

CRESTVIEWS

Working Together We Can Make a Difference!

Spring 2011 edition

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Spring is here and Crestview is off to a great start for this year. Hopefully by now, all members have received a Crestview backpack, water bags and Emergency Preparedness Brochure. We encourage you to take a moment and put what you need in case of an emergency in the backpack. Watching the devastation in Japan has only reinforced how essential it is that we be prepared—as individuals, families and a community.



Thanks to Anne Austin, Miriam Krombach and Sandy Block for serving on the Crestview Welcome Committee. They have put together a great packet of materials to distribute to new residents in Crestview. And the La Cienega Farmers' Market has donated a beautiful fruit basket for our newest residents as well.

Special Thanks to all of the 2011 Crestview Members listed on pages 2 and 3!

There are still a few Crestview backpacks left—don't be left out.

Return the form on page 6!

Please join us this year on Sunday, September 18th for our Crestview Neighborhood Party! We are looking forward to seeing you in the neighborhood and on the Crestview Chat!

Most sincerely,

Please welcome and thank Crestviews' newest block captains—David Couper, Mary Smith, Mary Withers, Emily Rabinowitz and Peter Weinberger

14th Annual SORO Community Festival

**Sunday, June 5th, 2011
11 AM—4 PM**

**Live Music—Dancing
Ethnic & Vegetarian Food
Games, Arts and Crafts
Boutiques and Merchandise for Sale
Community Information**

Kids' Fun Zone!

FREE ADMISSION

**Located on S. Robertson Blvd.
Between Beverlywood St and Cattaraugus**

Crestview Neighborhood Party

**Sunday, September 18th, 2011
2 PM—6 PM**

Crestview hosts this party every other year. Don't miss out on the fun!

**Best Yard in Crestview Contest
Petting Zoo**

Two Bounce Houses

Tons of food

Crafts and Games for the kids

Located on the 1700 block of Sherbourne

THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE 2011 CRESTVIEW MEMBERS

Mail Name	Block	Mail Name	Block
Daniel & Baila Romm	Airdrome	Mark Stanley	Corning cont...
Gloria D. Wallace		Kamille Maslon & Ronald Currie, Jr.	
Vivian Roth		Roberto Correa	
Kenneth & Young Kim		Milan Garcia & Farron Chavarria	
Doris Abrahams & William Clarkson		Mohan & Rekha Bhakta	
Susan Seletsky		Brian and Miura Kite	1600 Garth
Miryam Bachrach		Margo A. Majdi	
Larry & Patty Kritzberg		Debbie Eisenberg	
NEED A BLOCK CAPTAIN	1600 Bedford	Deborah and Robert Komatsu	
Cindy Leong & Perry Nelson		Robert Munic and Ingrid Rogers	1700 Garth
Pius Yao & Eva Hung		Scott Acord and Tom Gentile	
Emily & Armand Rabinowitz	1700 Bedford	Robert & Roberta Blank	
Ephraim A. Moxson		Richard Wells	
John and Julia McNamara		Melvyn Hopper	
Grace Sagara		Margaret Roiphe	
Brian & Jen Bergman		Eloise K. Clark	
Michelle Fellner		Jay & Kate Galston	
Nicola Wood		Tiffany Thompson & Ruth Cooper	
Dinah & David Muir		Carolyn M. & Morris R. Brown	
Michael P. Flattery		Willistine and Andrea Arms	
Brian T. Finney & Ashley Gardner		Brian and Laura O'Connor	
Harvey & Sandra Klein		Mark & Carrie Miner	
Jerry & Julie Brookler		John Krogstad	
Gary Karasik & Karen Cunningham		Soon Bok Kim	
Carrie Ellen Hayrup		Masoud Behradi & Antonia Adisubrata	
Molly Schluszel		Linda Bottlik and Richard Cestero	
Thomas & Betty Chan		George & Moira Waddell	
Michelle Porjes		Maria Henley	
Beth & Uzzi Raanan		Robert & Sylvia Fox	
Terri Apanasewicz		Ramsey & Jennifer Salem	
Kathy Stewart-Will & Susan Morgan		Barbara Andrews	
Mary Smith	1800 Bedford	Vicki Abe	
Michelle Wong & Erik Crouthamel		David Couper & Eduardo Gabriel	1600 Holt
Michael A. Wald & Larry Hess		Dorothy Wallach & Beryl Yaffa	
Jim Wilberger & Manena Favos		Sylvia Carrere-Perez & Fred Perez	
Gregory and Margo Gutstein		Edward McKenna & Simon Sun	
Ralph and Anne Austin	1600 Corning	Michael and Teddye Chin	1700 Holt
Norma Miguel		Steven Heumann & Kathleen Gaudet	
Dan Mick and Mary Withers	1700 Corning	Jeffrey Goad	
Gregory & Kimberly Morales		Amy and Todd Clatterbuck	
Dusty & Kathleen Davison		Brooke Ford & Jason Beck	
Adele Lim		Sue Slutzky	
Julius and Barbara Alberson		Chul Ho Lee & Yoon Hee Lee	

THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE 2011 CRESTVIEW MEMBERS

Mail Name	Block	Mail Name	Block
Wilton Radic and Irma Anda	1800 Holt	Dr. Laurence K. Golden	continued...
Julie and Dan Murphy		Arthur Molloy	
John B. Kennedy		Yossi and Christina Morovati	1600 Sherbourne
Sant Kaur Khalsa	1600 Preuss	Fred & Norma Rodriguez	
Thomas P. Bango		Edna and Earl Holmes	
Daniel & Miriam Krombach	1700 Preuss	Fay & Neal Shapiro	1700 Sherbourne
Marian Oshiro		Jocelyn I. Caruso	
Ruby & Samuel Weissman		Diana & Mark Wright	
Larry & Janette Smith		Michael & Mindi Gordon	
Jonathan & Traci Tessler		Barbara Edwards	
NEED A BLOCK CAPTAIN	1800 Preuss	Eric & Pamela Brodsky	
Gayle Payne		Dan & Dena Schechter	
Rose Pennycooke		Ofer & Susan Hetsroni	
Susan Mackensen		Sammie & Carol Spain	
Gail & Daniel Buckley		Lola Fisher	
Randall Boyd		Barbara Sacks	
Ruth S. Haber		Karen & Tom Wagener	
Sandra Cutuli		Debra Britton & Melissa Colton	1800 Sherbourne
Frances Kirsch & Fances Stronks		Luz Arsollon	
Howard & Marni Witkin		Dawn Iacino and Steve McHale	
Frank and Julie Ryan	1600 Shenandoah	Steven Tietsort & Diana Castle	
Ramona & Mack Delson		Peter Weinberger	1600 Wooster
Miyeko Midge Furuta		Stephanie Baruch	1700 Wooster
Beth Ryan		Rabbi Menachem & Shterna Rodal	
Jane Sobo		Daniel & Jonnie Vincent	
Linda S. Sessions		Barbara Beebe	
Boris & Margaret Anufriev		Joel & Lynne Esmond	
Aryeh Cohen and Andrea Hodos		Trudi Sabel and Peter Schindler	
Sue Mc Henry		Nancy Pearlman	
Chaim & Deborah Singer-Frankes		Brian and Susan Ross	
Avi & Terry Ring Schonwald	1700 Shenandoah	Vivian & Rick Chinelli	1800 Wooster
Willie & Jorene Neal		Jonathan Drubner	
Bruce Aoki		Sheryl Sadis	
Peggy Cutts & Beth Kooyman		Steve Paris and Becky Peugh	
Ralph Cantos		Suzanne Ecker and Orn Sveinsson	
Gabe Gelbart & John Schaaf		Elizabeth & Lloyd Thomas	
Michael Carne		Howard Nurtman	
Bruce Nii & Deanna Straugh		Beverly Unabia & Lloyd Artizada	
Denise Vivaldo and Ken Meyer		Patricia Mace	
	1800 Shenandoah	Toni & Nick Strimple	
Maxine T. Goldberg		Pablo, Violeta & Beverly Unabia	
Adrian & Carroll Nash		Randy Traweek	
Anat & Shlomi Ben-Shlomo			

Crestview Neighborhood Association Annual Financial Report – Calendar Year 2010

Beginning Balances as of January 1, 2010

Money Market	\$ 5,413.68
Checking Account	\$ 6,257.05
Total	\$ 11,670.73

Ending Balances as of December 31, 2010

Money Market	\$ 5,433.06
Checking Account	\$ 3,633.71
Total	\$ 9,066.77

Beginning balance **\$11,670.73**

Deposits \$ 8,106.20

Total **\$19,776.93**

Withdrawals (\$10,710.16)

Total **\$ 9,066.77**

Income:

Membership and APS Dues	\$ 8,086.82
Interest from Money Market	\$ 19.38
Total	\$ 8,106.20

Expenses:

APS Car Patrol	\$ 3,600.00
Service Fees	\$ 85.00
Donation (City of LA)	\$ 473.00
2009 Block Party *	\$ 521.37
Mail Box Rental	\$ 210.00
Meetings	\$ 654.92
Membership Benefits for 2011	\$ 3,471.39
Miscellaneous	\$ 50.00
Postage	\$ 388.20
Printing **	\$ 856.11
Tree Project ***	\$ 200.00
Web Hosting****	\$ 200.17

Total Expenses **\$10,710.16**

- * \$521.37 to Glatt Market was from the 2009 Block Party – check had to be reissued.
- ** Ramsey Salem generously donates printing for the Crestview newsletters (value \$2000).
- *** Ramsey Salem coordinated with the city for tree trimming and removal (value \$4000).
- **** Bill Clarkson donates all website creation and updates (value \$1500).

Get to know your Neighborhood Council—SORO

The City of Los Angeles is divided into a system of Neighborhood Councils, each representing a portion of the City and the people who live, work, study and worship within its boundaries. Each year, the City grants the neighborhood councils a sum of money to spend within their boundaries, and the NCs are tasked to create citizen participation in local government at a grassroots level. The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (SORO NC) is widely considered to be one of the best run and most effective councils within the system.

You have probably seen their banners on the light poles on Robertson Boulevard. You may have seen them at the SoRo Festival each year, or attended one of their meetings, which take place monthly and are always open to the public. Find out more at www.soronc.org

This year, and in the coming years, SORO NC has made a dedicated commitment to bring local leaders, elected officials, community, businesses and landlords together to bring about the economic revitalization of South Robertson Boulevard. Working closely with the City Council Members on both sides of the boulevard, SORO is determined to see prosperous change come to this neglected commercial corridor, which connects the bustling businesses of Culver City and North Robertson. With the Expo light rail terminal coming to Venice and National in 2012, the time is right to see some of that economic benefit trickle up to our neighborhood too.

Part of that effort is to stimulate business at our local merchants, and the SOROCard program is one piece of that puzzle.

The SOROCard is our neighborhood's version of a Fringe Benefits card. A growing program put together by SORO NC, the SOROCard allows you to get small discounts at local stores and service providers as a "local shopping" loyalty incentive.

SORO NC also wants to hear from you if you have special relationships with merchants in the area that you like to frequent. If you frequent a local store, encourage the business owner to participate and invite them to join the SOROCard program. Have them send an email to info@sonrc.org to learn more about signing up. The more businesses involved, the better for the entire community.

Visit SORO's website to learn more about the many projects, committees, meetings, a list of businesses participating in the SORO Card and more... www.soronc.org

SORO has provided Crestview with enough cards for everyone living in Crestview. Your block captain hopefully distributed one with your newsletter.

Each card has a unique number ID on the back, and in order to activate your card you will need to visit

www.soronc.org/programs/sorocard

and complete the registration form.



REAL ESTATE UPDATEBY ANNE AUSTIN

Pay your property taxes. Property taxes are due now and late after April 10.

Coming out of the recession, many a cash-crunched homeowner has held onto their homes by the hair on their chinny-chin-chin, through job losses, reduced income and rising adjustable mortgage payments. Many have been able to keep their mortgage current, but have fallen behind on their property taxes. California generally will not foreclose on a home until the taxes are anywhere from 2-5 years delinquent, if you've fallen behind on your property taxes and are starting to get your financial footing back under you, 2011 would be a great year to get current. I know this is tough, because you'll have to start paying your current taxes, plus chip away at the back taxes, but it is possible, just treat it like any other financial project and start devoting whatever you can to the delinquent taxes on a monthly basis. Also, make sure you have budgeted a monthly savings amount to cover your current taxes, even if you only pay them twice a year, to avoid falling further behind.

First, make sure you're not overpaying. Check the assessed value of your home, as it appears on your tax bill or on your county tax assessor's website. If homes are selling based on the information I supply here for significantly lower than your home's assessed value, dispute the value with the tax assessor. Most of them offer a dispute form on their websites, and simply require that you tell them what you believe to be the new, lower value of your home and offer them the addresses of recent sales that back your estimated value up.

Most tax assessors and/or collectors do offer a long-term payment plan for delinquent taxes. Visit their website or give them a ring - many times, you'll be required to make a down payment of, say, 10% of what you owe, but then can make low, monthly payments for up to several years to get rid of your arrearages.

ACTIVES:

1857 PREUSS ROAD	3+2+ DEN	REMODELED KOSHER KITCHEN	2,060 SQ.FT. LOT SIZE 6,400	\$829,000
1773 S. HOLT AVENUE	3+2	REMODELED	1670 SQ. FT. LOT SIZE 6,550	\$799,000
1778 S. BEDFORD ST	4+2+DEN+ GUEST		1908 SQ.FT. LOT SIZE 6,550	\$795,000
1773 S. SHENANDOAH ST	4+3		1884 SQ. FT. LOT SIZE 6,550	\$775,000
1778 S. SHENANDOAH ST	4+3	RECREATION ROOM	SQ. FT UNKNOWN, LOT SIZE 6,550	\$750,000
1848 WOOSTER ST	3+1.5	STEINKAMP	1620 SQ.FT. LOT SIZE 5,670	\$729,000
8559 PICKFORD ST	3+2 + GUEST		1557 SQ.FT. LOT SIZE 6,000	\$719,000
1621 S. CORNING ST	2+1	240 SQ. FT. STUDIO	1,228 SQ.FT. LOT SIZE 6,250	\$699,000
1729 S. PREUSS ROAD	3+1.75		SQ. FT UNKNOWN, LOT SIZE 5,400	\$675,000

In escrows:

1942 PREUSS ROAD	4+3.50	GUEST HOUSE, POOL	2994 SQ.FT.	\$1.150, k
1661 S. CORNING STREET	3+2	SHORT SALE	2089 SQ.FT. LOT SIZE 7,919	\$800,000
1772 S. GARTH AVE	3+2		1742 SQ.FT. LOT SIZE 5360	\$685,000
1833 S. BEDFORD	2+2	FAMILY ROOM	1680 SQ.FT. LOT SIZE 6,185	\$648,000

Sold:

1832 S. SHEROURNE DRIVE	2+1.5	1361 SQ. FT. LOT SIZE 6,500	\$645,000
1800 S. SHENANDOAH ST	3+2+OFF.	1753 SQ.FT. LOT SIZE 6550	\$742,500

Anne Austin is a Crestview resident and a real estate licensed agent with Coldwell Banker #00877506. This is intended as a service to our community and not intended as a solicitation. Anne can be reached at 323-860-4260

A special thanks to Ralph Cantos for the following Crestview history.
To see more of Ralph's writing, please visit www.crestviewla.com.

If you have any history of Crestview that you would like to submit on the website or in future newsletters, please contact Beth Ryan at beth@crestviewla.com.

The Crestview Trolley That Never Was
By Ralph Cantos

Few people living in Crestview and the Westside in general realize that this area was once served by several pollution-free electric trolley lines. Local streetcars and heavy interurbans operated along almost every major thoroughfare in the area. The local streetcars were operated by the Los Angeles Railway and the interurban lines by the Pacific Electric Railway. Most of the Los Angeles Railway local lines were laid down in the early teens when L.A.'s western city limits ended at about La Brea Avenue. Most of the local car lines ended at Rimpau Boulevard but two went a little further. Streetcars on Adams Boulevard got as far as Alsace Avenue (just east of Redondo Boulevard) and the West Third Street line operated to La Brea Avenue with a branch line going up Larchmont Boulevard. Pacific Electric's Big Red Interurbans operated on Venice, San Vicente (both segments), Culver Boulevard, Sepulveda, Santa Monica, and Hollywood Boulevards, and Burton Way. Premier amongst PE's heaviest lines was the great Venice Short Line. Also running along Venice Boulevard was the line to Santa Monica via Beverly Hills that operated along San Vicente Boulevard and Burton Way. Also the line to Redondo Beach via Playa Del Rey branched off the Venice Line at Culver Boulevard. Also crossing the Venice Short line was the line along Exposition Boulevard, known as the Santa Monica Air Line. The line from Inglewood to Venice and Santa Monica also crossed the Venice Short Line just west of Lincoln Boulevard. Needless to say, transit service along Venice Boulevard was very intense its entire length. Culver Junction (Robertson, Venice, and Culver Boulevards) where the Redondo via Play Del Rey line split from the Venice Short Line and where the Exposition Line crossed, was extremely busy for hours on end. For many years, PE engineers had wished to bypass this busy junction and find a faster route to Santa Monica. While the Venice Short Line was primarily a passenger route, the Exposition route's mainstay was freight, though it did have passenger service. Its route from Culver Junction to Santa Monica was more direct than the Venice line. The idea was to use the most direct part of both lines to get passengers to Santa Monica as quickly as possible. The Venice Short Line's route turned to the southwest just west of Hauser Boulevard. At this point, PE began purchasing property in a due west direction for the planned "Santa Monica Cut-off". This cut-off would bypass Culver Junction and have a direct connection between the Venice line and the Exposition line. PE purchased property for about 2 ½ miles west of Venice Boulevard, but the plans for this cut-off were thwarted by the crash of '29. Thus was born Airdrome Street. As in almost every case wherever the PE went, a city street was sure to follow. The railroad easement was extremely narrow, so Airdrome Street was shoe horned into place on the north side of the railroad easement. By the late Thirties, the Depression had taken its toll on PE and any thought of building the Santa Monica Cut-off were abandoned forever. Visions of PE red interurbans rolling along through Crestview along Airdrome Street would never come to pass. The actual land for the right of way that PE purchased extended to about Rexford Drive and so does Airdrome Street. Southern Pacific, parent company of the PE, realizing there was no hope ever building the Santa Monica Cut-off, sold the right of way to developers in 1937. Many houses built on the former railroad easement are precariously perched on the narrow parcel. Had the line been built, it would have passed through what is now Beverlywood and Cheviot Hills and joined the Exposition line at about Overland Avenue. Today, the Exposition route remains basically intact. The last passenger trolley passed over its rails in 1953 and the last freight trains were abandoned about 10 years ago. The line has been purchased by the MTA and it is hoped by many people that it may be reincarnated into a quiet, efficient, viable link between Downtown L.A. and Santa Monica. Only time will tell.



Crestview Neighborhood Association
1800 S Robertson Blvd Box # 2027 LA, CA 90035
www.crestviewla.com

2011 Board of Directors

Use title (no spaces)@crestviewla.com for e-mail contact

President president@crestviewla.com
 Beth Ryan 310-888-8787

Treasurer treasurer@crestviewla.com
 Julie Ryan 310-888-0151

Neighborhood Watch@crestviewla.com
 Baila Romm 310-663-8560

Tree Project @crestviewla.com
 Ramsey Salem 310-202-0021

Webmeister @crestviewla.com
 Bill Clarkson 310-385-0018

Member at large @crestviewla.com
 Carrie Miner 310-384-9646

Member at large 1 @crestviewla.com
 Julie Murphy

“One Call to City Hall”—Dial 311

Live operators available 24 hours a day

West LA Police Department

EMERGENCY = 911

NON-EMERGENCY = 1-877-ASK-LAPD

Senior Lead Officer Maria Gray

310-444-0739 or 310-622-3987

30469@lapd.lacity.org

Councilman Paul Koretz

5th District—Pickford to 18th St

(310) 289-0353

<http://www.lacity.org/council/cd5/>

Block Captains

All area codes are 310 unless noted

New block captains are in **bold**

Airdrome	Baila Romm	663-8560
Pickford	Anne Austin	274-6317
Sawyer	Melissa Colton	558-8255

1600 blocks

Bedford	NEED BLOCK CAPTAIN	
Corning	Anne Austin	274-6317
Garth	Brian Kite	963-7624
Holt	David Couper	274 5337
Preuss	Sant Kaur Khalsa	278-7403
Shenandoah	Frank Ryan	888-0151
Sherbourne	Yossi Moravati	490-8547
Wooster	Peter Weinberger	702-4946

1700 blocks

Bedford	Emily Rabinowitz	559-5484
Corning	Mary Withers	836-6899
Garth	Robert Munic	213-200-3753
Holt	Michael Chin	837-5519
Preuss	Miriam Krombach	839-8408
Shenandoah	Terry Ring Schonwald	836-0644
Sherbourne	Neal Shapiro	836-6484
Wooster	Stephanie Baruch	839-3251

1800 blocks

Bedford	Mary Smith	343-5576
Holt	Wilton Radic	839-1997
Preuss	NEED BLOCK CAPTAIN	
Shenandoah	Ann Hammond	838-0870
Sherbourne	Melissa Colton	558-8255
Wooster	Vivian Chinelli	202-0086

Councilman Herb Wesson

10th District—18th St to Sawyer

(323) 733-8233

<http://www.lacity.org/council/cd10/>

Don't forget to sign up for the e-mail list!

Join the Crestview Neighborhood Association e-mail list!

For more information, go to Crestview's website at

www.crestviewla.com

And click on Crestview Chat to learn more.



If you have any questions or if you have trouble subscribing,
 call Beth Ryan at (310) 888-8787 or send her an e-mail at president@crestviewla.com.