
Sunnyside News

*Voice of the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association
30 Years of Neighbors Helping Neighbors, 1975-2005*

Vol.6, No.3



Fall 2005

Upcoming SNA Meetings

November 7
February 6
May 8

7:00 pm

St. Finn Barr
Church Hall,
Edna at Hearst

All Sunnyside
residents are invited
to attend.

Sunnyside Neighborhood Picnic

Saturday, October 8
Sunnyside Park
Page 8

President's Message

by Chris Coghlan

Greetings to all. It's back to school, so please keep an eye out for the little ones and try not to lose your patience with the City College students parking in our neighborhood.

City College has gone into full swing with the temporary classrooms ready for students behind Marston in the area where the greenhouses were. The Student Health Center at Judson and Phelan is almost ready for its foundation to be poured. A few issues have cropped up regarding these projects. The lighting at the temporaries appears to be a nuisance to the immediate neighbors and there is a report that more trees than were mentioned have been removed at the Health Center site.

We will be having discussions with City College to attempt to resolve these issues. I would like to add that they were quick to respond to a problem the neighbors had with the fencing behind the new classrooms. I will keep you posted by email, and we will give a full update at the November meeting and in the next issue of *Sunnyside News*. If you would like to join the email list, please go to www.snasf.org.

For those of you who don't already know, the SNA Board meets with Supervisor Sean Elsbernd (District 7) on a regular basis. He has been very attentive to neighborhood concerns. It has been a great resource to us that he usually brings along a City Department official.

Most recently we met with Dept. of Public Works and discussed our concerns with the triangle at the foot of Staples. The next week it was mowed and cleaned of debris. Our meeting with Dept. of Parking and Traffic has also brought about positive results. Circular Avenue from Monterey to Judson will be part of an upcoming Traffic Calming Study. On another note the neighbors around Flood and Congo have wanted a stop

President's Message continued on page 2

SNA Contacts

Please contact any board member when you have neighborhood concerns.

President – Chris Coghlan
Chris@CoghlanRealEstate.com
415-902-7310

Vice-President – Ric Lopez
RicLopez@sna.org

Treasurer – Robin Levine
r_levine@yahoo.com

Secretary – Bill Wilson
wfwilson@sbcglobal.net
239-8203

Member-at-Large – Jennifer Heggie, 415-412-5548.

You can also reach us at
SNA, PO Box 27615, San Francisco, CA 94127, or
info@sna.org.

Visit www.sna.org.

Time to Pay Your Dues?

If the date on your mailing label is *September 2005* or earlier, it's time to pay your dues. There's a form on page 7.

Questions about your membership information? Contact Rita Evans, 587-6234, or rita_e@pacbell.net.

From the Editor

by Rita Evans

The SNA Board has been diligent in responding to neighbors' complaints regarding the temporary classroom buildings along Havelock. As someone who's been involved in negotiations with City College on such issues for the past 15 years, I have been very impressed with how quickly and effectively your board has conveyed residents' concerns to top administrators at the college, resulting in resolution of some issues and work on others. The college is much more willing to work with us and be good neighbors than it was in the past, and I hope this cooperation prevails as construction continues for the next few years.

Correction: My report in the Summer issue of *Sunnyside News* that the former greenhouse property along Havelock would be used for parking by City College was incorrect and I regret the error.

President's Message, continued from page 1

sign for quite a while. DPT informed me that there would be one installed "in the near future."

The SNA Annual Picnic at Sunnyside Park is coming up quickly: October 8 to be exact. We need your help to make it a successful event. Please contact Bill Wilson at 239-8203 if you can help. I hope I see you all at the picnic, and as always, if there is anything that needs attention, please feel free to give me a call at 902-7310.

Sunnyside News

Sunnyside News is published four times per year. SNA encourages members to submit news, features or letters to the editor to *Sunnyside News*. All letters must be signed. All items are subject to editing.

For more information, including the next newsletter deadline, please contact *Sunnyside News* editor Rita Evans, 415-587-6234, rita_e@pacbell.net, or at SNA, PO Box 27615, SF, CA, 94127.

Sunnyside Neighborhood Association assumes no responsibility for the statements and opinions expressed in Sunnyside News. Editorial views do not necessarily represent the official position of SNA.

Garage Sale a Rousing Success; More than 80 Households Turn Clutter into Cash

by Jennifer Heggie

The Sunnyside Neighborhood garage sale event on June 25 inspired 81 residents to clear out their basements and open their garages. The high level of neighborhood participation and camaraderie was the highlight for many residents, while the constant foot traffic and profit taking was a premier benefit for others, particularly on more heavily trafficked Hearst and Flood.

Everyone benefited, even the residents on the far reaches of Sunnyside who found they had plenty of time for weeding. The key ingredient to an enjoyable and successful event appeared to be the level of participation within the block.

Thanks go to volunteers Chris C. and Jed who created most of the collateral and to Grace, Elsie, Stephanie, Fanny, Fe, Becky, Lupe and Maria who joined in distributing cards, packets or flyers.

Sunnyside residents contributed many suggestions on the evaluation forms. Some thoughts for SNA member consideration are: Do we want to hold more than one garage sale a year, possibly at a different time of year or in different locations in Sunnyside? Can SNA arrange to have leftover items picked up the next day by a charitable organization? Does SNA want to make the event exclusive to SNA members or charge a small fee to list participants?

All suggestions have been collected and summarized in a report and can only contribute to making the garage sale(s?) even better next year. Thanks to all.

Things Are Looking Sunnier At Sunnyside Elementary School

Exciting things are happening at Sunnyside! Our enrollment is up, our test scores are up, and after years of planning and fundraising, we have a new play structure. Our schoolyard will soon be painted with new lines for tetherball, hopscotch, foursquare and other games.

We are proud of the diversity of our students and the wonderful sense of family and community our students and teachers demonstrate every day. The Sunnyside PTA is actively recruiting new members, and they have many plans for increasing their support to the school.

We always welcome visitors and volunteers. Call the Principal, Nancy Schlenke, at 469-4746 for more information.

Thank You! To SNA's Anonymous Donor

SNA thanks the neighbor who made an anonymous donation to the association through the United Way.

Should you wish to make a similar designation, our United Way Vendor ID is 942334.

SNA, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, welcomes all donations.

SNA Elections In February

In February 2006, SNA will be holding elections for President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Member-at-Large. The term of office is two years.

According to the bylaws, nominations will be accepted from the floor, followed by voting. The incoming board will take office at the May meeting.

Each household that is an SNA member is entitled to one vote. You must be present at the February meeting to vote.

Beautification Committee Sparks Effort

Wielding Brooms and Pulling Weeds, Neighbors Make Sunnyside a Better Place

by Rita Evans

In early May, Sunnyside residents Marie Franchini and Norman Nagao invited some of their neighbors and SNA members to meet and brainstorm ideas for beautifying the neighborhood.

DOING something was a priority, so just two weeks later, seventeen neighbors kicked off SNA's Beautification Committee's activities by spending Saturday morning on Memorial Day weekend working in front of Sunnyside Elementary School and St. Finn Barr School. They removed weeds and trash from tree basins, pruned and re-staked trees, weeded cracks in the pavement, and swept the sidewalks.

In June a smaller group focused on weeding and removing debris from three front yards, demonstrating the difference each of us can make by maintaining our property.

The biggest event to date was an ambitious effort in late July to clean up Monterey Blvd. from Genessee to Edna. Marie reached beyond her active committee and got the Department of Public Works and The Green Team involved. In all, several dozen volunteers, including Supervisor Sean Elsbernd, used brooms, rakes and lots of energy to make a big difference in Sunnyside's main street.

Special thanks for this

project go to Liz Lerma of DPW, who spent the morning with us and made sure we had rakes and garbage bags, and to DPW's Deputy Director Mohammed Nuru; the teen volunteers of the Green Team; and the SNA Merchants/Business Committee, which donated refreshments, and its member Elizabeth Golda who provided space for the barbeque and joined in the weeding.

Organizers extraordinaire Marie and Norman deserve a big "thank you!" from all of us; what a great example of making a difference by stepping up and getting your neighbors involved in worthy projects.

Thank you, too, to all the individual volunteers, including Mark, Joyce, Andy, Tom, Alexa, David, Cort, Sy, Bob, Debra, Bill, Ric, Sally, Clayton, and everyone who's name I missed, who have made the SNA Beautification Committee a dynamo in just its first three months!



SNA's Beautification Committee coordinators Norman Nagao and Marie Franchini take a short break during the committee's first work project at Sunnyside and St. Finn Barr Schools.

A Look into Sunnyside's Past...



A streetcar rumbles along Monterey Blvd. near Edna sometime during the 1930s.

Streetcar service came to Sunnyside in the early 1900s. Operated by the United Railways Company, the Line #10/Sunnyside route ran from the Ferry Building to the intersection of Sunnyside Avenue (now Monterey Blvd.) and Genessee by way of Mission, 14th, Guerrero, San Jose, 30th, Chenery and Diamond.

In 1926, Route #3, which ran from Edna to St. Francis Circle, was established.

Thanks to neighbor Bill Lipsky.

WANTED: Old Sunnyside Photographs, Memorabilia, Stories

The Sunnyside Historic Committee is planning an early 2006 Winter event about the history of Sunnyside.

If you or someone you know lived in the neighborhood prior to 1970 and would like to share photographs, memorabilia or stories, please contact us at historicsunnyside@yahoo.com or call Jennifer at (415) 412-5548. More details about the event will be available in the next issue of *Sunnyside News*.

Free Emergency Response Training Offered This Fall

Do you want to know the basics about first aid? How would you respond in an earthquake?

The city-wide NERT organization is hosting free local Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT) training at Aptos Middle School, near Sunnyside (105 Aptos, between Upland and Ocean).

The six-week training begins on Tuesday, September 20 with other sessions held on September 27 and October 4, 11, 18 and 25 from 6:30-9:30 pm.

You can learn life saving skills at no cost; sign up at http://www.sfgov.org/site/sfnert_index.asp.

NERT was formed in response to the 1989 earthquake so that individuals learn hands-on disaster skills that will help them as members of an emergency response team.

Also: SNA Committee Reports

Nuru and Elsbernd

Address August Meeting

The Sunnyside Neighborhood Association held a lively August meeting. Speakers included Mohammed Nuru, Deputy Director for Operations at the Department of Public Works and District 7 Supervisor Sean Elsbernd.

Nuru noted that DPW is responsible for streets, city-owned buildings and street cleaning. Graffiti is worse than ever; call 28-CLEAN to report it. DPW will purchase mobile surveillance cameras to monitor areas subject to graffiti vandalism and dumping.

The mayor is pressuring city departments including DPW to measure their performance in terms such as response time. He also wants to see greater application of technology, and DPW may use GPS devices to monitor usage of city vehicles.

Elsbernd spoke briefly about the \$1,500,000 the city has allocated to improve the appearance of medians. Junipero Serra is one of the arterials slated for median upgrades and low-maintenance plantings are planned. Also, three more gardeners have been assigned to Lake Merced.

SNA now has more active committees than it has had in well over a decade, and much of the meeting was taken up with brief committee reports:

The **Traffic Calming** Committee under Chris Coghlan will be working with DPT on the traffic calming project for Circular (page 7).

The **Soundwall** Committee, chaired by Michael Ames (mames@rocketmail.com), will be contacting a variety of city departments, including Public Health. Michael distributed a survey at the meeting to gauge the impact of highway noise on neighbors.

The **Garage Sale** Chair Jennifer Heggie reported a very successful event on June 25 (page 3).

The **Picnic** Committee, chaired by Bill Wilson, showed the quilt donated by Fanny Granata which will be raffled at the picnic on Oct. 8. Permits have been secured and the committee is soliciting additional volunteers (page 8).

The **Historical** Committee, chaired by Jennifer Heggie, is meeting in early September to begin planning an event for early 2006, perhaps in conjunction with the Sunnyside School reunion.

Ray Kutz of the **Graffiti Watch** Group described the training offered by DPW. DPW also provides paint and other supplies for cleaning public property if a volunteer agrees to maintain a four-square block area.

Merchants/Business Committee Chair Ric Lopez said members took part in the Monterey Blvd. clean-up. He is recruiting additional committee members.

The **Beautification** Committee, chaired by Marie Franchini, has been particularly active and has 25 members just a few months after its first meeting (page 4).

There's a lot going on in Sunnyside, and you can find out more at our meeting on November 7 or in the next issue of *Sunnyside News*.

Sunnyside Park News: Funding and Tai Chi

by Andrea O'Leary

Long awaited capital funds for Sunnyside Park renovations have finally been allotted. The \$3.7 million will not cover all areas of the park, such as rebuilding the rec center building, but it will cover play structures, bathrooms at the field, tennis and basketball court resurfacing and required ADA compliance.

Park advocates are pressing to have final designs brought back for one last review by residents by the end of 2005 with groundbreaking by Summer 2006, but the schedule has not been set.

Free Tai Chi classes will again be offered every Saturday at 9:00 a.m. on Sunnyside Park's tennis court. Teacher Oliver Chu emphasizes the fundamentals that build relaxed minds and bodies, improve balance, increase energy and reduce stress.

DPW Cleans Up Circular, While DPT Calms It Down

On Saturday, September 3, a Department of Public Works crew extensively pruned trees on Circular, cleared out piles of trash and debris, and generally cleaned up the street from Baden to the City College campus. What an improvement!

Signs that note one-hour restrictions on commercial vehicle parking should be visible now, and this should discourage overnight parking by the many junk-filled trucks that frequent Circular.

Cars racing along Circular Avenue may become a thing of the past. The Department of Parking and Traffic has selected Circular from more than 120 applications received citywide for a Traffic Calming Project Study as part of Livable Streets.

DPT's *Traffic Calming Guidelines*' objectives include reducing through traffic and vehicle speed, improving mutual awareness among road users, and addressing parking issues. Safety is a top priority.

DPT plans survey residents on Circular and adjoining blocks in mid-September and will hold public meetings and a hearing.

Other streets selected for the Smaller Areawide and Site Specific Projects include West Portal, Teresita, and O'Shaughnessy-Bosworth.

The triangle of land at the intersection of Circular and Congo looked much better in July after the Department of Public Works cleared out trash and cut down weeds that had made this area a mess instead of a little spot of green. DPW's clean-up was in response to requests from SNA, and the neighborhood appreciates the department's prompt, thorough attention.

Unfortunately, a private contractor is using the newly spruced-up triangle as a staging area for underground utility work and large pipes were dumped there during the first week of September. Let's hope that over the coming weeks that the contractor doesn't damage any of the plants and that the triangle doesn't become an eyesore again, right after being cleaned up.

⚙ **SNA Annual Membership Dues** ⚙

Membership in the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association
is \$10 per year for households and \$25 per year for businesses.

Make checks payable to SNA, and send to:
SNA, PO Box 27615, San Francisco, CA 94127

Name (please print) _____

Address _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Check one: Household \$10 _____ or Business \$25 _____

Donation: \$ _____

Fall05

Donations to Sunnyside Neighborhood Association, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, are tax-deductible.

Come and meet your neighbors and enjoy an afternoon in the park!

Sunnyside Neighborhood Annual Picnic
Saturday, October 8, 11 am- 4 pm
Sunnyside Park



RAFFLE!

A beautiful handmade quilt is just one of the prizes.

SNA will provide hot dogs and great music
and Dreyers is supplying ice cream.

Bring your family, a dish to share, drinks, a blanket, balls,
picnic toys and games. Dogs on leash are welcome.

*Be a special part of this special event -
Contact Bill Wilson at 239-8203 and volunteer to help.*

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

Time to renew?
Send your dues today!