

Winchester San Tomas

THE EDEN EXAMINER

Payne Williams



February 2003

Web page: <http://www.EdenNeighborhoodAssociation.org> Hotline: (408) 404-7404

Email: email@EdenNeighborhoodAssociation.org

Address: P.O. Box 9383, San Jose, CA 95157

Next Meeting: *Amber Drive Primary Plus School, Tuesday, February 11, 7:00 p.m.*

Guest speaker: Barbara Vitcoski from
Santa Clara County's Household Hazardous Waste Program



President's Message
Armin Quiring



Your Eden Neighborhood Association is dedicated to working towards a safe, clean, & friendly neighborhood. ENA does not do any code enforcement, write warning letters, file complaints, or report violations of any sort. Since ENA's origin, ENA has tried to identify sources for answering concerns, provide information to our residents, and phone numbers for contact persons. Your ENA strictly maintains your privacy - we do not share the addresses, phone numbers, or email addresses of our members! In addition, ENA does not do endorsements of any products or businesses. Occasionally it has become necessary to remind our residents about certain issues in order to retain as pleasant, safe, and clean a neighborhood as possible - some such reminders can be found in this month's Beautification report.

Our guest speaker for February is Barbara Vitcoski, Outreach Director for Santa Clara County's Household Hazardous Waste Program. Ms. Vitcoski will be speaking to us about Alternatives to Household Chemicals and Less-Toxic Gardening and Pest Control Methods. She will also be providing useful tip booklets and brochures, as well as answering your questions regarding proper disposal of household hazardous waste.

Did you know that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has taken action to phase out the household use of Diazinon and organophosphates, which are commonly used on lawns? The EPA has also concluded that all home uses of Dursban are unsafe. Dursban and other chlorpyrifos forms are used as

pesticides commonly found in lawn and garden care products, pet collars, and roach sprays. These pesticides have been found to cause serious health risks, especially to children. For more information regarding these items, you may contact Santa Clara County's Household Hazardous Waste Program at www.hhw.org or by phone 408-299-7300.

We are saddened by the recent loss of the seven Columbia astronauts, and our heartfelt condolences go out to their families and friends. Please join us in a moment of silence at the February meeting.

As we enter the year of the Ram, I would like to wish everyone Prosperity, Health & Happiness in the New Year.



2003 Calendar of Events

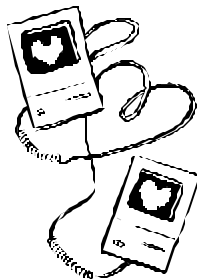
- Jan 14 GM: San Jose International Airport
- Feb 11 GM: Alternatives to Chemicals & Pesticides**
- Mar 11 GM: PG&E with Lynhaven N.A.
- Apr 08 GM: Linda LeZotte – Budget & Projects
- Apr tba Emergency Preparedness
- May 13 General Meeting
- May 17 Neighborhood Garage Sale
- Jun 10 General Meeting
- Jun 28 ENA's Annual Family Summer Picnic
- Aug 05 National Night Out
- Aug 12 General Meeting
- Sep 09 General Meeting
- Sep 13 ENA 8th Annual Dumpster Day
- Oct 14 General Meeting
- Oct 18 ENA 6th Annual Volunteer Appreciation Day
- Nov 11 General Meeting – ENA Elections
- Dec 21 ENA 4th Annual "Festival of Lights" (Luminaria)

Working toward a safe, clean, friendly neighborhood

Medical Information on the Internet

Whether you need help coping with a medical condition, or you're interested in prevention, the Internet can help. Several sites offer general health articles and the ability to research specific diseases:

- The Mayo Clinic:
<http://www.mayoclinic.com>
- WebMD:
<http://www.webmd.com>
- MEDLINEplus:
<http://www.medlineplus.gov>
- Health and Age:
<http://www.healthandage.com>
- The National Institute on Aging:
<http://www.nia.nih.gov/health>
- The American Heart Association:
<http://www.americanheart.org>
- The American Stroke Association:
<http://www.strokeassociation.org>
- The American Cancer Society:
<http://www.cancer.org>
- Med Help International:
<http://medhlp.netusa.net>
- Ask A Doctor (opinions from three doctors for \$16.95 per question):
<http://www.askadoctor.com>



The federal government operates a database with links to a number of organizations:

<http://www.healthfinder.gov>

Planning a trip overseas? Check sites run by the State Department:

<http://travel.state.gov/medical.html>

and the National Center for Infectious Diseases:

<http://www.cdc.gov/travel>

Finally, don't forget about medical trials. These involve experimental drugs or procedures, and are usually free:

- CenterWatch: <http://www.centerwatch.com>
- ClinicalTrials: <http://www.clinicaltrials.gov>

As you explore these medical sites, keep this in mind: Self-diagnosis can be dangerous. Or, you could convince yourself that you are ill when you are not. Don't substitute the Web for a visit to your doctor.

Randee Chin

Winchester Neighborhood Action Committee (Winchester NAC)

The Winchester NAC met on Jan. 15th at the Church of the Nazarene. There were several committee reports, a presentation showing the plans for Winchester Blvd, & questions and comments from attendees. A separate group met to discuss WNAC's proposed by-laws.

Some items of interest:

- Landscaping plans for Eden Ave are expected to be available this month.
- Code Enforcement is working to rid Winchester Blvd of illegal signs.
- The search is still on for the West San Jose Library site.
- WNAC's highest priority is enhancing the appearance and safety on Winchester Blvd
 - Every day 38,000 cars travel Winchester Blvd between Hamilton Ave and Moorpark Ave.
 - Serious accidents decrease by 20 –40% when medians are introduced to streets.
 - San Jose plans to install a median on Winchester between Hamilton Ave and Moorpark Ave.
 - The original plan was modified in response to earlier concerns about safety, appearance, convenience, and impact on businesses. The modified plan was presented at the meeting. Several attendees were still not convinced the median is necessary.
 - Attendees voted in favor of a Mediterranean theme for the median landscaping.

Everyone is welcome to attend the WNAC meetings, generally held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at the Church of the Nazarene.

Betty Kabanek

DSL Now Available in Our Neighborhood!

Have you been waiting for DSL to arrive in our neighborhood? Tired of a slow dial-up connection? According to one of your neighbors, thanks to recent work and additions, DSL has finally arrived! Please contact local phone and service providers to locate your DSL choice.



Beautification Committee



Now is the time for a Spring cleanup. Bushes and low hanging branches over sidewalks make it difficult to walk - pruning is needed to remedy this. Many residents use the sidewalks for health, enjoyment, walking to school buses, stores, etc. County workers are removing dead and dying pine trees along San Tomas Expressway next to Polk Lane

Would anyone like an area in the Community Flower Garden? If so, please contact me at 408-244-2464. Its time to plant some new flowers.

It is distressing that the Primary Plus School is complaining about some pet (cat or dog) owners who are not cleaning up after their pets on the school grounds. Pity the poor children who step into it. Also, some pet owners are still forgetting to clean up after their pets on the sidewalks and lawns in the community. Please remember - pets must be on a leash at all times when being walked. A new fence segment now makes it possible for the school to limit access to the playground. The playgrounds in the back and sides of the school are already fenced off and locked preventing general public use.

Carl Shoemaker



Garage Sale 2003

This year's neighborhood garage sale will be held on Saturday, May 17th. We recommend you start planning soon for what you can sell and give away, rather than taking items to the dumpster later in the year.

Garage sales are a great way to sell items you no longer need. Plan to get rid of as much stuff as you can, then you will have room to buy more stuff. Either way, you can't lose. And you can have fun at the same time. ENA takes care of the preparation and advertising.

Because of the city's rules on garage sales and the need to advertise, it is so much easier to use the neighborhood garage sale day than to do it yourself.

More details will appear in a future newsletter.

Peter H. Taylor

Composting News & Tidbits

Here is some good news for those of you who garden and utilize a compost system:

Rodents / Racoons - Contrary to "popular myth," properly maintained compost piles do not attract rodents - nor would any rodents chose to reside within the piles (it is too warm). Simply refrain from adding any meat, bones, fatty food scraps, or fish to your pile. Those items don't compost well anyway and should never be placed in a home compost system.

Fruit Flies - Don't "dump and run" your vegetable and fruit scraps. Rather, bury the scraps 6 to 12 inches below the surface, or cover with leaves, straw, clippings, or soil. When there is no "easy to eat" food for the flies, they will leave.

Should "visitors" become a problem, utilize repellants (i.e, cayenne pepper or other natural items) or restrictive materials (screens with smaller holes) around your pile to prevent them from entering the pile... Don't add insecticides, etc to your pile.

Happy Gardening!



Armin Quiring

Compost - and make a turn for the best!

Get started with home composting for "dirt cheap." San Jose Composts has released its 2003 schedule of FREE composting workshops and bin sales in association with the Santa Clara County Home Composting Education Program. Upcoming dates include March 15 at the Emma Prusch Farm Park, April 12 at the Moreland Community Center, and May 10 at the Willows Senior Center. Full details and the complete 2003 schedule are available at www.recycleplus.org or 408-277-2989. On each of these dates, the City of San Jose will be selling various worm and compost bins at significant savings to San Jose residents.

Pre-registration for the free workshops is required. Please call 408-918-4640 to sign up.

Armin Quiring

February 2003 Membership Report

With all the changes in our economy, ENA still survives with the same dues it started with nine years ago. In November 1993, ENA set membership dues at \$15.00. Through the dot.com era and increase on everything, nothing has changed here. Actually, ENA has not applied for a Grant for three years. With the support of our neighborhood, the future looks great. To date ENA has 180 members for 2003, including 6 new members. Some 60 of these members have also donated \$780 in Additional Donations. Our budget estimates \$1643 in donations along with 450 members to meet our expenses of \$8,393. Won't you join? It's a bargain for \$15.00. Don't forget you also get the monthly newsletter, free Family Summer Picnic, Neighborhood Garage Sale, Dumpster Day, and Festival of Lights (Luminaria).

A warm welcome to new members George & Lisa Brown and Chuck & Renee Hopfensperger. Members renewing since the last newsletter are:

Hazel Agrillo	Patty Ebner	Saul & Joyce Levine	Grace Santo
Helene Allen	Antoinette Fischer	Diana Martinez	David Schirle
Marcia Anderson	Betty Ford	Bernard (Marty) L. Martinsen	Andro Sergides
Glenn & Sharon Ando	Jack & Adrienne Frost	Andy & Maureen Meyer	Andy & Anne Sermersheim
Susan Atkinson	Stephen & Joyce Fukuchi	Bud & Peggy Muchow	Mick Speciale
Lane & Cheryl Baker	Mary Guercio	Lee & Rose Myers	Julie Stephens
Lloyd & Marlene Bass	Wayne & Mona Hall	Narayanan Nackeran	William Tanaka
Eb & Cannie Bright	Richard Hoffman	Bob & Judy Nichols	Peter & Isobel Taylor
Marty & Kate Brill	Robert & Deborah Hsieh	Mike Hill & Donna Nirschl	Guy & Cori Tow
Yvette & Bret Carpenter	Linda Jensen	Joe & Ardis Orlando	Steve & Sandy Tyson
Henry & Randee Chin	Kay & Gladys Kanagaki	Joe Palmer	Tor & Sabra Underwood
Marilyn Chow	Nikki Kim	Spyro & Esther Paxinos	Noel & Yolande Vazquez
John & Sylvia Chung	Chris & Meshele Ko	Virginia Perasso	Sharene Voelkel
Dan & Rosemary Clarke	John Konno	Dorothy Phelan	Bob & Anka Vuksich
Dave & Jan Conroy	Yone & Chizu Kubo	Medriene Plette	Ruth Wall
Ken & Sherill Cotter	Jack & Bunny Kuo	Brent & Thuy Reinholz	Robert & Barbara Wallace
John & Dee Del Fiugo	Masami & Jiyushi Kusumoto	Elvera Renner	Paul & Christy Warren
Michael Denise	Stanley & Cecilia Latimer	Clara Rose	John & Eva Yaccarine
Eric & Lisa Dippel	John & Maria Laughlin	Bill & Dale Rushing	Roger & Pamela Zimmerman
Mike & Diane Doyle	Bob & Mary Leverett	Kermit & Carol Rydeen	

For more information on membership, please contact Mario Vazquez, Membership Chairman 248-2918

2003 Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone (H): _____ (W): _____ Email: _____

(Privacy Policy: ENA does not sell or give out the names, phone numbers or email addresses of its members.)

<input type="checkbox"/> I am renewing my membership	Membership Dues	\$ <u>15.00</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> I am a new member	Additional Donation	_____
	Total	\$ _____

I would like to help with the following committees:

<input type="checkbox"/> Beautification	<input type="checkbox"/> Block Watch/Safety	<input type="checkbox"/> Board of Directors	<input type="checkbox"/> Dumpster Day
<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Preparedness	<input type="checkbox"/> Garage Sale	<input type="checkbox"/> Luminaria	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership
<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Delivery	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Social	<input type="checkbox"/> Traffic
<input type="checkbox"/> Welcoming	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____		

General Comments & suggestions for meetings: _____

Mail to: Eden Neighborhood Association, P.O. Box 9383, San Jose, CA 95157