

Winchester San Tomas

THE EDEN EXAMINER

Payne Williams

**February
2005**

Web page: <http://www.EdenNeighborhoodAssociation.org> **ENA Hotline:** (408) 404-7404
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Next Meeting: *Amber Drive Primary Plus School, Tuesday, February 8th, 7:00 p.m.*

Guest Speaker Panel: Selinda Bem-Shirley, Joannie Sevilla, & Dr. Shishir Mathiur

Topic: Ask the Experts About Neighborhood Issues

February 8th General Meeting Agenda

- Committee reports
- Guest Speaker Panel:
 - Ms. Selinda Bem-Shirley
 - Ms. Joannie Sevilla
 - Dr. Shishir Mathiur
- Door Prize!

This month we will have a panel discussion with three very special guests, each offering a different perspective about neighborhoods:

- Ms. Selinda Bem-Shirley is a residential real estate appraiser. She used to live near the neighborhood, and has special insight into the things that make our neighborhood attractive to buyers.
- Ms. Joannie Sevilla wrote about Eden Ave and Phelps Ave for the *San Jose Mercury News*. She can tell us what prompted her to write about our neighborhood.
- Dr. Shishir Mathiur, a professor at San Jose State University, can help us understand the impact that high density housing might have on our property values.

Together they have a wealth of knowledge to share. Please join us. Bring your questions and learn what things we can do to maintain and enhance our safe, clean, friendly neighborhood.

**Working Toward a
Safe, Clean,
Friendly Neighborhood**



Beautification Committee



Thanks to Alex Gebhart-Hardin and Chris Moe for helping me trim the euryops bushes for the Spring planting. The boys showed an interest in their work, and their help was much appreciated. The pansies are blooming nicely, and will be joined by daffodils in the same bed. Daffodils will be also be blooming in other locations. Other flowers will be blooming later. The transplanted impatiens from the garden have been blooming all winter on my front porch, and will be re-planted back in the garden when cold weather has passed.

- Carl Shoemaker

Upcoming Calendar of Events

- Feb 08 GM: Panel Discussion**
- Mar 08 GM: Income Tax Expert
- Apr 12 General Meeting
- Apr 16 Emergency Preparedness
- May 10 General Meeting
- May 14 Neighborhood Garage Sale
- Jun 25 ENA's Annual Family Summer Picnic
- Jun 07 General Meeting
- Aug 02 National Night Out
- Aug 09 General Meeting
- Sept 13 General Meeting
- Sept 17 ENA 10th Annual Dumpster Day
- Oct 11 General Meeting
- Oct 15 ENA 8th Annual Volunteer Appreciation
- Nov 08 General Meeting & Elections
- Dec 17 ENA 6th Annual "Festival of Lights"



President's Message

Betty Kabanek

I think most of us will agree that our neighborhood is special. People are friendly, homes are well kept, etc. However, there is always room for improvement. With that in mind, we have invited three special guests to our next meeting: a residential real estate appraiser, a writer for the Mercury News, and an urban planner from San Jose State University. I hope you'll join us.

As nice as our neighborhood is, we are not without problems. Neighbors have reported outgoing mail being stolen from their mailboxes. Please be alert to strange activities and report them to the police, 911 in an emergency and 311 in a non-emergency.

On another note, we are still working on neighborhood identity. Although we thought that Walgrove Manor would be the most appropriate name, we have had more input, and are now recommending Walgrove West. That takes something reminiscent of the early walnut orchards as well as the section of the city that we live in. Just today I received a packet of material from the City of San Jose regarding the requirements for entry markers. I will condense them for the newsletter and for web-site in the very near future.

The Eden Neighborhood Association exists because of the commitment of the board, the committee chairpeople, and the residents who donate their time and money to support its activities. To all of you, many, many thanks.

ENA Email Distribution List

Please call the hotline (408) 404-7404 or send an email to email @ EdenNeighborhoodAssociation.org if you want to be added to the email distribution list or if your email address has changed.

Eden Examiner Article Submissions



Please feel free to submit articles or information of neighborhood interest for publication in the Eden Examiner. You can send the article / information to the newsletter editor, Ivy Quiring, via email to ivy_quiring @ yahoo.com or the ENA mailbox: ENA Newsletter Editor, P.O. Box 9383, San Jose, CA 95157-0383 .

Unused Cell Phones

Give Them to a Good Cause

Some of us got cell phones recently as gifts. Some of us updated phone plans. For whatever reason, we end up with left over cell phones that we don't know what to do with. Often, we end up tossing them in some random box or the garage.

There are more options that can help those less fortunate - such as nationwide programs and cell phone vendor programs that provide re-use options for these phones to support groups for domestic violence prevention, suicide prevention, animal protection services, children's support services, and many other needy programs.

If you have unwanted cell phones you do not know what to do with, check out some of these options:

- Pledge-A-Phone 911: (888) 259-4860 or via their website

<http://www.pledgeaphone.com>

- Verizon Wireless Hopeline Program: local office (408) 777-0220 or via their website

<http://www.verizonwireless.com/b2c/aboutUs/communityservice/hopeLine.jsp>



- Ivy Quiring

Megan's Law Information Access

I recently went on the internet and inquired as to the number of sex offenders living within 1 mile of my house. I was shocked when I learned that there were 34 within this small area. If you have concerns and would like more information, you can go to:

<http://www.meganslaw.ca.gov>

- Betty Kabanek

A new California law, Assembly Bill 488, now provides the public with Internet access to detailed information on registered sex offenders.

Megan's law is not intended to punish the offender and specifically prohibits using the information to harass or commit any crime against an alleged offender.

Money Saving PG&E Programs

To help consumers battle the chilly weather along with this winter's higher natural gas prices, Pacific Gas and Electric Company is offering an additional almost \$8 million in funding for energy efficient appliances and equipment for residential and business customers, beginning in January 2005. Residential, small, medium, and large businesses will be eligible for rebates and incentives for natural gas products and measures under the following five existing programs, which are being augmented by the additional funding:

Residential Rebate Program

Funding provides rebates for energy-efficient appliances including clothes washers, dishwashers, natural gas furnaces, and programmable thermostats. A complete listing of qualifying appliances is available at: <http://www.pge.com/foryourhome>



Multifamily Rebate Program

This program assists apartment complexes, condominium and mobile home parks with rebates for the installation of qualified energy efficiency products. The funding allows the program to reopen for specific natural gas measures and encourage further program savings through the peak winter months.

Express Efficiency Program

This program assists small and medium sized business with rebate measures. It offers rebates for commercial clothes washers, water heaters, space heating boilers, pipe and tank insulation, setback programmable thermostats, and heat curtains for greenhouses.

Standard Performance Contract

This program offers cash incentives for custom-designed, energy efficient redesigns of existing facilities. It assists large industrial facilities and processing plants with more customized natural gas projects.

Savings By Design

This program assists with energy design education, design assistance, and cash incentives for nonresidential owners, tenants, and design teams. It provides rebate funding for gas process projects, hot

water measures, and aspects of whole building projects where natural gas is used. PG&E's additional rebates and incentives are available to customers beginning January 1, 2005. Customers - both residential and business - are urged to take advantage of the program early as the funding is available on a first come, first served basis.



- Information provided by Teresa Alvarado, Pacific Gas and Electric Company

More Entertaining Flight Tidbits

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, airline attendants make an effort to make the in-flight "safety lecture" and announcements a bit more entertaining. Here are more real examples that have been heard or reported:

And from the pilot during his welcome message: "Delta Airlines is pleased to have some of the best flight attendants in the industry. Unfortunately, none of them are on this flight!"

Heard on Southwest Airlines just after a very hard landing in Salt Lake City: The flight attendant came on the intercom and said, "That was quite a bump, and I know what y'all are thinking. I'm here to tell you it wasn't the airline's fault, it wasn't the pilot's fault, it wasn't the flight attendant's fault, it was the asphalt."

Overheard on an American Airlines flight into Amarillo, Texas, on a particularly windy and bumpy day: During the final approach, the Captain was really having to fight it. After an extremely hard landing, the Flight Attendant said, "Ladies and Gentlemen, welcome to Amarillo. Please remain in your seats with your seat belts fastened while the Captain taxis what's left of our airplane to the gate!"

Part of a flight attendant's arrival announcement: "We'd like to thank you folks for flying with us today. And, the next time you get the insane urge to go blasting through the skies in a pressurized metal tube, we hope you'll think of US Airways."



- author unknown

Membership Report

Since October 2004, ENA membership has grown to 172 members with 14 new members. Additional donations are now over \$720.00. ENA thanks you. For those who are renewing, you can just send in your dues if your phone number or your email has not changed. Otherwise, please submit your dues with your updated information. Last year, we had a membership of 410. Also, ENA thanks all who have renewed their membership and support the organization's activities.

ENA would like to welcome new member Paul G. Ryan . Renewing since the last newsletter are:

Donald & Shelly Bacci	Richard & Betty Kabanek	Bill Robertson
Derek Charton	John & Jane Kim	Elna Rodgers
Mike Console	Thomas & Rosanne Kretchun	Grace Santo
David Schirle & Denise Michael	Raymond & Eunice Lee	Lester & Audrey Santo
Mike & Diane Doyle	Bruce & Carol Moe	Joe Sperry
Dave & Tracy Dwyer	Scott & Sue Ohara	Esma Sprague
Betty Ford	Bob & Judy Park	Roy & Judith Truitt
George & Shirley Horning	Virginia Perasso	Tor & Sandra Underwood

ENA thanks you for your support. Any questions, call Mario at (408) 482-5731 or email him at mariorv @ sbcglobal.net .

- Mario Vazquez

Treasurer's Report

EXPENSES	2004 Budget	2004 Actual	2005 Budget	Notes for 2004 Actual Expenses
Printing & Newsletter	\$3,000.00	\$2,909.05	\$3,000.00	Newsletter, envelopes, notecards, small letterhead
Dumpster Day	\$2,000.00	\$1,878.61	\$2,000.00	Dumpsters, refreshments, gloves
Summer Picnic	\$1,300.00	\$1,550.92	\$1,600.00	Grill, astrojump, happy birds, band, food, supplies, decorations, kid prizes, flyers
Volunteer Appreciation	\$400.00	\$474.01	\$500.00	Food
Postage	\$325.00	\$296.00	\$300.00	Membership letters, newsletters mailed out of area, bills
Emergency Preparation	\$200.00	\$103.21	\$200.00	Refreshments, training
Festival of Lights	\$175.00	\$129.58	\$150.00	Candles
Garage Sale	\$150.00	\$79.89	\$150.00	Paper for flyers, sj mercury ad, duct tape
Office & Computer Supplies	\$150.00	\$110.85	\$150.00	Stickers, brochure paper, ink cartridge for brochure, envelopes, flip chart, binders
Garden	\$150.00	\$115.80	\$125.00	Plants & supplies
Bereavement	\$200.00	\$94.11	\$100.00	6 arrangements
Miscellaneous	\$100.00	\$9.25	\$100.00	Pin to repair projector screen, return check fee
Hotline	\$75.00	\$73.44	\$75.00	Hotline
Website	\$65.00	\$61.77	\$65.00	Hosting fee
PO Box	\$38.00	\$43.40	\$38.00	Over budget due to extra key
Meeting Refreshments	\$100.00	\$11.67	\$25.00	Coffee, napkins, sugar
Conferences	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
National Night Out	\$350.00	\$976.37	TBD	One-time grant for \$870, favors, decorations
UNSCC	\$90.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Total Expenses	\$8,918.00	\$8,917.93	\$8,578.00	
INCOME				
				Notes
Membership Dues (\$15 each)	\$6,750.00	\$6,090.00	\$6,750.00	410 members in 2004, Goal of 450 members for 2005
Additional Donations	\$2,168.00	\$1,977.00	\$1,828.00	
National Night Out Grant		\$870.00	\$0.00	
Total Income	\$8,918.00	\$8,937.00	\$8,578.00	
Net	\$0.00	\$19.07	\$0.00	