

West Floral Park SPRING 2016 NEWSLETTER



WFPNA

Where Neighbors Turn Into Family and Friends

Your West Floral Park Neighborhood Association Elected Board Members

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President's Message : Let's Say Hello

BY RIGO GARCIA, WFP NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

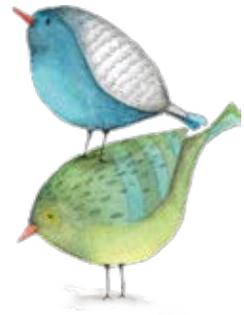
HELLO NEIGHBORS!

As you read through the Spring Newsletter I want you to think of it as an invitation.

This is an open invitation for you to attend

one of the many social events that our Neighborhood Association coordinates with you in mind. If you have not attended a social event or general meeting in the past then let 2016 be the year that you participate and join in on discussions that affect our neighborhood. I would also like to make a suggestion...if you see a neighbor working in their yard, or walking through our neighborhood take a minute and say hello. Much like in grade school a simple hello can often turn a stranger into a friend. I encourage you to think of different ways to get to know more neighbors.

Are you a car aficionado and want to meet others who share your passion? Start a thread on our Nextdoor website about it. Do you think you make the best hamburger in WFP? Let your neighbors be the judge and organize a fun competition. Do you like to play poker? Ask if anyone is interested in a monthly or quarterly game. Do you want to support local businesses? Ask neighbors to you join you at a local restaurant and order different dishes to try. One of the greatest things about our neighborhood is the people who live here. The opportunities to connect are endless and it can all begin with a simple hello.



WEST FLORAL PARK EVENTS FOR 2016

- Open Garden Day **May 14**
- WFPNA General Meeting **May 25**
- 4th of July Parade **July 4**
- WFPNA General Meeting **August 10**
- Progressive Dinner **August 20**
- Concert in the Park **September 17**
- New Neighbor Social **September 21**
- Oktoberfest **October 8**
- Neighborhood Watch Meeting **October 19**
- WFPNA General Meeting **November 16**
- Christmas Party **December 4**
- Holiday Light Contest **December 11**





INSPIRING GARDEN

Sometimes a neighborhood speaks to our soul but our yard has no soul, sometimes our kids grow up and the swing set has to go, sometimes we find our creativity spilling over outside our walls, sometimes we get a little extra money, and sometimes we just want something different. Our gardens and yards extend our living spaces and give us the opportunity to create an environment just right for us. In Southern California we are fortunate to be able to use our yards almost year-round. Following are the stories of four WFP yard or garden transformations that are truly inspiring.



Rancho Relaxo

Welcome to Rancho Relaxo, the garden that **Joe and Chela Banuelos** transformed from a boring grass and gravel pit to a vibrant water-wise environment. After living in Floral Park for about 10 years, Joe and Chela bought their house on Westwood Avenue a little over a year ago. They wanted a place where they could create their own space to entertain including putting in a pergola.

Both are artists and musicians and had no experience with gardens. Their theme Rancho Relaxo came from New Mexico, a place that has given them a lot of inspiration. After finding their theme they did a lot of online research of designs and plant selection. From there, Joe, a graphic designer by trade,

googled their house and using that image they designed their yards. They wanted both their front and backyards to have an old rancho feel and look. Spurring them along was their

application for a rebate for putting in a water-wise front yard. They had a timeline and had to get the project completed in July & August of last year (it was extremely hot then). First their artistic fence went in. They drew up the design for the fence and a friend built it. They say the fence design is someplace between midcentury modern and ranch. They put this fencing in both their front and backyards using pretty much the same design. With the fencing and pergola in place, plant selection became very important. Since it was summer, they lost quite a few plants. Both their front and backyards reflect their vision, their persistence and their artistic flare. As artists they create mosaic pieces and design shrines and alters out of found objects. Chela makes devotional jewelry. Both Joe and Chela are musicians and singers who love to relax with a group of friends and play music. They have played both professionally and just for fun. Their beautiful, artistic garden certainly reflects their personalities and love of art.



BEFORE

TRANSFORMATIONS

BY DONNA LAYNE,
COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR

Welcome to the Palm Springs mid-modern front and tropical midcentury back, the yards that **Jon and Katherine Gothold** created with pieces of the home's history incorporated into their midcentury modern liking. We know this as the Palm Springs house on Riviera Drive since the front looks like a yard found in Palm Springs—exactly what the Gotholds wanted. This mid century design transformation began with the inside of the home extending to the outside. The front yard was completely transformed with the



grass circles inspired from a Palm Spring home and garden tour. The Gotholds paid particular attention to designing the front yard. Succulents are nested between front porch steps, a design they saw at Sherman Gardens. The east side of their front yard was designed with plants that transition to their

neighbor's California native landscaping. Their backyard is tropical in style as they wanted to keep most of the existing palm trees and swimming pool. Of course, they added in their midcentury design elements which were inspired by car washes. The architectural features are the best of the 50's. They have incorporated large blue steel beams into their patio cover design. They even have one of these steel beams supporting a sagging palm branch. The patio cover uniqueness continues with 5 dome lights that were found at a garbage dump. These dome lights which are like planets are surrounded by 86 star like lights. In addition to keeping some of the backyard as they found it, they took the existing wrought iron fencing outside the patio and relocated some of it to their corner entertaining



Mid Century Modern

space. Jon is a partner and Executive Creative Director for Amusement Park, an advertising company in DTSA, which occupies the old City Hall in DTSA. His company has been in Santa Ana since 1998. Jon is one of the founding board members of DTSA. Jon is also a musician and singer who plays in a band "Peanuts" with Joe and Chela. Katherine is a museum curator and is currently curating a Vietnam vet's extensive book and art collection. She is in the early stages of making a documentary of this experience. *Continued on Page 4 >*



INSPIRING GARDEN TRANSFORMATIONS

(Continued from page 4)



Under The Tuscan Sun

Welcome to Tuscany, the sunny garden of **Michael Buss and Autumn Browne**. Michael describes his yard transformation as being ad hoc. Michael is a retired software engineer who now works from home doing websites for nonprofits. Autumn is a junior high drama teacher. Michael says that for years “home and garden” always

came last. About a year ago, he said enough to that and began thinking about his garden transformation. Michael wanted to do something but the vision was a hard time coming. He first created raised beds, stood back and said “What’s next?” He leveled and grated the yard out. He slowly came up with a plan for flower beds and paths. The more order you have, the easier it is to control was his philosophy. Then he redid the parkway in front to become a water-wise parkway. The front yard dirt and roots became his

backyard mounds and beds. He put vegetables into his raised beds. He watched his plants every day to see which ones were doing well. He finds his yard to be relaxing and peaceful. Designing

and keeping up with the yard has brought him joy and happiness. And he also says it’s a great way to stay fit! The centerpiece of the garden transformation is their wall mural of a Tuscany landscape. He had thought about this mural for seven years. He found a picture online, did an outline on the wall and never got beyond that point. His mom died a year ago and with the money she left him he paid a local artist to finish the mural. The mural is dedicated to his mother. The mural has some surprise features in it and worth a visit to see it. After the mural was completed, Michael knew that the rest of the garden needed to look as great. So his transformation continued. He built an outside shed, outside garden room with fireplace all himself. He eventually wants to get chickens. Michael has a storied past and present—English pastor, software engineer, substitute teacher, playwright, actor, and now garden designer and builder. He is currently working on a staged comedy “The Trials and Tribulations of Sanjay Gupta” which he wrote and is directing.



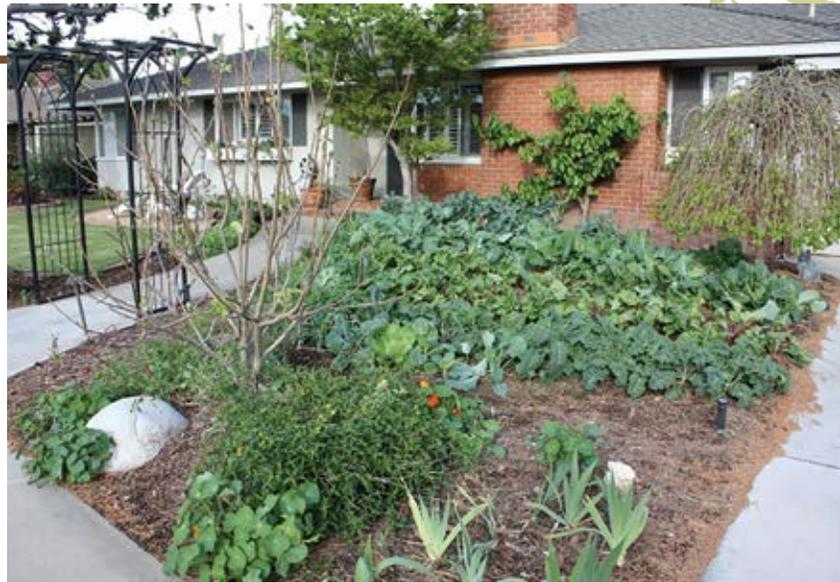


Guava, fig, olive, pomegranates, fava beans, artichokes, red crimson clover, sweet potatoes, kale, Brussel sprouts, beets, collard greens, pineapples and more. And that's just in **Bruce Bauer's** front yard! Many of you have seen Bruce's front yard garden on Rosewood Avenue. He started transforming his yard into almost everything edible a couple of years ago. Bruce says he has always liked gardening and loves to give away his produce. He goes by the "try approach"—sees what works. His backyard, which includes a swimming pool, is also planted in everything edible. I am sure if there was a water growing edible plant, Bruce would have that growing as well in his pool! He has two raised beds containing edibles including rhubarb. He starts most of his plants from seeds and nurtures



them until they are ready to be transplanted into the ground. Unique to his garden is his espaliered fruit trees along his fence. He has a pear, lemon, fig, gooseberry vine and more growing in this fashion alongside his fence. He certainly has utilized every space available including a back composting area. I even got to try a few tastes of his prize

pineapple which was grown in a pot on his front porch. Oh so yummy! Bruce's next step is to get quails. He says that their eggs are good and more nutritious than chicken eggs. Farmer Bauer certainly takes great pride in his edible gardens. Bruce has recently become active in legalizing beekeeping in Santa Ana. By day Bruce is an



Everything Edible!

attorney specializing in business litigation and transactional matters. He has four children with the youngest being a senior in high school. In his spare time he is a board member for the Santiago Creek Greenway Alliance and sits on the City of Santa Ana Planning Commission. Oh...and he is a Co-captain of our WFPNA Neighborhood Watch!



Our yards certainly bring us much enjoyment as evidenced through showcasing these four garden transformations. These transformations are about more than pride of ownership although this is certainly an integral element. The artist's brush has touched each of these gardens. Inspiration, hard work, and time round out these transformations. We are privileged to have three of these gardens on the Open Garden Day tour this year. Come and enjoy!

Who's On First?

BY DOUG JAGERMAN,
BEAUTIFICATION CO-CHAIR

UNDERSTANDING THE GUIDELINES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR NEIGHBORHOOD LANDSCAPING CAN BE OVERWHELMING.



SOMETIMES it can feel like an endless menu of confusing and contradictory information much like the classic Abbott and Costello routine “who’s on first.” If you are not familiar with this routine, then please go directly to YouTube and watch it. Do not pass go. Do not collect \$200. You will not be sorry.

Some concerns about tree trimming were mentioned on Nextdoor last month. Trimming of parkway trees is handled by the city and the power company, in our case Southern California Edison. State regulations give SCE authority to trim trees to keep power lines clear. Santa Ana has West Coast Arborist under contract for the trimming that they do. Sometimes the SCE or SCE contracted trimmers do not trim in a way that might seem obvious to us, but they are doing what in their judgement best protects the power lines.

Dead or dying trees need to be addressed as well. The city’s policy is to try not to remove living

things; however, they also understand that there are safety concerns. West Floral Park has had many large branches and some entire trees fall down over the past few years. These incidents can be dangerous and costly. If you think that your parkway tree is dead or dying, please call the Public Works Dispatch Line at 714-647-3308. They will inspect your tree and provide a course of action.

Many homeowners are choosing to renovate their yards to be more water friendly. If you are considering this, the city has specific guidelines that need to be followed. There are many standards, but here are a few of the broad strokes.

CITY GUIDELINES

100% of the required landscape area must be covered by materials such as plants, compost, mulch and permeable hardscape. For more info: www.ci.santaana.ca.us/pba/planning/ZoningDocuments.asp

- 1 Plant material must cover at least 65% of the required landscape area.
- 2 Permeable hardscape may cover no more than 35% of the required landscape area.
- 3 Synthetic turf must have a minimum blade length of 1.25” and not cover more than 50% of the front yard. Sorry to you die hard golfers out there. No front yard putting greens for you, but they didn’t say anything about a sand trap!

For more complete information on Synthetic Turf Design Standards and California Friendly Landscape Guidelines, please refer to the links below. Most importantly, please know that the city is eager to work with us toward keeping our neighborhood both safe and beautiful.

http://www.ci.santa-ana.ca.us/pba/planning/documents/Synthetic_turf_standards.pdf

<http://www.ci.santa-ana.ca.us/pba/planning/documents/CAFriendlyLandscapeGuideline10114.pdf>

2016 : The Garden of the Month Awards

BY LAURA JAGERMAN, BEAUTIFICATION CO-CHAIR

Once again the WFPNA Beautification Committee has selected a resident each month to be honored with the "Garden of the Month" award. Neighbors who demonstrate "above-and-beyond" efforts to maintain and beautify their front yards help make our neighborhood a more beautiful place to live and increases our home values.



Congratulations to our Garden of the Month Winners



FEBRUARY

Home of Andy and Katie Sutton
2015 Louise Street



MARCH

Home of Paul and Katie Leyva
1136 Riviera Drive

AWARD GUIDELINES

- Pruned, trimmed and shaped foliage; edged and defined lawns; yard is free of debris and clutter;
- Water wise gardening—Plants and trees that reduce the need for watering, while preserving the integrity and continuity of the landscapes for which the WFP neighborhood is known.
- Excellence in home and property maintenance;
- Overall landscape design includes elements that are original and creative;
- Garden beds that are neat in appearance weed-free, mulched, etc.;
- Landscape design that fits the home's architecture;
- Overall, beautiful curb appeal.

All Garden of the Month winners will receive a sign to display in their yard for the entire month and be acknowledged in the WFPNA Newsletter. A resident may only win once in any given calendar year.

Join the WFP Beautification Committee

Get involved with your neighborhood and help select future Garden of the Month Award Winners. Contact Laura at laura@lauralejuwaan.com



APRIL

Home of Gene and Patt Harbrecht
2402 Rosewood Avenue

HAPPY HOUR

Girls' Night Out

Our Review of Local Restaurant : Kutsi Cocina in Downtown Santa Ana

We needed a little help deciding where to go this time so we asked our neighborhood "in-the-know" Santa Ana Advisor, Mel Steiner. Sure enough, he came up with a new place for us to try...Kutsi Cocina!

KUTSI COCINA was completely revamped from the old style of the 'used to be' Memphis Restaurant on the corner of Broadway and 2nd, into a very open, inviting Modern Mexican Bar and Lounge. You will have a full panoramic view in both street directions inside the restaurant or on the spacious outside patio facing Gypsy Den as well as seeing the activity in the open view kitchen. One long wall is a gallery of hand selected Mexican art that is changed out regularly and is displayed behind a 15' glass wall. The entire expansive north



wall is the bar with several, very talented Mixologists at your command. The décor is tastefully rustic with a touch of elegance.

We were immediately greeted by our friendly Hostess who gave us an introduction to Kutsi Cocina. Since we are the 'Happy Hour Girls' we requested the Happy Hour Menu... this is where the story began... she apologetically explained Happy Hour is only in the Bar area and not offered in the Dining Lounge. We then had to tell her our mission (because we didn't want to move!) We explained—we are the Happy Hour Girls of West Floral Park who visit local restaurants and write reviews of our Happy Hour dining and drinking experiences, then publish the article in our local West



Floral Park Newsletter. We got to stay in the Lounge Area! She left briefly, but returned with the charming Mixologist to explain his 'Bartenders Choice' tasty concoctions and were served several baskets of freshly fried chips (the chips were exceptionally fresh—we learned the secret tip was to use no lard and never use the oil twice!)—They were served with house made refried beans and a mild salsa. The Mixologist conducts a brief interview to define your likes, i.e. sweet, spicy, choice of liquor, type of drink and then if you say 'take it from there' he goes to work on creating your drink designed and suited to your taste. The big hit was the Spicy Margarita—a powerful blast of heat—not for wimpy me. The Happy Hour specialty cocktails are \$2 off the menu priced from about \$10-14 each.

Now back to the story... We learned from our hostess that she is the sister of the owner and she graciously gave us the background story of her sister/owner Jannett Mendoza. Being a new restaurant owner in DTSA is an immense struggle when you are a young, attractive, Hispanic female. Her tenacious perseverance prevailed and she is now the prideful sole proprietor of a wonderful restaurant designed, created and staffed by her own choosing. Jannett Mendoza had her first restaurant in Mexico and moved here 3 years ago with this dream. She opened in October of last

year, and again with her perseverance, found Chef Chris Tzorin. His experience goes back to when he was an Executive Chef at Savannah Chop House in Laguna Niguel. Chef Chris' dishes are inspired by looking at art and then painting his creation. This is apparent in the alluring artful presentation of all the dishes we chose. The love for gastronomy runs in the family as his father retired from Newport Oceanfront 21 after twenty years as an Executive Chef. You may know of Chef Chris Tzorin if you watch any of the Foodie Channels. He was on "Grocery Games Redemption" and "Cutthroat Kitchen." He also was on a TV show called "Man vs. Child, which is where he was challenged by 14 year old Chef Cloyce Martin, from Yorba Linda—a 10 year cooking veteran! Chef Chris was so impressed by this young Chef he now joins the staff at Kutsi Cocina. After meeting this young man we could see how one can be bedazzled, charmed, and excited about his culinary knowledge and skills. This is one Chef to put on your



radar! So, with Kutsi you get not one but two Chefs! Chef Cloyce brings his eager, creative, ambitious drive and dedication to your table. His mother, who picked him up from 'work', told us how lucky she was to have a built in

BY LAURIE HAMPTON
CONTRIBUTING COLUMNIST



chef. He showed us pictures of some everyday meals he prepared for his family that looked like they came from Gourmet Magazine! We expressed our envy of her good fortune to have a chef in the house, and she told us that came with a \$100 price tag for every meal, as she laughed!

We ordered 4 of the 6 Tapas from the new \$5 menu. The Enchilada De Mole was the hit, then the Beef Street Taco. The serving sizes are small but perfect for sampling and sharing before a meal. We ordered 2 desserts—The Churro: split and embedded with a soft caramel filling, drizzled with chocolate and served with a Leche dipping sauce (nice twist on what you would expect) and The ‘Tres Leche Chocolate Bread Pudding’ (sorry, I winged it a little on the name), but it was exceptional!

Because Kutsi Cocina is a dining experience, we all said we would go back and try the Main Lounge Menu from skewers to fresh seafood (À La Carte and Main Dishes: \$12-\$24, Salads: \$10-\$11), Brunch on Sunday (Main Courses: \$12-\$14, Starters \$12-14 and Cocktails \$8-\$14).

If anyone would like us to preview a new hot spot, let us know...we love to eat and drink! Enjoy...Until next time...

~ *The Happy Hour Girls*

WFPNA TREASURER'S SNAPSHOT

(as of 3/12/2016)

BY STEVE TANCREDI, TREASURER

ACCOUNT BALANCES	2015 Budget	YTD Actual
Checking		\$ 6,638
Savings		8,593
REVENUES		
Membership	\$ 8,200	5,510
Advertising	2,000	1,250
Social Events	11,500	175
Open Garden Day	8,900	105
Other	-	-
Subtotal	30,600	7,040
EXPENSES		
Membership	300	-
General Meetings	300	-
Community Events	400	-
Community Outreach	2,000	-
General Operations	1,700	525
Open Garden Day	5,850	1,609
Social Events	11,500	-
Neighborhood Watch	500	183
Communications	4,600	380
Beautification	4,700	-
SUBTOTAL	31,850	2,697
BALANCES / TOTALS	\$ (1,250)	\$ 4,343

We publish the Treasurer's Report each year and provide copies at each General Meeting to let you know what's going on with our WFPNA funds.

The Board has completed and approved the 2016 Budget.

*Should you have any questions, please contact Steve Tancredi
(stancredi@robinvest.net).*



EGGSTRAVAGANZA

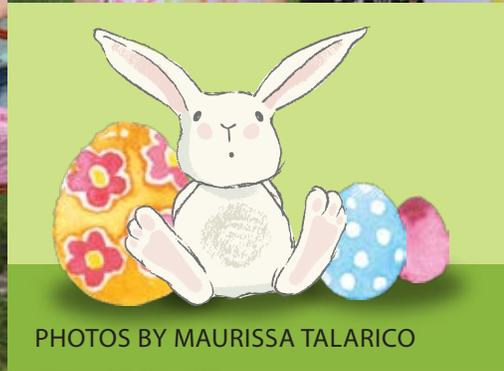


WEST FLORAL PARK FAMILIES

had a wonderful time at our annual neighborhood event. Cotton candy, face painting, crafts and of course the egg hunt kept the kiddos busy and happy! Good ol' fashioned fun for kids of all ages. Thank you to the events' organizers: Maurissa Talarico and Jessica Brownsell.



Here Comes the Easter Bunny!



PHOTOS BY MAURISSA TALARICO





The City of Santa Ana conducted their last of eleven neighborhood meetings to seek input on the Santa Ana General Plan Update, "The Shared Vision for Santa Ana", on March 31.

Almost 40 people who live north of 17th Street attended—about a third of the attendees were from WFP. The State of California requires the following be included in a city's general plan: land use, mobility, housing, sustainability, open space, noise and safety. The City of Santa Ana has added additional components to theirs: urban design & architecture, historic preservation, economic development, education, arts & culture and human services. It will take the city 2-3 years to complete this update.

■ **Participants were asked four questions.** Residents were divided into four groups and input on these four questions were written down and discussed. Following is a brief snapshot of answers shared.

What you enjoy most about your neighborhood: friendly neighbors/people, beautiful houses/not cookie-cutter, diversity, strong neighborhood association, tree-lined streets, location/access to a lot of things, Nextdoor & Facebook pages, pride of ownership, neighborhood events, high participation level in events, dumpster day, close proximity to Bowers, Discovery Cube, etc.

Concerns about your neighborhood: maintenance/replacement of trees, Jack Fisher Park homeless & drug activity, creek bed activity, traffic on Bristol and Memory/Flower, illegal marijuana shops on 17th, lack of parking for apartments, general lack of parks & services, no local grocery store, mansionization, moratorium of vacation rentals, crime, lack of funding for



commercial property façade improvement on 17th Street.

Concerns about Santa Ana: Blight of commercial businesses on some major streets, high density housing/code enforcement, lack of open space, civic center homelessness, petty crime/gangs/package theft, perception of education, homeless going through trash, policing/understaffing, red tape required for businesses, lack of parking, graffiti, river bed not maintained, need to do more to attract financial & tech businesses, not enough bike lanes, traffic.

What we love most about Santa Ana: diversity, rebirth of downtown, communication with City, museums/programs, emphasis on art, food revival, street improvement on Bristol, charter & magnet schools, neighborhood associations, history/historic buildings, "Downtown Orange County", central, Orange County School of the Arts, train station, Taste of Santa Ana, city awards such as "Most Beautiful Yard" and "Neighborhood Hero," more bike trails.

The City will now compile all the information received at these meetings and find emerging themes. Their plan direction will be outlined. From there, they will conduct follow-up meetings with residents to get feedback. All-in-all, this was a good meeting with great input for the city. Much more to come!



DUMPSTER & SHRED DAY FUN

April 2 was a great day in the neighborhood to get rid of junk and to find treasures, if you were lucky enough. Five dumpsters provided by the city of Santa Ana and one shred truck were placed around the neighborhood.

A BIG thank you to the following neighbors for underwriting the cost of the shred truck.



- ♥ Nichole Doughty & Mel Steiner—First Team Real Estate
- ♥ Edward LeBeau—Charles Schwab
- ♥ Gary Buse—Targeted Management Company



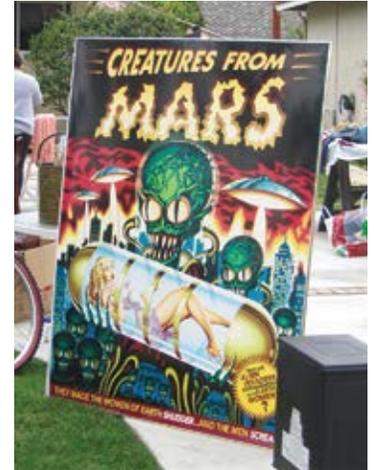
Walking Through the Park... West Floral Park

BY MICHELE CHATELLE



Garage Sale. Rummage Sale. Yard Sale. Those terms are fine for other neighborhoods, but don't begin to describe the adventure that occurs once every three months in West Floral Park! Here we have a Treasure Hunt, a Street Market, a marché aux puces!

Walk around this corner and find all things whimsical, vintage, and rare. Turn the next corner to find a pair of Jimmy Choo's for \$30 or a cashmere sweater for \$5. Stroll up the next driveway and stumble across that amazing framed piece that will fit perfectly over your fireplace. And just two doors away, you marvel over the tables of hand-crafted jewelry and garden art. No, this is no ordinary Garage Sale weekend and for those of you who weren't aware, start saving your change and mark your calendars for June!



JOIN THE

Families of Floral Park

Floral Park + Jack Fisher + West Floral Park

REASONS TO JOIN:

TOP
5

- Halloween Spooktacular Event
- Kazoo Caroling Party
- St. Patrick's Day Playdate
- Summer Fun
- Sunday Fun Days (parents only!)

Start creating old-fashion family memories today by attending one of our monthly events:

- Monthly Meetings - 1st Monday at rotating houses
- Monthly Pizza Night - 2nd Friday at Zito's on Chapman
- Monthly Playdates - dates posted on our website regularly

Sign-up today!

email christina@thekellmans.com
FamiliesofFloralPark.shutterfly.com



Bringing Up Chickens

BY THE GARDEN KEEPER

ALREADY APRIL and fellow neighbors are beginning to prepare for Open Garden Day, Saturday, May 14th. Don't forget to mark your calendar. So, what does that have to do with Chickens?

If you're opening your yard you're probably thinking about how to showcase it by making it beautifully presentable, interesting and fun. Our visiting guests are also looking and considering garden ideas for their home. Of course, one can find plenty of ideas combing through a magazine, going to garden shows and the like; however, every backyard has its own vibe making it uniquely yours. I've seen yards with large entertaining areas and pools, bird aviaries, chickens, vegetable gardens with old farming tools, as well as groomed yards with secret gardens and winding paths. Of all these creative ideas, backyard



chickens can pique one's curiosity. Seems pretty cut and dry and uneventful if you've had them before, but if you're considering having them you might want to plan for the unexpected.

I wasn't particularly interested in having chickens; but my husband was and since he lives here too, I agreed to two hens. So, we came home with two two-day old chicks knowing there is a

ten percent chance one or both could end up a rooster. This bothered me as I'd laid in bed fearing the worst that one early morning I'd wake up to a cock a doodle do, having to explain to my neighbors, get rid of the rooster and our hen would be alone. I recommended that we should get another one. Two weeks passed, one got sick and it looked dreadful. I did everything I could think of as a mother hen, so in between nursing a chick, I suggested yet another one. Two more weeks passed and low and behold the sick one survived and we ended up with four hens.

Like any new young pet they will need attending to and will adapt to your routine. You will need to house them in a cardboard box or plastic tub and place that in a spare room or a shed with a heat lamp to keep them warm for up to eight weeks before releasing them in their coop area. After this time you can move them to their coop and after six months your hens will provide you the freshest eggs. Personally, I'm sick of eggs but not my chickens. There's many unknown things that I now know i.e., there is a pecking order and everyone will obey or get pecked. They argue over the same nesting box when there

are three available, who knew. After laying an egg they announce it to the world so they can be very vocal. They like to be petted and held and they will greet you at the backdoor, providing you have food. There's so much more but then this article would never end. So, if you're thinking about adding chickens just know there's plenty of surprises along the way, so ask questions about breeds and their habits as each breed is a little different. But my biggest surprise was what I learned about myself.

I never thought about how calming they would be roaming my backyard poking around looking for bugs and worms in my vegetable garden. I enjoy seeing them taking a dirt bath all sprawled out with legs stretched laying in the sun, relaxed and peaceful. And I love how they'll run over to greet me when opening the door with great anticipation of some kind of treat. I like that even though they argue, they're always together like family and friends. Now I understand when I hear someone say, 'she rules the roost.'

And when I tell my cat to stop being a chicken... I stop and look around wondering if they heard me. So what came first the chicken or the egg, I wonder... And that's the backyard scoop.



REMEMBERING OUR FRIEND

BY DOUG AND LAURA JAGERMAN

Our dear neighbor and a longtime West Floral Park resident, Jean M. Sheldon, passed away on Tuesday, October 27, 2015. Jean was born on March 19, 1923 in Glouster, Ohio, and graduated from Denison University. She was preceded in death by her husband, Albert J. Sheldon M.D., who was one of the founders of Children's Hospital of Orange County (CHOC). Jean and Albert are survived by their five children, Tony, Michael, John, Charles and Suzanne; five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Jean dearly loved her family!

As Jean's next door neighbor, we had the privilege of getting to know her during the last several years of her life. Our visits with her always included a glass of wine (she insisted even though she couldn't have any) and a walk down memory lane. We loved hearing all of her stories, from being a young girl to raising a family and making spaghetti dinners for them on Sunday nights. Other visits included the sharing of wedding photos and a DVD exchange of favorite romantic comedies. Jean loved watching movies.

■ **Our Sweetest Memory**, however, is Christmas 2012 when our family bought her a Christmas tree and chose to adorn it with dozens of red Cardinal ornaments. As we began decorating it in her living room, Jean said, "How did you know I love Cardinals?" We got goosebumps! Unbeknownst to us, it had been her favorite bird since she was a little girl. As we began to look around her home, we noticed there were Cardinals everywhere.

After Jean's passing, her son graciously gave us a framed embroidery of a Cardinal that hung in her kitchen. What a precious gift to remember her by. Although our street will never be quite the same, we will always be glad we came to West Floral Park and moved in next door to our friend, Jean Sheldon.



The Social BUZZ



WHAT'S THE BUZZ AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD? Our social events are fantastic! Such a good way to enjoy the evening, meet new people, and chat with old friends. The food, beverage, venue and company are equal to a fine evening on the town. Our Wine Festival just a couple of weeks ago was spectacular—we thought we were in South America sipping their fine wines. And the sangria contest, a first, was such a treat! Spend some time with your neighbors. Join us at our next social event, the progressive dinner in August.

SHOW YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD PRIDE : SATURDAY, MAY 14, 10 AM - 4 PM

Don't forget to rake your leaves, trim your trees and plant some flowers, so that our whole neighborhood looks it's BEST for this special day! Invite your family and friends to save time and money by purchasing presale tickets online.

We live in a beautiful neighborhood, let's get ready to show it off!

Purchase Tickets Online
OPENGARDENDAY.COM

\$15 ~ Presale Ticket (Purchase Before May 6)
\$12.50 ~ Presale Tickets for Groups of 8 or More
\$20 ~ Admission Day of the Event





“Spring” into Becoming a Paying Member of Your WFP Neighborhood!

BY MELINDA JORDAN-HEATHCOCK, VICE PRESIDENT OF MEMBERSHIP

Although February traditionally begins our WFPNA membership drive we are still only about half way to the targeted 20% of neighborhood participation. There is still much to be done this year and your donations will help continue to make your neighborhood a beautiful place to live.



The Beautification Committee has already begun their work, including organizing our dumpster day, looking for beautiful front yards to honor each month, keeping the common areas maintained with plants and flowers, and continuing to work with the city to purchase much needed replacement trees to keep our streets looking great.

Our community outreach projects, including the Eggstravaganza for the neighborhood children, the Senior Tea, and the 4th of July parade, as well as the New Neighbor welcome baskets and social, also depend on your generosity to take

place. And don't forget the Christmas giving back charities that our Neighborhood Association contributes to each year's end. None of these activities could take place without our membership donations.

■ **Do Your Part, Join Today!** So, it's not too late to become a contributing member of WFPNA. You may either mail your check to WFPNA, Attn: Steve Tancredi, P.O. Box 6243, Santa Ana, CA 92706, go to our Pay Pal link on the WFPNA website at www.westfloralpark.com, or give your check to one of the board members. Help to make this another great year for our West Floral Park neighborhood.

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We would love to hear from you!

For advertising inquiries and editorial ideas please email Donna Layne at a.layne@sbcglobal.net

WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS!

We would like to welcome the following people to our neighborhood. These new neighbors were invited to our New Neighbor Social that was held last week.

JESUS ARRIAGA
on Freeman Street

JEROME AND JANEL SCHULTE
on Towner Street

If you see them on your travels throughout the neighborhood, please stop and welcome them to our hood.



NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTIONS!

West Floral Park Neighborhood Association relies on many different communication tools to communicate neighborhood news, safety and events as well as important city information. Sign up for one or all to get connected!

■ **WFPNA Email Blasts:** Be “In the Know,” send us your email contact information and we will add you to our email blast list. Email Donna at a.layne@sbcglobal.net and in the subject line of your email type: WFPNA Add me to your list. Include your name, address, and email in the body of your message. Email blasts are sent out as needed, about twice monthly.

■ **Facebook:** Our Facebook page is a more informal, day-to-day, interactive page on happenings in and around our neighborhood and the City of Santa Ana. Anyone who is a member can post there. Check it out and request to join this closed and private Facebook group. Send an email to Mika at mikadenny@me.com if you have trouble joining.



■ **Nextdoor.com:** WFP residents can sign up on Nextdoor.com/join/JXNKHE at any time by going directly to the website. There is an address verification requirement—to ensure the safety and security of this site. Residents can post on Nextdoor.com as appropriate and needed. You can access the site from your desktop or better yet, get the Nextdoor.com app for your smart phone and get alerts any time, anywhere.



AND PHIL MADE THIS ONE HAPPEN (TOO)

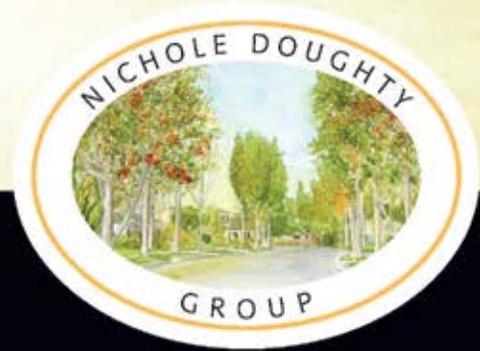


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