
BELWOOD BELLRINGER

Volume 1 Issue 3

September 2008

2008 Board of Directors

President	Jim Bowen 209-3196
VP	John Bills 358-3027
Treasurer	Dave Klenske 356-9768
Secretary	Ed Sharpe 358-7661
Director	Roy Chadwick 356-5431
Director	Behnam Ahmadian 356-5276
Director	Josh Lamour 221-7813
Director	Todd Harris 358-2229
Director	Scott Sullivan 356-3503
Facility Mgr	Gina Wagner 358-2229

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EDITOR'S NOTE – by Jackie Sandoval

Hi Belwood residents, just a short note to say THANK YOU to Charlene Border for doing an awesome job with the Bellringer for the past few years. We all appreciate you, Charlene!

There's lots going on in this issue—if you have suggestions for other news you'd like to see, just drop me a line at: jackiefs@comcast.net

*******PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE***** By Jim Bowen**

Summer is drawing to a close, school is rocketing into another year and the Cabana is quieting down. We will still be active with meetings and indoor activities but the pool will be closing at the end of September. We will be having two major activities in October and December. **The Great Pumpkin Halloween Party, Sunday October 26th** and the **Cabana New Year's Eve, Eve Party, Saturday December 27st**. Be sure to add those dates to your calendar.

On our agenda for September through November, the Board will be preparing the 2009 budget and reviewing possible projects for the coming year. Some items we will be reviewing for the next year will be: replacing the irrigation system for the property, draining the pool, repainting the lane lines, refilling the pool with fresh water, resurfacing the parking lot, and continuing to build the reserves to allow a new pool deck in the near future. We will be mailing out the 2009 budget and all the latest rules and Homeowner regulations for the coming year.

Board elections are coming up in October and we are looking for more people who would like to participate in guiding the direction of the Homeowner Association. Anyone interested in joining the Board should contact a current board member and we will get you an election form.

As you will note, we are delivering hardcopies of the "Bellringer" again as well as electronic copies. If you have not submitted your email address to us, please take the time to do so. We send out four newsletters a year, but there are many times that we have announcements that are easily sent out to our community via email. So stay informed and send us your email (jimb Bowen@comcast.net).



HALLOWEEN PARTY GETS BIGGER AND BETTER!!

Calling all spooks and goblins! Dust off your costumes because the Belwood Halloween party is coming your way with frightful new fun on **Sunday, October 26th**.

3:30pm Games

4:00pm Pizza & drinks for sale

5:00pm Haunted house tours

6:30pm Movies

This year we have added a movie night at the end of the party. Classic Vincent Price horror flicks will be screened after dark, so bring your chairs and sleeping bags, and hope for a full moon! These movies may be a bit too spooky for younger children. Parents, please use your discretion.

We have also planned a raffle, plus some chilling new surprises in the haunted house. And of course, we will have all your old favorite games (powdered donuts, anyone?), pizza and drinks for sale, and the "magic mirror"!

Admission is free, but donations are gladly accepted!

Volunteers are needed to make this happen! If you can help, please contact any of the "Terrifying Trio":

Charleen Renati (charleenrenati@yahoo.com), Stacy Dobner (scdobner@yahoo.com), or Carolyn Wheeler (wheeler.carolyn@gmail.com).



Save The Date

Belwood Cabana New Years Eve, Eve Party!!

Saturday, December 27th

8:00 P.M. to 12:00 A.M

No Host Drinks

Favorite Hors d'oeuvres

Music, and Great Adult Neighbors.

BOARD OF DIRECTOR ELECTIONS FOR 2009

The Belwood Homeowners Association is looking for individuals who would like to help guide the affairs of our association. Please consider becoming a member of our Board of Directors for 2009.

The board of nine members is responsible for oversight of facility maintenance, supervision of employees, and financial planning and tracking. Board members participate in a monthly meeting and may spend a modest amount of time outside of the meeting. This is a great way to get involved and make a valuable contribution to the Belwood community.

Board members are elected by the association homeowners. Those interested in entering their name on the ballot should contact the current board secretary, Ed Sharpe (358-7661, edsharp@comcast.net), by October 7th. Ballots will be sent out in mid-October. At that time candidate statements will be posted on the cabana bulletin board. The results will be tallied at the November 18th Board of Director's meeting. For more information contact Ed or any board member.

BELWOOD DOLPHINS TAKE 2ND AT CHAMPS

The Belwood Dolphins Swim Team placed second at the Valley Cabana Swim League Championships, on July 19th at Valley Christian High School. Although the Dolphins were edged out by a strong Almaden Gator team, Belwood scored an unprecedented 81% improved times at the meet. This means that 81% of ALL Belwood swimmers scored improved times points. This was a tremendous accomplishment—way to go Dolphins!

There were also some strong individual performances by Belwood swimmers. The following Dolphins earned high point trophies: 6 & under boys (Jacob Ryan- 1st; Joseph Sandoval- 2nd); 7/8 boys (Conor Linehan- 4th); 9/10 girls (Alanna Jurich- 4th; Tessa Moses- 5th); 11/12 girls (Layna Auchard- 3rd); 13/14 boys (Nathan Laird- 2nd; Eric Louie- 4th); 13/14 girls (Stephanie Scannell- 2nd); 15-18 boys (Jason Louie- 3rd; Tony Santilli- 5th); 15-18 girls (Hilary Hunt- 1st; Kelsey Conrow- 4th). Great job!

Information about the 2009 season will be available on the team website in February, 2009. Registration will be open to returning swimmers and Belwood residents, in March 2009. Check the website for details: www.belwooddolphins.com.

If you have questions, please contact Katie Baguley (katiebaguley@yahoo.com) or Jackie Sandoval (jackiesandoval@live.com).

NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY BLOTTER

By Josh Lamour, Director, Belwood HOA.

Los Gatos has been the target of a series of auto break-ins “smash and grabs” and open / garage burglaries. We hope this article acts as a friendly reminder for what we can do to help prevent crime in our neighborhood.

“Always be aware of your soundings”, words my dad, a Colonel in the US Army would echo right before he snuck up behind me and put me in a “full nelson”, grabbed my leg, or tested my “inner force”. Tough lessons for a 9 year old, but being aware of my surroundings is a concept I have kept with me since then and hope to teach to my children. I also hope to help bring awareness to our great neighborhood on how we can all help prevent crime.

“Los Gatos is a Neighborhood Watch Community and We Report all Suspicious Activity”— it’s the sign that frames our little oasis of Belwood and we need to remember that the Police encourage our help to assist them if we think that something’s not quite right.

Firstly, close your garage doors and lock your car and front doors. We’ve all been guilty of not doing it, but it’s time we make it a habit. Even if you’re just going to Walgreens or to Peete’s for a few minutes, an open door is an open invitation. The door needs to be closed and locked! Criminals are getting desperate and smart. According to the LGMSPD, *“Items stolen from vehicles generally include: lap top computers, wallets, IPODs, GPS systems, briefcases or backpacks, tools, sunglasses, items of identification, or anything that looks to be of value or possibly containing something of value.”*

Patrol Captain Dave Gravel stated that, *“Los Gatos is generally a safe community however; actions by some of the residents may be encouraging this increase in criminal activity. Theft is generally a crime of opportunity and perpetrators will often seek out those locations where they can commit the crime with little or no deterrence.”*

So, the general rule is: **bring your possessions into your house, lock your car doors, garage doors and front doors.** If you are going on vacation, tell a neighbor to keep an eye on things, don’t let papers **stack** up in the driveway, and take your garbage cans off the street (or have a friend or neighbor help out). These little things can make a big difference in deterring criminals from targeting your home.

Most importantly—if you see something or someone who seems out of place or are doing something that you think isn’t safe for our neighborhood or local park, always feel free to report them to the **LGMSPD at: 408-354-8600 (24-hour non-emergency number)**. Of course if the situation dictates, call 911.

Additional information about crime statistics in the Belwood Homes area is at:
<http://www.crimereports.com>

We’re the eyes and ears of our Belwood Community. Let’s work together to keep our neighborhood friendly and safe!

TREASURER'S REPORT

By Dave Klenske, Director, Belwood HOA.

Another great summer has passed and the kids are back to school. I hope you enjoyed the Cabana club as much as we did. The recent heat wave made me glad to have a pool in which to cool off!

The budget season is in mid-swing, and the board plans to approve the 2009 budget at the September meeting. We've done a good job managing our income and expenses, so there will be no major surprises. Once the budget is passed, we'll be sending it to homeowners in the annual package which includes the reserve study, the legal disclaimers, and other information.

Our YTD finances are looking good. Our income on a cash flow basis is over \$161K, over our annual budget. While most of our income is from dues, we have exceeded our income projections on most other line items as well with five more months left in the year. Our expenses are hitting plan, with no major surprises. We are on track to contribute at least \$24K to our reserve funds, even without taking in consideration about \$4K in interest those funds will earn in 2008. Due to a few recent bank failures, we are considering investment options to ensure we protect our funds and keep FDIC insurance on our deposits.

My 2008 priorities as treasurer are:

- Change from cash flow to accrual based accounting- Mandated by state law- COMPLETED
- Intelligently invest annual operating funds in CDs to maximize investment return- COMPLETED
- Have books audited by independent accounting firm as required by our By-Laws- IN PROCESS

As you can see, we've made a lot of headway so far this year, and expect the audit to be complete in the next month or so. The audit helps ensure proper fiscal management, and we fully expect to pass.

If you have ANY questions, I encourage you to come to a board meeting or contact me directly.

Dave Klenske

Treasurer, Belwood Homeowners Association

408.829.3283

dave@klenske.com

NEED HELP?

Belwood Residents
Free advice to solve home repair,
maintenance, or improvement
problems.

Call: Roy Chadwick
356-5431

BEACH HOUSE:

Aptos Beach House, spacious
3BR/2 bath, short walk to Rio Del
Mar/Seacliff Beach. Available
year-round for monthly, weekly,
mid-week, weekend rental. Call
Sheryl at 408-348-3237

KAUAI CONDO:

Kapaa Kauai Hawaii Condo for
rent. Located in the Pono Kai
Resort on the East Shore Coconut
coast. 2BR/2 bath on ground
floor, facing beach. Full kitchen,
dining and living rooms. Sleeps
6. Swimming pool, clubhouse,
close to shopping. \$165/night.
Call: Sal Leonardi 356-5205

OAHU LUXURY TOWNHOME:

Fabulous, newly furnished Oahu
townhome for rent. 3 BR, 3 BA +
den, 1700+ square feet, 5 min
walk to beach in the luxurious
Coconut Plantation in Ko Olina.
Perfect for families. See our
website for pictures, details and
contact info:

<http://www.koolinahome.com>

NOTARY SERVICES

By appointment- no travel fees
within Belwood, \$10 per
signature per document
(according to CA fee schedule)

Georgia Ricco
Home: 358-3482
Cell: 206-1978
thericcos@comcast.net

FREE Metal Recycling

Appliances, Engine Blocks, Wire.
Any Metal, Free Pickup and
Hauling
S.L. Ross Transport and Salvage
408-235-9800

MONTHLY EVENTS

Belwood Homeowners Board Mtg: Open to all Belwood
members - Cabana Club - 7:30 pm, third Tues. of the
month unless a change is posted on the bulletin board.

Santa Clara Valley Mineral /Gem Society:

Fourth Tuesday of the month.

Please call Kathy McChristian (**Junior Pgm.**) 258-8400 or
Margaret Norten (**Adult Pgm.**) 356-8254

OTHER NEWS:

Schedule Cabana Club:

Gina Wagner 358-2229

Gutters, Roof, Plumbing, Tree Trimming,

You name it! I have a list of workmen who can help you.
Call Gail Bordi, 408-356-8647 or email
gailbordi@yahoo.com

Babysitting Services

Hi my name is Holly Nolan and I live on Westhill Drive and
attend Leigh High School. I am 15 years old and a Red
Cross certified babysitter. I love to be around kids. So if
anyone needs a babysitter give me a call and I'd be glad to
assist! Thanks!! **Holly Nolan 358-7324**

Piano for sale

\$650.00

Everett Console, excellent condition

Nick Border: 408-358-2818

The next newsletter will be in DECEMBER 2008.

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Please email articles to Jackie Sandoval
(jackiefs@comcast.net) by **December 1, 2008.**