



UPPER EAST ASSOCIATION SANTA BARBARA

Upper East News

Fall 2023

<https://sbuppereast.org>

Upper East Association Mission Statement

*To preserve and enhance the spirit
and essence of this historic
neighborhood and its quality of life.*

A Message from Board Co-presidents Rod Hersberger and Steve Forsell

Your Upper East Association Board has been busy and diligent over the past year regarding several important issues affecting our neighborhood. Updates on several of these matters are included in this our year-end newsletter, which is being distributed in an online format rather than in the print format of the past. The content is unchanged – informative updates on topics of neighborhood impact or interest – but as a cost saving measure, we are not mailing a printed newsletter.

The UEA budget has not been immune to the pressures of inflation we are all experiencing. In that context it has become necessary in 2024 to have a small increase in annual dues from \$25 to \$35. Your Board is committed to maintaining the services the UEA has offered for many years and achieving the results you expect.

The annual UEA meeting is scheduled for Saturday, November 4, 3:00–5:00 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church on the corner of State Street and Constance Avenue. You will not want to miss Santa Barbara Maritime Museum Executive Director Greg Gorga's presentation. Look for an invitation with more details in the mail. Please join your neighbors for a time of friendship and fellowship.

Thank you to all who responded to the UEA survey regarding the future of State Street as reported elsewhere in this newsletter. Like the City Council itself, respondents were divided about reopening State Street to cars and limiting bicycles.

The Board continues to monitor other issues that affect the neighborhood and will provide input to elected officials as appropriate. If you have issues or ideas or would like to serve on the board, you may contact us at sbuppereast.org/contact.

Thank you to all our Board members and staff for their work this year. We hope everyone has a pleasant holiday season and a healthy new year. Meanwhile, we look forward to seeing you November 4 at the annual meeting!

Steve Forsell Rod Hersberger

Please join us for the Upper East Association Annual Membership* Meeting

Saturday, November 4, 2023

3-5pm

First Presbyterian Church
Corner of State St. & E. Constance Ave.

**Featured speaker: Greg Gorga
Executive Director, SB Maritime Museum**

Light refreshments will be served

RSVP by October 31 to:

board@sbuppereast.org

** New members may join at the door for \$35*

New Member Category Created

As a result of the UEA work to obtain landmark designation of the State Street landscape parkway and Pinto Palms, which involved property owners along both sides of the street, property owners on the west side of State Street requested to become members of the UEA. While the west side of State Street is just outside the officially recognized boundaries of the UEA, at its June meeting the UEA board unanimously approved a new membership category that will allow property owners on the west side of State Street to become "Associate Members." This will not violate the association's bylaws-approved boundaries. We look forward to welcoming the Associate Members to our annual meeting and other activities.



*State Street Landscape Median
Watercolor by Fred Sweeney*

State Street UEA Member Survey Results

On September 6 Fred Sweeney representing the UEA board spoke at the State Street Advisory Committee meeting to report the highlights of the recent UEA survey regarding downtown Santa Barbara. He shared that in an email survey of 337 members we asked our membership for their views of current conditions on State Street.

We received a response rate of over 50% within just a few days, with a majority of respondents concerned about the "wild west" condition of bicycles, skateboards, and zoom bikes on the street, as well as

the continued excessive number of homeless individuals in the area, particularly at night. The other major concern was the shabby condition of most of the temporary "parklets." The detailed survey results, including 12 pages of comments, were shared with the committee members, staff, the mayor and all council members.

History Corner

World War I Romance on Anacapa Street

**American Colonial Home in Santa Barbara
Built in 1920**

By Betsy J. Green



ADDRESS: 1924 Anacapa Street

The Newlyweds Build a Home

World War I was over, they were married six months later, and the next year it was time to build their first home. Lieutenant Leland Morris Crawford, a young attorney, was originally from Santa Paula but had fallen in love with a young lady in Tacoma, Washington, near Camp Lewis, where he had trained in 1917. He was with the Army in Belgium on November 11, 1918, the day that Armistice was declared. He and his men were poised for an attack at 9:45 in the morning. At 9:30, they got word that the war was over, and they breathed a sigh of relief.

It took a while to get the American troops back home after the war had ended. Lt. Crawford was back in

May 1919. He married the young lady in Tacoma and resigned his commission. His bride was Mae Elizabeth McCormack, daughter of a successful Tacoma merchant and was a graduate of Stanford University.



*Leland and Mae Crawford's wedding photo
Courtesy of Leland Crawford III*

They settled in Santa Barbara and looked around for a suitable location for their first real home. They found a lot at 1924 Anacapa Street just down from Mission Street. It's not clear if the Crawfords hired a local architect – the 1920 building permit index only lists the name of the builder. He was Elmer J. Moody, the father of the Moody sisters, who designed cottages in the 1930s. The estimated cost for the home was \$4,500.

Leland was a successful attorney and also served as deputy coroner. Mae was active in local groups such



*Mrs. Crawford at the front door
Courtesy of Leland Crawford III*

as the American Association of University Women and was a charter member of the Assistance League. The Crawfords had three children when they lived in the home. In 1929, to accommodate their growing family, they built a large addition on the back of the home. They lived in the home until about 1934, when they moved to a home on Junipero Plaza.



Mae Crawford and the children: Elizabeth, Leland, and Eleanore, Courtesy of Leland Crawford III

Vintage Photos are a Treasure

I'm always looking for vintage photos when I research old houses, but they're not easy to find. This time, I got lucky. I managed to find the grandson of Leland Morris Crawford who sent me some photos of his grandparents.

The relatives and descendants of former owners of your home are some of the best sources of old photos. One way to find them is by checking genealogy websites. In fact, one chapter in my book *Discovering the History of Your House* is titled "Take a Genealogist to Lunch."

Most people who live in older homes love to find old photos of their home or the families who lived there years ago. If you have old family photos of a former home, why not send a copy to the current homeowner? You could make someone very happy. Start a trend!

After the Crawfords moved out a series of families occupied the home until the mid-1960s when Neil and Dorothy J. Pier bought the home. They stayed there for 10 years. In the mid-1970s, Whitney Newland bought the home as an investment, and it was occupied by renters for about 25 years. Finally, in 2001, he and his wife Judy moved in. They told me that they liked that the home is close to town, and they were especially happy with the home's three fireplaces. "We feel spoiled," they said.



American Colonial Revival Style

The house is a Designated Structure of Merit in the City of Santa Barbara, which states "The building exemplifies the American Colonial Revival style, which is an important style to the City. The building at 1924 Anacapa has American Colonial Revival elements beginning with the arched portico supported by slender posts and brackets, and the heavy wooden semi-arched door that helps contribute to the symmetrical appearance of the American Colonial Revival style."

There are more than 25 Structures of Merit on Anacapa Street. Overall, there are about 400 homes and buildings on this list. Of these only about 10 are American Colonial Style. They were built between the years 1906 to 1938. This list is available online.

Please do not disturb the residents of 1924 Anacapa Street. This article originally appeared in the [Santa Barbara Independent](#).

If you own an older home that you would like me to write about in my Great House Detective column in the *Independent*, you can get in touch through the contact page of my website: betsyjgreen.com.

Join or Renew Your Membership

We live in one of the most beautiful neighborhoods in the city of Santa Barbara. We invite you to become a new member* or to renew your membership in the Upper East Association, which serves three key roles in our neighborhood:

1. Monitor local government initiatives affecting the Upper East and keep our members informed.
2. Provide a coordinated voice for Upper East residents in communicating with local government officials.
3. Promote activities to beautify our neighborhood, celebrate our history and advocate for neighborhood issues.

***Membership is open to all property owners in the Upper East.**

Sign up here to join or renew:

sbuppereast.org/membership

Membership Fee Increase for 2024

As we are all aware inflation is everywhere. Unfortunately, your Upper East Association is no exception. Our costs have increased across the board. Therefore, it is necessary for us to raise our annual membership fees in 2024 from \$25 to \$35. It has been many years since we had a fee increase. Your Board feels that this minimal increase is necessary to continue to provide the services you expect from the UEA. Thank you for your understanding and continuing support.

Current UEA Board and Staff

Rod Hersberger, Co-president & Treasurer
Steve Forsell, Co-president
Fred Sweeney, Secretary
Beth Perry, Annual Newsletter
Deb Trauntvein, Membership Communications
Jim Morouse
Ryan Newell
Michael O'Connell
Pat Saley
Eric Torbet, Database/Website Consultant