

Gardena Circle Neighborhood Watch Newsletter April / Vol 22

NEXT MEETING

Monday, April 15
7:00PM- 8:30PM
Freeman Park
154th Street, east of Van Ness



MEETING TOPIC: HOME SAFETY

- See and discuss video 'Blueprint for Home Security, How to Make Your Home Safer From Unwanted Intruders' by Educational Systems & Resources.
- **SGT. MEDRANO** will answer questions and address home safety issues. Want a professional opinion on the safety of your home? Make arrangements with the police dept. to visit your home and inspect its safety.

👁️👁️ CRIME ALERT – GETTING THE WORD OUT! 👁️👁️

Get the details about suspicious persons and vehicles to be on the lookout for in our neighborhood. Send your email address to Louise*GardenaCircle.com and you'll be on the 'CRIME ALERT' email list. Neighborhood watch does make a difference and email is a tool we can use to quickly get the word out!

CHIEF OF POLICE RODNEY LYONS

RODNEY LYONS is Gardena's new Chief of Police. He comes to us with over 30 years experience with the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department. At the April meeting of the Chief of Police Citizens' Advisory Panel (COPCAP), Chief Lyons affirmed his **commitment to Community Oriented Policing**. He has the good fortune to lead a department of men and women who are passionate about their profession and serving Gardena. We are equally passionate about our police department and the tremendous strides made in the fight against crime through the joint efforts of the community and the GPD. **We plan to stay on course for a safer and more prosperous city.** We welcome Chief Lyons and look forward to having him as a guest at a future GCNW meeting.

MARCH MEETING REVIEW

- **Parks & Recreation representatives, DAVE NEGRETE, WOODS WOOLWINE, and KELLY FUJIO,** presented information about federal grant money awarded to our parks and playground equipment that will be upgraded to current safety standards. New equipment will have greater handicap accessibility and be made of plastic. We selected vibrant colors and the style of equipment for Freeman Park. Plans for final approval will be presented at a future meeting.
- * **Sgt. Medrano** answered questions and shared information about area crime.
- **Household burglars** tend to take concealables, items that can easily be transported in pockets or a bag. **Break-ins** are typically made by forced entry through a door, rather than breaking a window.
- **Truancy sweeps by the GPD around Gardena High School have resulted in over 40 citations in one hour.** GHS is under the jurisdiction of the LA Sheriff's dept, however, only the GPD has regularly conducted these sweeps. **CAPT. JOHN BROWNING** is the lead GPD representative working on forging a partnership of action, responsibility and accountability among all enforcement agencies in addressing crime and safety issues at GHS.

- The GPD takes great care in the screening, hiring and training of its officers. However, if you feel someone with the GPD has treated you poorly, get their name. Call **217-9670** and ask for the Watch Commander to discuss the situation and your concerns.

PARENT / COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE

In the wake of the Gardena High School shooting, the **Parent / Community Collaborative** was formed. Residents identify and target specific action steps towards areas of greatest need in the school. The next meeting is **Wednesday, April 17, 6:30-7:30PM, Nakaoka Center, 1670 West 162nd Street** (btwn the fire department and police station). Meeting topics include: Safety Proposal Update, Petition Drive, School Volunteer Opportunities, Changes at GHS. **Childcare provided; Spanish translation available.** Info: Jackie Salvage (310-299-0579) or Tony Dixon (trato@pacbell.net).

MAY MEETING PREVIEW

FLORENCE CHUNG, Community Organizer for **American Asian Drug and Alcohol Prevention, Inc. (AADAP)** and **Gardena Drug and Alcohol Prevention (GDAAP)**, has been rescheduled for **our May 20th meeting**. Florence was at the heart of trying to change things at Gardena High School long before the shooting. Learn about the great work of the students in **High School Task Force (HSTF)** and the many positive outlets and relationships being created by and for kids. Have a child heading to or already in high school? Bring them to the May 20th GCNW meeting!

2002 GCNW MEETING CALENDAR

			April 15	May 20	June 17
July 15	Aug. 19	Sept. 16	Oct. 21	Nov. 18	

3rd Monday of the month. All meetings will be held 7:00 - 8:30PM at Freeman Park. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to bring a family member or friend. **Unable to attend a meeting? Have ideas or concerns to share? send an email to Louise*GardenaCircle.com.**

CONTACT INFORMATION

For crime-related matters:



CRIME IN PROGRESS	911
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY	323-7911
New: TTY	379-0909
GRAFFITI	217-9568
WeTIP	800-78CRIME, 800-782-7463

For ideas & issues regarding GCNW:



Gardena Circle NW Web Site www.GardenaCircle.com
Louise Stein, Block Captain Louise*GardenaCircle.com
Ofc. Dave Golf 217-9670 Dgolf@gardenapd.org

Wave your flag. Do NOT waive your RIGHTS!!

YOUR LETTERS

This is YOUR newsletter and you are encouraged to write articles relevant to Neighborhood Watch that I can include in the newsletter. Please e-mail them to Louise*GardenaCircle.com or if you don't have e-mail you can drop them by my house.