



# The Willard Neighborhood Association

**Steering Committee:** George Beier • Jeff Bradt • Doug Buckwald • Elizabeth Butler • Janet Byron  
John Caner • Vincent Casalaina • David Cottle • Colleen Donovan • Joe Halperin • Lynn Halperin  
Conrad Lagasca • Marcia Levenson • Jane Miller • Rebecca Perry • Tim Ruckle • Zofia Rybkowski

## September Newsletter

### President's message

I want to thank both Janet Byron who organized our National Night Out event in early August, and Greg Murphy who organized our Street Faire at the end of the month. These events were exceptional this year with new activities at each and lots of neighborhood participation. You'll see more about each of these events in the next article in the newsletter.

These are exactly the kinds of activities that a neighborhood association should put on as a means to meet our neighbors and pass along information at the same time. To that end, **I want to invite you to come to our next General Meeting, Sept. 25th at Mudrakers Café (corner of Stuart & Telegraph) at 8 pm.** We will be voting on endorsements for the local Berkeley ballot initiatives. George Beier, our political action committee chair is lining up speakers from each of the controversial initiatives so it should be exciting, or at least informative.

Somewhat less upbeat has been the increase in late-night noise over the past month. The exceptionally warm weather late into the evening and the return of our student neighbors has made for some friction around how much noise is acceptable in the neighborhood. This is an issue that will require some effort on all our parts to reach a mutually agreeable solution. If you are interested in this issue, let me know and I'll make sure that you are included in any discussions that WNA has on parties and street noise. I think it's very important that we hear from all sides.

Finally, keep the date Nov. 15th open on your calendars. WNA and the Berkeley Project, the student organization that we sponsor, will be having a workday at Willard Park. We'll know a lot more about what is being planned by the next newsletter, but whatever it is, we will be meeting in the park that morning to make it more attractive and a better place to be.

Vincent Casalaina  
President, Willard Neighborhood Assoc.

Editor's Note: WNA welcomes submissions of articles/letters for publication on topics of interest to the neighborhood (roughly 300 words – they may be edited for length). The newsletter comes out about once a month. E-mail them to: [janetbyron@att.net](mailto:janetbyron@att.net)

## **WNA hosts National Night Out ice cream social and our Street Faire & Pet Parade**

On Tuesday, Aug. 5, WNA and the city of Berkeley participated in National Night Out, a nationwide anti-crime event organized by the National Association of Town Watch. More than 11,000 communities across the country participated, and the Willard neighborhood was one of a number of small neighborhood gatherings in Berkeley that night.

WNA hosted its second ice cream social at Willard Park; it was attended by about 150 neighbors, police officers and fire fighters including Police Chief Douglas Hambleton, and Berkeley city officials including city manager Phil Kamlarz. It was a good opportunity for neighbors to interact directly with the people who run important parts of Berkeley city government.

WNA steering committee member John Caner developed an excellent disaster-preparedness display and distributed free keychain lights and WNA whistles (he'll tell you more below).

Later in August, on the 24th, Greg Murphy took the lead in organizing WNA's fourth annual Street Faire at Willard Park. The event is intended to welcome students and bring neighbors together. In addition to the yard sale from previous years, where neighbors sold housewares, furniture and plants, we worked hard to bring a variety of local and regional groups to the St. Faire. The newly formed Willard Artists Guild displayed their work (who knew we had so many creative artists living right here) and information booths were hosted by EBMUD, Berkeley police, Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, Willard Middle School Writers Project, the Pacific Center, Students for a Safer Southside, and other organizations. With support from the University of California and city of Berkeley, attendees got free burritos from Mario's and Carvel's ice cream. The University offered a raffle prize of two tickets to the upcoming Cal/Colorado game.

For the first time, WNA hosted a Pet Parade, sponsored by Our Basic Bird (College Avenue). We had 19 entrants, including many dogs, two spiders, a bird, a cat, and a snake. Our illustrious judges were Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson, UC Berkeley Director of Community Relations Irene Hegarty, and Shallon Allen of the Berkeley City Manager's office.

The judges took their duties seriously and awarded prizes in seven categories, including "Quintessential Berkeley," "Most Resembles Owner" and "Most Entertaining." Claudia from Our Basic Bird marched in a bird costume, and awarded ribbons and \$20 gift certificates to the winners. All of the participants got certificates and animal pins to take home. Claudia will post pictures of the winners at the store (2940 College Avenue), and some pictures are below.

Thanks to all the neighborhood volunteers who helped make these events terrific get-togethers for us all! The Berkeley Project, the student group that plans and executes community service projects, helped with the publicity, set-up, and tear down of the fair.

- Janet Byron

**WNA Pet Parade and Street Faire, Aug. 24, 2008**







## **“Welcome to the Willard Neighborhood” Signs Go Up in Time for Students**

You may have seen them. In late August the Willard Neighborhood Association (WNA) put up “Welcome to the Willard Neighborhood Association” signs at all entrance points to the neighborhood in time for the return of the students. We’ve seen this done in other cities and we liked the idea of letting others know that this is the Willard neighborhood.

In addition to welcoming all, the signs had our new Web address “[www.willardna.org](http://www.willardna.org)” at the bottom of each sign. Due to WNA budget constraints and limited time the signs were temporary in nature, laminated color paper signs attached with zip-ties to some 20 plus posts at all entry points in the neighborhood.

WNA is working with the City of Berkeley to secure funding and approval of permanent signs for installation sometime next year. If you are interested in helping out on sign project please contact John Caner at [johncaner@gmail.com](mailto:johncaner@gmail.com) or (510) 501-0256.

## **City referenda to be discussed at WNA General Meeting, Sept. 25 Come and vote on which we should endorse!!**

There are seven local measures on the Berkeley ballot this year. These issues will be discussed at WNA's Sept. 25 meeting at Mudracker's, 8 p.m. George Beier, chair of the Political Action Committee, has provided the following quick rundown:

**Measure FF – Library Bond (2/3).** Raises \$26 million for renovation/expansion of branch libraries. You'll be "for" this issue if you care about libraries and think are vital. You'll be "against" this measure if you think that Berkeley's spending is out of control. Cost: \$60 per average house per year. ***Berkeley-O-Meter: Hot Issue.***

**Measure GG – Fire Protection (2/3).** Keeps all fire stations open and provides for a paramedic on each fire engine. You'll be "for" this measure if you think station closures imperil emergency response. You'll be "against" this measure if you think that this should come out of the General Fund. Cost: \$78 per average house per year. ***Berkeley-O-Meter: Hot Issue.***

**Measure HH – Gann Override (2/3).** Allows Berkeley to continue to exceed state spending limits. You'll be "for" this measure if you want to keep funding parks, disabled services, libraries, etc. You'll be "against" if you think taxes are too high, Berkeley is inefficient, and we're not getting enough "bang for our buck". ***Berkeley-O-Meter: Cool. Limited opposition to this measure.***

**Measure II – Redistricting Timelines (majority).** Lets Berkeley redraw council districts up to three years after the census is complete (instead of one year). ***Berkeley-O-Meter: Cold. No opposition***

**Measure JJ – Cannabis Initiative (majority).** Eliminates the need for public hearings on cannabis clubs and eliminates cannabis quantity limits. You'll be "for" this initiative if you want clubs to get a location without obstructive public hearings. You'll be "against" this initiative if you are worried that a cannabis club could get located in your neighborhood without a public hearing. ***Berkeley-O-Meter: Hot.***

**Measure KK – Voter Approval of HOV/Transit-Only Lanes (majority).** Requires all plans for dedicating a street or lane to public transit submitted to voters for approval. You'll be "for" this initiative if you think that the city has been unresponsive to neighborhood concerns, especially re: the BRT (Bus Rapid Transit). You'll be "against" this initiative if you think that this is "micromanaging". ***Berkeley-O-Meter: Hot.***

**Measure LL – Landmarks (majority).** The city staff and mayor have worked over the last several years to streamline the permitting and landmarking process. You'll be "for" this measure if you think that Berkeley is over-landmarked, and that too much landmarking is getting in the way of good development. You'll be "against" this measure if you care more about preserving historic nature of our neighborhoods and want to control the growth of UC Berkeley and other developers. ***Berkeley-O-Meter: Hot***

For more information, contact George Beier at [georgebeier@hotmail.com](mailto:georgebeier@hotmail.com) or 848-9451.

## **Willard Neighborhood Goes Into Action For Earthquake Preparedness**

The WNA Earthquake Preparedness Committee presented a sample of earthquake-preparedness supplies at both our National Night Out neighborhood get-together on August 5 and the Willard Street Fair on August 24. The committee displayed samples of water storage, freeze dried food, and other emergency supplies that can be readily purchased on-line at amazon.com or costco.com. A list of these supplies can be found with easy links at our WNA website at:

<<http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/pdf/nhextra/734472517/782299266/606075949.pdf>>

Also, at the National Night Out and the Street Fair, neighbors signed up who are interested in getting their blocks organized. And the committee handed out an excellent Earthquake Preparedness booklet from the U.S. Geological Survey, "Putting Down Roots in Earthquake Country," that can be viewed online at: <http://pubs.usgs.gov/gip/2005/15/gip-15.pdf>

The Earthquake Preparedness Committee is holding it's first block training meeting on Tuesday, September 23rd for the Benvenue/Derby/Parker neighbors. If you are interested in helping organize training for your block area, or getting involved with the Earthquake Preparedness Committee, please contact John Caner at [johncaner@gmail.com](mailto:johncaner@gmail.com) or (510) 501-0256 or Joe Halperin at [joelynn@comcast.net](mailto:joelynn@comcast.net) or (510) 981-1993.

### **Addressing Problem Parties, Late-Night Noise: A Team Approach**

Submitted by Irene Hegarty, Director of Community Relations, UC Berkeley

The university and the city have taken a number of steps over the past three years to reduce the problems of student parties, noise, and alcohol-related behaviors by working with neighbors, student leaders and campus and city staff through the Chancellor's Task Force on Student/Neighbor Relations. The steps include new and stronger city ordinances, mandatory alcohol education for incoming students, outreach to landlords and parents, better coordination between city and campus police departments and the Dean of Students, and a campaign by and for students to encourage good neighbor relations, responsible alcohol use, and safety.

Berkeley Police Department received an ABC grant again this year that provides additional resources dedicated toward enforcement of alcohol-related offenses. ABC agents have been augmenting the Party Patrol that is jointly staffed by UCPD and BPD officers in the areas near campus on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights, along with regular BPD patrol officers on duty. Over the first two weekends of the semester, for example, 337 alcohol-related citations were issued citywide (most, but not all in the south campus area). Of those, 30% were issued to UCB students.

The city's Public Nuisance Party ordinance—usually referred to as "second response" ordinance—was amended last year to increase fines if police are called back to an address for a second or subsequent disturbance (\$750 for the second call; \$1500 for the third call; \$2500

for subsequent calls) and extends the period of enforcement to 120 days, with additional extensions each time the police are called back.

A new video campaign sponsored by student leaders will be launched soon, with student-created videos sending out messages to combat excessive drinking, late night noise, littering and dumping, targeted to their peers.

We understand how frustrating it is to be awakened by late night noise or to have your peace and quiet disturbed at any time. Depending on the circumstances, you may want to talk with the student directly, especially if he or she is a nearby neighbor. Many students are living on their own for the first time and may not be sensitive to how their actions affect their neighbors. However, if the problem persists or the situation requires police intervention, please call the Berkeley Police Department at (510)981-5900.

We hope that ultimately these measures will *prevent* unwanted behaviors as students understand the expectations of our community and the possible consequences of their actions. But we have much more to do. If you have questions or suggestions for the Task Force, please send them to UC Berkeley Community Relations at [comrel@berkeley.edu](mailto:comrel@berkeley.edu).

## Upcoming events

### Fall 2008 Disaster-Preparedness Classes

Do you know how to take care of yourself and your family in an emergency? Do you know first aid, search and rescue techniques and how to suppress a fire? Find out at one or more of the seven free classes offered by Berkeley's Office of Emergency Services. Classes offered by the Office of Emergency Services are free and open to those who live or work in Berkeley and are 18 or older. You'll get hands-on experience in putting on a splint, extinguishing a fire, using a fire hose, safely lifting a concrete block and much more. All classes are held at 997 Cedar Street, in the training center next to Fire Station 6. For more information please contact Khin Chin at 981-5506. To register, visit <http://www.cityofberkeley.info/fire> and click on the OES-Disaster Preparedness link or call 510-981-5605. See for info: <http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/PressReleaseMain.aspx?id=25240>

### Home Greywater Systems Tour

Learn about the permitted greywater system at the Ecohouse. This system is the first residential-constructed wetland/greywater system in the State of California and the first greywater system in Berkeley to be permitted. We will discuss the principles and process of safely irrigating with shower, bathroom sink, and laundry wastewater. The workshop includes a 1-hour slide show presentation of greywater design and the application process. Return home with ideas and plans of your own! Near North Berkeley BART. PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED. Sunday, October 5, 2008; 10am or 1pm. Cost: \$15 sliding scale, no one turned away for lack of funds. Info: 510-548-2220 ext. 242, [ecohouse@ecologycenter.org](mailto:ecohouse@ecologycenter.org), <http://ecologycenter.org/>.



## **Ready to Learn Fun Fair**

Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson, First 5 Every Child Counts, and KQED are sponsoring the third annual Ready to Learn Fun Fair at Rosa Parks Elementary School in Berkeley on Saturday October 4, 2008 from 10am to 1pm. The event is free for families and children of all ages.

The Ready to Learn Fun Fair promotes education at an early age and encourages healthy lifestyles. Positive early educational experiences before entering kindergarten will support your child's mental growth; it will have a significant impact during their years in school and facilitate their success as an adult. Parents will have the opportunity to learn about educational programs, support services, child care, nutrition, sports activities, and much more. Children will get to read, color, play outside, and experience learning in a fun environment.

Children will have the chance to meet Clifford "The Big Red Dog," receive free books, get their faces painted, and play outdoor games. Everyone attending will be entered into a raffle with a chance to win free family passes to the Oakland Zoo, Habitot Children's Museum, the Lawrence Hall of Science, Chabot Space and Science Center, and many other fun activities.

For more information contact Mateo Reyes at (510) 268-5376 or visit <http://www.acgov.org/board/district5>.

## **Food for thought: Lorin District "statement of purpose"**

A section of the Lorin District Neighborhood Association, which is roughly bordered by Ashby, Adeline and Sacramento streets, was recently polled by LDNA member Tom Luce to develop a statement of purpose, which follows. It is reprinted here as "food for thought" as far as what we collectively want WNA to be for and about.

"When we began thinking about this I did some research around the country for models of neighborhood associations that other cities have, the base unit being a block group and then connected to larger units and eventually to the whole city. These associations are distinct from advocacy groups that are focused on a specific issue but are rather multi-purpose/issue in nature.

Here pasted below is the set of purposes we came to endorse. I found in my research and talking around the 'hood that some people shy away from getting even this formal and prefer just to gather friendly neighbors and be very loosely organized. Our association is by no means tightly organized but we did vote for what purposes we are joining together for. They are listed in order of importance. As people go to the polls here on the LDNA Yahoo website, perhaps they can keep in mind this list of purposes as indicative of a multipurpose NAA."



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## **THE PURPOSES OF LDNA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

*Neighbors filled out a survey in order of individual preference. The list below shows the results of the total ranking. No purpose was rejected. These were adopted on Nov. 27, 2007.*

1. To get to know my neighbors better, build positive relations, help develop respect; promote good racial, cultural, ethnic relations; good relations between homeowners, tenants and landlords
2. To be able to work out neighborhood beautification projects (including street cleaning, traffic circles, creating open space, flowers, raising money etc.
3. To handle nuisance and/or crime management and prevention through a 'neighborhood watch; setup including liaison with the city police and neighborhood services; using professional services to deal with crime/civil cases through the courts as a group
4. To be able to work out neighborhood development projects (promoting affordable housing through homeownership, affordable rental units, sharing employment, business resources, obtaining social services)
5. To arrange for enjoyable social gatherings
6. To handle neighbor-to-neighbor disputes (bringing in neutral parties to help with reconciliation)
7. To form one grass roots unit to connect to a wider Berkeley coalition of neighborhood groups.

## **WNA Committees**

WNA has several committees to work on a variety of neighborhood issues. You are welcome and encouraged to join a committee. For more information, contact the following chairs:

**Disaster preparedness:** John Caner, [johncaner@gmail.com](mailto:johncaner@gmail.com) or 848-9451.

**Physical environment:** Greg Murphy, [GregM@jfcfs.org](mailto:GregM@jfcfs.org) or 644-9415.

**Public Safety:** David Cottle, [davidcottle@comcast.net](mailto:davidcottle@comcast.net) or 843-7527.

**Public outreach.** Janet Byron, [janetbyron@comcast.net](mailto:janetbyron@comcast.net) or 848-4008.

**Political action:** George Beier, [georgebeier@hotmail.com](mailto:georgebeier@hotmail.com) or 848-9451.

**WNA president:** Vincent Casailana, [proberk@aol.com](mailto:proberk@aol.com) or 841-8524

**\* \* \* \* \* City of Berkeley: Useful Contact Information \* \* \* \* \***

**Police**

Police Emergency Number: 911 (from landline);  
981-5911 (from cell; preprogram with this number)  
Police Non-emergency Number: 981-5900  
Link to beat maps and a list of beat officers:  
North of Derby is Beat 7, South of Derby is Beat 9.  
<http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/police/departments/beatinfo/beatlineup.html>  
Area Coordinator -- Steve Burccham 981-5778

**Other City Departments:**

Neighborhood Services Liaison Jim Hynes <jhynes@ci.berkeley.ca.us> 981-2493  
Public Works Customer Service: 644-6620 (trash pick up, streets, sidewalks, graffiti, sewers, storm drains, street lights) [pwworks@ci.berkeley.ca.us](mailto:pwworks@ci.berkeley.ca.us) / [publicworks@ci.berkeley.ca.us](mailto:publicworks@ci.berkeley.ca.us)  
Tree Trimming/Planting (Forestry): 644-6566 [trees@ci.berkeley.ca.us](mailto:trees@ci.berkeley.ca.us)

**Written Communication with City Council:**

To comment to City Council, cut and paste the following email addresses:

City Clerk <clerk@ci.berkeley.ca.us>  
Mayor Tom Bates <Mayor@ci.berkeley.ca.us>  
Councilmember Linda Maio <LMaio@ci.berkeley.ca.us>  
Councilmember Darryl Moore <DMoore@ci.berkeley.ca.us>  
Councilmember Max Anderson <MAnderson@ci.berkeley.ca.us>  
Councilmember Dona Spring <DSpring@ci.berkeley.ca.us>  
Councilmember Laurie Capitelli <LCapitelli@ci.berkeley.ca.us>  
Councilmember Betty Olds <BOlds@ci.berkeley.ca.us>

**Representatives for Our Neighborhood:**

Councilmember Kriss Worthington <KWorthington@ci.berkeley.ca.us>  
(District 7) 981-7170 All except Eastern edge of neighborhood  
Councilmember Gordon Wozniak <GWozniak@ci.berkeley.ca.us>  
(District 8) 981-7180 Eastern edge of neighborhood

Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson, [dist5@acgov.org](mailto:dist5@acgov.org) (510) 272-6695; 1221 Oak St., Ste. 536, Oakland

**Links to WNA website, WNA Yahoo group and other local websites:**

<http://WillardNA.org>  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/willardna/>  
<http://www.telegraphave.org/>