



FIG · GARDEN
HOMEOWNERS
ASSOCIATION

Annual Membership Meeting

Wednesday, March 26, 2008, 7 p.m.

Fig Garden Woman's Club
4550 N. Van Ness Boulevard

Meeting Agenda:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 1. Call to order | 4. Nomination of Directors and voting |
| 2. Introductory remarks | 5. Discussion of matters of general interest |
| 3. Treasurer's report | 6. Adjournment |

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Louise Yenovkian

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

While viewing my calendar, I realized a year of my first presidency had passed. As I look back and reflect, I wonder if accomplishments were made. I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to my board members, county officials, dear friends, neighbors, and my office for their support, efforts, and most of all for each being a sounding board and shoulder to lean on. We have all quietly made a difference to our fine neighborhood. Some changes you may have noticed, some you may not, and some are in a work in progress.

Last year marked the beginning of the County wide Beautification Plan. The efforts of the community, neighbors, and the County Department of Planning have all proven very effective. We will continue this process to make improvements and to beautify our surroundings.

The County Board of Supervisors is in the process of implementing a moratorium on lot splits in Old Fig. The FGHA Board heard your concerns and proceeded with the guidance of the County on this issue.

We are honored this year to have the opportunity to bring our annual meeting back home. The Fig Garden Woman's Club has provided their beautiful club as our setting for our upcoming meeting to be held on Wednesday, March 26 at 7:00. The club is located at 4550 N. Van Ness Boulevard. As in the past, we will have representatives from County Offices, Fire, Sheriff's Department, and Highway Patrol in attendance. This is the setting for homeowners to discuss issues

of concern or present us with new ideas for action. Please invite new homeowners to attend.

If you would like to receive e-alerts that involve law enforcement issues and/or notices of public hearings that pertain to Old Fig, please log on to our website at www.oldfig.org and submit your request. Monthly Board meetings are held at 7 p.m. the second Wednesday of each month at the Wishon Ave. Firehouse.

Fig Garden Homeowners Association would like to thank you for your support. We encourage you and your neighbors to join. Our membership dues are \$60.00 per year. Please mail to FGHA, P.O. Box 5796, Fresno, CA 93755. While your dues are voluntary, the monies are spent on preserving the integrity of our neighborhood, maintaining public policy, producing and mailing newsletters, and maintaining the web site.

To my colleagues on the board – thank you for tolerating my mounds of paper, e-mails, and agenda items. This volunteer board is engaged, dedicated and active. A sincere thank you to each.

Old Fig Garden is not the effort of one, but truly the efforts of all. I have come to realize the true love of this land from various homeowners and neighbors. There is a genuine caring and concern for our historic area and a deeply seeded nurturing quality to preserve. It is apparent in conversations, actions and efforts. We want to leave the next generation with the glory that was left for us.

May this year be productive and peaceful.

Louise Yenovkian
Lyenovkian@wctlaw.com

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A MESSAGE FROM THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Fresno County Sheriff's Office Safety Alert

The Sheriff's Department would like to remind all homeowners to be vigilant in the safety of your property and that of your neighbors. The Department has the following tips:

- Keep all valuable/personal property out of your vehicles. Do not leave purses, cell phones, wallets, etc. in your vehicles
- Remember to lock and alarm your vehicles
- Do not leave your vehicles running while you are not in them
- Keep your residence doors, windows and gates locked
- Use your home burglar alarm
- Do not leave your garage door up
- Report any suspicious activity immediately to Sheriff's Dispatch 488.3111
- Install a locked mail box
- Stop your mail and newspaper when you are on away from your home for any length of time
- Keep your property well lit

- Maintain and prune the vegetation surrounding your property

If you have information regarding any incident, please contact the Sheriff's Department Dispatch at 488.3111.

To schedule a free home or business security inspection, please contact the Community Service Office at 292.1104.

You may also schedule a house watch with the Sheriff's Department for the days you are away from your home. Contact them at 488.3111 for this service

Fig Garden maintains a proactive law enforcement presence that has contributed to the continued success and commitment to the safety of the residents within the Fig Garden area again this past year. Crime statistics for the area remain low. Your best defense is a responsible and active one.

FIG GARDEN HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION OFFICERS & DIRECTORS FOR 2007

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| President: | Louise Yenovkian | Lyenovkian@wctlaw.com |
| Vice President: | Tony Pings | anthony@pings.com |
| Treasurer: | David Boyd | dboyd@communitymedical.org |
| Board of Directors | | |
| | Merilee Amos | merilee@towerusa.com |
| | David Carlson | dnc@sportspoint.com |
| | Christopher Campbell | clc@bmj-law.com |
| | Magda Gilewicz | mgilewicz@myway.com |
| | Nick Hustedde | hhustedde@sbcglobal.net |
| | Prudence Zalewski | pru@softsyn.net |
| Secretary: | | |
| | Chris Darling | darbal6@comcast.net |

SLATE OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors nominates the following people for three year terms on the Board (all are incumbents):
David Carlson, Magda Gilewicz, Prudence Zalewski

FIG GARDEN WOMAN'S CLUB ANTIQUE SHOW AND SALE

Margaret Nordstrom

The Fig Garden Woman's Club will present its Annual Antique Show and Sale of quality antiques and collectibles on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, March 14, 15, and 16 at the clubhouse at 4550 N. Van Ness Boulevard.

This year we will be presenting our 36th show. There will be a pre-party. All interested Fig Garden Homeowners Association members are invited to the pre-party which will take place on Thursday evening, March 13 before the show from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The donation price of admission is \$15.00 per person or \$12.50 per person for a party of two. Of course the tickets will also get you in the show on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. The ladies will be serving wine and hors d'oeuvres. Tickets may also be obtained at the door.

Because it is a small charity show, it is popular with both dealers and the public. Antique show times are Friday and Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Donations are \$5.00 for the public showing and are valid for all three days of the show. Tickets may also be obtained at the door.

Proceeds from the event will benefit many local organizations and provide scholarships to nursing students at Fresno City College.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The annual Old Fig Garden dinner is scheduled for Sunday, September 28, 2008. Barry and Becky Barisic will host the barbecue dinner at home on the northwest corner of Van Ness Blvd. and Ashlan for the sixth year in a row. We are grateful to the Barisic family for their generosity and the beautiful park like setting of their home. Families are welcome. Details to come on our website and in the fall newsletter.

Christmas Tree Lane walk nights are scheduled for Tuesday, December 2, and Wednesday, December 10, 2008. There will be more information published in our fall newsletter and on our website.

The Fig Garden Woman's Club is located at 4550 N. Van Ness Boulevard. For more information, please contact Margaret Nordstrom – Publicity Chair at 431.6749 or via e-mail at Margnord@yahoo.com

FRESNO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

A Three Part Lecture Series Photograph Collections: Telling stories through images

**Thursday, March 6 • 7 PM
Fig Garden Woman's Club
4550 N Van Ness Blvd.**

Ruth Thomasian from Project SAVE, Watertown, Massachusetts



East Meets West Ruth will share an extensive collection of photos, dating from the 1860s to present day, depicting all aspects of Armenian life, with particular focus on Armenians migrating from the

East Coast to California. *OR*

Ruth Thomasian, Founder, Project Save – East Meets West, documenting the Armenian History through Photo Collection

**Thursday, March 27 • 7 PM
The Downtown Club
2120 Kern Street**

Mike Adams, son of Ansel Adams, discusses his father's collection and shares rarely seen photographs from the Ansel Adams Collection

**Thursday, April 10 • 7PM
Fig Garden Woman's Club
4550 N Van Ness Blvd.**

Susan Snyder, Author of "The California Grizzly Bear in Mind" and "Past Tents, The Way We Camped" and Head of Public Services for UC Berkeley's Bancroft Library, will discuss the importance of family photographs for archives and libraries.

CHRISTMAS TREE LANE

On November 27, 2007, the Fresno county Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution acknowledging the significant role that Christmas Tree Lane has played for over three-quarters of a century by providing a special location where the community has come together to celebrate the holiday season. 2007 marked the 85th anniversary of Christmas Tree Lane. We were featured in Sunset Magazine Travel Postcard section. Many of us take this event for granted since it is in our own backyard. This year we touched the life of a man who is incarcerated in prison. This story is quite unique. Christmas Tree Lane received a \$20.00 check from his prison fund along with his letter. He said he was sending us a donation because his wife had attended one of the walk nights. While on the Lane, she was able to reach him via cell phone. She described the lane to him - the lights, music, people, festivities, and such. He found it so moving that he felt compelled to support our cause. You see – we do make a difference. For a short period of time, we brought this man joy.

This non-profit event is funded solely by the generosity of public donations. The lane is supported by the volunteer efforts and service of Dean Alexander and his committee of Old Fig families. Shawn Caglia and Jordan Hayden are the “santas” responsible for putting up the lights and getting them down. Jan Booth continues to work her magic as does Lauri Stine and her LaneKeepers. Special thanks goes out to Russ Linquist and Terry Cole for their work as well. Work is already in progress for 2008. Christmas Tree Lane continues to be a magical and memorable event throughout our valley and the entire state of California. Mark your calendars for the 2008 walk nights to be held on Tuesday, December 2 & Wednesday, December 10.

OLD FIG GARDEN TREES

Our lovely trees are a big part of the charms of Old Fig Garden. Originally Old Fig was planted with particular trees assigned to certain streets. This added continuity to the street. The streets that still have the majority of their original planting are the most beautiful and the most inviting. Throughout the past years, some trees have died or have been removed. We encourage

residents to help re-establish the street tree planting as it was originally instituted. This will preserve the historic nature of our great neighborhood

Deador Cedar

Van Ness
Wishon

Arizona Cypress

Arthur
Sussex

Silk Oak

Holland

Calif. Sycamore

Wilson
Santa Ana

Modesto Ash

Santa Ana
Safford
Lansing
Veledes
Harrison
Griffith

Manna Gum

Rialto
Saginaw

Camphor Tree

Swift

Cork Oak

Gettysburg
Buckingham

California Pepper

Indianapolis

Chinese Hackberry

Thorne

NEIGHBORHOOD BEAUTIFICATION

Many of you are aware of the Neighborhood Beautification Overlay District (NBOD). For those of you who are new to Old Fig, we are providing the County information for you. The NBOD is intended to assist in protecting and preserving the integrity of Fresno County’s unincorporated urban neighborhoods. Poorly maintained properties are contributing factors toward declining property values and trigger criminal acts. The County has provided us with a brochure which identifies property conditions that are prohibited by codes enforced by various Fresno County Departments. If you observe any of the violations, please contact the County Department listed.

County Code Enforcement:

- Parking – Parking on a front yard landscaped surface is prohibited
- Garbage Containers – Dumpsters, garbage cans, waste containers may only be out during collection periods
- Demolition/Fire Remnants – Reside from fires

or demolitions that endanger public safety are prohibited

- Hazardous Trees & Weeds – Dead, decayed, diseased or hazardous trees and overgrown weeds that are potential fire hazards are prohibited
- Landscape Maintenance – Trees, shrubs and landscaping must be adequately irrigated and maintained
- Tree Removal – Removal of trees in a park strip or other public right of way requires a permit
- Litter/Trash – Rubbish, litter, machinery, tires, lumber and furniture or household items which constitute an unsightly appearance are prohibited

Sheriff’s Department:

- Prohibited Vehicles – Front yard storage of boats, personal watercraft & trailers
- Abandoned Vehicles – Abandoned/inoperative vehicles on private property

California Highway Patrol:

- Abandoned/inoperative vehicles on a public street or right of way

Fresno City One Call Center:

- Graffiti – Problems with graffiti

Beautification Contact Information

California Highway Patrol - 1-800-Tell-CHP
 Sheriff’s Department - 559-488-3111
 County Code Enforcement 559-262-4085
 Fresno City One Call Center 559-621-CITY

REMODEL AND REPAIR

Each year we try to gather helpful information regarding dependable construction/repair companies for our Old Fig Garden neighbors. We are listing names of companies that have completed proven work in our area for your consideration.

General Contractor: Freed Custom Builders
Residential-Commercial Licensed
Remodeling & Additions 994.3719

Electrical & Plumbing: Caglia Electrical
 Shawn Caglia
 Licensed
 213.7751

Sprinklers & Irrigation: Bulldog Construction
 Patrick Leonard
 Licensed
 593.1590

Masonry: DeLorenzi Masonry
 Will DeLorenzi
 Licensed
 224.3200
 delorenzimas@yahoo.com

Baked Lamb Shanks

Serves Four

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 4 lamb shanks | 2 cloves garlic chopped |
| 2 medium onions, sliced | 1 cup red wine |
| ½ bunch parsley, chopped | 1 can tomato paste |
| Salt and pepper to taste | 1 can tomato sauce |

Combine all ingredients and marinate over night.
 Remove shanks, arrange in 13 x 9 baking dish or roasting pan. Pour marinade mixture over shanks making sure all are covered.
 Cover loosely with foil
 Bake in 350° oven for at least 2 hours or until meat is tender
 Arrange shanks on platter, pour sauce over meat and serve hot.

Garnish with additional parsley



Thank you for supporting Old Fig. Please join the Fig Garden Homeowners Association. Our finances are fragile. Please mail in your dues if you are able. The cost is \$60/year. Mail a check payable to FGHA, PO Box 5796, Fresno, CA 93755. Unlike most homeowner groups, our dues are voluntary. Money goes to pay fees associated with filing documents that protect the integrity of the neighborhood, producing and mailing newsletters and running the web site. We monitor permit requests for commercial activity and work to prevent actions that hurt the neighborhood.

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

Lined area for neighborhood notes with horizontal dotted lines.