

The California Village News

April / May 2009

**Next Meeting
of the California
Community Council
7:30 PM
April 14th, 2009
Ebersole Community Center
5701 Kellogg Avenue**

Planned Agenda:

- 1) **Call to order by President
Pledge of Allegiance**
- 2) **Minutes**
- 3) **Treasurer's Report**
- 4) **Police Report**
- 5) **Guests**
- 6) **Old Business**
- 7) **New Business**
- 8) **Adjournment**

**2009 NSP / NBD
being run by City**

The City of Cincinnati has now taken over the administration of nsp and nbd funding programs. For as many years as California has participated in at least one of these programs, they have been administered by Invest In Neighborhoods.

As one initiative of last years planning for the 2009 budget, the city proposed to take over the administration of all functions of Invest in Neighborhoods. The city has allowed \$50,000 / year for a staff person. The Invest in Neighborhood staff spends endless hours assisting neighborhoods with technical training, organizes the yearly Neighborhood Summit as well as administering nsp and nbd programs.

At the time of this writing, the city has spent over double the amount allowed. The good news is that a decision has been made and California has it's 2 proposals in. Hopefully contracts will be awarded promptly and we can start our projects. We use the funds for things like the newsletter, beautification, website and Ebersole Center.

California Yard Sale

This spring's community yard sale, to benefit the California Heritage Foundation, will be held on Saturday, April 11th. Contact Jo Shepherd at 232-0320, Diana Weir at 231-5763 or inquire at Lexi's Pit Stop to sign up. The cost to participate is \$15. Funds will be used for utilities and upkeep of the Old California School. The donation gets you a yard sign indicating your participation, advertisement in local papers and 2 large signs on Kellogg Avenue. Do you part and get rid of that stuff that's cluttering up your home. Number of slots is limited.

Great American Cleanup

This spring's Great American Cleanup, organized by Keep Cincinnati Beautiful and sponsored by United Dairy Farmers will be held on Saturday, April 25th, 2009. We will be gathering at the park sign at the Meadows at 9:00 am. The goal will be to clean public areas of the community including our park. Come and help your neighborhood shake off the winter blahs and shape up for spring! Refreshments will be provided.

California Easter Egg Hunt

Sponsored by the
California Community
Council
And
Lebo's
no cost for residents

April 5, 2009

2:00 pm

Ebersole Community
Center

Everyone Welcome!

Treats and Prizes
Bring your Easter Basket!



BACK IN THE GOOD OLD DAYS

When my family moved back to California after leaving for a few years, we moved into 5850 Panama St. (house is now gone). After living there a short time we moved next door to 5856, with Mrs. Dees as our landlord. Our family, 5 children, mother and dad lived in the 3 rooms downstairs, Mrs. Dees with her two sons would either live upstairs or in the back cottage in the back. Many people moved in the upstairs apartment especially when the Race Track was in town. One year a woman I knew as Clarissa moved in with her two sons, Glenn and Jack.

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*Birthday Greetings to
our community
members and friends.*

April Birthdays

2nd	Chelsea Shepherd
3rd	Amber Jackson
4th	Randy Roberts
6th	Morgan Shepherd
13th	Brandi Blankenship
23rd	Bryan Keller
23rd	Stella Scott

May Birthdays

6th	Rhonda Ruprich
10th	Erin Davis
12th	Mike Christ
19th	Tina Hale
20th	Billy Pilerton, Jr.
20th	Brittany Birmingham
21st	Richard Jordan
23rd	Dave Ross
24th	Darryl Christ
24th	Jessica Roberts

**BACK IN THE
GOOD OLD DAYS**

Cont. from Page 1)

What a time we had all playing together with all the other children around our area. Up until just a few weeks ago I had never known what had happened to the Dody boys.

One Sunday Kathy Helton (Karl Clark's daughter stopped in and asked me if I knew any Dodys?) I first I thought she was saying Dottie, so I asked what is the last name? She said that is the last name. Karl had received a phone call from Gene Burriss (we all knew the Burriss's, relative to Diane Havey) Gene had asked Karl if he knew any Dodys which he said he didn't remember any but I will ask Jackie. When I figured out who it was, I was totally elated as I had never known where the Dody boys had ended up. I called Karl to get Gene's number, he lives in Melbourne, Fl. and Glenn is a neighbor of his. They were gathered at a local VFW one afternoon and started talking to one another. Seems one said they had lived in Cincinnati and then someone said California, Ohio and then they said we lived on Panama St. Gene said I lived on Panama St. too at one time. So that settles that.

Gene was able to get the phone numbers for the Dody brothers and I now have this info. Glenn called me and we talked for quite a while. I told him the last time I saw him was at the old Topper Club that my girlfriends and I went to for dancing, it was located downtown. He said they moved to Price Hill when they moved from here and then later to Florida. Both of them served in the military. I mentioned how we used to play with stick horses with ropes around their necks and he mentioned how I would ride on his back like a jockey. Living in this small area with so many people around you does not overtake the hardships you had at the time. Seems like we were so busy playing we didn't think about anything else. I promised to keep in touch with them now and have added more former Californians to my collection of bonded friends.

Brother Jack called me later in the week and more reminiscing to the good old days. Jack asked if I remembered the tree in the back yard. I sure did, it was a mulberry tree and we all hung on it at times. I remember climbing to the top which was near the garage and I climbed up on the garage roof and wondered how I would get down. Finally jumped down. I didn't have anything like jeans or slacks so I guess it got quite interesting with just dresses on. Speaking of dresses, we had one small closet in our apartment and had to take care of our whole family. Can't remember it being overcrowded. Jack said he attended California School so I may have him on some of the school pictures. Glenn was my age and Jack was Bob's age.

I often think how old Mrs. Dolly Becker, who lived next door would stand at her window, with her dust cap on her head and watch everything we did. We thought she was nosey but probably watching so much that went on in the yard next to her. I called Jack Dees to let him know about the Dodys, he had never heard from them either. Jack Dees is still living in

Arizona and retired from driving over-the-road trucks.

We moved back in fall of 1937, after the big flood, and about froze to death in that big old brick home on Panama St. Times were very rough, well into the big depression, we didn't have a lot to eat or the things that children have now days but we had a lot of other children to share whatever you had. Just living in California bonded you with one another. When I walk down to Panama St. now it just looks so dead and cannot believe that so much went on there way back. Things then seem so much simpler than today.

**Jackie Kuzniczci Frazier, Calif. Historian
110 Eldorado Ave.
Cincinnati 45228, OH.**

RECENT OBITUARIES

DONALD SMITH, long time resident. Lost his life due to Parkinson's' Disease.

FREDIA PRUHS, wife of former Norman Betschger and Joe Pruhs, Mother to Norman and Rhonda Betschger. Lived here many years.

WANDA JONES LANTER, wife of Jack Lanter and mother of Steve and Jeff Lanter. Lived many years in California and parents lived here until their deaths.

MILDRED MUSSELMAN, lived here back in the 30's, when she lost her home to the big flood, moved back in the 70's with her grandchildren. She was 97 years old. Marie, grand daughter presented me with some pics of old California.

JEAN ROBERTS, mother to Kenny Robetts, moved here in 1959. Raised her large family and a lot of them still live here. She has many grandchildren and great grandchildren. She was 83 yrs. Lived with Margaret and Kenny until the day of her death.

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES TO ALL THESE FAMILIES.

Get well wishes to all our shut-ins and hope they have a speedy recovery. **SISSY SCOTT SECEN, BILL CHRIST, CHARLEY FRAZIER, BOBBY WEIR, HELEN TERRY, MARGIE WILLIAMS AND TO THOSE WE DO NOT KNOW ABOUT.**

Don't forget the Memorial Day Service at the Monument somewhere around 10:30 AM. Hope to see some of you out there in respect to our veterans.

**California Community Council
Meeting
February 10, 2009**

The meeting opened at 7:30 P.M. with President Dave Ross leading the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Roll Call of officers was read and found that Mike Christ was not present. There were twelve members and four guests present at the meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and one amendment was made. A motion to accept the amended minutes was made by Jo Shepherd and seconded by Hilda Davenport. A vote on the motion to accept the minutes passed.

The treasurers report was read by Kathleen Chandler. A motion to accept the report as read was made by Jackie Frazier and seconded by Bess Carnes. A vote on the motion passed.

The Police report was given by Officer Germaine Love. California incurred eight thefts in January 2009. That is less than 3% of reported crime for District Two. Issues that were brought up included the investigation of recent car break-ins and unusual truck activity on Waits Street at odd AM hours.

Guests

Mary from the Mt. Washington Recreation Center displayed flyers of programs available at the facility. She mentioned that enrollment for the summer day camp programs will be very soon.

Old Business

Dave reported that the NSP/NBD programs have not been totally resolved. Invest in Neighborhoods will be taken over by the city Community Development Department but the logistics have not yet been resolved. We can, however submit proposals.

A needs assessment/survey has been received for Invest in Neighborhoods asking for community input. Jackie Frazier made a motion to fill out and return the assessment/survey with a positive response. Jo Shepherd second the motion. A vote passed the motion. Dave will fill out the forms and return them.

New Business

The Great American Clean-up will be held on April 25, 2009 beginning at 9:00 A.M. at the Meadows Park. The California Yard Sale will be on April 11, 2009. There is a \$15.00 participation fee that will go to the Heritage Foundation. Contacts for participation are Diana Wier, Lexi's Market, or Jo Shepherd. The Easter Egg Hunt for the children will be on April 5, 2009. Jo Shepherd will contact the owner of Lebo's about the donation of hard boiled and decorated eggs for the event. A thank you and goodbyes were expressed to Matt and Amanda Zuber for their support and involvement with the California Community.

With no further business before the council, Kathleen Chandler made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Bess Carnes seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Havey, Secretary

Congratulations to California.

We are the safest community in the City of Cincinnati. We ranked fifty-three out of the fifty-three neighborhoods within the city for 2008, with the fewest reported crimes! Keep up the good work.

**California Community Council
Meeting
March 10, 2009**

The meeting opened at 7:30 P.M. with President Dave Ross leading the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Roll call of officers was read and found that John Williams, Kathleen Chandler and Mike Christ were not present. There were nine (9) members and four (4) guests present at the meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read. There was one amendment made adding Jo Shepherd as a contact person for the Heritage Foundation yard sale. A motion made by Hilda Davenport and seconded by Bess Carnes was voted on and the minutes were approved as amended.

The treasurers report was read and a motion to accept the report was made by Jo Shepherd and seconded by Jackie Frazier. A vote on the motion passed.

The police report was given by Officer Kelly Macbeth. California incurred four (4) thefts in the month of February. March is "Lock it up" month. Residents are encouraged to watch for and report suspicious characters and observed activity. Congratulations to California. We are the safest community in the City of Cincinnati. We ranked fifty-three out of the fifty-three neighborhoods with the city. Keep up the good work. Activity that was brought up to the officers for consideration were transients, children on four wheelers, motor scooters and go carts. Some concerns were also raised about bonfires in the area. This is a fire department area of jurisdiction.

Guests

Mary with the Cincinnati Recreation Department in Mt. Washington announced that there are several events coming up at that facility. April 4th will be an Easter egg hunt, April 18th will be a princess party and April 25th will be a pirate party. Contact her at the center in Mt. Washington to get details as to times, ages, etc. On April 23rd, the Mayor will be holding a Job Fair at the Duke Center and Mary will be hiring for a 'Green Team' for landscaping.

Old Business

Announcements made were:

Pancakes in the Woods at California Woods on March 15th from 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. A shuttle service will be available from ORSANCO and Ebersole.

Easter egg hunt will be April 5th at 2:00 P.M. Jo Shepherd is in charge of the event.

The Great American Cleanup will be April 25th at 9:00. There is a possibility of refreshments with this event.

The Heritage Foundation yard sale will be April 11th. Contact Jo Shepherd, Diane Weir or Lexi's Pit Stop for participation forms.

New Business

Dave reported that the council received information from the City of Cincinnati regarding a pilot program of turning vacant lots into community gardens. Four (4) of the lots that were identified happen to be located in California. These lots have historically been mowed and the mowing paid for by the city. Turning them into garden lots will save the city money; however there are some requirements regarding the type of garden and insurance. The council also has some concerns with regard to insurance, fencing, budget (there is none) and incentives for participation. An idea was brought up about the lots becoming prairie gardens like along the medians of the expressways.

With no further business before the council, Jackie Frazier made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Diane Weir. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully, Submitted,
Diane Havey, Secretary

Cincinnati's
Southeastern
Gateway
California

A Neighborhood of the
City of Cincinnati, Ohio

**California Community Council
Officers
2009**

- President** David Ross
- Vice President** John Williams
- Secretary** Diane Havey
- Treasurer** Kathleen Chandler
- Board of Governors** Mike Christ
Jo Shepherd
Hilda Davenport
Jackie Frazier
Diana Weir

NSP Coordinator: Kathleen Chandler

Materials and information for inclusion in the California Village News should be submitted to: Jo Shepherd, 5812 Bryson Street, California, Ohio 45228

Editor: Jo Shepherd 232-0320
Publisher: Kathleen Chandler 624-6257
Columnist: Jackie Frazier 231-4402

St. Jerome Holy Week Schedule

You and loved ones are invited to join Father Carl in the celebration of Holy Week and the Resurrection of Our Lord.

- SATURDAY APRIL 4 - 5:00 P.M.
BLESSING OF PALMS AND MASS
- SUNDAY APRIL 5 - 9:00 A.M.
BLESSING OF PALMS AND MASS
- SUNDAY APRIL 5 - 11:00 A.M.
BLESSING OF PALMS - PROCESSION AND MASS
- MONDAY APRIL 6
LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE (2 priests available)
- TUESDAY APRIL 7
STATIONS AND MASS - 7:30 p.m.
- HOLY THURSDAY 9 - 7:30 P.M.
MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
- GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 10
STATIONS - NOON
ROSARY - 1:00 P.M.
LITURGY OF THE LORD' PASSION - 2:00 P.M.
Holy Communion
- HOLY SATURDAY - APRIL 11 - 9:00 P.M.
EASTER VIGIL MASS
- EASTER SUNDAY MASSES - APRIL 12
9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

THE PARISH OF ST. JEROME WISHES EVERYONE A BLESSED EASTER!

California Village News

5814 Kellogg Avenue, California, Ohio 45228

The **California Village News** is a publication of the California Community Council and published bi-monthly. The deadline for contributions to the CVN is the 20th of the month for inclusion in the following issue. The CVN welcomes letters to the editor or relevant articles and reserves the right to publish any or all submissions based on space available and appropriateness. Opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the California Community Council, Board of Governors or it's Officers. The CVN is partially funded by the City of Cincinnati Neighborhood Support Program Fund.

NSP and NBD Contracts Available

Newsletter Editor 2009

Responsibilities include coordinating and gathering information, writing articles, coordinating printing and delivery.

Park Maintenance

Includes regular park mowing of 5+ acre park, emptying trash receptacles, picking up litter.

Entry and Park Sign Maintenance

Includes maintenance of planting areas of east and west entry sign areas and park sign, throughout the growing season and planting of annuals.

Streetscape Maintenance

Includes maintenance of gateway landscaping, street trees and planting and maintenance of planter boxes of Kellogg Avenue Streetscape.

Graphic Designer

To continue to build and maintain the California Community Website.

Contact CCC President David Ross, 624-6257 for detailed specifications for the above mentioned contracts. Professional licensed and insured companies only please.