



# THE LETTER

LAFAYETTE ASSOCIATION OF HOMEOWNERS, INC. NEWSLETTER



failures, as with 20/20 hindsight, they demand so little imagination! Looking into the **future**, without filtering it through the past is a lot harder. Our Board, comprised of lay volunteers as stipulated by law, do the best we can, what we can, to the best of our abilities, which in my opinion are extremely fine, and to the best of our availability. We each have the best interests of the LAHO at heart. If we did not we would not have volunteered!

This year did not begin without its' challenges! The biggest **storm** for many years hit us hard. We must be grateful that all of our roofing projects were completed last year as, considering the rainfall, we survived

relatively soundly! There were **leaks**, true, but now we know where they are and can properly address them one by one.

The most significant issue was the water penetration through the wall to the **Fire Alarm Panel**. Those of you that were here need no further description of having the alarms screaming for several hours until being disabled. That put us on "Fire Watch" for several days. The panel was repaired, but is not without a glitch or two. The important thing is that not once were we put at risk, due to the thorough coverage of our buildings by the Fire Watch crews.

**FROM THE BOARD**

## What's Happening

*By Jennifer Skaike, President*

Our Annual Homeowners meeting was held on Tuesday, January 26, 2010. There were **two Board seats** confirmed by virtue of your votes. Over 175 votes were proffered and both Joe Hill and myself were duly elected. At our next meeting in March the positions of each member will be announced, but for now I am 'acting President'.

Rick Blackshere, Treasurer, had the challenging job of presenting the accounts for 2009 and the Budget for 2010 and did a great job, Money, it seems is a sensitive subject and I for one commend him for remaining calm and objective in the face of some tension.

We look forward to the upcoming year being **solution** oriented. It is so easy to dwell on past

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Great progress is being made in **144 Linden**; we are close to completing our part of the work prior to District Wine carrying on with their improvements. They are scheduled to open in April, so watch that space, as I know there will be a party!

Our Commercial property is beginning to fill up, and we will do our best to continue to seek tenants, as this is an important source of income for the Association.

Finally, I am again going to bring up the matter **dogs**. We are well known for being a dog-friendly



**c o n d o m i n i u m** complex, but we do have Rules and Regulations. I have written about them before but wish to remind you all that there is only **ONE (1)** dog per unit. This has

been in the R&R's for years. Last year we decided to enforce the rule, allowing a grandfathering in of those residents who already had two dogs at that time. However not only are we now enforcing the one dog issue, all dogs must be licensed with the City of Long Beach and we will require **proof of licensing**. Failure to secure or renew a dog license is a violation of L.B.M.C 6.08.010, the City Ordinance. Here is the webpage link for more information: [http://www.longbeach.gov/acs/pet\\_license/default.asp](http://www.longbeach.gov/acs/pet_license/default.asp) and where there is a link to the licensing application form. It can be downloaded in .pdf. You can also go to Animal Services to obtain a license over the counter. Among other things, you will need a current proof of rabies inoculation certificate to obtain the license.

**There is only one dog per unit.**

We are doing a **'dog census'** over the next month and following up with a request for the copy of your current City of Long Beach Dog License. This applies to both homeowners and tenants.

It is the interests for us all to abide by the Law and comply with our City Ordinances, so please, if you have not already got a license, do it in February.

Have a great month, and enjoy the lengthening days. 🐾

**FROM THE MANAGER**

# Condo Comments

*By Sharon Hays*

California, it's time to adopt a new habit. One of our most important resources is in trouble, and we need to do everything we can to protect it today and into the future.

Environmental problems, the pressures of a growing population and the effects of climate change are making it extremely difficult to keep water flowing reliably to our economy, our environment, our farms and our communities.

The good news is that it's not difficult to save water in our daily lives. Just as Californians have embraced compact-fluorescent light bulbs and recycling, we can get into the habit of reducing our water use inside and outside our homes on a daily basis. Small changes in our daily habits can add up to a big difference for California:



- \* Install low-flow shower heads. (Save: 2.5 Gallons)
- \* Take five minute showers instead of 10 minute showers. (Save: 12.5 gallons with a low flow showerhead, 25 gallons with a standard 5.0 gallon per minute showerhead)
- \* Fill the bathtub halfway or less. (Save: 12 Gallons)
- \* Install a high-efficiency toilet. (Save: 19 Gallons Per Person/Day Find Rebates)
- \* Install aerators on bathroom faucets. (Save: 1.2 Gallons Per Person/Day)
- \* Turn water off when brushing teeth or shaving. (Save: Approximately 10 Gallons/Day)
- \* Don't use the toilet as wastebasket and get dripping faucets repaired! 🐾

**MAKING THE LAFAYETTE A BETTER PLACE**

# Volunteers

*By Geronimo Quitoriano*

At the annual homeowners meeting a few residents were singled out for their contributions to the Lafayette during the past year. As a residential community, a lot of what we enjoy is due to the hard work of people like you:

**Sumi & Tony Agena** for their work on the gardening committee.

**Ed Couthie** who worked tirelessly on the commercial property committee, especially in regards to the 540 Broadway revamp.

**Matt Fortlage** who assembled all the new gym equipment.

**Steve Harris** whose band performed gratis at the holiday party and even donated their holiday CD as a raffle prize.

**Mark Hawks** who has been instrumental in making our website more functional (calendar, downloadable forms). Check it out at thelafayettelb.org.

**Sharon Hays** for her work on the garden and patio as well as all her holiday decorating skills.

**Derrick Lloyd** spearheaded the purchase of all the new gym equipment.

**Joanne Lovejoy** for her inspirational newsletter articles.

**Jack Nendel** for all his work on the nonprofit wing of the Lafayette as well as his overseeing of the Navy Grant camel restoration.

**Annie Proffit** was a fundraising wunderkind getting some cool holiday party raffle items.

**Geronimo Quitoriano** for editing the newsletter and planning social events throughout the year.

**Wally Wasko** for his help in delivering our beautiful holiday tree and then recycling it afterwards!

**Thom Wasper** for his witty Meet Your Neighbor and View from the 6th floor newsletter articles and photos!

Also, with the alarm panel water damage, the Long Beach Fire Department put the Lafayette on mandatory fire watch, which meant individuals had to patrol the building and hallways every 30 minutes to make sure our building was safe. Here's to those that contributed 49 volunteer hours during that critical first day and night:



**WELCOME TO THE LAFAYETTE**

## New Residents

- Unit 616 Aaron Moore**
- Unit 634 The Lira Family**
- Unit 858 Pritesh and family**

ALL RESIDENTS: Remember no bicycles in the Main Lobby. Window coverings must be white or off-white! In the trash closets, put trash in the black bag and recycling in the clear bag! ☞

- |                           |                        |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Glenn Agoncillo</b>    | <b>Jeff Burns</b>      |
| <b>"Buddha" Chiancola</b> | <b>Fred Chun</b>       |
| <b>Sharon Hays</b>        | <b>Joanne Lovejoy</b>  |
| <b>Malou Mariano</b>      | <b>Amanda Montano</b>  |
| <b>Onno</b>               | <b>Bill Petersen</b>   |
| <b>Susan Phinney</b>      | <b>Geronimo</b>        |
| <b>Steve Sanders</b>      | <b>Moriah Sembower</b> |
| <b>Jennifer Skaife</b>    | <b>Wayne Stuck</b>     |
| <b>Sumako</b>             | <b>Jim Thompsen</b>    |
| <b>Mandana Visi</b>       |                        |

Thank you everyone! ☞

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

# Who's Who at the Lafayette

2010 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rick Blackshere	Jennifer Skaife
Dennis Cornax	Eddie Stanton
Joe Hill	

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](mailto: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.

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](mailto:lafayet@charterinternet.com)

**Reminder**: Meeting minutes may be viewed at the office or are available for download on our website [thelafayettelb.org](http://thelafayettelb.org).

**BREAKING NEWS**

## Announcements

- Longtime resident **Sam Mathews** (Unit 728) recently passed away on February 4 at St. Mary's Medical Center. He has been a homeowner and resident in the Lafayette for over 30 years. He is survived by his wife Regina, his children and grandchildren.
- Elevator technician **Gary Martin** of KONE Elevator (formerly RS Elevator) passed away in January after injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident. He worked on the Lafayette elevators for many years and retrieved quite a few dropped keys in the elevator shaft for residents! His professionalism and affable personality will be missed.
- After the rainstorm and fire alarm water damage, the alarm system went off. As a reminder, in an **emergency** please exit the building and go to the **safe refuge area** in the alley behind the dumpsters and garden area. You can access this area via Atlantic Avenue, First Street or pushing open the emergency gate behind the dumpsters.
- Also, one homeowner noted that a nonresident individual might have tried to get into his unit during the false alarm and ensuing confusion. Please **lock your doors** when exiting the building to protect your property.

## Calendar

**February 2010**

NO BOARD MEETING  
 SCHEDULED THIS MONTH

See you in March!

## NEWSLETTER TEAM

SHARON HAYS  
 GERONIMO QUITORIANO  
 JENNIFER SKAIFE



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](mailto:GPOLAROID@MAC.COM).