

Gerstle Park NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Summer 2012



Garage Sale! Saturday, June 16th from 9AM – 2PM.

Clean up your basement and garage and turn unused items into cash! The Gerstle Park Neighborhood Association Garage Sale is one of the neighborhood's biggest events of the year. Participating residents offer for sale items they no longer need or use for hungry buyers to admire and acquire.

This event is the biggest GPNA fundraiser of the year and your registration supports other GPNA events such as the Spring Fling Egg Hunt, the Annual Autumn Neighborhood Picnic, Halloween Haunted House Contest, etc. The Garage Sale also covers the cost of producing the GPNA Newsletter and maintaining the GPNA website.

Registration includes: a yard sign, your sale featured on the official GPNA Garage Sale Map with highlights of a few of your major sale items, and advertisements on Craigslist, in the Marin IJ, and on posters throughout the neighborhood. GPNA Garage Sale Registrations must be received by Monday, June 11th.

Yard signs will be available for pick up at 109 1st Street either Thurs. 6/14 from 6:30PM-8:30PM or Fri., 6/15 from 2PM- 8:30PM (Stacey: tel 272-2073). After the sale (no later than Sunday) please return the signs back to the same address for reuse next year. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer please e-mail Gina Silvestri at garagesale@gerstlepark.com or call 716-0130.

2012 GPNA Garage Sale Registration Form

New this year! GPNA Member Early Bird Registration (Postmarked by June 1st) \$10 _____

Membership year runs from Jan 1st – Dec 31st. Contact treasurer@gerstlepark.com if unsure of Membership status.

Non-GPNA Members or GPNA Members Registering After June 1st \$20 _____

2012 GPNA Membership Renewal \$20 _____

2012 GPNA Membership Renewal Senior Rate (age 65+) \$10 _____

Donation to GPNA _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Checks should be made payable to: GPNA

Complete and return form and check to: GPNA, Attn: Garage Sale, PO Box 150644, San Rafael, CA 94915

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Cell: _____

Email Address: _____ Date: _____

Please list 4-5 key sale items:

All Registrations due by Monday, June 11, 2012!!



Your Gerstle Park Neighborhood Association Board of Directors at the Spring Fling.

President's Column

Happy *Almost* Summertime to Everyone!

We have had an active and interesting spring in Gerstle Park, one of the many great reasons to live in this neighborhood. Our annual egg hunt, Spring Fling was visited by an exquisite bunny this year (whose alter-eggo will remain unnamed) who posed with your children and grandchildren all morning. Everyone went home with a balloon, candy and some with special prizes. Huge thanks go out to the greatest Girl Scout troop ever, Cadette Troop 30681, Starbuck's Coffee, Muffin Mania and the Panama Hotel. Our intrepid Board and membership committee met residents with a smile and invitation to join.

Also interesting this spring was Earth Day when we invited back native species to our open-spaces by eradicating the invasive French broom. Our Board has taken neutral but strong positions this past year, always requesting of the City to, in the case of the Albert Park baseball issue, follow proper planning processes and in the case of the Ritter Center expansion to respect design review and planning principles. There is another controversy brewing among parents in our neighborhood about a proposal to change school boundaries. We invite you to attend a neighborhood meeting this summer at the Short School to become informed of the process and issues.

I urge you to get involved in our great city and neighborhood. For monthly goings on in San Rafael, click on <http://www.cityofsanrafael.org/citymgr-snapshot/> If you haven't yet filled in our new membership form (even if you're up to date with dues) please do so we know your interests.

Coming up this summer is our HUGE never-to-be-beat neighborhood garage sale. Read all the details in this newsletter and sign up for the early bird special for only \$10 if you are current with dues!!! *Buy! Sell! Buy!* And let us know if you have a scout troop or another organization that might be interested in helping folks out Friday before the Saturday, June 16th sale.

I don't know about your garden this spring, but the deer just walked on by mine after smelling the atrocious "*Amy's Deer Concoction Recipe*" on the plants, the recipe I gave out in the last newsletter. It's worth a visit to our website to check it out! www.gerstlepark.com

Yours truly,

Amy Likover

president@gerstlepark.com 415-450-1520

Bocce on B Street: Beginners Welcome!

Did you know that Marin Bocce on B Street is open to the public? These beautiful courts, located in Albert Park, are run by the Marin Bocce Federation in cooperation with the City of San Rafael. While a day of bocce costs a mere \$4 during the week, and \$5 on the weekends, just sitting around and taking in the beautiful day is always *free*. Guests are always welcome to come sit around and watch a game, or eat their lunch at the picnic tables. Recently the rose garden has been reconfigured to accommodate bistro tables and chairs. All are invited to enjoy their coffee or read the paper in this beautiful space. For more information drop by 550 B Street or visit www.marinbocce.org

Neighborhood Forum in Planning - Elementary School Boundaries

Summer Meeting, Date to be announced via email blast.

The GPNA has been in communication with the school district regarding Gerstle Park residents' concerns about proposed boundary changes for area children which, if passed, would be effective Fall 2013. We would like to host a neighborhood forum to review facts and to learn more about the process and the issues and to provide an opportunity for residents to speak. For more info, contact Amy Likover at president@gerstlepark.com, or watch our website www.gerstlepark.com for information as it becomes available.

Meet and Greet - The Pacifics Baseball Team

Sunday, May 27th

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

550 B Street

Marin Bocce courts will be the location to meet and greet the players and management of the new San Rafael Pacifics baseball team. Food and drink will be provided by the Pacifics.

Vote in the June 5th Election Polls Open 7AM - 8PM

For polling place information - www.marinvotes.org, Marin County Elections 473-6899, or vote by mail by May 29th. All ballots in Marin have state measures and candidates for U.S. Senate Primaries, State Assembly Primaries, U.S. Representative Primaries, County Supervisor, and Judicial. Registered Democrats and Republicans may vote for a candidate in the Presidential primary.

GPNA Financial Corner

Treasurer report for March & April 2012

Biggest recent expense (Spring Fling)	-\$350.03
Dues collected in past month	+\$175.00

4/11/12 balance	\$1779.53
------------------------	------------------

GPNA Earth Day Gardening Shindig

Earth Day was April 7th. Eight volunteers concentrated on French Broom removal in the open space west of D Street. The weather turned out to be delightful and working together we cleared regrowth on a very large area. Special thanks to those that volunteered their Saturday. Best of all nobody got poison oak!

We need more volunteers for French broom removal. Volunteers can work on their own schedules and as many or as few hours as they want. Training will be provided. This is excellent exercise for all levels and you have something to show for it afterwards. Please contact Hugo Landecker at clandecker@saber.net.

Comcast Cares Day at Laurel Dell Elementary

“Comcast Cares” day is a corporate volunteer event. This year for Earth Day local Comcast employees and their families worked at Laurel Dell Elementary school. They built vegetable boxes, planted tomatoes, mounted “watch owls” to protect the harvest and cleared about 2 tons of vegetation debris from the hillside above the playground. When Principal Pepe Gonzales dropped in, he was astonished at what they had completed, and how beautiful the place looked. He said the kids were going to be ecstatic on Monday, which they were. They drew pictures of the garden and took photos in the playground with the hill in the back – all smiles.

Report Crimes

If you have been a victim of a crime, you must immediately report it to the San Rafael Police Emergency 415-485-3393. We want to be proactive for our neighborhood and let perpetrators know they are not welcome in Gerstle Park. The Police Department will immediately go to work, but can do nothing unless the crime has been reported. Also, heed this good advice from the San Rafael Police to car owners: “Don’t leave items of value in your car and keep your doors locked.” For non-emergencies, call 485-3000.

A Bright Idea in Marin

An extremely bright idea for Marin residents is an ongoing program designed to encourage proper disposal and recycling of household batteries, compact fluorescent light bulbs and fluorescent tube light bulbs. It’s free of charge at several local and convenient retail locations www.marinrecycles.org. The “Bulb and Battery Take Back Program” is operated by DPW’s Waste Management Division and is funded by the Marin County Hazardous & Solid Waste Management Joint Powers Authority.



Neighbors mingling at the Spring Fling.

National Night Out

This year on Tuesday, August 7, from 6:00 – 8:30PM, neighbors throughout San Rafael are being invited to join thousands of communities nationwide for the “29th Annual National Night Out” crime prevention celebration. National Night Out is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch and co-sponsored locally by the San Rafael Police Department. It is designed to:

1. Heighten awareness of crime and drug prevention.
2. Generate support and participation in local anti-crime efforts.
3. Strengthen neighborhood spirit and community-police relations.
4. Send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Neighbors are being asked to lock their doors, turn on outside lights and spend an evening out with their neighbors and police. More information in the next few months will be available at www.srpd.org.

‘San Rafael Group’ – Neighborhood Response to Homeless Issues

Our downtown has been plagued with increasing incidents of aggressive street people which then spill over to surrounding neighborhoods. Many Gerstle Park residents hesitate to go downtown due to this problem. The downtown business owners are experiencing incidents that are far beyond what the normal person can imagine. Hugo Landecker has started an email group to address this issue. Currently the group has 125 addressees including 46 business owners and managers. The group recognizes the many commendable successes the social service agencies have accomplished. But this email group is about finding solutions to these problems.

We recently had a meeting with Mayor Phillips and Councilman McCullough. Upcoming will be a meeting with Councilman Levine, Chair of the City Council sub-committee on homelessness.

If you would like to join the email group please contact Hugo Landecker at clandecker@saber.net. We need solutions, but if you just want to keep informed that is okay too.

GPNA Calendar of Events

tentative schedule

June 14	Thur	GPNA Monthly Board Meeting
June 16	Sat	Neighborhood Garage Sale
July 12	Thur	GPNA Monthly Board Meeting Canceled
Aug 9	Thur	GPNA Monthly Board Meeting
Sept 9	Sun	Neighborhood Picnic
Sept 13	Thur	GPNA Monthly Board Meeting
Oct 11	Thur	GPNA Monthly Board Meeting
Oct 31	Wed	Halloween House Decoration
Nov 8	Thur	GPNA Monthly Board Meeting
Dec 13	Thur	GPNA Monthly Board Meeting
Jan 24	Thur	Annual Meeting

We encourage all to attend the Board Meetings. Held each month from 7-9PM at different locations. Please verify time and location prior to meeting by emailing info@gerstlepark.com



Gerstle Park

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Gerstle Park Neighborhood Association (GPNA) Membership Form

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

Membership year runs from January 1st - December 31st
One Vote Per Individual - \$20/year (\$10 seniors age 65+)

NEW MEMBER RENEWAL

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Cell: _____

Email Address: _____ Date: _____

all GPNA correspondence is via email

Payment Type: CHECK CASH

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____



Check events of interest to you. We welcome you to a year full of neighborhood fun & friendship!

- Spring Fling Egg Hunt
- Annual September Picnic
- Newsletter Reporting, Quarterly
- December Caroling
- Other social events
- January Annual Meeting Refreshments
- Summer Garage Sale
- Membership promotion, year-long
- Halloween events
- New neighbor welcoming
- Open space invasive species eradication, Nov-May

Neighborhood advocacy in San Rafael city government, Year-long

Check Issues of interest to you.

- Homelessness
- Gerstle Park
- Group home regulation
- Zoning enforcement
- Albert Park
- Other _____

visit our website
www.gerstlepark.com

Welcome to the GPNA!