



T H E L E T T E R

LAFAYETTE ASSOCIATION OF HOMEOWNERS, INC. NEWSLETTER

MEET YOUR NEW COMMITTEE

Green Committee

By Anne Proffitt

The Lafayette's new Green committee had its first meeting on June 24th and we've got a lot of easy ideas to help our wonderful building have a smaller carbon footprint and, gasp, generate money.

We'd like to start with a simple exercise. The Green committee will ask the Lafayette Board of Directors to allow us to label one of the two trash barrels on each floor for bottles and cans. We'll collect and recycle them, and put the **money earned toward future green projects** that will benefit the Lafayette.

All that's required is a sign on the affected trash can – which the Green committee will provide – and each resident's skills tossing those cans and bottles into the appropriate container.

How about giving it a try?

Editors note: If you are interested in the Green committee, please contact Amanda Montano at meowmontano2@yahoo.com or Ryan Stack at ryansbeamusstack@yahoo.com.

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FROM THE BOARD

What's Happening

By Frank Flores, Vice President

1. I met with a representative from **Elevator** Cab Renovation who will be giving the Board three different proposals for cab designs around the first part of July!

2. We have hired Pro-Tec to handle our ongoing **maintenance** issues! Right now they are working on replacing the inside of the Campbell freight elevator doors.

3. We have removed the newly discovered **tile camel mural** from the 10th floor roof/11th floor patio and storing it until we have it restored and will perhaps have fund raisers around the restoration and presentation! (*Editor: See also Nonprofit News, pg. 4*)

4. We are still in the process of putting a **new roof** on the Campbell building! Upon removing the camel, water was found under the tile and we are getting bids to remove the old roof and put on a new!

5. President Jean-Louis De Bien has proposed a plan to **renovate Sharon's office and the gym!**

6. I am in the process of getting the **solarium** new furniture and all the public areas **re-carpeted!** Carpet and furniture are coming from a hotel renovation and will be given to us at a very inexpensive price!

Happy Independence Day to everyone! 🇺🇸





A VIEW FROM THE 6TH FLOOR

Death is a Bitch Named Chlorine

Text and photos by Thomas Wasper

“Jesus! I don’t think he’s goofing around,” I thought to myself, watching my grandson’s arm frantically waving (goodbye?) above the waterline of the swimming pool in the yard of a very nice house in Woodland Hills while the rest of him struggled for purchase beneath its surface.

It took only a second after that thought for me to act, splashing into the water being careful to avoid knocking the other children that sat on the steps into the pool and reaching out to grab his arm and yank him up onto the concrete edge.

“Baby, are you okay?” I asked him quietly, kneeling before him as he coughed and gasped for breath.

We were in Woodland Hills to have my grandson Timmy’s photo taken playing with a variety of **pool toys**, which would eventually find their way onto their packages where they would be placed on shelves in department stores all over the country.

Everything was going great. Timmy was having a good time and then in a flash—**I almost lost my only client!** I had only walked away for moment thinking, wrongly as it turns out, that with such a crowd of parents, children and film crew within inches of my boy, he would be safe.

Stupid! Stupid! Stupid!

I was almost out of this business before I even got in! I had only become Timmy’s manager the previous week and this was our second gig together. He hadn’t even had a chance to become hooked on drugs or caught in a compromising situation with a Hollywood hooker or to father an illegitimate child with a British pop tart! For that matter, he hadn’t yet paid me my 10% commission from the pool toys he was to earn for taking on this job.

Managing a 4 year-old boy’s career apparently included the (in hindsight) obvious task of keeping the little breadwinner alive. I had a lot to learn. It’s not like this job comes with a manual that anyone handed to me and told me to read.

(I would also need to hire an agent as soon as possible before I was left to negotiate the next job in payment of gold, foil-wrapped chocolate coins while smoking a bubble gum cigar to close the deal.)

“What happened to me?”

Timmy choked his words out against my neck between sobs as he hugged me and tried to make sense of this new world. His first near death experience.

We were standing in the front yard of the house having been asked to move away because “...he’s scaring the other children.”

Damn that’s **cold**.

While the company we were working for wasn’t technically a part of the Hollywood community they nonetheless exhibited a similar arctic chill to succeed.

“You just went in too deep, honey,” I spoke softly into Timmy’s ear. “But you’re okay now.”

“I want to go home,” he said. “I want my mommy.”

“I know, baby. We’ll go home soon.”

But first, I needed to get him back into the water.

Timmy had stopped crying and I took him back over by the pool.

“Just sit on the edge and put your feet in the water,” I told him.

He did. And then he immediately went in up to his neck.

“Timmy!” I yelled before forcing myself to speak in a calmer voice. “Please...be careful, will you?”

The next half hour was a proud time in my life watching Timmy splashing around in the pool regaling his fellow actors with the tale of how he **faced down death** and laughed in its hideous face.

“I dipped into the pool!” he told whoever would listen, sparing none of the gory details in the dramatic telling.

Timmy even went back before the camera and finished up his days work smiling his big smile when asked to and trusting that the inflatable shark pool toy he posed with would keep him afloat.

The kid was a true professional. In the old days they would have said he had **moxie**.



After the shoot I’m standing next to Timmy waiting for him to finish telling his story to a lady who asked how he was feeling when he abruptly stopped and turned to me.

“Thanks for helping me out in the pool, grandpa.”

I pulled him against me and wrapped my arms tight around

him basking in our true life “Jerry Maguire” moment.

“Anytime, honey,” I said to him. “Anytime at all.”

Postscript: After this incident **swim lessons** were arranged for Timmy. ☺

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FROM THE MANAGER

Condo Comments

By Sharon Hays

In case you are wondering what happened to the trees in the garden area, here’s the scoop. The **Hibiscus plant** is prone to attract every disease and insect possible and this held true for ours. Last year they were covered with white fly and this year they attracted some type of aphid. I tried spraying them with an insecticide but did not have any luck, so we cut them down to save the remainder of the plants in the garden from being infected.

Because of the Long Beach **water restrictions**, which only allows for watering after 4:00 p.m. three times a week, it is becoming difficult to ensure that the potted plants have sufficient water. I am in the process of downsizing our potted plant collection so for the time being we are not accepting additional plants in the garden.

Also, the Parking Cooperative LLC has a bright pink **parking survey** enclosed with your monthly statement. Please fill it out and return it to the office by August 1st. FYI, the website for the automated parking developer is www.apexskypark.com. ☺

Wedding Officiant



David Phinney

562-983-0003

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Who's Who at the Lafayette

2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Jean-Louis DeBien
 Vice-President: Frank Flores
 2nd Vice-President: Joe Hill
 Secretary: Dennis Cornax
 Treasurer: Rick Blackshere

lhoa7@yahoo.com
ffloresreps4u@aol.com
onejoehill@charter.net
dionysus6652@yahoo.com
andnod@yahoo.com

CONTACT THE BOARD

In **writing**: Email them. Also, each board member has a mailbox in the office. All written comments will be addressed in a timely manner.

In **person**: Come to the board meetings usually every first Tuesday of the month at 7pm in the Solarium (11th floor Campbell Building) unless a schedule change has been posted.

OFFICE MANAGER

Sharon Hays
 Phone: 562-436-5391 9:30am to 5pm weekdays
 Fax: 562-436-8762 Email: lafayet@charterinternet.com

Reminder: Meeting minutes may be viewed at the office or if you would like them emailed to you, let Sharon know.

NONPROFIT NEWS

Lafayette Historical Preservation Group

By Jack Nendel

We are exploring whether there is any interest from two of the other nearby historic buildings to conduct a **combined Walk Thru Time** tour later in the year. One building has expressed some initial interest in such an event and we have to determine whether it is feasible.

If a combined tour can not be planned, we will not conduct a tour this year but rather will **wait until 2009**.

The newly discovered **camel and pyramid mural** has been removed from the Campbell building roof and has been placed in storage. We are considering a combination of a fundraising event and/ or grant to provide funds for the **restoration** of the mural and relocation to a common area of the building.

If you would like to help out with contact me at jack.nendel@verizon.net.

Calendar

Tuesday, July 1, 2008

Board meeting
In the Solarium, 7pm

Friday, July 4, 2008

Independence Day
Office closed

Friday, July 11, 2008

Lafayette Birthdays:
Judy Flaherty
(former Manager)
Jan Padden
(former Board member)

NEWSLETTER TEAM

FRANK FLORES
 SHARON HAYS
 GERONIMO QUITORIANO
 JACK NENDEL
 ANNE PROFFIT
 THOMAS WASPER



THE LAFAYETTE LETTER IS PUBLISHED PERIODICALLY FROM THE OFFICE OF THE LAFAYETTE ASSOCIATION OF HOMEOWNERS.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE LETTER, PLEASE CONTACT GERONIMO AT (562) 435-4775 OR EMAIL: GPO-LAROID@MAC.COM.