



PARK BEAT

The Pulse of Greater Boulevard Park

Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association • Box 163179, Sacramento 95816 • August 2009

Boulevard Park and Marshall School Neighborhood Associations Present **National Night Out Progressive Potluck**

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, STARTING AT 6:00 P.M.

Our two neighborhood associations are joining once again with other Sacramento neighborhoods and thousands of communities nationwide to bring you the 26th annual National Night Out. This event started in 1984 to strengthen neighborhood spirit, create police-community partnerships, and to heighten community drug and crime awareness and prevention with an evening of outside dining.

Let's share a walking progressive dinner through our neighborhoods. So, please join the fun, turn on your porch lights, spend the evening with your neighbors and bring food or drink to share at one or more of the three venues listed.

It all starts on the grass median on 22nd Street between the alley and G Street at 6:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, August 4**. Dinner and dessert follow at the other two locations. *Contact Rob Sperling at 444-8147 or Marc de la Vergne at 448-6909 for more information.*



SCHEDULE:

Potluck hors d'oeuvres – 6:00 p.m.

Host: Marc de la Vergne – 448-6909

Hal Edmonds – 599-5814

Start: 22nd Street median between alley & G streets

Potluck entrée – 7:00 p.m.

Hosts: Fred Hull & Susan Allair – 447-7859

Walk to: 2431 H Street at 25th

Potluck dessert – 8:00 p.m.

Host: Yvonne Berdan berdany@aol.com or 448-3125

Walk to: Dessert will be at the new Tot Lot in Marshall Park I Street between 27th and 28th Streets

Contact one of the hosts if you would like to drop your food item off or just bring it with you as we move through our neighborhood.

It's Up and Running!

www.boulevardparkna.org

Your new neighborhood web site is up and ready for your enjoyment, edification and involvement. The new home for Boulevard Park and BPNA is www.boulevardparkna.org. Check it out, with special attention to the new page for Friends of the Riverbanks, with beautiful photographs by Robert Sewell and news of this unique resource for Midtown.

The web site is intended to be an interactive communication tool for the BPNA Association and the neighborhood. We are eager to have your comments and suggestions. We are especially interested in your recommendations for interesting neighbors to feature on the site and any thoughts you might have for improving and enhancing this new tool for Boulevard Park, including merchants who we should know about *(and who might be candidates for advertising!)*

Pete Bramson is generously sharing his time to act as admin for the site, and you can contact him at prbram@aol.com or admin@boulevardparkna.org with any suggestions for articles or other ideas to make the site more useful to the neighborhood. Check in regularly and let us know what you think.

Mark Your Calendar – September 12th BPNA Spaghetti Dinner, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Planning for this annual event, to be held at the home of Pete, Robyn and Jesse Bramson at 2101 G Street, has begun so be sure to mark the date on your calendars! For those of you new to the neighborhood, or who have not yet had the opportunity attend this family-friendly event, the dinner has been held each September for many years and has become a neighborhood favorite. The dinner menu will include your choice of either Vegetarian or Bolognese sauce on your pasta, garlic bread, mixed green salad, and dessert.

Entertainment for the kids is planned during the evening, to allow parents an opportunity to relax a bit. Plan to attend this event and bring a dessert to share if you'd like – it will give you a chance to meet your new Boulevard Park neighbors or reunite with those you've met previously.

Volunteers are needed to help with setup on Saturday morning as well as serving, kitchen prep, or cleanup the evening of the event. We would very much appreciate your help. *Please contact Sally Flory-O'Neil at 446-3390 or sallyfo@hotmail.com if you are able to volunteer your time.*

Places to go, people to see

August 3 – Neighborhood Response Team (NRT) – 7:00 p.m., home of Jan Seaman, 1822 G Street. Are you aware of illegal dumping, parking problems, or other city code violations in your area? Come see what can be done about them. *For more information or to report a code violation, contact Jan Seaman at janseaman42@comcast.net.*

August 4 – Boulevard Park and Marshall School Neighborhood Associations National Night Out Progressive Potluck – begins at 6:00 p.m. *See details on page 1.*

August 8 – Friends of the River Banks Nature Walk – 9:00 a.m., Sutter's Landing Park. *See details on page 3.*

August 8 – Screen on the Green – Sundown, Grant Park, Grant Park, 22nd and C Streets. Join Friends of Grant Park to watch "Bee Movie" under the stars. *See details on page 4.*

August 8 – Second Saturday Art Walk – Each month, galleries around town stay open late into the evening to showcase specific artists and new showings. Many serve wine and hors d'oeuvres. *Check out their web site at www.sacramento-second-saturday.org.*

August 13 – BPNA Board Meeting – 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. Contact Rob Sperling at 444-8147 for location and to add items to the agenda. *Open to BPNA members and other interested neighbors.*

August 15 – Copy and Ad Deadline for September issue of Park Beat. To submit articles and calendar entries, email Asha Jennings at ashajennings@gmail.com or call her at 803-7409. To place an ad, call Rob Sperling at 444-8147.

August 17 – Area 1 Neighborhood Advisory Group (NAG) Meeting – 6:15 to 8:30 p.m., Hart Senior Center, 27th & I Streets. *Contact Janine Martindale at 808-8193 or at jmartindale@cityofsacramento.org for information.*

August 22 – Green Thumb Brigade – 8:00 to 10:00 a.m., meet at 711 22nd Street. Come help keep our traffic circles in tiptop shape! We also need volunteers to water the traffic calming devices. *Please contact Sally Flory-O'Neil at 446-3390 or sallyfo@hotmail.com if you would like information on traffic calming devices in need of watering – some of them may be near your home!*

August 27 – Friends of Grant Park Crafty Kids at the Park – 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Grant Park, 22nd and C Streets. *See details on page 4.*

Every Monday – Monday Night Skate – 7:00 p.m., Meet at the parking lot at the corner of 3rd and S Streets. *For more information, go to www.sacramentoskating.com or call Brian Malone at 715-2808 or Bernard Scoville at 447-8288.*



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A New Era for Urban Farming in the Neighborhood: The New Era Community Garden

By Margaret Buss

Thanks to a core group of nearby residents, Tiffanie Simpson, Robert and Lyvonne Sewell, Sean and Lori Ward, Danny Gutierrez, Martha Turner, and Deniz Tuncer, and a very supportive landowner, Thomas Roth, what had been a vacant lot with a "For Rent" sign is sprouting into a new community garden on 26th Street, just off the B-C Street Alley. The garden is truly a neighborhood effort: about 75 percent of the people who are renting plots live within a few block radius of the garden, with news of the garden spreading to friends and neighbors by word of mouth and email.

It hasn't been easy. The group has spent hours finding a water source, obtaining liability insurance, designing a tentative garden layout, and figuring out a budget to make it all work. With input from Bill Maynard, the City's Community Garden liaison, and others experienced with community gardens, and with the lease just recently signed, the **New Era Community Garden** is officially underway.

The Garden has room for 25 – 12'x12' plots. The plots are being rented out as full plots, half plots, and quarter plots to give gardeners a range of size options. The site has been scraped and leveled, but the real work of amending the soil, laying out the plots, installing an irrigation system, starting a compost pile, and all the other joyful tasks of gardening are ahead. The group welcomes any volunteers interested in helping create this new urban landscape.

All garden plots are currently rented, but if you would like to be on the waiting list, call Deniz Tuncer at 447-4457 or email her at deniztuncer@email.com. The group is renting the lot closest to the alley, but if the landowner does not rent the adjacent lot to anyone else, there may be an opportunity to expand the garden, especially if demand for more plots can be demonstrated.

*This will be a welcome addition to the Central City.
Many thanks to the inspiration and perspiration of those neighbors who are making it happen!*

Sacramento Old City Association Home Tour

It's coming soon – the **Sacramento Old City Association (SOCA) Home Tour**, featuring Boulevard Park, is **Sunday, September 20**, between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Eight homes will be open for the tour, and a street fair will be held on the 21st Street medians between F and G Streets and G and H Streets, with a live band and booths featuring old-house craftsmen, stained glass artisans, energy conservation information, information on researching your own house history, and more. Car buffs note: Model A Fords will be curbside in front of each house on the tour, courtesy of the Capital As Car Club.

Tickets for the tour are \$18 if purchased in advance and \$20 the day of the Tour, but bicyclists need only pay \$19. Advance ticket sales are at Green Sacramento (1931 H Street), Joann's Elegant Gifts, (1019 L Street), Collected Works (4524 Freeport Blvd), The Avid Reader (1600 Broadway), and the 57th Street Antique Mall (875 57th Street). Tickets will also be available at SOCA's booth outside the MARRS building on 20th Street at the August and September Second Saturdays, and at the BPNA Spaghetti Dinner on September 12th.

If you are interested in volunteering for a two-hour shift as a docent for the tour, please contact SOCA at www.sacoldcity.org.

BPNA Board of Directors 2009

CHAIR	Rob Sperling	444-8147	robsperling@sbcglobal.net
SECRETARY	Catherine Turrill	278-5786	turrillc@csus.edu
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Margaret Buss		448-6246	mbuss@jps.net
Marc de la Vergne		448-6909	marcangela@comcast.net
Sally Flory-O'Neil		446-3390	sallyfo@hotmail.com
Dave Philipp		212-1322	dave@davephilipp.com

***Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association purpose:** The BPNA is created to support, promote, and improve the quality of life for the residents of the greater Boulevard Park neighborhood. By achieving this goal we strive thereby to improve the quality of life for others who work and live in and around Boulevard Park and for Sacramento as a whole.*

Historic Homes of Boulevard Park

2131 F Street or 516 22nd Street – Edward F. Dalton House

This 11,000 sq. ft. home, built in 1913 was designed by the prominent local architectural firm of Seadler and Hoen and occupies the largest lot in Boulevard Park. It fuses both Prairie and Colonial Revival styles with an attention to details that gives this house an almost Edwardian formality. Details include both Art Nouveau leaded and beveled glass windows, and unusual Secessionist details on the pilasters. The house has a sprung-floor ballroom in the basement and a swimming pool in the back yard.

The home was built by Edward F. Dalton, Vice President and Treasurer of California State Life Insurance Company. He was famous for holding concerts in the alcove room during which neighbors would gather outside & listen. It later became a missionary summer training institute with a church outreach program in the basement that served Sunday pancake breakfasts to many young people. The current owners have continued the spirit of this generosity by providing free Thanksgiving meals to neighborhood needy and have opened their home to neighborhood groups as a meeting and gathering place.



[Adapted from "Boulevard Park: A Walking Tour" by the Historic Boulevard Park Committee.]

Seeking Volunteers!

Do you enjoy reading this newsletter, have you had a great time meeting neighbors at one of our events? You can thank a volunteer for that. Each month volunteers make decisions for the neighborhood, update the website, deliver your *Park Beat* newsletter, help plan events like this month's National Night Out and maintain the traffic circles. We have a small group of volunteers that help keep our neighborhood the unique neighborhood that it is, but we are need of more help. With a number of upcoming events like National Night Out, the Spaghetti Dinner and board elections for 2010 we are looking for neighbors that can donate a few hours a month. Please consider volunteering in your neighborhood.

If you are able to help at an event, write a newsletter article, or take an active role on the 2010 board of directors contact Rob at Robsperling@sbcglobal.net.

Committees

Membership: Sally Flory-O'Neil, 446-3390

Preservation: Margaret Buss, 444-0406

Park Beat Production Team

Editor: Asha Jennings, 803-7409, ashajennings@gmail.com

Advertising Manager: TBA

Graphic Designer: Katworks, 707-865-2899, katworks@comcast.net

Repro: Grady's Copy Shop, 1228 H Street, 444-6166

Block Captain Coordinator: Leo Pauly

Great ad rates! Call 444-8147 for details.

The deadline for ads and copy for the Sept. issue of *Park Beat* is Aug. 15th by 5pm!

Beat the Heat Down By the Riverside

Looking for free family fun and learning experiences? Want to cool your toes in the American River? Don't forget the Friends of the River Bank (FORB) monthly expedition down to the river bank on Second Saturday. You never know what you will see on the river – ducks, turtles, beaver, and other critters. Participants gather at 9:00 a.m. at Sutters Landing Park, at the very end of 28th Street by the skateboard park. Bring binoculars if you have them, sunscreen, water, and a change of shoes or clothes for those who find the water irresistible.

To see if there will be a special presentation, check out the most up-to-date FORB information at the Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association website at www.boulevardparkna.org/friendsoftheriverbanks.

BNPA New & Renewing Members

June 16 – July 15, 2009

Daisy Mah & John Hickey

Bernard Scoville

Kate Styrsky

Correction: RT Tram Route

Last month's *Park Beat* reported the Regional Transit (RT) long-range plan included a tram line leading from the Railyards up H Street through the neighborhood. Although the map shows the alignment on H Street, the report states the alignment is proposed for J Street, which, as the commercial corridor leading east, would be both more logical and beneficial. We are trying to get confirmation from RT on the actual alignment. We regret any inconvenience the confusion may have created.

Not getting your *Park Beat* newsletter regularly or can't remember where you put it? You can be added to the email distribution of the newsletter, just send an email to Rob Sperling at robsperling@sbcglobal.net. You will still receive the paper copy, as usual.

Friends of Grant Park Upcoming Events

Come and join us for fun at Grant Park! Bring your friends and make some new ones. Friends of Grant Park hosts these summer events in an ongoing effort to create lasting community connections. *We look forward to seeing our old friends and welcoming new ones!*

Sweet Treats in the Park on National Night Out – August 4th from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. – Join your friends and neighbors for some yummy frozen treats!

Screen on the Green (sponsored by Steve Cohn) – August 8th at sundown – Join us to watch “Bee Movie” under the stars.

Crafty Kids at the Park – August 27th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. – Wear something that can get messy and join us for some fun crafts and play!

All of our events are funded by First 5 Sacramento, the Prop 10 tobacco tax using funds to promote the healthy development of children under five.

For more information, visit www.friendsofgrantpark.com.

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Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association Membership Form

Send form with your \$5.00 to \$15.00 check (less than 4 cents a day per household!) for the remainder of the calendar year to:
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