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# BELWOOD BELLRINGER

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Volume 4 Issue 1

[www.belwoodhomes.org](http://www.belwoodhomes.org)

March 2011

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## 2011 Board of Directors

<b>President</b>	<b>John Bills</b> 358-3027
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Dave Klenske</b> 356-9768
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Ed Sharpe</b> 358-7661
<b>Director</b>	<b>Roy Chadwick</b> 356-5431
<b>Director</b>	<b>Lloyd Grant</b> 358-4956
<b>Director</b>	<b>Josh Lamour</b> 221-7813
<b>Director</b>	<b>Todd Harris</b> 358-0349
<b>Director</b>	<b>Rich Dobner</b> 358-3101
<b>Director</b>	<b>Mark Morgan</b> 356-0906
<b>Facility Mgr</b>	<b>Gina Wagner</b> 358-2229 or e-mail: <a href="mailto:wjlgwag@aol.com">wjlgwag@aol.com</a>

**Page 2:** Swim team sign ups; Annual HOA meeting  
**Page 3:** Pres. Message; Cabana Pool Update  
**Page 4:** Monthly food drive  
**Page 5:** Treasurer's Report; Sizzlpix- Job openings  
**Page 6 & 7:** 18 things your Burglar won't tell you!  
**Page 8:** Ads

## ***EDITOR'S NOTE by Jackie Sandoval***

Hi Belwood residents, this is such a newsy edition of the newsletter, so let's jump right in. If your child has lofty goals of making the US Olympic Team, (or just likes dolphins), you'll want to sign up for the 2011 season of the Belwood Swim Team (**sign-ups are on March 16**, see page 2 for details). If you're an avid photographer, or just like nice art hanging on your walls, check out the article about Sizzlpix™ (page 5). And if the recent Belwood burglaries have rattled your nerves, get some tips from real burglars (pages 6 & 7). And finally, a huge thanks to Lloyd Grant (and the entire HOA Board) for leading the efforts to spruce up our Cabana pool deck. Can't wait for summer! Oh, and I almost forgot to plug the monthly Belwood food drive—see page 4 for dates and times—and thanks to Betty Jean Neebling for organizing this important effort! (Comments to [jackiefs@comcast.net](mailto:jackiefs@comcast.net))

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** ***by John Bills***

The 2011 Season at the Cabana kicks off with completed pool deck renovations. If you haven't been by recently, you really need to check it out. Director Lloyd Grant led the largest capital improvement project in the history of the facility from beginning to end and deserves every member's thanks and gratitude. Remember folks, this Director thing is a volunteer job and outside of Lloyd's more than full-time job (plus being super-dad/husband and walking the dog twice a day), he led this project as if it was the only responsibility he had. This project simply could not have happened without Lloyd's perseverance and dedication. Another huge thank you needs to go to our facility manager Gina Wagner who went well beyond her job responsibilities making herself generally available to run down to the Cabana at moment's notice to let project personnel into the facility, meet with contractors to provide input from her 10+ years' experience and knowledge of the facility, and generally looking after the place while work was under way.

With 2010 done, we want to thank Steve Miller for his service on the Board. Steve stepped down due to

**Continued on Page 3**

## 2011 BELWOOD SWIM TEAM SIGN-UPS

Hello Dolphin Families,

It's getting to be that time of year where we start looking forward to summer fun and that means swimming on the Belwood Dolphins Swim Team!

**Registration Night will be held on Wednesday, March 16th from 5:30pm-8pm at the Cabana.**

Registration is only open to Belwood Homeowners (Class A and Class D, who have paid their 2011 dues) and returning swimmers at this time. Please go to the Belwood Dolphins website

<http://www.belwooddolphins.com/Pages/communication-forms.html> and

download this year's registration forms, fill them out and bring them on the 16th to register your swimmers. You can also drop off or mail the completed forms

before March 16th to Lenore Grant, 128 Belglen Way. **Your forms and payment must be in by the 16th in order to secure your spot on our very popular swim team.** We will also be unveiling our new custom made team suits and will have samples for your swimmers to try on.

### Some other important dates are:

Parent Information Night: April 5th, 7pm at the Cabana

Time Trials: Friday, May 27th, 4-7pm

### Our Meet Schedule:

June 4th @ Montevideo

June 11th Home vs Oaktree

June 18th @ Almaden

June 25th @ Silvercreek

July 9th Home vs Los Paseos

July 16th Champs @ Morgan Hill Aquatics Center

If you have any questions, please email Katie at [katiebaguley@yahoo.com](mailto:katiebaguley@yahoo.com) or Lenore at [lenoregrant@verizon.net](mailto:lenoregrant@verizon.net).

## 2011 ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING by Ed Sharpe

Pursuant to the bylaws, the 2011 annual meeting of the association will be held at 8:00pm on the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Tuesday of May at the Cabana (May 17<sup>th</sup>). The agenda will include introduction of board members, review of board goals for 2011, review of association finances, and facility status and plans for 2011. Hope to see you there.

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *continued from page 1***

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changes in his professional life, making it difficult to continue and contribute as he had in the past. The 2011 Board welcomes Mark Morgan (Dr. Halloween) who's successfully made it through his first two meetings as Director and hasn't complained too much about the rookie hazing. The good news is, he only has one more meeting where he has to sing "I'm a little tea pot."

Just a reminder, it takes a lot of people to make the events and fun happen at the Cabana. We will be reaching out to our neighbors again this year to help organize our activities. If you have any thoughts about new activities or things we can do to improve what we're doing, please let your board know.

John Bills, Preseident, Belwood Homeowners Association  
358-3027; [jpbills@gmail.com](mailto:jpbills@gmail.com)

### **OUR HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION WEBSITE NEEDS YOUR HELP!**

The Belwood Homes of Los Gatos website is very out of date and needs a tune up. The Board is looking for a volunteer who has web design and development experience to do the work necessary to bring it up to date and possibly give it a facelift. This could be a good community service opportunity for a student who is looking for some additional hours. If you are interested, or know someone who is, please drop John Bills a note at [jpbills@gmail.com](mailto:jpbills@gmail.com).

### **THE CABANA POOL DECK HAS GOTTEN A FACELIFT by Lloyd Grant**

After 45 years of wear, tear and repair, it was time to replace the pool deck surface. The project broke ground at the end of December and was completed at the end of February. The funds used for the project came from the reserve account and will not result in an increase in dues or an assessment.

The benefits of the replacement include the following:

**An Expanded Deck:** This allows for the placement of patio furniture and tables along both sides of the pool in addition to the shallow end. For swim meets, it allows more room for swimmers, timers and recorders at the deep end. It also lets us move the Announcer/Starter table so that both sides of the pool are freed up for spectators and people flow.

**Continued on Page 4**

## THE POOL DECK FACELIFT Continued from page 3

**An Expanded Patio:** This gives us more room for events like Halloween, New Year's Eve Party, the Talent show, recreation like Ping Pong, and other rented events. There are plans to provide cover for this area in the future to provide protection from rain and sun.

**Americans with Disabilities Compliance:** Now we'll have wheelchair access from the parking lot to the BBQ area, patio, pool deck, bathrooms, kitchen, and cabana. Two handicap parking spaces have also been installed.

**Efficient Lighting:** New fluorescent light stands within the pool perimeter will allow for comfortable, safe nighttime use. We also replaced the underwater pool lights with LED 500 watt energy efficient lights. All lights now meet the new Title 24 requirements and will save money over time. Additional lighting of the same type will be added to the BBQ and lawn areas as budgeting allows in the near future.

**GFI AC outlets and Embedded Deck Grounding:** This is a fancy way of saying that all of the new light fixtures have AC outlets to reduce the use of extension cords and their resulting hazards. All block anchors, ladder rails, and stanchions have been grounded to meet new safety standards.

**Better Drainage:** The new drainage in the pool deck as well as the lawn areas will allow washing down of the pool deck and patio for increased cleanliness.

**Upgraded Fencing and Storage Areas:** All in deck support poles have been replaced. Additional gates will allow greater access for swim meets.

**Skimmers:** These have been replaced.

**Future Approved Plans:** These plans include replacing the old inefficient sprinkler system, the addition of landscaping, new lighting, shade structures for the patio and baby pool, a bocce ball court, and shuffle board.

The upgraded pool deck looks beautiful. It has increased the value of this community asset and will be an even better more user friendly place for neighborhood to gather. I can't wait for summer!

## MONTHLY BELWOOD FOOD DRIVE By Betty Jean Neebling

Times are hard for many people in the Silicon Valley community. That's why I have organized a monthly food drive in our Belwood neighborhood. **The food drive will continue on the third Saturday of every month—March 19, April 16, May 21, and June 21 from 10am-11am at the Cabana.** A BIG THANK YOU to those who have participated by giving and helping. For more info, contact Betty Jean at [bettyjean@mcmurtryandbell.com](mailto:bettyjean@mcmurtryandbell.com).

### **TREASURER'S REPORT by Dave Klenske**

With winter nearly behind us, we're probably all looking forward to seeing sunshine and enjoying the Cabana. Construction of the new pool deck, electrical and concrete work is nearly complete as I write this, and I can't wait to see how much improved it is. A special thank you goes out to board member Lloyd Grant for driving this project and staying on top of all of the details.

We finished 2010 in great shape and were able to transfer over \$51,000 into our reserve fund. With the large expenditures for the pool deck, it's nice to see we will have adequate buffer for any short term requirements. Even after the expected pool deck costs, we will have adequate reserve funds.

We will be having our audit this year, which we last performed in 2007. An audit is more rigorous than the annual review we have. On a three year cycle, our accountants take a deep dive into our finances to make sure we have controls in place and that our books match our actual expenses. This helps protect all of us with the confidence that we are reporting our books correctly and accurately.

While many of us have already paid our annual dues, I would like to gently remind those who haven't yet paid to please do so. If you cannot do so at this time, please feel free to contact me so we can work something out. It saves all of us a lot of time and aggregation. And if anyone is interested, we'd love to see you at our board meetings.

Dave Klenske; 408.829.3283

### **SIZZLPIX INTERNET ENTREPRENEURS IN BELWOOD**

Maggie and Don Sherman, who have lived on Belwood Gateway for 20+ years, are entrepreneurs whose internet startup is attracting international attention. Because they feel that there are probably highly qualified but under-employed talented folks living right in the neighborhood, they have offered to demonstrate their unique *SizzlPix!*™ High Definition Photography™ fine-art wall display technology with anyone who is curious about *SizzlPix!* for their own home or office, or anyone who is interested in part-time work.

According to Don, the new technology is environmentally green, because it eliminates the toxic chemicals normally used in photo printing, as well such land-fillers as plastics, paper and glass, and provides resolution, luminous colors and an illusion of depth not found in conventional photographs. It also produces pictures that are water and stain-proof, as well as scratch and UV-resistant, making them safe to use in bathrooms and sunlit rooms. Another benefit is that the decorator or photographer isn't limited by predetermined sizes. Heights and widths can range from 18 inches up to 5 feet.

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## **SIZZLPIX... Continued from page 5**

According to Sherman, "They're a dramatic advance over conventional paper or canvas prints." But, he adds, "How do you describe high-definition photographs? You have to see them in person." Advanced beyond previous photographic processes, SizzlPix! are not merely printed upon the surface of paper or cloth, but are actually infused to a durable, though lightweight, aluminum base. They are waterproof and have an ultra-hard high gloss coating that is virtually scratch proof. Wipe with just soapy water, glass cleaner or alcohol. You can't damage your *SizzlPix!* And since you don't need matting or a frame, your savings alone could pay for *SizzlPix!*, for your home or office.

For the creator of photography, the opportunities increase exponentially. More people are taking more pictures. For the consumer of photography, those of us who may or may not make the pictures ourselves, but who enjoy displaying fine art photography on the walls of our offices, homes, or appreciating it in public places, there have been few advances since the decline of traditional film and wet darkroom processing. Inexpensive desktop printers and conventional printing labs and frame shops abound, but the product remains the same; paper or canvas enlargements, usually matted, framed, and under glass, often expensive and vulnerable to fading and damage from moisture and sunlight.

"*SizzlPix!* High Definition Photography is the first really new fine art photography wall display technology in decades." To see it in person, or to learn more, call Maggie or Don at (408) 455-2780.

## **18 THINGS YOUR BURGLAR WON'T TELL YOU By Josh Lamour**

Given the rash of burglaries that have hit Belwood in the past several months, this article seemed timely (and helpful)—tips from actual burglars (some may really surprise you!)—make sure to read these BEFORE your next vacation!

1. Of course I look familiar. I was here just last week cleaning your carpets, painting your shutters, or delivering your new refrigerator.
2. Hey, thanks for letting me use the bathroom when I was working in your yard last week. While I was in there, I unlatched the back window to make my return a little easier.
3. Love those flowers. That tells me you have taste... and taste means there are nice things inside. Those yard toys your kids leave out always make me wonder what type of gaming system they have.
4. Yes, I really do look for newspapers piled up on the driveway. And I might leave a pizza flyer in your front door to see how long it takes you to remove it.
5. If decorative glass is part of your front entrance, don't let your alarm company

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## **18 THINGS YOUR BURGLAR WON'T TELL YOU Cont. from page 6**

install the control pad where I can see if it's set. That makes it too easy.

6. A good security company alarms the window over the sink. And the windows on the second floor, which often access the master bedroom - and your jewelry. It's not a bad idea to put motion detectors up there, too.

7. It's raining, you're fumbling with your umbrella, and you forget to lock your door - understandable. But understand this; I don't take a day off because of bad weather.

8. I always knock first. If you answer, I'll ask for directions somewhere or offer to clean your gutters. (Don't take me up on it.)

9. Do you really think I won't look in your sock drawer? I always check dresser drawers, the bedside table, and the medicine cabinet.

10. Here's a helpful hint: I almost never go into kids' rooms.

11. You're right: I won't have enough time to break into that safe where you keep your valuables. But if it's not bolted down, I'll take it with me.

12. A loud TV or radio can be a better deterrent than the best alarm system. If you're reluctant to leave your TV on while you're out of town, you can buy a \$35 device that works on a timer and simulates the flickering glow of a real television. (Find it at <http://www.faketv.com/>)

13. Sometimes, I carry a clipboard. Sometimes, I dress like a lawn guy and carry a rake. I do my best to never, ever look like a crook.

14. The two things I hate most: loud dogs and nosy neighbors.

15. I'll break a window to get in, even if it makes a little noise. If your neighbor hears one loud sound, he'll stop what he's doing and wait to hear it again. If he doesn't hear it again, he'll just go back to what he was doing. It's human nature.

16. I love looking in your windows. I'm looking for signs that you're home, and for flat screen TVs or gaming systems I'd like. I'll drive or walk through your neighborhood at night, before you close the blinds, just to pick my targets.

17. Avoid announcing your vacation on your Facebook page. It's easier than you think to look up your address.

18. To you, leaving that window open just a crack during the day is a way to let in a little fresh air. To me, it's an invitation.

**Sources:** Convicted burglars in North Carolina, Oregon, California, and Kentucky; security consultant Chris McGoey, who runs <http://www.crimedoctor.com/> and Richard T. Wright, a criminology professor at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, who interviewed 105 burglars for his book *Burglars on the Job*.

### **NEED HELP?**

Belwood Residents  
Free advice to solve home repair, maintenance, or improvement problems.

Call: Roy Chadwick  
356-5431

### **BEACH HOUSE:**

Aptos Beach House, spacious 3BR/2 bath, short walk to Rio Del Mar/Seacliff Beach. Available year-round for monthly, weekly, mid-week, weekend rental. Call Sheryl at 408-348-3237

### **KAUAI CONDO:**

Kapaa Kauai Hawaii Condo for rent. Located in the Pono Kai Resort on the East Shore Coconut coast. 2BR/2 bath on ground floor, facing beach. Full kitchen, dining and living rooms. Sleeps 6. Swimming pool, clubhouse, close to shopping. For photos, details and contact info, go to: <http://www.vrbo.com/33499>  
Call: Sal Leonardi 356-5205

### **OAHU LUXURY TOWNHOME:**

Fabulous, newly furnished Oahu townhome for rent. 3 BR, 3 BA + den, 1700+ square feet, 5 min walk to beach in the luxurious Coconut Plantation in Ko Olina. Perfect for families. See our website for pictures, details and contact info:  
<http://www.koolinahome.com>

### **MONTHLY EVENTS**

**Belwood Homeowners Board Mtg:** Open to all Belwood members - Cabana Club - 7:30 pm, third Tues. of the month unless a change is posted on the bulletin board.

### **Santa Clara Valley Mineral /Gem Society:**

Fourth Tuesday of the month.  
Please call Kathy McChristian (**Junior Pgm.**) 258-8400 or Margaret Norten (**Adult Pgm.**) 356-8254

### **Schedule Cabana Club:**

Gina Wagner 358-2229

### **COMMUNITY ADS**

#### **Gutters, Roof, Plumbing, Tree Trimming**

You name it! I have a list of workmen who can help you. Call Gail Bordi, 408-356-4624 or email [gailbordi@yahoo.com](mailto:gailbordi@yahoo.com)

#### **Babysitting Services**

Hi my name is Holly Nolan and I live on Westhill Drive and attend Leigh High School. I am 17 years old and a Red Cross certified babysitter. I love to be around kids. So if anyone needs a babysitter give me a call and I'd be glad to assist! **Holly Nolan 358-7324**

#### **Babysitting & Pet Sitting Services**

We are two sisters, Jenna (18 years old) and Andrea Goeke (16 years old). We have pet sitting and babysitting experience and would love to babysit your pet or children (over 2 years old). We live on Bacigalupi Drive so we are very close to your home.  
**Please call either of us at 356-4675.**

**The next newsletter** will be in June 2011.  
Please email articles to Jackie Sandoval ([jackiefs@comcast.net](mailto:jackiefs@comcast.net)) by **June 1, 2011.**