



S.N.A.I.L. News

Sunnyvale Neighbors of Arbor, Including LaLinda
PO Box 62072
Sunnyvale, CA 94088
www.snail.org

Representing over 900 households Established in 1995
JUNE 2006

SNAIL General Meeting *Thursday – June 1st*

Our speaker this month will be Richard Gutierrez, from Sunnyvale Neighborhood Preservation. He will discuss code violations. Come to the meeting and find out what codes are, and how procedures are followed. Richard will also address our upcoming dumpster day.

Location: Columbia Middle School
Staff Room
Time: 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

All SNAIL area homeowners, residents and guests are invited. Children are welcome.

SNAIL Dumpster Day **SNAIL Yard Sale Weekend**

Saturday and Sunday -- June 10th - 11th

Volunteers needed -- see the accompanying flyer.

SNAIL Dinner Night Out *Wednesday – June 28th*

Each month, we pick a different restaurant in Sunnyvale. This month, we have chosen Hardy's Bavaria. We are hoping that this date corresponds with music on Murphy Street. Our get-togethers are fun! Socialize with neighbors, both new and old.

Location: Hardy's Bavaria
111 West Evelyn Ave.
(408) 720-1531
Time: 6:45 p.m.

RSVP Jeannie at 734-0739.

City Presentation on Gang Activity *Monday – June 19th*

Lt. Gary Vierra will speak at the Senior Center from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m., discussing the history of gang activity in Sunnyvale, gang identification, and what is being done to both prevent it and enforce it. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Karen Rivers, Interim Community Outreach Coordinator, at 730-7472.

SNAIL Newsgroups

If you would like to get into the two SNAIL Yahoo newsgroups to stay informed between newsletters, send an email to groups@snail.org

Message from the Vice-Chair

I was asked by June Valenti to write this column this month.

I'm writing this column from my father's house, the place where I grew up. It is a suburb of New York City where it seems the old houses are jammed together on 40x100 foot lots. I remember growing up in a COMMUNITY -- I knew the names of everyone on my own street and many more on the neighboring streets. I could probably get into a long sociological discussion about why it doesn't seem quite the same now, but that's for another time.

Some people are naturally social and outgoing; I'm not one of them. But I feel that, at least a little bit, I know the neighbors on my street because I've been distributing the SNAIL newsletter there for the past 11 years. I do know many more people in what I like to call "SNAIL Land" because of my involvement with SNAIL. I've found that I have made most of my friends by working with them on SNAIL projects. In fact, I probably get to know people better by planning the SNAIL BBQs than at the events themselves. Service to your community is an easy way to make really good friends. It makes complete sense to me now.

One of the most fun and flexible events to volunteer for is the Annual SNAIL Yard Sale. You can put in just a few evening hours June 5 - 9 for sorting and pricing, or you could be there to help handle the crazy throngs of shoppers on Saturday morning. It's FUN. Just call Connie at 739-8490 and commit to a task that works for you. You will come out of it feeling more at home in your neighborhood, not just in your home.

Jim Quaderer, Vice Chair

Local Crime Statistics

Here are the number of reported crimes in the SNAIL neighborhood last year (2005). Some of these reported crimes may have turned out to be unfounded. Nevertheless, the numbers are instructive.

Auto Theft	42
Larceny and Theft	25
Auto Burglary	21
Residential Burglary	10
Aggravated Assault	4
Robbery	3
Rape	2
Arson	1
School Burglary	1
Commercial Burglary	0
Homicide	0

Letter

We all have seen eyesores in the neighborhood -- abandoned shopping carts, weeds gone to seed, cars parked for too long or in the wrong place. The city encourages residents to report such eyesores. From time to time, this newsletter has carried small notices to this end.

How many people believe that the city should 'crack down' on violations, how many believe that the city is already too harsh, and how many believe that things are just about right? We don't have the numbers, but surely there are plenty of folks in each camp. It goes without saying that only those residents who object to an eyesore, call the city. Those who don't care, or don't wish to sic the city on their neighbors, don't call. So the statistics on complaints cannot provide an answer.

This Summer's Quarterly Report will feature a survey concerning code violations. Similar surveys have been seen at SNAIL meetings. They list a number of violations, and ask us to 'prioritize' them.

The city uses surveys to justify policy changes, so one might suppose that these surveys would try to measure public attitudes toward the level of enforcement. But no, they only determine which eyesores are the most annoying. By phrasing the survey questions in this manner, the city takes for granted its proposed policy. (cont.) -->

This has happened before. After the 'monster house' *imbroglio* of 2000, the city decided to place restrictions on homeowners, and invited residents to 'focus groups' where they were NOT asked whether new restrictions were a good thing, but merely which new restrictions they favored, and how severe these restrictions ought to be. This plebiscite was later cited in city documents as indicating support for the new restrictions. That's not democracy in action.

It's time to widen the discussion. Don't assume that enforcement will fall only on other folks. Read the entire list of codes and fines, and consider how many of them apply to you. Then decide whether you support stricter enforcement. If you decide that you do not, then be sure to mention that on the survey, even if it doesn't ask.

Tarik Peterson

Founders' Corner

"The time to guard against corruption and tyranny is before they shall have gotten hold of us. It is better to keep the wolf out of the fold than to trust to drawing his teeth and talons after he shall have entered."

Thomas Jefferson, *Notes on Virginia*

SNAIL BOARD and CITY of SUNNYVALE SUPPORT STAFF

Chair	June Valenti	610 North Bayview	497-0827
Vice Chair	Jim Quaderer	302 Beechnut	737-9479
Secretary and Newsletter Editor	Tarik Peterson	667 San Diego Ave.	745-1241
Treasurer	Jeannie Biddle	245 East Eaglewood	734-0739
Newsletter Distribution	Connie Cook-Turner	810 Carolina Ave.	739-8490
Neighborhood Resource Officer	Jenny Anton		730-7146

Real Estate Questions?



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Mariany Ramli
Realtor®




Last Month's S.N.A.I.L. Home Sales: 2
Average home square footage: 1242
Average Asking Price: \$632,500
Average **Final** Sales Price: \$640,000
Average Days on Market: 41

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**Francisca's Housekeeping**

Floors                      Windows  
Kitchen                      Bath

References

Francisca Martinez

Phone: (650) 576-5281