



NEWSLETTER

December 2023

HACIENDA HEIGHTS IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION-Post Office Box 5235-Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

VICE PRESIDENTS CORNER

The community of Hacienda Heights, like our organization, struggled with differing opinions regarding homelessness, improving our roads and infrastructure, and questioning whether our Board of Supervisors were listening. Deep in the heart of our community are best wishes for health, happiness, and the safety of our families. The HHIA strived each month in our ongoing efforts to provide a venue where HHIA members and residents could come once a month to share those concerns.

The success of any organization rests with its membership and how that membership stays involved. To that end this year, and contained in this newsletter, is information on our elections and one of the largest number of nominees who have accepted the challenge to possibly sit as a volunteer on the board as a Director starting on January 24, 2024. The decision on who will be those Directors is based on your votes.

In this new year there could possibly be up to eight brand new Directors; guaranteed five new Directors. What does this mean? "CHANGE". The HHIA understands that to stay current and meet the challenges of the future for Hacienda Heights there must be board members that cannot be focused on a single issue, there are many opportunities for change in HH and twelve voices heard by its members is important.

The HHIA Board of Directors wishes all of its members and all residents of HH a very Merry Christmas, hopes for a prosperous New Year, and encouragement to show an overwhelming demonstration of care, compassion, and concern for the well-being and good health for all.

January 17, 2024: 2024 HHIA Annual Business Meeting/Dinner at the HH Community Center

HHIA Members:

To comply with our Bylaws to hold an Annual Business Meeting we will meet at the Hacienda Heights Community Center. This newsletter serves as your invitation as a member. Please see the flyer in the following pages. Invitations will be sent out to the following elected officials:

- 1st District Supervisor Hilda Solis
- 38th Congressional Dist. Congresswoman Linda Sanchez
- 30th State Senate District Senator Bob Archuleta
- 56th State Assembly District Assembly Member Lisa Calderon

Introductions to our Public Safety Liaisons will Include:

- Deputy Jose Ruano, LA Co. Sheriff's Department, Industry Station,
- Ofc./PIO Zachary Salazar, CA Highway Patrol

Other evening activities will include entertainment from Jay Munns, tallying the ballots and announcing your board for 2024, recognition of outgoing board members, the Presidents Report, Accomplishments in 2023, projects under way, and goals for this coming New Year. Volunteer support will again be provided by young members of the Kiwins and Key Club. Thanks to the LA Co. Department of Parks & Recreation for the use of the HH Community Center.

ELECTION INFORMATION ENCLOSED

Nomination and Election of Directors

The HHIA Board of Directors are nominated and voted on as described below. Provided are the names of three incumbents and seven eligible HHIA members. Those incumbents are Andrea Gordon, John Ford, and Steven Wu. HHIA members nominated are Bala Venkataraman, Jess Montes, Alitzah Wiener, Ann Ellis-Hall, Michael Wang, David Fang, and Fong-Fei Lee. Three Board Members will end their terms: Geri Kleinpell & Scott Martin (termed out) and Randy Black & Cindy Greenup (choosing to step down from the board).

As a result there will be an election. Contained in this newsletter will be: a ballot containing instructions, an envelope to return your completed ballot in, and biographies of the incumbents and nominees. The Nominating Committee urges you as a member(s) to vote for up to eight (8) names on the ballot. We also urge you to vote soon and mail your completed ballot sealed in the provided envelope ASAP. Second option is to hand deliver your ballot envelope at the December 18, 2023, General Membership Meeting. Lastly, you can hand deliver your sealed ballot envelope when you arrive at the Annual Business Meeting.

2024 Election: Nominee Biographies

Nominee: **R. Ann Ellis-Hall**

Ann has been a resident of Hacienda Heights since 1981, for over 42 years. She is currently a Commissioner to the Assessment Appeals Board appointed by Supervisor Hilda Solis. Ann has been serving this community as a Broker/Realtor since 1992 and knows the needs of this community well. She is also an active member in many other community non-profits and organizations such as the Hacienda Heights Woman's Club, Hacienda La Puente Unified School District and the local Board of Realtors.

Nominee: **David Fang**

David has been a resident of Hacienda Heights for over 30 years. He is a practicing attorney and is a member of the American Bar Association and California Bar Association. He has served as an advisor of Congresswoman Judy Chu and former Calif State Treasurer John Chiang. In 2016 he was invited to the White House by President Obama. He has been involved in several international legal organizations and received many prestigious awards. He is active in our community and has served 2 terms as President of The Hacienda Heights Chinese American Association.

Nominee: **John Ford**

Incumbent and current President of HHIA. John has completed 2 terms with HHIA. He was secretary his 1st term. John has lived in Hacienda Heights for over 30 years. He has attended Los Altos Elementary, Newton Middle School and Los Altos High School. He is married with 2 children who attend the local public schools. John is a Broker and Realtor serving our community.

Nominee: **Andrea Gordon**

She was appointed to the HHIA Board in 2020 to fill a vacancy. She is the Chair of the Public Safety Committee with HHIA. She is retired from law enforcement.

Nominee: **Jess Montes**

Jess has been a resident of Hacienda Heights for over 32 years. He is the President of the Board of the YMCA. He worked actively with the Whittier Museum, Hispanic Outreach Taskforce HOT, SPIRIT Family Service and Jovenes. He enjoys being active in these non-profits. He has worked in sales and owned a popular nightclub, La Pantera Rosa in Montebello. He is now retired and would like to devote more time to serve our community.

Nominee: **Faye (Fong-Fei) Lee**

Fong Fei has been a resident of Hacienda Heights for over 28 years. Her children attended schools in the HLPUSD and she actively participated in their meetings. She worked as a translator at the Puti Meditation Center. She is very concerned about the crime in our community and is an active supporter of TACF (Together Against Crime Foundation). Before retiring, she was a scientist in the food preparation industry. She was involved in administration, managing, manufacturing and marketing.

Nominee: **Bala Venkataraman**

Bala has been a resident of Hacienda Heights for 26 years. He is originally from India and has earned a master's degree in chemical engineering. He has worked as a business analyst/finance manager for several food companies. He retired as a Finance Manager in 2022. He was past president and still active in many cultural organizations that has coordinated and hosted music and theater events.

Nominee: **Michael Wang**

Michael has been a resident of Hacienda Heights for 31 years. He graduated from Brigham Young University with a Masters in Civil Engineering. As a Structural Engineer, he has worked with architects and contractors and evaluated seismic upgrades.

Nominee: **Alitzah Wiener**

Alitzah has lived in Hacienda Heights almost all of her life, since she was 5 years old. She grew up here and attended the public schools in the HLPUSD. Also, her father was a teacher for 50 years in the HLPUSD. She is currently an accomplished entertainer – Billboard Charting Gold Record Recording Artist, starred in multiple TV shows and lent her voice to numerous commercials and cartoons. She is the President of The Young Entertainer Awards. She loves this community and wants to bring everyone together for one common goal...for the love of Hacienda Heights.

Nominee: **Steven Wu**

Steven is an incumbent HHIA Board Member. He has just completed his 1st term as an HHIA Board Member. Dr. Steven Wu is a practicing gastroenterologist and has lived in Hacienda Heights for over 18 year. He has worked with the Hsi Lai Temple giving disease wellness talks. He has also done charity work on behalf of organizations like the American Cancer Society.

Thank you Nominees for staying involved in your organization!



Annual 4th of July “I Love America” Parade

The HHIA wants to thank the Kiwanis for coordinating and sponsoring the Annual 4th of July Parade. The HHIA, using an idea offered by Randy Black, HHIA Secretary, displayed our efforts to be guardians of our environment by having three Tesla's in this year's parade introduced by our HHIA banner. The Tesla's were Red, White, and Blue in color showing our patriotism of our Nation's Flag and its colors. We want to thank the following for their volunteerism and support of this years HHIA entry: Tesla Owners – Lou Villapando, Jim Kleinpell, and Randy Black. Banner carriers: Matthew Chang, Sabrina Chang, and Andrew Chang; all residents of HH.



We want to also recognize HHIA Board Members (shown in picture) who staffed the HHIA information table in Steinmetz Park following the parade: Julie Tan and Adriana Quinones.



HHIA December 2023 Newsletter Editor:
Adriana Quinones
Co-Editor: Scott Martin

Membership Corner

By: Geri Kleinpell

How Do I Become a HHIA Member?

A Membership Application can be downloaded on the HHIA website (www.hhia.net) on the right side of the home page. Click on "Membership Application".

Please complete a form and mail it with your check to the address on the application. Membership cycle: July 1 thru June 30 of the following year.

Know Your Community Representatives

Ryan Serrano
 Office of Supervisor Hilda Solis
 1st District, LA Co. Board of Supervisors
RSerrano@bos.lacounty.gov
 (909) 593-3661

Anabel Cuevas
 Office of Congresswoman Linda Sanchez
 38th Congressional District
Anabel.cuevas@mail.house.gov
 (562) 860-5050

Kyle Miller
 Office of Senator Bob Archuleta
 30th Senate District
Kyle.miller@sen.ca.gov
 562-406-1001

Office of Assemblymember Lisa Calderon
 56th State Assembly District
<https://a56.asmdc.org>
 562-692-5858

Public Safety/Law Enforcement

Deputy Jose Ruano
 LA Co Sheriff's Department
 626-934-3052
jaruano@lasd.org

Officer/PIO Zachary Salazar
 California Highway Patrol
 562-868-0503
Zachary.Salazar@chp.ca.gov



HHIA Elections:

Eight (8) Board Positions are open for election.

You may vote for eight or less candidates. Eligible candidates must have been an HHIA Member in good standing for at least 6 months prior to January 1, 2024. Each household is entitled to one (1) vote. In the case of a married couple or registered domestic partners living at the same address, only one (1) ballot may be placed in the envelope provided.

The ballot below must be placed in the enclosed HHIA self-addressed envelope. A Member must print their address and sign the return envelope in the upper left corner. This is only for the purpose of verifying your membership and can in no way be used to identify your ballot.

All ballots must be returned on or before the Annual Meeting on January 17, 2024. You may mail or bring the ballot to the Annual Meeting in the enclosed envelope. Only 1 ballot per household.

We urge you to exercise your right to vote. Those elected will represent the Hacienda Heights Improvement Association and our community, of which we are all a part.

Regards,

Geri Kleinpell

Geri Kleinpell, Nominating Committee Chairperson

Official Ballot - Check to select 8 or less (cut along line)

R. Ann Ellis-Hall, Nominee _____

David Fang, Nominee _____

John Ford, Incumbent _____

Andrea Gordon, Incumbent _____

Faye (Fong-Fei) Lee, Nominee _____

Jess Montes, Nominee _____

Bala Venkataran, Nominee _____

Michael Wang, Nominee _____

Alitzah Wiener, , Nominee _____

Steven Wu, Incumbent _____

THIS
PAGE
INTENTIONALLY
LEFT
BLANK



Please Join us at the

Annual Business Meeting & Dinner

of the

Hacienda Heights Improvement Association

Wednesday - January 17, 2024 – Doors Open at 5:00 PM
Program Ends at 8:00 PM

Location: Hacienda Heights Community Center
1234 Valencia Ave., H.H., CA 91745

Have Dinner With Us Donated/Supported by Local Businesses and Organizations:
(Free to HHIA Members / \$20.00 for *Non-Members)

The Evening Will Include:

- Recognition of Outgoing Board Members & Accomplishments
- Introduction of the 2024 Board of Directors
- Introduction of Elected Officials / Special Guests
- President / Committee Chair Annual Reports
- Entertainment

*\$20.00 Can Be Applied to Joining the HHIA as an Annual Member (\$40 annual dues) renewing in June 2024 OR \$60 Can Be Applied to Joining the HHIA as an Annual Member renewing in June 2025

HHIA is an IRS 501(c)(4) non-profit civic organization. Donations are not tax deductible. They may be a business expense, consult a qualified tax advisor for more information.

Hacienda Heights Improvement Association
P.O. Box 5235
Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
Industry, CA
Permit No.
5171

HHIA Board of Directors and Committee Chairs:

Officers:

President	John Ford	john.ford@hhia.net
Vice-President	Scott Martin	scott.martin@hhia.net
Treasurer	Julie Tan	julie.tan@hhia.net
Secretary	Randy Black	randy.black@hhia.net

Committee/Directors as Chairperson:

Streets & Highways	Jeffrey Lin	jeffrey.lin@hhia.net
Membership	Geri Kleinpell	geri.kleinpell@hhia.net
Water & Utilities	Scott Martin	scott.martin@hhia.net
Environmental Improvement		
Parks & Recreation		
Public Safety	Andrea Gordon	aghhia11@gmail.com
Code Enforcement	Steven Wu	steven.wu@hhia.net
Zoning		
Public Relations	Adriana Quinones	adriana_quinones.hhia@yahoo.com
Newsletter	Adriana Quinones	
Website Administrator	Randy Black	info@hhia.net