

THE LETTER

LAFAYETTE ASSOCIATION OF HOMEOWNERS, INC. NEWSLETTER

Hollie Tucker

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Photo & text by Thomas Wasper

How long did you work at Domain Alfred Vineyards in Edna Valley?

I worked at Domain Alfred from November 2007 until February 2008.

Why did you decide to leave and move to Long Beach?

I met my boyfriend Glenn who was finishing up school at CSULB and decided to move downtown and see what all the fuss was about. I'm glad I did!

How long have you lived at the Lafayette?

Since August 2008.

Having studied Viticulture at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, you should have no trouble identifying the fake wine from the following:

- 1) *Muskatipple*
- 2) *Cripple*
- 3) *Flapple*
- 4) *Champipple*

I believe that #'s 1 and 4 are a blend made with 'Ripple'. I've never heard of the other two so I'll just guess Cripple!

It was a trick question. They are all real. Each of these wines is a hybrid popularized by Redd Fox's character on 70's sitcom *Sanford and Son*. Since you were kind enough to limit your answers to the bare minimum of words, I will attempt to fill some of the empty space



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with descriptions of each of Fred's concoctions:

- 1) *Muscatel and Ripple: Muskatipple*
- 2) *Cream and Ripple: Cripple*
- 3) *Ripple that's gone flat: Flapple*
- 4) *Ginger Ale and Ripple: Champipple*

BumWine.com ranks Thunderbird as having the worst taste of any of the cheaper popular wines. MD 20/20 is ranked as having a better flavor, but comes in much lower than Thunderbird in the "getting wasted" category. In your expert opinion, is flavor really that important when drinking to forget?

Expert opinion? Not important at all.

As a server at Utopia restaurant you must have had some bad encounters with surly customers. Share with us one of your worst, please.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

FROM THE BOARD

What's Happening

By Frank Flores, President.

We had our first meeting with the **new board** recently! I will remain as President, Rick Blackshere will remain as Treasurer and Dennis Cornax has agreed to stay on the board and will serve as 2nd Vice President. New additions include Eddie Stanton as Secretary and Jennifer Skaife is 1st Vice President. She is replacing Ryan Stack who has resigned from the board!

We discussed ongoing problems with the building and new ideas and projects were proposed! We had a good meeting and I am very excited about the prospects of the new year with our new board!

Hope to see you at the board meeting on March 3 at 7pm in the solarium. ☺

SOCIAL STUFF

March Mixer: 3/14

By Geronimo Quitariano

Hello residents of the Lafayette! Did you miss the fabulous holiday party in December? Or couldn't make the Annual Meeting last month? Or are Tuesday nights bad for you? Or maybe you can't wait until our next Lafayette social event? Well the waiting is over. In a few weeks the Social Committee will hold a **March Mixer!**



Details are below:

WHERE: Solarium

WHEN: Saturday March 14, 2009 from 10:30am to noon.

WHAT: A social mixer / March birthdays / First day of Spring / St. Patty's Day / Board meet and greet / committee recruitment drive event. Enjoy FREE bagels, fruit, donuts, coffee and juice. A few spirited folks (like me) can enjoy some morning Mimosas, Bloody Mary's and Rice Rockets (Horchata with Malibu rum) for a small fee to offset the cost of alcohol!

WHO IS INVITED: Everyone! New and longtime residents, homeowners, tenants, board members, committee heads, office staff and those celebrating March birthdays (go Pisceans!). St. Patty's Day or spring attire is encouraged.

WHY: A pure social event to get neighbors to interact! A great way to meet members of the new board. A chance to join a Lafayette committee!

Hope to see you there! Keep an eye out for flyers! If you'd like to help out or have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me at (562) 435-4775 or email at gpolaroid@mac.com.☺

LAFAYETTE GENERAL INFORMATION

2009 BOARD MEMBERS

Rick Blackshere 949-290-5473 Unit 742 andnod@yahoo.com	Jennifer Skaife 818-307-6437 Unit 656 jmskaife@mac.com
Dennis Cornax 619-925-5897 Unit 503 dionysus6652@yahoo.com	Eddie Stanton 562-435-1297 Unit 534 estantonca@yahoo.com
Frank Flores Unit 858 562-491-5511 or 310-383-4342 Ffloresreps4u@aol.com	

LAFAYETTE OFFICE

Sharon Hays Unit 354 562-436-5391 office 562-499-9979 cell lafayet@charterinternet.com	Geronimo Quitariano Unit 505 562-435-4775 home 818-448-0663 cell gpolaroid@mac.com
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BUILDING TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Fire Alarm*	Simplex Grinnell	888-746-7539	Acct# 200-2187 <i>*Call in case of false alarm</i>
Plumbers	Albanos Plumbing	562-924-2565	
	Rescue Rooter	562-423-7911	
	Robinette Plumbing	562-244-0198	
	RPB Plumbing	562-925-2838	
Laundry	Web Laundry Service	800-421-6897	
Cable	Charter Cable	866-499-8080	
Police	Non emergency	562-435-6711	
Trash* (Oversize pick-up)	Contact the office	562-436-5391	<i>*\$55 for the 1st item / \$28 for each additional item</i>
Pest Control	Contact the office	562-436-5391	
Appliance Repair	Arrow Appliances	949-274-1005	

A VIEW FROM THE 6TH FLOOR

Struck Dumb In Downtown Long Beach

by Thomas Wasper

It had just turned dark outside and we were giving the dogs a final walk before retiring for the evening in front of the television. We walked down Ocean Boulevard past the Long Beach Performing Arts Center where the TED Conference was taking place. I tried to talk our way past the security guards and into the fenced off courtyard of the Performing Arts Center, but it was to no avail. The TED-hired security wasn't buying my fancy, smooth talk on this night. We continued on and crossed the street at Long Beach Boulevard with Jen and her dog Manfred trailing behind. So it was that I was the first to spot Robin Williams.

My dog, Sweet Dee, ran up and began jumping on him.

"Sorry" I mumbled. At least I think I did. I gotta admit I was pretty starstruck. I reached out to Jen and squeezed her arm without taking my eyes off the Oscar® winning actor in front of me, trying to convey to her that we were in the midst of real Hollywood celebrity!

Manfred joined Sweet Dee in jumping on Robin Williams and he bent down to pet the dogs. Jen smiled and said, "His name is Manfred. He's got really bad breath."

I wasn't sure if Jen realized who this was she was talking to. She was pretty calm. I still couldn't talk. I just stood there trying to act cool while a lazy smile that I hoped was coming off as serenely amused and not borderline retarded played across my lips. As it turned out I needn't have worried how I looked. Nobody was paying any attention to me. Robin Williams was playing with the dogs and repeating Manfred's name in various zany voices.

"Manfred! (*Deep-voice*) Manfred! (*High pitched-voice*) Manfred! (*Irish Brogue-voice*) Manfred! (*Gay guy-voice? Mike Tyson?*) Manfred!"

He went on with this like he would never run out of different accents to use. I stood stock still in my cool guy pose imbecilic smile plastered on my face. This terminal bashfulness only ever happened to me when I had smoked marijuana. It's why I don't smoke marijuana. Or hang out with celebrities.

Jen said, "That's Sweet Dee!" when Robin William's attention moved from Manfred to my dog.

"I'm Sweet Dee and you're my man, Manfred" Robin Williams said in a voice reminiscent of man-hungry, next door neighbor Willona Woods from 70's TV show *Good Times*. "And even though your breath smells like you've been eating kitty litter, I'm going to kiss you anyways!"

Robin Williams was doing a comedy routine about our dogs on the sidewalk of our city just down the street from where we lived and I was struck dumb to the point that I was practically comatose! I had to say something or I'd never forgive myself.

I steeled my nerves, cleared my throat and squeaked out, "Take it easy!"

And with that, Jen and I turned our dogs toward home and I immediately entangled Robin Williams, who had turned in the same direction at that same moment, in Sweet Dee's retractable leash.

"Sorry" I said as I lifted the line so he could climb through.

"That was Robin Williams! I know!" We said to each other as soon as he turned into the Westin Hotel driveway.

"I should have asked him to do Mork," I said regaining my smartass-edness now that he was safely out of earshot. ♪



FROM THE GREEN COMMITTEE

Recycling Coming Soon To All Trash Closets Near You

By *Amanda Montano and Ryan Stack*



Over four months ago, the Green Committee began a **recycling program** on the 4th & 5th floors. In this time, we have established a system and we are now rolling out recycling to every floor. In the past, there have been two trash cans in every trash closet and if a resident wanted to recycle, they would have to walk their items down to the recycling dumpster. Starting in **March**, we will be changing one of the containers in the trash closet to be designated specifically for Recyclables.

The following are recyclable:

Plastic, Glass, Cans, Paper

Please help us to make the Lafayette and our world a nicer place to live.

Thank you for your help. If you have any questions or concerns you can contact us:

Amanda Montano

President, Lafayette Green Committee

meowmontano2@yahoo.com

310 989-1281

Ryan Stack

Vice President, Lafayette Green Committee

ryansheamusstack@yahoo.com

562 857-7476 📞

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR CONT. FROM PAGE 1

There have been many interesting encounters at Utopia. The most memorable being getting sneezed on while serving someone Tomato Basil soup...and accidentally laughing afterwards.

Who is Glenn Friesen and why should we care?

Glenn Friesen is a tall man with a red beard and you should care because I love him!

Same question regarding Kittikins.

Kittikins is my cat. You should care because he's fabulous.

I read in your biography that you enjoy art galleries. Are you an artist as well?

I am not. I wish I had some sort of artistic talent! Viewing other peoples work is much more gratifying.

I'm pretty sure I covered everything, but feel free to ask yourself a question you think I should have.

Shaken or stirred? 🍷

🍷 March Green Tips 🍷

- **Unplug** all electric devices when not in use. If you don't unplug them from the wall socket, they will continue using energy even when switched off.
- When you're in the market for a new computer, consider a **laptop**. It saves space, goes anywhere and uses five times less energy than desktop models.
- Instead of sending old rugs, towels, sheets & blankets to the landfill, take them to the Long Beach **animal shelter**.
- Take a **reusable coffee mug** each time you go get coffee. Think of all the paper/Styrofoam cups you'll prevent from ending up in the landfills
- The power of one: if every U.S. home replaced just standard incandescent one light bulb with an Energy Star **fluorescent bulb**, we'd save enough energy to light 3 million homes for a year. 🌱

WELCOME

New Residents

Unit 452	Kari Hutson
Unit 524	Waynee Leonard

Welcome to the Lafayette!

TO ALL RESIDENTS:

Remember no bicycles in the main lobby. Window coverings must be white or off-white and the two green dumpsters in the garden are for recycling only! 📧



ABOVE THE CROWD



LAFAYETTE LIVING TREASURES

Commerical Condo: Office rents are going up in Long Beach. Why rent when you can own this large office condo in our building for less than a monthly rent check? Unit #290 is carpeted, has a full bath, a large window and is situated in a quiet section of the Broadway building. Entertain your clients in the solarium and they will remain clients forever. List price: \$129,900.

Studio: Are you creative? This is a great opportunity to design your own space in a true studio in the Lafayette building. While the space may appear small, the price likewise is small : \$99,900.

As of February 26, 2009, there are 79 homes in 90802 which are priced under \$200,000. If you have thought about buying a personal residence or investment property you may never see an better opportunity than now. Contact me if you have any questions on the home buying process or if you want any information on any property in Long Beach.

Jack Nendel
RE/MAX College Park Realty
#280, Broadway building
562-754-9941
Jack.nendel@verizon.net
www.housingsolutionsbyjack.com

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Who's Who at the Lafayette

2009 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Frank Flores
 1st VP: Jennifer Skaife
 2nd VP: Dennis Cornax
 Secretary: Eddie Stanton
 Treasurer: Rick Blackshere

ffloresreps4u@aol.com
jmskaife@mac.com
dionysus6652@yahoo.com
estantonca@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 Cell: 562-499-9979
 Email: **lafayet@charterinternet.com**
Reminder: Meeting minutes may be viewed at the office.

What is covered by your monthly association fee?

- Maintenance of common areas: lobbies, hallways, stairwells, elevators, laundry rooms, gym and the solarium.
- Water, hot and cold.
- Property insurance on all commercial property owned by the Association as well as common area Liability Insurance.
- Office Management services, supplies and equipment.
- Electrical supplies and maintenance for all interior and exterior lighting.
- Janitorial services for all common areas.
- Pest control services.
- Secure Access for entry door / elevators and intercom system maintenance.
- Plumbing repairs and maintenance in common areas.
- Rubbish collection and recycling services.
- Professional services: Accounting and Legal. 

Calendar

Tuesday, March 3, 2009

Board Meeting
 7pm in 11th floor Solarium

Saturday, March 14, 2009

March Mixer
 Mingle with your neighbors, Board Members, Committee Heads, Office Staff and celebrate March birthdays while enjoying drinks and snacks!
 10:30am to Noon
 in the 11th floor Solarium

NEWSLETTER TEAM

FRANK FLORES

SHARON HAYS

AMANDA MONTANO

GERONIMO QUITORIANO

RYAN STACK

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.