



THE LETTER

LAFAYETTE ASSOCIATION OF HOMEOWNERS, INC. NEWSLETTER

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IN THIS ISSUE

- PET RULES
- DOGGIE BAGS
- REWARDS FOR RECYCLING
- FEE INCREASES
- MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR
- WHO'S WHO

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Lucy Van Wagner

By Thea Robertshaw

Lucy recalls one of her most cherished trips with friends when they traveled to the Hague in Holland and from there to Brugge in Belgium. While in Brugge her friend noticed that they were close to the French border. France was not on the itinerary, but she said "let's go across_ then I can say I've been to France and I will have added one more country to my list." They traveled not too far when they saw many people going towards the Atlantic ocean. When they saw the Dunkirk signs they became curious and followed in the direction of a small harbor. Lucy and her friends soon found out that there is a commemoration every five years. The French and the British marshaled every boat they could find for this event from World War II in May to June 1940. At this point Lucy still becomes emotional as she relates the story to me. "Being at a historical site where so many lives were lost." Reliving the drama and listening to Lucy touched me very deeply as well. She said, "I heard mostly French so that we couldn't ask questions, then I heard someone speak British English and followed the voice and saw an older gentleman with a beard. He explained many things to us and asked, 'would you like to meet Captain Bobby? He's 92 and asleep in the boat but he would love to talk to three American ladies.'" Lucy says, "To actually meet someone who was there was an incredible phenomenon. And of course we had our picture taken with this man on his boat that he used to evacuate soldiers." Over 558,000 soldiers were rescued during this time. The British Expeditionary Force and other Allied troops, cut off by the Germans, were evacuated from Dunkirk to England by an assortment of naval vessels and hundreds of civilian boats. This event has become a huge myth in England. Their government managed to turn a complete defeat into an act of utter heroism and British tenacity.

Lucy Van Wagner had an unusual childhood. Her mother died when she was 20 months old and her father remarried when she was 4 years

old. When she married, she and her husband went to Iceland for 6 months and later to Germany with their 11 month old baby while she was pregnant with their 2nd child. This was the coldest winter recorded in Germany. A highlight was a trip in their German station wagon to the warm places of northern Italy and the Adriatic Sea. Lucy is now retired. She sold her house and bought in the Lafayette two years ago. Sometimes we see Lucy walking with a tiny little girl who has her own suitcase on wheels, who stays with grandma at least once a week. Lucy has taken on a whole new adventurous life since she retired. Last summer she traveled to China with her grandsons: Jason 24, Ryan 18, and Scott aged 12. Together they climbed the great wall. They visited the 3 large excavation sites of the terra cotta warriors. These are life size figures and there are 1000's of them. Lucy's photographs are just incredible. The Emperor's Mausoleum is 16,000 square feet, and dates back to 200 B.C., the Qin dynasty. In some remote places in China, her youngest grandson got a lot of attention. He would say, "why are they staring at me?" It was the blond hair, they never saw that color before. Some even asked to have their picture taken with Scott.

See page 2 >



PHOTO COURTESY OF LUCY VAN WAGNER

Lucy and her grandsons in China.

THE LAFAYETTE
CONDOMINIUMS
140 LINDEN AVENUE
LONG BEACH, CA 90802
(562) 436-5391

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

**RECYCLING = FREE
DONUT + COFFEE**

WHO: Dan & Kristine Reed, Unit #355

WHERE: Drop off your recycle goods to unit #355 in the Campbell Building and we will reward you with a delicious donut and a hot cup of coffee both from local East Village businesses).

WHEN: Second and last Saturday of each month between the hours of 9-11am.

HOW: Please put all your recycle goods either in a paper grocery bag or a cardboard box.

WHAT: Here is a list of things you can recycle:

- * Cardboard
- * Plastic Containers (like water bottles, Tide laundry detergent bottles and milk bottles - all with caps removed)
- * Tin & Steel Food Cans
- * Residential Papers (junk mail, etc.)
- * Newspapers
- * Clear, Brown or Green/Blue Glass (beer or wine bottles)
- * Aluminum Beverage Containers

You can take these items yourself and get money back. Please note that we will not be getting money back for ourselves or other people. Everything is strictly donated to the recycle center.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR, CONTINUED

Her trip to Greece with her granddaughters Megan 16 and Noelle 15 in the summer of 2003 was cut short in London. Lucy wasn't watching her step when she looked back and tripped. She fell and broke her ankle in three places. Her son flew in and took the girls from there while she had surgery in a London hospital. In 2006 she will try that trip again. She has to go to Athens and stand at the Acropolis. Currently Lucy is enrolled in the UCLA writers program which she attends on Wednesday nights. She certainly has many interesting experiences and stories to write.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Who's Who at the Lafayette

2005 Board of Directors

- President:* Frank Flores
- First Vice-President:* Bill Guzik
- Second Vice-President:* Marilyn Jolley
- Treasurer:* Rick Blackshere
- Secretary:* Joe Hill

Office Manager

Sharon Hays

Contact the Office

Phone: 436-5391 9:30am to 6pm weekdays

FROM THE OFFICE

Move-in Fee Increase

The fee for anyone moving into the building will be \$100 beginning May 1, 2005

Do You Smell Something?

Well I did when someone placed dog poop in the trash receptacle in the Broadway Lobby. We applaud you for being considerate and following the law as far as picking up after your dog, but when you place it in the trash can in the lobby area we are reminded of it all day long.

With the hot summer days soon to begin, please remember to place the "doggie bag" in an *outside* receptacle, not in the lobby.

Pet Rules

Just a reminder of some of the important pet rules of the building:

1. All pets must be on a leash when in common areas.
2. Barking continuously is considered a nuisance and you will be fined.
3. The rules and regulations state only one domesticated dog, cat or other commonly accepted household pet.

Although we are a pet-friendly building, there are rules that we all must follow. Please be thoughtful of your neighbors who may not be as much of a pet lover as you are.

Welcome New Residents

Kristin and Dan Reed	Unit 355
Sheri Williams	Unit 282
Klas Juter & Danata Kilian	Unit 616
Kimiko Nakai & Troy Larkin & Jackson	Unit 624
Amy Borden	Unit 558
Annika Vogt & Jason Curry	Unit 562

**BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 7
THE BOARD WILL BE DISCUSSING
INCREASING HOA FEES. PLEASE
ATTEND. YOUR INPUT IS APPRECIATED.**



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

NEWSLETTER TEAM
ANDY BLINN
GERONIMO QUITORIANO
SHARON HAYS
THEA ROBERTSHAW

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS THE 21ST OF THE MONTH. AD SPACE AVAILABLE. CONTACT THE OFFICE FOR RATES.