GARDENA CIRCLE NEIGHBORH OD WATCH NEWS DECEMBER / VOL. 8 BESTWISHESFOR

SAFE&HAPPYHOLIDAYS!

NO DECEMBER MEETING

December is an exceptionally busy time of year but here's one item you can take off your 'to do list'- there will be NO GCNW meeting in December.

MEETING DATES

Mark your calendars with the upcoming GCNW meetings. All meetings are on a Monday and will be held at Freeman Park, 2100 West 154th Place (east of Van Ness), 7:00-8:30PM.

*Jan. 8 May 21 Sept. 17

*Feb. 12 June 18 Oct. 15

March 19 July 16 Nov. 19

April 16 Aug. 20 Dec. - **

*Jan. & Feb. meetings are on the 2nd Monday of the month. All other meetings are on the 3rd Monday of the month.

** NO meeting in December.

FROM THE NOVEMBER MEETING

- The GPD has three new police cars, each equipped with thermal night vision equipment. This enables the police to clearly observe activity at night and in very dark areas. After the meeting, Ofc. Kang let us look through the camera. It is amazing how easy it is to see people at night in even the darkest areas.
- Ofc. Kang reviewed common mistakes people make that invite criminal activity:
- Bikes, chairs & other items are left outside;
- Garage doors are left open;
- Car doors left unlocked or dome lights left on.

JANUARY 8 MEETING

Due to illness, Ingrid Tsukiyama did not come to the November meeting. We look forward to her speaking at our January meeting. Ingrid will provide an update of Gardena's current fiscal condition.

LAST YEAR IN REVIEW

- It will be a year in May that we had our first GCNW meeting.
 Since then we have known great success. What is our success?
- Calls to the police reporting suspicious activity have helped apprehend criminals.
- A wave or smile to a neighbor reinforces we are watching out for each other and want a safe and friendly place in which to live.
- We have Neighborhood Watch signs posted along our streets alerting people passing through that we watch out for each other and will report suspicious activity.
- There are more house numbers on alley doors and garages.
 These help the police quickly locate a property from the alley if they are responding to a call.
- There are newcomers at nearly every monthly meeting as well as people who are 'regulars'. The meetings are an opportunity for us to get to know each other better and address problems in our neighborhood.
- Even if you are not coming to the meetings, I have spoken with several of you and know you are very much aware of what goes on in our neighborhood. You have made calls to the police or your presence known so suspicious characters leave.
- The GPD are fully behind us in our NW efforts and will help problem solve other concerns we

- Trash & recyclables put out before collection day create filthy alleys & encourage transients to rummage through the trash.
- Rest assured drug busts do happen but are not reported in the Gardena Valley News Crime Blotter because the police want to keep their operations unknown to criminals.
- There are many parolees living in the motels along Crenshaw with easy access to our neighborhood. Avoid tempting them to your home. Have many lights on timers and keep all windows and doors locked when you leave the house.
- Especially at the holidays criminals will be looking for the opportunity to take your purse or wallet or break into homes and cars. Keep your purchases out of sight and your wallet out of the reach of others.

- have about our community.
- You call and e-mail me with your support & ideas for making a better NW &endash; Keep it up!
- We had fun together at our block party in October.

SPECIAL THANKS

Our success is due to the dedication and involvement of many people. I am grateful to the following people for their efforts:

- Our Area Coordinators Jim Lopez, Debra Sugai, Josephine Bantigue, Stan Cabotaje, Ingrid Tsukiyama, Helen Stone, and Les Suderman for delivering the newsletters to you.
- Mike Locano of Marina Graphics for printing our newsletter.
- Romero and Freeman Park for use of the facilities.
- Chief Skogh, Sgt. Medrano, Ofc. Golf and the Gardena Police Department for working with us in establishing GCNW.
- Dave Nathanson for encouragement, perspective, discussion, love and fun in this and all endeavours.

MEETING DATES

Mark your calendars with the upcoming GCNW meetings. All meetings are on a MONDAY.

LOCATION: Freeman Park, 2100 West 154th Place (just east of Van Ness).

TIME: 7:00 - 8:30PM.

	May 21	Sept. 17
*Feb. 12	June 18	Oct. 15
March 19	July 16	Nov. 19
April 16	Aug. 20	Dec **

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**No meeting.

NEXT MEETING

Monday, Jan. 8, 2001 7:00PM-8:30PM Freeman Park

LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT YEAR

It would be a dream come true if we were so successful as a NW that we no longer had any crime. But we still have work to do!

- We must continue to look out for each other, report suspicious activity, and make sure our homes and businesses are secure.
- The GPD are committed to community policing and working with us on our concerns regarding crime and other issues that impact the quality of life in Gardena.
- We will continue to welcome guest speakers at our meetings and share information about fighting crime.
- · We'll have another block party and more!

IF YOU SEE SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

CALL THE POLICE at 911 or 323-7911.

Do NOT call Louise Stein.

CONTACT INFO

For <u>crime-related matters</u>, call one of the following numbers:



CRIME IN PROGRESS 911

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY 323-7911 GRAFFITI 217-9568 WeTIP 800-78CRIME (800-782-7463)

For ideas & issues regarding GCNW contact:



Ofc. Dave Golf, Lead Officer 217-9670 Dgolf@gardenapd.org Louise Stein, Block Captain email