

Winchester San Tomas

THE EDEN EXAMINER

Payne Williams



May 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, May 13th, 7:00 p.m.*

Guest Speaker: Dr. Earl Stevens

Topic: Terrorism & Disaster Preparedness

President's Message Armin Quiring

Our guest speaker for the May General Meeting is Dr. Earl Stevens with San Jose Prepared. Dr. Stevens will be speaking with us about Terrorism and Disaster Preparedness. Some preparations we should all take heed of: Make a kit of Emergency Supplies and be prepared to make it on your own for at least 3 days; Store at least a 3 days supply of food and water for your family & pets; Determine your "shelter-in-place" room in your house; Consider taking a first aid class & familiarize yourself with all items in your first aid kit; Set aside one complete change of warm clothing & blankets per person; Join ENA's Emergency Preparedness Team; Set aside a supply of your daily medications; Have cash or travelers checks on hand; Set aside personal hygiene items; Create an emergency plan for each possible scenario; Make sure you have working flashlights & extra batteries; Be sure everyone knows your out-of-state contact's number & has coins or a pre-paid phone card; and assign a meeting place in case your home is not safe. Visit <http://www.ready.gov> for much more advice.

For Your Safety & Your Property's Safety

This past month our neighborhood has experienced an increase in disconcerting events such as vehicle tampering, vandalism, and mail theft. For non-emergency crimes, call the San Jose Police at 311, visit a police station, or file a report at the San Jose Police website: <http://www.sjpd.org>. Choose the "On-Line Reporting" link to report auto burglary, vehicle tampering, theft, & related events. You will receive a

case number in the mail approximately 10 days after your report is processed. Do not use this form if you have suspect information or for events involving vehicle / traffic accidents - these cases require a phone call or an in-person visit. If you witness or experience mail theft, notify the police as well as the U.S. Postal Service immediately. Tax refund checks are due to arrive in the coming weeks, increasing the risk of mail theft or tampering. As always, if you witness or become the victim of a violent crime - call 911 immediately!

Following are some suggested guidelines to help you maintain your safety & security, as well as that of your neighbors and your neighborhood:

- Park your vehicles in your driveway or garage when possible.
- Park in lit areas. Use motion sensed lights.
- Always keep any valuable or "tempting" items out of view. Lock your car-doors and keep windows closed.
- Let the police know about anything suspicious or if damage or theft occurs: This will enable our patrol officers to be on the lookout for particular crimes and hopefully prevent further occurrences. Also let your neighbors & ENA know about any suspicious activity or persons in your area.
- Consider replacing your mailbox with a locking mailbox which is securely fastened to your house wall. Or install a mail slot. Keep in mind the draftiness of mail slots and the loss of heat or cold - perhaps utilizing your garage rather than your front door for the mail slot. In short, make sure only you have access to your mail!

- Armin Quiring

Working toward a safe, clean, friendly neighborhood

Mosquitoes: The Perfect Bioterror Weapon

It is not generally acknowledged that we have been in a bioterror war for many years. Consider all the diseases currently spread around the world by mosquitoes, which include: Newcastle Disease, West Nile Virus, Dengue Fever, several strains of Encephalitis, Canine Heart Worm, Malaria & others. When mosquitoes bite an infected person or animal, they become carriers. When that mosquito bites a host such as a bird, person or animal, the disease can then be spread widely.

An effective way to minimize the spread of mosquito born diseases is to eliminate their breeding places. Typically, mosquitoes lay eggs (hatch time of 5-7 days) in stagnant or still water. This can occur in unused birdbaths & fountains, swimming pools, rumpled tarps with pooled water, dog bowls, storm drains, holes in trees, water gardens, ornamental ponds, cans, old tires, roof gutters, etc.

With summer and the mosquito season approaching, to protect ourselves and our neighbors we need to be more vigilant than ever to eliminate any place that mosquitoes can breed.

- Carl Shoemaker

West Nile Virus: Steps to Avoid Infection

You can reduce your chances of becoming ill by protecting yourself from mosquito bites:

- Apply insect repellent containing DEET (NOTE: do not apply repellents containing permethrin directly to skin).
- When outdoors, wear long sleeves, long pants & socks.
- Treat clothes with DEET.
- Avoid outdoor activities during peak mosquito biting times: sunset to sunrise.
- Eliminate standing water.

An additional source of information about pesticides & repellents is the National Pesticide Information Center at 1-800-858-7378.

- summary based on information submitted by Karen Brown

Toddler & Infant Playgroup Update

There has been great interest in the neighborhood infant & toddler playgroup. It's a fun way to meet other neighbors with children. Plus the kids enjoy interacting with each other. For more information, call Mona at (408) 977-4185.

- Mona Hall

What Your ENA Does & Does Not Do

Your ENA is dedicated in working towards a safe, clean, & friendly neighborhood. We strive to encourage good neighbor to neighbor communication, a neighborly approach to events and issues, and to maintain a neighborhood watch for our residents' safety and security. One such method is ENA's participation in National Night Out. Some of the other events ENA holds to assist in aiding the health of our neighborhood are the Summer Family Picnic, Dumpster Day, Holiday Luminaria, Volunteer Appreciation Day, and our monthly meetings. Since ENA's origin, ENA has tried to provide information to our residents, identify sources for answering concerns, and phone numbers for contacts. Your ENA strictly maintains your privacy - we do not share your addresses, phone numbers, or email addresses. ENA does not do any code enforcement, write warning letters, file complaints, report violations of any sort, or tell our residents what they have to do.

- Armin Quiring

Neighborhood Picnic – June 28th

We are working very hard to pull together a great family day of fun and games for everyone! Volunteers are still needed! We especially need help with the following: Parade (3 helpers needed), Children's Games (3 helpers needed), & Adult Games (1 helper needed). If anyone is interested in volunteering, please call Elaine Marron at (408) 554-6728.

- Elaine Marron

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	26	Emergency Preparedness
May	13	GM: Terrorism & Disaster Preparedness
May	17	ENA Neighborhood Garage Sale
Jun	10	GM: Components of Building Safety
Jun	28	ENA's Annual Family Summer Picnic
Aug	05	National Night Out
Aug	12	General Meeting
Sep	09	General Meeting
Sep	13	ENA 8 th Annual Dumpster Day
Oct	14	General Meeting
Oct	18	ENA 6 th Annual Volunteer Appreciation Day
Nov	11	General Meeting – ENA Elections
Dec	21	ENA 4 th Annual "Festival of Lights" (Luminaria)

Privacy Update

Credit bureaus like Equifax, Experian & Trans Union LLC sell names and addresses to credit card companies who in turn mail pre-approved offers of credit to consumers. If you do not want to receive such solicitations, you are in luck! You can call the following federally-mandated toll-free number to "opt-out" of receiving them: (888) 5OPTOUT, which is the same as (888) 567-8688.

For more information on privacy rights, some useful links are:

- <http://www.privacyrights.org>
- http://www.privacyrights.org/ar/optout_truth.htm

*- based on information provided
by Randee Chin & Wayne Hall*

California's "Do Not Call" Program

Californians can pre-register for the "Do Not Call" list that the Federal Trade Commission is launching this summer. You can stop the unwanted flood of telemarketing calls starting in October 2003 via this new program. Note, only California residential & mobile telephone numbers are eligible for this program. To pre-register for the program or get more information, go to: <http://nocall.doj.state.ca.us>.

*- summary based on information from
the California Department of Justice*

SARS – Travel Information

Before traveling:

- Don't go to the Far East unless you have to.
- Be sure you are current on all your shots.
- Check your health insurance regarding your coverage.

If you get sick or return home sick from traveling in an area affected by SARS:

- See a health care provider & let them know you are worried about exposure to SARS.
- Limit your contact with others. Wash your hands often with soap & water or alcohol-based hand rubs.

When you return from areas affected by SARS:

- You will receive a travel alert card when you land and need to check your health over the next 10 days.

*- summary based on information
submitted by Karen Brown*

Neighborhood Garage Sale – May 17th

The Neighborhood Garage Sale will be on Saturday, May 17th. A map of locations & list of addresses with specialty items, as of May 3, is included in this newsletter. You may still call the hotline with your location. The website will be updated May 15th. Handouts with the updated map & list will also be available at Williams Road and Phelps Ave on the day of the Garage Sale.



If you are having a sale:

1. Be prepared for people to come early. We are listed to start at 8:00am.
2. Have a clear sign (flag, balloon, etc.), so people can see your location as they drive down the street.
3. Be sure there is plenty of room to park; ask neighbors to help.
4. Know where the next locations are so you can help people. We want the sale to be "user-friendly", so people will come back next year.

Good luck!

- Peter H. Taylor

To participate in the Garage Sale:

1. Phone ENA hotline at (408) 404-7404.
2. Say: "Garage Sale".
3. Provide your address. Please speak slowly & clearly.
4. Provide your address a second time.
5. Provide your phone number, in case we need to call you.

Optional: You do not have to list items. However, if you have a number of specialty items, such as baby items, you may wish to mention them.

Deadline to appear on the ENA website & handout:
Tuesday, May 13, 2003 9:00pm

Let's Be Considerate of Our Neighbors

Just a reminder that yard waste in the street and sidewalk can pose a hazard to pedestrians and drivers. While walking through our neighborhood on the weekend, I saw a lot of yard waste piles in the street. I'm sure prospective buyers also see these piles which can have a negative impact on their decision to buy in our neighborhood. The piles can project the wrong message about our neighborhood. Please don't put your yard waste out until a maximum of 24 hours before the city pick up. A great solution is to use the yard waste containers that cost less than \$.25 per week and are easy to roll out. Help make our neighborhood safe, clean, & friendly.

- Richard Kabanek

National Night Out on Aug 5th - Meet Your Neighbors

Help strengthen the ENA neighborhood spirit. Meet your neighbors! Neighborhoods in thousands of communities throughout the nation are joining forces on August 5th for the 20th Annual National Night Out. Various neighbors in the ENA have stepped up to host National Night Out events for their block or area. They range from potlucks to barbeques to cookouts to mixers of various sorts. Come join us! Meet your neighbors! Host a mixer! At this time we have folks volunteering to handle the following areas:

- A portion of Runnymede Drive
- A portion of Phelps Avenue
- A portion of Parkland Avenue
- Amherst Lane
- A portion of Savannah Drive

Won't you join in & host a small get together? It's a great way to meet your neighbors. We are looking for one person from each street to help organize their street. ENA will help each street coordinate their activity. Contact ENA's National Night Out Chairperson, Armin Quiring, at (408) 404-7404 or (408) 247-2722.

- Ivy Quiring

May 2003 Membership Report

Hello – it's May! We now have 282 paid members including new members. Have you renewed yet? It's been a busy time - if you are not sure if you have renewed or not, give Mario Vazquez a call at (408) 482-5731 or (408) 248-2918, or send him email at mariovazquez@earthlink.net. A Membership Application Form is included below for those of you who have not yet renewed. ENA appreciates your support. Thank you especially to the 91 members who have sent in additional donations totaling \$1167.

ENA welcomes new members Manish & Deepa Patel, Danielle Davenport & Steven Smith, Jim & Gail Richley, and Cynthia Rieley & Chad Sitnner. Members renewing since April 2003 are:

Parag & Seema Bhargava	Ron & Laurie Michaelson	Stephen & Christine Sedler
Al & Roberta Chamberlain	Nora Milonis	Ruth Sellers
Jeff & Barbara Eagle	Paul & Carol Newburn	Tom & Mary Slatterly
Justin & Katy Leung	Allen & Henny Rudy	Frances Yarosky
Joe & Angie Lynch	Jim & Diane Sandvig	

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"/> National Night Out	<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 or events: _____

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