



THE LETTER

LAFAYETTE ASSOCIATION OF HOMEOWNERS, INC. NEWSLETTER

FROM THE BOARD

What's Happening

By Jennifer Skaife, President

Over the past month we have seen our new neighborhood street lights officially switched on, and the 1st street planting completed. I have heard a variety of comments about the lights, some good, some not so good! One thing we all seem to agree upon is that increased lighting levels on our streets is a positive thing and serves as a deterrent to



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vandalism and generally unsocial behavior.

At this point I wish to bring everyone's attention to the matter of our building's **security**. We have been in the unfortunate position of dealing with the police regarding a **break-in** within the Lafayette. Suffice to say security was breached, and our Rules and Regulations violated in the extreme. Fortunately

nobody was hurt. We cannot emphasize enough the need for us all to familiarize ourselves with the Rules & Regulations, and apply them! It is not OK to give our fobs and keys to anyone at all for their use under any circumstances. Only legitimate residents of the Lafayette are entitled to access, and should you have guests please go to the lobby, meet them and accompany them to your unit, also escort them out. Not only is this a common courtesy to a guest, but also is a vital action to help preserve the integrity of our building.

We have been in the unfortunate position of dealing with the police regarding a break-in within the Lafayette.

We are planning to increase our exterior lighting and install many more cameras. As a matter of interest it was as a result of our **video footage** that the police detained the main perpetrator of the break-in. As a homeowner or tenant-resident consider your responsibilities to not only yourself but also your neighbors and our community as a whole, and please do not let people you either do not know, or know are not residents, into the building or fob them up an elevator. If they have legitimate business here, their host will be down to greet them and afford them entry. It is not impolite to leave someone outside--it is practicing wise caution.

On another note I want to introduce you to the kind of **e-mails** that we, the board sometimes receive. I quote an excerpt from one, addressed to me, copied to the other board members and I have taken the liberty of deleting the expletives:

Continued on next page

"I was struck by your comment, in the "from the board" article, that the gym is a "great amenity." Seriously, why is it 100% acceptable that LAHO's amenities/common areas are painted, equipped, decorated, etc. to such an absolute level of mediocrity,It ends with....it's ***** ugly and/or it's a piece of ****!) Seriously, if you, and everyone else, wouldn't be caught dead with it in your house, why is it LAHO's standard?"

There is a saying...something along the lines of the impossibility of pleasing all of the people all of

concerned, and I concede, there is always room for improvement. If you are unhappy with how we, the board of volunteers, do business, you can (and do!) let us know. If you want things to change however, get involved beyond a personal level: join or form a **committee**, present ideas, gain an understanding of how and why things happen or do not happen, stand for the Board next year, fix what you deem unsatisfactory.

For everyone's information and to help clarify, the monthly **Association dues** paid by owners are the main source of money for our

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the time, just being able to please some of the people some of the time. Obviously the gym, among other things, is not up to par as far as this resident is

buildings maintenance and improvements, so paying these in full, on time, and remaining current is how we can consider funding any future improvements.

We have been advised by our attorney that it is not in the best interest of either the Homeowners or individual Board members to be directly receiving or responding to any personal e-mails or phone calls, and that all contact between homeowners and the Board be solely through the office. Consequently if you have something you wish to bring before us as a homeowner please e-mail:

lafayet@charterinternet.com

with attn: LAHO Board in the subject line

or write to us at:

140 Linden Ave, Long Beach, CA 90802

attn: LAHO Board of Directors

On a lighter note, we anticipate the **Bike Shop** moving into 540 Broadway soon, we are exploring options for some storage spaces for residents, and the new Bike Storage area design is progressing.

Summer is nearly over and the as usual the weather is heating up! Stay cool, stay patient and check in on your neighbors. Maybe you have an extra fan you could lend them, maybe they have one you could borrow. Where I come from, sharing a pot of tea and biscuits in the afternoon is just something we do. You never know, someone may just have the kettle on! ☺



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING



**Tuesday, September 8, 2009
7:00 p.m. in the Solarium
Campbell 11th floor**

Meeting agenda is forthcoming

Refreshments will be served

Note: 2nd Tuesday this month

FROM THE MANAGER

Condo Comments

By Sharon Hays



Would you like to receive your **statement by e-mail** instead of the hard copy that you currently receive? I have noticed over time that most, or at least a lot of people, do not even

glance at the statements that are provided. So, if the answer is yes, then just forward your request and e-mail address to the office at **lafayet@charterinternet.com**. You will also receive a copy of the newsletter, in color, each month with your statement.

If the office already has your e-mail address we will be sending a hard copy of the statement as well as an e-mail this month only. This will provide a sample for you before you make the final decision to change. I hope to hear from many of you prior to next months mailing.

Resident Mark Hawks is volunteering his services to update the **Lafayette website** (www.lafayettelb.org). If you have comments or suggestions, please email him at hawksm@charter.net.

Speaking of the web, the association will soon be offering **free wi-fi** access in the Main Lobby. The hours will be Monday - Friday from 6pm to 10pm and Saturday-Sunday from 6am to 10pm. Keep an eye out for signs regarding the rollout! ☞

WELCOME TO THE LAFAYETTE

New Resident

Unit 428 Steven Sanders

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! No trash please. ☞

Call for Books!

If you have any good used books you'd like to get rid of (especially murder mysteries for resident fan Susan Phinney), donate them to the Lafayette's lobby library!



FOR RENT

- Studio** **\$1,045** 562-826-6140
 5th floor condo (628 sq. ft.), ocean view, includes utilities and parking space. Building has fitness room and solarium. Pets OK!
- 1 bed** **\$1,150** 323-423-2285
 7th floor condo (630 sq. ft.) with an ocean view.
- 1 bed** **\$1,800** 562-685-3796
 3rd floor condo, spacious 1 bedroom (1,100 sq ft), hardwood floors. Pets OK. Fitness room and solarium.
- 1 bed** **\$1,200** 949-290-5473
 4th floor condo (701 sq ft) front unit in Campbell building, large kitchen, original mahogany doors and moldings.
- 1 bed** **\$995** 562-634-2622 or
562-213-7673
 3rd floor condo (642 sq ft), Broadway building. Avail. Sept. 1st.
- 1 bed** **\$1,195** 510-467-8795
 5th floor condo (556 sq ft), city view, new paint, Broadway building
- 1 bed** **\$1,450** 949-290-9482
 8th floor condo (750 sq ft), corner unit, ocean and city views
- 2 bed, 2 bath** **562-673-0398**
 8th floor condo (1,200 sq ft), ocean view, Campbell building. Completely furnished, ready for move in NOW! Ask for Charlotte.

FOR SALE

- Commercial Condo** **562-453-5870**
 \$125,000; 272 sq ft
- Commercial Condo** **562-754-9941**
 \$129,000; 268 sq ft



www.thelafayettelb.org
 140 Linden Avenue Long Beach California 90802 562.456.5591 Fax 562.456.8762

OUT ABOUT TOWN



By Rozzie Rainbow

I was asked my Geronimo to write a blurb on Karaoke, and I believe he asked me to because each time he asks me how I am, or what I am doing the answer is, Karaokeing!

Being a new resident to The Lafayette and Long Beach, I am thrilled to find that karaoke is huge here, and karaoke venues plentiful, though I've many yet to discover.

A very nearby venue is **Clancy's** (Alamitos and E. Broadway), a charming Irish pub. KJ Tom Terrific is your karaoke host on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9pm to midnight. For the last few weeks, Clancy's has been hosting a karaoke contest, and the semi-finals will be September 2nd, and the finals will be on September 12th. See who will go on to win the grand prize of \$2100!

I was happy to learn that right across the street **Hamburger Mary's** has karaoke as well. They have karaoke contests every Tuesday and Wednesday nights from 9pm to midnight, with a cash prize of \$50 on Tuesday night, and \$100 on Wednesday night. KJ Freakuency is your host on Tuesdays and Adrian on Wednesdays. And you must meet special host "Jewels" who adds to the charm and fun of your singing experience! After karaoke, you can dance to your hearts delight till 2am. I hear they have great hamburgers.

Going a bit out of our neighborhood, I found a few little karaoke bars that are quite fun and cozy. There is **Daly's** on South street, a cozy friendly bar. You can sing Wednesdays to Saturdays from 8pm to midnight, and Sundays from 3pm to 8pm. A five

day a week venue. Yay! There are different KJ's each night. A pool table is there for your enjoyment as well. Friendly people and staff.

Moving on down the line, **AJ's Irish Harp**, on Paramount Blvd is a fabulous little bar, with Jimmy hosting karaoke on Fridays 8p to 2am and Christine hosting karaoke Sunday nights from 7pm to midnight. There is also separate area that houses two pool tables for your enjoyment. You'll find fabulous singers at AJ's, do stop by and sing, or just listen.

Zanzukan is another bar that you will enjoy singing at on Paramount Blvd in Lakewood. With it's low seductive bamboo ceilings, it feels a bit tropical. Their karaoke nights are Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays from 7:30 to midnight, and Fridays 9pm to 1am, Saturdays 7:30p to 1am.

Going a little bit further from home, you must try **Michael's Sports Pub and Grill** in Westminster. They have karaoke on Tuesday nights from 9pm to 1am, with host KJ Tom Terrific who will rock the house. On Tuesdays it is also \$1 taco day! You must try these tacos, they are fabulous! I won't tell you how many I had....okay, 6! There is a second open level which houses the pool tables, and you are able to look down to the floor below to see the singers. It's a large venue, yet cozy.

Being the Karaoke Queen addict that I am, I was going through withdrawals learning that Mondays seemed to be a dark night for Karaoke....until **The Red Dog Saloon** pulled me through my glum to glory! They have karaoke on Mondays from 9pm to midnight, with KJ host Christine, who is also at AJ's Irish Harp on Sundays. You can play some pool there too, while listening to the singers.

So as I continue my singing journey to find more Karaoke venues, I hope you'll go out and sing like everybody's listening! It is by far one of the most stress releasing things one can do! And let's face it, you do sing in the shower! In fact, I may have heard you while passing your front door!

Feel free to contact me at RozzieRainbow@aol.com if you have any karaoke questions, or can share any karaoke news of your own. Perhaps we will have a **Lafayette Karaoke Festivity**, here soon!

Live happy, Live Karaoke!🎤

A VIEW FROM THE 6TH FLOOR

Old Habits Die Hard

By Thomas Wasper

What am I doing here?

I look around at my teammates in the Justin Rudd **Long Beach Losers** weight loss contest.

If they're apprehensive about this, it doesn't show on their faces.

So, why am I full of doubt about the decision we've made?

We're signed up, weighed in and ready to begin the next 3 months of healthy eating and exercise.

The reward at the end is a shiny new body and if that weren't enough how about \$35,000 in **prize money** as motivation?

I don't think there's one of us on this team that doesn't need that money.

Some of us desperately.

So, what are we doing bellying up to the bar at House of Hayden where we've been since the weigh-in a half hour earlier?

I don't suppose there were too many other teams that thought it was a good idea to hold their first team meeting drinking at a bar, even if it is vodka, which supposedly has less calories than other forms of alcohol, although we've perhaps mitigated that effect by ordering Cosmos, but Sweet Jesus, they're tasty and as a result spirits are high and rising at the Selfish Causes (I already had the t-shirts, so it just made sense) inaugural team meeting.

And the more we drink the more determined we are that that prize money is in the bag!

Shouts of encouragement can be heard above the din of the bar.

"If anybody wants to work out with me at my building's gym--let me know!"

"I've got a Pilates machine at my house that you're all welcome to use!"

"Bartender, I wanna buy another round of drinks for the greatest team in the history of **weight loss contests!**"

It's now Monday morning and I realize that I never stopped drinking after that pep rally last Wednesday.

Oh sure, I have reasons, but they're little more than sweet beautiful drunk talk, really.

I also have hazy memories of insisting we look for BBQ at 2 in the morning, and although I'm pretty sure we never

found any, I seem to recall a taxi ride through the **Jack In The Box** drive-thru, which would go far in explaining why there was a pickle in my hair when I finally **r e g a i n e d** consciousness.

Anyways, that was then and this is a brand **new day**.

And with two days before we report to our next weigh-in, I think I've learned something about where we should, or better, shouldn't hold our future team meetings.

I mean, seriously, how many drinks do the four of us have to order before we get one bought back?

So, if you're a bar interested in sponsoring our Justin Rudd Long Beach Losers team meetings, let us know. We're **Selfish Causes** and we have a problem drinking. ☞



Photo by Geronimo Quitoriano

THOSE WERE THE DAYS...

From the Archives

Editor's Note: The following commentary originally ran 20 years ago in the September 1, 1989 Lafayette Letter.

**** COMMENTARY ****

PRIDE IN OUR BUILDING

By Scott Hunt

A lot of people have expressed concern over the condition of the buildings, as well as the quality of some of the residents. I realize that not all people have the same kind of pride or concern where they live, but the abuse by some (owners and tenants alike) cannot continue to be tolerated.

I personally feel that this lack of pride reflects a persons attitude about themselves. I have heard of and seen people letting their animals urinate in the

hallways and elevators or putting out their cigarettes out on the carpet or dropping almost anything in the lobby or elevators without cleaning it up.

That is not acceptable behavior. If you see something of this nature happening and you know who the person is or what unit they live in, report it to the office. These people must be held responsible for their actions.

If you suspect illegal activity (drug dealing, prostitution, etc.) let the office know (anonymously, if you wish) so that we can coordinate with the police to stop this activity in our building. The Lafayette

The Lafayette is far from a lost cause, but we need pride, concern and cooperation in order to clean it up.

is far from a lost cause, but we need pride, concern and cooperation in order to clean it up.

If you are interested in helping with some small project along with other concerned residents of you know of something that needs to be done, please contact the office at (213) 436-5391 and leave a message. THIS INCLUDES RENTERS TOO!!!.

Breathe into the light of you.....

*** Chakra Balance Massage**

Boosts the immune system; Assists in restoring your energy that may be depleted; Spiritual, emotional, and physical presence realized

*** Healing and energy stimulation**

Specializing in injuries

*** Spiritual and life transformation coach**

Assisting in aiding your emotional and spiritual well being

*** Meditation guidance**

Guided meditation practice



Please call **Rozzie Rainbow 310-779-9191**

to arrange for your appointment.

Rozzierainbow@aol.com

** Special rates for Lafayette residents.

Live Happy!



Photo by Moriah Sembower

generosity that the Lafayette residents provided when they offered their own bread. Almost every resident passing by was so kind to offer a few bucks. Then there were those who gave \$20, \$50 or \$100. All of the donations were counted at the end of the day totaling \$509. This far exceeded our \$300 goal.

We also would like to give a special thanks

FUNDRAISING STUFF

The Bread Smelled Good

By Ryan Stack

If you passed by the front entrance of the Lafayette on Sunday, Aug. 30th, you may have noticed a large purple tent with myself and my lovely wife Amanda (Mandy) Montano. It was a blistering 89 degrees in Long Beach as we began to set up for what we hoped to be a success. One day earlier, Mandy spent close to 10 hours in our very warm non-air-conditioned condo baking every type of cookie and cake that she knew how.

Not only did she slave away in the kitchen all day and night but she had to endure the drool dripping down her arm, which was flowing from my mouth as I looked over her shoulder. You would never know it but she has cat-like reflexes, slapping my hand away from a taste test every few minutes.

All of the baked goods smelled great but the most amazing scent that day was the sense of

to **Moriah** (the local resident dog walker). She not only contributed her own delicious homemade blueberry muffins, she also gave her time, helping from beginning to end with any necessary task.

We put on this event to raise money for the **Leukemia & Lymphoma Society**, which Mandy & I committed to raising a combined \$6,400. If anyone else would like to contribute, they can visit Mandy's site at: <http://pages.teamintraining.org/los/malibutro9/amontanj55>

If anyone is interested in making a difference while being properly trained to compete in a major event like a marathon or triathlon, we recommend you get in contact with **Kristine Reed**. With her introduction, we have become involved in a life changing experience that has made us stronger and opened our eyes to the good of people in helping fight a disease that almost everyone has been affected by in one way or another. Thank you Lafayette residents for your neighborly support. We'll keep you posted of any additional fundraising events. ✍️

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Who's Who at the Lafayette

2009 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Jennifer Skaife VP: Dennis Cornax
 Secretary: Eddie Stanton VP: Irene Bisson
 Treasurer: Rick Blackshere

CONTACT THE BOARD

In **writing**: Each board member has a mailbox in the office. All written comments will be addressed in a timely manner. Or you may email them through the office: lafayet@charterinternet.com.

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. *Note: 2nd Tuesday this month.*

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.

Calendar

Friday, September 4, 2009

Dual birthdays (same day & year, born 12 hours apart):

Homeowner Julie Nemechek
 & Manager Sharon Hays!

Monday, September 7, 2009

Labor Day Holiday
 Office Closed

Tuesday, September 8, 2009

Board Meeting
 7pm @ 11th floor Solarium
 Note: 2nd Tuesday this month

Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, September 8, 2009

7pm in the Solarium

- **Call to Order**
- **Open Forum** (3 min each homeowner)
- **Minutes** from August 4, 2009 approval
- **President's Report:** Jennifer Skaife
- **Treasurer's Report:** Rick Blackshere
- **Committee Reports** (Commercial Properties, Social, Historical & Nonprofit, Bicycle Room, Gym, Storage)
- **Old Business** (Painting Lafayette/Broadway Buildings; Security Guards)
- **New Business** (Security Camera options around building)
- **Adjournment** 

NEWSLETTER TEAM

SHARON HAYS
 GERONIMO QUITORIANO
 MORIAH SEMBOWER
 JENNIFER SKAIFE
 RYAN STACK
 ROZZIE RAINBOW
 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: GPOLAROID@MAC.COM.