



## Gerstle Park Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 150644, San Rafael, Ca 94915-0644

<http://www.gerstlepark.com>

Fall, 2000

# News

## GPNA Annual Picnic 2000

Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2 to 6 p.m.

Mark your calendars, the Annual Gerstle Park Picnic is coming up. We are looking forward to another year of high spirits and family fun. There will be lots of great grilled picnic food, a live band, a raffle, old fashioned picnic games, a jumping tent, a chalk drawing contest, and more.

The GPNA will provide hot dogs and drinks and we'll once again depend on you to bring the rest.

### Potluck Plan:

**Last names A - L:** please bring a salad or side dish.

**Last names M - Z:** please bring a dessert.

Quantity: Bring enough to serve roughly 10 people.

See you there!!

## Get Ready for Halloween Spirit

Don't forget, our annual Halloween decorating contest is coming up faster than you think. (There won't be another newsletter between now and then, so mark your calendars!) Once again prizes will be given for the most outrageously spooky displays.

## GPNA Monthly Meetings



### Remember, You're Invited!

GPNA meetings are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. Upcoming dates are: September 13<sup>th</sup>, October 11<sup>th</sup>, and November 8<sup>th</sup>.

## Don't Miss the Annual Meeting:

Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 7 p.m.

It's time once again for the GPNA's Annual Meeting, to be held Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. at Short School. As usual, the annual meeting will include elections for the GPNA Board of Directors. Our Business Meeting will start at 7:00 and last about an hour, followed by a presentation to be announced. A complete agenda for this meeting will be posted on our website about one month before the event and will list the nominees for our elections as well.

If you would like to nominate someone for a seat on the board, or would like to suggest an issue for discussion, call Rhonda Kutter or Rachel Tracy (see board members list for phone numbers). Come and make your voice heard!

We welcome every and all Gerstle Park resident to come get involved with GPNA. We need new board members and committee members. Please don't be shy! If you've lived in Gerstle Park awhile, you know that one of the reasons it's such a great place to live is our wonderful sense of community, exemplified by events such as our annual picnic, holiday caroling, and spring fling. The GPNA also takes an active role in solving traffic issues and other problems. But none of this happens without great effort on the part of dedicated volunteers, and we need your help! If you're a newcomer to Gerstle Park, the GPNA is also a great way to get to know your neighbors, meet city officials, and understand issues that affect our community. Please join us!

PS. Remember to vote at this meeting, you need to be up to date on your membership dues—our annual fees are due November 1, the start of our new fiscal year.

the picnic date has changed!

# Membership in GPNA

As we move toward the end of the GPNA fiscal year, we thought it might be a good idea to acknowledge membership since it goes hand in hand with voting at the Annual Meeting to be held October 25. Below is an alphabetical listing of paid membership reflected in our database at this time. If your name isn't on the list, it's not too late to pay dues for the year 2000 membership good until October 31, 2000, which includes the privilege of participating in the election of the year 2001 Board of Directors — as well as voting on any other issues which may come up at our Annual Meeting.

Here's the list — look for your name, pre-printed ballots will be provided to paid up members at the meeting. If you think you paid your dues, but aren't on the list, give us a call with the date of your payment, and we'll fix it! Call Tina Yesson at 455-8671 anytime between 10 a.m. and 10 p.m. If there's no answer, please leave a message and we'll get back to you.

Larissa Albin	Jon Geigenmuller	Letha Marchetti	Leo & Helen Schwab
Geraldine Allan*	Karin George	Jerry Marquez	Joel Schwartz & Nancy Hine
Geraldine Allen	Lou & Judy Gianetti	Adele Martinovich	Stuart & Paola Scott
Michael Angotti	Gianfranco Consolascio	Pam Martinovich	Vince & Joan Sheehan
Robert M. Antonelli	Tim Gillett	Richard Mc Ardell	Sharon Sherrard
Bill Baker	Peggy Goodell	Tim McCarthy	Connie Silinovich
Krystyna & Craig Barron	Gwen Gordon	Carol & Matt McCormick	Dave Simonini*
Thomas & Devin Bartone	M. Graham & M. Martin	Ann McDonald & Roger Machin	Dave Simonini
Adina Beaumont	Jerome & Ingrid Groeshl	Cheri McLellan	Mary Snell
Henry & Linda Bellatorre	Valerie & M. Gutteling	Terry & Patricia Medalen	Harold Solari
Adrienne Biggs	Darci Hammond	Deborah Meltzer	Al Souza
Chris & Kathleen Boggs	Susan & Ben Heath	Brett & Peggy Merner	Lawrence & Glenda Strober
Alyce E. Bottini	Ronald & Alice Hill	Lauren & Veit Metzroth	Pat & Bonnie Sullivan
Lynn Bradescu	M/M Bruce Hopper	Arthur H. Meyer	Kathryn & Jeremy Taylor
James M. Brunner	Norbert & Wei Huzella	Bill Mund	Rachel Tracy
Mrs. C.E. Budar	Keilani, Clayton & Olivia Jew	Michael Murray	Yolanda Traverso
Michael & Sandra	Leslie & Steve Johnson	Tom Nolan & Mary Miller	Lois Tucker
Barbara Cerutti	Dolores & Bart	Brenda & Andy Novick	Mary Valente & Phil Burk*
Robert Ciocco	Bert & Alice Katzung	Bryan Gould & Laurie Oman	Mary Valente & Phil Burk
John & Carroll Citi	Isabel & Amir Kazemi	Bonnie & Tony Orofino	Mr. & Mrs. Jules P. Vallee
Anne & David Claman	Paula Cathey & Max Kelley	Robert & Alice Palmer	Jack & Gretchen Van Meter
Augusta E. Claxon	Roberta Kemp	Karen Paratore	Venable Family
Florence Cleisz	Neil Kilgren	Bernadette & Bruce Payne*	Rachel & Niels Von Doepp
Shannon M. Collins	Leslie B. Klor	Bernadetter & Bruce Payne	C. Von Drehle & L. Telder
Gianfranco Consolascio	Glenn & Peggy Koorhan	Tom & Elizabeth	Lee Prickett Wagner
Leslie Crockett & Leslie Farrow	Rhonda Kutter	Joseph & Judy Pensotte	Lilian Walters & John Perrotis
Teresa & Olivia Dalessi	Peter & Kathleen Lambert	Elizabeth Perolini	Brigitte & Brian Waterbury
Shannon & Melissa Daly	Dave Lammel	Lisa Peterson	Dorothy Weicker
Leo & Carol De Amicis	David Lammel	Charlie & Susan Pick	Anita Welter
Jim Di Stefano	Hugo & Cynthia Landecher	Jim & Rommi Pilgrim	Robin Whelan & Ed MacDonald
Linda Donaghue	Brita Larsson & Tom Kucera	Bill & Susan Pryor	Robin White
Douglas & Jennifer Donnellan	Connie Lathrop	John & Michelle Quick	Kathleen White & Donna Maclean
James Duto/Jennifer Stroman	Jim Leech	Ken & Lisa Rabin	Richard & Alison Whittaker
Chad & Josette Eral	Valerie A.C. Lels	Joyce A. Ramsey	E. Winchester
Emmie M. Ericson	Doug Light	Robin Raymond	Roger Witsch
Micheline & Dru Esposito	Barnard C. & Elvira Lindemann	Charles & Julia Robertson	Kathleen Wyatt
Barbara Fahrner	T. Lollini	Karyn Rozenoff & Paul Curfman	Tina & Jerry Yesson
Carol Foster	Katie Lord-Trocki	Betsy Ryan-Dalpino	Jay Young
Gary & Carol Galloway	Patricia Lorentzen	Kenneth & Angela Saul	Bernard A. Zanon
Ideale & Sonya Gambera	Dolores Lydon	James & Barbara Schmidt	Cindy & Christ Zarback
Wm Garvin & Joana Nemanich	Marian J. Mac Millan	Steven Schoonover	
Alfred N. Gazzano	Nira & Ryan Manville	Eric Schurig & Melanie Haiken	

P.S. If your name shows twice, we received your dues twice, thank you!

This newsletter has been gladly sponsored by Vince Sheehan Realty & Ross Valley Mortgage.

## New Kiosk Coming Soon to Gerstle Park

Keep a look out at the entrance to the lower park and you will soon see our neighborhood volunteers pitching in to build and install our beautiful new community kiosk. The city liked the design so much (thank you once again Bob Forsher, architect) that they will be using the same elements at other parks. We hope to have an official unveiling at the annual picnic.

Many thanks go to Rafael Lumber for their generous donation of materials to construct the kiosk. As for the labor....anyone who would like to lend a hand building, digging, mixing cement, or providing some refreshment for our noble volunteers please contact Rachel Tracy at 721-0761 or Bill Baker at 460-9942.

## 2000 GPNA Board Members

<b>Rachel Tracy</b> , President	721-0761
<b>Bill Baker</b> , Vice President	460-9942
<b>Tom Oblatz</b> , Treasurer	459-0149
<b>Betsy Ryan Dalpino</b> , Secretary	
<b>Tina Yesson</b> , Membership	455-8671
<b>Melanie Haiken</b> , Newsletter	454-5848
<b>Ken Goudey</b> , Website	482-8391
<b>Rhonda Kutter</b> , Landscaping	457-5528
<b>Jerry Yesson</b> , Code Enforcement	455-8671

## Neighborhood Beautification Update

We have been pondering a solution to the blight presented by the unmaintained planting strips bordering the park on San Rafael Avenue for some time — The mulch that the city has put in the past just washes out and clogs the gutters, and there is no infrastructure in place to irrigate plants in these areas. At a recent meeting with representatives from the city we finally came upon a solution that the city is excited about and so are we - bricks! The city is considering pouring new curbs for that street so that we could lay out a nice flat brick pattern. We hope to come to a conclusion on how to approach this by the end of August.

If all goes well, the city will pay for a good portion of the materials and the GPNA will put in the remainder and also the labor to make this project happen. As always, we would love to hear your input and especially would love to hear if you have any connections that would help us buy materials at a discount. Also, let us know if you would like to volunteer time to plan and help make it a reality. We look forward to hearing from you!

## Welcome New Board Member!

Our newest board member/secretary is Betsy Ryan Dalpino. She is a litigation paralegal who has lived in Gerstle Park with her husband Don for 4 years. Betsy is interested in preserving the charm of Gerstle Park and working on the tree ordinance.

### Gerstle Park Neighborhood Association (GPNA)

### Membership Application

Please complete the information below and return with your check to:  
GPNA, P.O. Box 150644, San Rafael, CA 94915-0644

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

ok to include your address on our mailing list?

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

New Member       Renewal

Amount Enclosed\*: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*Annual donation: **\$10.00** per household ( **\$5.00** seniors) - 1 voting member

Payment Type: \_\_\_\_\_

Term of membership is from November 1<sup>st</sup> to November 1<sup>st</sup>

How did you hear about GPNA?  Friend  Newsletter  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Welcome to GPNA!**

This newsletter has been gladly sponsored by Vince Sheehan Realty & Ross Valley Mortgage.

## Garage Sale a Huge Success!

As anticipated, the GPNA garage sale was both a financial success for our neighborhood association and a true housekeeping success for those in the neighborhood who participated. Over 350 maps were distributed to garage sale enthusiasts looking for bargains at Short School and throughout the Gerstle Park neighborhood. While we know there were many residents who piggy-backed upon our efforts by holding their own "private" garage sales without contributing the \$20 fee to GPNA, we also know that they too contributed to the high-energy, almost auction-like atmosphere that prevailed throughout Gerstle Park on the day of the event. Hopefully, next year we can get everyone's financial contribution as well as their energy! The Board wants to thank all of you for your support and participation.

Forty-two per cent of the gross income from this event resulted from food sales at Short School. Special thanks go to the Gerstle Park businesses who made food and beverage contributions:

### **LAFAYETTE FRENCH PASTRY**

820 D Street

### **MARIN BAGEL**

1560 - 4th Street

### **MUFFIN MANIA**

2 Bayview Street

### **GRAFFEO COFFEE**

1314 - 4th Street

Please patronize these establishments to show how much we appreciate their contributions and support of our events. Additionally, special thanks go to Susan Pick, Peggy & Brett Merner and Melissa Daly, all of whom made extraordinary contributions of time toward the success of this event. Shown below is the financial outcome of the sale:

#### **INCOME**

Income from fees	\$1020
Income from food sales	760
Total Revenue	\$1780

#### **EXPENSES**

Food & beverage costs	\$196
Promotion & advertising	189
Total Expenses	385

**PROFIT TO GPNA:** \$1395

**Thanks again to all who participated and contributed!**

## The Latest on 523 D Street (The Scary-looking House)

GPNA representatives continue to meet with the owner and the City Planning department to keep this project on track. (As some of you remember, Native American remains were discovered here during an earlier renovation attempt several years ago, which brought all work on the property to a standstill.) You probably have noticed that all the debris has been removed and the front of the building has been secured. It is hoped that by the time you get this newsletter screening will have been installed on the security fence and the rear of the structure will have been secured. GPNA members have expended quite a bit of effort to make sure that site clean-up became high priority of those involved in this difficult situation.

At this time the owner is planning to demolish the existing building and build a duplex or single family home. We will keep you posted on how this project is proceeding.

## Volunteer to Clean Up San Rafael

The City of San Rafael Volunteer Program is once again sponsoring its fall cleanup day, this time expanded to the whole weekend of October 21 and 22. Bags, supplies and pickup will be offered by the city for volunteers to use to cleanup common areas in our neighborhoods. Have an area in mind? B Street? D Street? Short School? Gerstle Park? We will pick one or two areas in our neighborhood and set an early start time (9:00 a.m.?) for one or both days, depending on interest. Call Rhonda Kutter 457-5528 or Cory Bytof at 485-3407 if you can spare a few hours to help out.

## Oak Tree Update:

In cooperation with Supervisor Hal Brown and the University of California Extension, the GPNA hosted an informational meeting on oak tree health and sudden oak death. Nichole Palkovsky, the county Oak Project Coordinator, gave a presentation at the Community Center on July 27th.

Of note were some clarifications on how to treat your oak trees. Contrary to our earlier understanding, the experts are cautioning against spraying healthy oak trees for the bark beetle, as it adds unnecessary toxins into the environment. Instead, you are asked to promote good oak tree health and not to water mature trees as it may promote fungus growth, which now appears to be a primary contributor to sudden oak death. The pathogen is now most likely believed to be a fungus of the genus *Phytophthora* (a relative of the fungus that caused the potato famine).

Check your oak trees regularly for the first symptoms of this disease. In coast live oak and black oaks, the earliest symptom is "bleeding" of a burgundy-red to tar-black thick sap on the bark surface. This may be present from the root collar (the area where the trunk fans out to the roots) up to six feet. In tanoaks, the first symptom to appear is usually yellowing leaves, and new growth may droop or turn brown. Bleeding is also seen, but usually later. Occasionally the fruiting bodies of the *Hypoxylon thouarsianum* fungus, which look like small black domes, may also be present.

If you find any of these symptoms indicating the tree is stressed, call a tree expert to confirm your findings and have the affected trees sprayed immediately with Astro. A diseased or stressed tree secretes a hormone which attracts bark beetles, which then come in and hasten the tree's death. The obvious sign of active beetles is a powdery sawdust in the trunk area. Spraying your tree at the beetle infestation stage may not prevent its death, but it may at least buy you some time.

If your tree does die, please attempt to prevent further transmission by covering the tree or stump with clear plastic. Another word of caution to prevent spreading this disease: When you have been in areas where you may be in contact with diseased trees, be careful not to spread the fungus through contact with contaminated soil by washing shoes, clothing, or tools.

For more information, call the UC extension at 499-4204, or visit their website at <http://cemar.in.ucdavis.edu>.

## Calling All Gardeners!

Would you like to help form a Gerstle Park Garden Club? We are looking for neighbors who would like to share their love of gardening. If you're interested, Call Peggy Merner at 453-1750.

## Landscaping Committee Meets Sept. 25th

The second Landscaping Committee Meeting will be on Monday, September 25 at 10:00 AM. On our agenda for this meeting will be the improvements at Gerstle Park, and our proposed neighborhood tree planting strip improvement program. If you would like to join our organizational meetings, or sign-up for future work parties, please call Rhonda Kutter, Chair, at 457-5528.

## Trees Need Homes

If you would still like to have a city tree planted in the tree planting strip in front of your home, please call Rhonda Kutter at 457-5528.

## 2000 Calendar of Events

September 10*	Annual Picnic
October 25	Annual Meeting
October 31	Haloween Decorating Contest
December 14	Christmas Caroling
December 25	Christmas Decorating Contest

\* Please Note: we have previously published the date for the annual picnic as September 9<sup>th</sup>. The picnic date has been changed to Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> to maintain our tradition.

## Did You Know?

- Fences over six feet (6") shall be subject to environmental and design review, Chapter 14.25. A building permit is required for fences over six feet (6') in height.
- In residential districts, wire mesh, chain link and similar fences are prohibited within the front and street side yards.
- Alterations, additions, relocation, or replacement of existing, non-conforming fences must conform to current fence provisions. Ordinary maintenance and repairs may be made to keep a non-conforming fence in sound condition.
- Temporary security fences may be erected around construction sites during the time a valid building permit is in effect for construction on the premises. Temporary security fences need not comply with the above regulations and must be immediately removed upon completion of the construction authorized by the building permit. (Ord. 1663 -1 (part), 1994; Ord. 1625 - 1 (part), 1992).

(Title 14 of Municipal Code, San Rafael Zoning Ordinance, Section 14.16.140, C, E & F)

### WHAT TO DO?

For more detailed clarification and to be sure you are in compliance with any new or existing fence projects, check with City Planning or Code Enforcement at 485.3085.

Courtesy of the Code Enforcement Advisory Committee

## Treasurer's Report

The balance in our account as of July 31st is \$4,139.76. Most of our revenue this calendar year has been from memberships, donations and the wildly successful Garage Sale (see inside).

Thanks to all members who have paid their annual dues of \$10.00 per household or \$5.00 for seniors. If you're not up to date on your membership payment, please send a check to us SOON.

Thanks again to everyone involved for the wonderful effort to help GPNA keep ours the best neighborhood in San Rafael.

### ***Your Neighbors Are My References!!***

- 323 Bayview St—shingle style Arts/Craft
- 322 Bayview St—English Tudor bungalow
- 231 Bayview St—shingle style Arts/Craft
- 153/155 Clark St—70's style duplex
- 523 C St—Victorian duplex
- 112 San Rafael Ave.—shingle style Arts/Craft
- 200 Marin St.—shingle style Arts/Craft

### **Fine Line Painting**

### **"The Gerstle Park Specialist"**

~Since 1987—Estimates-485-1493—prepped right to last~

## Buying, Selling, Refinancing?

We will donate \$500 on each sale closed, and \$250 on each loan closed to the Gerstle Park Neighborhood Association.

For a FREE MARKET ANALYSIS of your property, or to get a 24 HOUR APPROVAL for a refinance or Purchase loan, please call:

**Vince Sheehan, Gerstle Park Homeowner and Broker of**

**Vince Sheehan Realty**  
302-2500 or 457-8988 (H)

&

**Ross Valley Mortgage**  
485-4448