



National Night Out Against Crime...August 3rd

by Gretchen Bomboy

With excerpts from National Night Out Against Crime website and Lesson from National Night Out Against Crime: We all can help fight city crime by Lion Calandra, Daily News Columnist

The 27th Annual "National Night Out Against Crime, a unique crime prevention and awareness campaign has been scheduled for **Tuesday, August 3, 2010**. This article is early as we do not publish a newsletter in July. The FMIA needs for you to focus a bit early.

Last year's National Night Out campaign involved citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, businesses, neighborhood organizations and local officials from over 15,000 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities and military bases worldwide. In all, over **36 million** people participated in National Night Out 2009.

The FMIA would like to encourage you to sign up to sponsor a block party, porch party or a walk-about with your neighbors. Last year Marie's Bar and the Friendly Bar among many others sponsored Bar-B-Ques and Pot-Lucks to celebrate our relationship with New Orleans FINEST. We encourage you to participate. Our NOPD officers will pass by to introduce themselves and maybe share a piece of chicken. There is nothing to serve you better than a relationship with the men and women who put their lives on the line for us every day. It benefits us all to know them personally.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT IS DESIGNED TO:

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness;
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs;
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and
- Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Along with the traditional display of outdoor lights and front porch vigils, cities, towns and neighborhoods 'celebrate' NNO with a variety of events and activities such as:

- block parties,
- cookouts,
- visits from local police and sheriff departments
- parades, exhibits,
- flashlight walks,
- contests, and
- youth programs.

NNO has proven to be an effective, inexpensive and enjoyable program to promote neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships in our fight for a safer nation. Plus, the benefits your community will derive from NNO will most certainly extend well beyond the one night.

August 3rd is the National Night Out Against Crime, when citizens all around the United States gather in a show of support for their local police department and to send a message to criminals that their neighborhoods aren't free rein for murder, rape and robbery. There is power in numbers. We will be joining millions of other concerned citizens from 7 to 10 P.M. as they take to the streets to meet their local police officers, hear about crime prevention and learn of ways to make their lives and their neighbors' lives safer.

The night brings home - literally - the obligation every citizen has to contribute to the good of their community. Doing something as

seemingly simple as dialing 911 when you see a crime in progress or a fight in the street goes a long way to help apprehend the bad guys. Standing shoulder-to-shoulder with other good-natured citizens sends a message to criminals that there are people who care, people who will step in when help is needed. The night also stands as an example to kids in the city that it's important to get involved in the happenings in their community. Planting those seeds now means we reap the reward later of future generations of citizens who stay involved in their neighborhoods.

National Night Out, begun by the National Association of Town Watch in 1983, is a way for civic-minded citizens to promote police-community partnerships while focusing on neighborhood camaraderie. Many communities also sponsor a Child ID program this night, which allows parents to register their children's fingerprints, photos and distinguishing characteristics with law enforcement in an effort to keep our kids safe from predators.

An important component of the event is Project 365. To participate, all National Night Out communities are asked to designate between now and National Night Out 2010 a particular problem area in their neighborhoods. The goal will be to work toward correcting that problem by National Night Out 2011.

Some suggestions include:

Clean up a "problem area", remove illegal trash piles, broken bottles, graffiti, abandoned cars, trash-filled vacant lots, call in missing street lights, missing street signs, missing or loose traffic signs. Go out and clean mold off of illegible street signs and prune shrubbery that hides vandals or obscures traffic view. A year-long cleanup campaign can help reduce or eliminate existing problems. **Send your suggestions to Secretary@faubourgmarigny.org. Also register your party with FMIA at this address. Gretchen will list your function with the NOPD for you.**

August 3rd could provide a perfect opportunity to join with neighbors and tackle a problem that has been plaguing the area you call home.

According to event organizers, last year's National Night Out campaign involved citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, businesses, neighborhood organizations and local officials from more than 15,000 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities and military bases worldwide. In all, more than 37 million people participated in National Night Out 2009.

This year, NNO is an opportunity for even more citizens to stay proactive in their own city. Grab friends and family and stand together in a united front to make your city the safest it can be. As it stands now, we want to live in the safest city in America. If we all want that to happen, citizens must stay alert and engaged to help law enforcement officers do their job.

This is the 27th annual National Night Out, and it's a good way to thank police officers for a job well done and to help continue the hope for safe streets in our city.

SPECIAL EVENTS
pages 6-7

About the Newsletter

Les Amis de Marigny is the newsletter of the Faubourg Marigny Improvement Association, a 501(c) non-profit, all-volunteer organization committed to the preservation of the unique architectural and cultural heritage of our historic district, and to improving the quality of life in our diverse community. Contents, editorials and opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the official views of the FMIA, its Board or its members. Contents of Les Amis de Marigny are copyrighted. Permission to reprint any of the newsletter, including photographs and original artwork, must be obtained from the editor and/or byline columnist.

Manuscripts, photographs and articles dealing with topics of interest to the Marigny neighborhood are encouraged. The editor reserves the right to reject submissions including editorial and advertising content. Submissions must be received by the 7th of the month for inclusion in the next month's issue. Send contributions to: FMIA Newsletter, 2401 Burgundy St Box 10, NOLA 70117 or editor@faubourgmarigny.org.

The newsletter is published each month except July and December.

Classifieds Now Available

The newsletter is now accepting classified ads. Personals, however, are not being accepted. Contact ads@faubourgmarigny.org for prices.



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All advertising must be received by the 15th of each month for publication in the next month's issue. For information regarding advertising, contact the business manager at ads@faubourgmarigny.org

HELP STILL WANTED

The newsletter is still looking for a few good reporters.

Additionally, we'd really love to have a photographer to take pictures as needed. If interested in helping out, contact editor@faubourgmarigny.org

Vice President's Report

by Reg Medellin

Earlier this month, I remember thinking, "it's going to be a quiet month". Our President, Chris Costello, would be away for the month and I would be taking on the president's role in his absence. The Board had addressed many issues prior to his departure and all seemed pretty much in control. I mean, how much can happen in one month, right? Well, as Gilda Radner's character, Roseanne-Roseanna-Danna, used to say on Saturday Night Live, "... its' always something!"

Uppermost on everyone's mind is the oil spill in the Gulf. I don't mean to make light of it but, my gosh, many of us were finally taking a breather post-Katrina, still riding the high from the Saints win. Now our wetlands and coastlines are playing a game for their very existence. It is incomprehensible that a month after the spill and, as we go to print, oil is still gushing out into the Gulf. However, it is a testament to the will, dedication and love that the people possess in this great state that, I am certain, will again guide them to triumph over this tragic event. We must all do our best to aid in this recovery.

It is this same collective force by its residents that can move a neighborhood to forge ahead. In an effort to open a dialog with our newly elected City Councilperson, a meeting with Councilwoman Kristin Palmer, State Senator J.P. Morrell, State Representative J. B. Brossard, the FMIA Board, several Marigny businesses and concerned residents met May 14th to discuss various issues of concern in the Marigny. A major focus of the meeting was the French Quarter/Marigny Historic Area Management District [FQMHAMD]. This is a proposed taxing district to address security, safety and other quality of life issues. This proposal will be introduced within the state legislature for enactment. The Marigny is considering withdrawing its participation and support in this District*. There were concerns raised about the District annexing only a portion of the Marigny Triangle -- the Rectangle would be totally excluded; one-person [Marigny] representation on a 12-person [FQ] District Board; the lack of resident representation on the board; disbursement of taxing monies--Marigny taxes=Marigny improvements. Among other topics discussed were: Enforcement, Quality of Life issues, Parking, Riverfront Park, and Blight. It was an informative and productive session and Councilwoman Palmer pledged an open door policy and ongoing dialog with the Marigny residents.

And in keeping with an open door policy, several FMIA Board members attended the May 11th Inspector General's [Ed Quatrevaux] Community Forum at Xavier University. The forum discussed the role of the Office of the Inspector General and how citizens of New Orleans can play a part in fighting public fraud and waste. Mayor Mitch Landrieu gave the opening remarks followed by a brief description by the Inspector General of the function of his Office. The guest panelists took questions from the audience. The guest panelists included: Arnie Fielkow, President, New Orleans City Council, Jim Letten, U.S. Attorney, Eastern District of LA, Ed Quatrevaux, Inspector General, City of New Orleans, and Rev. Cornelius Tilton, Vice Chairman, Ethics Review Board. It is important to note, that we, as citizens of New Orleans, must all take responsibility for good, honest and transparent government. The Office of Inspector General [www.NOLAIOIG.org] can assist us in achieving this goal.

By now many of you have seen our neighborhood banners along Elysian Fields Avenue. The banners commemorate the Faubourg Marigny being selected as one of the top 10 Great Neighborhoods for 2009. What better way to give thanks to many residents, neighborhood activists and various city

departments who worked collectively to demand preservation, consistent planning and pioneered the Marigny's smart growth and development. There are plans to expand the banner program to include the St. Claude Street corridor in the near future. The Banner committee is also in the process of formulating a policy and pricing structure that would allow sponsorship space to be utilized on the bottom third of the banner. This would also help defray the costs of the banners. However, until then we are asking people to help us defray the expense of the banners and brackets. If you can help, please contact Ken Caron at kenc@faubourgmarigny.org.

On a lighter note, it happened again. A torrential rainstorm caused the cancellation of the Annual Home Tour on May 16th. It was decided early this year that since this event is a major fund-raiser for the organization we need people to attend and we need to draw people to the Art Market. And wading in a pool of water formed in Washington Square Park on Sunday morning insured only the seagulls would be in attendance. Sunday, June 6, 2010 is the rescheduled date of the Tour. We look forward to a fun [dry] day of activity.

Well, so much for a quiet month. The neighborhood is abuzz and it's so good to see and hear people express optimism in spite of all that needs to be addressed. It is my belief that working together we can collectively accomplish many goals to the betterment of our neighborhood and city. In closing I'd like to give thanks to the owners and staff at the Orange Couch who hosted our last Meet-the-Neighbors on May 11th and, we look forward to visiting with everyone at Desperados for the next Meet-the-Neighbors, June 8th.

*The FMIA board subsequently voted to address this issue. It confirmed it's decision to withdraw the Marigny's inclusion into this taxing district.

Orchids & Onions

ORCHIDS-

-  A big thank you to Ken Caron for all his work to place banners on Elysian Fields
-  To Lloyd Sensat for his Creole Coloring Book
-  Thanks to the American Planning Association for our Great Neighborhood Award
-  To Marigny Green/FMIA sponsorship with the new The ReUse District
-  To all FMIA volunteers .
-  A second big thank you to Ken Caron for single-handedly raising over\$1,000 for the banners on Elysian Fields

ONIONS-

-  People who are destroying the palms in Washington Square Park
-  To people who park cars illegally, blocking fire hydrants and driveways

**No More Blight -
Join Us in Our Fight**

*by Alexandre Vialou
Blight Committee*

In April, the Transition New Orleans - Blight Task Force team presented to Mayor-elect Mitch Landrieu a set of recommendations that it hopes will help the new administration deal better with the large number of blighted properties in our city. The report, available at www.transitionneworleans.com, hints that blighted residential properties started to appear long before Katrina, when the city first started to lose a significant share of its population to the suburbs. The failure of the levees and the resulting forced displacement of many residents after Katrina's landfall accelerated the depopulation movement. There are now roughly 350,000 people living in a city built for 600,000 according to the report. The Greater New Orleans Community Data Center (GNOCDC) in its latest report dated May 7th, 2010 estimated using U.S. Postal active addresses that there are 55,290 blighted addresses or empty lots including 5,214 commercial addresses.

We are all well aware that blight has an adverse impact on our quality of life. But it is important to remember that blight is itself a manifestation of our surrounding socio-economic environment. With a reduced population and a majority of our residents earning low to minimum wages, the city's future ability to repair blighted properties is bleak. There are also many factors that deter homeowner's incentives to renovate blight: an oversupply of newly built apartments in the Tulane corridor and more than 7,000 vacant but habitable residential addresses according to the GNOCDC. As a result, market prices for a typical shotgun house in New Orleans are often too low to enable a major restoration and too high for many residents who cannot afford the post-Katrina levels of mortgages and property taxes.

Without proper city coordination, it is then up to each neighborhood to compete against each other and make their case for repopulation. Certainly, the Faubourg Marigny is in a privileged position since it didn't flood and it benefits from a strong and active neighborhood community. Yet we are no exception in the fight against blight: a grocery store has been lost due to storm damages, many properties are in an advanced state of neglect and incidences of crime have been noted in a few of these derelict properties. Nowhere is the need more present than in the North Rampart corridor (in the Triangle) and the St. Claude corridor (in the Rectangle). These two streets and their adjacent blocks concentrate 44% of all blighted properties in our neighborhood.

In the rectangle section of Saint Claude Avenue (part of the St. Claude Main Street Program), there are 16 blighted properties and 3 empty lots. 5 of those properties have been declared "Public Nuisance or Blight" by Code Enforcement last year. But only 1 has been remedied since then (2400-02 St. Claude). 1 property is currently under the Code Enforcement process: 2501 St. Claude Avenue, 3 properties are boarded, 3 properties are under renovations and 1 has been remedied without the threat of Code Enforcement citation. So far the only property that still remains blighted with no repair in sight despite many promises by its homeowner is the Saint Roch Market. What a bad example the City has given to the other non-compliant neighbors!!

The Blight Task Force proposes several recommendations to the new administration. First and foremost, it insists on an adequately funded and operated Code Enforcement office. In fact, the authors of the report hope that Code Enforcement properly reviews all blighted property within the next 3 years. Proper coordination between the City and neighborhood associations is stressed with greater access to information regarding scheduled hearings and their results. The report also mentions the lack of funding through the Road Home program that is estimated to have stalled thousands of renovations. Finally and most importantly, the task force recommends the provision of "assistive services at hearings to facilitate rehabilitation and maintain homeownership". Behind the door of a blighted property there is always a tragic human story, long past or still vivid.

As usual you can contact us directly at blight@faubourgmarigny.org to let us know of any properties that you would like some assistance in getting through the Code Enforcement Process.

Code Enforcement Hearing Results (April 23rd to May 21st, 2010):

1518 Pauger Street (Accessory): Conditionally Guilty: \$100 daily

Upcoming Code Enforcement Hearing:

2524 Dauphine Street on 06/02/2010 at 1:15 PM
2501 Saint Claude Avenue on 06/30/2010 at 1:15 PM

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Fifth District NONPAC Meeting

by John Luckett

The meeting was convened by Major Kelly at the new temporary Fifth District Station at 901 Bartholomew St. (enter on Burgundy St.). Mary Cunningham and Fitzgerald Hill from Councilwoman Palmer's office were there and discussed ways to work with her office and the police.

Officer Alsina reported that all abandoned autos from the last NONPAC meeting had been tagged, and many had been removed. He also discussed many of the Quality of Life issues brought up at the last meeting and the way he has resolved them.

There were a number of complaints about loud music and illegal live bands at a location on N. Robertson. Major Kelly stated she would address this and should have an answer at the next meeting.

Major Kelly also said the Fifth District COMSTAT meetings were now open to all residents and would be held every Wednesday at 2PM, at Holy Angels Convent, 3500 St. Claude Ave.

After the meeting adjourned, Major Kelly showed us around the new station.

All residents are urged to attend the NONPAC meetings if they wish to. The meetings are at the station at 7 PM on the second Wednesday of each month.

NONPAC Eighth District Meeting

by Brian Frye

There is no report for May.

New Police E-Mail Contact

by Janssen Valencia

New Police Superintendent Ronal W. Serpas announced the establishment of a New Orleans Police Department e-mail designed to allow citizens to express concerns. This is an effort by Chief Serpas to provide easy access to the New Orleans Police Department and increase the dialogue and cooperation between the citizens of New Orleans and the New Orleans Police Department. The e-mail address will be effective immediately and will be as follows:

Nopdchief@cityofno.com

This e-mail is not designed to report emergencies or to request police assistance. Please continue to use 911 for emergencies or 821-2222 for non emergencies.

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DEPARTMENT

ASSOCIATION

CALENDER OF EVENTS

<p>JUNE</p> <p>General Meeting June 21 6:30 Pot Luck 7:15 Meeting St. Paul Lutheran Church 2624 Burgundy St *****</p> <p>JULY</p> <p>Board Meeting July 7 7:00 pm 600 St .Roch</p> <p>General Meeting NO MEETING *****</p> <p>AUGUST</p> <p>Board Meeting August 4 7:00 pm 2020 Burgundy</p> <p>General Meeting August 16 6:30 Pot Luck 7:15 Meeting St. Paul Lutheran Church 2624 Burgundy St *****</p>	<p>Night Out Against Crime August 3 See page 1 for details *****</p> <p>Meet the Neighbors 2nd Tuesday 6:30-8:30 pm</p> <p>June 8th Desperadoes 801 Frenchmen Street &</p> <p>July 13 Feelings 2600 Chartres St. &</p> <p>August 10 John Paul's Bar 940 Elysian Fields *****</p> <p>NONPAC Meetings 5th District 2nd Wednesday 7 pm 2372 St. Claude Ave & 8th District 2nd Thursday 5:30 pm 1001 Toulouse *****</p> <p>St. Claude Avenue Main Street Meetings Call 616-7637 *****</p>	<p>Green Markets</p> <p>Saturdays 12 pm - 4 pm</p> <p>St. Anna's Episcopal Church</p> <p>1313 Esplanade Ave. *****</p> <p>Saturdays 11 am-3 pm June 19 & July 3</p> <p>The Renaissance Project</p> <p>St. Bernard & Claiborne Ave. *****</p>
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LUTHERAN YOUTH INVADING FAUBOURG MARIGNY!

*by Kevin Kieschnick,
Pastor of St. Paul Lutheran*

Lutheran Youth from around the country will be descending upon New Orleans this summer, on July 17th. St. Paul Lutheran Church on Port and Burgundy is part of the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod, a 2.4 million member body. This summer the LCMS is holding a National Youth Gathering, which is held somewhere around the country every 3 years. Over 25,000 youth and their adult chaperones have registered for the gathering, which will run from Saturday, July 17th until Wednesday, July 20th. The youth will be staying in local hotels and various events and gatherings will take place both at the Morial Convention Center, and at the Superdome.

As part of the gathering, participants are encouraged to take part in a city-wide servant event. My wife, Christie, and I are organizing servant events for some 12,000 youth over three days. Kevin and Christie are working with St. Paul and the FMIA to bring some of those youth to work in the Faubourg Marigny. Details about what the teens might be doing are still under construction, but if you see a bunch of youth walking around your neighborhood in late July, don't hesitate to engage them in conversation. Share with them what it's like to live in this great city, and in this world-class neighborhood!

Garage Sale at St. Paul Lutheran Church

by Betty Stoll Wright

The Women of Saint Paul are holding a garage sale on Saturday, June 12, from 9am to 3pm in the church basement at 2624 Burgundy St.(corner of Port & Burgundy). On sale will be items of clothing, books, toys, sporting and household goods, and other miscellaneous. Please come and shop with us. Money from the sale will be used for our charitable work.

If anyone would like to donate items for the sale, they can be brought to the church. Please contact me at 504-835-6220 or at mzstollright@att.net and let me know when you would be dropping off items at the church.

Come shop! Hope to see you there.

Backgammon, anyone?

The New Orleans Backgammon Club meets in the Marigny for a friendly tournament every Wednesday. Several FMIA members are regulars. Come and enjoy. Beginners are welcome.

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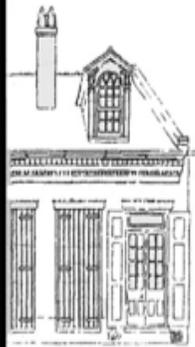
Questions? Call Will Hunn at 504 366-7498

NolaBackgammon.org

* Your first tournament.

Charity Hospital Meeting

On Tuesday, June 22, LSUS medical officials come before the City Planning Commission to put forth their plan for the lower half of Lower Mid City. **THE PUBLIC IS ASKED TO ATTEND THE CITY PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING, TUESDAY, JUNE 22, 1:30PM AT THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, 1300 PERDIDO ST.** For more information, contact the New Orleans Committee to Reopen Charity; Brad Ott 504.269.4951 bradott@bellsouth.net or Derrick Morrison 504.908.5310 dmorrison33@cox.net.



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MARIGNY GREEN

The ReUse District/Marigny Green

by Deborah Oppenheim

ReFest, the kick-off event for The ReUse District on May 15, was a huge success. Despite pouring rain, over 650 people came out for ReFest celebrating reuse in our neighborhoods. Councilperson Kristen Gielson Palmer and actor/comedian Hugh Laurie came to the night concert featuring Jon Cleary. Sponsorships from members and like-minded people and organizations such as FMIA covered the entire day's expenses. For members of The ReUse District who left cards and fliers at the concert, interested attendees were pleased to have the information. At the night concert, Marigny Green introduced ReFest participants to the mission of Marigny Green, showcased photographs of the tree plantings in the Marigny at the night concert and promoted and sold energy efficient bug lights. Word of The ReUse District is getting out through printed publications, media, and social networking. The ReUse District has received only positive responses. For more information about Marigny Green and/or The ReUse District, contact deboraho@faubourgmarigny.org

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Color Me Creole

This is the seventh in a series of drawings to show the rich architectural inventory of Faubourg Marigny. I will be featuring drawings from my sketchbook of Bernard de Marigny's historic neighborhood. Eventually, it will become a coloring book to teach children and adults how "to read" a building by type and style and identify its components. The houses illustrated will represent what I consider to be the best examples in Marigny. It is my hope that this will aid in a better understanding of architecture, foster a love for old buildings and demonstrate the importance of historic preservation.

Lloyd Sensat

Sun Oak in Faubourg Marigny

May 2010

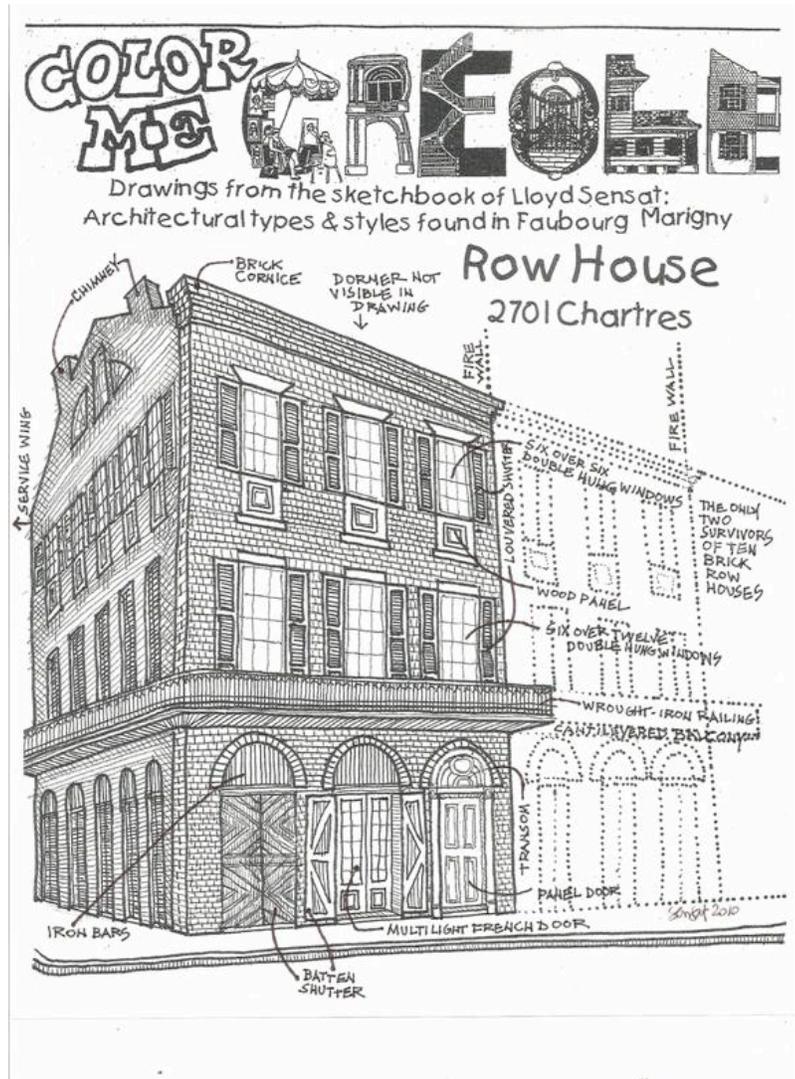
Row House (1830-1865)

By Eugene Cizek & Lloyd Sensat

The period of 1820-1830 was a period of transition for the Creole faubourgs as American influences gained momentum. The row house was long popular in Baltimore, Philadelphia, and the eastern seaboard and was popularized in New Orleans during the 1830's and 1840's. This house type, with each house identical and linked to the next by a solid brick fire wall and chimney, was built in a row. The finest row houses in New Orleans are the Pontalba buildings on Jackson Square. Another extant example of exquisite architectural design is the Julia Row Houses in the Old American Sector, now Central Business District.

Architects' Row: 2701 Chartres

Only two buildings survive of a block of ten three and one half story brick row houses in the 2700 block of Chartres. An identical row of ten faced Royal Street with Architects' Street providing a service alley at mid block which allowed access to the large three storey service wings and courtyard, which completed the complex. The complex began in 1836 and was built in the Creole style by La Compagnie des Architectes. The two survivors were sold by the company to its first president, L. G. Hilingsberg, who kept them till his death in 1848. These buildings retain the Creole characteristics of the neighborhood. Each individual building is a Creole town house. The features include the first floor arch openings with iron bar transoms and paneled french doors, a service passage rather than interior hall and a fine spiral stairway in the rear gallery opening to a courtyard and service wing. The balcony has cathedral pattern wrought iron. The dormer not visible in the drawing is Federal in design. The exposed red brick facade rather than stuccoed and residential first floor are American in style. The row across the street at 2704-06, 2708-10 with Greek Revival details and side hall reflect the more American concepts. The row of ten is now a row of two but is called Architects' Row; it was originally called "Aristocrats' Row". In 1836, Etienne Cordevielle and Francois Lacroix, both free men of color, the latter being one of the wealthiest men in New Orleans, purchased the building next to the surviving houses. An article in the Louisiana Historical Quarterly (Volume XX- Number 3) lists some of the prominent residents of the row: Commodore William Hunter, the inventor of the iron ship, Captain John C. Smith, a retired shipmaster, Mrs. Richard Prator, nee Beauregard, Philo Goodwin, a raconteur, the Reverend H. M. Smith, Placide Canonge, manager of the French Opera House, the Hubbards, Kennedys, Forstalls, and Singletons. If the block, destroyed in the twentieth century, was still intact it would be one of the most important architectural complexes in the city of New Orleans of National Landmark status. The drawing shows 2701 Chartres in a restored condition based on plan book 40, folio 8, signed and dated, J. A. Pueyo and Cosnier, February 28, 1845.



MARIGNY'S VERY OWN CHARACTER

by Donna Wakeman

The Windsor Court Hotel launched a campaign to identify 140 "New Orleans characters" for a future ad campaign. It sponsored a contest where people nominated and voted for the 'characters' to represent New Orleans' distinctive personality. The top 140 were invited to an exclusive reception at the hotel May 18. Among them was Faubourg Marigny's own Lloyd Sensat.

"We couldn't be the Windsor Court if we weren't in New Orleans, and New Orleans wouldn't be itself with all of the wonderful individuals that give our city color," explains David Teich, General Manager of the Windsor Court. "It's only fitting that we use local personalities to promote ourselves."



YOU ARE OFFICIALLY
A NEW ORLEANS CHARACTER

Lloyd Sensat



Proudly presents the top 140 Characters of New Orleans. A lot can be said about New Orleans in 140 characters, hint from Twitter ... "Lloyd is a retired art teacher, historian, tour guide. He role plays Bernard d'Marigny and Papa Noel in costume".

Check him out on his web site
www.sunoaknola.com

"I was elated to be named one of Windsor Courts' '140 New Orleans Characters,'" said Lloyd. "To be included with Allen Toussaint, Becky Allen, Blaine Kern, Bryan Batt, Charmaine Neville, Chris Rose, Drew Brees, Fats Domino, George Schmidt, Irvin Mayfield, John Besh, Leah Chase, Paul Prudhomme, Pete Fountain, Ricky Graham, Ronnie Virgets, Sean Payton, Sidney Torres, Tom Fitzmorris, etc., is a real honor."

From those 140, the top seven will be selected to be the Windsor Court ambassadors and will appear in The Grill Room ad campaign. Why the number 140? The Windsor Court took a hint from Twitter – a lot can be said about New Orleans in 140 characters. To tie everything together, each nomination will be limited to a 140-character explanation, and updates on the contest will appear on the hotel's Twitter account.

Excerpt from Cookbook Review: Anne Butler's River Road Plantation Country Cookbook

by GirlieChef at
<http://girliechef.blogspot.com/>

... The last thing I made from the book was definitely my favorite. From grandmother of a local art and history buff at Sun Oak in Faubourg Marigny [aka Lloyd Sensat] is a delicious Cabbage Roll...called fondly Grandma's Cabbage Cigars.



Grandma's Cabbage Cigars

1 lb. ground meat
1 large onion, chopped
1/2 bell pepper, chopped
2 cloves garlic, minced
breadcrumbs
1 tsp. sugar
green onion tops, chopped
parsley
salt, red (cayenne) pepper, black pepper- to taste
1 large head cabbage, leaves separated
1/2 c. rice, cooked
1 regular-sized can whole tomatoes

Sauté ground meat, onion, bell pepper and garlic until meat is cooked. Add breadcrumbs to hold mixture together. Season with sugar, green onion tops parsley and salt and peppers to taste. Cover cabbage leaves in boiling water, cook for 4 minutes and drain. Place portions of rice and meat mixture in each cabbage leaf and roll. Place rolls in a deep pot seams down. Add canned tomatoes, cover and cook over medium heat for 20-30 minutes. Serves 4-6.

Know what I love about this recipe *other than its delicious outcome?* The impreciseness of it. It is like so many of the recipes that my own grandma has. No amounts, just ingredients for parts. It urges you to use your senses. Choose your favorite type of ground meat. Season it to your family's tastes. Feel it...smell it...eyeball it...taste it. Gorgeous.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

A reader forwarded me a copy of an article which, while written to address a specific issue in our city, also puts forth a clear argument in favor of intelligent, transparent planning and development. It raises an alarm concerning the future of the CBD, and emphasizes the need for neighborhood involvement. I thought it provoked enough thought to warrant passing it on.

NEW ORLEANS' THIRD CRISIS: SUBURB-STYLE HOSPITAL PLAN

By Roberta Brandes Gratz

Roberta Brandes Gratz is an urban critic and author of the newly published *The Battle For Gotham: New York In the Shadow of Robert Moses and Jane Jacobs*, Nation Books.



As if this storied city has not been beset enough with disasters, the oil spill is actually its third man-made catastrophe after the levee failures during Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Gaining little outside attention is the real second on-going disaster, a thoughtlessly cited, destructively planned hospital complex that promises to cripple New Orleans in many unrecognized ways.

Everyone in the city wants both hospitals it had before the storms – Charity run by LSU and the Veteran's Hospital. But the city, through a decision-making process that was glaringly non-transparent, has approved a complex requiring the destruction of a tax-paying, historic neighborhood of homes restored with government money. The hospitals will form a suburban-type campus, away from the already struggling downtown core, in a location that may make regeneration of the historic center close to impossible.

While Charity's minimally-damaged, perfectly reusable historic downtown facility sits empty, LSU is being given at least twice the land it needs to build a new, car-dependant campus with considerable extra acreage for future profit-making commercial development that will compete with and further erode the fragile business district. Together with the VA Hospital, Charity will share 67 acres built on a platform 22 feet in the air. Streets disconnected from the grid with minimum pedestrian access, this suburban-style campus will be totally car-dependant and isolated from the existing city, which has been showing real healthy signs of regeneration.

To add insult to injury, this new complex was exempted from the very planning process that the city has been evolving for the last few years and is finally ready to approve. In fact, all real decisions have been made away from the public eye. While endless public meetings have been held on specific aspects, there has never been a thorough public discussion of alternatives, never a real examination of the true cost and benefits, never any proof that the money is really available to build both facilities, and surely never a full discussion of the impact on the shape of the city.

With this project, New Orleans will be on a path of perpetual subsidizing of a crippled center as new, car-oriented office buildings arise on the selected site, drawing more uses from downtown. It will have a second center as new development gravitates to this new zone. The battle for stability will be rough, if not impossible.

In the end, the city will spend more than it gets, the jobs will not be as local as promised, tax incentives will be needed forever. By the time the truth is clear, the destruction will have occurred, and New Orleans, like many other cities struggling today, will spend endless funds and decades rebuilding its urban fabric.

This is a classic city-killing project in the tradition of the much-discredited Urban Renewal Czar Robert Moses who, through his work in New York and consultancies around the country, helped reshape urban America. Moses was all about wiping out authentic fabric to build highways, big project, separated uses. The cities where his rebuilding approach won out are today overwhelmingly the over-suburbanized cities now spending fortunes to reconfigure themselves into traditionally dense, vibrant downtowns and neighborhoods.

Ironically, New Orleans has been genuinely regenerating itself in the classic fashion described and advocated by urbanist author Jane Jacobs. The same resiliency and defiance that she celebrated and that has regenerated so many beleaguered city neighborhoods nationwide burst forth among this city's populace after the storms. Local people took control, organized, sat around tables with planners to talk about what would be good for the neighborhood and the whole city – not leaving it to the leaders who, in the past, had failed them at best, and screwed up at worst. The energy, determination and savvy is evident in small efforts and large neighborhoods all over the city. More than 200 civic organizations are attesting to the capacity of citizens to be innovative and do the right thing, as Jacobs described.

Observers often fail to recognize that small initiatives add up slowly – but surely – to big change. One can't go more than a block anywhere in this city without seeing remarkable rebuilding projects, new local businesses opening and old ones reopened even better, and new community efforts organized.

"This is not a recovery; it is a renaissance," declared one resident. "The lessons we have learned, no one could teach us."

(continued on next page.)

(from page 11)

These are the people in whom government leaders often have little faith, but Jacobs did when she famously said, "Never underestimate the power of a city to regenerate."

What matters more than anything is more fundamental than the particulars. What matters is how one views the future of the city and how decisions are made. What matters is whether it is understood that suburbanized cities don't work and that cities that have gone this route are now finding they must work to redensify, to recreate streets, to reintegrate separated uses, to repurpose valuable existing buildings once disparaged, to reweave the fractured urban fabric. But this does not seem to be what matters officially, in New Orleans.

The city does have room for two fully modernized hospitals – without destroying a regenerating neighborhood and crippling the larger city for decades to come. This is a classic Robert Moses anti-urban mistake from which it took cities like New York decades to recover.

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Report from America's Third Coast

by Leonard E. Johnson

It's official -- the oil is coming ashore. Not in great black waves. In smaller globs and of course the well-known rainbow sheen seen in mud puddles and now in a patch big as Texas, out in the Gulf of Mexico below New Orleans, near the Mouth of the Mississippi River. And hidden under the water's service.

The question is, will this unprecedented disaster develop into something as big as Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, in 2005? Those gigantic hurricanes washed away coastal small towns from Alabama to Texas. They flooded 80 per cent of New Orleans, and caused the more-or-less total evacuation of a great American city, something not seen since Sherman burned Atlanta. The economic wreck was huge.

Will that -- or worse -- now happen because of this volcano of oil gushing up from the ocean's floor over one mile below the surface?

No one here knows, of course. But everyone worries.

In iconic restaurants, just back from the grave's edge after '05, waiters mumble and executive chefs avoid the press. In one exception, at the fabulously good Atchafalaya on Louisiana Avenue, owners Anthony Tocco and Rachael Jaffe stood outside the door with a few departing diners sniffing the oil-fumed night air. Tocco said it all: "We are not a steak house."

Herbsaint is a jewel of foodie fun on Saint Charles Avenue, near Lafayette Park and Gallier Hall. The city's new mayor, Mitch Landrieu, was being sworn in at Gallier Hall and free hot dogs, hamburgers and cotton candy were being given away in the park.

Serious eaters passed up the free food in Lafayette Square for haute cuisine by masters at Herbsaint. C. E. O. and Executive Chef Donald Link was in New York receiving a James Beard award. He never got back with us for a comment. But his waiters and the other customers all expressed grave concern for their jobs and the whole New Orleans economy.

"People come here to eat like they don't back home," diner Joni Friedmann told us. A few days later we boarded Amtrak's Sunset Limited bound for Lafayette, the Hub City of Louisiana's famed Cajun Country. It is also the intellectual center of the Gulf oil supply industry. Such names as Halliburton modestly hang on shingles amid others that provide helicopter services, and food services, and those steel container boxes fitted out for housing on the oil rigs.

The air in Acadiana is clean and fresh. The people held out hope that the coffer dam being placed over the volcano of oil over the weekend would stanch the flow.

On Mother's Day there was not a table to be found in any restaurant in Lafayette. The economy boomed here before and after Katrina and Rita, because of the very oil operations now turned so destructive off the coast. Before oil there was fishing. In time their [*sic*] may be neither. Though no one thinks that time is today.

On the train, few seemed concerned about the oil leak, though everyone in the course of our three-and-a-half hour ride mentioned it. We peered out windows for signs of oil in the wide rivers dumping the Bayou State's bayous into the Gulf. We saw none.

Then news filtered down to Mother's Day diners that the four-story tall coffer dam constructed in nearby Golden Meadow's [*sic*] had not been successful in cutting off the oil flow.

At Don's Downtown, "The Original Cajun Restaurant," according to the banner over the door, one elderly lady told us her mother knew nothing of oil prosperity.

"She lived off rice and sugar. I guess we could do it again," she said, "But not like we live now." Can't argue with that. ---

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For comments email info@faubourgmarigny.org.

FMIA Board Meeting May 12, 2010 Minutes

Board members Present: Gretchen Bomboy, Reg Medellin, Ron Petty, Brian Frye, Gene Cizek, Ken Caron, and Deborah Oppenheim

Board Members Absent: Chris Costello and Eva Campos

Call to Order: Reg Medellin, Vice President opened the meeting at 7:05pm.

Guests: Richard Sacher, Aquatic Gardens and Reese Johnsansen, Elysian Fleas

Rich Sacher presented a letter from the city stating that Elysian Fleas is not zoned for a flea market. He stated that he did not want people parking in his parking lot and it was a financial hardship for his business. Reese responded by saying that she thought she was legal and she had a special event permit. She received notification that Elysian Fleas was not zoned for a flea market and she immediately closed Elysian Fleas. She said she will re-open something that would be legal in the fall. It was suggested that communication now and in the future could prevent misunderstandings for all involved.

Announcements:

1. Meet the Neighbors: May 11, 2010 is at the Orange Couch 6:30 – 8:30 pm.
2. Community Issues:
 - a. French Quarter Marigny District: Councilperson Palmer suggested that we reconsider our decision and become involved with the district. Our concern was that we wanted all of the Marigny to be included in the district and there was not enough representation from the Marigny area. We will meet with Councilperson Palmer to obtain further information.

Administration

1. Approvals by email
 - a. Allocation of Money for Banners: Approved contact person Ken Caron
 - b. Allocation of Money for trashcans: Deferred
 - c. \$100 for the ReUse District ReFest: Approved contact person Deborah Oppenheim
2. Approval of minutes from 4/7 Board: Gretchen moved that we approve the minutes. Second: Gene VOTE: Unanimous
3. President's Report: Chris Costello is out of the country.
4. Treasurer's Report. 5/3/10 Treasurer's email with reports.
5. Committee reports:
 - a. Newsletter: 1) HOT TOPIC: Night Out Against Crime. We discussed adding one sheet in the newsletter for Night Out Against Crime. One side would be an invitation to have a party and on the other side, the police application for Night Out Against Crime. Gretchen offered to Chair this committee. 2) Last Board Meeting approved the idea of classified ads. Sam discussed price and word count. Personal ads are not acceptable. 3) Our editor, Donna, wants photographs in each issue and all photographs need to be a jpg or pdf file. 4) How to get in touch with the Newsletter? Ron said they are working this out. Ken asked why can't we opt to have the newsletter on-line? Maybe we could give people options? Deborah suggested a survey to see if people are interested to have the newsletter electronically sent. Ron and Ken will do the research.

Orchids: A big thank you to Ken Caron for all his work to have banners on Elysian Fields, To Lloyd Sensat for his Creole Coloring Book, American Planning Association, Marigny Green/FMIA sponsorship with the new The ReUse District, and all FMIA volunteers
Onions: People who are destroying the palms in Washington Square Park

- b. Marigny Green: Deborah asked for volunteers for ReFest on May 15th. Marigny Green has partnered with Phoenix Recycling to provide recycle bins for FMIA's 38th Annual Home and Garden Tour. The Home Tour will be a recycled event.

FMIA General Meeting May 19, 2010 Minutes

- c. Sunday, May 16th FMIA's 38th annual Home and Garden Tour. To secure a place for the Home Tour in Washington Square Park, we must send yearly the appropriate letter and fill out the booking form to avoid any conflicts.
- d. Banners: Ken said the company has increased the font and it looks good. They will be ready for Thursday and up for the HOME TOUR. Ken said we do not have a sales tax exception and the cost will be more. Eva is working on applying for sales tax exemption. NeoMetrix, a neighborhood business wants to design the next banners and will work out a reasonable price. We are pleased to have NeoMetrix helping with the next banners.
- e. Blight: Alex gave a comprehensive report on blight. There are many criteria that must be followed to have a property listed as blight.

Old business:

Projects

- a. Reinventing the Crescent: Deferred
- b. RDO for 2300 Chartres Street: This is being investigated

Issues

- a. 2300 Block of Royal: 18 wheelers blocking traffic
- b. Elysian Fleas: It is closed.
- c. FQ/Marigny District: A meeting with Councilperson Palmer on May 14th from 4-6pm at Ron and Reg's.

New business:

- 1. Issues
- 2. Events: Night Out Against Crime: Gretchen offered to chair this event.
- 3. Other: Post Box change. Gary/Membership has requested we keep the old POB for 3-6 months. Gene moved that we extend the POB for 3 months. Second: Gretchen VOTE: Unanimous
- 4. Protocol: Deferred
- 5. It has been suggested that we have recognition for our volunteers. Ideas discussed included a party, recognition in the newsletter, volunteer of the month column, and a thank you letter.

Unresolved issues (if there is time):

- 1. Projects
 - a. **Visibility of Marigny:**
 - a. Welcome Sign
 - b. Riverfront Alliance
 - c. AIDS Memorial
 - d. Historic markers - Gene
 - e. Master Plan
 - f. Marigny Advertising/Brochure/T-shirt ideas
 - g. Crime Collaborative.
 - h. 5th District Staffing.
 - i. Policy for emails that deal with Crime Alerts and Forwarding Information
 - j. Block Captains
 - k. Business Directory
 - l. Homeless Services
 - m. Infill Development
 - n. Council person meeting at Ron & Reg on May 14th : Reg will have an agenda.
 - o. Complaints: How we handle complaints. We should be a resource association and not a regulatory association. When someone sends something in writing then Gretchen will say to the person: 1) Talk to the party in person 2) Document with the police and keep a record (as many times as needed), and 3) Make a formal complaint to City Hall and document (as many times as needed). Reg suggested that we have an article and a form what to do in the newsletter.

Adjournment: Meeting ended at 8:45pm.

April 19, 2010 FMIA General Meeting Minutes

Chris Costello President opened the meeting at 7:15pm and welcomed everyone to the General Meeting.

Announcements:

- 1. Mark your calendar for the next Meet the Neighbors on 5/11 at the Orange Couch 6:30 – 8:30 pm
- 2. Gary has T-shirts and mugs for sale.
- 3. APA presented a plaque honoring the Faubourg Marigny as the best neighborhood in the USA. This prestigious award will be placed in Washington Square Park. It is a great honor. It was 38 years ago smart people protected this neighborhood. Through the years the commitment of the community helped make the Marigny a great place to live, work and play. City Council on April 22nd presented a Proclamation to Chris Costello for his involvement and dedication with the FMIA.
- 4. Beautify the neighborhood: We have talked about banners on the light post and it is in process thanks to Ken Caron. Banners will be on Elysian Fields next month. Ken said the idea for more banners will involve sponsors. Interested, contact Ken at Kenneth Caron [kcaron4218@gmail.com]
- 5. Rick Fifield and his intern have created a book of 1909 Sanborn Maps of the Marigny for the FMIA. Thank you Rick.

Committee:

- 1. Blight: Alex said they need help to attend the hearings and representing the neighborhood. Sometimes Howard and Alex can go but they need help. If you go to the hearing you are a witness and must have seen the property. They will call on you for evidence and bring pictures. 1) Dauphine at Franklin - Howard went to the hearings. They decided to investigate the property. On June 4th they will give their findings. 2) 1717 No. Rampart the owner did not show up. It is King Rogers. They want to sell the property for cheap. It is important that neighbors go with documentation to the hearings.
- 2. The ReUse District: The ReUse District, the first of its kind in the nation, is collaboration between reuse nonprofits, businesses, and community organizations who aim to increase the appreciation and accessibility of reused materials in the 7th Ward, Bywater, Marigny, St. Claude, and St. Roch neighborhoods of New Orleans. The ReUse District will host ReFest, an all day festival promoting creative reuse in New Orleans, from 10am to 10pm. More information about The ReUse District can be found at www.thereusedistrict.org.
- 3. The 38th Annual Home and Garden Tour is scheduled for May 16th. It is FMIA's major fundraiser for FMIA. Volunteers are needed for house sitting, art market, and event set-up. Please contact Reg at vp@faubourgmarigny.org. The area for the tour is Elysian Fields and nearby Elysian Fields.
- 4. Washington Square Park: Big thanks to Gretchen Bomboy and her helpers for the clean-up of Washington Square

Park. FMIA raised \$20,000 and with the matching funds from Julian Mutter renovation has begun. Bobby Moffet, the Chairperson, worked with Gene Cizek to fix all the gates, secure the gates, and replaced and fixed the finials. Since Katrina, FMIA has paid to spray for buck moths.

This year Park and Parkways has the funds to spray for buck moths. Now we can address the issue of termites. Eight trees are infested with termites. Thanks to the generous donations from residents the eight trees will be treated. We appreciate any donations to help replenish the Washington Square Park Fund.

It has come to our attention that someone has gone to the park at night and pulled out the palm fronds and the palms are dying. Please help by keeping your eyes open and if you see odd people hanging around the palms, call the police. Tell your neighbors to watch out for this. All the palms were donated in memory of someone. Motion lighting, signage, cameras, and a night guard are suggestions to help ameliorate the problem. Please contact us if you have information or other ideas.

5. Maureen Steffek is FMIA's Volunteer Chairperson. Please introduce yourself to Maureen at the next Meet the Neighbors or at a General Meeting. If you are interested in volunteering there are short and long term projects. Maureen will match you with something you like to do and within your time constraints.

Please contact Maureen at msteffek1@hotmail.com.

Issues:

1. Lost Love Lounge: Jeff, Amy, and Nick will meet with the neighbors on Wednesday and try to come up with some solutions to be better neighbors. The issue is noise. The zoning is for a restaurant and live music is not allowed. The restaurant is Asian and is opened Thursday – Sunday 6pm to midnight. Nick said they have internet and want to have programs for local artists and authors. Suggestions are welcomed.
 2. Elysian Fleas Market: Reese gave a brief history of the idea for the market. She said it started as a once a month market. They gave it a go for 3 months and decided to try the market every weekend. They hired Prachi, their market manager. It was their 4th week operating on Saturday and Sunday to see how it went with the neighborhood. Rich, co owner of Aqua American Gardens said he had no warning of Elysian Fleas until it opened last October. He has concerns with parking, signage, permits, and zoning and the impact to his business. Reese has closed Elysian Fleas so the problems and legalities can be resolved.

Speakers:

1. Regional Planning Coalition: RPC is doing a long range transportation survey with various neighborhoods. They requested that everyone fill out the surveys or go to www.norpc.org. They are located at 10 Veterans Memorial Blvd. NOLA 70124. Please note that the residents are requesting a left turn signal at Franklin Ave. at St Claude.
2. Keith Twitchell of Community for a Better New Orleans www.nolacpp.wordpress.com - The New Orleans Citizen Participation Project. This group is involved with issues of land use/zoning, emergency preparedness, street repair, budget that the community participates, education to reconnect.
 - A. What is formalized Citizen Participation?

- Accountable relationship
 - Tool to increase their ability to monitor projects and developments
 - Creates organized structure for neighborhoods and communities for input
- B. What will it accomplish?
 - Timely and accurate
 - Confirm citizens needs and priorities
 - People together
 - Empowers citizens to monitor
 - Creates new civic leadership
 - C. Benefits to the Neighborhoods:
 - Inform at the beginning
 - Makes communication with city hall easier
 - Broader range for interest groups
 - D. Benefits to Government:
 - Input from stakeholders
 - Identify all stakeholders
 - Training for city employees
 - Clarify the decision making process – transparency
 - Better communication with public services

Neighborhood associations have their community's interest. There are other people who want to participate but are not associated with the neighborhood association such as church groups, social aid and pleasure clubs, etc. and they want to participate. This would include all types of community groups.

1. Citywide CPP agency (Gov Staff) and information will flow
2. Citywide CPP Tier (Citizens) will review and hear grievances that can't be resolved.
3. Neighborhood: have a district council and representatives and will have hired staff
4. Communities Interest – will have interest councils

NEXT STEPS:

Final Round of public input

Final Revisions to NOLACPP model

Preparation of enabling legislation – city charter requires this and will go to the City Council

Who can get INVOLVED?

- Process is open to anyone.
- Host an informational event
- Email list – sign up
- Survey www.nolacpp.wordpress.com
- Support the CPP

Questions: Please send to Keith at keithgct@aol.com

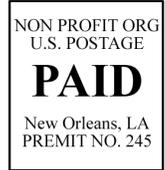
The meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm.

SUMMER BREAK

by Donna Wakeman

Summer is upon us and with it comes vacation time. There will be no July FMIA General Meeting or newsletter. Meetings and publications will resume in August.

See you then.



General Meeting, Monday, 6/21/2010

Meet the Neighbors Night, Tuesday, 6/8/2010

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

F.M.I.A. Membership Form

1. Membership Status: New Renewal

2. Membership Type:
 Individual \$15.00 Business \$25.00
 Household \$20.00 Over 65 \$5.00

3. Contact Information:
Name _____
Address _____

Phone _____
Email _____

4. Willing to volunteer? Yes No

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