



# THE SUNDIAL

Ingleside Terraces Homes Association

July/August 2006

## President's Letter

Who among you was born, raised, and still lives in the Terraces? What a wonderful group picture it would make at the upcoming October 7 fall picnic, to be published for posterity in a future edition of the *Sundial* and the neighborhood blog. Please forward your name, address, telephone number and/or e-mail address to *shutterbug24 atworldnet.att.net*.

It is with a sense of pride and appreciation that I serve as part of an outstanding group of neighborhood volunteers dedicated to Ingleside Terraces Homes Association. Time and again, it has been shown that when neighbors stay informed, alert and in communication, the association can more readily resolve issues before they become crises.

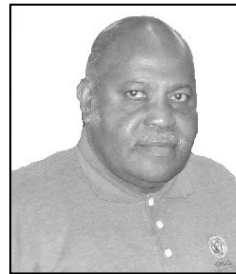
Of course, we will always have people telling us after the fact what we should have done before the fact. A better way is to get more input and participation early on. We invite you to come into the fold, working together to solve problems that affect our neighborhood and quality of life.

Another way we take care of our fellow neighbors is by watching out for each other's homes. Some frequent travelers are now making a point of informing their neighbors of

their travel plans. In addition to leaving lights on timers, they now have the confidence that they can rely on the eyes and ears of the people who live around them. This is just one of the many ways we can count on one another.

Thank you to **Sue Barnett** and her team of helpers for the *Sundial*. Thanks also go to

**Pat Werthimer**, secretary, **Mary Male Schembri**, treasurer, and **JoAnn Tracht-Rawson**, at-large, for accepting the challenge and joining forces with board members **Anne-marie Conroy**, **Donny DeLeon**, **John Duff**,



**Bill Ferrero**, **Barney Johnson**, **Norman Meunier** and **Lydia Scardina**.

Special thanks goes out to **Nikolai, Doucey, Andrei** and **Maxim Massenkoff** for opening their home for the ITHA meeting in May. Please remember that the next regular meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, September 21 at 135 Corona St. (No meetings are held in July and August.) Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.

**Lonnie Lawson**  
President

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**The 19th Annual  
CLASSIC BARBECUE & PICNIC  
at Sundial Park**   
**... coming October 7**

(See details and form on Page 7)

## ITHA BOARD

### **PRESIDENT**

Lonnie Lawson  
*Shutterbug24 at worldnet.att.net*

### **VICE PRESIDENT**

Norman Meunier  
*njmeunier at comcast.net*

### **SECRETARY**

Pat Werthimer  
*patoma at exo.net*

### **TREASURER**

Mary Male Schembri  
*mschembrimsw at hotmail.com*

### **PARKS & LANDSCAPING**

Lydia Scardina  
*ltscardina at pacbell.net*

### **WELCOME WAGON**

Donny DeLeon  
*ddeleon08 at aol.com*

### **GRAFFITI**

John Duff  
*pjduff at sbcglobal.net*

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Bill Ferrero  
*wferrero at pacbell.net*

### **AT-LARGE**

JoAnn Tracht-Rawson  
*Joann-r at comcast.net*  
Annemarie Conroy  
*annemarieconroy at msn.com*

### **NERT**

Barney Johnson  
*bcjpe415 at pacbell.net*

## **THE SUNDIAL**

Editor Sue Barnett  
*suebarnett at yahoo.com*



Editorial Assistants  
Elaine Mannon, Betty Johnson  
& Barney Johnson

# May and June Meeting Roundup

At the May 18 regular meeting, board members present were **John Duff, Norman Meunier, Mary Male Schembri, JoAnn Tracht-Rawson** and **Pat Werthimer**. Residents in attendance were **Irene Carter, Bob Karis, Doucey Massenkoff, Nikolai Massenkoff, Mary Meunier, Vicki Oppenheim, John Stacey, Bill Taylor** and **Alice Wallace**. Guest was **Frank Do**.

Treasurer **Mary Male Schembri** reported the beginning and ending balances in the treasury as follows:

- Beginning balance April 1: \$5,186.48
- Credits/deposits: \$3,980.00
- Debits/checks: <\$1,416.44>
- Service charge account analysis: \$10
- Ending balance April 30: \$7,750.04

Vice President **Norman Meunier** gave a rundown on ongoing and upcoming construction projects in the neighborhood, and NERT chair **Barney Johnson** submitted a report on emergency-preparation activities of late. A detailed summary of his report appears on Page 3 in this issue of the *Sundial*.

At the June 15 regular meeting, board members present were **Norman Meunier, Barney Johnson, Bill Ferrero, Mary Male Schembri, Lydia Scardina, JoAnn Tracht-Rawson** and **Lonnie Lawson**. Residents present were **Bill Taylor, Pam Ferrero, Paul Conroy, Mary Meunier, Irene Carter** and **Jurline Lawson**. Guest was Supervisor **Sean Elsbernd**.

Supervisor Elsbernd said his office and the Department of Real Estate have gone as far as the city can on the right-of-way issue. He suggested that all parties involved work closely together to resolve the issue on their own.

The beginning and ending balances in the treasury are:

- Beginning balance May 1: \$7,750.04
- Credits/deposits: (124 memberships): \$5,025
- Debits/checks: <\$58.29>
- Ending balance May 31: \$12,716.75

Membership chair **Bill Ferrero** reported that 205 households have paid their dues. Graffiti chair **John Duff** will paint rust from urns. In new business, **Bill Taylor** distributed information about Friends of the Urban Forest and the next round of tree plantings. Social chair **Mary Meunier** and **JoAnn Tracht-Rawson** announced Saturday, October 7, as the date for the annual fall picnic at Sundial Park.

—*Pat Werthimer, Secretary*

# Terraces Website Offers Incentive

By Bob Karis

Post a comment on *itha.org* and you could win a \$25 Stonestown gift card!

The ITHA website, *www.itha.org*, and blog, *blog.itha.org*, are gradually evolving, and now a bulletin board has been added. The address is *www.itha.org/community/forums*.

Everyone is invited to take another (or first) look. Don't miss the 1912/2006 side-by-side pictures of some of the homes in Ingleside Terraces at *www.itha.org/homes*.

The blog and forums are intended as community bulletin boards. The forums are recommended for lengthier comments or topics with multiple threads or replies. Every comment made on the ITHA blog or forums counts as a chance to win a \$25 gift card, which may be used at any store in Stonestown Galleria. A card will be awarded at the end of August, October and December. This



Photo: San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library

Can you identify this home? If you think so, blog it.

is made possible by a generous donation from General Growth Properties (GGP), which owns Stonestown; the card also may be used at other GGP malls. Winners will be announced on the ITHA website (of course) and in the *Sundial* newsletter. The contest is open to Ingleside Terraces residents only.

Don't be shy—try to think of useful or interesting comments or replies to comments. It's easy, and no "blogging" experience is required. Any problems, you can e-mail *rckaris at gmail.com*.

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## Emergency! NERT Steps Up to the Plate

By Barney Johnson

After the next major earthquake hits Ingleside Terraces, and your house has gone through the rumbles and major shakes, you may be wondering what to do next. Consider:

- Are you and those with you personally OK and able to move about?

- Are there gas or water leaks that need to be shut off? Do you know where your shut-offs and tools are?

- Are your neighbors OK? (That means ringing doorbells, knocking and shouting.)

- If assistance is needed, where do you go?

That last question leads to

this important bit of information: The Ingleside Terraces Neighborhood Emergency Response Team—your NERT team in orange vests and yellow helmets—will staff the staging area at Junipero Serra and Mercedes. There we will assess damage and personal trauma (for local action or for reporting to our Emergency

**See NERT, Page 4**

# New *Sundial* Editor a Multitasking Mom

By Jerry Werthimer

The *Sundial's* new editor—this is her second issue—juggles the job of parenting her two school-age children with a freelance journalism career.

With all she has going on, why did **Sue Barnett** volunteer to produce the *Sundial*? Because she says she believes in the value of participating in the community and the idea of “acting locally,” even if one has limited time to give.

Sue left a five-year copydesk job at the *S.F. Chronicle* a few years after **Noah**, 10, and **Maya**, 7, were born. She moved to Corona Street in 1997 with her husband, **Jason**, a photographer. (They also live with two cats, Mr. Bull and Libby, and six fish.)

Sue has always been interested in meeting new neighbors, especially families, which is what brought her to last fall's ITHA picnic. While there, she bumped into **Barney John-**

**son**, longtime *Sundial* editor. Barney asked her to volunteer as the new editor, and she accepted soon after.



Artist: Noah Winshell

A native San Franciscan who grew up in the Sunset District, Sue attended Columbus Elementary, Hoover and Lowell High School. She majored in journalism at Chico State University and worked for weeklies—a highlight was a 1993 interview with Yasir Arafat in Tunisia—before joining the *Chronicle's* Datebook.

Sue currently is the copy editor of *Delicious Living*, a national magazine. Her husband, whose photographs fill their home, has a picture in the July issue of *San Francisco Magazine*. His website is [jasonwinshell.com](http://jasonwinshell.com).

Sue hopes the *Sundial* can inspire more residents to become involved in the neighborhood, whether it means joining the association or volunteering their time as best as they can. She also invites participation and comment in the *Sundial* so it can better reflect all of the people who live in Ingleside Terraces.

## NERT Volunteers Have Busy Spring

Continued from Page 3

District at Ocean and Phelan.)

Fresh water in an emergency will be available at the southeast corner of Ocean and San Fernando. However, you are still advised to keep your 72-hour supply of water in your yard, along with an up-to-date supply of food, batteries, blankets, and emergency supplies.

In other NERT news and events, a citywide drill was

held April 22 at Marina Middle School, and it was one of those events that made us feel good about being involved in disaster preparation. About 250 NERTs were joined by Mayor **Gavin Newsom**, who went through the search-and-rescue exercise, and SFFD Chief **Joanne Hayes-White**.

The cribbing drill is the most challenging, but the search-and-rescue drill is always nervous time: “Is that wounded person really dead?

Is he breathing?” Ingleside Terraces was represented by **Betty** and **Barney Johnson**,

**JoAnn Tracht-Rawson**, **Rudy Cook** and **Victor Tam**.

On May 6, the ITHA NERT team held a local drill at our staging area. We set up our shelter, inventoried our supply cache

and ran a HAM drill, testing communications all around the borders of our neighborhood. Ingleside Terraces NERT members are small in number, yet motivated to help however we can.

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*“The mayor went through the search-and-rescue exercise.”*

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## News Briefs

### Low-Cost Symphony Tickets

Ingleside Terraces homeowners and residents are invited to the annual All San Francisco Concert, performed by the world-acclaimed San Francisco Symphony. Mark your calendars and reserve your seats now. The concert will take place at 8 p.m. Thursday, September 7. Tickets are \$10 per person.

The All San Francisco Concert, generously underwritten by Wells Fargo, aims to bring a new audience to Davies Symphony Hall each year. The special \$10 ticket price is for members of community and social service organizations, enabling them to participate in the Symphony's Opening Gala Week.

The September 7 concert will feature the music of Glinka, Stravinsky and Dvorak. ITHA is purchasing a limited number of tickets for resale to association members. Tickets will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis, with an initial two-ticket per household limit.

To reserve, send your check—payable to Ingleside Terraces Homes Association—to Bob Mosher, 170 Paloma Ave., San Francisco, CA 94127. Send your checks as soon as possible, as this concert is sure to be a sellout.

Tickets are expected to arrive in time for distribution in late August. If you need more information, call 706-2827. —*Bob Mosher*

### Keep Our Spaces Clean

ITHA is working hard to keep our neighborhood open spaces clean. Our gardener has informed us that an increasing number of people are not cleaning up after their dogs in Sundial Park and other circles throughout the neighborhood. In other cases, people place their pooch's poop in a plastic bag and then just leave it on the grass.

If all dog owners do their share by cleaning up after their pets, our open spaces will be much more enjoyable for all.

—*Lydia Scardina, Landscape Chair*

### Special-Interest Groups

A number of Terraces residents have called to indicate their preferences for special-interest groups. So far, there have been proposals for a book club, a knitting club, and a group for those who want to play piano or other music together.

What about a gourmet (or not) cooking group, or a wine appreciation group? I know many gardeners are out there; would you like to swap cuttings or advice? If these or other topics interest you, call me at 239-2645 or e-mail *pferrero at pacbell.net* —*Pam Ferrero*

### Garage Sale Is a Success

More than 25 homeowners opened their garage doors May 13 for the annual Terraces "Spring Fling." After walking around visiting and getting feedback, it seemed that just about everyone was pleased with the weather and happy about sales results. Most sellers also reported earning more money than they had anticipated. —*Mary Meunier, Social Chair*

### Why We Love It Here

In the first of a (one hopes) continuing feature, this space is dedicated to a tip or anecdote about why we love living here—in the neighborhood or the city. The inaugural tip is "Ask a Scientist," a free monthly lecture series at local cafés. A speaker presents a current topic—gray whales, forensic science and physics are past subjects—and then answers audience questions.

Next café is August 20 on "Vision and Misperception" with a UC Berkeley vision scientist at Canvas Gallery, 1200-9th Ave. The local website is *askascientistsf.com*. Send your ideas for "Why we love it here" to the editor at *suebarnett at yahoo.com*

# Neighbors Organizing New Tree Plantings

Friends of Urban Forest to subsidize program; some details change

**By Bill Taylor**

Several people in the neighborhood are banding together to organize another tree planting, subsidized by Friends of the Urban Forest. FUF helps with the planning, obtains permits from the city, cuts the sidewalk where required, and provides maintenance check-ins at 18 and 36 months. Each tree will cost \$100.

A consistent set of street trees looks beautiful and increases property values substantially, because prospective buyers see a nicer neighborhood. The tree canopy also blocks the wind, which dries out lawns and defoliates flowers.

Longtime residents have seen several Friends of the Urban Forest plantings occur over the years. Some of the details have changed recently. FUF now observes

stricter guidelines with respect to disabled use of the sidewalks (a minimum 4-foot-wide path is required). It also has slightly increased the size of the opening required for trees to 2x2 feet. The impact of these changes is that most trees will probably be planted on private property, but within 3 feet of the sidewalk.

The team is working on identifying species appropriate for our neighborhood and

organizing the planting. A community tree planting is fun! A party follows the work and builds community spirit.

Those interested should contact Bill Taylor, who is coordinating the tree plantings, at 584-1845 or by e-mail at [billt4@gmail.com](mailto:billt4@gmail.com). Also look for details at [itha.org](http://itha.org). Click on "Trees" on the bottom left. Information is also available at: [itha.org/community/forums](http://itha.org/community/forums).



Urbano Street resident Irene Carter recalls: "In the '80s, FUF planted flowering plums, getting five families to participate. My family has lived in our home since 1926. It's very nice to see the same trees as you come around the turn on Urbano. FUF does know its stuff." (In photo at bottom, Maya Winshell, 7, catches some shade.)

## Real Estate News

Finally, after the spectacular increases of the last few years, real estate prices appear to be leveling off. In the West of Twin Peaks area, as of the end of May, the median sales price for a

single-family home was \$950,000, up 2 percent from last year.

With the slowdown in appreciation, activity dropped again in Ingleside Terraces. Only five homes have closed sale this year, compared with seven in the

same period last year. Homes in the Terraces sold at an average of 5 percent above the asking price, compared with 8 percent last year.

*Ingleside Terraces residents Miko & Bob Mosher are Realtors at Prudential on Portola Drive.*



**ITHA Presents:**  
*19<sup>th</sup> Annual Sundial Park*



# **CLASSIC BARBECUE & PICNIC**

**Saturday, October 7, 2006**

**Noon – 3 p.m.**

Get to know your neighbors in a relaxed and festive atmosphere!

**Everyone is welcome. Please bring your favorite dish to share.**

**Noon** The Official Chariot Race around Entrada Court begins! Bring your tricycles, bicycles, big wheels, strollers, and wagons decorated for the celebration!

**1 p.m.** ITHA will provide barbecue hamburgers, hot dogs, trimmings and drinks.

For the potluck, please bring a dish to share, based on your last name as follows:

- A – G.....Salads
- H – N.....Vegetables
- O – T.....Desserts
- U – Z.....Appetizers

In keeping with the all-American theme, we welcome dishes such as coleslaw, potato salad, apple pie, chocolate chip cookies, and your own specialties.

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 Your early response is important! RSVP by calling Mary Meunier at 587-4349, e-mailing *marymeunier at hotmail.com* or returning this portion of the form to 450 Monticello St.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

- Yes, I will **attend the picnic** and bring the following potluck item:  
 \_\_\_\_\_ We will have \_\_\_\_\_ people attending.
- Yes, I can **help with children's activities**.
- Yes, I will **help with setup** from 10 a.m. to noon.
- Yes, I will **help with cleanup** from 3 to 4 p.m.
- Yes, I will **bring an ice chest** to help cool drinks and food.
- Yes, my children will participate in the **Chariot Race**.  
 Names & ages of children: \_\_\_\_\_

Please bring a compost or recycle bin if possible.



Photo: Lonnie Lawson

### **New Aptos Park**

A \$2.8 million face-lift has transformed Aptos Park into an open space for all to enjoy. The ITHA was one of several groups that played key roles in the years-long venture. The park has a new play structure, tables, benches, a baseball diamond, tennis courts, landscaping and a new entry on Ocean near Aptos. An official September opening is in the works.

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**THE SUNDIAL**  
**Ingleside Terraces Homes Association**  
**P.O. Box 27034**  
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