



OLD FORT LOWELL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION, INC. *NEWSLETTER*

November 2002

NOVEMBER 2002

GOOD NEWS AT LAST!!

From the FORT LOWELL ROAD Project:

Yes, it is going to happen, finally! The City of Tucson's Department of Transportation has completed plans for the "Fort Lowell Neighborhood Enhancement Project". Construction will be starting in late November and is expected to take approximately six months.

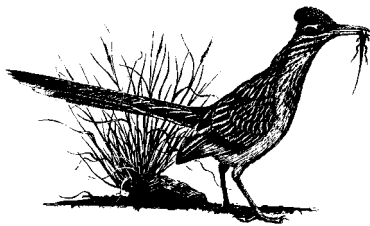
In 1997, OFLNA competed successfully in a statewide competition for federal transportation funds, and was awarded \$200,000 to beautify Fort Lowell Road between Craycroft and Swan, and return the street to the local residents by lowering the volume and speed of the traffic, improving the landscaping, and creating safe trails for pedestrians and bicyclists. The award is a tribute to the vision, hard work and persistence of members of the Land Plan Committee, including Linda Anderson-McKee, Dan Perino, and Elaine Hill, who worked on the plan for over two years.

A complementary plan, The Releaf Project, created by Julie Kembel, Marianne Cracovaner, Julie Loch and Patti Hartmann offered residents the opportunity to purchase additional individual trees to be planted along the road, and generated some \$11,000 which still sits, patiently, in the bank. It is thanks to their vision that these trees, with their attendant plaques of dedication, will add personal touches and foster a sense of community along the street.

It has taken a long (shall we say extremely long?) time to complete the preparations for construction: review by the city services of engineering, water, telephone and electricity, an archeological survey to look for historic artifacts and preparation of a landscape plan by Sage Landscaping. In addition, the historic nature of this area and the potential for finding human remains required that all Indian groups in Southern Arizona consent to the plans.

So, when the project was ready for bid in May of this year, construction costs had escalated, but Federal Funds had not! Fortunately for us, Jim Glock, acting Director of the City of Tucson's Transportation Department, stepped in and secured significant additional money so that the project can be completed. We encourage everyone to thank Jim Glock directly for his effort by phone 791-4371, email jglock@ci.tucson.az.us or mail at Dept. of Transportation, 201 N. Stone Ave., Tucson 85701

The President and Council of OFLNA offer grateful thanks to the many people who have contributed to this effort at all levels from both the neighborhood and the City of Tucson. Through an extraordinary community effort, we will soon be able to exchange a noisy, dangerous thoroughfare that divides the neighborhood for a quieter, more pedestrian-friendly residential street. We can enjoy again the rural nature of our community and walk safely with each other, our children, grandchildren, and pets.



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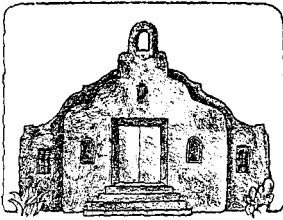
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FUTURE EVENTS

Holiday Potluck and Carol Singing:

Please mark your calendars for this festive event, which will take place on Sunday, December 15, at 5pm at San Pedro Chapel. Bring the whole family. Last year was a huge success, and a wonderful addition to holiday fun for everyone.

La Reunión de El Fuerte:

The planning for this celebration has been under way for some months. Linda Anderson McKee (647-3899) and Janet Marcus (327-1339) will be calling to line up site hosts, starting in late November. But please do call them if you wish to volunteer.

And from THE MESQUITE WASH TRAIL

The easement for the Mesquite Wash Trail, beside the property presently owned by Ted and Nancy Alley, has been deeded to the OFLNA. This trail stretches from the west end of Presidio Road to the Rillito River. Many neighbors nearby contributed money for the development of this trail, and the developer of Mesquite del Bosque matched the donations with a gift of \$1000. All of this money has been held in escrow until the trail easement was recorded. In the next few months, the trail will be improved, and appropriate steps will be taken to add it to the neighborhood's trail system.

FALL CONCERT: Sunday November 10, 3:30pm ROUND THE HOUSE – Irish traditional Music and Song

OFLNA is thrilled to present the group "Round the House" for the Fall Concert at San Pedro Chapel. Lively, entertaining and authentic, Round the House combines top quality musicianship with an engaging stage presence, delighting audiences of all ages. "We perform traditional Irish dance music, upbeat jigs and reels, as well as soulful airs. Our songs include light-hearted soulful songs and thoughtful ballads in English and Gaelic," writes the band, composed of Dave Firestine, Sharon Goldwasser, Mike Smith and Claire Jamieson Zucker. So come and enjoy the enthusiasm and many talents of this quartet of excellent musicians. Come for a taste of the "Pure Drop"! In the world of Irish traditional music pure drop means strongly traditional, and this is Arizona's most prominent and well-loved "Pure Drop" band.

Round the House received the 2002 Tucson Area Musician's Award (TAMMIE) for best traditional/ethnic band. Tickets are \$12 and may be purchased from all Council Members or by calling 991-5908. Get them early! This one will be a sell-out.

EL FUERTE FLEA MARKET SALE.

The Newsletter has gone to press before this year's sale. However, Judy Clinco and Peggy Sackheim, co-coordinators of the project, wish to thank all who helped. A special thanks to the crew of workers who showed up on October 13 to dismantle the chapel, set up for the sale, and pick up merchandise throughout the neighborhood and from the storage room at Fort Lowell and Columbus (which was full). And we extend a great big thanks to the receiving, pricing and 'days of sale' workers. Each one of you makes the big event work.

The proceeds from this sale fund the annual celebration of La Reunión de El Fuerte – the historic sites walking tours in February, which are our gift to the people of Tucson.

TUCSON MEDICAL CENTER REZONING

In recent years TMC has been rezoning vacant parcels of its campus, moving northward towards Glenn St. OFLNA has worked with the Glenn Heights Neighborhood, south of Glenn St., and the townhouse association next to Whitmore Elementary School to make these developments compatible with our residential neighborhoods. On Monday, October 14, the Mayor and City Council approved, for medical offices, the rezoning of 3.5 acres of land that front on Glenn St. between the townhouses and the Alamo Wash. Members of the OFLNA Land Planning Committee had met several times with the agent for the developers and City staff in order to obtain an attractive streetscape with lush vegetation on Glenn St., a sidewalk, and the continuation of the present trail along the Alamo Wash through the rezoned property. We testified at both the Zoning Examiner's hearing on the rezoning request and before the City Council.

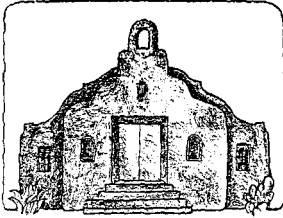


PHOTO SHOOT AT THE CHAPEL

If you happened by the San Pedro Chapel a few weeks ago and saw some unfamiliar activity, something interesting was going on. Two models from New York, a photographer from Portland, and several staff members from London were doing a fashion shoot for the Boden Company of London. Boden is a mail order women's fashion company and they were shooting photos in Tucson for their next catalog. They asked if they could use the Chapel complex as a background location. The catalog will come out in January and can be requested on the Internet at www.boden.co.uk. They also made a nice contribution to the San Pedro 2000 Campaign.

OFLNA wishes to extend particular thanks to **LK Management** and the Merchants of Plaza Palomino for printing this Newsletter.

NEWSLETTER NOTES

Wanted: Newsletter Carriers

Would you be interested in helping the neighborhood by becoming the designated newsletter carrier in your neighborhood? We are considering alternatives to mailing. Nothing has yet been decided, but we recently needed to hand carry the newsletter to many homes in our neighborhood. This seemed to work well and gave us the idea that we might do it on a regular basis.

If we were to make this change (as opposed to continuing with bulk mail), we would need 40+ volunteers to help make it work. For those of you who walk regularly in your area, it would mean placing the newsletter at your neighbors' doors. If you would be interested in helping with this, give John Collins a call (321-4577).

Request for Comments and Feedback

We are currently reviewing all aspects of the Newsletter content and distribution. The Newsletter is intended to serve several purposes: to provide information to residents and to serve as a means of communication about neighborhood issues, to invite participation in neighborhood activities and to foster a sense of community.

We are interested in your thoughts, comments and criticisms (preferably constructive) about the newsletter, and this would be a good time to give us some feedback. Contact John at 321-4577 or at johncollins@earthlink.net or Anita at 881-5157 or stafford@gci-net.com.

News from OFLLAH

Quilt Raffle:

Sally Blumberg worked her magic again and created a lovely quilt from antique fabrics that she collects. Last year's quilt was raffled off to benefit San Pedro 2000. This year she has given a quilt to the Old Fort Lowell Live-At-Home Program, as a money-raiser to support its work. Tickets are available now from Charline Profiri (795-6591). The raffle itself will occur at the post La Reunión dinner, February 8, 2003. Don't miss it!

New Home Needed: OFLLAH's Medical Loan Chest needs a new home! Do you have some space in your garage where we could store the equipment? A space about 5 by 8 feet, against a wall, is all that is needed. Call Ann Branham (275-6757) if you can help.

LAST CALL FOR 2002 DUES PAYMENT

The dues for 2002 were requested in the May newsletter. Since we did not have another newsletter during the summer, we think many of these notices were perhaps misplaced. Consequently many of us have overlooked paying the \$10. Please check your records, and if you are uncertain about whether or not you have paid, contact any Council member for the information. (You will find all phone numbers on the web site www.oflna.org.) Any additional donations are greatly appreciated.

Make checks payable to OFLNA Inc. and mail to Treasurer, OFLNA, 5230 E. Fort Lowell Rd, Tucson, AZ, 85712.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail Address _____ Phone _____

New Membership ____ Renewal ____ (Dues are \$10)

We would like to make an additional donation of \$ _____

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OFLNA CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2002

**Sign Painting
Fall Concert**

Sunday, November 3, 2pm
Round the House – Irish music/song
 Sunday November 10, 3:30pm
 Sunday, December 15, 5pm

Holiday Potluck and Caroling

2003

History Lecture Series

Sundays, January 12, 19, 26, February 2
 at 3pm

La Reunión de El Fuerte

Saturday, February 8

Antiques & Collectibles Sale

Weekend of March 13-15

Art Show and Sale

Weekend of March 13-15

Spring Concert

Saturday April 19

Annual Meeting

May – date to be announced

All events are held at the San Pedro Chapel or the adjacent Adobe House; the Art Show and Sale may include other venues, and La Reunión de El Fuerte includes a neighborhood tour of historic sites.

OFLNA Council meetings are the fourth Wednesday of the month and are usually held at the Adobe House next to San Pedro Chapel except when it's too hot or too cold. Construction activities may result in our becoming vagabonds, so call Janet Marcus at 327-1339 if you'd like to attend. Council meetings are always open to residents and members of the neighborhood.

Meetings of FLHDB (the Fort Lowell Historic District Board) are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Contact Mary Lou Nuttall for location of next meeting place: 325-6907, tsntrio@theriver.com. All residents of the neighborhood are welcome to attend.

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