

## NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

by Shirley Newland

My journey to Franklin Hills began with a visit to the Philosophical Research Society. I was nervous my first time there - I was alone and had never before been to such a place yet I went because I was curious to see what it was all about. I didn't know what to expect but found it to be pleasant and interesting. There was a philosophical discussion group starting up and I decided to try it. Again I was nervous - I did not know what kind of people I would meet. I hoped they would be people with whom I would have common interests but feared I would not fit in. To my delight I developed several friendships with the people there and the woman who ran the discussions became my best friend.

Eventually I took over the discussions. On the way to the first one I lead I was worried about how well I would handle it and pondered - How would I start it? Would the group stay interested throughout the entire discussion? Would it have an agreeable ending? I returned to the question of starting it. From attending the other discussions I observed that once they got started they evolved on their own. When I arrived for the meeting I gave it that start and, wouldn't you know it, it took off from there. My life has continually blossomed with new starts since this experience.

As I got more familiar with the Franklin Hills area I decided to move here and found a place on Franklin Avenue just west of the Shakespeare Bridge. The bridge retrofit project was just starting up and, anxious to get involved in the community, I volunteered to help out. I got started by showing up for a board meeting and introducing myself. Just like in the philosophical discussions all I did was show up and the rest evolved on its own. When the project finished we had that gala party on the bridge to celebrate its reopening and now I am enjoying maintaining the median on Franklin Avenue.

If it appeals to you to do something in the neighborhood but you have hesitated for not wanting to take on something too big, just remember that all you need is a start and the rest takes care of itself. It is up to you in the beginning to make the decision to start something but after that it is easy. If you want to get involved with our activities just show up at one of our meetings and introduce yourself. We will be happy to meet you and get you started on something fun!

## Haiku from the Hill by Carol Skinner

*Summer dawn glitters  
Light strikes a thousand windows  
West gleams back to us.*

*Cats check their boundaries  
Meet and sniff under parked cars  
Snooze safe in warm sun.*

*Mocker on yucca  
Sings to his world and brothers  
I am the head bird!*

*Day ending light show  
Colors sky with neon blaze  
Ocean shines far off.*

*Squirrel runs lightly  
On powerline house to house  
Mockingbird attack!*

*Serious trotting  
Dogs on leash walk their humans  
Straining for the scent.*

*Mid day silence here  
Down below, children's voices  
Here comes the mail truck!*

*City below makes  
Patterns of light on the dark  
Searchlight cuts the sky.*

*Colors of flowers  
Greens of trees fill the landscape  
Stairways interrupt.*

*Coyote and owl  
Sing in the midnight quiet  
Help! Helicopter*

*Alone, I recall  
Bird, cat, tree, people, city  
Fragments of day gone.*

## OVERVIEWS TO BE IN NEW LIBRARY

Want to know the original name of the ABC studios, or what ships were doing at the corner of Franklin and Talmadge in the 1920s, or when Marshall High School opened?

The answers to all these questions can be found in the pages of past Overviews. And now those past Overviews can be found in our new Los Feliz Branch library. At the request of Senior Librarian Pearl Yonezawa the FHRA donated copies of all the past issues we could find. That was all but issue #2. Anyone who still has this rare 1990 newsletter please let us, or the library, know.

### COMPLETE GARDENING SERVICES



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Franklin Hills references available

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