



PARK BEAT

The Pulse of Greater Boulevard Park

Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association

Box 160811, Sacramento, CA 95816

September 2022



Enjoying a Hay-Wagon Ride in Olden Days

Last Call! Come One and All!

There will be pasta in abundance (plus other food and beverage) in the backyard of Max and Roxane's house, **2101 G Street**, on **Saturday night, September 10**, when BPNA's annual **Spaghetti Dinner** is held for the first time since 2019. Please enter through the driveway on 21st Street. It will be hard to miss, since there will be a banner on the fence and a horse-drawn wagon parked at the curb (for a vintage photograph of the house, see **page 5**). The gate and the beverage table will open at **5 p.m.**; dinner service will start at **5:30**. Dinner will be **\$10** for youth and adults (anyone aged 13 and above) and **\$5** for children aged 6-12 (younger children eat for free). Beer and wine will be **\$5**; soda will be **\$2**. Cold water and lemonade will be free. Payment options will be cash, check, or the cell phone app called Venmo (*sorry, we **cannot** accept credit cards*).

The dinner course will be made and served by volunteers; the dessert table will be stocked with donations provided by the attendees. **Thank you** for bringing some fruit or a favorite sweet to share with your fellow diners.

Dinner—spaghetti, sauce (two types: with meat and without), salad, garlic bread, and condiments—will be served until 7:30. The event will probably start winding down between 8:30 and 9:00. For those of you who stay on into the evening, any help you can offer with cleaning up the yard after the dinner will be most welcome. Final clean-up will resume on Sunday morning, when a group of volunteers will return to fold up the tables and chairs and put them away.

In a reprise of what was offered at the 2019 Spaghetti Dinner, the evening also will include a children's entertainer, Carolyn Geiger of Balloon Twisters (<https://balloontwisters.dudaone.com/>), and free rides around the neighborhood in a horse-drawn hay-wagon, provided by Top Hand Ranch Carriage Company (<https://tophandranch.com/index.html>). To provide enough space for the wagon and horses, there will be no curbside parking in front of 2101 G Street during the Spaghetti Dinner.

BPNA members, if you have been waiting for a convenient opportunity to renew your membership, there will be a membership and information table at the Spaghetti Dinner. Non-members, please stop by and speak to the folks at the table if you have any questions about the neighborhood association.

Seeking Stories and Story Topics from the Neighborhood

The greater Boulevard Park area—the many blocks that comprise the beat of our intrepid newsletter deliverers—is a vibrant neighborhood with a long and diverse history. Many residents have lived here for decades. Many of them had relatives or close friends who lived here before them. Accordingly, there must be many stories that could be told by or about these people, and which would interest the readers of *Park Beat*. Please write to the editor, Catherine Turrill-Lupi (turrille@csus.edu), if you have a story or story topic that you would like to share. Articles can be around 300-400 words long and should be sent to the editor for her review by the 10th of the month preceding the month when you would like your article to appear in the newsletter. If you have a topic that you would like her to write about using information that you provide, please allow more time.



First Call, Candidates for the 2023 Board of Directors

Every autumn the BPNA solicits members in good standing (annual dues paid) to serve on the following year's Board of Directors, which is replenished annually. Once a slate is formed with a minimum of seven individuals (probably in early November), the names of all of the declared candidates will be announced in the December issue of *Park Beat*, where the candidates' personal statements also will appear. Voting for the 2023 Board will take place at the general membership meeting in January.

Being an officer on the BPNA board is a great way to serve the community while also learning more about the issues that affect the quality of life of everyone in the neighborhood. Board meetings are held monthly and each session lasts about an hour and a half. In collaboration with other BPNA members, the seven officers coordinate the four public events sponsored by the association each year—the general membership meeting in January, the progressive dinner for National Night Out in August, the Spaghetti Dinner in September, and the Holiday Party in December. The neighborhood yard sale, usually held every other year, also is coordinated by the officers. Finally, the officers are the leading contributors to *Park Beat*, although submissions and suggestions from other BPNA members always are welcome.

If you are interested in serving on the BPNA Board and have questions about it, please contact any current Board officer (their names are listed on page 3 of the newsletter). You also can ask Board members directly at the Spaghetti Dinner on September 10. Everyone should be there.

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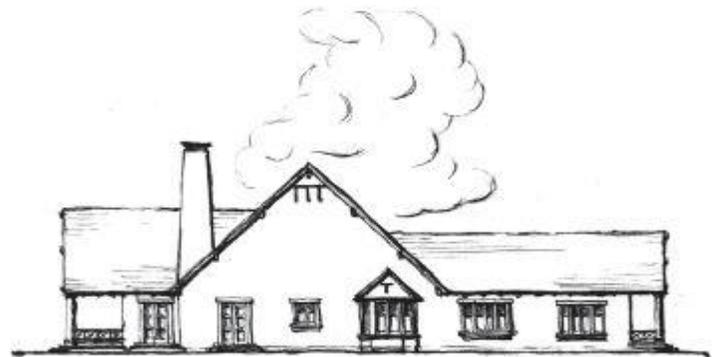
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Jon Marshack	jon.marshack@att.net
Sher Singh	alexis.sher.singh@gmail.com
Catherine Turrill Lupi	turrillc@csus.edu

Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association's purpose: The BPNA was created to support, promote, and improve the quality of life for the residents of the greater Boulevard Park neighborhood. By achieving this goal we strive to improve the quality of life for others who work and live in and around Boulevard Park, and therefore in Sacramento as a whole.

Committees

Membership:	Ellen Hunt
Preservation, Planning, and Land Use:	Jon Marshack
District 4 Homelessness Task Force:	Travis Silcox silcoxt5@gmail.com

Park Beat Production Team

Newsletter Editor:	Catherine Turrill Lupi
Columnist:	David Herbert
Newsletter Designer:	Pete Bramson
Social Media:	Sher Singh
Block Captain Coordinator:	Joe Cress, (916) 698-7938 josephmcress@yahoo.com

September 2022: Places to Go, Things to Do

TIP: For more information about public events being held this month, go to: <https://www.sacramento365.com/>. Be sure to check individual organization websites for announcements and updates. Below are a few events, programs, and dates to remember.

Every Wednesday: "Wednesdays at Winn," a certified farmers' market in Winn Park (28th and P Streets, **3 - 7:30 p.m.**; website: <http://exploremidtown.org/wednesdays-at-winn/>). On the first and third Wednesdays of each month (through the end of September), there is a seasonal "Sippin' at Winn Wine Garden" from 5-7 p.m., sponsored by the Sacramento Natural Foods Co-Op.

Every Wednesday: Informal gathering on the 21st Street median between E and F—no host, no agenda, just the opportunity to meet neighbors of all ages, orientations, and pronouns (starting around 6:30 p.m.).

Every Saturday: Midtown Farmers' Market (8 a.m. to 1 p.m., 20th Street between J and L; also, K Street between 19th and 20th Street). Website: <http://exploremidtown.org/midtown-farmers-market/>

Most weekend mornings: Join other volunteers in tackling a variety of beautification tasks at Sutter's Landing Park. For more details, contact FOSL's volunteer coordinator, Betsy Weiland, by email (flweiland@yahoo.com) or phone (279-202-4677).

Sept. 3-5: Chalk It Up! Chalk Art and Music Festival, Fremont Park, 16th and Q Streets (10-6 each day; free admission). See article on page X.

Sat., Sept. 3: 11th Annual Brazilian Carnival, at the Brazilian Center, 2420 N St. (4-11 p.m.). Website: <https://www.braziliancentersac.org/annual-brazilian-carnaval>

Mon., Sept. 6: Labor Day

Places to Go, Things to Do (cont.)

Thu., Sept. 8: Sac Open Studios 2022 Kick Off Party & Preview Exhibition Reception, Verge Center for the Arts, 625 S St. (5:30-9 p.m.)

Thu., Sept. 8: BPNA Board Meeting, conducted in person (6:30-8 p.m.). Open to BPNA members and other interested residents (completion of COVID vaccinations required). Contact Dave Herbert for information.

Sept. 10-11: Sac Open Studios (10-5): First of two weekends. See article on **page 4**.

Sat., Sept. 10: Boulevard Park's Spaghetti Dinner (5-9 p.m.): see article on **page 1**.

Sun., Sept. 11: Brazilian Independence Day, Sacramento Street Festival: Encounter of the Folkloric Dances (20th Street between J and K; 1-7 p.m.). Website: <https://www.braziliansdaysacfest.com/>

Sept. 15 & 29: Old City Cemetery Paranormal Investigation, two-hour activity hosted by the Sacramento History Museum, for ages 15 and older (starting at 7 p.m.; \$50). Website: <https://shopsachistorymuseum.org/SelectEvent.aspx?eventid=1000099>

Sept. 15: "A Critic and a Chef," live YouTube conversation between Sacramento Bee food critic Benjy Egel and local chef Takumi Abe, hosted by the Crocker Art Museum at 6 p.m. Free, but advance registration required: <https://my.crockerart.org/340/360>

Sept. 17-18: Sac Open Studios (10-5): Second of two weekends. See article on **page 4**.

Sat., Sept. 17: Smithsonian Magazine's Free Museum Day: Three downtown museums are participating (California Museum, State Railroad Museum, and Sacramento History Museum. For more information and to get tickets, go to: <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/museumday/museum-day-2022/>

Sat., Sept. 17: Great American River Clean-up, hosted by the American River Parkway Foundation (9-Noon). Sutter's Landing Park is one of 23 regional sites where volunteers can work. See article on **page 6**. Website: <https://arpf.org/events/garcu/>

Sun., Sept. 18: Preservation Sacramento's 46th annual Historic Home Tour, in-person component (10 a.m. - 4 p.m.). See article on **page 5**.

Sept. 23-24: Farm to Fork Festival, Capitol Mall Greens (4-9 on Fri.; 11-9 on Sat.). Food, drink, entertainment, and cooking demonstrations. Free admission. Website: <https://www.farmtofork.com/events/street-festival/>

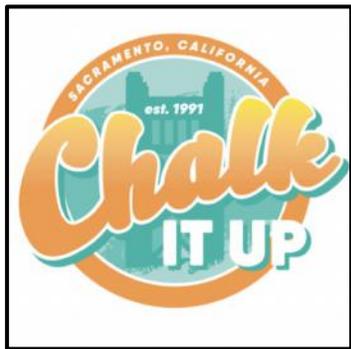
Sat., Sept. 24: "Victorian Symbolism," themed tour at the Old City Cemetery, 1000 Broadway. Website: <https://historicalcitycemetery.org/tours-events/> (these \$5 tours sell out often!).

... And looking ahead to early October:

Thu., Oct. 6: BPNA Board Meeting, conducted in person (6:30-8 p.m.). Open to BPNA members and other interested residents (completion of COVID vaccinations required). Contact Dave Herbert for information.

Oct. 7, 8, 9: Sacramento Greek Festival, Annunciation Church, 600 and 616 Alhambra Blvd. (11-10 on Fri. and Sat.; 11-8 on Sun.; \$5 admission). Website: <http://sacramentogreekfestival.com/>

Art Events in Sacramento and Beyond: From Sidewalks to Studios



The 32nd annual **Chalk It Up! Chalk Art and Music Festival** will kick off this month's art events, delighting all of the senses at Fremont Park, 16th and Q Streets, from **September 3-5** (10 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day). As stated on its website, this festival is a "three-day celebration of local artists and the arts community." There will be live music, local vendors and, best of all, a host of chalk-wielding artists who will transform the sidewalks around Fremont Park into colorful works of art. Buckets of chalk will be on hand for the use of anyone else who would like to try their hand at decorating the walkways inside the park. And it is all free! (*except for the items purchased from the vendors, of course*). Funds raised during the three-day festival go to a good cause, too. The Chalk It Up Grant Program awards grants for youth arts education to schools and nonprofit organizations. Our neighborhood's Washington Elementary School has been one of the grant recipients. For more information, go to: <https://chalkitup.org/festival/>

Sac Open Studios roll in next, spanning two weekends (**September 10-11 and September 17-18**) for the seventeenth year. According to the event website, 139 artists will be opening their studios on the first weekend, and 132 artists the one following. First, however, there is the Sac Open Studios Kick-Off celebration on **September 8** at the Verge Center for the Arts (625 S Street), with art, live music, and refreshments. This is also the opening of the Preview Exhibit that will be on view at the Center from **September 8 until October 7**. In addition, there will be several workshops with artists demonstrating a wide range of techniques and media. And then, of course, there are the artists' studios, which will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each weekend. On the first weekend, artists living and working in downtown and midtown Sacramento, South Sacramento, West Sacramento, Del Paso, the Pocket, and Woodland will be opening their studios to visitors; on the second weekend, it is the turn of artists in East Sacramento, Oak Park, Tahoe Park, East Sacramento County, Elk Grove, Laguna, Citrus Heights, Carmichael, Rancho Cordova, and Galt. You can learn about all of them by leafing through the PDF of the beautifully illustrated, free guide posted on the Verge Center's website (<https://sacopenstudios.com/>).

National Night Out 2022: The Return of the Progressive Potluck Dinner

This annual event, held on August 2, was co-hosted by the Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association and the Marshall School/New Era Park Neighborhood Association. Among those attending were guests from several City and State departments, providing residents with an opportunity to make suggestions, offer compliments on a job well done, or maybe get a complaint or two off their chest.

The guests included State Assemblymember Kevin McCarty, two staff members from City Councilmember Katie Valenzuela's office (Mikayla Taylor and Skyler Michel-Evleth), and several police officers, among them Captain Ethan Hanson and Lieutenant Eddie Macaulay. It was encouraging to have a number of new Boulevard Park residents joining in, especially those in their twenties and thirties, as this generation will be the one watching over Sacramento's midtown in the years ahead. The appetizer course was held on the 22nd Street grassy median near G Street. The second course was served in the newly redesigned courtyard of an historic home at H and 25^h Streets and was partly funded by a grant from the Council District 4 office. An array of desserts outside the Hart Senior Center in Marshall Park provided a finishing touch to the banquet. Thanks to everyone who attended for their participation in this popular neighborhood event. We look forward to seeing you again next year!

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The “Spaghetti House”

For nearly a quarter century, the Cranston-Geary house, located at the corner of G and 21st Streets, has been the site of the BPNA’s annual Spaghetti Dinner, first held there in 1998. The house takes its name from the surnames of the first two families to occupy it: the Robert Cranstons, who had the house and its garage built on the double lot in 1909, and the William Gearys, who bought the



Left to right: 617 21st, 2101 G, and 2115 G (in about 1911)

property three years later, and who lived here until the early 1940s. Robert Cranston was a mining engineer with the Natomas Company; William F. Geary was the vice-president of a firm of wholesale druggists, Kirk Geary & Co. The Geary family’s long residency was well-documented in photographs, some of which can be seen in the book *Sacramento’s Boulevard Park*. Like several other large two-story homes in Boulevard Park, the Cranston-Geary house was designed by an architectural firm. Two Chicago-trained architects, George C. Sellon and E. Charles Hemmings, went into partnership a year after the San Francisco earthquake and set up an office in Sacramento in 1908, a year before they went to work for Robert Cranston. Sellon had just been appointed the first State Architect. The two men’s Chicago experience, which included contact with Frank Lloyd Wright, is believed to have influenced some of the details of the Cranston-Geary house. This Craftsman-style house has many outstanding features. Details to notice include the house’s height and massing, the multiple gables, the curved or flaring lines of the gable roofs, the exposed rafter ends, the leaded glass windows, and the use of multiple materials—brick (chimneys and front porch), wooden lap siding (lower story), wooden board-and-batten siding (upper story), and even brass (the decorative ornaments along the rooflines of both the house and its garage). The cast-iron hitching post on the G Street side of the house is another original feature, mentioned in the 1909 building contract. Unlike the neighborhood’s other old hitching posts, it has a lion’s head instead of a sphere. Because of its historic importance and the quality of its design, the Cranston-Geary house was placed on the National Register in 1998, the same year that the Spaghetti Dinner was held for the first time in its backyard.

Preservation Sacramento’s 46th Annual Home Tour



2210 U Street



1931 22nd Street



2213 U Street

As reported in the August issue of *Park Beat*, the historic home tour sponsored by Preservation Sacramento will have a hybrid format this year—half in person, and half using video. Midtown will dominate the program, with three in-person sites on Poverty Ridge (2110 U St., 1931 22nd St., and 2213 U St.), and a video about a house in the Winn Park neighborhood (1614 23rd St.). In the case of 2213 U Street, not the house but the relandscaped backyard and new accessory dwelling unit overlooking it will be open for viewing. The two other video tours are set in Land Park and Curtis Park (2911 Riverside Boulevard; 2722 Coleman Way). The in-person tours will all be on Sunday, September 18, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tour participants will pick up their wristbands and brochures at the Preservation Sacramento ticket booth near the McClatchy Library (2112 22nd St.). Payment may be made in advance or at the ticket booth (\$25 for P.S. members, \$30 for non-members). Volunteer docents will be present at each of the three houses to point out details and answer questions. In addition, members of Sacramento’s Capitol A Club will be on hand with their vintage vehicles parked near the tour sites. Participants also have the option of exploring the Poverty Ridge neighborhood further. The tour brochure includes an annotated list of 13 other properties of historic interest that can be seen from the outside. In the two weeks that follow, from Sept. 19 to Oct. 2, tour participants can watch the videos about the other three houses at their convenience and as often as they like. For more information and to pay in advance, go to: <http://www.preservationsacramento.org/hometour>



Great American River Clean-Up (September 17; 9 a.m. to Noon)

If you are looking for an interesting and rewarding outdoor activity on the morning of Saturday, September 17, consider volunteering for the Great American River Clean-Up. As reported on its website, this long-standing annual event (nearly in its 40th year) is scheduled to coincide with California Coastal Cleanup Day, hosted by the California Coastal Commission. In past years, as many as 2,000 volunteers have turned out locally to help remove debris from the American River Parkway. Individuals and groups can sign up to help at any one of twenty-six sites, including Sutter's Landing Regional Park. If you would like to participate in the GARCUCU event, fill out the form on the website (<https://apps.arpf.org/volunteer-opportunities?VO=234>).

Of course, you don't need to wait until September 17 to do your bit for our neighborhood's greatest natural treasure. Members of Friends of Sutter's Landing Park are on the job with buckets, bags, and pickers **every** weekend throughout the year and welcome the participation of neighborhood residents (see the entry in the events calendar on **page 3**). And anyone can help at any time, simply by picking up trash when they are walking along the beach or nature trails at SLP. If you are lucky, and if you occasionally lift your eyes from the ground to the sky, you even might spot an osprey—much like the one that Robert Sewell captured with his camera in early August (photograph above).

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