

Winchester San Tomas

THE EDEN EXAMINER

Payne Williams

June 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, June 10th, 7:00 p.m.*

Guest Speaker: James Son from the City of San Jose Department of Public Works

Topic: Components of Building Safety



President's Message Armin Quiring



This 4th of July - Remember Our History, Accept Our Heritage, and Defend Our Rights. Yes, it may only be June, but this coming 4th of July is too important not to discuss, and as usual there won't be a July issue of the Examiner. Recent events, such as September 11th and sending our troops into harms way, have validated and strengthened our beliefs, values, & patriotism. We have become Americans again. We have been reminded that our freedom is not free. This 4th of July, may we all recall what it takes to defend our union, remember to fight to maintain our rights and freedoms, and stand taller and prouder as Americans. My best wishes for a wonderful 4th of July for all!

Our guest speakers for the June General Meeting will be James Son and his team from the SJC Department of Public Works. They will be educating us on the Components of Building Safety, which include fire-life safety, seismic adequacy / strapping, structural soundness, and flood or earthquake zone preparation. If you didn't make our last meeting, you missed out on an informative presentation by Dr. Frances Winslow on bacterial, viral, and germ evolution.

Why do you attend or not attend ENA's general meetings? What types of topics would you like to hear? I would like to hear your thoughts - please talk with me or leave a message on the hotline (408) 404-7404.

**Working toward a safe, clean,
friendly neighborhood**

National Night Out on August 5th

Meet your neighbors and help strengthen the ENA neighborhood spirit on Tuesday evening, August 5th! Various neighbors have stepped forward to host National Night Out events for their area, and I would like to encourage more of you to join them in hosting a small get-together. ENA will help each street coordinate their activity. Contact me at (408) 404-7404 or (408) 247-2722. This is one of the great ways you can meet your neighbors and build a stronger neighborhood.



- Armin Quiring

Neighborhood Garage Sale Success!

There were 45 homes listed & 21 homes unlisted on the day of the sale for a total of 66 homes. Most sellers were satisfied, although many commented there were less buyers than expected. We also noted buyers came later; last year they were literally knocking on doors, waiting for people to open. If you have comments, please let me know via the hotline (408) 404-7404.

- Peter H. Taylor

ENA Summer Picnic - June 28th



We will not be having a fire truck leading the neighborhood parade this year. However, if anyone has a classic car, unicycle, or 76 trombones, and would be willing to lead the children's parade on June 28th, please give Elaine Marron a call at (408) 554-6728.

Traffic Report

The Eden Ave Traffic Calming Committee started almost three years ago. The goal was to come up with a plan to accomplish three objectives:

1. Reduce the speed of traffic on Eden Ave
2. Reduce the number of cars on Eden Ave
3. Enhance the appearance of Eden Ave



We joined the Winchester Neighborhood Advisory Council (NAC) over two years ago and began working with the Lynhaven Association and the Westside Property Owners to develop a traffic calming plan for Eden Ave from Moorpark Ave to Hamilton Ave. We spoke with independent traffic calming experts, SJC Department of Transportation representatives, and SJC hired consultants. We looked at the feasibility of traffic signs, various kinds of speed bumps, street closure, one-way traffic, etc.

We finally came up with a plan which property owners voted on: the Westside section opposed the plan, the Lynhaven section approved the plan, and the Eden section approved the plan with the elimination of the traffic circle on Eden Ave at Yuba Ave / Finch Drive.

The current plan has been sent out - bids must be submitted by June 5th. It is anticipated that the plan will be approved at the June 17th City Council meeting. The plan includes several features that we believe will discourage speeding. Specific to the sections between Payne Ave and Williams Road are:

- New sidewalks and parkways on the east side of the street. Currently the street appears wide because nothing marks the edge of the street. Drivers tend to drive slower on narrower streets.
- Narrowing of the intersection at Yuba Ave & Finch Drive. A narrow intersection makes it harder for cars to swerve around the corner. They will have to slow down to make a turn.
- Textured / colored crosswalks at Payne Ave, Bluebird Drive, Yuba Ave / Finch Drive, Oxford Lane, Verdant Way and Williams Road. Crosswalks will aid pedestrians crossing the street. They will alert drivers to the residential character of the street and provide a minor rumbling effect to drivers.
- City maintenance of planting areas to ensure that debris does not accumulate around them and that the trees get a healthy start.
- Planting areas to include trees and shrubbery. These will narrow the street and ornamental pear trees are expected to provide a canopy effect in a few years. Studies show that drivers go slower on tree-lined

streets than on similar streets without trees. Lower shrubs will enhance the planting areas.

The city has listened to us and incorporated most of our requests. They have also agreed to re-evaluate traffic conditions on Eden Ave after the construction has been completed. We believe they will find a significant decrease in the speed and number of cars on Eden Ave. We also believe that Eden Ave will end up being much more attractive than it is now. If these goals are not met, we will continue to work towards them.

- Betty Kabanek

Dangling Cables Are Going Away!

Comcast has been working with ENA to address the dangling cables on the utility poles in our neighborhood. These cables give the neighborhood a look of blight, so I contacted Comcast to see what could be done about them. Comcast has fixed the cables at Phelps Ave / Speno Drive, and will be fixing others in the neighborhood. You can assist Comcast by calling the ENA hotline if you have any of these dangling cables close to your home, including the ones on your backyard utility pole. ENA will pass this information along to Comcast.

- Richard Kabanek

More Progress by Your ENA

Related achievements by ENA include PG&E's assistance in resolving blackouts in our area and the removal of duplicate utility poles where new ones have been placed.

Cut the Grease!



A gentle reminder on behalf of your neighbors - please do not pour any grease, oil, or lard down the drain. Anything that requires the use of hot water to flow down the drain or your garbage disposal is not a good idea. When these items reach the sewers, they congeal and clog the sewer pipes. This happened in several of our main sewer arteries in May. What occurs next is very unpleasant - especially for our noses - and may be dangerous if sewer gases become volatile! Please utilize a container for these types of waste, and contact the Santa Clara County Household Hazardous Waste program at (408) 299-7300 for disposal guidelines.

May 2003 Membership Report

To date, the count is up to 300 paid members, but we are 117 short of our 2002 membership. We need your support and your help. We have 38 volunteers delivering your newsletter ten months out of the year. ENA is grateful for their service. When it comes to serving in committees or volunteering for events, participation is slim. It takes a neighbor to volunteer to keep our neighborhood clean, safe and friendly. Please do your part. It takes little time and there is great satisfaction in making a contribution to help others.

ENA welcomes new members:

Stephanie Brooks and Steve Dodson
 Karen Brown
 Dave & Natagha Conti
 Daniel Moskowitz and Marian Wolf
 Mark & Nancy Fuller

ENA thanks renewing members:

Soumya & Piu Banerjee	Herbert & Ilene Finger
Lisa & Ron Beam	Richard & Aiko Iseri
John & Sharon Cahill	John & Susan Knapp
Carrie & Ion Coman	Thelma & George Mavrakis
Mike Console	Pete & Susan Michels
Richard Dow	John & Ginny Pyle

Are \$15 Membership dues too much? The ENA Newsletter costs ~\$2600 a year to print and goes out to members & non-members. The Free Family Summer Picnic costs ~\$1400 & is open to everybody. Dumpster Day costs ~\$2,000 (free to paid-up

members). We have a Volunteer Appreciation Day. Our Festival of Lights costs have not been totaled, but ENA will give out close to 500 kits. All of these events cost ~\$9000. You are getting a lot for your \$15! If you have questions or wish to join, give me a call at (408) 482-5731 or (408) 248-2918, or send me email at mariorvazquez@sbcglobal.net.

- Mario Vazquez



Beautification Committee Update



The flower garden is fully planted and in bloom, thanks to many people. Thank you Debra Hunter for planting many perennials at the entrance to the school and Edwin Ayoung for his work on a nearby plot with pretty flowers. Special thanks to Dr. John and Zee Del Fiugo for pulling lots of weeds from the flower garden. There are many others also pulling weeds – Thank you!

- Carl Shoemaker

2003 Calendar of Upcoming Events

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)

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.)

I am renewing my membership

Membership Dues \$ 15.00

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

Eden Neighborhood Association Annual



July 4th

& 10th Anniversary Celebration

Saturday, June 28th

at

Amber Drive Primary Plus School

Children's Parade

Pre-Decorate your Bikes & Dress-up your Pets
Assemble at the school parking lot at 3:30pm

Hot Dogs & Hamburgers at 4:00pm

Entertainment Galore: Banjo Band, Line Dancing, Bingo, Games

Come One, Come All, Good Food, Good Neighbors, Good Times

Please RSVP: (408) 404-7404 by June 26th
with the number of children & adults

