

September 2009

President's Message

Historic French Park is pleased to announce a new Board of Directors and Association Officers for the 2009-2010 term. Our new Board will continue to focus on matters concerning public safety, neighborhood and historic preservation, and community activities.

At this time, we would like to thank the outgoing 2008-09 officers including Debbie McEwen, President; Wayne Curl, Vice President; Sussie Quinn, Treasurer; and Paul Giles, Secretary. These long-time residents, separately and collectively, have selflessly worked to protect and preserve the charm and character of the city's oldest residential neighborhood. We owe them our appreciation for their many years of service! I want to especially thank Debbie McEwen for her extra devotion to the French Park neighborhood and her tireless work to protect its architectural legacy. Without Debbie's leadership French Park may have never survived difficult times to become the vibrant neighborhood it is today.

The coming year will be a busy one as we prepare to move two historic homes into French Park. These homes, which had been slated for destruction as part of redevelopment in the Lacy Neighborhood to the south, will be moved to the empty lots on Vance Street and refurbished. As Chair of the French Park House Move Committee, Debbie McEwen will lead and coordinate this work with the City of Santa Ana to insure its completion. Assisting Debbie on the House Move Committee is Wayne Curl and Sandy Welch. Their years of experience and commitment to this lengthy process will preserve 2 important historic properties while significantly improving our neighborhood.

Finally, please plan on attending a future neighborhood meeting to meet your neighbors and help keep French Park a great place to live and work. You are also welcome to contact me if you have any questions or concerns that you think our Association can address.

Jeff Dickman
President
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