



The Mount Washington Association

Serving the Mount Washington community since 1955.

November 2004

www.mtwashington.org

Association Support for Aldama Elementary School

Michelle Lewis

In the spirit of extending our activities as good neighbors into our surrounding communities, the Association has begun a connection with Aldama Elementary School. Aldama is on Avenue 50, midway between El Paso and Marmion Way.

The school has 756 students and operates year round to accommodate them. Those of you who drive by the school see the major construction in progress. When completed, the three new classrooms, in addition to a cafeteria and teachers' lounge, will enable the students to return to the traditional school year.

Aldama is a Title I school, which means most of the students are economically impoverished. But a step inside the front door and a few minutes with Martha Powell, the principal, makes it quite clear that they are not educationally impoverished.

Mrs. Powell, principal for 14 years, is a dynamo. She has led the school to recognition as a California 2004 Distinguished

School, one of only 12 elementary schools in Los Angeles Unified and one of 302 in the entire state to be so honored. This award recognizes high achievement in leadership, curriculum, monitoring effectiveness of instruction, parental involvement, support services and test score improvement.

The school's reception area and front offices are welcoming, colorful and warmly decorated with simple furnishings that might be in your den or mine. Mrs. Powell believes in spending her budget dollars to support the needs of teachers and students. All of the reception and administrative offices' furniture has been donated, included the lovely crystal base lamps in her office.

Asked what is the greatest unmet need in her school, Mrs. Powell doesn't hesitate. Aldama students need exposure to life outside of the community. Many of them

have never been to the beach or to the mountains. They do not go to museums with their families. While as a Title I school they have access to buses and do go on field trips, the school has no funds for anything with an admission charge.

In particular, several teachers had asked to take their classes to the California Science Center current "hot ticket" show, Body Worlds, but even at the reduced charge of \$7.75 per student there was no way to swing it. So the Mount Washington Association has provided the funds to send two 5th grade classes. While I was meeting Mrs. Powell and nibbling homemade Halloween cookies, the field trip coordinator was able to book their students for January 21, two days before the end of the exhibit.

We will hear about their experience next year. And perhaps we can find other ways through the year to support and assist this dynamic school at the foot of the hill.



President's Message

Natalie Seaman

"Make new friends but keep the old ones." We have enrolled many new

members in 2004, but you who have been with us all along are crucial to the success of the Mount Washington Association. It seems that this last newsletter of the year is a good time to consider the values and accomplishments of the Association, with the goal of encouraging members who have not yet paid their MWA dues for the year to send in those renewals.

As the masthead of this newsletter indicates, this organization will be 50 years old next year. It was founded to preserve and promote the interests of the residents of Mount Washington in maintaining – and increasing – the scenic beauty, culture, education and civic excellence of this area. I think the results for this year have been impressive.

For example, we played a leading role in the activities to save the Southwest Museum: members of the MWA

General Membership Meeting

Monday, November 15, 2004, 7:30 PM

Carlin G. Smith Recreation Center
511 W. Avenue 46

Election of Officers and Holiday Boutique

The inaugural MWA Holiday Boutique will take place at our general membership meeting on Monday, November 15th, 7.30pm at the Carlin G. Smith Center.

Bring your family and friends to a social evening which will include an opportunity to meet our local Mount Washington artists. There will be jewelry, pottery, glass work and art on display and for sale. You'll also have an opportunity to chat with the artists and learn about how they work and what inspires them.

This is a great time to pick up unique gift items for the holidays or just for yourself. Seasonal holiday refreshments will be served.

In addition, we will elect officers and directors of the Mount Washington Association for the year 2005 at this meeting. A list of nominees for these positions is on page 4 of this newsletter.

Finally, we hope this meeting will give us all an opportunity to meet with our new LAPD Senior Lead Officer.

An important and fun meeting – don't miss it!

have built the coalition and are key negotiators to retain the museum and the artifacts in our neighborhood. (See related story on Carol Jacques on page 4) .

We supported the Northeast community's efforts to preserve scenic beauty,

through support of activities to save Glassell Park's Walnut Grove and Montecito Height's Elephant Hill and through general representation at Open Space activities.

We worked to educate our membership through programs at association meetings on topics such as LA Heritage Parkscape presented by Erica Flores (Center for Law in the Public Interest) and the History of the Arroyo Corridor and Debs Park presented by Luis Quirarte, and through sponsorship of the community-wide meeting on Inclusionary Housing with presenters Hon. Ed Reyes and Eric Garcetti

We continued to have close ties to the Arroyo Seco Neighborhood Council, an organization that brings together the hillside communities along the 110 Freeway.

We assisted the local elementary schools and child care centers with significant gifts of funds for their activities.

And we had fun at activities such as our ice cream social and the Jack Smith hike through our hills, and through presentations on such topics as raising roses in the Northeast.

As we head into the last months of the year, we encourage you to write your membership check – and also to make a difference by contributing to the community through the MWA-sponsored food drive and the toy drive.

The best of holidays to you and your family.

Businesses And Service Directory

Michelle Lewis

Do you have a business in the Mount Washington area?

Consider advertising! The Mount Washington Association and the Glassell Park Improvement Association are creating a Directory of businesses and services in the local area. This 5" by 7" directory will be distributed to members and non-members and will reach over 1,000 households.

This is a great way to get work close to home! Let people know you are here.

Ad pricing is as follows:

- ¼ Page: \$ 50
- ½ Page: \$ 95
- Full Page: \$ 180

Back cover space is also available if you are interested.

However, members of the MWA can list their services or business **free of charge** in the directory.

For more information contact Michelle Lewis at 323 258 6874.

And please pass the word on to anyone else you know who's doing business in our area. This will be a valuable resource for everyone.

Halloween Festivities

Pat Griffith

The children of Mt. Washington again enjoyed another spooky, ghostly, but candy-filled Halloween at a variety of events.

The Mt. Washington Association financially supported the Carlin G. Smith Halloween party, held on Halloween evening, with children imaginatively garbed in their own original costumes.

On the Friday before Halloween, the Self-Realization Fellowship held their annual children's Halloween party for all Mt. Washington residents, with the usual fantastically carved pumpkins and fairy queen.

Local realtors Terry Nunn and Coldwell Banker Los Feliz brought 2nd and 3rd grader students from Mount Washington Elementary School to go trick or treating at their office. The students dressed up in their Halloween costumes and were treated to bags of goodies by the realtors. Community firefighters also handed out safety tips and coloring books.

Other local parties were held at Ramona Hall and the Hathaway Family Resource Center, and Dia de los Muertos was celebrated at Art in the Park.

Officers

President

Natalie Seaman (223-0996)

1st VP (Action)

Rob Schraff (254-4207)

2nd VP (Programs)

Maria Gray (225-4256)

3rd VP (Membership)

Pat Griffith (225-8330)

4th VP (Hospitality)

Grayson Cook (227-8899)

Secretary

Ed Raspa (223-9934)

Treasurer

Susan Phifer (222-2424)

Historian

Pat Samson (223-4895)

Past president

Carol Jacques (225-0501)

Directors

Susan Baldwin (227-5597)

David Brunk (223-1533)

Paul Girard (221-7822)

Wendy Legacki (225-1344)

Michelle Lewis (258-6874)

Nancy Lilly (225-7597)

Hank Schaeffer (221-9695)

Ann Walnum (222-8327)

Committee Chairs

Advertising

David Brunk (223-1533)

Child Care, PTA Liaison

Cheri Hanamoto

Communications

Eliot Sekular (344-9955)

Emerald Necklace

Carol Jacques (225-0501)

Finance

Michelle Lewis (258-6874)

Gold Line

Larry Hoffman (221-5277)

Land Use

Liz Herron (225-5711)

Public Safety

Cheri Uno (222-0410)

Public Service

Rob Schraff (254-4207)

Webmistress: Donnette Thayer
(877-581-0833)

Newsletter edited by Scott
Burleigh (225-4546)

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Draft Minutes of the September General Membership Meeting

Ed Raspa

The Mount Washington Association met on September 20, 2004 at the Carlin G. Smith Recreation Center located at 511 West Avenue 46 in Los Angeles, California.

Since a quorum was present, President Natalie Seaman called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

President Seaman reported that service providers could place advertisements in the 2005 Community Services Directory of the Mount Washington Association and the Glassell Park Improvement Association. Contact Director Michelle Lewis for more information.

President Seaman informed the membership of the various fundraising activities of the Mount Washington Elementary School and encouraged all to make contributions.

President Seaman announced the selection of the following members for the Nominating Committee: Carol Jacques (Board), Susan Phifer (Board), Anna Carpenter (General Membership), Eliot Sekular (General Membership), and Bill Rumble (General Membership).

Motion (Jacques): **That the membership ratifies the President's selections for the Nominating Committee.** Motion passed by voice vote.

Those present approved the minutes of May 2004

membership meeting without correction.

President Seaman introduced Glassell Park resident Karen Dardick, author of Simply Roses, who spoke about the selection and care of roses in our area. After a brief presentation Ms. Dardick answered questions from the membership.

Membership VP Pat Griffith introduced Debra Orman, Executive Director of the Mount Washington Preschool and Childcare Center, who briefly recounted the history of the organization and described the various locations and their programs. Ms. Orman thanked the membership for its past support and looked forward to continuing that longstanding relationship. President Seaman thanked VP Griffith for her long service on the Child Care Center Board.

Action VP and ASNC Board Member Rob Schraff encouraged the membership to register to vote in the upcoming ASNC election as well as run for office. Past President Carol Jacques reported that the ASNC Mount Washington Local Issues Committee, after a lengthy debate, recommends two locations for Mount Washington signs.

Motion (Jacques): **That the Mount Washington Association sends a letter to Council members Villaraigosa and Reyes supporting the posting of two additional "Mount Washington" City Neighborhood signs at Roseview/Isabel and Division/El Paso.** Motion passed by voice vote.

MOUNT WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____ Phone _____

Email _____ Fax _____

Please check one: New membership Renew membership

Please circle Membership Category and Contribution Level below:

Basic:	Single \$15	Family/Couple \$25	Senior \$12	Associate \$15
Supporting:	\$35			
Business/Professional:	\$50			
Benefactor:	\$100			
Patron:	\$250			

All renewals due at start of calendar year.
Your cancelled check is your receipt. Please make check payable to :
MOUNT WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION

Your name and address shall be kept confidential and shall not be given to other organizations.

- *Membership (Single, Family or Senior) is open to adults who either reside or own property on Mount Washington. Membership includes the right to vote and hold office.*
- *Associate membership is open to any adult who resides outside of the Mount Washington community. Associate members may not vote or hold office.*

Action VP Rob Schraff requested that the membership contribute package goods for the Association's Annual Food Drive. Director Ann Walnum stated that the Annual Toy Drive was underway and asked that the membership provide donations and assistance. Director Walnum reported that volunteers were needed for the Southwest Museum's Annual Intertribal Marketplace that will take place on November 5th through 7th. Director Walnum also recommended that members participate in the Arroyo Arts Collective Discovery Tour in November as well as Eagle Rock Music Festival on October 2nd.

President Seaman informed the membership that the Association has gift bags available to new members. These bags replace the floral baskets for new residents that Gilly Schaffer and Pat Evertz had prepared for several years. President Seaman thanked them for their efforts.

Public Safety Chair Cheri Uno reported that she would introduce our new Senior Lead Officer to the membership at the November meeting.

Past President Jacques reported that the Autry National Center has told Southwest Museum Coalition that the Autry would present architectural and economic feasibility studies at an evening meeting at the Avenue 50 Gallery on September 29th.

Land Use Chair Liz Herron reported that the Friends of the Mount Washington School had been awarded a Community Block grant to develop programming for the new Multipurpose Building on the school campus. Members interested in serving on the Steering committee should contact Warren Christenson.

Since there was no new business, President Seaman adjourned the meeting without objection at 8:55 PM.

Nominating Committee Report

Carol Jacques

I am pleased to report that the Nominating Committee recommends to the membership the election of the following slate of candidates:

President: Natalie Seaman

First Vice-President (Action): Ann Walnum

Second Vice-President (Programs): Maria Gray

Third Vice-President (Membership): Pat Griffith

Fourth Vice-President (Hospitality): Grayson Cook

Secretary: Ed Raspa

Treasurer: Susan Phifer

Board of Directors – Three Year Terms – beginning January 1, 2005:

- Lynette Kampe
- Nancy Lilly
- Laurie Traktman

Board of Directors – One Year Term – beginning January 1, 2005:

- Rob Schraff

The election of officers and board members will be held on November 15, 2004, at the Carlin G. Smith Recreation Center.

Annual Food Drive

Rob Schraff

The Mount Washington Association continues its history of caring with our annual Mount Washington Community Food Drive. Things are really tight for many families this year in Mt. Washington and neighboring communities, so we're very thankful to be confident of your continued support.

Please remember to drop by and make a donation that will make a real difference. Donations will go to families and individuals served by the North East Mental Health Center and nearby non-profits assisting those in need.

Mount Washington Community Food Drive
Drop Off on Saturday, December 4th
from 9 to 11 AM
at the corner of San Rafael and Elyria

Staples and proteins including tuna, salmon, canned hams, tomatoes, vegetables, hearty soups and treats would be most appreciated. Please feel free to call Rob at 254-4207 or Maria at 225-4256 with any questions.

Carol Jacques Honored

Our own Carol Jacques's continuing tireless service to the Northeast community was recently recognized by two community organizations.

The Southwest Museum Coalition was formed to lead the effort to preserve the Museum and to assure the continued display of the Southwest Museum's extensive collection of native American artifacts at the Museum Drive venue. The Coalition includes over 70 organizations, including the LA Conservancy and many local and national Indian tribes. Within the Coalition, Carol works closely with Eliot Sekuler, another member of the MWA Board, along with other members of the Mount Washington Association and the Northeast community. For her work on the Southwest Museum Coalition, Eagle Rock High School and the Anahuak Youth Soccer Association have honored Carol with the 2004 Rigoberta Menchu Tum Award "in appreciation of your support to the human rights programs and the political solution to conflicts through dialogs on behalf of the Indian towns in North and Central America."

In addition, the Glassell Park Improvement Association has presented Carol with a Certificate of Appreciation inscribed as follows:

"As president of the Mt. Washington Association, you set forth a vision to work with your neighbors in Northeast Los Angeles. As the driving force in

seeing that goal realized, our communities are working together in ways never before imagined.

As a friend to Glassell Park, you actively supported many of the issues and goals of the Glassell Park Improvement Association to improve the quality of life for all of our citizens. As Tom Topping said, 'When the GPIA and MWA come together, nothing short of a cruise missile can stop them.'

We thank you for building stronger bonds between our communities and showing us that saving every starfish really does matter.

Tony Scudellari
President
Glassell Park Improvement Association
23 October 2004"

Annual MWA Holiday Party

Save the date: the annual Mount Washington Association Holiday Party will be held on Monday, December 21, 2004, at 7 PM. Place, special guests, and entertainment to be determined. Look for signs with additional information or call a board member. All are invited.

Fifth Annual Mt. Washington Toy Drive *Ann Walnum*

Toy Share 2004, a cooperative effort of Mount Washington School and the Mount Washington Association and community, has already collected a third as many toys as we collected last year. Our four-year total of new and gently used toys, books, and games is 4250. We have met a need previously filled by corporate donations.

The collection box at Mount Washington School will be available during November until the Thanksgiving holiday. A work party at MWA president Natalie Seaman's house on Saturday, November 20, will inventory, sort and clean the toys. We have drivers ready to deliver to the receiving agencies. Agencies will be listed in the January Mount MWA newsletter.

We would like to display pictures of children receiving and using the toys, but the privacy and dignity of recipients must be respected.

To donate or to help process the toys, please call (323) 222-8327. (Answer phone picks up after seven rings.)

Native Plant Sale *Lynnette Kampe*

Order native plants to beautify your garden and support wildlife. Proceeds will benefit Mount Washington Association beautification efforts. Go wild this winter! It's the perfect time to plant.

Order forms will be available at the November MWA membership meeting and on the MWA web site, or call me at 221-1782 to request one. Most plants will be \$5 per 1-gallon pot, delivery and tax included. Plants will be delivered for local pick-up in early December. Special requests will be accepted as availability allows.

Support the Southwest Museum – Join Autry National Center Today

Nicole Possert

Do you want a way to directly provide support to the Southwest Museum and Casa de Adobe facilities in Northeast Los Angeles? Ask and you shall receive. Through the suggestion of the Friends of the Southwest Museum, the Autry National Center (ANC) has created an "affiliate membership program" for the Friends Coalition.

Friends of the Southwest Museum

Special Membership Offer

As a valued member of the Friends of the Southwest Museum Coalition, you are cordially invited to join the Autry National Center at a discounted rate. Members of the Coalition receive **20% off** Autry National Center membership, and will be recognized as charter members of our Friends of the Southwest Museum Coalition affiliate group. And, as an affiliate member, you'll also receive a free copy of the *Common Threads: Pueblo and Navajo Textiles in the Southwest Museum catalogue—a \$20 retail value!*

Yes! I would like to become a member of the Autry National Center.

Category	Original Price	Special Offer
Dual	\$55	<input type="radio"/> \$44
Family	\$65	<input type="radio"/> \$52
Family-Plus	\$125	<input type="radio"/> \$100
Turquoise	\$160	<input type="radio"/> \$128
Copper	\$250	<input type="radio"/> \$200
Shell	\$500	<input type="radio"/> \$400
Silver	\$1,250	<input type="radio"/> \$1,000
Gold	\$2,500	<input type="radio"/> \$2,000

Additional Contribution: \$

Contributions from the Friends of the Southwest Museum Coalition will benefit the rehabilitation efforts of the Southwest Museum facility. Please fill out the attached brochure, insert special offer card and payment method into envelope, then seal the brochure and submit it with or without a stamp.

What does that mean? By becoming or renewing your membership through this affiliate program, you receive a special unique benefit. As stated on the new affiliate program card, "Contributions from the Friends of the

Southwest Museum Coalition will benefit the rehabilitation efforts of the Southwest Museum facility.”

So, whether you are an existing member or are just now thinking about joining for the first time, we hope you will participate in this program and directly assist in the long-term future of the Southwest Museum’s continued legacy as the first museum in Los Angeles. With this affiliate program, the Autry has created a way for your support to directly benefit the rehabilitation of the Southwest Museum.

In addition, if you are a new member, they offer a 20% discount for the first year and a free copy of a great Southwest Museum publication.

Participation is a snap. Just include the “Friends of the Southwest Museum Special Membership Offer” form (there’s a copy on the previous page) when you join or renew. The Membership Department will place and track your membership to our program.

If you’re already a member and would like to make sure your membership is tracked and the benefits accrue to the rehabilitation of the Southwest Museum, just call

Autry Membership and ask that they classify your membership under the “Friends of the Southwest Museum Coalition affiliate program.” They can be reached at (323) 667-2000

Finally, with the holidays approaching, please consider giving the gift of membership to family or friends. Save 20% and receive the publication for free as a tangible way to say “Happy Holidays.”

The Friends of the Southwest Museum Coalition now consists of over 70 local, state and national organizations concerned about the long-term future of the Southwest Museum and Casa de Adobe facilities in Northeast Los Angeles. We are asking every organization to help in our efforts to increase the support through membership. If each participating organization brought just six new memberships to the Southwest Museum, the Coalition would double the local membership of the Autry National Center through this collective effort. Let’s reach that goal before the end of this year and clearly illustrate that there is significant support for the original Southwest Museum and the wonderful Casa de Adobe right here in Northeast Los Angeles!

Coming up...

- November 12 Arroyo Seco Neighborhood Council *Candidate Forum*. 6:30 PM at Ramona Hall.
- November 15 Mount Washington Association *General Membership meeting and election*. 7:30 PM at Carlin G. Smith Recreation Center.
- November 20 Mount Washington Association *toy drive* work party at Natalie Seaman’s.
- November 22 Arroyo Seco Neighborhood Council *election* for board of representatives. 3 PM to 9 PM at Ramona Hall.
- December 4 Annual *food drive* drop-off date. 9 AM to 11 AM at the corner of San Rafael Avenue and Elyria Drive.
- December 21 Mount Washington Association annual *holiday party*. 7 PM at a location TBD.