

Autumn 2010



The Glenite

News and Noteworthy Goings-on in the Glen

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Glen Holiday Party for the Whole Family!

The Glen Community is coming together to ring in the holidays on Sunday, December 5th, at 5 pm at the Les and Dorothy River Community Center at 14409 Scenario Ln.

A gathering for young and old—

There are several activities organized for kids of various age groups in the yard – bring a jacket – and the adults can enjoy Glen comradery with homemade chilis, and other delicious Glen foods and desserts, as well as wines.

Come chat with your neighbors, old and new, enjoy your wonderful community – we might even drum up a Jingle Bells! If you can contribute anything, a quiche or a pie, fingerfoods, cookies, anything, please email social@beverlyglen.org or call Elke at 818-448-0277.



Friends and Fun at the 2008 Party

You will have an opportunity to strengthen the community by renewing your Glen membership. The holiday party will be the first benefit you receive from your membership.



THE ANNUAL MEETING

ANOTHER GRAND GLEN GATHERING



The new slate for 2010-2011

The Annual Meeting for Glenites, held on the sunny Saturday afternoon of October 9 in the courtyard of the LDRCC, was well attended and featured lots of sociability plus a very informative program. Guests were treated to excellent refreshments, including fine wines thanks to Steve Foonberg at the

Beverly Glen Realty and soft drinks thanks to Frank at the Glen Market at Crater Lane. Printed programs and delightful full color photo albums of the 50th Glen Fair were handed out to everyone. Residents President Tensie Palmer presided over an agenda featuring a short talk by Deputy Wesly Hernandez from Councilman Paul

Continued on page 4



Save the Date

Holiday Party

December 5, 2010

Sunday, 5 pm

LDRCC

www.beverlyglen.org

Letter from the President

Autumn is here at last! I enjoy this season the most. The air is cooler, the leaves are changing... ok, not quite as many trees change color as those in other parts of our nation, but you can still see a change. Life is so busy... enjoy a moment here and there looking for your favorite tree, turning shades of gold, orange or red.

I enjoyed meeting so many of you at our Annual Meeting. Thank you for putting it on your busy calendar. It was great to see new names on our committee volunteer lists.

Thanksgiving is nearly upon us and it gives us the opportunity to take a good look around us. Where can we give a little bit of our time, our resources, and our hearts to help the community around us? I want to encourage each person in the Glen to do just this. You do not have to have a lot of money to help people in need.

Los Angeles is full of these opportunities. I would like to ask everyone who reads this message to go to our website (www.beverlyglen.org) and reply to a post I will place there. Where do you help out? A soup kitchen, help an elderly neighbor? Let's put this area on the map as the most helpful community in the City of Los Angeles. What do you say?

See you at the Holiday Party on Dec. 5th!

Tensie

Tensie Palmer
President



At the Annual Meeting

The Glenite Founded 1953

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www.beverlyglen.org

RBG Board of Directors Roster and Contact Info:

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Please submit articles and notices to:

glenite@beverlyglen.org

(electronic versions only please!)

Glenite Spring, 2011 deadline:

Submissions needed by February 1

Friends of The Glen



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TRAFFIC

Evelyn Alexander, Traffic Chair

Thank you for driving slowly through Beverly Glen and serving as a positive role model for those who use our canyon as an alternate to the 405 freeway. The more of us who drive the speed limit, the more of our commuting visitors will have to do the same.

Our main interest is to promote the safety of those of us who live here.

You may have noticed that we have placed some red signs with white writing up along Beverly Glen, asking drivers to drive slowly and keep honking and radios to a minimum. People who commute through the Glen may not think about the fact that we are, in fact a neighborhood, and the signs are meant primarily to remind them that we live here.

Additionally, we are working with LAPD's community Speedwatch supervisor to train members of our community to use the LAPD's laser speed gun. Once trained, we will be able to monitor traffic in small groups. Speeding drivers will be sent a letter by LAPD informing them that they have been seen speeding in our area. No tickets will be issued, but other areas with a community speedwatch have reduced the number of speeding cars in their communities through their efforts.

As a reminder – you can help us remind the LAPD that we have a speeding problem up here – the more they hear from us, the more likely they will come enforce the speed limit. Call LAPD at 213-473-0222 and let them know if you have experienced someone driving too fast or dangerously, like zipping into oncoming traffic to go around a driver going the speed limit. LAPD needs to hear from us. You don't need to give a license plate – just let them know that we need additional speed enforcement in the Glen.

If you are interested in getting involved in traffic issues or have any great ideas for our committee, please contact Traffic

committee chair Evelyn Alexander at 310-470-3024, or traffic@beverlyglen.org.

**BEL AIR BEVERLY CREST
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

Report on August–October 2010
Meetings

SPOTLIGHT ON THE GLEN

In the August 25th meeting, RoBG reported to the Neighborhood Council the huge success of our Glen Fair, its history and our recognition by our Councilman in City Council chambers (posted on website). Additionally, RoBG was excited to have LDRCC Board member Jane Padgett come and discuss LDRCC, its importance to our community and some of its history. A great spotlight on the Glen for all our neighborhood community organizations to see.

CARIBOU LANE PROJECT

In the September 22nd Planning and Land Use (PLU) Meeting of the BABCNC, many residents attended expressing their concerns about the proposed project at 10342 Caribou Lane. The applicant did not attend and PLU supported the residents opposition to the project and sent a letter to the city.

CODE SIMPLIFICATION

The City of LA is processing a Code Simplification Ordinance through the City which is to address the various findings and code sections currently in City code that seem to make approvals burdensome. While RoBG supports simplifying code to be more transparent for all, we have serious concerns about the simplification making it easier for developers to get code modifications and how the simplification conflicts with potential ordinances in the proposed Baseline Hillside Ordinance (visit beverlyglen.org for more information).

Community organizations were able to have the City hold the approval process

and have more public workshops, visit www.beverlyglen.org for more information.

WEBSITE

We are getting so much traffic on our website and have over 230 email subscribers who get regular updates on important events, notices and information that every resident should know. If you have not done so already, subscribe by entering your email address in the section on the upper right of the website homepage (www.beverlyglen.org).

Since our last report in August, we have had:

1,204 visits

851 unique visitors

3,077 page views

2.56 page views per visitor

75 peak visitors/day

So log on to www.beverlyglen.org, know what is happening in our community, learn about what RoBG does for you, learn how you can help and mostly, get involved. It's your community.

**EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS**

Although better covered under Emergency Preparedness, the Public Safety/Disaster Preparedness Committee of the BABCNC has been working on putting laminated cards with pertinent information everyone should have. At the October 27th meeting, Chuck Maginnis presented the BABCNC a draft and it has great information in there. A copy is posted on the RoBG board in the Community Center, check it out, RoBG will be working to have copies available in the near future to be handed out to members.

Ramin Kolahi

rkolahi@hotmail.com

Continued on page 4

MEMBERSHIP

Membership co-chairs Bob and Elaine Grunauer want to thank the many of you who became members this past year and encourage you to sign up soon for the new year ahead. The membership form on the back of this Glenite is a convenient way to join or renew. Also Bob and Elaine will be available at the Holiday Party to sign you up, so one way or another keep membership in the Residents of Beverly Glen on your must list. Your support is crucial for our programs and activities.

And a word from our President Emeritus:

Dear Glenite editors, Please congratulate the Membership Committee co-chairs Bob and Elaine Grunauer for an outstanding job in bringing the paid membership to over 250 people. I feel certain that the year 2011 will be even better. Thanks again! Ken Stern



Annual Meeting, continued from page 1

Koretz' office, and a report by LAPD West Area Captain Evangelyn Nathan. The program ended with the introduction of the slate of Board member candidates for the Residents of Beverly Glen, the ROBG, for 2010-2011. Members reported on their activities for the past year and plans for the future. The slate was unanimously elected. Tensie ended the meeting by reminding everyone that Board meetings are open to all interested residents and are held at the LDRCC at 7:30P.M. on the second Monday of each month. Then we all went home, better informed and better fed.

A VOTE FOR ELECTION WORKERS

The Glen polling place at the LDRCC was surprisingly busy this past election day, demonstrating that people around here take their voting seriously. Les River, for whom the Center is named, would have approved heartily. Thanks to the good Glen citizens who voted and to the devoted Glenites working the polls, Diane Donatello, Rhoda Holabird, Rozalind and Robert Parente and Velma Twomey.

1756: GOING , GOING, GONE

Les and Dorothy River's house at 1756 Beverly Glen Boulevard had been their home since the nineteen thirties and had seen many a political discussion, friendly gathering, neighborhood New Years Party, and a procession of Glen cats. We were therefore greatly saddened when we saw the bull dozers arrive and quickly set about tearing down this historic, comfortable place, long a Glen landmark, designed by Lloyd Wright, the not-so-famous son of his much more famous dad, Frank Lloyd. We have been unable to contact Dorothy's family who own the property to learn what plans they have for the future, so for now we can only enjoy the good memories that 1756 still conjures up as we drive by and see the lot, standing empty.



Photo: Brad Elterman

1756 Beverly Glen Blvd., Les and Dorothy River's house.

A SWAN SONG AND A WARM WELCOME

This issue of the Glenite marks the swan song for long-time editors Chris Holabird and Marc Olevin who feel that the moment has arrived when they should finally retire. Let someone new look after the health and well being of their favorite community newsletter. And they are very happy to announce that they have found a perfect pair of replacements!

So welcome to Frank and Sally Krasne! They have lived in the Glen since 1966 and know its history and care about its future. What better mindset could you find? Frank in fact was at one point President of the Board of the LDRCC and also one of the founding fathers of the celebrated Glen spook house held every Halloween in the Holabird's carport, so he has first-hand familiarity with Glen issues, both real and imaginary. Frank and Sally are both semi-retired professors from UCLA, Frank in psychology, Sally in physiology, and their daughter Darcy is now completing her PhD at Berkeley in classics after starting her educational career at (of course) Beverly Glen Playgroup.

One last point: Frank and Sally will be co-editors so we know we will be in lots of good hands.

GLEN AUTHORS

In our last issue we announced Beverly Olevin's new novel "The Good Side of Bad". Now we are pleased to report two other Glen authors of recent books, so read on:

Renata Zerner

Renata has lived in the Glen since 1971 after moving to Los Angeles in 1951 from what had once been her home in bombed out Berlin. She had made friends after the war with American Red Cross workers who sponsored her move to the United States. After working in a series of what she calls "boring office jobs" she decided to return to her first love, the field of art, and began by giving children's art classes with Glen teacher Dorothy Royer. She then went on to teach classes for children at LACMA, and taught night school classes for adults at University High and Beverly Hill High. She also has taught students out of her house in the Glen and has exhibited her own work in galleries here and in Europe and most of all in her home town of Berlin. She also showed a few of her works at the recent 50th Glen Fair.

She is now a first time author and we include the following brief excerpts of a review by Rene Deloffre.

I've been a friend with the artist Renata Zerner for quite a few years now, a friendship that developed because of my admiration for her art.

Now Zerner has written a memoir, "Dance on the Volcano – A Teenage Girl in Nazi Germany" (available on Amazon). Her memoir covers the final years of World War II (the later part of 1943 to the first few months of 1945) when Zerner was in her late teens. The book is written in the voice of a teenage girl, simple and direct. She holds back none of her youthful emotions.

The book starts off by describing an early air raid on Berlin. Her father, a former medical officer during World War I, later left the army to establish a thriving medical practice in Berlin. Like a number of urbane and educated Berliners, he quickly grasped the propaganda of the Nazis and continued

to treat his Jewish patients as well as employing a Jewish nurse, a family friend, at least as long as he could.

To escape the bombings Zerner is first sent to a school some distance from Berlin. As the bombings increased, she and her mother moved to the spa of Bad Wildungen far from Berlin. Refusing to abandon his patients despite the danger, her father chose to remain in Berlin, periodically visiting his wife and daughter until he was killed during a bombardment. For Zerner it was the dangers of listening to the BBC on her radio, making a wrong statement, or trusting the confidence of others. Paranoia was the best tool for survival.

Much of the book relates her blossoming womanhood during a period of extreme uprooting. Especially touching were the love letters from an army officer ten years her senior who ultimately perished on the eastern front.

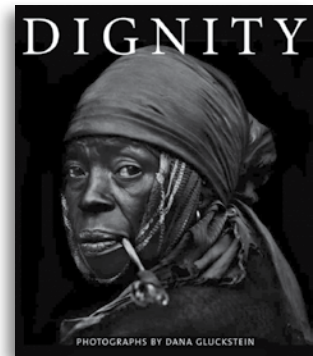
Zerner, her mother, and her sister survived the war but, as for so many including my own family, the war changed everything!

20th May 1950, Berlin

Edith Meyer, nee Pincsohn

I herewith make the following statutory declaration that for decades Dr. Zerner and his family were friends not only of me, a Jew, but also of all my Jewish family. During the Nazi time Dr. Zerner did us the greatest human service, against his conscience as a physician, in that he helped my mother to complete her suicide shortly before she was to be picked up by the Gestapo. I am Jewish and I mourn the death of this upright human being with a feeling of great loss.

**Book reading and signing, LDRCC,
Sunday, December 12th, 2 pm.**



Dignity, book cover

PHOTOGRAPHER WITH A PASSION

by Warren Garfield

Renowned photographer Dana Gluckstein has dwelled with her family on Beverly Glen Place since 1986, and her daughter Marena attended Playgroup. Her new coffee-table art book, "Dignity," contains her life's work - an exquisite collection of stunning, powerful, sometimes heart-breaking photographs honoring Indigenous Peoples worldwide. The book also celebrates the 50th anniversary of Amnesty International, the Nobel Peace Prize-winning human rights organization. Indigenous Peoples are original inhabitants of remote countries and islands who comprise six percent of the global population and are today among its most impoverished and oppressed. In our modern world, they have to fight for their land, air, water and ancient traditions. The goal of "Dignity" is to promote the rights of these people to ensure their well-being and future survival. Whether photographing a Haitian healer or a San Bushmen chief, Dana infuses each portrait with an essential human grace and dignity that shines through. In the book's Forward, Archbishop Desmond Tutu states, "The Indigenous Peoples have a gift to give that the world needs desperately, a reminder that we are made for harmony, for interdependence."

For over 25 years, Dana has photographed iconic figures, including Nelson Mandela, Mikhail Gorbachev and Muhammad Ali. Her portraits of Indigenous Peoples hang in the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and the Santa Barbara Museum of Art. She graduated from Stanford University, where she studied psychology, painting, and photography and realized the power of images to shape human attitudes and social consciousness.

For more about Dana Gluckstein or to order a book, visit her web site at www.danagluckstien.com and watch for a future book signing at the LRCC.



ARE WE GREEN YET?

by Heidi Santschi

Please Ask Yourself...

How does the Leaf-Blower fit into our vigilant pursuit of all things Green and Ecologically sound? What is sustainable, organic, fresh, healthy, recyclable, reusable, calming, soil nurturing, earthworm friendly, energy saving and carbon footprint reducing about Leaf-Blowers? I know I'm not alone in wondering why noisy and polluting Leaf-Blower use is still so prevalent in this canyon. We have little choice about the noise and pollution from the flood of motor vehicles rushing through, but we DO have a choice to blow, or not to blow. Laws have been passed, and yet nothing changes.

The Community of Beverly Glen was built by, among many unique others, artists, writers, teachers, designers and architects who often worked at home in this inspiring stretch of the Santa Monica Mountains, in a quieter time. Many residents still reside and work in situ. Now on most days of the week, whining, grinding, fuming and roaring engines riding on the backs of men, from one garden to the next abrade any remaining peace within this canyon. Gardens are meant to be a healthy respite. We should consider how machines are and when they are applied in the maintenance of

these retreats. The blowing of tire and asbestos brake dust, bird, rodent, and other animal scat, pollens, fungus, pesticides, weed seeds, insect eggs, mold and fungal spores into our eyes, noses, throats and windows is clearly an Environmentally Unfriendly act. Blowing compacts our garden's soil so water cannot penetrate. It literally scours the earth and strips off topsoil while desiccating roots. Blowing removes essential natural decomposing leaf matter and microorganisms and burns plants and earthworms in the process. Think about how our already diminishing Honey Bee population and the flora that need them, feel, faced with tornadic blasts of hot, dry pollutant carrying air.

If we think it's not politically correct to ask our gardeners to use a rake and a broom, then we should consider adjusting our priorities and pay them more while helping to educate them for the benefit of all! It's our gardener's Health, Earth, Air and Ozone Layer too! Many gardeners were farmers and ranchers in their homeland and are familiar with the idea of composting and leaf mulching. Leaves are the very essence of coveted topsoil far from the misconception that they are trash. Sure, big Sycamore leaves are tough, and we have green bins for those if composting is not convenient. Leaves raked from the driveway for instance

can blanket the soil of a nearby shrub or hedge planting bed, retaining moisture and stabilizing the soil's temperature. Learning to live with hardscapes that are not squeaky-clean would be a positive shift of mindset.

Santa Monica is finally enforcing their Leaf-Blower ban with fines of \$250, in an ordinance including all 'Motorized' Leaf-Blowers, gas or electric. Stirring up pollutants from the ground into the air is just not healthy, no matter how you blow it!

As a small unique community we have the opportunity to unite in accepting the truth that we need to add Leaf-Blowing to our list of Earth Unfriendly No-No's now!

If you are renting, please pass this information on to your landlord; and if you are a landlord... please Environmentally-Lord!

Please visit www.zapla.org for more Information.

For more incentives for change, please email Heidi Santschi at hsgardeness@greenheart.com

www.hsgardeness.com

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