



NEWS & VIEWS

WANA • Wrigley Area Neighborhood Alliance, Inc.

ISSUE 1

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VOLUME 3



A Greener, Brighter Christmas Tree Lane!!

Thousands of visitors lined Daisy Avenue on Parade night, thrilled with the magic of WANA'S VOLUNTEER efforts on the Lane! The Lane had a new magic after WANA Elves brightened up Christmas Tree Lane Village! See stories inside!!!!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE . . . Happy New Year Everyone!!

Out with 2008 and in with 2009!!! It's always a time of reflection for me when we ring in a new year. 2008 was definitely a year for growth. WANA: grew in size—to almost 270 members (can you believe that!), brought our residents so many great activities and events, scheduled some great speakers to our monthly meetings, and stepped up to any challenge that came our way. (By the way, don't miss January's meeting. You're sure to enjoy it: Details on Page 6.) I am so proud of all WANA has accomplished this past year. I'm not going to list everything we've done because I've said it all before. But I can't say enough that I am filled with gratitude to you for your support. WANA could not have grown without you!!



It's a new year and with that, we have things to do. WANA will continue to bring interesting guest speakers so make sure you join us for that. We'll also repeat some events: bake cookies and make punch for a few senior homes in our area for Valentine's Day, have an Easter event in April, have another Bike Safety Rodeo at the end of May or early June, have a Halloween event in October, and of course, have Christmas Tree Lane in December.

Something new added this year will be outdoor movies during June or July. For one of the entertainment nights in December, we showed the movie "Elf" outdoors and had soooo much fun!! We offered free hot cocoa, cider, and chai tea to help keep warm and lot's of people came to watch. So we'll do that again but in the summer. They'll also be other events that will come up throughout the year that you'll hear about in this newsletter. So Wrigley, get ready, because you are in for more fun, fun, fun!!!

Start the new year right and ask your neighbors and friends to become a WANA member during our membership drive. Who knows, you may win a great prize! See page 3 for details. Try to take a little time for reflection, change what you didn't like, be thankful for what you have, and strive to be a better human being. With positive thoughts I look forward to another fabulous year and all it has to bring. I hope you do too!

Yours in Service, Jill

WANA

Words from 6th District Councilmember Dee Andrews

On behalf of the City of Long Beach and the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine, I would like to announce the 21st Annual Long Beach Martin Luther King, Jr. Peace and Unity Parade Celebration on Saturday, January 17, 2009. The parade starts at 10:30 am on Martin Luther King, Jr. Ave, at Anaheim and proceeds north. A grand celebration will follow the parade at King Park, located at 1950 Lemon Avenue.

This year's theme is "*I See the Promised Land*", is the prophetic words taken from the last speech of Dr. King, the day before he was assassinated. "I chose this theme because I do believe that we, as Americans, are stepping into the *Promised Land* that Dr King spoke of in the last speech before his assassination in 1968. There is a new day upon us, a day when a man is no longer judged by his color but by his character, a day when we stand united in peace than divided by war, and the day has come that an African American has been elected as President of the United States. I do see the Promised Land because just like you, I am in it."

"*I See the Promised Land*" was Dr. King's last speech and most apocalyptic sermon. He delivered it on the eve of his assassination at the Bishop Charles Mason Temple in Memphis, Tennessee, on April 3, 1968. Mason Temple is the headquarters of the Church of God in Christ, the largest African American Pentecostal denomination in the United States. Dr. King's closing quotes of the speech are seen by many as the prophecy of his death. King states in the closing of his speech, "I've seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you but I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people will get to the Promised Land."

Following the parade, I hope that you will join me at King Park to continue the celebration. The celebration will be filled with music and dance performances: a children and teen area filled with free games and give-a-ways. There will be lots of food, general merchandise vending booths, and community services information along with a Health Pavilion, that will have a number of free health tests and medical care information for all ages.

And don't forget the post parade events of "Peace Week", a weeklong celebration leading up to the festival. To kick off the event, please join me for the Annual "Peace March", at 5:00 pm, on January 10, at King Park. Be on the look out for more announcements about this community week. I have some new and exciting events planned for you.

Last year, the Long Beach Martin Luther King Jr. celebration attracted over 15,000 people participating in the parade and visiting the park. This year, the weeklong celebration will attract cultures from all over Long Beach to continue the legacy and teachings of a great leader, Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. To participate or to volunteer, please call my office at (562) 570-6816.

Speaking of parades, I would like to thank WANA and all those that volunteered for the Daisy Lane Parade. It was a great success! I really enjoyed myself.

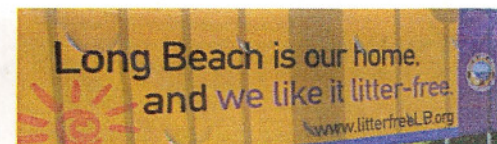
In closing, I hope you and your family had a very Happy Holiday!

MLK Parade & Celebra tion, January 17



The theme for the 21st Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Peace and Unity Parade Celebration is "I see the Promised Land", which is taken from Dr. King's last speech. The Parade will begin at 10:30 a.m. at the intersection of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Anaheim Street. Afterwards, there will be a celebration at King Park with performances, games, food and more.

If you would like to volunteer or organize a group of marchers, call Joan at (562) 599-0812 or send an email to wrigleyalliance@msn.com.



SAVE THE DATE!!

Takin' it to the Streets

Quarterly Clean-Up

By Jill Hill

Saturday, February 14th (yes, I know it's Valentine's Day)) is our next clean-up date. Just a couple hours in the morning is all I ask of you. Look for details in February's News & Views.

Report Graffiti Whenever and Wherever You See It!

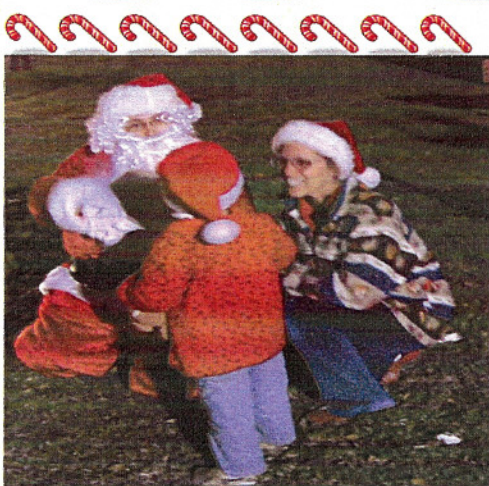
LA County River Trail and Greenways:
Call (800) 675-4357 or go online to
<http://dpw.lacounty.gov>

City of Long Beach: Call (562) 570-2773

Do you know how to report stray shopping carts?

Call the retrieval service at (800) 252-4613

WORKS



SANTA Meets & Greets

Between 7 and 8 pm on the nights of Dec 14, 19, & 20, Santa handed out more than 1,800 candy canes to kids enjoying the Christmas Tree Lane displays with their families. Just imagine how many people visit the Lane between Parade night and Christmas—Thousands!!

Membership Drive

It's not too late to sign up new members. We have some wonderful prizes:

- 2 gift certificates for a Champagne Brunch at the Queen Mary
- 2 gift certificates for Dinner at Smooth's
- 2 gift certificates for Hof's Hut
- 2 gift certificates for El Torito

November winner, **Pastor Joe Esposito**, received the Queen Mary Champagne Brunch certificates.

Sign up new members by January 8, 2009 to be eligible for prizes. Make sure to put your name in the "referred by" section on the membership form!!

A Very
Special
WANA
Member



Kay Bowman

2008

MEMBER of the YEAR

Kay is a long time resident of Wrigley. She was very active in the early years of Wrigley Assoc. and now a very dedicated member of WANA. She has helped in any way she can. To mention a few: She stepped up to the plate to donate, several times, to the start up costs to get WANA going. She donated many years to Christmas Tree Lane. This past year has donated numerous times to CTL. She has given money for all our fun events that we have had. We want to give special appreciation for all she has done for our Wrigley Area Neighborhood Alliance. She truly deserves all the recognition we can give her. Thank you, Kay for being such a dedicated and loyal person. Congratulations!!

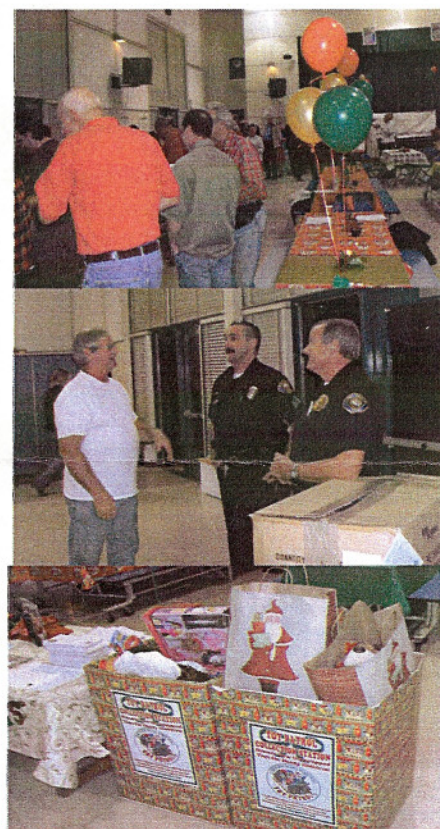
Welcome New Members

Matthew Black
Bonnie Cole
Mune Yoshi Kubo
Donald Raines
Clair Paxton
Bill Smith
Manuel Vital
Brenda Vital

Thanks for Joining!!

Annual Holiday Party

Over 80 people attended on Dec 4th. Special thanks to **Danita Gould**, **Maria Norvell** and **Nancy Risch** for getting the hall ready for all of us to enjoy. In addition to the dishes that members brought to share, **Buono's** and **Pho America** sent along samples of their fine cuisine.



By the end of the evening, these L.B.P.D. Fire and Police TOY PATROL collection boxes overflowed with toys donated by WANA members at the December 4 Holiday Party. We also over-filled two huge boxes last year. The children throughout the City enjoyed our Christmas gifts. Thank you all for your generosity during this season of caring and sharing!!

**NEIGHBORHOOD
WATCH NEWS**



Maria Norvell,
Wrigley Rep. 562 427-5021

Daisy Avenue

Christmas Tree Lane Report

MARIA NORVELL, CTL CHAIRPERSON
19 YEARS 562-427-5021



Gee, I just don't know where to begin. There is so much to report this time. I will start with setting up the displays on Daisy Tuesday, December 2nd, at 7:00 a.m. Volunteers **Jim Trout, Richard Slaughter, Vernon Rudd, Jim Sollenbarger, and George Pineda**, and about ten men from **Pacific Baptist Church** came out to help us. Truck drivers **Alex and Carlos** with flat bed trucks were there to help load and unload the displays. Many thanks to **Berry Walsh** for arranging the schedule for Daisy. A special thanks to **Victor Maylon** of **Power Nex** for the use of his fork lift to place the displays on the Lane. Everyone worked so very hard to get all the displays on Daisy in ONE day. I want to thank all of them. It was quite a job.

Richard and Jim came out and helped the next day. **Jim and I** have never worked so much. We helped to get all the hundreds of Christmas lights together for **City Light and Power** to hang on the trees. **Jill** even stopped by to help. There were fifteen trees lit up this year compared to only four last year. I want to thank all the sponsors especially Councilwoman **Tonia Reyes Uranga** for sponsoring three tree and Councilman **Dee Andrews** for sponsoring two trees. It was great working with **Brian, Chris and Kevin** their boss and of course **Tony** from **City Light and Power**. Many years ago **Brian and Kevin** worked for the City's Electrical Department. I knew them back then. They did a wonderful job. The LED lights are more beautiful than I imagined they would be. I hope you went by the Lane to see everything and to really see what we all have done.

Workday started at 7:30 a.m. on Sat., Dec. 6th. We had around 55 volunteers or more, I didn't count them. There were lots of **Pacific Baptist** and **WANA** members. Everyone worked well together. The men from **Pacific Baptist** were divided up into four teams—one team for each of the four blocks of Daisy, and were led by **Jim Trout, Richard Slaughter, Frank Kozlowski, Jim Sollenbarger**. **Will Chick** also came out to help.

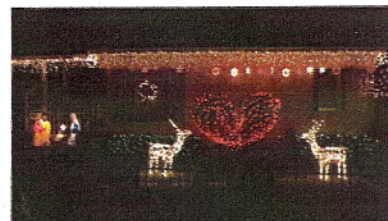
The men put all the stakes and fencing around every display. This is very hard work, especially putting the stakes in the ground. I won't list all the names, there's too many and I might leave someone out. I treat my volunteers like precious stones because without them, Christmas Tree Lane would not come together. I want to thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

The contest was lots of fun. The judges were: **Nick & Patti Sramek, John & Cindy Cross, Robert Heldebrand, Pat Arndt, Connie Horton, Jill Hill, Joan Greenwood, Nancy Risch, Timothy Risch, and Nick Diamantides** from the **Signal Tribune**. I usually have around 17 judges but some couldn't make it or came on the wrong night. This is my 18th year organizing the contest—16 years with **Wrigley Assoc.** and now two under my leadership for **WANA**. Contest winners are listed in next column. There were so many beautiful homes I wish I could give them all a prize. Thanks again Daisy residents. As of this writing, we have had one entertainment night, Sunday the 14th. It was spectacular!! The **Samoan Youth group** was outstanding and we had an audience of around 150 people. The next group was also very good. These were a very young group starting at 11 years old. I was so worried that I couldn't line up any groups this year. I didn't have much time to get all four nights booked. Looking forward to next weekend's entertainment. I will give you a complete list of our sponsors in February's newsletter and at the meeting. I want to thank the **WANA Board** for completely supporting Christmas Tree Lane our Historical and Traditional event in **Wrigley**. I was raised here and know how important it has always been. **Gertrude Whittle** would be proud of us for continuing her dream. I thank my lucky stars for **Jim Trout**. UNTIL NEXT TIME...Maria

CONTEST WINNERS

1ST PLACE (\$150)

Dolores Hervas, 2473 Daisy Avenue



Sharon Jackson, 2078 Daisy Avenue



2ND PLACE (\$100)

Maria Barros, 2276 Daisy Avenue



Victor Lopez, 1885 Daisy Avenue



3RD PLACE (\$75)

Julio Gutierrez, 2339 Daisy Avenue



Robert Graves, 2041 Daisy Avenue

