

Winchester San Tomas

THE EDEN EXAMINER

Payne Williams



**October
2007**

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Next Meeting: *Amber Drive Primary Plus School, Tuesday, October 9th, 7:00 p.m.*
 Guest Speaker: *Kimberlee Gaddis of the City of San Jose Police Department*
 Topic: *Neighborhood Watch*

October 9th General Meeting Agenda

- Welcome
- ENA Updates & Committee Reports
- Guest Speaker: **Kimberlee Gaddis**, *Crime Prevention Specialist for the City of San Jose Police Department.* Kimberlee will be helping us refresh our Neighborhood Watch Program. It's been over 12 years since we started, we have a number of new residents, and it's time for an update! She will be focusing on safety & security issues that impact us. Please come join us!



**Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
Saturday, Oct 13th 5:30**

In October, ENA shows its appreciation of all those members who dedicate their time to make this Association a success. Without them, little would be accomplished. This includes those who deliver the newsletters to your door, help with the Garage Sale, the Family Summer Picnic, Dumpster Day, Emergency Preparedness, Festival of Lights, and other events. All those volunteers are invited to Primary Plus for the Pizza Party on Saturday, October 13th at 5:30 PM. This is your official invitation. With so many, you may or may not receive a call, but you are invited. Please join us. You are the heart of the ENA and we thank you!

- Mario Vazquez



Halloween Safety Center - Wed, Oct 31st

On Halloween after 5pm, parents can bring their children by our neighborhood Halloween Safety Center at 1023 Phelps Ave to receive a glow necklace. Help them be safe & visible this Halloween. This is part of the Safe From the Start San Jose Program.

Another Successful Dumpster Day

For the 13th year, Dumpster Day was again a success. There were 94 residents who cleaned out their yards and brought 104 loads of debris. Four 40-ton dumpsters were filled to capacity. This was done by volunteers who helped make this project a success. Thanks go to Isobel Taylor, Henry Chin, Lee Myers, Richard & Betty Kabanek, Ivy & Armin Quiring, Charlie & Caroline Reed, Doug Pohorski, Bill Theriault, Tomar Baz, Ron Cirino, Betsy Gebhart & Drew Hardin, Nat Gurumoothy, Pat Hascall, Wayne Hall, and others. Also thanks to those who used their pick-ups to help those who were unable to bring their heavy items to the site. All are invited with their families to attend ENA's Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on Saturday, October 13th at the Primary Plus Auditorium at 5:30 PM.

- Mario Vazquez & Armin Quiring



**Neighborhood
Watch**

**Tuesday, October 9th
7-9pm @ Multipurpose Room**

**Learn how to discourage, deter & prevent crime in
or near your homes!**

**Be a part of the community together with the police
to achieve a common goal of preventing crime &
keeping our families safe!**

**** Free to ALL ****



President's Message Ivy Quiring



Summer is officially over! Fall is spreading its season with leaves falling, temperatures cooling, and sun setting sooner. Through all the changing seasons, we have a number of volunteers who make things happen in the association & our neighborhood. I would like to personally say "Thank You!" to all our volunteers for all they do for us. I don't care how small or how big your contribution is – you all make ENA and our neighborhood a wonderful place to live. You are all superstars in my books!

I am pleased to announce that ENA's first Electronic Waste Collection Event was a huge success! We filled more than 8 bins, collected a lot of huge TV's, & filled the truck! ENA also sent a large truck-load of donation items to the Salvation Army. This, coupled with the filling of the 4 packed-to-the-hilt dumpsters, shows that we had another super successful Dumpster Day. We owe a ton of thanks to all of our volunteers for our success. And a ton of thanks to all of you for your dedication to helping keep the neighborhood clean & our landfills uncontaminated. Great job everyone!

September: If you couldn't make our September meeting, you missed a very informative talk by Jessie Denver of San Jose's Environmental Services Department. As many of you discovered at the meeting, there are a surprising number of human health risks & environmental impacts by chemicals in commonly-used products. Personally, I have stopped buying many commercial cleaning products, especially those with triclosan, toluene, xylene and "fragrance". Instead, I've gone back to my mom & grandma's cleaning remedies with vinegar and baking soda.

October: We have been lucky to live in a safe neighborhood. We should never just depend on luck. This month, we have a special Neighborhood Watch opportunity thanks to the San Jose Police Department & our VP Ginny Pyle. Help keep your block safe. Learn what you can do to be safer & learn what to do when something happens. Be prepared. Join us at our October meeting – let's look out for our kids, our elderly, our homes, and our neighborhood. See you there!

How Safe Are Those Household, Soaps, Cleaners and Sprays You've Been Using?



Did you know:

- many cleaning products contain turpines, which when mixed with the ozone in our air become formaldehyde, a cancer-causing-compound;
- air fresheners can lead to more headaches;
- dryer sheets have toluene, xylene, and other compounds, which cause neurological disorders;
- fragrance makes products smell great, but did you realize that "fragrance" is really an unspecific mix of chemicals which companies don't have to disclose?
- anti-bacterial products haven't been proven to make the surface "cleaner". Triclosan, a registered pesticide, is the ingredient used in anti-bacterial soaps, cleaners, and even anti-bacterial clothing. Would you willingly absorb a registered pesticide into your body? I didn't think so, but that is what happens when we use products containing triclosan. It also bio-accumulates in fish and human tissues, where it can easily become a dioxin or chloroform, which are also cancer-causing-compounds.

So what are your options? Use essential oils to change or influence the aroma desired. Use soap and water to clean your hands. Choose products without triclosan. If you want to further clean your hands - use hand sanitizers which contain alcohol and peroxide. Look for products that are biodegradable, use plant-based surfactants, are fragrance-free, non-toxic, phosphate-free, chlorine-bleach-free, and with no "anti-bacterial" notations! Use natural cleansers to clean drains - vinegar and baking soda make an efficient, safe, and inexpensive drain cleaner / opener. Mix right as you pour into the drain and let it work! No chemical splash, fumes, or hazards. Want to polish your furniture – use 1/2 teaspoon olive or jojoba oil mixed with 1/4 cup vinegar or lemon juice. Some of the safe & green ingredients you can use for your cleaning are: white vinegar, baking soda, lemons, olive oil, jojoba, essential oils. There are also some ready to use earth-friendly products available in the stores like Plan-It, Seventh Generation, Borax, Dr. Bronner's Castile Soap, etc. Ms. Denver supplied a hand-out with safe & green homemade cleaning formulas. I'll bring some more to our October General Meeting.



Help Wanted – Help Needed

Contributors to the ENA Eden Examiner provide information they think is relevant to our neighborhood. Last month the ENA board discussed the possibility of allowing neighbors to put in requests for help and decided to set up a pilot program. Requests will be limited to:

- Members in good standing (no businesses)
- One per year per member
- 100 combined characters & spaces

The editor will have the right to edit, accept, or reject any submission. Submissions are the responsibility of the submitter and ENA accepts no liability related to the request.

If you would like to submit a help request into the newsletter, please send your request to: ivyq_ena@sbcglobal.net or call the ENA Message Line at (408) 404-7404.

- Betty Kabanek



Help Wanted

Wanted: Female tutor M-F 3:30-5:30 for 7th grader. 2 to 3 hours a day. Must have their own transportation. Pay is negotiable. (408) 591-7725

An Accidentally Overlooked Thank You

As many of you know, ENA enjoys a wonderful relationship with the Primary Plus Amber Drive School. Like many good things, sometimes it is easy to take them for granted. We would like to extend a big Thank You from ENA to Stephanie McEntee and the Primary Plus School for the use of the school for ENA's various events - such as our summer picnic, dumpster day, and our general meetings! Did you know that the school has quietly done extra things for us to help with our events? So, the next time you see Stephanie or have business at the Primary Plus Amber Drive Campus, please be sure to say "Thank You!"

- Armin & Ivy Quiring

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



Upcoming Calendar of Events

Oct 09	GM: Neighborhood Watch/Nominations
Oct 13	ENA 10 th Volunteer Appreciation
Nov 04	Daylight Savings Time Ends @ 2am
Nov 13	General Meeting & Elections
Dec tbd	ENA 8 th Annual "Festival of Lights"

Membership Report

Many of our neighbors either joined or renewed their membership recently. We welcome the following new members: Peter & Sandi Grossinger, Ryan Sales, and John & Cheri Whaples.

Our neighborhood association relies upon the continued support of its members. Many thanks to those who continue to support ENA through your renewals. Since the last publication of our newsletter, the following people have renewed their membership:

Haider & Buniaty Alhadi
 Donald & Shelly Bacci
 Ron Cirino
 Greg & Mindy Donley
 Kathleen Drysdale
 Sandy & David Fletcher
 David & Sondra Gaertner
 Raj & Urmil Jindia
 Beverly Johnson
 Susan Jean Thompson & Gary Leshchuk
 Ira & Laura Leventhal
 Jeff Maggard
 Clark & Marsha Maloney
 Edward & Susan Margherone
 Paul & Carolyn Newburn
 Martin & Kimberly Sorich
 Gaylan & William Yeh



- Betty Kabanek

San Jose's Crime Mapping Website

San Jose is participating in a new crime-mapping website that maps reported crimes to an area:

www.crimereports.com

This new software provides more detailed mapping, including zeroing in on an area as small as an one-mile radius of their home or school.

- Information provided by Pat Madison



SAN JOSÉ POLICE DEPARTMENT
CRIME PREVENTION UNIT
INVITES YOU TO A

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING



Tuesday, October 9, 2007
7 – 9 pm



Amber Drive Primary Plus School
3500 Amber Drive
Multipurpose Room

JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORS AT THIS IMPORTANT MEETING
WITH POLICE DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES & LEARN:

- 1.ABOUT RECENT CRIMES IN YOUR AREA
- 2.HOW TO WORK TOGETHER TO PREVENT CRIME
- 3.HOW TO RECOGNIZE & REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

AND MUCH MORE....

**** RSVP to Ginny Pyle at (408) 234-6391 ****

**ONLY PERSONS IN ATTENDANCE FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING WILL RECEIVE A
NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH SIGN AND OTHER MATERIALS.**

DUE TO THE NATURE OF THIS MEETING AND LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE,
ONLY ADULT MEMBERS OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD SHOULD ATTEND. THIS IS AN
OFFICIAL POLICE PRESENTATION AND ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION IS INAPPROPRIATE.

**THERE MUST BE AT LEAST 10 HOMES CONFIRMED. PLEASE RSVP TO THE HOST
TO PREVENT CANCELLATION OF THIS MEETING.**