

# The California Village News

December 2008 / January 2009

**Next Meeting  
of the California  
Community Council  
7:30 PM  
December 9th, 2008  
Ebersole Community Center  
5701 Kellogg Avenue**

**Planned Agenda:**

- 1) Call to order by President  
Pledge of Allegiance
- 2) Minutes
- 3) Treasurer's Report
- 4) Police Report
- 5) Guests
- 6) Old Business
- 7) New Business
- 8) Adjournment



*Birthday Greetings to  
our community  
members and friends.*

**December Birthdays**

- 2nd Tabitha Betscher**  
**3rd Jackie Frazier**  
**7th Sara Waldlow**  
**11th Gloria Lindville**  
**12th Richard Cope**  
**13th Bryson Weir**  
**18th Jennifer Woods**  
**18th Dylan Shepherd**  
**20th Jeff Christ**

**January Birthdays**

- 1st George Weir**  
**27th Ernest Polly**  
**30th Mariam Clark**

## REMEMBERING WILEY

A story I need to tell. Six years ago a young man named Mark moved into the little cottage just up and across the street from me and I noticed him working on it and introduced myself and talked for a while. He said he was looking forward to Halloween and he would be having a new baby boy by then and couldn't wait to decorate.

When Halloween came I noticed the baby had arrived and one day met, Toby, the mother and now and then would stop to talk to her and the baby. She had spent most of her entire pregnancy in the hospital carrying Wiley and the outcome did not look good. By the following Halloween Toby and Wiley were out walking, he in a stroller and celebrated his first Halloween.

Suddenly I discovered I had not seen any of them for a long time until Mark was at the house and I stopped him and he told he had lost Toby and that they had moved to Mt. Washington to be near his Mother. Oh, how sad! At the time I did write about this in our our newsletter as most people were unaware of the happenings.

Time has gone on and just a few weeks ago, we were driving down Sutton and had to stop for a school bus and I noticed a little fellow climb off and saw his father running up the road to meet him. Oh my goodness, I said, it is Mark and Wiley.

## RECENT OBITUARY

Erma Bloomhuff Wittenberg passed away last month. Older sister of Bob Bloomhuff, Harold Bloomhuff and Dodie Bloomhuff Alsept. Erma lived here as a child, married another former Californian Bill Wittenberg (cousin of the Scotts) and has several children. Erma loved getting the newsletter, in fact she wanted it so bad that she would send me self-addressed envelopes to send them to her. Our deepest sympathy to the Bloomhuff and Wittenberg families.

A special thank you to Frank Koehler, the 4th, for showing and loaning we the pictures he had from his family. One of the men from the old California Gun Club and an old Coney picture that I am having a hard time distinguishing who they are. Thanks again, Frank, they will be put with the files for the Heritage Foundation

**Happy  
Holidays!**



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A few days later, on a nice fall sunny day, I was sitting on the porch and noticed two bicycles go past the house, with a little fellow struggling with a bike with training wheels and a helmet on. I thought that is Mark. They past by and later they went by again and I said is that you, Mark? They both got off their wheels and came in. Here is that beautiful little young man, with beautiful black hair and blue eyes, 6 years old already and going to school. We talked for a long time, ate some Halloween candy, Wiley picked me a little flower from my garden and gave it to me. Just before they left to continue their riding Wiley handed me another flower, much larger, he picked and I said, why don't you give it to your to her grandmother?

End of story, maybe? As they left again, I was back out on the porch drinking my coffee and they rode past again and I waved, and this little voice said, have you been out there waiting for me"? I must have said yes and that was it. Later in the evening I was closing the patio doors and it was starting to get dark, suddenly something took my eye, it seems to radiate or glow, there in the artificial flower sitting by the window as this lavender flower looking right at me. Tears came to my eyes thinking how I should have taken the flower when Wiley wanted me to have it. This touched me so much. It is still there and I cannot remove it, although it has probably withered and died. Every time I see that flower I can see that glowing lavender flower looking at me. Does this all mean something?

Update, Mark still owns his little home and hope to return living here sometime in the future as he said this is such a unique place and has meant a lot to him. JUST A STORY FROM MY LIFE AND MY PEOPLE. Jackie Kuzniczci Frazier, Calif. Historian 231-4402 jackiefrazier@aol.com

## Holiday Party!

NOTICE CHANGE IN TIME!

California Community Council is holding it's Children's Holiday Party on Sunday, **December 14th at 3:00** at the Ebersole Community Center. Come visit Santa and enjoy refreshments, candy and gifts! For children 12 and under. Come for the fun but please do not come early.



If you have not done so, please RSVP to either Diana Weir (207-9178) or Jo Shepherd (232-0320).

## St. Jerome Church

*Christmas Season Schedule*

May Christ fill your heart with joy and peace this Christmas season and during the New Year. We wish you and your family a blessed Christmas whether you are a visitor or parishioner at St. Jerome's.

### CHRISTMAS MASSES

Our entire Christmas program begins on Christmas Eve, December 24 with a children's Mass at 4:00 p.m. and also a Christmas Vigil at 6:00 p.m. At Midnight Mass, carols begin at 11:30 p.m. followed by Christmas Day December 25 at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

These Mass times will be listed in our Sunday bulletin and also posted on the outdoor sign on Kellogg Avenue in front of the parish hall.

## Breakfast with Santa

at Mt. Washington Recreation Center

Saturday, December 13th  
9:00 - 11:30am  
Cost \$4.00 per person  
Come in your pajamas and eat breakfast with Santa  
Mrs. Claus will tell a holiday story  
Pre registration required by Friday, December 5th  
Call 232-4762 for more information

### 2009 NSP/NBD Projects

Come to December's CCC meeting to discuss and vote on projects for 2009 NSP and NBD funds. Each neighborhood is allowed up to \$7,000 NSP and \$9,000 NBD per year. We generally use the funds for beautification, the newsletter, Ebersole Center, etc. Remember, we will vote on projects at this month's meeting.

**California Community Council Meeting  
November 11, 2008 7:30 P.M.**

**Call to Order:**

The meeting opened with The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Krystal Alsept. Roll call of officers found Treasurer Kathleen Chandler and Mike Christ absent.

**Minutes:**

Motion was made by Hilda Davenport to suspend the reading of October's meeting minutes, seconded by Jackie Frazier, motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Secretary David Ross read the Treasurer's report. Hilda Davenport made a motion to accept, seconded by Joey Shepherd, motion passed.

**Police Report:**

Officer Kelly MacBeth gave the police report. Officer MacBeth and Community Officer Germain Love provided a police report. There were 4 thefts in the month of October. Call 765-1212 for non-emergency issues and 911 if you observe an unlawful act in progress. Officer Germain Love can be reached via email at [germain.love@cincinnati-oh.gov](mailto:germain.love@cincinnati-oh.gov).

**Fire Report:**

There was no fire report.

**Guests:**

Mary Cox, new director of the Mt. Washington Recreation Center, mentioned that the MWRC will hold a "Breakfast with Santa" on Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am. Mary can be contacted by calling the center or email at [mary.cox@cincinnati-oh.gov](mailto:mary.cox@cincinnati-oh.gov).

Crista Criddle from City of Cincinnati Councilman Chris Monzel's office answered questions and offered assistance. The following issues were mentioned: Potholes on Apple Hill Road, number of illegal u-turns on Kellogg at I-275 interchange, no speed limit sign in front of Radel Funeral Home west-bound Kellogg Avenue (pole in place but no sign), 'no parking' signs along Waits are missing, trash around Riverstar Ballpark (possibly a work program could work on this), and Amanda Huber noted the extremely slow response time for her 911 call when going into labor. Call 591-6000 when setting out large items of trash on collection day.

**Old Business:**

Discussed NSP and NBD projects for 2009. Dave Ross mentioned that we historically use the funds for maintenance

of streetscape, entry sign areas, community park as well as produce the newsletter and assist with some expenses at Ebersole. This year we also worked on a community website. We will vote on projects at December's meeting.

Discussed election of 2009 officers. Krystal Alsept has moved out of town (although she will continue to own and operate Lexis Pitstop) and will not be running for President. Diana Weir also indicated that she will not be running for Vice-President although she would still have an interest in a Board of Governor's position. Secretary David Ross indicated that he would be interested in the President position for 2009. Kathy Chandler has indicated that she will continue as Treasurer. David said he will be approaching other past members for interest in positions. Elections will take place at December's meeting.

Website status report. Graphic Designer Lisa Kuethe is in progress with the design of the community website. It will be able to be added to over the years but will have the basic framework and information in by the end of the year. The in-progress site can be viewed at [www.CaliforniaOhio.org](http://www.CaliforniaOhio.org).

**New Business:**

This year's children's holiday party will be Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 at Ebersole Center, Lexis Pit Stop will sponsor gifts and snacks.

Discussion issued about the potential to eventually phase out the printed newsletter, since it will be available electronically on the new website and/or could be emailed out. Concerns were expressed about individuals would do not have web access. It was decided to continue with full newsletter as in the past for 2009 but to start to request email address for potential email distribution. We will also use the year to discuss and get feedback on the issue. The goal would also be to include agenda items for upcoming meetings on the website.

With no further business before the council, Bess Carnes made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Joey Shepherd, motion passed. Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,  
David Ross, Secretary

**Some useful websites to check out**

To check out crime information anywhere in the country, including your own backyard, check out [www.crimereports.org](http://www.crimereports.org).

Want to find out events taking place in other neighborhoods? See [www.investinneighborhoods.com](http://www.investinneighborhoods.com).

**Special Pricing Offered to the Nutcracker**

Invest in Neighborhoods has worked out a deal with the Cincinnati Ballet for special pricing through community councils, which will also raise money for Invest's Merit Grant Program. Pick up a form at this month's CCC meeting or call Dave Ross at 621-6257.

Cincinnati's  
Southeastern  
Gateway

### California

A Neighborhood of the  
City of Cincinnati, Ohio

#### California Community Council Officers

2008

- President** Krystal Alsept
- Vice President** Diana Weir
- Secretary** David Ross
- Treasurer** Kathleen Chandler
- Board of Governors**
  - Mike Christ
  - Jo Shepherd
  - Hilda Davenport
  - Jackie Frazier
  - Amanda Zuber

NSP Coordinator: Kathleen Chandler

Materials and information for inclusion in the California Village News should be submitted to: Jo Shepherd, 5812 Bryson Street, California, Ohio 45228

Editor: Jo Shepherd 232-0320  
Publisher: Kathleen Chandler 624-6257  
Columnist: Jackie Frazier 231-4402

**CALIFORNIA COLUMBIA UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**  
Rev. Ernest Bein  
5751 Kellogg Avenue  
California, Ohio  
232-5077

**ST. JEROME CHURCH**  
Father Carl Wollering  
131 Rohde St.  
California, Ohio  
231-7042

#### SERVICE SCHEDULE

9:30 AM Sunday Service

#### MASS SCHEDULE

5:00 PM Saturdays  
 9:00 AM Sundays  
 11:00 AM  
 7:30 PM Tuesdays  
 7:30 PM First Friday

The California Village News is a publication of the California Community Council and published bi-monthly. The deadline for contributions to the CVN is the 20th of the month for inclusion in the following issue. The CVN welcomes letters to the editor or relevant articles and reserves the right to publish any or all submissions based on space available and appropriateness. Opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the California Community Council, Board of Governors or it's Officers. The CVN is partially funded by the City of Cincinnati Neighborhood Support Program Fund.

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5814 Kellogg Avenue, California, Ohio 45228