



FIG · GARDEN
HOMEOWNERS
ASSOCIATION

Annual Membership Meeting

Wednesday, March 25, 2009, 7 p.m.

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

Meeting Agenda:

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| 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:

The FGHA board has been very busy this year. While 2008 may have been a historic year for America, it was quite a year for us as well. Along with the support of the County Board of Supervisors and the Department of Planning, we were instrumental in achieving the extension on our current moratorium on lot splits for another year. This extension will allow the County time to implement their overall general plan.

Following our 2008 Annual FGHA meeting, we set up a committee of interested homeowners, County officials, and members of the board for what we deemed the "Ashlan Beautification Committee." What started out as an Ashlan plan has now grown into an entire neighborhood concept. We have been brainstorming ideas for a unified plan for Fig Garden that will fit into the County/City of Fresno and Partners Regional Plan. Some ideas on the table:

Deeming Old Fig Garden a historic neighborhood as a whole.

Historic designation markers at various streets within our neighborhood to create a cohesive feel and appearance to the community.

Green Space center medians along Ashlan as safe passage for pedestrians

A community library located within Old Fig Garden.

Green Space Traffic calming circles at various intersections.

Completion of approved walking trails within Old Fig to our neighborhood standards.

Construction of the Frog Pond & canal beautification west of Palm.

We are very excited about these developments. The committee is in the process of looking into grant funding to assist with the planning phase. Once we create plans on paper – we will have an open forum for all of our neighbors. I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to the members of this committee, the county and city officials, the board members, and the neighbors who have spent countless hours researching and attending meetings on this endeavor. We will have more information in the future.

I would like to thank the Fig Garden Woman's Club for providing their beautiful clubhouse as the setting for our upcoming meeting to be held on Wednesday, March 25 at 7:00 p.m. 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.

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.

All the best

Louise Yenovkian
Lyenovkian@wctlaw.com

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FIG GARDEN HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION OFFICERS & DIRECTORS FOR 2009

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
	Magda Gilewicz	mgilewicz@myway.com
	Nick Hustedde	hhustedde@sbcglobal.net
	Lauri Leone Stine	lauri_stine@mcgraw-hill.com
	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 Boyd, Lauri Leone Stine, Louise Yenovkian

FIG GARDEN WOMAN'S CLUB ANTIQUE SHOW AND SALE

Margaret Nordstrom

Annual Antique Sale - March 20, 21 and 22 The admission is \$5.00 per person. Again, all Fig Garden Homeowners are also invited to the Pre-Party Thursday

evening March 19 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The admission for the pre-party is \$15.00 per person or two people for \$25.00. Your pre-party tickets also admit you to all three days of the Antique Show, as do your \$5.00 tickets if you opt not to go to the pre-party. Please contact Margaret Nordstrom • 431-6749 or email Margnord@yahoo.com

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The annual Old Fig Garden dinner is scheduled for Sunday, September 27, 2009. Barry and Becky Barisic will host the barbecue dinner at their home on the northwest corner of Van Ness Blvd. and Ashlan for the seventh year in a row. We are grateful to the Barisic family for their generosity and the beautiful park like setting of their home.

This event has proven to be enjoyable for all who attend. Live music was provided by our very own neighbor – Craig Von Berg and his ensemble. Families are welcome. We might even “Jazz up” the event. Details to come on our website and in the fall newsletter.

Annual Art and Flower Show - Saturday, April 18 at 10:00 a.m. at the clubhouse. Usually there is no admission fee. It is simply a way to showcase the art and flower arrangements of our membership.

Spring Card Party - Wednesday, April 29 at 12:00 noon at the clubhouse. A luncheon will be served and there will be a raffle for door prizes. For more information please contact Bobbie Herrinton • 255-6585.

CHRISTMAS TREE LANE

Dean Alexander

Christmas 2008 was a great year for Christmas Tree Lane. The lights and displays made this year one of the best years ever. Christmas Tree Lane continues to go green with additional purchases of LED lights. The saturated color of the LED lights adds to the ambiance of the Lane. A special thanks to Shawn Caglia and Jordan Hayden for doing a fantastic job on the tree decorations. Every Deodar cedar tree was lit on the lane. I would also like to thank Gary Catron for providing complimentary storage of our Christmas decorations and electrical wires. Storage of decorations and wires require a lot of space.

Visitors to the Lane showed up in record numbers. A total of 45,000 vehicles went down the Lane this year in addition to approximately 50,000 people during the walk nights. This is an amazing accomplishment for a homeowner's association. Fig Garden residents should be commended for opening our neighborhood to the community for this wonderful Christmas Tree Lane event. Without the Fig Garden neighborhood support, this event would not exist. During these economic times it was nice to have an event where people can enjoy the spirit of Christmas by providing no or minor monetary donation. This non-profit event is supported only by the generosity of the community through donations.

In future years, challenges are ahead of us due to budgetary constraints of law enforcement. We are currently working with Fresno Police Department, Fresno County Sheriff Department, and California Highway Patrol offices to continue traffic control during the Christmas Tree Lane event. Without the support of our law enforcement, we cannot continue the historic event in its present capacity. Hopefully, Fresno County and Fresno City officials realize the significance of the Christmas Tree Lane event to our community and will continue to provide law enforcement services for traffic control.

It has been a pleasure to serve as Christmas Tree Lane volunteer coordinator. Christmas Tree Lane is very unique to Fresno, and no other community in the world has this type of home-grown commercial-free event.

A NEIGHBOR YOU SHOULD KNOW

The Fig Garden Homeowners Association Board would like to welcome Todd and Juliana Tuggle. Jules is the new assistant to Supervisor Susan Anderson while Todd is a Fire Captain at our Fig Garden Fire Station. It is a pleasure to work with Jules. In just a few short months, she has jumped right in to our Fig Garden issues with much enthusiasm.

After finishing their undergraduate work at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, Todd and Jules Tuggle moved to the SF Bay Area. Todd began working as a bio-medical manufacturing engineer and Jules completed her Master's in Political Science. In 2003, the Fresno City Fire Department offered Todd a position so the couple relocated to Fresno. They both felt drawn to the Fig



Garden neighborhood because of the mature landscaping, unique homes and community feel. Todd has since been promoted and is now a Captain in the Fresno Fire Department. He just recently accepted an assignment at our local Fig Garden Station on Wishon. "It is wonderful to work and live in the same community," commented Todd. Jules has taught fitness classes at Fig Garden Swim and Racquet Club and American Government at Fresno City College. In 2008, she began working for Supervisor Susan Anderson and has been appointed as the Fig Garden liaison. "I am honored to work for Susan and to serve Fresno at large. I am excited to be a part of the preservation and progress of the Fig Garden neighborhood." The Tuggles have three children: Theodore 7, Claire 4, and Maxwell 1. They have a very active family and can often be seen running the streets of Old Fig, children in tow. "We never expected to live in Fresno but between our jobs, our friends and our neighborhood, we love it!"

MAIL SAFETY AND IDENTITY THEFT

Preventing identity theft is an issue we hear about every day. The U.S. Postal Service has partnered with the Federal Trade Commission to educate and protect you from identity crimes. It is a serious crime and has many sources. It occurs when your personal information is stolen and used without your knowledge to commit fraud or other crimes. To learn more about ID theft and how to deter, detect, and defend against it, visit www.ftc.gov/idtheft

They have created a three step program

Deter Detect Defend

- Shred all documents and paperwork with personal information before you discard them
- Keep your personal information in a secure place at home or safe deposit box
- Inspect your credit report on a regular basis

- Review your financial accounts and billing statement regularly and report any charges you did not make.
- Immediately report any fraudulent activity to your bank/credit card company
- Install a locked mail box and do not put outgoing mail with enclosed checks in your mailbox. A flag up for mail pickup is an inviting sign to thieves.
- Report the theft to the Federal Trade Commission

Online: www.ftc.gov/idtheft

By phone: 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338)

Molten Chocolate Cakes

Ingredients

- Unsalted butter, for ramekins
- 5 ounces bittersweet chocolate (or semisweet), chopped
- 2 tablespoons bittersweet chocolate, finely chopped
- ¼ cup (1/2 cube) unsalted butter
- 2 eggs
- 2 egg yolks
- 4 tablespoons sugar
- 1 tablespoon all-purpose flour
- 1 tablespoon brandy
- Pinch of salt
- 4 (2 by 2 1/4-inch) ramekins

Directions

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F.

Butter the round molds with the unsalted butter. Melt the 5 ounces bittersweet chocolate and the ¼ cup unsalted butter in a double boiler. Remove from heat, stir in brandy and cool. With an electric mixer, beat the eggs, yolks, salt and sugar until light and fluffy. Stir in the melted chocolate/butter mixture. Add all the flour and mix until just incorporated. Spoon the batter into each of the prepared molds, filling no more than ¼ full. Sprinkle ½ tablespoon finely chopped bittersweet chocolate over top of each batter. Fill each mold with remaining batter, dividing evenly. Place the filled molds on a baking sheet. Refrigerate for a minimum of 20 minutes. Bake 10-12 minutes. Cool cakes 2-3 minutes and invert warm cake onto serving plate. Dust with powder sugar or serve with ice cream. Unbaked cakes can be made 1 day ahead. Cover each ramekin loosely; refrigerate. Let stand at room temperature 30 minutes before baking.