



Volume 2, Issue 3 + Grant Park Neighbors is a special project of Ante Meridiem, Inc., a 501(c)3 California Non-Profit Corporation + Spring 2020

## Neighborhood History: Market Street

In the spirit of getting to know our neighbors better and learning more about our neighborhood's history, GPN is conducting interviews with longtime residents.



### Interview with Tina Slosberg

**Grant Park Neighbors:** *How long have you lived here?*

**Tina:** Ken and I moved to Laguna Beach from New England in 1974. On a vacation we discovered Santa Cruz. We fell in love with the yellow house, bought it in 1980 and raised our two children here.

**GPN:** *What was so special about the house?* **T:** It still has the original redwood floors, Victorian scroll work, old fixtures – it reminded us of New England homes.

**GPN:** *In 1990 you wrote a chapter for Every Structure Tells a Story, published by Santa Cruz Historical Trust. Your chapter, Brewery to Farmhouse tells the story of your property, starting with the Big*

*Trees Brewery next-door, that was owned by Carl Beck, and operated from 1892 to 1906.* **T:** When we moved in the sliding barn doors where the horses were kept who pulled the beer barrel wagons were still evident in the basement.

**GPN:** *What's it like to live by the creek?* **T:** I love living on the creek. We love hearing coyotes and lots of birds, and watching the changing seasons. The other night we heard raccoons fighting in the creek.

**GPN:** *I know you've been very involved with leading neighbors in looking after the creek. What got you so involved?* **T:** In 2000 the City Council formed the San Lorenzo River Task Force to "benefit the river." I joined, mostly because I lived by the creek and wanted to see how we might contribute to that effort. After the Task Force submitted its report to the City in 2003, I then formed **Neighbors of Branciforte Creek**, which included current City Council Member, Donna Meyers. Today, three of our original group still monitor the water quality of the creek every other month. We report the findings to Coastal Watershed Council. The creek's water quality is pretty good.

**T (cont.):** We supplied clean bags for dogs in dispensers along the path and organized 25 volunteers to do clean-up days, which went on for four to five years. A local elementary school teacher, Barbara Novelli, brought her students from Branciforte School to help with the clean-up and restoration. One of projects was to plant a mini-park across from the corner of Market and Water Streets.

**GPN:** *How has the path along the creek changed since you've been there?* **T:** Currently, the graffiti isn't too bad. The creek is in pretty good shape, thanks to neighbors and the City's anti-graffiti crew.

**GPN:** *What would you like to see improved in the Branciforte Creek area?* **T:** There used to be trash bins behind the Market Street Senior Center so we could dispose of trash along the path at that end. Maybe put in some historic signage about the creek, maybe a couple of benches by the creek. It's nice to see that neighbors are planting flowers along the path. Someday it would be good to replace the chain-link fence with something more aesthetic.

**GPN:** *GPN has gotten the County to agree to assign a Downtown Streets Team to patrol our streets and do clean up. Do you think it would be a good idea to have them patrol the creek area?* **T:** Could be helpful on a regular basis.

**GPN:** *Anything else you'd like to say to your neighbors about the creek?* **T:** It's always good to see more neighbors using the path; it helps keep an eye on things.



### Vision Statement

Grant Park Neighbors (GPN) will work with the Parks and Recreation Department, Santa Cruz City and County to promote a safe and welcoming environment for neighbors and the community to gather for recreational, leisurely, and family activities, and to enjoy the beauty of the park.

### Santa Cruz Planning Department Virtual Community Meeting for 908 Ocean Street

Wednesday June 24th, 2020 from  
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

[http://www.cityofsantacruz.com/  
Home/Components/News/  
News/8865/](http://www.cityofsantacruz.com/Home/Components/News/News/8865/)

### Recreation Survey

Grant Park Neighbors asks for your input on our organization's scope of activity with six (6) short surveys.

Each survey has less than 15 questions, and will take no more than five (5) minutes to complete. Those that complete all six (6) surveys will be entered in a drawing for three \$25 gift cards; one from Dig Gardens, one from Marianne's Ice Cream, and one from the Habit Burger Grill.

Our 2nd survey concerns **Recreation** in the Grant Park Neighborhood, link: [surveymonkey.com/r/V3Y866D](https://surveymonkey.com/r/V3Y866D)

Our 1st survey as to **Senior Activities** is still alive and active at this link: [surveymonkey.com/r/HYHTQ5V](https://surveymonkey.com/r/HYHTQ5V)

More Information, details for events, news, and volunteering can be found on our website [grantparkneighbors.org](http://grantparkneighbors.org) or contact us at [grantpark95060@gmail.com](mailto:grantpark95060@gmail.com)