



NEWS & VIEWS

WANA • Wrigley Area Neighborhood Alliance, Inc.

ISSUE 2

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VOLUME 3

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FROM THE HEART!



As February greets us with a new President, the country seems to have a renewed sense of hope for change. Change must be greeted with open arms because it is inevitable. As one embraces change nationally, one must embrace it all the way down to the local level - and that means right here in our Wrigley community. You can help to make changes for the betterment of our community.

But how? Easy - just give of yourself, a lot or a little, by getting involved in WANA. Throughout the year, there are plenty of opportunities to offer your service to our community. Those ways are always listed here in our **News & Views** newsletter that 3,000 residents receive every other month, delivered by numerous residents who serve their Wrigley community by volunteering to pass them out. (You can start there - we can always use a hand distributing the newsletters.)

The easiest change you can make in your life is to **become a WANA member**. (Fill out the membership form located on the back page and mail it in.) It's only \$15/year per household and includes any household member who is 18 years or older. You will not only have voting rights on issues pertinent to WANA, but you will also receive a color **News & Views** newsletter in the mail every month so that you can be in touch with what's going on in your community.

The second easiest change you can make is to **volunteer**. It is my hope that you find some speck of time in your life to lend a hand to any one of the opportunities presented on the following pages of this newsletter. Each and every month you will see ways in which to participate in an event and/or help the community (a clean-up - coming up on February 14th, baking cookies, Easter egg hunt, etc.).

So jump on the band wagon of Change. It's definitely a win/win outcome for everyone. You can help make a difference within our community and you benefit, too! Change - it's a State of Mind. If you don't mind, it don't change.

Yours in Service, Jill



WANA Meeting Guest Speaker

**Sandra Holden, Executive
Producer, LBTv 8**

When you're driving around the city and see a building going up, do you ever wonder what's being built? Well, there's a new TV program in the works that can provide just such information about new housing and redevelopment projects. Join us at this meeting as Sandra will share 3 pre-recorded episodes with us so as to get our feedback. Don't miss it! Public welcome.

**Thursday, February 5
7—9PM**

**Jackie Robinson Academy
2750 Pine Avenue**

**Across From Veterans
Park on 28th Street**

There is **ample PARKING** in the school lot. There will be a 15 minute Social before the Meeting starts - enjoy refreshments and visiting with friends and neighbors..

CHILD CARE will be available at no charge so parents can participate, too!



MARIA NORVELL

WANA

Christmas Tree Lane Report

CHAIRPERSON Since 1988

562-427-5021

The trees were just beautiful all decked out with new energy-efficient LED lights! In 2007, we only had enough electrical power to light up 4 trees, but this year, there were 15, and our goal for next year is all 24!

Three generous people heard our message at the December Holiday Party when I reported that I hoped to raise enough from our loyal sponsor base to cover costs for 10 trees. Councilman **Dee Andrews** (\$900) and an anonymous person (\$900) agreed to sponsor two trees apiece and Councilmember **Tonia Reyes Uranga** sponsored three more (\$1,350). We quickly ordered more strings of lights and contacted Long Beach Light and Power to arrange another work day.

But, before I give you the names of the other 2008 Christmas Tree Lane sponsors, I have to mention that I was really pleased with the amount of support we received on such short notice. Letters didn't go out until November because of the delays in getting the permit issues settled.

But, I personally spoke to most of our sponsors. Many explained that they could only donate half of what they usually do each year. Luckily, we received two grants and had money left over from last year to make up the difference.

It's been a hard year for everyone. I truly appreciate what they could give: **Dr. Jay Jazaeri, Keesal Young & Logan, LB Area Convention & Visitors Bureau, THUMS of Long Beach, LBS Financial Credit Union, Buono's Pizzeria, Grand Prix Association of Long Beach, LB Police Officers Association and LB Firefighters Local Union 372.** We haven't received **Supervisor Don Knabe's** pledge as of the Newsletter deadline, but I know the check is in the works. I want to thank these wonderful Sponsors for their generous donations.

WANA received grant money from the **City of Long** through its **Neighborhood Partners Program (NPP)** administered by the Neighborhood Services Bureau, which distributes Community Development Block Grants for local grass roots projects. NPP funds were used to purchase the LED lights. **Long Beach Lesbian and Gay Pride (LBLGP)** also gave WANA a grant for Christmas Tree Lane.

I know that there is concern with the displays still being out on Daisy. As soon as we can find storage space for them, we will move them. Last year the City said that it would no longer be responsible for storage. I have enough men and trucks ready to go on a day's notice.

Board members don't like me to thank them for what they do, but I have to. A big THANK YOU goes out to **Joan Greenwood** for purchasing a hundred very bright, energy-efficient spotlights that give twice as much light with half the power as the old 45-watt bulbs needed. When we discovered that we needed an additional 25, she didn't even hesitate to order more from Home Depot. So, when you see Joan, thank her for all she does to help Christmas Tree Lane, and also **Jill Hill** for her continuous support.

We, who have lived in Wrigley many years, know how important Our Christmas Tree Lane is. I also have to mention Pacific Baptist Church for their generous donation of volunteer time, forklift rental and cash. Thank You, WANA members, for your donations totaling several hundred dollars.

Tim Patton and **Victoria Reynafarje**, I know you have forgiven me for leaving your names out as being one of the home decorating contest judges in last month's report. There's always so much to try to remember about Christmas Tree Lane and all the volunteers that help out. It's a wonder that I don't forget more. There is still a lot of work that has to be completed before I set it aside for awhile. **UNTIL NEXT TIME ...**

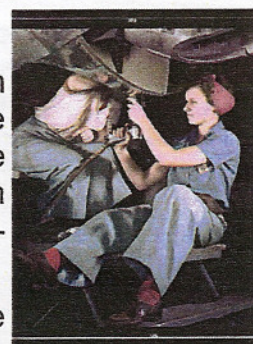


WORKS

Gerrie Schipske's "Riveting" Tale

At WANA's January public meeting, the audience received another informative Long Beach history lesson. **Gerrie Schipske**, 5th District Councilmember, did extensive research on the role that Long Beach women played in the aviation industry during World War II and wrote the book, "Rosie the Riveter in Long Beach". Her knowledge and slide show presentation on the subject completely engaged the audience, and everyone in attendance thoroughly enjoyed the meeting.

WANA thanks **Councilmember Schipske** for giving us her time and bringing us back in time with this insightful story of hard-work and sacrifice!!



Women
Working on
a Bomber at
Douglas
Aircraft

(Library of
Congress
Collection)

Valentine's Day Treat for Wrigley Seniors – A Call for Cookies

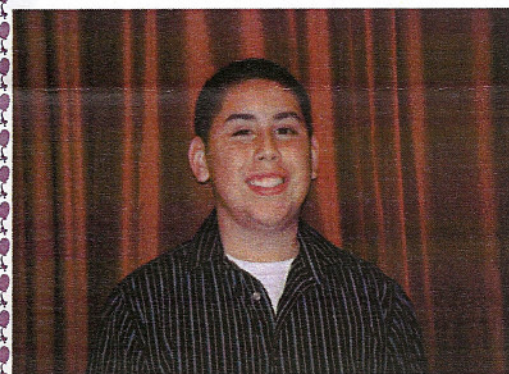
by Jill Hill



Last year, WANA made Valentine's Day a little "sweeter" for many seniors at retirement centers by providing them with punch and 35 dozen home-made cookies. They enjoyed it so much that we decided to do it again this year. WANA needs your home-made cookies — some with sugar and some sugar-free. We also need a few people who are available during the day to help bring the cookies to the centers and possibly serve them to the seniors.

If you can help brighten a senior's day, please call Jill at 562-599-1822 or e-mail us at: wrigleyalliance@msn.com.

Volunteer of the Month Jeremy Robles



Jeremy, a high schooler, is truly a great example of a volunteer. At his young age, he has done more for our community than most adults. In the past 18 months, he willingly has helped out at WANA clean-ups, the native landscape planting, and our Halloween on the Green and Christmas Tree Lane events, to name a few.

Jeremy also delivers WANA newsletters door-to-door to anywhere from 250 to 500 homes every other month!! He is a delightful, inspirational young man who is bound to grow up to be a "giver". Congratulations and keep up the good work!!

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MAKES & MODELS**

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VALENTINE!