



## ***2008 FLOAT NOTES***

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING:**  
**SUNDAY, MAY 18TH, 5 P.M.**  
**FLOAT BARN**

### **President's Message:**

2008 is a leap year and as of our upcoming May 18<sup>th</sup> meeting date, 37.98% of the year has past leaving only 227 days to complete our float.

Our May 18<sup>th</sup> meeting at 5:00PM follows the "SELF-BUILT GET TOGETHER", which we are hosting this year at the barn, commencing at noon. Please plan on attending the get together, work on the float and attend the general meeting.

April has been quite busy with construction well underway. Bingo on Saturday April 19<sup>th</sup>, was well attended with over 220 people enjoying Bingo Boy and the "Fabulous Belle-Aire".

The month finished off in flames as the fire starting near the top of Santa Anita in Arcadia decided that it would head west. Close to 600 hundred acres burned, fortunately no homes lost, except for one out structure. At one point over 1000 fire personnel were involved, with total containment finally on Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Sierra Vista Park was used for the Police and Fire Command Center. The entire parking lot from the street to the Barn was used for strike team staging. There up to 40 fire trucks in the parking lot and street from cities 100's of miles away.

Watching the water dropping support helicopters reload from the settling ponds adjacent to the barn. It was very impressive to see the entire helicopter except for the blades disappear into the pond and then re-emerge filled with water.

SMRFA was able to support the fire-fighting effort, utilizing our "flower" refrigerated trailer for the storage of ice; 2,000 pounds delivered on Sunday from Union Ice Co. and thousands of bottles of water delivered by Home Depot. The weather was quite warm

Our next major fund raising event is the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend community parade and picnic. This year the 4<sup>th</sup> is on a Friday. More details to follow. We will need everyone's help preparing and selling roses during the parade and selling/cooking the food booth. More details

See you May 18<sup>th</sup>.

### **Self Built Pot Luck-Sunday May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008:**

SMRFA will be hosting the annual Self-Built Pot Luck this year at Noon at the Barn. Downey, South Pasadena, Burbank, La Canada and Cal Poly associations have been invited. We will supply hamburgers and tri-tip sandwiches along with beverages.

Please plan to attend and hear all about everyone's 2009 float plans and progress. This is a great opportunity share construction and floral decoration ideas.

### **Construction Committee:**

We missed last Sunday due to the fires in the foothills. The Fire departments had taken over the park for staging so rather than get in their way we called it off. Saturday had been productive as usual, so it wasn't entirely lost.

Chassis-

We have the rear end and transfer box back and re-installed and they are really nice. The gear noise is completely gone and they were smooth as silk during our road test.

We expect to have the last two of our new one-piece rims soon and are looking forward to getting some tires for them. We'll have them mounted and installed by the fourth of July if we get it all together in time.

Superstructure-

## **Construction Committee (continued):**

### Superstructure-

We have the extra length "fingers" made up and mounted on the rear. They really bring home just how long a float we're building this year.

We've also begun the support steel for the upper deck. Perimeter shaping is next for that level, then on to the lower levels.

The pencil work is going steadily on as well. We hope to have some of it mounted for the fourth.

### Barn-

More thanks to Mr. Miller as he finished up our additions of both regular and welding outlets to the float bay sides of the two big I-beams in the kitchen area. This is a welcome addition as we can now work on that side of our floats without having to usurp the kitchen outlets. It'll also mean far fewer cords underfoot there.

### Hours-

We'll be continuing the "10:00 am 'til whenever" hours on Saturdays and Sundays for May that worked out so well in March & April. As always, arrangements for other times may be made with me at [ds6@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ds6@sbcglobal.net) or 323-256-0857.

Dick

## **Design & Decoration Committee:**

We will be doing mainly two things this month. Working on the floral/dry material orders and re-doing the upstairs storage areas. The upstairs cupboards have been re-arranged and we are building 3 shelving units to consolidate the various storage arrangements that are up there. Come on by and join in the activities, we'd love to see you.

Deco is currently working Sundays from 10 am - 6 pm

K

## **Volunteers:**

We have just finished with a very successful Legendary Bingo. I think it works so well because of the many volunteers who chip in so many ways. The prize baskets are fantastic; full of wonderful items, many donated by our members, and beautifully wrapped also by our members.

The merchants in our area are generous to a fault, with several attending Bingo and bringing others. Our next big fundraiser is July 4th. It's an exhausting experience, but brings in money and goodwill in the community. Last year we were able to get most of the food items donated, and would like to do the same this year. Let me know if you have any ideas to accomplish that.

At the barn there has been a great deal of moving of storage upstairs, and we can use help getting everything repositioned before it gets unbearable hot. We of course can always use help in checking supplies once we decide what is needed for our next fabulous float.

I'm looking for information on all things Bollywood, so tell me what you know about it. I'm already having fun with our float theme, and expect to be wearing my Indian attire more and more (very comfortable). Lets think of things to showcase our organization and our float in the community and HAVE SOME FUN!

Bonnie Colcher  
Volunteer Coordinator

## **Current 2008 Barn Construction and Deco Hours:**

For May, the Barn will be open Saturdays and Sundays only, 10AM till 5PM

Construction: Saturdays & Sunday

Deco: Sundays Only

## **Fundraising/Informational Activities:**

### **Corfu Restaurant-Sierra Madre:**

For SMRFA members only and an ongoing promotion, CORFU Restaurant in Sierra Madre will rebate 10% meals proceeds ordered each month to the Association. To earn the rebate, customers must identify themselves as Association members when ordering. The restaurant will handle the rest and send us a check at the end of the month. This program is effective now. Thank you to Bonnie for making this opportunity happen.

### **Mother's Day Heart Box Sale:**

Due to time constraints, we have decided to forego the Mother's Day Heart Box sales. We will repeat the Valentine's Day heart box sale in 2009.

### **July 4<sup>th</sup> Community Parade and Picnic:**

More details to follow next month. In the interim, please save Thursday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> and Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup> to help us with rose sales and working in the food booth.

### **2008 Appeal Letter:**

We are now in the process of updating our Appeal Letter data base. So far, 550 name and address changes for Sierra Madre residents have been made.

If you know of a family, organization or business who expressed interest in our efforts, I would like to add their names and address to our Appeal Letter database.

Thanks, Don

### **Sierra Madre Rose Float Association Website:**

The new SMRFA website is now up and running, [www.sierramadrosefloat.com](http://www.sierramadrosefloat.com) Please check it out and if you see any needed changes, please let Don Mills know. The old site URL (web address), (aka, org,) has been linked to the new site.

## **Next General Meeting:**

**Sunday, June 15th, 5:00pm at the Barn**