

Samarkand Neighborhood Association

Santa Barbara, California



PO Box 3612, Santa Barbara, CA 93130-3612

Volume 1, Issue 2

June 2006

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Future Meeting Dates:

- June 15, 2006
- July 20, 2006
- August 17, 2006

All meetings are on the third Thursday of each month at 5:30 pm.

Location: Samarkand Retirement Community (Mountain Room)

NAME YOUR NEWSLETTER

Our newsletter needs a name. One proposal is the Samarkand Neighborhood Association SNApshot (groan). We are sure you can do better.

Please email your entries to: devore@cox.net with

subject line SNA newsletter name, or snail mail them to: SNA, Box 3612, Santa Barbara, CA 93130.

The contest winner will receive a prize: a 2-year membership to your

Samarkand Neighborhood Association!

All entries must be received by July 15, 2006.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

The votes have been counted so it is time to announce the 5 new board members:

Jack Meyer, Wayne Beckman Joyce Duncan Falk

are incumbents elected to serve a 2-year term.

Darwin Holter and Fred Marsic are new board members who will also serve 2-year terms begin-

ning in July.

Congratulations to our new board members!

We are on the web! <http://www.samarkandneighborhoodassociation.org>

MEETING SUMMARIES

April 20, 2006

Guest Speakers:

Anthony Borgatello (Mercado del Norte Committee) and Kathy McKee (Vice-president for Public Relations), Old Spanish Days, and Susan Jang-Burdick, City Parks Department.

Discussion:

Anthony Borgatello reported that the Mercado del Norte Committee had met and reviewed the financial impact of eliminating the carnival. He distributed an outline of the committee's proposal for

ameliorating the problems with having a carnival at the Mercado and two income-expense statements, one for the Mercado with the carnival and one for the Mercado without the carnival. That committee concluded that Old Spanish Days could not have the Mercado without the carnival. He noted, too, that without the carnival there would be serious impact on the non-profit organizations who have booths at the Mercado.

Items that the Mercado

committee agreed to work on are:

- Relocation or elimination of rides that make repetitive noise; turn music down at 8:30 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday nights.
- Relocate the generator and investigate power supply with Southern California Edison. (Late news: According to Das Williams, Southern California Edison will be providing a direct power supply, so no generators

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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

The first membership year (July-June) of the renewed and renamed Samarkand Neighborhood Association has been extraordinarily productive.

We have around 375 members and an enthusiastic, talented, and hard-working board of directors, who have attended city traffic and planning meetings and represented us at Allied Neighborhoods Association meetings; set up an association website with association news and useful links to City and other websites; looked into zoning violations in our neighborhood; arranged for City Council and County Board of Supervisors candidate forums; and published a membership directory and newsletter.

We have held monthly meetings since September, most with a program or guest speaker, including representatives of Cottage Hospital, the City Transportation Department, the Samarkand Retirement Community, our Santa Barbara Police Department Beat Coordinator, and Old Spanish Days (Fiesta) and the City Parks and Recreation Department. These events offer an opportunity to exchange information and voice neighbor-

hood concerns with entities whose policies and decisions affect our neighborhood. By the time you read this newsletter, we will have elected our second board of directors slate, including two new board members, Darwin Holter and Fred Marsic.

I would like to single out several entities and persons for thanks. First, we thank our outgoing board members, “Team Morse,” Gwen and Dave, and John Calder. Dave served as our first treasurer; Gwen and John got our newsletter off the ground—and John has volunteered to continue this job.

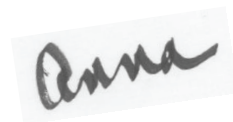
Second, we owe a great deal to the Samarkand Retirement Community, whose residents have given the association whole-hearted support, joining in large numbers and giving generously of their time and talents on the board and in organizational capacities. The administration at the Samarkand, led by Ken Noreen, has lent us the use of their facility for our meetings free of charge, a generous gift on their part. Samarkand residents were not part of the association before last year, but they share an interest with neighbor-

hood homeowners and other residents in “keeping our neighborhood a great place to live.” It makes sense that we should work on this goal together.

There is plenty remaining for us to do. Guests at future meetings include representatives of the city Community Development Department (building and zoning), Earl Warren Showgrounds, and Adams School. We still need to update our bylaws and incorporate as a non-profit. We would like to have volunteers to organize blocks for Neighborhood Watch and organize a neighborhood (multi-) block party.

If you would like to suggest additional speakers, issues to tackle, or projects to work on or help with these or other activities, contact me or any other board member. Please join (or rejoin) the association—dues are only five dollars per year per voting member. Attend our meetings, offer your ideas, and volunteer.

The more active you are, the more we can do!



We have around 375 members and an enthusiastic, talented, and hard-working board of directors.

MEMBERSHIP DUES DUE!

The Samarkand Neighborhood Association membership year runs from July 1 through June 30. So it's membership renewal time.

If you wish to join the SNA, please fill out the membership form in this newsletter and mail it to the address on the form.

If you have already joined the SNA, please CHECK YOUR ADDRESS LABEL.

If the number following your name is 06, it's time to renew your membership. If the number following your name is 07, your membership is active through June of next year.

Please join us--it's only five dollars per year--and encourage your neighbors to do so as well. The more members we have, the more effective we can be.

*“Keeping Our
Neighborhood a Great
Place to Live”*

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

Phone # _____

E-Mail (lowers communication costs) _____

Speaker/Program Interests	Member Directory Info
<input type="checkbox"/> SB Police Beat Coordinator	Do not list:
<input type="checkbox"/> SB Streets Department	<input type="checkbox"/> All
<input type="checkbox"/> Adams School	<input type="checkbox"/> Address
<input type="checkbox"/> SB Traffic Engineer	<input type="checkbox"/> Phone number
<input type="checkbox"/> Earl Warren Showgrounds	<input type="checkbox"/> Email address
<input type="checkbox"/> Political Candidate Forums	
<input type="checkbox"/> Old Spanish Days “Fiesta”	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	

Please enclose \$5.00 annual dues for each member.
(Checks payable to: SNA)

Mail to: SNA P.O. Box 3612, Santa Barbara, CA 93130-3612

MISSION STATEMENT (DRAFT)

The mission of the Samarkand Neighborhood Association is to preserve our neighborhood as a great place to live. To that end we work to:

- Promote a sense of community within our neighborhood
- Provide a community voice
- Advise the City of Santa Barbara and other entities whose policies and decisions affect our neighborhood
- Work in concert with neighborhood and other associations to support policies and decisions which will preserve our neighborhood and quality of life.

Samarkand residents requested that all sweeping to be done on one day to eliminate signage in front of homes. “

STREET SWEEPING

Be sure to remind your guests (including building contractors) that there is a parking ban in the entire neighborhood every Monday morning (9:00am-11:00am). A parking ticket is \$40.

Samarkand residents requested that all sweeping be done on one day to eliminate signage in front of homes.

Additional parking during street sweeping is available in the lot next to MacKenzie Lawn Bowling Clubhouse during sweeping time. To check on cancellation of sweeping, call Sweeping Hotline: 897-1903.

Building contractors can obtain a temporary parking permit from the Building department on Garden Street.

SHOWGROUNDS IMPACTS

Several of our members expressed concerns about the noise and other neighborhood impacts from activities at the Earl Warren Showgrounds.

Now that the April Santa Barbara Fair and Expo has come and gone, if you have comments to make, please contact Anna DeVore (devore@cox.net, 687-3026).

Classified Ads

Samarkand Neighborhood Association members can post their classified ads on our web site by emailing the text of your advertisement to Peter Basch at pbasch2000@cox.net.

SNA will post each ad when it is received. Ads will posted for fourteen days and may be reposted upon request. Please notify Peter when the item sells so that he can remove it from the site.

This service is open to individuals but not businesses (see next article),

Business Advertisement

If you are a business and would like to place an advertisement in our bi-monthly newsletter, please email the text, any graphics and the size space you want the ad to occupy to John Calder at john@thecalders.org.

This will be an inexpensive way for your business to make yourself known to the Samarkand Neighborhood and it provides the SNA with a means to offset some of the costs of printing each newsletter.

The cost to you is based on the number of issues we plan to print. A full-page ad for an issue that only goes to members is just \$87. A full page add that goes to all 800 neighborhood households is \$240.

MEETING SUMMARIES (CONT'D)

will be needed.

- Re-engineer the stage sound to reduce level and direction away from hillside. A meeting with a sound consultant has been set.
- Additional daily decibel meter readings on the hillside.
- Permission received to use the infields; agreed to restore damage at Old Spanish Days' expense. (There was no damage last year.)
- There have been no citations for fire or public safety hazards.
- Lighting will be turned away from the hillside.

Oak Park Mobility Plan and traffic mitigation proposals:

Wayne Beckman reported that there were questions about the defeat of the Plan because 300 or so

ballots had been gathered by one individual, which appeared to be akin to ballot-box stuffing. There was a difference of opinion among members present about the integrity of the balloting as well as whether the result should be accepted and the issue dropped.

Das Williams explained that the Chapala re-striping element was approved by City Council after Chapala Street residents presented a petition to the Council supporting it. Jim Smith suggested that people with strong interest in a particular measure could concentrate on trying to get the measure approved, as had been done by the Chapala residents regarding the re-striping.

May 18, 2006

Guest Speakers:

The Samarkand Neighborhood Association hosted a Candidates Forum for the 4 candidates seeking the Second District County Supervisor seat: Joe Guzzardi, Das Williams, Janet Wolf and Dan Secord.

Other Discussion

Web Site Relocation: Peter recommended that the Web site be relocated to make it visible to search engines. He recommended Three Essentials, Inc., because of cost and features. It includes Windows scripting and associated email accounts. Approved.

Future Meetings:

June 15—We will discuss the Cingular proposal for a cell phone tower on the hill above MacKenzie Park.

Das Williams explained that the Chapala re-striping element was approved by City Council after Chapala Street residents presented a petition to the Council supporting it.

Samarkand is a great neighborhood for walking.

Neighborhood Watch

If you would like to organize your block to participate in a neighborhood Watch Program, please contact Anna DeVore: 687-3026; devore@cox.net

Virtual Interests

<http://ocw.mit.edu/index.html>: Take courses at MIT for free.

Open courseware does not count toward a degree which makes it even more important. One takes the course because they want to know more.

<http://www.chicagocrime.org>: A reason to be thankful we live in this neighborhood-also an example of a mashup, a seamless combination of content from more than one source.

<http://www.yelp.com>: Real people reviews of local resources.

Sidewalks

Samarkand is a great neighborhood for walking. Please help your neighbors who walk, including those with strollers, by ensuring that your shrubbery doesn't block your sidewalk.

The Association's mission is to provide a community voice to advise city officials, staff, school personnel and the community at large about community needs, events and concerns.



Did you know that Santa Barbara has three user groups that support computer use through regular meetings, newsletters, and mailing lists?

BOARD MEMBERS

Name	Title	Phone	Email
Anna DeVore	President	687-3026	devore@cox.net
John Calder	Vice President	687-6910	john@thecalder.org * Leaving board on July 1.
Jack Meyer	Secretary	687-6244	meyerfun@cox.net
James A. Smith	Treasurer	687-7911	jasmith181@aol.com
Peter Basch		563-1314	pbasch2000@cox.net
Wayne Beckman		569-5503	waynebee@cox.net
Joyce Duncan Falk		687-7283	jfalk@eap.ucop.edu
Judy Freeman		687-2371	gJudyq@earthlink.net
Terry Johnson		563-4546	terjej4@aol.net
David Morse		252-9110	dave@moosemorse.com
Gwen Morse		563-0408	gwen@drgwen.com * Leaving board on July 1.
Charles R. Stapleton		898-0367	ProfessorsStapleton@verizon.net
Darwin Holter		563-1314	darwin.holter@hr.ucsb.edu * Joining board on July 1
Fred Marsic		682-0564	* Joining board on July 1

TECH SUPPORT 101

As our association continues to develop, we realize the importance of technology to effective communication. Members of the Board regularly communicate through email to establish meeting agendas, goals, and updates as we develop the character of our association. We also realize the value of hearing from you, our neighbors, through our mailing address s-n-a@cox.net

There is no question that email and the Internet are valuable for our neighbors, but many individuals find themselves struggling to keep their home computers behaving properly.

Did you know that Santa Barbara has three user groups that support computer use through regular meetings, newsletters, and mailing lists?

Check out these sites for useful information and support:

- Santa Barbara Macintosh Users Group <http://www.sbmug.org/>
- Santa Barbara PC Users Group <http://www.west.net/~sbpcug/>
- Santa Barbara Linux Users Group <http://www.sblug.com/>

All of these groups have regular meetings and provide informal support through their mailing lists