



PARK BEAT

The Pulse of Greater Boulevard Park

Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association • Box 163179, Sacramento 95816 • October 2010

George Bramson Memorial Scholarship Award Presented

Carolyn Bramson, George's eldest daughter, had the honor of presenting the *CSUS George Bramson Memorial Award in Historic Preservation* at this year's **BPNA Spaghetti Dinner**. The recipients were **Heather Downey** and **Bill Burg**, two Sacramento State University Masters students who have already made significant contributions to historic preservation in the Sacramento area.

Heather Downey's thesis project involved a compilation of Sacramento historic research resulting in a comprehensive interpretive plan; "Old Sacramento Underground Tours: Get the Low Down." The Old Sacramento Underground Tours started this summer and are offered in partnership with California State Parks. Heather's project is meant as a tool to orient tour guides and volunteers by equipping them to lead engaging and entertaining historic tours designed around Sacramento's street-raising history of the 1870-80's.

Bill Burg's project includes the extensive research and considerable local legwork

required to nominate the Boulevard Park Neighborhood to the National Register of Historic Places as a Historic District. Bill's name may be familiar to many *Park Beat* readers due to his frequent contributions of articles regarding the history of Boulevard Park.

Both Heather and Bill attended the Spaghetti Dinner, as did Sacramento State University **Professor Lee Simpson**. Professor Simpson is the head of the Public History program that is responsible for issuing Masters Degrees to students, including Heather and Bill. In addition to helping foster student's interest and respect for historic preservation, Professor Simpson has been a great asset to the administration of the scholarship award. Jon Marshack is also recognized for his spirited contribution in serving on the committee which reviews all submitted CSUS projects and selects the scholarship award recipient/s.

The George Bramson Memorial Scholarship was established (in 2002) in honor of George Bramson, who was a noted historic preservation

activist in Sacramento. The purpose of the award, granted every other year, is to honor achievement in the field of historic preservation in the Sacramento area by CSUS students. Presenting the award at the spaghetti dinner seems particularly appropriate, as the dinner is held at the Bramson family home, a residence placed in 1998 on the National Register of Historic Places.

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Professor Simpson, Heather Downey, and Bill Burg during the presentation of the scholarship award. Photo by David Roberts.

Annual Spaghetti Dinner: A Wonderful Neighborhood Tradition

BPNA's Annual Spaghetti Dinner, on Saturday, September 11, was an enjoyable evening for all. The weather was perfect, and approximately 190 neighbors, relatives and friends attended this year's dinner, including **Mayor Kevin Johnson**, **Councilman Steve Cohn**, **Sue Brown** from Councilman Cohn's Office, **Cortez Quinn** from Supervisor Dickinson's Office, incoming supervisor **Phil Serna**, and **POP Officers Sergeant Ellis**, and **Officers Wilhite** and **Callaghan**.

Joel Schwartz entertained us all with his science show. And the BPNA Board honored **Pete**, **Robyn** and **Jesse Bramson** for their continued contributions to the neighborhood.

The BPNA Board of Directors would like to thank all the volunteers without whom the spaghetti dinner would not have been possible.

These include **Jim** and **Gail Betzing** who cooked the spaghetti, **Jon Skarstad** who prepared the vegetarian sauce, **Greg Smith** who cooked the meat sauce, **Nita Davidson** who made two delicious salad dressings, **Sally Flory-O'Neil** who brought tomatoes, all of the 34 people who helped setting up, taking tickets, at the bar, in the kitchen on the serving line, and cleaning up, and the Bramson family for the use of their house. The Board would also like to thank all of those that brought deserts to share for the evening. Thank you everyone!

BPNA earned over \$900!

This money funds printing of Park Beat, maintenance of BPNA's web site (<http://boulevardparkna.org/>), and other deserving projects in the neighborhood.

Places to Go, People to See

October 6 – BPNA Board Meeting – 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. Contact Catherine Turrill at 278-5786 for location and to add items to the agenda. *Open to BPNA members and other interested neighbors.*

October 8 – Friends of Grant Park Sponsors Urban Community-Building Ideas with Mark Lakeman (Co-founder of The City Repair Project in Portland, OR) – 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., Hart Senior Center, 27th & I Streets. Join Friends of Grant Park in welcoming Mark Lakeman, co-founder of The City Repair Project, to explore different ideas for how to build community in our urban core. The City Repair project focuses on bringing together humanity and our natural world in sustainable ways. City Repair began in Portland, Oregon with the idea that localization - of culture, of economy, of decision-making - is a necessary foundation of sustainability. By reclaiming urban spaces to create community-oriented places, we plant the seeds for greater neighborhood communication, empower our communities and nurture our local culture. *For more information about City Repair, go to www.cityrepair.org. (This event is geared toward adults.)*

October 9 – 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.*

October 9 – 10-10-10 River Restoration Project – meet at 9:00 a.m. at Sutter's Landing Park at the north end of 28th Street (next to the skateboard park). *See details on page 4.*

October 10 – Friends of Grant Park Arts and Crafts and Play Extravaganza at Grant Park – 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., Grant Park, 22nd and C Streets. Join Friends of Grant Park for an arts and crafts and play extravaganza in the park! Make several different projects, play in the park, and enjoy the entertaining, interactive music of Joey Ventitelli. Bring your friends and family and meet new friends at this fun event! *Remember to dress the kids to get messy!*

October 15 – Copy and Ad Deadline for November issue of Park Beat. To submit articles and calendar entries, email Asha Jennings at ashajennings@gmail.com or call 803-7409. To place an ad, call Jim Younkin at 997-5081 or email jayounkin@gmail.com.

October 18 – 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.

October 23 – 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!*

October 23 – Friends of Grant Park Fall Planting in the Garden – 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., New Era Community Garden, 208 26th Street. Join Friends of Grant Park in learning about what to plant in our gardens in the fall. Help to plant the children's garden in the Community Garden and bring home lots of planting ideas. *Dress the kids to get dirty!*

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.*

Ghoulie & Ghostie in the neighborhood!

The **Midtown Business Association** is sponsoring their annual **Midtown Trick or Treat** on J Street, **October 30**, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Dress up your kids in their Halloween best to get trick or treats from participating businesses, and stop by Relles Florist, 2400 J Street, for some spooky fun. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Pets and zombies must be on a leash at all times!

This year, as an added treat – not a trick – dress up your dogs and puppies for the **Costume Pooch Parade and Contest** from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the same day on 20th Street between K and L. This event is hosted by the Kennedy Gallery, on 20th Street between K & L. A \$10 donation is requested, as it is a fundraiser for the United Animal Nations, a non-profit group devoted to helping animals in crisis, whether from natural or human-made disasters (see www.uan.org for more information). It will be followed by a “Yappy Hour” on the patio. *For more information, go to www.mbasac.com or call 442-1500.*

October Garden Guide

By Talini's Garden Center & Nursery – 5601 Folsom Blvd.

Things to Plant:

Put in some bright, happy-for-cold weather pansies, violas, snapdragons, Iceland poppies, or sweet peas. Can't decide? Definitely grow some sweet peas; you will thank yourself come spring, with their heavenly fragrance unmatched by no other. You can grow sweet peas either from plants from the nursery, or very easily from seeds sown directly in the ground. Be sure to soak seeds first; and plant in rich, well-drained soil in a sunny spot.

October is a great month for planting trees and shrubs, including California natives. Mild temperatures help reduce transplant shock, and allow the plants to settle into their new surroundings more easily. Keep watering, especially if the rains don't start this month. This is also a great time to select trees for fall color. Some trees with outstanding fall foliage include: Chinese pistache, red oak, tupelo, ginkgo, and scarlet oak. Colors can vary with trees of the same variety, so it's a good idea to see them while they're wearing their Sunday best.

There are still plenty of winter vegetable starts at the nursery: lettuce, chard, spinach, beans, peas, celery, onions, cauliflower, broccoli, and more. Seeds to be sown: radish, spinach, peas and fava beans. Fava beans, by the way, are a great cover crop as well; they fix nitrogen in their roots, and then leave some in the soil for your garden to use later.

George Bramson Memorial Scholarship Award Presented, continued from page 1

Donations are greatly appreciated to help support the important work of the scholarship and to honor the memory of George Bramson. The University Foundation at Sacramento State administers the scholarship and is a philanthropic 501(c)(3) organization. Checks should be made payable to: “The University Foundation at Sacramento State.” Be sure to include “George Bramson Endowment” on the memo line to ensure your donation is applied to the correct fund. Checks can be mailed to: CSUS - Office of University Development – 6000 J Street – Sacramento, CA 95819-6026. For further information: contact Development Associate Jeffrey Sharp at Sacramento State at 278-5184 or jsharp@csus.edu.

BPNA Board of Directors 2010

CHAIR	Catherine Turrill	278-5786	turrillc@csus.edu
SECRETARY	Greg Smith	442-4201	lafnlupn@pacbell.net
TREASURER	Hal Edmonds	599-5814	capnhal@gmail.com
Margaret Buss		448-6246	mbuss@jps.net
Asha Jennings		803-7409	ashajennings@gmail.com
Tom Martens		714-4563	tnlsac@comcast.net
Julianne Richards		443-6149	jrichards@cde.ca.gov

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.

Crime Alert

By Julianne Richards

According to police who report regularly at meetings of the **Neighborhood Advisory Group (NAG)**, there has been an increase in "crimes of opportunity" in Midtown, probably due to the "perfect storm" of the economic downturn, with more poverty and reduced police staffing in the city. The uptick in crime includes robberies, car break-ins or opportunistic stealing from open vehicles, vandalism, and some home burglaries, usually through unlocked windows and doors. The street robberies most often happen late at night as patrons leave bars and restaurants to walk to their cars.

It is more important than ever to practice crime prevention, especially as the days get shorter: do not leave your doors and windows unlocked; avoid leaving cell phones, wallets, laptops, etc. in your car; do not leave gardening tools where they are accessible or in view; put your bicycles away where they cannot be seen; avoid carrying large amounts of cash and your credit cards if you are walking; if you are walking at night, do not walk alone.

We have all heard safety and crime prevention presentations at various meetings and at work. For those of us who work for the State, crime prevention tips are part of our safety and orientation classes. All it takes is one moment of forgetfulness or carelessness that can result in endangering your person or property.

If you see something suspicious, do not hesitate to call the police. Even if they are unable to respond immediately, the call log helps them see patterns of crime, which in turn helps them utilize their resources more efficiently. If it is a non-emergency situation, you should also call the city's universal reporting line, 3-1-1. The operator will log the location and nature of incident, which then go into the overall police incident log. I personally spotted an individual on my block within this last month who, in retrospect, was probably a smash-and-grab thief. He was walking in the street from car to car and looking in the windows on the driver's side. I have no doubt that if he hadn't spotted me watching him, one of my neighbors would have had a car window broken with a missing car stereo, etc. Be alert and be aware!

New and Renewing Members

8/16/2010 - 9/15/2010

Anne Arthur, Naomi Keller, Joe Cress and Frances Fort

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: Jim Younkin, 997-5081, jayounkin@gmail.com

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

Reproduction: Tri-City Technologies, 503-5300

Block Captain Coordinator: Leo Pauly

Great ad rates! Call Jim at 997-5081 for details.

The deadline for ads and copy for the Nov. issue of Park Beat is Oct. 15th by 5pm!

BPNA 2011 Nominating Committee Formed

The nominating committee for the **2011 Board of Directors of BPNA** has been formed, consisting of **Hal Edmonds (chair)**, **Sally Flory-O'Neill** and **Rob Sperling**, both former BPNA officers. The committee will submit nominations for 2 or possibly 3 seats on the Board, with the election to be held at the **January 2011 General Meeting**. To be eligible to serve on the Board, a person must be a member in good standing of BPNA and have attended at least three meetings or official events (*Yard Sale, National Night Out, Spaghetti Dinner, Holiday Party*) of the Association in the previous year.

Anyone interested in being considered for nomination or with questions about the process should contact one of the committee members, whose email addresses are as follows: Hal Edmonds (capnhal@gmail.com), Sally Flory-O'Neill (sallyfo@hotmail.com), and Rob Sperling (robsperling@sbcglobal.net).

News from Friends of the River Banks

For their part in the 10-10-10 event (see article on page 4), the FORB will be engaged in a river restoration project on **Saturday, October 9**. Conducted in partnership with the California Native Plant Society, this project is intended to enhance the health of the banks of the American River and make them more resilient to stress caused by factors such as climate change. It also is envisioned as the first step in a longer-term project of monitoring and restoring this important part of our neighborhood. If you are interested in helping with this special 10-10-10 event, join other residents at Sutter's Landing Park at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 9. Please wear appropriate clothing for work along the river-banks (participants will identify, remove, and replace invasive weeds). If possible, bring your own gloves, trowel, and shovel. It always is a good idea to bring bottled water and/or a snack to any FORB activity.

Friends of the River Banks is pleased to partner with Friends of Grant Park to encourage everyone, especially families and children, to enjoy and appreciate wildlife and spend time with nature. These events are funded by First 5 Sacramento, which uses Prop 10 tobacco tax funds to support the healthy development of children ages 0 to 5. *Additional information about the First 5 Sacramento Commission is available online at www.First5Sacramento.net or by calling 876-5865.*

Look for Friends of Grant Park October Events in the Calendar on Page 2!

10 – 10 – 10

That cryptic title is not just about the much awaited re-opening of the Crocker Art Museum on October 10, it also refers to the day of global action about climate change in which many Sacramento groups also are participating.

To date, five different local projects are listed on the website, <http://www.350.org>. These include a river-based activity planned by the Friends of the River Banks, the only event that is not scheduled on October 10; a 100-mile potluck and idea exchange (using local food products that have traveled no more than 100 miles); an initiative requiring McGeorge Law School faculty, staff, and students to commute to campus by any means other than cars; a communal work day in the school garden of the Fruit Ridge Elementary and Language Academy of Sacramento; and the opportunity to help members of the Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates (SABA) with bike valet parking at the Crocker Art Museum's re-opening celebration.

Residents also can do things on their own to address climate change, such as fix up their bicycles and use them for local transportation, install fluorescent light bulbs, put up a clothes line instead of loading up the electric dryer, or even plant a garden. For more details about any of the scheduled group activities listed above, visit <http://www.350.org/oct10/action-search?country=us&city=sacramento>.

Don't hesitate – participate! There are many things that individuals and groups can do to help with the global work parties planned for October 10.

Historic House: 2131 H Street

The former home of Dr. Aden C. Hart, a founder of Sutter Hospital, is one of the most eclectic residences in Boulevard Park and the only one listed as "Essential" in the city's 1978 Boulevard Park Preservation Area Survey. Designed by architect Alden W. Campbell and built in 1909, this large house has unusual sculptural embellishments that have long attracted the attention of passersby, such as the carved lion's head over the front porch. Other distinctive details include a Palladian-style loggia on the third floor, Ionic columns, art glass windows, and several different types of shingles.

Those are the physical features of the house. However, it also has attracted attention for other reasons, including numerous stories of paranormal activities that make it the most appropriate selection for the October issue of *Park Beat*. Unoccupied for many years, the house is said to be haunted. Whether or not the rumors of ghosts are true, they certainly fit the house's lonely appearance. It is hard to imagine that any child would find it easy to step on its front porch and call out "trick or treat" on Hallowe'en.

Be a Good Neighbor!

A friendly reminder as fall approaches to be considerate of those around you when using leaf blowers to clean up the deluge of fall leaves.

City regulations provide that gasoline-powered blowers may only be used between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on Monday through Saturday and between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Sunday.

EDMONDS AND PHILIPP: *Your Way Home*



Whether buying or selling, call the team that lives & works in Boulevard Park.
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REALTOR

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Liz Edmonds

REALTOR

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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:
P.O. Box 163179, Sacramento, CA 95816-9179

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

New Member **Renewing Member** **Yes! I want to help. Call me.**

Would you like to receive the newsletter by email, as well as home delivery?