

Guardian Angels return to patrol WeHo

Thursday, May 27, 2010 – By WeHo News Staff, West Hollywood

West Hollywood, California (May 27, 2010) -West Hollywood streets saw a return of the resurgent Hollywood chapter of the Guardian Angels last Friday night, raising eyebrows.

The volunteer organization of unarmed citizen crime patrollers is a non-profit, international, concern founded in New York in 1979.

The Hollywood Chapter head, Alex Makarczyk, told WeHo News the “Angels go where we are invited.

“One of our members in Hollywood was approached by a guy who said there were a lot of problems with violence against gays,” he said.

The last time Guardian Angels patrolled WeHo Streets, in 1989, “Sheriff's Capt. Rachel Burgess of the West Hollywood unit said she "absolutely opposed" bringing in outside groups such as the Guardian Angels,” according to the LA Times.

Furthermore, she asserted that “such a move would probably cause more problems than it solved,” they reported.



Hollywood chapter of the Guardian Angels patrolled West Hollywood last Friday.

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<http://tombakerphotography.wordpress.com>

WeHo News.



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At the time the area around Circus of Books and Gold Coast suffered from rampant drug dealing, public sex and male prostitution, and asked the Guardian Angels to come in to do what the Sheriff, they claimed, apparently could not.

Last Saturday several E mail tips came into WeHo News with sightings of uniformed Guardian Angels patrolling in West Hollywood along Melrose and in Boystown on Santa Monica Boulevard.

Reaction by the citizens reporting in seemed split, with roughly half explicitly welcoming their presence and the other half concerned about it.

Mr. Makarczyk said his three-man crew visited on Friday night and patrolled to gratitude and

“The guys reported that people really liked seeing them there on the street; they said people told the they felt safer with them there,” he said.

They found little “action,” as Mr. Makarczyk put it. “We like to be where the action is; that’s why we’re headquartered in Hollywood.”

He said he runs two teams of four people every night in the Entertainment District there, “because there’s so many people and so much action the LAPD can’t handle.”

According to him, LAPD welcomes their cooperation, and they contacted the WeHo Sheriff Watch Commander to make the Station aware they would be on the streets.

The crew of three did witness an accident during their vigil, helping out where they could with crowd control until first responders could arrive.

Saying the “crew” liked patrolling West Hollywood, Mr. Makarczyk promised to return sometime soon.

“Oh yeah, we’re coming back, especially if someone requests that we come,” the crime fighter said.

West Hollywood Sheriff’s officials did not respond to an E mail inquiry about the organization.