



Real Neighbors. Real Neighborhood. October 2022

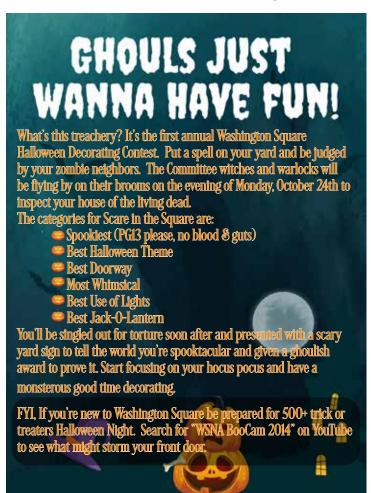
Washington Square NEWS

WSNA Holiday Party Sunday, December 11th 1:00-3:00PM

It's not too early to start thinking about the holidays. It's been three years since the last Holiday Party! Plan on joining us in the front yard of 1110 W. Washington, the home of Ana and Juan Vasquez, for the fes-

tivities. Santa will arrive around 1:15 for photos with the children. Bring an ornament for the tree. There will be hot cocoa and cookies (bake your Holiday finest and bring them along) Baked goods can be dropped off between 12 and 1PM. Volunteers are needed for setup & cookie wrangling. Contact January Smith (936) 404-6408 to volunteer. Join us to share in the Holiday cheer. The get together is for kids of all ages so fire up your Holiday spirit and spend an hour or two with your neighbors on Sunday, December 11th.





WSNA's 2nd Annual Holiday Decorating Contest

The Holiday Decorating Contest was a big hit in its inaugural year and it's back in 2022, bigger and better.

The categories this year are Best Door, Best Use of Lights, Clark Griswold Award, Most Creative and Jingle Bell Rock Block. That's right, we're going to recognize the best decorated block in the Square. Talk to your neighbors and decorate for the bragging rights. Judging will take place on the evening of Thursday, December 15th and the winners will again be recognized with a yard sign and a special

keepsake. Check our Facebook group for contest updates and winners.



2022 WSNA EVENTS

Oktoberfest October 15 Holiday Party December 11

GENERAL MEETINGS

October 13

GARAGE SALES

December 3-4

A Word from our PRESIDENT!

As a small child there were only two things you could be for Halloween at my house, a ghost, or a hobo. Hobo is the nomenclature of an older era. Today it means homeless person. It meant something more then. I assume these options were presented to me because they could be created from old clothes and discarded bed sheets. I wasn't alone. There were many child hobos littering the streets of Fountain Valley in the late Too.

in the late 70s. 40 years have passed. One thing is certain... less hobo sightings these days.

I am not ashamed of my hobo masquerade. Hobo didn't mean homeless to me then. It was the picture of a man who left the world behind him. He shrugged off "responsibility" to take on adventure. I passed no judgment on hobos then or now. In fact, I found their train car oil drum fire lifestyle fascinating and alluring. The idea of jumping a ride from place to place without a care in the world offers a freedom I have never known.



by Alton Hitchcock

In deference to an epidemic of homelessness in our nation, the hobo costume is a thing of the past. I think that's unfortunate. Unfortunate because it painted a picture for me as a child that elevated people with less than me. Maybe it takes a child's heart to see the greatness inside a vagabond. It made me envious of something that money can't buy. I wanted that kind of freedom. I wanted to be able to stand out from what I was supposed to do and find myself in the world. I saw myself sitting on the side of an open freight car, wind burned cheeks, shoeless, eating an apple. Even writing that made me smile.

I will not be a hobo for Halloween this year. I doubt I'll see any at my door. I have however discovered this: Once you put on your hobo costume you can never take it off. It's not a costume you wear on the outside. It's one you wear on your heart.

Happy Halloween Washington Square!

WSNA AUTUMN GENERAL MEETING



Where: Heroes School, Multi-Purpose Room When: Thursday, 10/13 Time: 7pm - 9pm

Join us for the fall get-together! Get updates on neighborhood issues and events. We'll be in the Multipurpose Room at Heroes Elementary School. You can walk down Baker Street to Civic Center and enter at the Civic Center entrance or drive to Civic Center and park in the school parking lot.

Speaking will be our Councilmember for Ward 5, Jonathan Ryan Hernandez along with a representa-

tive from Republic Services, the new refuse hauler for the city. They'll be discussing Republic's services plus answering any trashy questions you might come up with.

We're pleased to welcome our neighbor to the west, Santa Ana College President Annebelle Nery, Ph.D. Dr. Nery will talk about her vision for the College, plus programs of interest to our neighborhood.

Remember, we'll have camaraderie, door prizes and pizza. See you there!







2022 Autumn Washington Square

Alan Anderson Award 919 N. Freeman St.

Oscar and Gume Balcazar

By Alton Hitchcock

The Balcazars moved to the Square about eighteen months ago. There are five of them all together: Oscar, Gume, Maximus, Eddie, and of course their furry friend Luna. Having spent ten years renting in Costa Mesa, they were looking for a family friendly neighborhood to call home. They knew the moment they got here that this was the place. Oscar called Washington Square a perfect little island in Santa Ana.

They have done tons of renovations to the home inside and out, and they've done it all themselves. You can see the care and detail they've invested from the curb. New gates, artificial lawn, flowerbeds, and mood lighting all make this home shine. Inside they pulled up all the old carpet to reveal hard wood floors which they sanded and stained themselves. A luxury bathroom remodel was the cherry on top. Gume told me she wakes up every weekend thinking "What project can we do next?". They're a perfect match for the Square, and they're making their home a jewel in its crown. Congratulations on winning the Alan Anderson Award!



Washington Square Centennial Homes

On September 24th WSNA President Alton Hitch-cock threw his house a birthday party. It was built in 1922 and passed the century mark this year. There are several other homes in the neighborhood that are even older and, in the years to come many more will turn 100. If you're interested, Alton has a list of all the homes in Washington Square and the year they were constructed. Email him at kingoftoast@yahoo.com with your address to find out your home's age. WSNA is working on a program to recognize the centennial homes in our neighborhood. When it's complete, you can learn about it here and on our Facebook group.





We specialize in shutters, shades and blinds. Personal service with name brand products.





- Home & Rental Properties
- Car & Collector Cars
- Recreational Vehicles
- Umbrella
- Valuable Articles
- Life & Health
- Business



Albert Durazo

For all of your personal and business insurance needs!

www.pacificlighthouseins.com

625 The City Drive South, Ste. 330 Orange, CA 92868

Tel: (657) 667-0225 Fax: (657) 667-0227

Now Enrolling 2 year olds

Potty training available

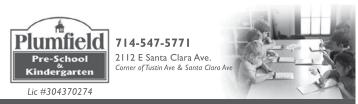


A traditional developmental curriculum

For Pre-School Children ages 2 to 6
2, 3, or 5-day Programs Available

Open 7 am - 6 pm

Full and Half Day Preschool





Is Renamed To.....



Working with Washingtion Square Since 2003

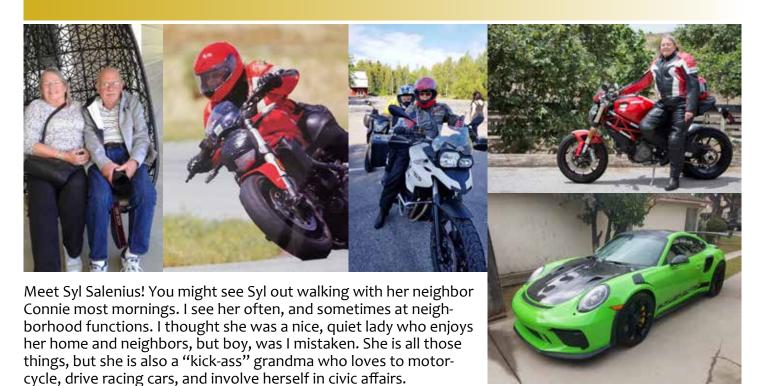
Visit us our new showroom: 1773 W. Lincoln Ave Unit S Anaheim, CA 92801

Business #: 714-569-1638 714-719-9498

Website: www.cosmoseventrentals.com

Can't wait to hear from you again!

Our NEIGHBORS



She grew up on Long Island. As a child of ten years old, she started volunteering for the NY State Democratic party and attended the Democratic Convention at fifteen. At sixteen years old Syl went to the University of Rochester, where she studied political science, history, art history and studio art. She then went on to the Illinois Institute of Technology and received her master's degree in City and Regional Planning. What makes all this so amazing is that this was in the 1960s—the height of the women's equal rights movement.

Fast forward to life in Washington Square, where she has lived for nearly forty-five years. Years ago, the Olive Street neighbors got together to shut down the plans to construct a twelve-story high-rise that was to be built at the corner of Civic Center and Flower and would have looked down on Olive and Lowell streets. Syl's background in city planning and environmental impact reporting helped them gather the ammunition to prevent that. She is also responsible for the plans which led to the Washington Square cul-de-sac streets that end at Civic Center (except Freeman and one way at Louise). And prior to her retirement in 2003 she did the environmental impact reports for 1 Broadway Plaza here in Santa Ana and the CA High-Speed Train from Los Angeles to Bakersfield.

Syl was never athletic as a kid, but once she started riding motorcycles at age twenty-seven that changed. She is an avid rider and has motorcycled all over the world - touring Canada and New Zealand and attending rallies all over Europe and Japan. Last year she rode to DC with fellow females to celebrate the Centennial of US women having the right to vote. Three years ago, she took her ten-year-old grandson, Talon, on the back of her motorcycle to a rally in Finland. Imagine what fond memories he will have of that trip with his cool granny.

She lives on Olive where she raised her daughter Saara, who attended Wilson, Willard, Santa Ana High and graduated from UC Santa Barbara. Saara currently lives in Dana Point with Talon. Syl shares a home with her partner-in-crime... uh... fun, John Dilger. They enjoy a quiet life, when she is not out zipping about on her motorcycle or he in his Porsche GT3 - and, yes, John used to race a '71 Porsche 911s that Syl would run in timed trials. When asked what next adventure was in the works, she and her grandson are driving (in a car) up the coast to motorcycle races in Monterey. And in October she and John are going to Austin to attend the Formula 1 US Grand Prix.

5

Things will be great when you're

Downtown Downtown

As I write this, I have survived a new roof with endless pounding, as well as the hottest and most humid days of the year, so far!

WSNA residents Don and Carlos have informed me of the closing of Original Mike's at 100 South Main Street and the opening of **701 Restaurant and Bar** at the same location. The website describes the food as inspired by the North-West Mexican cuisine and authentic and fusion scratch-made dishes cooked and crafted with fresh ingredients every day. They offer a bar and have live Mariachi and Banda music. This is a second location with the original in Montebello.

Another restaurant is the **Gyro Guys** on Broadway at 318 West 5th Street. They will hopefully fill your need for Greek food, featuring lamb, beef, chicken, and vegetarian dishes.

Other news from the Downtown Santa Ana newsletter http://www.downtown-santaana.com

- Part of East 4th Street is reopening. Hopefully, this makes getting around downtown easier.
- Free Yoga continues to be offered every 2nd and 4th Saturday at 325 East 4th street at the corner of 4th and French.
 - Trivia contests and Karaoke continue to be popular and offered in Downtown. Wursthaus and 4th Street Market have Trivia nights every Tuesday or Wednesday from 7 – 10:00 PM.
 - o Karaoke nights are available at Chapter One restaurant on Thursdays.
- The Art Walk will be 11/1/2022 but if you miss that date just wait till December.
- The Farmer's Market is Sundays 11 4:00 at 253 East 3rd Street.

See the event Calendar at the Website above for other similar nights and locations.

Please let me know of places in Santa Ana or close by that you have enjoyed. My email is sampuzzo@gmail.com

4th Annual (Finally!) Chili Cook-Off

continued on page 10

Cancelled two years in a row (Covid) and postponed from July (Delta Variant), WSNA cooks showed off their finest on September 17th. About seventy cooks and tasters judged twelve wildly different chilis in-

cluding Buffalo, Vegetarian, Pulled Pork, Chicken, and Traditional Beef.
Chris Gorman scored first place with his "Louise Street Treat" chili followed by second place, Tracy Simons and her



Washington Square Neighborhood Association MISSION STATEMENT

The Washington Square Neighborhood Association is an organization working to foster a sense of community by promoting public awareness, developing an appreciation of the historical significance of our homes, bridging the cultural, generational, and economic diversity of our residents and bringing about communication between the community, local businesses and city officials.

The Washington Square Neighborhood Newsletter is published quarterly by the Washington Square Neighborhood Association. WSNA is a non-profit mutual benefit community association established in 1985. Washington Square is an officially recognized neighborhood by the city of Santa Ana, California. The volunteer Newsletter Committee is looking for neighbors who want to contribute! If you have suggestions or story ideas, or know InDesign and want to help with layout, you can email us at newsletter@washington-square.org



Residents' BUSINESSES

Accounting/Tax Prep.	Alex Schneider	364-5173
Arbonne Consultant	Gloria Chavez	280-5723
Attorney, Business Specialist	Ashley Bolduc	949-852-1800
Audio-Video Production	David Jirik	543-9079
Avon Representative	Maria Guzman	904-1973
Baby Sitting	Leila Rodriguez	727-8313
Computer Specialist	Randy Simons	423-0810
Decorative Ironwork	Marco Coronado	852-1363
Editor	Maureen Tiritilli	309-2229
Farmers Insurance	Gonzalo Guzman	669-3930
Flooring, Floor Repairs	Tuzos Flooring	720-7793
Graphics & Signage	Kirsten Sketch	721-8795
Heating and Cooling	Adam Garcia	263-6443
Insurance Agent	Albert Durazo	657-667-0225
Landscape Maintenance	Rick Mora	721-3897
Mortgages/Loan officer	Victor Gallardo	697-7564
Natural Healing Center	Renee Ascencio	5994435
Notary/Loan Signing Agt.	Sasha Lopez	496-7969
Notary Public Comm#:2333888	Robert Bolton	702-498-9832
Origami Owl Ind. Design	Jennifer Begen	606-0830
Painter	Eric Torres	292-4038
Personal Injury Attorney	Moses Yneges	591-0661
Prayer – FREE!	Pastor Ben	949-295-4980
Prof. Photographer	Ricardo Barrera	715-1747
Realtor	Alton Hitchcock, Jr	775-0779
Realtor	Sarah Covarrubias	928-1303
Realtor	Christina Moreno	425-2311
Rodan & Fields	Christina Moreno	425-2311
Trash Bin Cleaning	Noah	717-1079
Wedding Planner	Christin Wilson	337-2903
Window Coverings	Krystal Wallinger	632-7744
Wine Club/Skin Care	Yolanda Valdivia	317-4152
ababata to the state of		ata ata

Unless otherwise noted, all area codes are 714

Members of WSNA

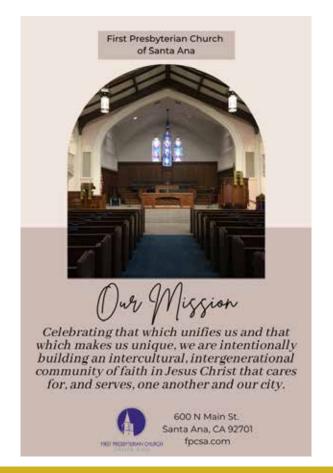
Where to Find Stuff

WSNA your non-profit neighborhood association is CELEBRATING 37 years strong!!

Are you missing some information usually included in this newsletter? Check out The Washington Square website at http://www.washington-square.org. for these and more:

City Contacts
Block Representives
Photos from prior events





Volunteers???

Have you ever thought to yourself that this is such a great place to live with such great activities? Has that thought been followed by how it might be a good idea to pitch in to help with those great activities, but you had no idea where to start or who you should contact?? We are here to offer you contacts. Because, it takes a village.

The wine walk didn't just happen. It took a dedicated group to pull it all together. If you would like to volunteer on the wine walk committee, contact Nancy Lutz at nancy-lutz@sbcglobal.net

January Smith is in charge of volunteers for the neighborhood – you probably see her requests for helpers to set up and tear down events. She would love to hook you up with opportunities to be part of the amazing group of volunteers who make things happen – and have fun in the process!! Do you like the progressive dinner? Call January. The Christmas Santa Claus event? Call January. What about movie night? and the Chili Cook-Off?

Call January at: 936.404.6408 or email her at: january-smith@hotmail.com.

Thank you, Villagers!

To join our Facebook group, search for "Washington Square Neighborhood Association" We have **804** members!



Sarah Covarrubias

DRE# 00911629

Building lasting client relationships with honesty, integrity & consistency 714 928-1303

SarahCRealtor@gmail.com www.theochomes.com



SEVEN GABLES

REAL ESTATE

Sarah's Neighborhood NEWS

Our real estate market today:

Over the past four months, we have noticed a "lull" in the market, and prices softening. Some real estate economists are suggesting that the higher interest rates have caused the slowdown. I do not disagree, but I want to also propose that the summer season, which is one of the slowest times of the year for real estate sales, may also play a big factor. As soon as Labor Day weekend passed and the intense heat subsided, Open House traffic in Washington Square and other parts of Santa Ana started to pick up--homes are selling again.

Buyers right now are much more cautious and are willing to pay higher prices for homes that don't need a lot of work, unlike in the spring, when any and everything was selling. There continues to be very low inventory in OC, the job market continues to be strong with the unemployment rate being less than 3%. All I can say is what has been said over the last five years, real estate is strong and continues to be a good investment. Interest rates are as follows: VA/FHA is 5.5%; Conventional at 5.99% (these may vary depending on credit, down payment, etc). Please call me if you have any questions.

Homes for Sale/Lease	Beds	Baths	Sq. Ft.	List/Sold Price	DOM*	Sale Type		
1014 Louise St	3	2	1812	\$ 985,000.00	4	Standard		
Homes in Escrow								
1302 Freeman St	3	2	1686	\$ 899,900.00	74	Standard		
1411 N. Towner	4	2	2146	\$ 1,049,000.00	18	Standard		
1417 N. Towner	2	2	1520	\$ 950,000.00	О	Standard		
Meet Our New Neighbors!!!								
1505 N. Rosewood (Lease)	3	2	1517	\$ 3,550.00	11	Lease		
1407 N. Towner (Lease)	3	2	1900	\$ 3,995.00	52	Lease		
806 N. Lowell	2	1	1091	749,000.00	48	Flip		
1312 N. Baker	2	1	1254	\$ 750,000.00	27	Standard		
1135 W. 10th	2	1.5	1263	\$ 785,000.00	21	Standard		
915 Westwood	3	2	1500	965,000.00	19	Standard		
913 Louise	5	3	2790	1,185,000.00	10	Standard		

THE ABOVE SOLD STATISTICS ARE FOR THE TIME JUNE 21, 2022 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 27, 2022

COMPILED FROM INFORMATION FROM THE CALIFORNIA REGIONAL MULTIPLE LISTING SERVICE AND COUNTY RECORDER'S OFFICE.

The Square is Going to the DOGS

Many of us knew the Coopers who recently sold their home and moved to Tennessee. We were familiar with the wonderful painting of the elephant, Moshe that graced their garage wall, and represented an elephant who had his foot amputated. We featured them in an article in the WSNA newsletter. Two of the individuals who happened to read that article were Shelley and Rich Fry, the new owners of this home. Shelley and Rich said the newsletter was one of the factors that helped them decide to move into Washington Square, giving them a real sense of community and a great neighborhood.

The Frys moved in on July 1st after spending a year in an apartment in San Jose due to Shelley's job at Stanford as a marketing manager. Prior to that, the Frys had lived in Seattle. They were able to make this transition back to California since they both are working remotely. They have one daughter in San Diego who they will be able to visit much easier now.

One of the promises the Frys made was to Jubilee: they promised they would take care of Moshe. Recently Shelley and Rich sent an email to the Coopers showing them the outdoor furniture (photo below). They received a response that said Jubilee gave them a "thumbs up".

The Frys have two dogs: Llandy, a five-year-old Welsh Corgi (whose name comes from a town in Northern Wales) and Ruby, a 12-week-old long-haired doxie mix. Ruby is still settling in with her new family and doesn't like to be left alone. Llandy and Ruby play well together and both enjoy getting attention from their humans. Rich said they purchased extra-wide chairs for the yard so there would be room for Llandy and Ruby to join them.

The Frys hope to meet more of the neighbors and become involved in WSNA activities—as soon as Ruby overcomes her separation anxiety.

Let's welcome Shelley, Rich, Llandy and Ruby to WSNA and the Towner St. neighborhood.

A note from the Frys:

When we moved in, the Coopers left a sweet card which also mentioned that they left a note in the front bedroom closet. It took us a while to find, because we'd already loaded that closet with boxes on the move-in. But handwritten on the wall just inside the closet were 2 short notes... one from the Buckridges to the Coopers from 2017 which



started "53 years of love" (how long they'd lived there)... and one from the Coopers to us which started "5 years of love." Both notes expressed blessings for the house and new owners... and both ended with a P.S. "Don't overwater the avocado tree." It was lovely to see the tradition established & carried on and helped us feel we were a part of the house and the house a part of us.



Saturday, October 15th 5:00-9:00PM Check in 4:45PM 904 N. Louise Street

Tickets are just \$25 (\$30 at the door) for the evening of food, beer and entertainment. They're your entrance to the Bier Garten where you can hang with your neighbors and sample specialty beers. This year there will even be wine for the non-beer drinkers out there. It wouldn't be Oktoberfest without warm pretzels, brats and apple strudel, PLUS games and Oktoberfest music with a live DJ!

Open to Washington Square residents and friends. Make your reservations ASAP.
Opportunity drawing tickets are available for purchase at Oktoberfest so bring cash.
Must be 21 to attend. This event is not appropriate for children. Reserve online at:
www.Washington-Square.org with your credit card, or drop off your check to
WSNA c/o Don Harvey 1011 N. Towner Street

"Ein Prosit der Gemütlichkeit!"

Thanks to Cerveza Cito for partnering with WSNA for Oktoberfes



4th Annual (Finally!) Chili Cook-Off cont from pg 6

"Italian Sausage and Prime Rib Fusion" chili. Cook-Off founder and committee chair Dave Dethloff took third (duplicating his 2019 effort) with his "Creeper" chili. The weather cooperated and it was a perfect night in Valerie Boulter and Bob Boulton's Louise Street backyard.





-YOU'RE INVITED-

Join us for Washington Square's monthly Game Night! Bring a board game, a friend, meet new people, have a drink, share dinner - and have some fun!

Every third Wednesday of the month

AT 6PM

RAFFLES & PRIZES

Every Game Night!

Let us cater your next event! 901 W 17th St, Santa Ana, CA · (714) 953-7448

Poor Man's Air Conditioning

By Tom Lutz

I cannot remember when we've had a hot spell for a period of a time like we did in August. We'll have four or five days of hot weather and then it cools back down. If you don't have air-conditioning, you might consider a whole house fan, or if you have AC, you still may consider a whole house fan to lighten your electric bill.

You ask what is a whole house fan? It is a fan that is around thirty inches in diameter and mounted in the ceiling, usually in the hallway with a louvered grill which opens automatically when the fan is on. Many of these fans may come with a timer switch you can set for a duration of time. When the fan is activated, it sucks the air from inside the house up through the attic and blows it out the attic vents. You must have some windows opened for the fan to pull in air. There's a new configuration made by QuietCool where the fan is supported up in your attic with a duct down to the ceiling. Two advantages to this installation are lower noise and the grate is smaller and may fit in more places with lower installation cost.

You'll want to use it in the morning when the temperature is cool and pull in that cool air before it gets too hot outside and then close the windows to keep the coolness inside. Then in the evening when it starts to cool down, you'll want to turn the fan back on. You can select the rooms you want to cool by opening windows in selected rooms.

If you have AC, you can save on your electric bill by turning off the AC and using the whole house fan in the evening when it's cooling down. Other benefits are it draws in the fresh air removing stale household aromas and it will exhaust the buildup of warm air in the attic keeping rooms cooler.

These fans run around \$400 plus installation, which your local electrician can take care of. When you're ready to buy, check SCE for rebates. There aren't any now, but they often offer rebates on whole house fans.

Here's to beating the heat!







Representing Washington Square residents for over 20 years

I am passionate about my profession and the clients whose properties I am entrusted to represent. When you hire me to assist you in the sale or purchase of your home, you're not only benefiting from my local knowledge & experience, but from the support services provided by my expert team.

I cherish my neighbors who make up this wonderful community steeped in history, beautiful homes and gardens. As a proud resident, it would be my pleasure to work with you!



SARAH COVARRUBIAS 714.928.1303 SarahCRealtor@gmail.com www.sevengables.com DRE #00911629



