



COMMUNITY REPORTER

July, 1989

Issue 2

UPDATE: FULL STEAM AHEAD . . .

Sunset Cleanup

It was a one-day turnaround on Sunset Boulevard, Saturday, June 17.

Approximately 50 dedicated residents and youths worked all morning long to paint out graffiti between Coronado and Hyperion on Sunset Boulevard

The paint-out was assisted by the local Rampart police division. Officer Lisa Ovesen appeared with the Rampart Police Explorers and the Rampart PACE group. In addition, police officers Medina and Provincio appeared with the police paint sprayer to tackle the big paint jobs.

The Silver Lake Improvement Association worked with Operation Clean Sweep and Deborah Bell to ensure sufficient supplies of paint and tools were on hand. Nina Greenberg was also on hand to represent Councilman Mike Woos' office.

Special thanks go out to the Reiyukai America Association for use of their property on Sunset, which was used as the kickoff point.

Special thanks also go to Rose Garcia and the Graffiti Busters who have maintained weekly paint-outs to keep Sunset clean of new graffiti.

Vendome Progress

Vendome continues to turn around.

Since our last newsletter, several positive events have taken place, including:

- During the Sunset Clean-up, a special team was dispatched to Vendome and neighboring Reno. The street was cleared of trash and graffiti.
- The Vendome neighbors, with leadership from Mary Whitecloud and Bill Walker, have organized a weekly graffiti and trash detail to keep the street looking good.
- The neighbors are replanting the median and are submitting a proposal to the city's "Adopt a Median" project.
- The eviction of tenants in the drug-dealing complex is moving forward. The first case was just settled -- with an agreement from the tenant to move within 60 days.
- With police help, arrests of drug dealers are continuing.

Residents are beginning to see the reclamation of their streets. They intend to continue to get their street back through clean-ups, youth involvement, and cooperation with the police.

Graffiti Grant

The Silver Lake Improvement Association, with the Central City Action Committee and the Bresee Foundation, has been awarded a city grant to clean-up our neighborhood.

The grant which is for more than \$30,000 will be used primarily to fund a supervisor to oversee court referrals who will paint over graffiti on city and private property. Such court referrals are assigned community tasks, in lieu of a fine or jail sentence.

Part of the grant is also expected to be used to purchase a sandblaster for use in this area.

Those who wish to organize neighborhood paint-outs in the Silver Lake, Echo Park, or Mid-Wilshire area should call Barbara Dakin at (213)413-4221 to find out how they can get the paint and additional workers from this city funding.

In addition, the city has established two hotline numbers that can be used to report graffiti anywhere in the city. The numbers are (213) CLEAN UP and (818) SPARKLE. Priority under this program will be given to city-owned property.

DON'T MISS OUR NEXT MEETING!

Thursday, July 20, 7:30 p.m.

Russian Orthodox Church
650 Micheltorena

Special Guest: John Garcia

Program Director, Community Youth Gang Services
How much do you know about the gangs in our own neighborhood? Can you decipher the graffiti? Do you recognize members by their clothing? Do you know how to deal effectively with gang members on your street? Come to our meeting and hear the advice of an expert in the area of gangs. See you July 20!

Other upcoming events . . .

- Silver Lake Improvement Association meetings, held the first and third Thursdays of each month, 7:30 p.m., Russian Orthodox Church community room, 650 Micheltorena.
- Graffiti-Buster paint outs, held weekly. Call 413-4221 to find out more details on how you can help.
- Community March for a Better and Crime-Free Community, 9:30 a.m., Saturday, August 19. Sponsored by L.A. CRUSADERS, a coalition of local neighborhood groups. Call (213) 485-3724 for more details

Silver Lake Improvement Association
PO Box 291274
Los Angeles, CA 90029



ADDRESSES UNKNOWN
7/20/89

Doris Linar
3112 Marathon
Los Angeles, CA 90026
RESSEE UNKNOWN
90026



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SPECIAL THANKS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special thanks go to the following Graffiti-Busters who have diligently kept Sunset and other streets clean: Rose Garcia, Joe Radogna, Juliet Garcia, Shirley Martin, Martin Rivera, George Machorro, Mario Machorro, David Bermudez, Carmen Estrada, Fred Estrada, and Jose Fuentes.

The following merchants have recently contributed products or funds to support our Association activities: Peerless Hardware, Copies Unlimited, America Restaurant, Castle Market, Sunlake Drug, Hector TV, Priscilla's Beauty Salon, Ishan's, Silverlake Bakery, and Tropical Ice Cream. Thanks to all of them.

Special awards were recently presented at an Association meeting. Rose Garcia was presented a special license plate frame labeled "Silver Lake Graffiti Busters" in honor of her work in organizing weekly paint-out. Dennis Frahmman was acknowledged for his work in creating flyers, newsletters, and press releases. Fausto Flores was acknowledged for his contributions of printing support.

The Silver Lake Improvement Association thanks Minuteman Press, 446 S. Central, Glendale, for their contribution in printing this issue of the Association newsletter.