

# WESTWOOD PARK ASSOCIATION

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*Newsletter* → *Spring* → 2008



## Letter from the President

Dear Westwood Park Residents,

Thanks to the diligent efforts by our board, especially our Co-Treasurers Julie Hagelshaw and Grant Edelstone, the Association ended its fiscal year last month in very good financial health. On the income side, Julie's dogged pursuit of owners who have not paid their dues netted us more than \$10,000 in past-due accounts. Grant's diligence on the expense side helped us keep costs down and interest returns on our savings up.

In addition, we got better liability insurance coverage this year, which saved us more than \$8,000. We also received \$2,500 in donations from thoughtful and generous residents to help care for our neighborhood. All of which allows us to keep maintaining our beautiful Westwood Park without having to raise dues.

You may have noticed the improvements the Association has made to the common areas. By the end of spring, the last of the Miramar medians will have received new irrigation, gopher barriers, and sod. The Plymouth/Montecito green got a huge makeover, thanks to the \$18,000 grant we got from the city, more than 400 hours of residents' volunteer labor, and a cash contribution from the Association. We also replaced seven trees on Miramar as the Monterey Pines reached the end of their life expectancy. All of these improvements were made without having to raise dues.

Thanks to everyone on the board who works so hard to take care of our 'hood; to our gardener, Baltazar Gutierrez, who does so much to keep everything looking great, and to all the residents who volunteer their time to help out in so many ways.

Greg Clinton, President

*board@westwoodpark.com*

### Westwood Park Association Board Members

Greg Clinton  
President (term expires 2008)

Anita Theoharis  
Vice President (term expires 2009)

Asa & Geoff Williams  
Co-Secretaries (terms expire 2009)

Julie Hagelshaw & Grant Edelstone  
Co-Treasurers (terms expire 2010)

Anne Chen  
Member at Large (term expires 2009)

Nanette Asimov  
Member at Large (term expires 2010)

Members of the Westwood Park Association Board of Directors are volunteers elected to serve three-year terms.

Board meetings are usually held on the third Tuesday of each month at the home of a board member, and begin at 7 p.m.

For information and the location of upcoming meetings, visit [www.westwoodpark.com](http://www.westwoodpark.com).

Contact us via e-mail at:  
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415-333-1125  
or by mail at:  
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# New Library: Work Begins at Last!

*\$250 Gets Your Name on a Brick* Barbershop Quartet.

**By Christine Leishman**  
*San Francisco Neighborhood  
Library Campaign Organizer*

Groundbreaking for the new Ingleside Library took place on Friday, Feb. 15 at 11:30 a.m., with cool jazz from the Aptos Middle School band, sweet harmonies from the San Francisco Gold Barbershop Quartet, and inspiring steps from the Ingleside Presbyterian Church Praise Dancers.

The weather was auspicious, and the attendance remarkable, with an estimated 150 people showing up to mark the occasion.

Later that evening, the Ingleside Library Campaign Committee kicked off its fundraising efforts with a Valentine's Day Dinner Dance at the St. Francis Episcopal Church on San Fernando Way and Ocean Ave., with entertainment from Joe Russo and the S.F. Gold

Cuisine for the evening was fresh and local, with lasagna, penne and garlic bread from Caffè d'Melanio, and cheesecake from Zanze's. Committee member Laura Bernabei and her friend Jennifer, of "Sweet Art by Jennifer," also provided an assortment of tasty treats.

Each new branch library in the city needs \$500,000 to pay for its fixtures and equipment, which are not covered by the voter-approved library bond measure known as Proposition A, or by the library grant awarded to San Francisco by the state.

The Ingleside Library Campaign Committee has pledged to contribute \$50,000 of that goal – and has already raised \$24,000 for equipment for the library, whose doors are expected to open within two years. (Friends of the San Francisco Public Library is also raising \$16 million for libraries citywide.)

As a future patron you may want to contribute to your new library, which will recognize all contributions in a beautiful, hand-lettered volume that will be displayed before becoming part of the library's permanent collection.

For contributions of \$250, there will also be a limited number of engraved bricks to be installed in the northeast corner of the new courtyard. All donations (except those for the bricks) can be made in installments spread out over three years.

We invite everyone to be a part of the new library. To learn more or get involved, please contact me at (415) 626-7512 ext. 101, or write to [Christine.Leishman@friendssfpl.org](mailto:Christine.Leishman@friendssfpl.org).



for photos, visit <http://picasaweb.google.com/nycherus/InglesideGroundbreaking>.

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## Safety in Westwood Park

***How to Start a Neighborhood  
Watch Group on Your Block***

**By Grant Edelstone**

More than 80 Westwood Park residents gathered at the Ingleside Presbyterian Church on Ocean Avenue January 22nd to discuss heightened concerns about local crime with Supervisor Sean Elsbernd, officers from the Ingleside Police Station and other safety officials.

The Westwood Park Association called the meeting in response to increased reports by residents of home and auto break-ins in the neighborhood. Also in attendance were the Fire Department's Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT) and the group

Safety Awareness For Everyone (SAFE).


The police did not make a formal presentation or cite crime statistics. But in response to questions, they said overall crime in Westwood Park has not been on the rise.

But even though Westwood Park remains one of the safest neighborhoods in the city, we all want to reduce the risk of crime and avoid becoming victims.

Representatives from SAFE urged residents on each block in Westwood Park to form individual Neighborhood Watch Groups, which have proven effective at reducing crime in other city neighborhoods. The idea is to

increase awareness of crime and public safety issues that impact you, your family and your neighbors.

It just takes two or three people per block to form a Neighborhood Watch Group. To get started, contact SAFE at 415-553-1984 or [www.sfsafe.org](http://www.sfsafe.org). The group will advise you on how to develop a network so that neighbors can watch out for each other and communicate effectively. It will also provide a free home safety assessment and provide burglary-prevention tips.

The Association strongly encourages you to get your group started, to help make Westwood Park safer for everyone. 

# Westwood Park: Then and Now



Miramar Avenue



Miramar Avenue



Plymouth Avenue



Staples Avenue

*Photo credits: archive photographs  
courtesy Westwood Park Association  
and the San Francisco Public Library.  
Contemporary photographs  
courtesy Greg Morris*



Valdez Avenue

# “Disaster Faire” Coming to Westwood Park

By Bob Geleta

Want to turn disaster into success? Please join Westwood Park’s own Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT) on the upper Plymouth Green Saturday, May 10, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for a “Disaster Faire” that will show you and your children the best ways to prepare for an emergency.

Neighborhood NERT members will bring emergency-preparedness kits, “go bags,” and supplies to show what everyone should have in their homes. Vendors will have many items for sale, and firefighters will show off a fire engine from 10 until noon.

So bring your kids—and your fire extinguishers! Experts will be on

hand to re-charge them. If you can’t remember when that was last done, then it’s probably time.

Still not convinced? Imagine an earthquake rolling through Westwood Park, as one did last October 30. As usual, we rolled along with it, guessing how big it was (5.6 magnitude), and getting on with whatever we were doing.

But what if the BIG one comes along? That could change things. On a normal day when we run low on food, we just drive to the market; when we’re low on gas, we fill up with no problem. But if there is a big disaster—an earthquake, an explosion that melts a freeway, a ship that hits a bridge (naw, those would never

happen)—we might not have normal days for a while.

So NERT is hosting the Disaster Faire to help you create emergency plans and collect enough supplies to be self-sufficient for about three days after a disaster. Neighbors are also encouraged to register for free NERT trainings—six 3-hour classes—and join us in learning how to help ourselves and our community. Find out more or enroll at [www.sfgov.org/site/sfnert\\_index.asp](http://www.sfgov.org/site/sfnert_index.asp), or by calling 970-2024.

Another excellent website is the city-sponsored [www.72hours.org](http://www.72hours.org).



## Westwood Park Association Budget Report 03/01/2008

Category Description	FY 2009 Budget (3/1/08-2/28/09)	FY 2008 Budget (3/1/07-2/29/08)	FY 2008 Actual (2/29/08)	FY 2007 Budget (3/1/06-2/28/07)
<b>Income</b>				
Annual Dues- Liens Collections	44000	43,775	57,232	43,771
City & County of San Francisco Grant	-	-	18,000	-
Donations	-	-	2,436	-
Interest Earned	750	600	2,249	100
Sales, DVD & Shirts	175	70	319	50
Transfer from Reserve	19,000	17,200	-	6,000
<b>TOTAL Income</b>	<b>\$63,925</b>	<b>\$ 61,645</b>	<b>\$ 80,236</b>	<b>\$ 49,921</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Gardening	14,000	14,250	13,200	14,250
Maintenance & Repair	4,000	5,000	3,153	-
Tree Pruning	13,000	2,500	1,670	12,300
Upgrades to Common Areas	2,500	16,000	45,593	-
Liability, and Directors & Officers Insurance	7,300	15,500	6,932	16,000
Annual Meeting & Community Outreach	825	600	781	600
Postage, Printing and Supplies	3,750	3,885	3,536	3,560
Audit, Dues, Fees, Liens, PO Box, Taxes	1,550	1,455	1,568	1,361
Utilities	2,000	1,955	1,852	1,850
NERT	-	-	1,014	-
Planning & Zoning	15,000	500	191	-
<b>TOTAL Expenses</b>	<b>\$63,925</b>	<b>\$ 61,645</b>	<b>\$ 79,490</b>	<b>\$ 49,921</b>
4 Mo CD (Mat. 3/20/08)	<b>\$ 22,799.96</b>			
9 Mo Risk Free CD (Mat. 8/20/08)	<b>\$ 11,641.85</b>			
Maximizer	<b>\$1,087.88</b>			
Checking	<b>\$1,060.86</b>			
TOTAL Bank Accounts Balances 02/29/08	<b>\$ 36,590.55</b>			