

## **2013 Picnic**

Ideas for improvement

Problem:

Two weeks prior to the picnic happens to be election season, so people are already wary of political campaigners knocking on their doors. Consequently when we knock on doors to ask homeowners for permission to put a picnic sign on their property, people tend to answer the door expecting to have to dispense with a pest and already psyched up to say no. So we have an uphill battle to overcome that negativity.

Suggested solution:

Scout out good locations for signs and banners four weeks prior to the picnic, choosing twice as many locations as we have signs allowing that we'll only be granted permission to place the signs at about 50% of the locations. Mail letters to those houses asking for permission. Then two weeks prior to the picnic, we'll know where we can put up the signs without having to knock on doors.

Wooden frame for banner?

### **PayPal news:**

It turns out that a 501(c)(4) organization does not qualify for the special non-profit rate. Only 501(c)(3) organizations qualify. So we are still not getting our special non-profit rate. Consequently we will be charged the standard rate (2.9% + \$0.30 yielding \$0.88 for a \$20.00 membership).

### **To Be Done ASAP (high priority)**

ISSUE: There is very old and incorrect info at <http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/glendale-ca/rcpoa> (dating from 2001). To remove it asks for user name and password. When people do a google search for RCPOA this often comes up.

### **Proposal**

Open a facebook or Twitter account for an RCPOA Neighborhood Watch "alerts" page. The newsletter should inform residents that it exists and encourage them to use it. Social Media applications are much more suited than a web site for propagating up-to-the-minute news.

## **Todd's tasks (highest priority, listed roughly in descending priority)**

Merge Richard's 6/09 spreadsheets into the "master residents" spreadsheet and update the database accordingly.

Add email addresses that Leanne sent to the "master residents" spreadsheet and update the database accordingly.

Implement "Manage Invoices", "Manage Calendar" and "Manage Households" administration pages.

Get membership\_roster.pdf hooked up to the database. It still uses a tab-delimited text file as its data source causing extra work for me to keep it up to date.

Fix Security Vulnerability: Deactivate user after X login attempts with wrong password.

The "Edit User" page needs a pop-up or alert window to explain password policy.

PHP: Use mbstring for UTF-8 support. i.e., to get multibyte unicode characters (such as the ñ in La Cañada) into the database, back out of the database and displayed in html.

The calendar page should have a date range selector so past events can be displayed if desired.

Delete the inactive dummy accounts and "unconfirmed" dummy invoices created during testing and demonstration.

Post recent treasurer reports (financial statements that Richard emailed on 03/17).

Replace PMM (Pop-Menu Magic, used for the drop down menus) with jQuery. (jQuery works on all browsers, it's open source and actively maintained.)

Configure the Raid Controller to email me if a drive is predicted to fail or has failed. This will require setting up a Mail Transfer Agent (probably postfix) on the web server which is not an insignificant task. At the very least can I check it once a week and determine if a drive has failed?

## **Later (lower priority)**

Implement a "frameless mode" or "minimal frame mode" for slideshows so that photographs can be viewed larger without the frame taking up so much of the screen.

The ByLaws page is made with HTML exported from Microsoft Word and is thus extremely difficult to comprehend and edit. Redo it from scratch. Make indentation sensible to improve readability.

## **Would be nice**

Seasonal skins for the page frame. This is a no-brainer. It's quite easy to do (if photos or artwork are provided) and will keep the site looking new every few months.

Group-specific pages and perhaps slide shows for Interest Groups. (So far no-one has provided any content.) This could even be as simple as providing a link to externally hosted content like photo galleries on Instagram, Flickr, Picasa, etc., or an Interest Group blog on blogspot.com. This would also remove me as a bottleneck if a volunteer has the time and desire to post content.

Set up MediaWiki to be used as a knowledge base. Board members and volunteers can post procedures for yearly tasks such as picnic preparation, etc.

Use a Content Management System to let visitors post comments, etc.

Gather palm tree planting photos for a slide show. It would be nice to preserve this for decades from now when the trees are tall and this event will be considered historical.

## **Maybes**

Historical content on the web site: (Do we wish to provide it?)

Newsletters, treasurer reports, board meeting minutes, annual meeting minutes, event photos?

Should we ask past board members for historical content that none of the current board members have?

## **Rainy day technical improvements**

Add `<label for="id">` to all form labels (can be explicit with `for=""` or implicit by containing input within label tags). (THIS MAY ALREADY BE DONE)

Replace all references to entities such as `&ldquo;` with decimal equivalents. Here's why: (Why not hex equivalents?)

<http://www.dwheeler.com/essays/quotes-in-html.html>

Get HTML5 compliant and do away with deprecated crap: Only lowercase element names; Styles or CSS instead of `<b>`, `<i>`, `<u>`, `<h1>`, `<h2>`, etc.

Replace `<b>` and `<i>` with `<span style="font-style:bold;">` and `<span style="font-style:italic;">`

Non-breaking space in Unicode (For del Rio)

<http://www.cs.tut.fi/~jkorpela/chars/spaces.html>

Unicode Character 'NO-BREAK SPACE' (U+00A0)

UTF-8 (hex)    `0xC2 0xA0` (c2a0)