
Sunnyside News

Vol. 1, No. 74

October 1996

President's Message

by Don Price

The Sunnyside Neighborhood Association is very happy to offer the residents of Sunnyside the opportunity to participate in a neighborhood-wide garage sale/flea market in conjunction with St. Finn

Barr's Church on Edna Street at Hearst Street. This event will take the place of SNA's neighborhood garage sale this year.

The garage sale/flea market will be held on Sunday, October 20 in the blacktop playground area behind the church school on Hearst. Each space (or table) will cost \$15 for the day and the proceeds will benefit the school. For more information, or to reserve your spot, call 587-7667 and request a reservation.



SNA Meeting November 12

At our November meeting, we'll talk about how often we should meet, twice a year or four times a year. We'll also pass around a sign-up sheet for anyone interested in neighborhood parks, clean-up or beautification.

Sunnyside Neighborhood Association meetings are held at 7:30 pm on the second Tuesday of February, May, September and November at Sunnyside School (on Foerster between Flood and Hearst).

For meeting dates or association news, to contact the president or board members, to leave questions or suggestions for SNA, please call **Sunnyside Line**, 331-1500 x100.

In other news around Sunnyside, many of you may be wondering about the recent renovations at City College, namely, the football stadium and track, and the tennis courts. These renovations are part of the special assessment district money that was voted as a special property tax assessment by the Board of Regents of City College last year. The money was specifically set aside for athletic and lighting related projects.

The campus will also get new lamp post lighting and building lighting. The stadium will be open in October, and the completely overhauled tennis courts will also open in October.

One of the unfortunate results of the tennis court redevelopment project is that the plan called for the removal of decades-old trees along the road adjacent to the gym and tennis courts. This will provide space for a spectator and review stand. The college is host to many tournaments and this seating area is necessary for the participants.

There will also be an information/check-in kiosk

President's Message, continued on page 3

From the Editor

by Rita Evans

Sunnyside is a great place to live, but our public spaces leave a lot to be desired.

Our neighborhood park, Sunnyside Recreation Area, is a space with a lot of potential, but in its present state, it's not very inviting. Neighbor Chris Loughran wants to get in touch with other neighbors who'd like to improve this park. "I live across the street," she wrote, "and I think it is a terrible park for children. I would like to assist in making it a better playground and get a few programs started."

The park has very little playground equipment. San Francisco's Dept. of Parks and Recreation has gone through a lot of changes lately, Chris said, and they may be more willing to act on a request for some attention to this park.

Chris also wrote, "My husband and I helped with the Friends of the Urban Forest on the tree planting day in April and I spoke with several people who said they would love to help clean up the park or

beautify the neighborhoods. Park clean up days may be a way to get neighbors together in a project."

Other areas which may merit attention are the Conservatory on Monterey Blvd., the eucalyptus grove on the City College along Judson, and the planted median on Monterey.

If you're interested in working together with your neighbors to make the park, or any other open space in our neighborhood, a better place, we will pass around a sign up sheet at SNA's November 12 meeting. Here's a fine chance to get involved with Sunnyside and meet your neighbors — and we'll need a volunteer to chair the committee. If you can't attend SNA's meeting on November 12, please call Chris at 333-7395.



I'd like to encourage any neighbors who are interested in our association to attend the November 12 meeting, since we'll be discussing how often we should meet, and what the association should be doing.

Several of our association officers have worked tirelessly for years — in some cases, many years — to keep this association functioning and effective.

Dave Wall's efforts (through years of countless meetings and three ballot measures) to make City College responsive to Sunnyside's needs have made this a better neighborhood for all of us. Rita D'Amico helped found the association, and has served as president, secretary and treasurer. She's our organization's memory and someone who always finds the time to take care of a job that needs to be done.

Don Price has arranged for all of our meeting programming for the past several years. He was tenacious in fighting the shop/warehouse project on Judson, and he's tireless in reminding DPT and other city departments not to overlook Sunnyside.

But all of us who make the association work need your help. We're all feeling a little tapped out, and we need to have more neighbors involved if we're going to continue our quarterly meetings and other association activities. Your involvement doesn't have to be a big time commitment — a couple of hours to arrange a program once a year, or a few hours to do a mailing, is what we need.

See you on November 12! ⚙

Sunnyside News

Please contribute to the *Sunnyside News* -- your news, features or letters to the editor are most welcome, and we'd like to hear more from our neighbors.

Mail items to SNA, PO Box 27615, S.F., CA 94127, or contact Rita Evans, 558-0359.

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at this site for people to reserve a court, and for security. Although the removal of these trees is unfortunate, the course of progress prevailed.

In addition to the seating area, the tennis courts are getting all new court surfaces, new fencing, and night lighting. At a special meeting held by SNA in June, City College officials reviewed the plans with neighbors and fielded questions.

A special postcard about this opportunity to discuss the project was mailed to all SNA members, but only twelve people showed up at the meeting. This prompts me to say again to all those people who complain about a project after-the-fact that the only way to change a system is to get involved from the beginning.

The night lighting will be from high lamp posts with concentrated light on the court. Hopefully, there will be little spill-over light onto the houses surrounding the courts. All lights will be on timers (**SNA's insistence!**) and will require coins to turn on the lights for a measured hour. Therefore, the lights will not be on all the time, only when coins have been inserted into the timer. This will help keep non-players off the courts at night, and will provide a little income to CCSF's athletic department.

Later this year City College will install other safety lighting. I also have heard that 1997 will bring the construction of the maintenance shop (as in the shop/warehouse project we defeated on the Judson Hill) near the practice football field near Ocean Avenue. This is the correct place for this building and will allow the college to provide maintenance services to the Phelan campus.



SNA has heard that CCSF intends to finally open the South Reservoir to parking in 1997. This will take some additional cars off our neighborhood streets and free up some additional parking. Plans for a Master Plan for CCSF are in process and include using the reservoir for new buildings in the future. More on this later.

Hope to see you at our November 12 meeting where we will discuss future meeting dates and frequency of our meetings. Have a great Autumn season! ⚙

Get Involved and Help Your Neighbors!

The SNA Board needs your help in the following positions:

Committee Chair: Judson Avenue Hillside Open Space Project.

SNA Representative: City College Facilities Planning Committee (attend planning meetings, represent neighborhood interests, report back to SNA).

Interested? Call Sunnyside Line, 331-1500 x100 and leave your name and phone number. ⚙

Recycle Your Phone Books

New San Francisco telephone directories have been distributed. Please recycle your old phone books through the Curbside Recycling Program by placing them in your blue bin or with other bagged or tied paper. ⚙

Sunnyside Neighborhood Association

President - Don Price
Vice-President - Dave Wall
Treasurer - Rita D'Amico
Secretary - Kasey Asberry

Call Sunnyside Line, 331-1500 x100, if you wish to discuss neighborhood concerns. Your call will be returned within a week. ⚙

NERT Trainees To Practice Emergency Skills at City-wide Drill in Sunnyside

The Sunnyside Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT) members have launched an energetic recruitment campaign to encourage enrollment in the San Francisco Fire Department (SFFD) Disaster Response training which began on September 10 at St. Finn Barr School. Fliers were personally distributed to each household in the Sunnyside neighborhood, distributed at community churches, and passed out at Safeway and Tower Market shopping areas.

Professional firefighters of the SFFD conduct the training sessions for the purpose of assisting citizens of San Francisco to prepare themselves, their

families and the neighborhood at large to be self-sufficient in the event of a major disaster such as an earthquake. Training sessions are held throughout the city, are open to anyone from any area of the city, and are **free** of charge. Call the NERT Program Office at 558-3456 for a current schedule.

After the completion of the current class in Sunnyside, trained NERTs will participate in the bi-annual NERT City-wide Drill on Saturday, October 19, at their staging area located at the Sunnyside Recreation Center at Melrose and Foerster Streets. The drill will be held from 10 a.m. until about 12:00 noon.

These drills is to give trained citizens an opportunity to practice their skills out in the neighborhood where the need for assistance is most likely to occur. Skills must be practiced on a consistent basis in order for them to be reliable when the critical moment of need arises.

Skills concentrated on at this drill will be the lifting of heavy objects from victims, securing victims' injuries, and moving them to safe zones. NERT members are encouraged to arrive at the staging area carrying their Emergency Response Packs in order to test their pack weight to body strength ratio. Members will have a chance to discuss how to make adjustments for optimal comfort and effectiveness.

Untrained neighbors are welcome to attend the drill and observe the NERTs practice. It is requested, however, that all observations be made from a position that will not interfere with the practices. All questions will be gladly answered after the completion of the drill. ⚙

Andrea L. O'Leary
Coordinator, Sunnyside NERT
334-3601

BARBER CLIPS

*Local Humor and Wisdom
As Collected in the Sunnyside
by Ron the Barber*

Two little girls wanted to play house, a little boy came up and said, “Can I play house too?” “No, you can’t,” said the girl. The little boy said, “Yes, I can.” “OK,” the little girl said. “Here’s your lunch pail, go to work.”

An elderly man said he was not going to buy any-more green bananas. Might not live long enough to see them ripen.

One Fall, I escorted a group of first-graders to visit a replica of one of Columbus’s ships. “Do you know the names of all three ships?” I asked a six-year-old girl. “Sure,” she said. “The Niña, the Pinta and the Piña Colada.”

Woman paying bills, to husband: “Our financial situation definitely is fluid. We’re going straight down the drain.”

One programmer to another: “I can’t believe it. Their computer put my computer on hold.”

The same clutter that fills a one-car garage will fill a two-car garage.

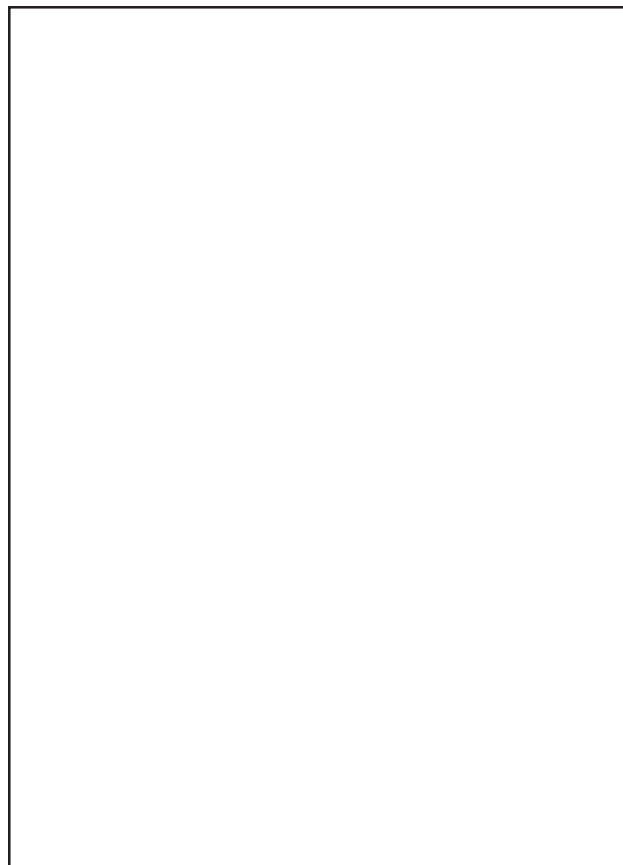
After church one Sunday, my five-year-old son Christopher writing intently. “Dad,” he said, “How do you spell ‘God’?” Pleased that he must have been paying attention in church, I told him. And then he asked, “How do you spell ‘Zilla’?”

Recent studies claim there are millions of adults who can’t read or count — and if you don’t believe it, take a look at the folks in front of you at the express checkout.

Sign outside a store that sells TV satellite antennas: “We do dishes.”

Ever notice the best patrons of the movie snack bar always sit in the middle of the row?

Any baseball team could use a man who plays every position superbly, never strikes out and never makes an error — but there’s no way to make him lay down his hot dog and come out of the grandstand. ⚙



May SNA Meeting

GM Explains Water, Sewage Costs; Discusses Supply, Purity Issues

Why is my water bill so high? Is city water safe to drink?

John Mullane, General Manager of the Water Department, answered those and other questions at the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association's May 14 meeting. Tackling the big question — why are water bills so high? — Mullane gave some background on city water and sewer services, and how the city bills for those services.

Our bills include charges for both water and sewage, with sewage accounting for about 75% of most resident's bills. It's cheaper to have the water department read meters for both, and then send just one bill. Since the bill comes from the water department, however, most people assume the high charges are for water, forgetting about sewage.

And why such high sewage charges? To pay for the new, city-wide treatment system built since the late 1970s. The system costs more to maintain, and the big bond issued to finance it have to be paid off. Despite that, sewage charges in San Francisco are the second lowest in the Bay Area.

Mullane said that San Francisco residents enjoy a very good, very pure water supply, with most of our water supplied from the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir in Yosemite National Park. Water quality exceeds federal and state standards, and no filtering is required. They do monitor for cryptosporidium.

Most of the cost of our water is for transport and storage. The city paid just \$30,000 per year to the federal government for its water from 1913 through 1995. While an increase to as much as \$30 million was advocated by some in Congress, the annual cost is now \$600,000.

System reliability is a major concern, Mullane said, with very old pipes — some installed as long ago as the 1860s — throughout the city. About six miles of pipes are replaced each year, but with 1200 miles of pipes in the system, water main breaks and other problems are sure to increase.

Costs also are likely to increase, with almost \$1 billion in capital improvements needed in the next ten years. In addition to the pipe replacements, seismic retrofitting of main facilities such as reservoirs and treatment plants will be needed.

Mullane noted that the water department is putting a new emphasis on customer service and providing information to the public. Plans are in the works to have an automatic payment system available for customers.

SNA President Don Price said that our November meeting will focus on whether we should move to twice yearly meeting from our current quarterly schedule. While attendance at meetings is much better than it was a few years ago — 20-40 neighbors instead of 6-10 — only half a dozen members are actively involved in making the association work.

If you'd be willing to organize a meeting, or would like to comment on our meeting schedule, be sure to attend our November meeting. ⚙

Are My Dues Due?

If you're wondering if it's time to pay your annual Sunnyside Neighborhood Association dues, just look at the mailing label on your *Sunnyside News*. Right above your name is a line which reads, "Dues paid through (month/date)."

We hope that you'll renew, and that you'll encourage your neighbors to join SNA. ⚙



Sunnyside Neighbors Invited to Take Part In International Food Faire and Yard Sale

As part of the celebration of its 70th anniversary, St. Finn Barr Church will be having an **International Food Faire** and yard sale on **Sunday, October 20**.

Tables, at \$15 each, are available for the yard sale which will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the school yard. Advertising regarding the sale will be in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and *The Independent* as well as in neighborhood flyers and other church bulletins.

For more information, or to apply for a table, please call Marilyn Koehler at 587-7667.

St. Finn Barr Church and School look forward to seeing you at the festivities, and than you for your support. ⚙



SNA Annual Membership Dues



Membership in the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association is \$10 per year. Please renew **now**. Your \$10 fee covers the newsletter, meeting fees, donations, and a reserve fund **only**. No part of the fee is paid to SNA officers or to the City.

We need your support - join SNA today!

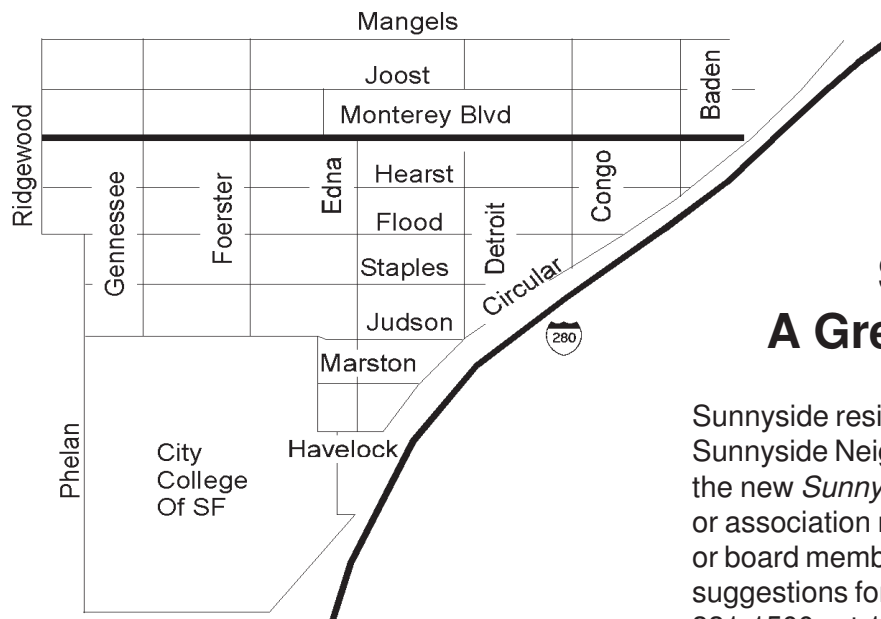
Send your check to: Sunnyside Neighborhood Assn., PO Box 27615, San Francisco, CA 94127. Make checks payable to SNA.

Name _____

Address _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ I want to volunteer _____

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Sunnyside - A Great Place to Live!

Sunnyside residents -- you can reach the Sunnyside Neighborhood Assn. by calling the new *Sunnyside Line*! For meeting dates or association news, to contact the president or board members, to leave questions or suggestions for the association, please call 331-1500 ext.100.

Sunnyside Neighborhood Assn.
P.O. Box 27615
San Francisco, CA 94127