

The Hanover Square News

Hanover Square Condominium Association

Editor's Message

Wabi-sabi

Wabi-sabi is the quintessential Japanese aesthetic. It is a beauty of things imperfect, impermanent, and incomplete. It is a beauty of things modest and humble. It is a beauty of things unconventional...

It is also two separate words, with related but different meanings.

"Wabi" is the kind of perfect beauty that is seemingly-paradoxically caused by just the right kind of imperfection, such as an asymmetry in a ceramic bowl which reflects the handmade craftsmanship, as opposed to another bowl which is perfect, but soul-less and machine-made.

"Sabi" is the kind of beauty that can come only with age, such as the patina on a very old bronze statue.

Wabi and Sabi are independent word stems in normal speech. They are brought together only to make a point about aesthetics.

A well-known exemplar of what one would call a "wabishii" object: black spit polish boots with dust on them from the parade ground. Many Japanese pots, the expensive ones, are dark and mottled -- wabi.

Sabi is most often applied to physical artistic objects, not writing. "Sabishii" is the normal word for "sad", as in, that was a sad movie.

Long before I discovered wabi-sabi I experienced it. Now I know there is a whole society that has this concept ingrained in their culture.

I think embracing wabi-sabi would help us appreciate Hanover Square much more, it does have its share of imperfections.

Larry M. Adrian

P.S. I don't think trash laying around would be considered wabi-sabi-ish, we should probably pick this stuff up.

President's Message

WOW it's been a long time since I have seen a newsletter is that what you have been thinking?

Well you're right it has been! We wanted to get a newsletter out for sometime now but since we (the board, committee members, etc) are all volunteers i.e. doing this without pay and in addition to our normal jobs & obligations the newsletter doesn't necessarily get top priority. When it is up against getting to work or looking for work, taking the kids to ball practice or checking with the village to try to get more parking near our complex or addressing domestic or material issues concerning the assets or owners & residents of our complex the newsletter just has to take a back seat.

Anyhow, here we are and it's 2009 and things are happening. Like what, you may ask?

Well first off, almost the entire center courtyard by 1306 to 1310 is being redone. The village had to upgrade some water lines in this area and the contractor they hired made a real MESS of it. But now they have replaced the drain tile there as well as the main walk and some of the walks to the ranch units. More work needs to be done such as grass, more drainage, etc. but the village is working with us to get this all done.

Speaking of the village, we are still working with them to get our streets repaired. We met with the village and are moving forward with a Special Service Area (SSA) to get the streets rebuilt.

A Special Service Area is a method by which organizations can get help from the village to accomplish projects they may not be able to accomplish on their own. The village will pay for and manage the project, do the engineering, hire the contractor and assure the work is done to specifications. Generally the village would get better prices on the work and they have more leverage to get things done right than an organization would have.

The owners of the organization would pay the village back for the project via special assessments on their property taxes. This method of payment has several advantages to

paying for the project via association fees. The advantages stem from the fact that the special assessments are "Taxes" which have special rights as compared to association fees. Taxes may be deductible on the owner's tax return where as association fees are not, so the owner may get some tax relief. Another advantage is that taxes survive certain legal actions such as foreclosure where as association fees may not. What this means to other homeowners in the association is that if your neighbor's home is foreclosed on the amount they owe for the project is not lost, the subsequent owner would have to pay the taxes.

Where we stand right now is we are waiting for the village to fit the SSA project into their budget and trustees must vote on and approve it. Once this happens letters will be sent to homeowners in Hanover Square as well as registered voters asking for their input about the project. If the project makes it through all this approval process, the engineering for this project will start. All this will be done this year and with luck the actual work will be scheduled for the spring of 2010.

There is a lot of paperwork and engineering that needs to be done as storm drains are under our roads and new cement pads need to be installed for the garbage trucks. But be assured that this project, while taking longer than we anticipated IS moving forward.

In other street news, most of the larger potholes have been filled. More need to be filled and will be once weather permits.

Drainage work that we paid for between the 1303 and 1304 buildings will be redone very soon. Contractors had put new drain tile down 1 1/2 years ago and it worked for about 1/2 year. They have marked out the ground and will be digging to redo it at no additional cost to us!

Well. As you all know there is no visitor parking in our complex. That's just the way it was built in 1972. Back then most families were lucky to have a car, few had 2. But that was then, this is now. Larkspur condos across the street have the same issue.

(Continued on page 2)

March/April 2009

Our Mission: to provide a good place to live

Association Info

Management Company

American Community Management
1908 Wright Boulevard
Schaumburg, IL. 60193
847-301-1133

Property Manager

Valerie Hodge

Board of Directors

President Tom Schaefer
Secretary/Vice-President . Bryna Schmidt
Treasurer Larry M. Adrian

Committee Heads

Landlord Relations Larry M. Adrian

Newsletter..... Larry M. Adrian

Web Site Development Tom Schaefer

Web Site

www.hanoversquare.org

Towing Company

Car Search 847-608-8120

President's Message

(from page 1)

After personally going to the village many times about this issue and listening to a lot of talk no REAL solution has been implemented. It is Hanover Square's board's hope that after the election this month new trustees will be elected and we will finally have a REAL chance at getting a parking solution soon.

Speaking of elections, hopefully this will be to you BEFORE the election on April 7th.

If it is, PLEASE GET OUT AND VOTE! This is your village and without your voice (your vote) nothing can move forward. While we (the board) know we do not speak for everyone in the complex as far as who you may support, the board members can only cast our personal votes, we would like you to consider voting for the Progress Party.

This being Rod Graig for Mayor, Eira Corral for Village Clerk, Ed Zimel, Rick Roberts and Bill Cannon for village trustees. These are the people who have and will help us get the roads done, help find a solution to parking and other issues concerning our neighborhood.

On a personal note, I would like to thank all the village officials who have helped us in Hanover Square in the past, but I have to say I am more than a little disappointed in their lack of understanding that Hanover Square, Larkspur and other multi family communities are different than single family home communities and have unique issues that can't be handled the same way issues for single family homes are handled. While a rule or ordinance might be good in areas with single family homes, it doesn't always work in complexes such as ours.

The Progress Party has been to our community. They walked it, looked at it and talked with Hanover Square board members concerning our issues. We have a good professional relationship with these candidates. The progress party understands us and is willing to work with us to improve our neighborhood.

On a closing note, we are all aware how the economy is right now. While we are all feeling the pinch it is very important to keep up with your assessments. When residents don't pay them it means there is less money to use for much needed projects like walks, drainage, lighting ect. PLEASE PLEASE pay your assessments. It's not fair for those who do

pay to bear the burden of those who don't. Nor is it fair that we all suffer by projects not getting done due to lack of funding.

Tom Schaefer

Automobile Haiku

Haiku is a major form of Japanese verse, written in 17 syllables divided into 3 lines of 5, 7, and 5 syllables, and employing highly evocative allusions and comparisons.

I found these haiku verses on the Car Talk section of Cars.com. Enjoy.

Mother driving boys,
Don't you make me come back there!
Dreams of birth control.

Street signs, why bother?
You cannot get there from here
In Massachusetts.

Electric windows
Were sweet, but now we desire
Heated leather seats.

Went for oil change --
Got transmission, clutch, muffler.
Bye-bye Oahu.

The deer, quick once, stops....
In headlights, the blink freezes.
Venison tonight.

Larry M. Adrian



Why trampolines are not safe in Minnesota

etc.

Signs of bad times

Every day we hear the news broadcasters give us signs that the economy is improving or getting worse. Usually it is some number they quote, the Dow Jones average, the trade deficit, the national debt.

As far as I'm concerned the fact that the "Dow" is up 500 or down 200 today has little meaning. These indicators have been so misused by the media and other pundits trying to sell their "news" they are pretty much worthless.

I decided to look for some economic indicators that made some sense to us common folks.

As you will notice not a lot of scientific research or mathematical analysis was used in gathering my indicators. OK, let's be frank, no scientific research or mathematical analysis was used.

One guy who works for a company based at a small airport noted that times weren't so good when he noticed planes were lifting off 1000 feet sooner than they used to thus indicating they were not carrying as much payload as they normally did.

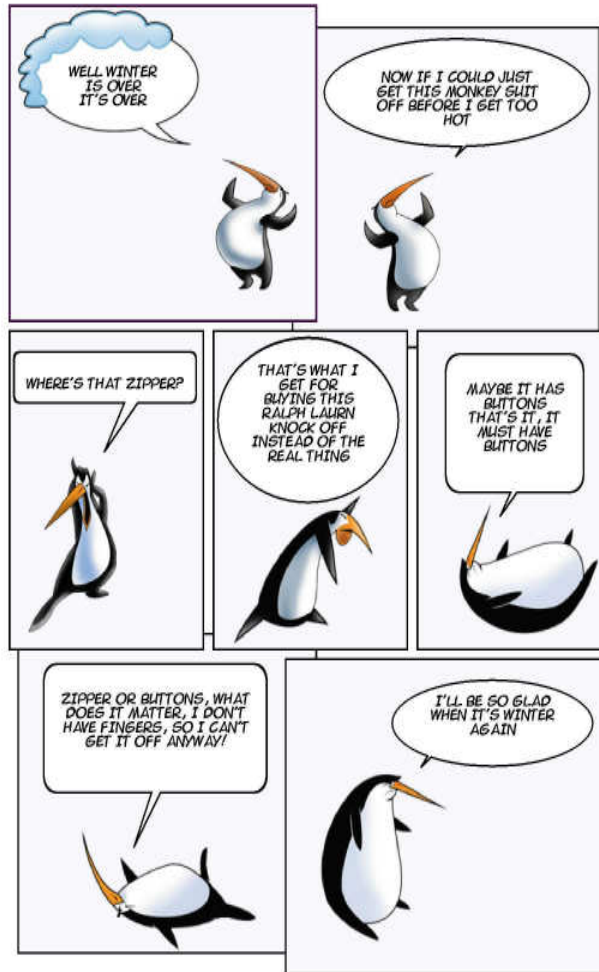
My favorite gauge is who is purchasing lotto tickets. All of us lowly laborers are always buying lotto tickets because it seems to be the only way out of our meager existence. When managers, directors and other higher level employees of companies start buying tickets you know the future must not look all that bright.

Pawn shops are doing a record business. The important indicator is that record numbers of customers are not able to redeem their pawned merchandise so the pawn shops aren't unloading their inventory and could actually be running out of cash.

Garbage collectors around the country have seen decreases in the amount of trash they have been collecting. The worse the economy gets the less trash they pick up. This could be attributed to people buying less and thus having less to throw away.

Plastic surgery procedures are down. According to the Society of Plastic Surgeons breast surgeries down 62%, Liposuctions down 64%, Nose alterations are down 44%, yet botox procedures are up.

The End of Winter



I guess this is just a matter of downsizing. They still want to remodel but instead of new additions they settle for a temporary patch job.

Sales to sperm & egg banks are up. Pornography sales are down. Having a baby is down & permanent birth control procedures are on the rise.

Divorces are down, apparently the decrease in real estate values has had a big influence on the divorce rate.

Church attendance is up.

The number of people cultivating home gardens has increased. During the "Great Depression" farmers didn't suffer nearly as much as urban dwellers as they grew or raised subsistence products and weren't as dependent on the money carousel as the urban dwellers were. Today most of us are urban dwellers.

New car purchases are down and the number of car repairs is up.

Appliance repairs are up, with the down turn in the economy more people are deciding to repair their old appliances rather than buy new ones. I learned this from my appliance repair guy, he has been trying to retire but, he is continuing in the business because he feels an obligation to help his old customers out.

Army recruitments are up. Hey if you're the only one hiring this is easy to understand.

Library usage has increased. People have decided to save money by borrowing books instead of buying them, or have extra time on their hands and no cable TV because they lost their job.

Well, there you have it, signs of a bad economy. We probably won't see these on the evening news but they're a lot more interesting than a number with a bunch of zeros behind it.

Larry M Adrian

Final Thought:

"The world has enough for every one's needs, but never enough for even one man's greed".

- Mahatma Gandhi



*Hanover Square Condominium Association
c/o American Community Management
1908 Wright Boulevard.
Schaumburg, IL. 60193*

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Association Member