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FREE VENICE

SINCE 1968

BEACHHEAD



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Venice, the Eternal Carnival

by Patrick McCartney

"Welcome to Venice Beach--The Eternal Carnival!" I hope you've seen the sign like I have, in the soft, late light sometime between when the sand scorches your bare feet and the sundown wind chills you. You can see the hand-painted slogan on the traffic barricades anchoring the north end of Ocean Front Walk.

Spread slightly ajar, the barricades frame a view of the length of the Boardwalk stretching to the south. When the light is right, the old brick buildings and infinite string of yellow barrels that reach the horizon are glowing.

"Welcome to Venice Beach--The Eternal Carnival!" Scrawled in a perky, legible hand, the "i" in Carnival is dotted with a crown, giving the whole jerry-rigged message the right, festive touch.

The reason I mention this charming local color is that the message behind that graffiti could well be emulated by the City's Recreation and Parks Department. As has been mentioned in the Beachhead before, the Park and Recs people have turned down a bid by the Venice Town Council and the Venice Area Chamber of Commerce to use the Pavilion parkway on the Fourth of July--the 80th anniversary of the opening of Venice.

Responding to an appeal, the P&R Board kicked the matter down to regional staff, who were left to reiterate the Board's 1980 policy for the issuance of permits for the Venice Recreation Center (Report No. 524-80). "This policy prohibits the granting of permits for use of the facility on weekends, school vacations, and holidays during spring and summer," was the way Pacific Region assistant Manager Georgiann Rudder put it.

Afterwards, local Parks and Recs director Don Russell called and offered to "co-host" an event with the two Venice groups. But with two months lost in the appeal process, too little time remained. I asked Russell to hold that offer open for 1986--maybe Venice can celebrate its 81st birthday.

"Welcome to Venice Beach--The Eternal Carnival!" Just remember that it's the people of Venice who bring it to you. Like on the Fourth of July. The show, as usual, won't be staged by Pat Russell's office or Parks and Recreation.

The Carnival will not be televised. No tickets will be sold. The many-ringed Boardwalk will have more loud-mouthed jugglers, guitar-backed singers, stand-up comedians and magicians, clowns, beasts and rubbernecks than anyone but Barnum would be willing to hire.



From the collection of Paul Tanck
And when the Fourth-of-July beach crowd goes home at sunset, the Carnival will continue. Blossoms of legal fireworks will dot the sky over the Santa Monica Pier and the Marina. But the real Carnival will be the illicit fireworks of the public, thousands of sane-but-hardly-safe citizens intoxicated on the heady aroma of anarchy and gunpowder.

At least the City trimmed the palm trees this year; I won't have to worry about a lot of unexpected Roman candles. At its height, the Fourth in Venice looks like a battle zone. The acrid smoke from thousands of fireworks drifts over the beach, and rockets whistle through the air.

CARNIVAL Continued to Page 10

Our Floundering Fathers

- By Jim Prickett

Supporters of the revolutionary government in Nicaragua don't tell you the full story about that country. You rarely hear that President Daniel Ortega is the wealthiest man in the country or that he amassed that wealth through the forced labor of Meskito Indian slaves who work on his large coffee plantation. Nor is it mentioned that the Nicaraguan constitution denies the right to vote for Indians, slaves, and women.

Of course, none of this is true, but if it sounds familiar there is a good reason. If we change Daniel Ortega to George Washington, coffee to tobacco, Meskito Indians to black slaves, then we have a fairly precise portrait of the first American president to serve after our revolution.

I'm not trying to attack our early leaders. For one thing, the President has pre-empted the field. Nothing I could say could be as vicious a slander as Reagan's grotesque claim that the founding fathers are the moral equivalent of the rapists, killers, and thugs known as the Contras. More important, I believe that revolutions should be judged in their own contexts, compared not with other revolutions, but with the systems that they overthrew.

But I do think that a country whose revolutionary leaders proclaimed that "all men are created equal" and held those with dark skins in bondage might have a little humility when assessing revolutions in other countries.

American Hostages

Unofficial Soldiers

by memphis slim

The 40 hostages in Beirut are there because Ronald Reagan is the world's biggest terrorist. Terrorism is defined as "Unlawful acts of violence committed in an attempt to overthrow a government."

Ronald Reagan is actively trying to overthrow the governments of Nicaragua, Afghanistan, Angola, and Cuba. He has successfully conquered Grenada and set up a client state. He has invaded Lebanon, supports Israeli invading armies and doesn't even condemn South Africa for invading a sovereign state and trying to blow up American property.

Even if Reagan doesn't use Americans directly, he has us in a state of war with many different peoples throughout the world. In the Middle East Reagan's surrogate army is the Israelis. Their invasion and ongoing occupation of Lebanon is the immediate cause of the TWA hijacking. But the basic cause of the hijacking and other acts of violence against Americans is Reagan's state of war with the world. We are at war and the hostages are simply POWS 1985 style.

In Southeast Asia our surrogate armies are the Khmer Rouge and other anti-Soviet Khmer armies as well as the Thais. In southern Africa "constructive engagement" is Reaganese for letting the Afrikaners kill as many Kaffers as possible. Pakistan is our army in Southcentral Asia. It even scares Gandhi! They have the bomb you know and Zia's opposition is only active in the graveyard. In South America our finest outpost is Pinochet's Chile. Chile was the oldest democracy in Latin America until IITP and Kissinger killed the idealistic college professor, Salvador Allende. And we're even helping the Spanish and Moroccans conquer a small desert people literally on the edge of the earth.

So we're at war. You forgot that just because Vietnam is over doesn't mean the war's not going on. So everytime you travel outside this country you take the risk of being reminded that, yes indeed, your country is committing acts of terrorism on a daily basis, and the only way for many to get back at America is to get to American citizens.

I'm sorry about the 40 Americans in Beirut. I'm sorry that their captors believe in a 12th Century religious madness but I'm sorer about what my country is doing. Reagan has made us all unofficial soldiers in his war against the world. That's why body bags will continue to arrive at Andrews Air Force Base.



STOPPING
M TO 6 P.M.
SUNDAY ONLY



Photo by C. Wight

Letters

To the Community of Venice:

By the time you read this the LaFayette Coffee Shop will have already closed its doors. All of you will have had your last meal at the family-run food establishment. You will have enjoyed your last plate of huevos rancheros or waffle and Ruby will have refilled your coffee cup for the last time. For all of you "regulars" who would wake up on Wednesdays and think, "Oh damn, LaFayette is closed, where can we go for breakfast today?" - every day will be wednesday.

Now you must face the dilemma of finding a new spot to congregate with friends in an atmosphere which is friendly and conducive to perpetuating a feeling of community. But where else can you find a place that is so special that it can accommodate the diversity of the people that LaFayette did? There's just no other place in Venice where you can find people of widely different lifestyles sitting shoulder to shoulder at the counter or across the booth from one another, eating and having coffee in complete congeniality. What made LaFayette so special? The restaurant not only nourished the body, it nourished the soul. I believe the sincerity and honesty of the owners contributed to this amicable atmosphere.

Arturo and Fernando Garcia have been more than simply brothers in a small business partnership. They have been father figures to members of the community who had no where else to turn. For 17 years they have maintained a concern for the individuals who patronized the place. While they would good-heartedly dispense a bowl of soup or an occasional cup of coffee to a homeless person, they also showed interest in other people's lives. They themselves patronized the artists of the neighborhood by exhibiting and sometimes buying their work. And along with Ruby and Rita, the longtime waitresses and mother figures of the restaurant, they watched children grow from babies to adolescents, cleaning their spills when they were young and putting up with their teenage antics with loving and understanding.

The place was a home away from home. It was a place you could order a plate of eggs, potatoes and toast without a fancy pseudonym, served without pretense and at an affordable price. And if you had a favorite dish that you ordered more than once, chances are that waitresses remembered what it was, and the cooks knew just how you liked it prepared.

Now, in the name of progress, we must all say goodbye to that place with the personal touch where we all loved to meet and eat. And for lack of a better alternative I have a feeling we might be having coffee at home more often.

Dallas Cook



Dear Beachhead,

Thank for keeping me on for an extra month. I've been away from Venice for a while and missed Clair Horner's passing. He was one of my oldest Venice friends. I always felt responsible for his marriage to Virginia. Dave Russ, Glenn Vilppu and I sold our paintings at P.O.P. for 2 summers in the 60s; we hired Virginia as a sales girl but Clair came around & there went Virginia. I still have one of Clair's "feeling-pieces" & one of his first poetry books.

Thank for printing my drawings in your May issue. Use what you like from the "book." L.A.C.E. may give me a show on 130 nude paintings of mine soon.

Enclosed \$5.00 for renewal subscription! Keep up the good work!

In Venice Light,
Robert Farrington

oOo

Dear Beachhead,

You have fans in Idaho. I enjoyed the "Mutants uber alles" piece (in May 85 issue) and "Last Chance Poisoned" (in April 1985).

I'm glad you are surviving—and it's a great combo of remnant lefty politics and good literature that makes it happen.

Thanks for the great work! Venice is still a special place.

- Bill London
Moscow Idaho



Dear John Dover:

Well. Read your article in the May issue of the Beachhead tonight.

I left my office and headed for the nearest (one of two) delicatessans for a late night supper—not because I was hungry but because I was hungry.

All around me is what you said in your article. Your article was a breath of fresh air! I say: FRESH AIR!

I knew I wasn't the only one who thought so—except it is so far and few in between when someone else says so.

"They fit the mood of the country, nasty, selfish, doomed and very republican"—they're ugly. Amen.

As to the ever-ready "fuck-yous"—another amen. I come from the activism of the late 60s and 70s—and I can tell you the mood today is a real punch in the mouth from the love and caring and passion of those times.

Their TV is bad, their music is bad and etc. RIGHT ON! As for all the rest of your observations—right on, again!

Thank you for some truth. Who was it that originally said: Just gimme some truth? It is so bad that when someone says to me "hello"—I jump out of my skin with astonishment.

I do keep trying however—I do say to people who deliver their "fuck yous" with: That's not nice—benice—I wouldn't say that to you—it's o.k. to be friends, isn't it? I keep on keeping on.

But who can forget the wonderful love, caring, passion we-are-in-this-together feelings of the 60s and 70s? Not me. I was transformed too completely to sour now. I certainly do match your grief and I'm so glad you are in love with your wife. And believe me, I did try to make this a world where you would live fear-free and have those 2.5 kids. I tried.

I really do wish you could live. I really do. Me, too.

Bond Wright.

oOo

Dear Editor, on debits and credits

It has been observed that illnesses and attitudes are often, alas, reciprocal. Cancer is caused by many things. One generative "irritant" is most certainly, the result of being nigh-to-suicidally meek. Besides, this groveling posture leads to madness as well. This is not to say that arrogance, door-slaming, violent behavior is the answer. Though this is the mode-of-now, it will lose steam, due to its excessiveness; Cause/Effect. The secret of happiness may be in one's gift of balance. Thus we have the proverbial symbol of Justice: a dignified lady, carrying a scale. She is also blindfolded. Often I have thought of her

as coming to life, yanking off the blinders and shouting, "Hey! When in hell will I myself be weighed?" Ha! Promises. Promises ...

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Joseph P. Krengel



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Cheri Leslie, Carol Fondiller, Kathy Sullivan, Jim Prickett, Diane Nickerson, Patrick McCartney, Moe Stavnezer, Kate Keeling and Memphis Slim. Special thanks to Pete Savino and Emily Winters

The FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD is published monthly by the Beachhead Collective as a vehicle for the people of Venice to communicate their ideas and opinions to the community at large. We welcome and take responsibility for publishing contributions exactly as the contributors submit them, although the opinions expressed by the contributors are not necessarily endorsed by the Collective staff. The Beachhead encourages anyone to submit news stories, articles, letters, photos, poetry, graphics or other material of interest to the Venice community. We ask that writing be limited to 1200-1500 words. The volunteer staff reserves the right to make all decisions collectively on material published. There is no editor of the Beachhead. The Collective is an open group and welcomes interested Venice people's participation. Printing is financed by ad donations. To submit material, include your name & phone no. Anonymous material will not be published, but your name will be withheld on request. If return of material is desired, a stamped, self-addressed envelope is required. No payment is made for material used.



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critic-at-large

Politics near & far

by JOHN HAAG

It was the last day for Mandela City at UCLA. A demonstration had been called to protest apartheid and the University's complicity through investments in corporations doing business in South Africa. It coincided with a meeting of the Regents in Royce Hall, where divestment was to be discussed, sort of.

I was curious to experience a demonstration by students who, according to the newspapers, consider themselves more mature than protesters of the 60's.

When I arrived at Royce Hall after passing a smouldering rug that had been part of an effigy, there were about 100 people, mostly young, mostly white, crowding the main steps and entranceway. They were chanting and clapping. Later on some pounded pots and kicked a trash barrel in time with the "Divest now!" chant. It was very loud.

And angry. Well, the students did have something to be angry about. Unable to put off considering divestment any longer, the Regents chose to meet at UCLA in the midst of final exams that kept most students at their books. We all know that UCLA is not Berkeley, and so do the Regents.

Then they had the gall to import maybe the only black South African leader they could find to oppose divestment. Buthezi claimed that economic sanctions would hurt blacks more than whites at a time when blacks are acquiring consumer power. With consumer power blacks could win equality. Just like here, I suppose.

The Regents also heard from a staff expert who warned of possible loss of \$100 million through divestment, and another who said the Regents might be personally liable for losses in stock values. Just what they wanted to hear. (At a subsequent meeting they voted not to divest.)

Back outside, UCLA Chancellor Young appeared, apparently to talk to the protesters. He could not be heard. When he turned to go back inside, he was shoved hard from behind. So much for non-violence.

Twice that I saw, protesters rushed the doors, were out-muscled by campus police and ended up contenting themselves with kicking the doors, adding to the din. Once when the doors were open, signs and other objects were thrown at the police inside.

Now, that is a definite no-no. People three or four rows back do not throw objects over the heads of other demonstrators toward the police. If the police react, it's the front ranks that get hurt while the hurlers are buffered by the people in front.

As it was, the police didn't riot. On one occasion three ready-for-anything troopers were pulled back one by one by a woman sergeant. Those students were lucky it was campus police and not the LAPD.

If there were any monitors, I didn't see them or couldn't distinguish them from anybody else. The tactics of protest, explored and refined during the 60's, were certainly not in evidence on this occasion. I imagine that this demonstration was not typical. If it is, people are going to get hurt and I do not believe that broken heads are going to contribute to weakening apartheid.



Spokeswoman/C/PF

By contrast the protest against aid to the contras at the West LA Federal Building was disciplined and moving. The chanting of 500 was not as loud as the UCLA 100, but it was intelligible.

People moved as the monitors indicated or continued circling without direction. Friends smiled and chatted with friends. People wishing to get arrested to show their resolve to oppose US intervention in Nicaragua and El Salvador lined up along the doors and walls and held hands. Those to be arrested and the other demonstrators faced each other and recited alternate lines of the Pledge of Resistance.

CONT. TO PAGE 10



by MOE STAVNEZER

For more than 2 years, I and others have been urging Jeffrey Stanton to publish another issue of his Venice map. You know the one I mean. It looks like it was drawn with crayons and shows the historic buildings and current attractions in Venice. You've probably seen it in its postcard form in various shops around town or on the Ocean Front where Jeff vends on weekends.

Well he finally did it. And, damn, am I sorry I ever mentioned it to him.

Not because the new version is more bland in its coloring, or that it shows more of the Marina than I'd show, or that it doesn't have the "zip" of the first edition. Nope, those are differences in taste and quite excusable as far as I'm concerned.

What's not excusable is Stanton's treatment of Oakwood. Stanton shows Oakwood as a crime-ridden area virtually devoid of any positive aspects or culture. You can't find the Oakwood Recreation Center, the Park, Abbott Kinney's home (occupied for years by his chauffeur) or any of Oakwood's churches. But you can find a gang fight, a garbage can on fire, an armed robbery and a break-in of a home all pictured in the area (please see the accompanying excerpt from Stanton's map).

Now I'll grant you that this map is not an earth shattering publication that will shape the racial relations in this community. But it is an indication of the shape those relations are in if a white entrepreneur can use what is supposed

to be a fun depiction of Venice as a racial slur. It is especially onerous that Stanton has managed to include other people as supporters of his narrow minded views. The map was financed (at least in part) by ads taken by businesses whose names appear on the back and whose locations are shown on the map. The vast majority (if not all) these people never saw the new map and assumed that it would be simply an update of the old map.

I believe that a couple of things ought to be done about this map. First, Stanton must be encouraged to revise it immediately by removing the racial insults it depicts. Second, we should ask every business to return the maps to Stanton and demand a complete return of their investment (for the ad and the cost of the maps). I feel that Stanton and people like him must be made aware of the unacceptability of this kind of behavior.

We are witnessing an unprecedented uprising in the US against the violent racial policies of South Africa. We must recognize as we support this movement for social justice in another country that we still have a long ways to go here at home. Stanton's map isn't killing anyone, but it's an insult that perpetuates racial intolerance against all Black people simply because of their color. It serves no usefull purpose except for those people who believe that skin color is the sole determining factor of the value of a person.

I'd really like to see this community firmly reject that proposition here at home as well as in South Africa - because, like it or not, they are related. ●



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Venice Beach

Bodies lying crucified by the sun's rays upon the sand;
 seagulls, like dowagers, wading in the shallows;
 sandpipers dashing after crabs;
 joggers in search of a steady pulse;
 people building castles of sand;
 bikinied babes strutting;
 studs ogling;
 frisbees sailing;
 dogs chasing;
 children screaming;
 mothers screeching--
 all at the edge of the deep,
 the cradle of life,
 a teeming scene overpowering the senses
 like a crowded canvas by Bosch,
 that Flemish satirist in oil...
 But satire would be redundant here;
 the scene is satire enough!

Don Johns

Venice '85

Coked up, potted out
 O.d.'ed on your own vanity
 Shallow ideologies:
 Simplistic liberalism
 Callous conservatism
 People hating people
 Group hating group
 Intensity of lost purposes
 Fading to languid decadence

Alice trips aimlessly through
 A parched and crying wonderland
 In search of green mirages.
 Jason, wrapped in golden fleece
 Of dreams, awakens screaming
 To tattered grey reality.
 Narcissus gazes frozen into
 A turbulent canal and wonders
 Where his youth has gone.

Ships of Tarshish
 Sail in circles on
 Horizonless seas
 And in high arid deserts
 Of bewilderment
 Rich men and politicians
 Incognizant
 Of their own destiny
 Hurry tired camels past
 The "Eye of the Needle"
 To banquet rendezvous
 At end of faded rainbows
 To drink the wine of greed
 And feast upon the poor

Pompous camaraderie!
 They belch
 In smug satisfaction
 ...unaware that
 Tyre has just fallen

Ruth Clark

The Spirit of Venice

POETRY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY VENICE

Everyday is Christmas -- In Venice!
 Everyday's the 4th of July!
 Everyday's a play day,
 A May Day, heyday, GAY day,
 "Ole!", "Shout hooray Day! -- We're alive!

Everyday's YOUR birthday -- In Venice!
 Celebrate your worth day everyday.
 "Local Color's real here,
 "Magic fingers heal here,
 "Vegetables" can feel here -- so they say!

Everyone is someone -- In Venice!
 Every "bum" is some Dear Mother's Child!
 Poets, punks, and preachers,
 Health nuts, drunks and teachers,
 Hippies, yuppies, weirdoes, winos -- WILD!

Venice is for Valentines and Lovers!
 Saint Patrick's Days -- That never seem to end.
 Stars play in the sunshine,
 Blondes share all the fun time,
 War wounds, of the worst kind, come to mend.

Commemorate the "Dream Town" -- we call Venice!
 Here, the University of Venice LIVES!
 Addicts mix with purists,
 Natives mix with tourists,
 The rich mix with the poorest -- Hey, what gives?

Venice, an oasis, to the traveller.
 Yet, "Family Town" -- This Kingdom-by-the-Sea.
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Treasure your "Vacation Days" -- In Venice!
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Yes, Everyday's a Holiday -- In Venice!
 Everyday's an Easter on Parade!
 Halloweeners "hang" here,
 (The V-13's a gang here),
 STREETSMART sings our "Sunset Serenade"!

When you think you've seen it all -- In Venice!
 SPECIAL guests drop in to "blow your mind"!
 See friendly porpoise play here!
 Spot Great Pacific Grays here!
 Catch Krishna's BIG Parade here -- What a find!

Celebrate "The Spirit" -- That is Venice!
 "Live and Let Live" -- "If you snooze you lose" --
 "Don't hit up the residents" --
 "Cheers -- to Independence!"
 HAPPY BIRTHDAY VENICE -- I LOVE YOU!

--Tina Corcoran

Panaramas Trunk

we stepped in
 cool blue lights
 & white shadows
 by the washing machines
 scoring
 weed and dust
 in an alcoholic daze
 we find:
 the place of panamas,
 green parrots,
 greeny steamy jungles
 with steamer frank
 and satchmo
 in the background
 playing
 "Song of the Vipers."

by Andy Castro

Venice As Mecca, Or Jerusalem

by John Haag

I sit here on the sand,
 a holy place on sacred land,
 remembering the tribes and clans
 that gathered here, took counsel
 and dispersed; foreseeing all
 the ones that will arrive,
 drink our blessed water and survive,
 only to disperse in turn
 to spread the word
 amongst a disbelieving world.

Take heart, my heart,
 for here is never lost
 anything forever (but the soul
 at times sent wandering
 along some other plane).

It too returns home safely,
 found like a cache of nuts
 the squirrel lays by against
 a cold day in hell, forgets,
 then comes upon in time
 of need.

Rejoice!

The promised land is here;
 the time is near at hand.



SEE VENICE BY WATER GO BOATING

VENUS CANAL, CORAL CANAL, ALDABAR CANAL, LION CANAL, GRAND CANAL, ALTAR CANAL, UNITED STATES ISLAND, RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT, VILLA CITY, LAGOON, ANNEX RESIDENCE, BROSCHY BUILDING AND VENICE NEWS, PACIFIC ELECTRIC RY. TO LOS ANGELES, OCEAN WATER ENTERS CANALS FROM DEL RLY. 5 MILES AWAY

CANALS OF VENICE

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BY MOTOR BOATS, ROW BOATS, CANOES and GONDOLAS

is an attraction of unusual interest and pleasure

The water in the canals is from the Ocean. The high tide forces it in, being retained by locks. At the head of the system is a lagoon reaching to the central part of the business section of the city. At night the canals are lighted by myriads of vari colored globes, which look like gigantic jewels when reflected on the filmy surface as the rising tide from the pearly Pacific gives new life to the rippling lanes. Don't forget Camera!

ABBOTT KINNEY

From the collection of Paul Tanck

6 La Ballona Once Upon A Time In Venice

copywrite (c) by
ARNOLD SPRINGER

Venice California lies in a valley called La Ballona, cradled between the Santa Monica on the north-west, the Del Rey and Baldwin Hills to the south, the Baldwins and Cheviot (between which is situated the 'Ballona Gap') to the south, east, and north east, and the great Boca de Santa Monica to the west. A coherent geographical entity the Valley had a persona of which its inhabitants were conscious from the beginning of recorded history down into the first decades of the present century.

The name of Santa Monica was probably given to the bay and the area in 1769 by scouts from the Portola expedition. Portola and his group of soldiers and clerics were making their way north from San Diego towards Monterrey. As the fates would have it, they were afraid of a threat to California posed by Russian imperialism and wanted to settle and better secure California for their own bosses, the Spanish imperialists.

Anyway, having never seen the Cahuenga pass (they were too far to the west of it) and searching for a pass across the Santa Monicas, they stopped to rest by a spring and its grove near by what is today called the Veterans Administration grounds. Scouts were sent out and some came upon the palisades overlooking the Pacific, and this bay and this place they called Santa Monica. Catholic and superstitiously christian, they named the place in honor of one of their saints to appease their god and so that fortuna might shine upon them.

The Baldwin Hills were named after Lucky Baldwin, a great land speculator of the late 19th century who is associated with the origins of the famous race track at Santa Anita. He speculated in the La Ballona Valley too.

The Del Reys Hills were named by other speculators, associated with Moses Wicks who, during the great, mad, speculative land boom of the 1880's plated but failed to actually create a community called Playa del Rey or King's Beach.



The origins of the name La Ballona can never be known and will remain forever the subject of controversy. Some maintain that it represents corrupted Spanish for La Ballena, the whale. Two hundred years ago the land on which Venice and Marina del Rey are situated was the great mixed salt and fresh water estuary of the Los Angeles River. The bay here was filled with fish, plankton, and things upon which whales fed, and this part of the bay was a way station on the annual grey whale migrations up and down the Pacific coast. So---La Ballona for the whales that were often seen just off the coast disporting in the bay.

A variant of this story has it that whales beached themselves on the sand spits that ran from Rose Ave to the Marina Channel, or beached themselves in the inner bay or great lagoon, perhaps stranded inadvertently at low tide. Whale bones were found -- hence La Ballona. A third explanation has it that the Machados (the first non-indigenous people to live and claim a Rancho in the Valley) were originally descended from Spanish stock and hailed from the vicinity or sailed to Mexico from the port of Bayonne on the Bay of Biscay.

Well-- La Ballona Valley was a cozy little nest back in the first part of the 19th century. What made it special was that it had a lot of water; the Los Angeles River ended here. It began in the area around Glendora and Tujunga, swept east thru the pueblo of Los Angeles, then swung west, following the low lands around Jefferson and Slauson, merging with the Centinella Creek at what is today Sepulveda Blvd. The stream which is now called La Ballona carried the run-off from the Hollywood, Cahuenga, and Cheviot Hills, passed into the Valley at the Gap (around Overland) and joined into the great Los Angeles marsh and estuary.

Because it was a great flood plain La Ballona had fairly decent alluvial soils. It was a rich, low lying coastal zone. Around the creeks and the River there were grasses, trees, reeds; pastures with oaks, mostly dead and whited by the time the Machados came. In the spring when it was most lush and green, deer and other animals came down from the Santa Monicas

to graze. Deer in fact were plentiful until California's entry into the emerging world capitalist market through the production and sale of cattle hides. The production of cattle for the foreign and, increasingly by mid century, for the domestic California market soon exhausted most of the grazing areas.

There were indigenous people in this area prior to the coming of the Machados. They had a village on the Del Rey Hills, but appeared to live most numerous in the Santa Monicas. They came down into La Ballona to hunt, to gather reeds and grasses for building etc, and they fished, clamed, caught birds and harvested wild grains and nuts. The fishing and shell gathering were excellent then and the beaches were littered with layers of shell fish remnants, just as some of the wild beaches in Mexico are today.

Of course, another really important natural feature of the area was the marsh-wetlands itself. It certainly affected the feel of the place and attracted a certain kind of person. If you can imagine, in your minds eye, a map of this area, you may be surprised to learn that the marsh-wetlands probably extended back to Sepulveda in the early 19th century. It was at that time, around 1825, that the Los Angeles River changed its course and was funneled, channeled thru Los Angeles pueblo and directed to its present terminus in San Pedro Bay. With that the great marsh and wetlands was significantly reduced. The wetlands was channeled itself. Attempts were made to control and harness both Centinella and Ballona creeks. The area was brought into farming, made more valuable, and sold to people of European stock who began coming into the Valley to make their homes in the period after 1860. But clearly La Ballona began to change under the impact of the comodicizing of cattle and land which occurred under Mexican rule between 1830-1846, and then more rapidly with the arrival of U.S. hegemony and its more aggressive agents of merchantile capitalism. Still, the period to 1850 must represent the Valley's Golden Age, and Age of tranquility, beauty, harmony; an age of autonomy, of an easy, humane, natural way of life; an Age in which the inhabitants ran their own lives and decided their own destinys to a much greater degree than

we in the Valley can even dream of today.

~~~~~  
**Beachhead**  
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~~~~~

LaFayette, you are gone

Do you know what you do George Lenney?

On June 30th, 1985, at 5 p.m. or thereabouts, Lafayette's will close forever. That is to say, Sunday, June 30th, is the last day that the Lafayette Cafe--heart of Venice and for sixteen years mommy and daddy to the entire community--will be open for business. "I'm moving," has been the single most common reaction to the news. Indeed, the very idea is too horrible to contemplate.

Not only that--in its place, at the strategic corner of Westminster and Ocean Front Walk, will be not another restaurant, or even half another restaurant (there are two sides to the space, after all--couldn't something have been worked out?) Instead, it will become yet another clothing store, its orientation not to the community so much as to the influx of tourists on summer-weekends. Why? Because that's the only business that can apparently survive the location and still pay the rent.

And just what is that rent? According to Arturo and Fernando Garcia, the owners of the restaurant, landlord George Lenney in one fell swoop has raised it from \$2400 to a tidy \$6300 a month. No ifs, ands, or buts. If this was a move designed to drive Lafayette



THE LAST BREAKFAST. Venetians line up for their last meal at the LaFayette Cafe on June 30, 1985



Ohh! My Gawd!
We're out of eggs!

or any other prospective food business from the premises, it certainly worked.

The question is, why would he want to? For the money, of course, is the obvious answer--like any 'typical' landlord, George Lenney just wants the additional revenue. But George Lenney is not your absentee slumlord dependent upon his rents. He lives in the building himself and has a business of his own downtown (clothing). Moreover, besides importing his daughter to streamline the management, he has invested a good deal of time, work and money into

Continued to Page 7

VENICE QUIZ

Compiled by Moe Stavnezer with a lot of help from his friends

1. Who was the founder of Venice?
2. Name all the streets that begin with z.
3. In what year did the Ku Klux Klan list Venice as its headquarters?
4. Where was the original office of Venice Neighborhood Legal Service?
5. Name all the streets named after US Presidents.
6. Where is Park Row?
7. In what year did Venice become part of LA.?
8. Name the existing canals.
9. Who built the existing canals?
10. Name all the original canals.
11. Name all the streets named after the Kinney family.
12. Where was the St. Marks Hotel?
13. What well-known Venice poet appeared on Groucho Mark's old TV show "You bet your life"?
14. Name all the walk streets.
15. What Venice cause was supported by (among others) Stan Laurel, Margaret Whiting, Igor Stravinsky, and Mort Sahl?
16. The fastest woman in the world lives in Venice. What is her name?
17. What street is named after the Mexican family that once owned all of Venice?
18. Where is the Abbot Kinney mural?
19. How many Canal Festivals were there?
20. Name Abbot Kinney's chauffeur.
21. When did the "code enforcement" program occur?
22. Who opened and ran the Venice West Cafe?
23. Name two famous rock stars who lived and performed in Venice.
24. When was oil discovered in Venice?
25. What is the oldest pharmacy in Venice?
26. Name the streets or physical boundaries of Venice.
27. Where is the Venice in the Snow mural?
28. What's the name of the member of the Venice band Severane who went on to star in Sophisticated Ladies and Cotton Club?
29. Where was Beyond Baroque located prior to its current location in the Old Venice City Hall?
30. The first office of the Peace and Freedom Party was in Venice. On what street?
31. In 1969 the Free Venice movement tried to have a parade, but it was stopped by hundreds of police. On what holiday was that parade to take place?
32. What artist painted the mural on the St. Charles building (Windward Av)?
33. What was the name of the Ballroom on Venice Pier circa 1945?
34. What was the name of the Ballroom on Lick Pier circa 1945? 1960?
35. What was the exact location of the Gas House?
36. When was the Venice Town Council created?
37. Where is USA Island?
38. In what year were Kinney's canals filled?
39. What was the name of the famous 5-story bamboo slide on the old Venice Pier?
40. Who painted the Brooks Ave mural?
41. The first of a series of pictorial histories of Venice was published in 1973. What was its title and who was the author?
42. How long has the Beachhead been publishing?
43. In what year did Sarah Bernhardt perform in Venice for the first time?
44. In what year did Abbot Kinney die?
45. In what year did the original Venice Pier burn?
46. In what year did famous evangelist Aimee Semple McPherson disappear from Venice beach?
47. Name 3 very famous performers who lived in Venice at any time during the 1920's and/or 1930's.
48. Name 2 alleys not named after streets.
49. What areas of Venice did the Waterways project directly affect?
50. Name 3 famous beat poets who lived in Venice.
51. What was the Venice Assembly, by who was it instituted?
52. Name Venice's first local newspaper.
53. What Venice resident served on the California Coastal Commission?
54. Who painted the mural at Dell Ave. and Venice Blvd.?
55. Where was the "Venture Inn"?
56. As a way of taking care of the poor, what Venice landowner advocated "Feeding the sparrows by feeding the horses"?
57. Who formerly occupied the Antioch College building?
58. What name did Abbot Kinney give to Venice originally, what name did he settle on?
59. Which L.A. City Councilperson accused Venice activists of getting "Moscow Gold"?

Send answers to the Beachhead. You may win a valuable prize

THE BEACHHEAD ENCOURAGES ALL YOU FOLKS TO ANSWER THE QUIZ. PLEASE SEND YOUR ANSWERS TO: THE BEACHHEAD, P.O. BOX 504, VENICE, CA 90294 BEFORE THE END OF JULY. THE PERSON WHO ANSWERS THE MOST QUESTIONS CORRECTLY WILL WIN A "CITY OF VENICE" TEE-SHIRT AND A LIFETIME (YOURS OR OURS) SUBSCRIPTION TO YOUR FAVORITE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER, THE FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD. CHEE WAH WAH!!!

Continued from Page 6

renovating and "beautifying" the property, much of it in ways that could not be immediately or foreseeably repaid with a concurrent rise in income. In other words, while money might be part of the answer, such unwillingness to compromise (he could have made some accommodation to allow the counter side, with all its equipment and fixtures, to remain a food business, for example) indicates something else is afoot.

Perhaps he considers the Lafayette an eyesore, no better than the "bums" hanging out at the pagoda in front of his building? Perhaps he thinks of the food as "greasy spoon," the customers as undesirable elements? Maybe he's never sat there on a rainy Tuesday: perched up in his penthouse, he must have been oblivious to the goldmine many floors beneath.

Did you not know, George Lenney, that this is possibly the only place around where you can get your eggs cooked in real butter? Did you not know that the breakfast crowd includes lawyers, architects, filmmakers, and (yes) even landlords, and that some of the daily customers come from as far as Topanga Canyon as their preferred way to start the day?

With the possible exception of the Pacific Ocean, Lafayette's is probably the most beloved spot in Venice. In many respects it is the very soul of Venice—certainly, it is the only spot where Venetians of all persuasions can meet in harmony, can plug into the community after absences of a day, week, even months or years. It's a place to fantasize about when getting homesick in New York or Hollywood, to look forward to in coming back.

Saturdays are full of the hubbub of reunions—doctors who've been out of town all week, actors (working), local families eating out, surfers, artists, kids. Yes, there are the tourists, and yes, there is the occasional "bum"—treated so diplomatically he feels happy with his soup or coffee "to go". And yes, there may be a "scene" now and then, invariably handled with the tact and esprit one would expect from a close-knit family.

You know not what you do, George Lenney. Rob us of the smiling faces of Arturo and Fernando? Not to mention the famed Ruby, whose photographs adorn the walls and who was herself featured in the L.A. Times not long ago. Jan, Rita, Dallas, Lisa, Jorge, Victor, Manuel—down to busboy and dishwasher, each dispenses smiles and good cheer.

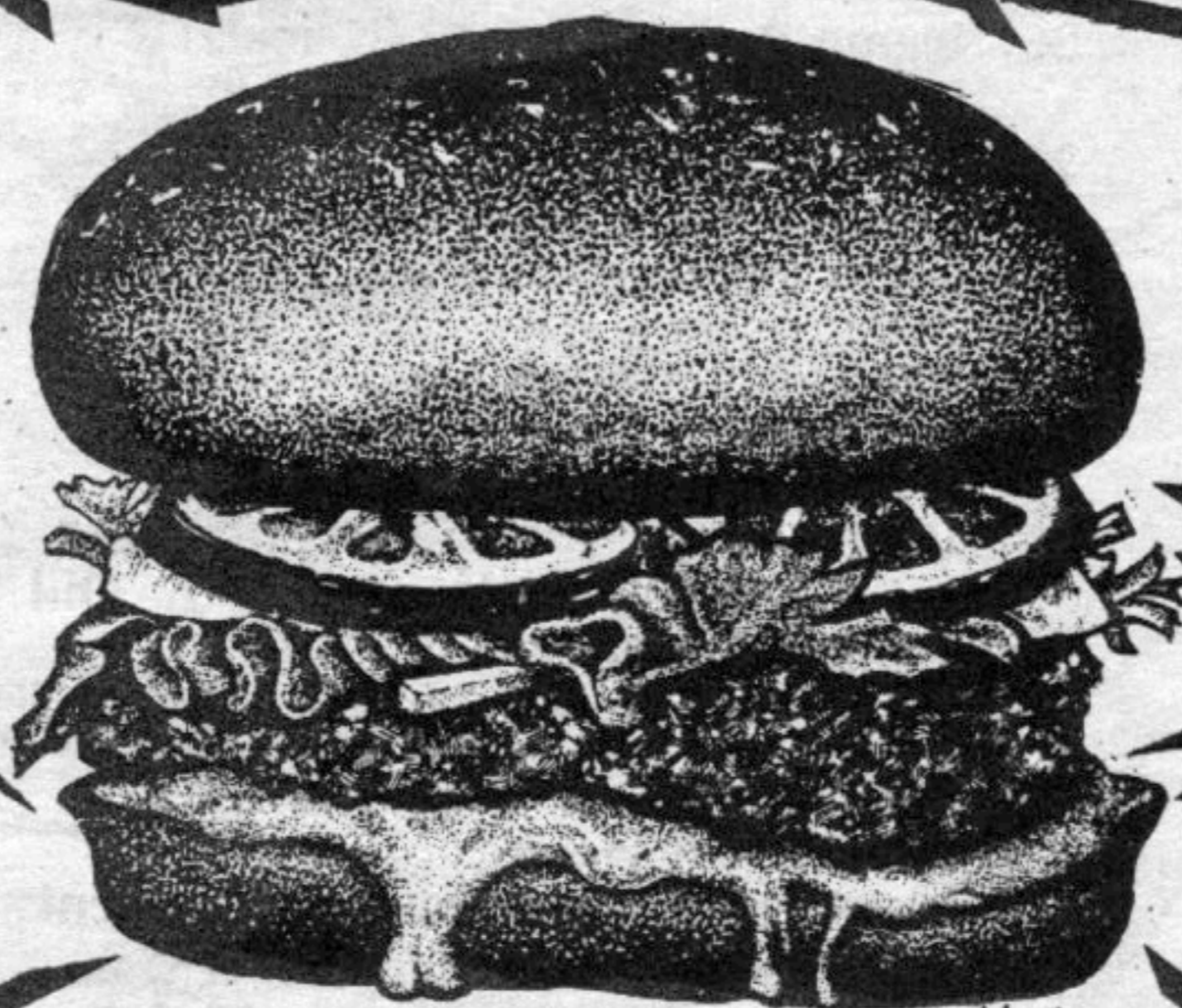
The food? Besides eggs cooked in butter, where else can you get fresh homemade coleslaw, mashed potatoes, and salsa that's out of this world? The steak is excellent, even the bread pudding has its followers, and the milkshakes have got to be the best around. Clean? Anyone who's witnessed the hour-long cleanup (it starts long before closing) can testify to the cleanliness: if you've ever participated—ask any waitress—you know it for sure. Even if Venice did have the good fortune to get another breakfast establishment in its place, as Arturo and Fernando had hoped, it would be hard put to live up to the quality of Lafayette's.

But this is all academic. Venice will not be getting another breakfast restaurant. It will not be getting a place to meet, to eat, to laugh, to growl, discuss the world or read the paper, smile at the waitresses, argue with Arturo, extend or pay up on one's credit, listen to the jukebox, and gaze out the ocean or stare glassy-eyed at one's neighbor. It will simply be losing Lafayette's. Do you know just what you do, George Lenney?.

by V. MERRIAM

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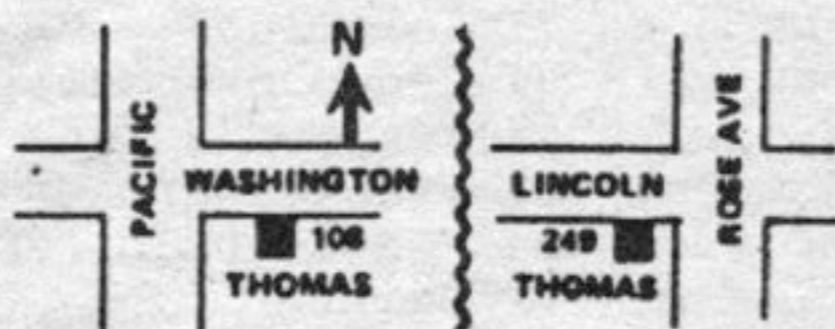
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Nuclear Double Talk

Double your warheads, Double your fun

by ANDREW LIBERMAN

On Sunday morning, June 16, 1985, the following appeared on the front page of the L.A. Times:

"The Regan Administration is developing a sweeping new foreign policy doctrine that provides for a more assertive US role in the Third World. From Nicaragua to Angola, from Afganistan to Cambodia, Administration officials say, the United States should actively -- and overtly -- back rebellions against pro-Soviet regimes."

But only the day before, on Saturday, buried in the New York Times, there was the story of another one of Reagan's infamous radio broadcasts. In a Radio "Free" Europe broadcast to the Soviet Union, the President remarked:

"We have proven to the Soviet government for over 40 years that we have peaceful intentions. The peoples of the Soviet Union should remember that America once possessed a nuclear monopoly and vast nuclear superiority. We could have used this power to dictate our political terms to the entire world, but we did not because it has never been our desire to impose our system or philosophy on others."

It is no secret now that the US has repeatedly used the nuclear threat to implement policy. In Vietnam, several times in Korea and Indochina, Berlin, Cuba, the Middle East, and Afganistan. It is disturbing though the relative silence of Americans about where we are today and where we are heading in the nuclear age.

"I think the public underestimates the fact that the risks are increasing," says Daniel Ellsberg in the current (July 85) issue of the Progressive, "partly because of the new weapons, partly because of proliferation, partly because of our intervention policies." "In my opinion, the risks are greater than the peace movement thinks, they are greater than Reagan thinks, and they are greater than the public thinks."

He goes on, "I think the world is more risky than it used to be, and I think it is more risky than most people realize, and is about to become riskier still."

Ellsberg's current reasoning is based not on Star Wars. Rather it is based on the emerging sophistication of first strike weapons by both the US and the USSR in what is termed the "reciprocal fear of surprise attack," which is imminently applicable.

"Some would say, 'Maybe it doesn't matter, after all: maybe you can get the bulk of weapons,

but the other side's are so large, what difference will it make anyway?' The trouble is, they're looking at the fact that it's stable peacetime, and they're unaware of how close we have actually come to using some nuclear weapons in crisis or limited nuclear wars. Their belief is that US presidents are far more inhibited than they have been."

And Ellsberg continues, "...now that we know unmistakably after the MX votes and Reagan's re-election how far we are from achieving literally anything, I think we have to reevaluate strategy," from the focus on stopping nuclear weapons production.

While Ellsberg speaks soundly for an immediate moratorium on testing nuclear warheads and the flight testing of ballistic missiles, he reminds us that the problem is that Americans just don't believe that the US bluff will be called on nukes.

"To be honest, as opposed to inspirational, I think it's going to be a very hard task to change public attitudes. It's rarely as discouraging as it is at this moment. The public will in principle accept even the idea of threatening nuclear weapons. If they're going to change their basic willingness to intervene, I think it's going to be because they see that this old policy--which is basically an imperial policy, though we have been trained from birth to reject the word for ourselves--has become more dangerous than it ever was before." ●

Venice Beach: and now a word from our sponsors

By Carol Fondiller

In between sky writers that purvey rock festivals, beer and suntan lotion, and the untroubled free enterprise zone on Venice Beach, Los Angeles County Supervisor Deane Dana has found a few feet of blank space with nothing for sale on it.

Supervisor Dana, who represents the Coast, and Victor Adorian, Director of L.A. County Dept. of Beaches and Harbors, hired a marketing firm early this year to find prospective advertisers to generate "needed revenue", according to Dana. Adorian and Dana hired a Washington D.C. based marketing firm, Del Wilber & Associates. The first prospective sponsor was a beer company. Supervisor Kenneth Hahn protested advertising alcohol on the beach--it's against the law to drink on the beach--even, it's presumed, if it's the brand advertised on a County life guard jacket.

The beach Ad Ordinance was pushed through with no public knowledge because it was labeled "urgent". Supervisor Dana said the urgency ordinance was necessary to get advertising underway this summer.

Not only does an urgency ordinance by-pass normal hearing procedures, it also passes in relative secrecy, doing away with the annoying delays and objections posed by residents, beach goers, etc. The ordinance takes effect immediately, as of June 17, 1985.

Bob Lagel, a planning administrator for the Coastal Commission, said, "I can't think of another county in California (that) authorizes commercial advertising on public land--particularly on the Coast".

County officials insist that the advertising will be in good taste. What does that mean? Vagisil and Crax instead of Bud and Marlboros? It is said billboards will not appear on the beaches, but could sprout on lifeguard towers and walls, and signs and rescue boats ("This rescue boat brought to you courtesy of Desinex") and uniforms. The advertising could appear on the 31-mile stretch of L.A. County beaches that Dana represents, from San Pedro to Malibu. The City of Long Beach manages it's own beaches. However, Long Beach has oil platforms on its shoreline disguised as islands with condominiums on them. So much for the taste of public officials. ●

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BOB AND ANITA ALEXANDER



CARNIVAL Continued from Page 1

At the conclusion of the legal display at the Santa Monica Pier, you see a rare sight: an armada of boats sails back to Marina del Rey, and their lights make Santa Monica Bay look for one night like a jeweled city passing in review.

I wonder why Venice has this spectacle. Does it come from the earliest days, when the carnival midway flourished while Abbott Kinney's highbrow Summer Assembly was an undistinguished failure? Or from the years that followed, when actual circuses would bivouac on the beach in Venice in the winter, and their workers live here?

That's true to a point, I think. Entertainment was always part of the Venice economy. Even after most of Los Angeles County had voted themselves dry, Venice (along with Vernon) continued to serve alcohol to the rubes and wahoos. ("The Twin Vs of Vice," newspapers dubbed Venice and Vernon.)

When prohibition arrived, the selling of alcohol in Venice moved underground--literally. The utility tunnels Abbot Kinney had the foresight to build served as nifty subterranean warehouses, and the gaming houses and saloons of Venice continued to serve the public.

Maybe there's a lesson in that. The public continued to be served, in spite of the government. The Venice City government sacked the Treasury, for instance, and the citizens eventually voted to join the relatively stable Los Angeles.

From that moment on, Venice was destined to go through a long cycle of abuse, neglect, and revival. Almost as soon as it took over Venice in 1926, Los Angeles changed the direction of Venice. Half the canals were filled in.

But it was a few years later that fate dealt Venice a worse blow. When oil was discovered on the Venice peninsula, speculators engaged in what the City later called a "mad boom," which changed the character of Venice almost overnight to a smelly, blighted oil district.

The gaiety and clamor of the Midway disappeared. Only a few bingo parlors kept the reputation of Venice as an entertainment town alive.

The increased popularity of Venice by tourists in the past ten years has come largely in spite of the City again. The best thing the City's done for Venice in the past ten years is to give responsibility for maintenance of the beach to the County, who know how to do it right apparently.

Meanwhile, the City has made few adjustments in response to the popularity of Venice. The homeless, the tourists, the residents all use the same public facilities that were built almost 20 years ago--when the City allowed an oil site on our beach, and had to spend the \$1.6 million bonus.

No drinking fountains. No benches. No restrooms. No parking. No Lafayette. No civic activities at the Pavilion on weekends or holidays in the summer.

Welcome to Venice Beach--The Eternal Carnival.

POLITICS Continued from Page 3

Later, 69 were arrested with some uncalled-for roughness by helmeted federal police.

I had no trouble joining in the demonstration at the Federal Building and feeling uplifted by it. At UCLA, I realized afterward, I had only looked on, like an observer, with half my attention on the nearest escape route.

Now, however, I must confess a problem. The UCLA performance of 100 got in all the papers. The contra protest of 500 with 69 arrests got in only the Evening Outlook. Do we have to be hostile or violent to get coverage? That's not the kind of movement I want to be part of. So I guess we just have to persist and maybe work to develop more alternate media like the L.A. Weekly and the Beachhead.

Meanwhile, back in Venice the Chamber of Commerce and West Washington Blvd. Merchants Association sponsored on June 16th a commercial festival, supposedly to mark the 80th anniversary of Venice. (If Venice has an identifiable birthday, it's July 4th.)

Free booths were offered to service organizations if they weren't political. The Venice Town Council was allowed to sell used books, but not to distribute literature from its booth in the middle of W. Washington Blvd. The Council's adversary, Councilwoman Pat Russell, rode in a motorized gondola carrying assorted dignitaries (Supervisor Dean Dana, Phil Bubar, president of the Venice Chamber of Commerce, but not Paul Freedman, chairman of the West Washington Blvd. Merchants Association). I guess elected office holders aren't political.

I mention Paul Freedman because some Peace and Freedom Party Chapter members started going to meetings of his Merchants Association at about the time that plans for the festival were starting. The Venice Chapter decided to join the Association in a spirit of neighborliness. Maybe that was our mistake: we were prompted by something other than commercial greed.

Anyway, our check was returned with a letter citing Article II, Section 2.02 of the Association by-laws: "Any non-political person, association, corporation, partnership or estate having an interest in the objectives of the organization shall be eligible to apply for membership." Then, "We would be pleased to accept your individual membership dues based on the aforementioned regulation."

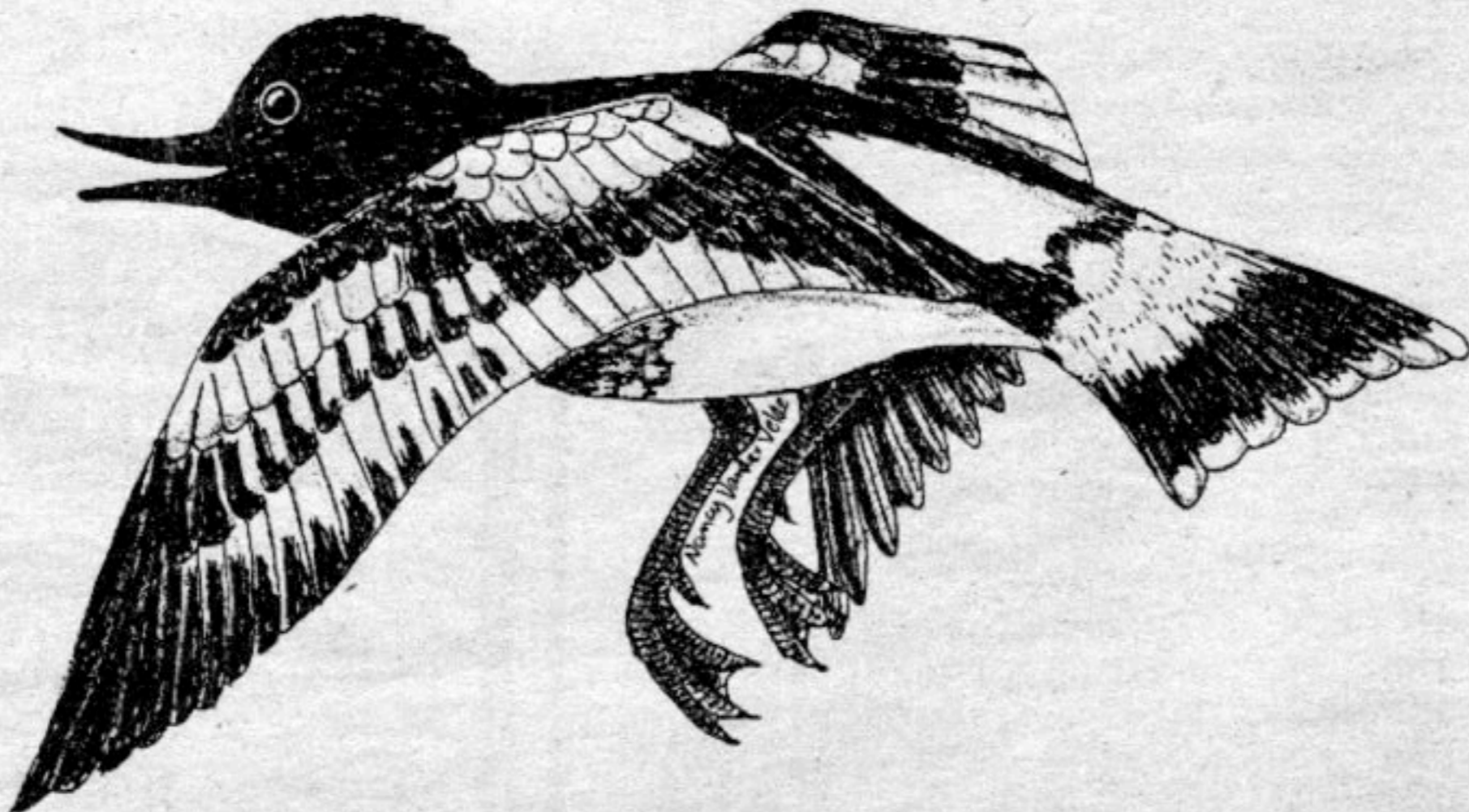
I suppose that's the editorial "we", not the royal one. In any case there's a contradiction there. How could we become non-political as individuals, when the only reason we're on West Washington Blvd. is to staff a political office? How many of you could become non-political persons?

For weeks before the festival Freedman's house on W. Washington Blvd. was plastered with signs advertising the event. But for the last week or so there was only one discreet sign. Can't help but wonder whether the Venice Chamber which was advancing all the money (for a 70% share) didn't shove Mr. Freedman into obscurity--no gondola ride? That's commerce for you, Paul.

On Hiroshima Day, August 6, there will be a vigil on the south side of Wilshire Blvd. from downtown to the ocean. It will last from noon to 2 p.m. and feature portions of an embroidered ribbon to be later wrapped around the Pentagon. Show your opposition to nuclear weapons by participating, if you can. Peace and Freedom Party people will vigil between 7th Street and Lincoln Blvd. Please join us there. For information call 396-3555.

Luke 13:25-30

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community events

RELIGION



JULY AT THE CHURCH IN OCEAN PARK
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Phone (213) 399-1631

SUNDAY MORNINGS - 10 a.m.

- July 7th** THE NOISE OF MIME: Mime Performer DAVID BELLZEY presents a series of pieces calculated to get through to you; Music by Elinor Graham; Bread by David St. John.
- July 14th** COVENANT: Just what kind of agreement is this? With JIM CONN: Music by Elinor Graham; Bread by Joan Gilmore.
- July 21st** POETS AND NEIGHBORS: Three Local Poets Erin Fitzgerald, Alec Duncan and Frances Dean Smith (who is coordinating this morning as a special birthday gift to Jim Conn); Music by Elinor Graham; Bread by Louise Dobbs.
- July 28th** FUNDAMENTALISM: What's going on in the collective unconscious of humanity? With JIM CONN: Music by Elinor Graham; Bread by Susan Hyatt.

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH, 2936 W. 8th, L.A. 389-1356, Sundays at 11am.

- July 7, MARK ROSENBAUM of ACLU will discuss "Economic Justice and the Homeless"
- July 14, DR. TOM SETTLE will discuss "Hunger and Homelessness: A Community Perspective"
- July 21, FERN STANLEY will discuss "Climbing Jacob's Ladder vs. Dancing Sarah's Circle"
- July 28, FERNANDO TAFOYA will discuss "Prison Truths and Consequences"

POLITICS



JULY 11--July meeting of the members of the VENICE TOWN COUNCIL at 7:30 pm at the Beyond Baroque Center (681 N. Venice Blvd.) The topic for July's meeting is the progress of the Rapid Transit District to relocate their Venice bus lot. Call Pat McCartney (392-7095) for info about July committee meetings.



from the Collection of Paul Tranck

July 2, Tuesday, 8pm, The MAR VISTA-VENICE Democratic Club discussion on the "community east of Lincoln Bl. Penmar Park. 3744 Barrington, for info 392-5075(eves)

MEN

LOS ANGELES MEN'S COLLECTIVE, Potluck supper and rap group, Sunday, July 7, 7pm, will discuss "Men in Transition", 1440 Harvard, Santa Monica, \$4, 396-6321.

COMMUNITY

YOU ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN AN

ON VENICE INFORMATIONAL COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

conducted by the City Planning Department to offer comments and suggestions regarding the City of Los Angeles' Annexation and Proposed Specific Plans for the Del Rey Addition 1-81 (Playa Vista). For your convenience, the workshop will be held on three occasions. The same information will be presented at each workshop.

WORKSHOP #1

Date: Sat., July 13, 1985
Time: Open House 10:00a.m. — 3p.m.
Place: Westchester Municipal Building 7166 W. Manchester Ave.

WORKSHOP #2

Date: Wed., July 17, 1985
Time: 7p.m. — 9p.m.
Place: Mark Twain Jr. High School Auditorium 2224 Walgrove Ave.

WORKSHOP #3

Date: Thurs., July 18, 1985
Time: 7p.m. — 9p.m.
Place: Westchester Municipal Building 7166 W. Manchester Ave.

ART

PHOTOGRAPHS by Wendy Lewis: Venice At Night, In Black and White, may be seen from August 1st thru Sept. 1st at Hama Sushi restaurant in the Venice Circle.



BEYOND BAROQUE LITERARY/ARTS CENTER, 681 Venice Bl, 822-3006

- July 7th, Sunday, 8pm, Poet ANNE WALDMAN will read from her works, \$5
- July 14, Sunday, 8pm, Open Reading Series continues, Free
- July 19, Friday, 8pm, BOB FLANAGAN will give a performance.

SINGLETARIANS, meet Sundays, 8pm at 1721 Arizona (near 18th) Santa Monica, 394-4318, Don.\$3.00.

- July 7, BRET LYON will discuss "Anxiety - the Pent Up Energy"
- July 14, MARK ADLER will moderate "The Male-Female Expectations in Relationships"
- July 21, BARBARA ROSENBAUM will discuss "Conscience Versus Guilt"
- July 28, Dr. ALBERT LERNER will discuss "Total Approaches to Total Well-Being"

Environment

SIERRA CLUB, Airport-Marina group will not meet in July. The groups encourages people to instead attend

L.A. LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS, "A Day in The Country" at the Piru Mansion. A fund raiser for the pro-environmental lobbying and election oriented group. The event costs \$30. Please call 826-8812 or 270-4151 for more info. The event is scheduled for July 14(Sunday). RSVP by July 8th. Guest celebrities include Joel Higgins(Silver Spoon), Ellen Blake(Hill Street Blues) and Emma Sims(Dynasty).



JULY 25th, Thursday, A public hearing will be conducted by a Hearing Examiner for the LA City Planning Commission on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the annexation of Summa's Playa Vista property. Westchester Municipal Building, 7166 W. Manchester Ave, 7PM.

VENICE BRANCH LIBRARY, SUMMER PROGRAMS for adults and children ranging free tutoring to the Book Galaxy reading club. 610 California Ave, for info call Lucille Cappas 821-1769.

WELCOME TO VENICE WALKING TOUR

WEEKLY WALKING TOUR OF VENICE
Explores Local History, Plants and Architecture.

by Paul Glover

When was Venice an independent city? When was the last time it snowed here, and where did the volcano erupt? What year did Venice's float win first prize in the Rose Parade, and what was the Purity Squad? What do you call these funny-looking trees and flowers around our houses, and when were the bungalows built? What grew here before people, and who danced the Porpoise Dance?

Are you new in town, or have you lived here half your life? The Welcome to Venice Walking Tour introduces visitors, newcomers and old-timers to an ocean of information not available in any book about Venice.

Do you remember the Venice Miniature Railway, or can you sing the Bungalow Song? Where were the oil fields and the carnation fields? Where did Mac West and Rudolph Valentino live? Where was Hopyland, and where the Toys of Satan?

What happened to the roller coasters, ferris wheel, carousel, grand stand, bandstand, midway, funhouse, ballroom, bathhouse, aquarium, Mardi Gras, gambling boats, tent city, camel rides and Man-Bat? Who filled in the old canals?

Where did Venice come from, and where is it going?

Our town rambles colorful path streets, canals and the Venice-of-America district. Hikers get complimentary maps of the old canals and a facsimile cover of the Venice Daily Vanguard, our first local newspaper.

The three-mile trek costs \$10.00 per person, or \$5.00 for kids, retired and unemployed. Special group rates and excursions are available.

This weekly event is a project of Citizen Planners, a group promoting solar power, urban agriculture, trolleys, biking and walking. Guide is author of Amazing Los Angeles and Los Angeles: A History of the Future.

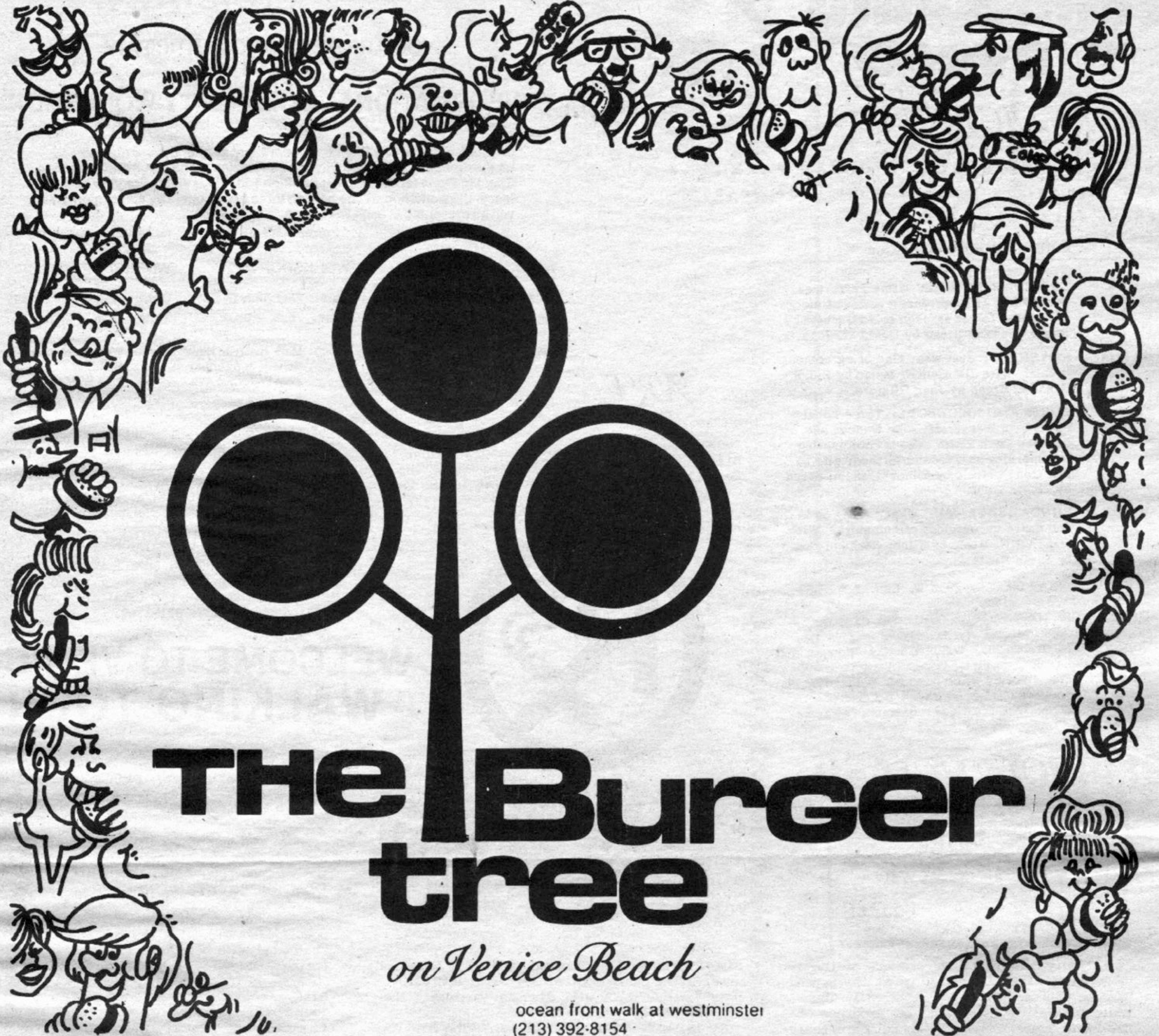
We begin every Wednesday by the flower shop at the corner of Lincoln and Venice Boulevards. For more information call 821-1478.

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