway around the school. Horace Mann school is becoming an oasis of greenery. Part of your membership dues contributes to this neighborhood cause. In honoring National Arbor Day please plant a tree, a shrub or a special flower around your home for Mother Earth! ♦