

Sundial



INGLESIDE TERRACES HOMES ASSOCIATION

www.ITHASF.org

SUNDIAL SPRING 2012

ITHA BOARD

President: Mark Scardina
Vice President: Paul Conroy
Secretary:
Treasurer: David Supan

AT-LARGE

Irene Carter
Annemarie Conroy
Paul Conroy
Mark Goldstein
Paul Kameny
Norman Meunier
Linda McGilvray
Budd Weed
Lonnie Lawson, President Emeritus

ITHA Committees

Membership: Norman Meunier
Social: Wendy Dwyer &
Sandy Gandolfo
NERT: Paul Kameny
The Sundial: Linda McGilvray &
Daryl Schilling
Parks & Landscaping:
Welcome Wagon: Budd Weed
CC&R & Bylaws: Patricia Duff
Design Review: Suzanne McDonnell
Construction Committee:
Norman Meunier
West of Twin Peaks Council:
Paul Conroy
Webmaster: Mark Goldstein

Regular monthly meetings of the ITHA are held at 7:30 P.M. on the third Thursday of each month, January, February, March, April, May, June, September and October; No regular meetings are scheduled for July, August, November, or December. Location is the St. Francis Episcopal Church, 399 San Fernando Way, and all Terraces residents are welcome.

ITHA, P.O. Box 27304, San Francisco, CA 94127-0304

www.ITHASF.org

President's Letter

By Mark Scardina

Welcome to our first newsletter of the ITHA Centennial year. I hope everyone had a happy and enjoyable holiday season. Your ITHA Board has been hard at work since the new year and we wish to inform you of a number of important issues and events. Over the rest of the year you will see changes occurring on Ocean Ave. as new businesses open up and the new residential and commercial developments at the eastern end get completed. As anyone who has walked our neighborhood knows, there have been a large number of commercial vacancies. We will now be seeing major businesses such as Whole Foods, CVS Pharmacy and Sherwin Williams Paints as well as smaller neighborhood service and retail ones begin to open up. Hopefully this trend continues, and I would like to encourage everyone to give these businesses a chance with your patronage.

As a result of our elections last November, we have a new board member, Paul Kameny, who has been chairing our Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT) committee. I encourage anyone who has not had NERT training to attend an upcoming session. These sessions will be announced on our website as well as on our ITHA Googlegroups mailing list. We are still looking for a volunteer to be the ITHA Board Secretary. If you are interested please email me at president@ithasf.org.

On a more somber note, we lost one of our long-time residents and board members, John Duff, over the holidays. He contributed readily and often, helping to maintain our public landscaping circles and removing graffiti. John was a fixture at ITHA annual picnics grilling, welcoming, and socializing as well as ready to give a neighbor a helping hand.

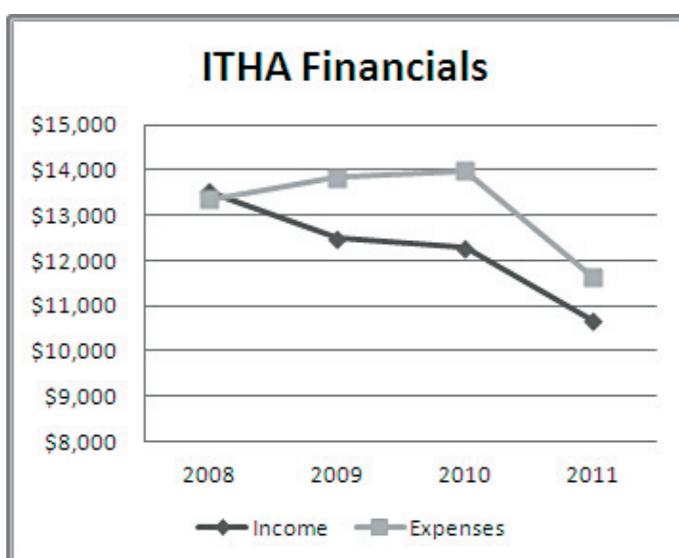
We are using this newsletter for an additional purpose this year and that is to kick off our membership and renewals drive. Norman Meunier, our membership chair, has included our annual appeal with a form and pre-addressed envelope. We are combining this, quite frankly, to cut expenses. You will also note that these newsletters were hand-delivered by Wendy Dwyer and her great team of volunteers in an additional effort to save money. Why all of this cost cutting? Simply take a look at the associated graph and you will see that

continued on page 2

continued from page 1

that despite cutting expenses, your association has been running at a deficit for the last 3 years. We have lost \$4000 and have needed to dig deep into our reserves to maintain our services. Obviously this is not sustainable. We will be initiating several fund-raising efforts this year and would greatly appreciate your participation. If you would like to volunteer to help with this activity, please drop a note with your dues or email Norman at membership@ithsf.org.

As you know our membership dues have been voluntary, and for the last 40+ years, we have asked only for a suggested minimum yearly donation of \$25. A few of you have been more generous donating amounts up to \$200. For this continuing support we thank you. However, to attempt to reverse our deficit without cutting our services, we need to raise our suggested minimum donation to \$40. To facilitate this I would like to remind you of our on-line payment options located at www.ithasf.org. Our installment plans start at only \$3.50 a month and really will help us continue our neighborhood services. We sincerely hope that you will continue to support our neighborhood.



The centennial book on the Terraces will come out in June 2012.

Important Gas Shut-off Valve Information

by Barney Johnson

In less than 10 minutes, you can locate your external gas shut-off valve and make sure that it can be reached. If you can't locate the 11-inch diameter access lid that is generally in the sidewalk, or within four feet thereof, let me know (415barnyard@gmail.com). It is important to verify that the actual shut-off valve can be seen and is not covered with dirt.



One of these photos shows a valve access "box" with the lid removed. In this case the valve was clearly visible and could be tested. In the other photo is a lid that has obviously not been lifted off for a very long time. In this latter case, the valve could be covered by a foot or more of soil and the resulting delay to reach the shut-off could be a problem if a gas leak was detected in the home.

So, please, for your own safety, go out and make sure you can access the shut-off valve.

Note: There are some exceptions to the above, and if you cannot locate your external PG&E gas shut-off valve cover and valve, a member of the ITHA NERT team will help. In some cases, you will need to contact PG&E for assistance.

John Duff

Ingleside Terraces mourns the December 18, 2011 passing of John Duff, a DeSoto Street resident and active member of Ingleside Terraces Homes Association (ITHA). In 1964, at age 22, John hitchhiked from New York to San Francisco. After a stint in the U.S. Air Force, he returned to San Francisco and worked at the Veterans Administration and as head of Training and Development for the local regional office of the Environmental Protection Agency. John and his wife, Patricia, settled in Ingleside Terraces in 1993 and wrapped neighborhood activities into their busy routine – John as a member of the ITHA Board of Directors and regular grill chef at the annual neighborhood barbecue, Patricia as a member of the ITHA Design Review Guidelines Committee. We will miss John Duff very much. Donations in John Duff's memory may be made to Doctors Without Borders, www.doctorswithoutborders.org/donate/tribute.cfm.

Ingleside Terraces Homes Association Membership Letter, 2012

Greetings Neighbor!

This year brings Ingleside Terraces our CENTENNIAL!!! The Terraces are 100 years YOUNG. Spring is the time of year when the ITHA starts the Annual Membership Drive. This year we are making a special plea for your Membership dollars. Membership in the ITHA has shrunk and along with the cost of gas, our expenses have increased. The major expenses are the landscaping costs and the necessary insurance policy covering the Board operations. Who can argue with the sight of our well-maintained green areas? The attendance at the ITHA sponsored Annual Picnic tells us that people love living in the Terraces.

In the past, we've made some cost cutting efforts like volunteers delivering **The Sundial**, our well-loved newsletter that **Linda McGilvray** oversees and produces. The news takes a fair amount of time to get the articles written, and again, we have a great group of volunteers who help with this job and keep costs down. Please note that we have included this letter in the news rather than send it through the mail.

This year the Board has heard from many neighbors about the need to increase our minimum membership amount. The current membership amount has not changed in years. Simply put, we cannot continue to operate within the current conditions. This past year we brought a new and easy way to contribute using electronic payment systems. Some neighbors contribute a small monthly amount and are able to contribute more over the year. Please consider this, as it works and is almost painless.

Your Board of Directors is a dedicated group of volunteer neighbors. Our leader, **Mark Scardina**, keeps the monthly meetings moving along. Mark is a computer guru who has begun to integrate systems into our operations, something that has been needed for a long time. **Paul Conroy** has been a Board Member for several years and accepted the Vice Presidency. Paul is also our representative to the West Of Twin Peaks Central Council, a longstanding group of approximately 20 neighborhood associations that works to keep the west side of San Francisco the great place it

is. **David Supan**, our Treasurer, keeps his eyes on our bank accounts and all the paperwork that has to be filed with the State and Federal bodies. **Mark Goldstein** is our go-to guy for technology and website issues, along with his musical talents.

Our new neighbors have probably been visited by **Budd Weed**, who is responsible for bringing a Welcome Wagon to their homes. This includes a cheese cake from our neighbor on Ocean Ave, **Zanze's Cheese Cakes**. Budd also makes sure the new neighbors know about the ITHA by leaving them a copy of our CC&R's, bylaws, and other information. **Sandy Gandolfo** and **Wendy Dwyer** have the big job of running our Social Committee and continue to put on our annual events. The first this year will be the **GARAGE SALE**, Saturday, May 19th. Then the big event of the year will be the **CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION** at the **Annual Picnic**, scheduled for Sunday, September 30. In December we gather for a holiday **SING** at the Sundial. Then the group moves to one of our neighbors' homes for an evening of cheer! These three events are great neighborhood events. Please plan to join in the fun.

Anyone who has lived in the Bay Area for any time knows all about how our earth tends to shake and rattle from time to time. **Paul Kameny**, chairs the NERT group. Paul arranges meetings and group efforts to make sure that the area has trained people who can help in a disaster. We also have HAM RADIO operators who stand ready to keep communications open in the event of a disaster. If you have any interest in either NERT or the HAM groups contact Paul or **Barney Johnson** for information.

The Board had some changes recently. We currently do not have a Secretary to record the meeting notes, and we welcome your volunteering to help with this. On a sad note, the Board lost one very valuable member who passed away in December. **John Duff** was always there when any member needed his assistance. John grilled at the Picnic for years, and he kept ahead of the 'taggers' who do the graffiti. He and his wife **Patricia** were working on the bylaws and CC&R's FAQ

continued on page 4

continued from page 3

of the Association, which is a huge but necessary task. John's death leaves a large 'hole' in the Board structure. We are always looking for loyal neighbors who have the willingness to volunteer time. If that is YOU, please attend a meeting. All meetings are OPEN to anyone and we'd love to see your face at a meeting.

One of the responsibilities I have is construction reporting to the neighbors. Working directly with the Planning Dept., ITHA keeps on top of changes in our area. I work with the Design Review Committee to make sure that proposed changes to homes in the Terraces are within acceptable bounds. The Design Review Group, chaired by **Suzanne McDonnell**, has been meeting regularly for several years and we hope to have a set of standards ready for publication by year's end. This effort does not mean that we discourage remodeling or enlarging existing home stock. This is an effort to control the look and feel of our historic neighborhood. Reasonable efforts are welcomed and encouraged.

San Francisco Planning Dept. is happy to work with us in this. We know that every dollar a neighbor puts into a well-planned project results in a nice increase to the entire neighborhood's value. The Design Review Group strives to keep personal opinions out of the conversation. We encourage conversation that results in a diverse and wonderful neighborhood.

Your Board of Directors works diligently to make sure Ingleside Terraces remains the fantastic community it has been for the past CENTURY! Feel free to attend the regular meetings which are held on the third Thursday of the month at St. Francis Church in the Guild Hall at 7:30 pm. We don't usually meet in July, August or December.

Watch for Woody LaBounty's book that will be published this coming June, just in time for our CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS to begin!

Thank you very much,

Norman Meunier
Membership Chair



Ingleside Terraces Homes Association

You are invited to share in the betterment of our neighborhood.

Will you help with any of the following activities?

- Helping elderly & disabled neighbors with special needs
- Political/planning/zoning needs
- Graffiti/tagging removal
- Welcome wagon for new residents
- Special/social events
- Newsletter publication
- Gateway pillar preservation
- Local HAM radio net
- Mini-park beautification
- Historical documentatin
- Emergency response in case of disaster

ITHA Annual Dues Notice

Enclosed is my/our membership contribution of:

- Benefactor \$250
- Patron \$120
- Supporting \$80
- Regular \$40
- Special/Senior \$_____

Name _____
(As it should appear on mailing list)

Address: _____
(Terraces home for which you are paying)

Mailing address, if different than above: _____

Phone: _____

Please put your Terraces address on your check.

e-mail: _____

Thank you! Please make checks payable to Ingleside Terraces Homes Association
Please use enclosed envelope & mail to ITHA, P.O. Box 27304,
San Francisco, CA 94127-0304.

www.ITHASF.org

An Ingleside Terraces neighbor gives clues to a long, creative, productive and happy life.

by Jerry Wertheimer

Almost every day Ruth Mellinger, 93 years old, walks from the sundial to shop on Ocean Avenue or to visit one of our two local libraries .

Last year she quit competitive tennis, but she has not slowed her many hours weekly as a volunteer at Laguna Honda Hospital. She has been a volunteer there for 35 years and also volunteered at Shriners hospital on 19th Avenue until it closed.

Though Ruth gets around so much, she is hard to spot at five feet tall and 90 active pounds.

Ruth lives alone in an immaculate white home on Entrada Ct., two houses north of the sundial. She says she loves living independently but misses her husband George, whom she married in 1937. George died in 1996. She adores their six children, 72 to 52, 13 grandchildren, and 7 great grandchildren.

Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT)

The Ingleside Terraces NERT needs more neighbors licensed as radio operators to assist the existing HAMs in our practice drills and especially when the next big earthquake strikes. The licensing process is easy and no longer requires proficiency in Morse Code. Tell Barney Johnson of your interest in this program. He can be reached by phone at 415-584-5223 and by E-mail at <415barnyard@gmail.com>.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Upcoming Events in the Terraces

Garage Sale: Saturday, May 19

See information form on back page

Annual Picnic: Sunday, September 30

Annual Meeting: Saturday, November 17

Holiday Caroling: Sunday, December 16



Ocean Avenue Assn. Update

Catherine Hickey, the new Executive Director of the Ocean Avenue Association, has brought us up to date with some facts and observations regarding Ocean Avenue:

“Now that we have, for the most part, the organization up and running, I am looking forward to turning my attention to some of the larger issues. One of the top priorities for next year is to conduct a comprehensive retail study – residents, students, businesses, property owners and other community stakeholders, to learn more about the wants and needs for Ocean Avenue. From there, create a short/long term plan for business attraction and retention, streetscape improvements and marketing/promotion. The ultimate goal is for Ocean to get back to the place where it’s a destination for all of our residents.”

There are some new businesses in the works:

CVS (1770 Ocean) should be done with build out by mid-April.

Chase Bank is supposed to begin breaking ground shortly.

Champa Garden (613 Faxon) is an Asian fusion restaurant, which should be open this summer.

Whole Foods.

Sherwin Williams is opening at 1415 Ocean Avenue.

As for safety on the avenue:

“We have a Public Safety Committee that meets regularly. We recently met with SFSafe, and we are in the beginning stages of creating a Business Watch. Business owners elect block captains, and have a phone tree. With a support structure in place businesses can communicate crime issues on the street with one another. This has proved to be an effective strategy in other districts in the city.”

And finally, Ms. Hickey views on how traffic will be impacted after the Whole Foods store is completed: “In all likelihood there will be some impact on traffic. The good news is the plans show parking (bike and car) located under the buildings as part of the new Brighton Street plan. There are new traffic lights going up along Ocean that will help with traffic calming. The re-construction of the Phelan Loop will help commuters get around easier. Ultimately, we will all have to wait and see.”

Spring Fling Garage Sale

Saturday, May 19, 2010 • 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

All neighbors in Ingleside Terraces are invited to open their garage doors for the sale. Publicity, courtesy of ITHA, will be placed in local classified sections.

Take advantage of this great money-making event!

Last Name _____ Phone _____

(Name will not be printed on map)

Address for map _____

Yes, I will be participating. I will offer items in the following 3 categories:

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

Yes, I will help distribute publicity flyers and hang posters and banners the week of the event.

Please fill out this form and return to Wendy Dwyer, 350 Urbano Dr., SF, CA 94127 by April 25. For more information call Wendy @ 706-0549 or email her at hairnetw@hotmail.com There's a suggested donation of \$20. per household participating to support ITHA. Thanks.

THE SUNDIAL

Ingleside Terraces Homes Association

P.O. Box 27304

San Francisco, CA 94127

See inside for upcoming events and ITHA information!