



# SNApshot

The Samarkand Neighborhood Association Newsletter



PO Box 3612, Santa Barbara, CA 93130-3612

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### Future Meeting Dates:

- October 26, 2006 (special date)
- November 16, 2006
- December 21, 2006

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

Location: Samarkand Retirement Community (Mountain Room)

## WHEN YOU PARK IT, LOCK IT

An Association member living on Vernon Road has informed us that on the night of September 18, at around 10:30 pm, his unlocked car, parked in his driveway, was entered and searched through. Since nothing was stolen, the police were not interested in filing a report. Earlier this year, an unlocked car parked in a driveway on Stanley Drive was entered and electronics and CDs were stolen. Parking your car in your driveway does not make it immune from break ins. Please remember to lock your car.

## SNA - A REGISTERED NON-PROFIT

Our Association is now registered as a California Non-profit Corporation.

By incorporating we have enhanced the legitimacy of our organization and protected the Board and membership from liability issues. Because of the great expense involved, we chose to not apply for Federal 501 tax status. This means that member dues and donations are not tax deductible. Considering our minimal five dollar membership dues the tax deduction would a mere drop in the bucket.

## OCTOBER 26TH MEETING

Our next meeting has been moved to the fourth Thursday of October to accommodate guest representatives from the Earl Warren Showgrounds. Our guests will give a presentation and then join in a discussion with members and the Board on issues related to the impacts of Showground events on the surrounding neighborhood. This offers a great opportunity for residents to express their concerns directly to the Showgrounds Committee. As demonstrated with our past meetings with the Old Spanish Days Committee, progress can be made to mitigate issues and concerns. Join us and express your concerns, comments or suggestions. Please let's keep comments brief and civil.

## BYLAWS UPDATE

Thanks to the efforts of Anna DeVore, Jim Smith and Charlie Stapleton we have proposals for revision and updates to the Association's bylaws. For our first year we operated with the bylaws inherited from our predecessor the Samarkand District Improvement Association. Attached to this newsletter is a copy of the draft document outlining the proposed changes. The Board of Directors will consider and vote on adoption of the revised bylaws at our October meeting.

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

*“we have accomplished two major tasks regarding the structure of our Association. The Samarkand Neighborhood Association is now a registered California Non-profit Corporation and our bylaws have been revised to better reflect our current organization.”*

*“I also encourage members to get involved in Association activities by volunteering to join a committee or lend your help on various SNA projects.”*

## PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Greetings Neighbors,

Fall is here and we present our fourth SNA newsletter. Note the snappy new name, “SNApshot”. Thanks to John DeVore for the creative, fun name.

Since our last newsletter we have accomplished two major tasks regarding the structure of our Association. The Samarkand Neighborhood Association is now a registered California Non-profit Corporation and our bylaws have been revised to better reflect our current organization.

In August, we closely monitored the El Mercado Del Norte event in MacKenzie Park. In discussions at our March and April meetings the Old Spanish Days Committee agreed to resolve some issues raised by members and the Board. There were some improvements on stage sound levels and lighting directed onto adjoining properties.

There remain unresolved issues with the carnival portion of El Mercado. We will continue working with the City and the OSD Committee to push for relocation of the carnival to an alternative location for next year’s Fiesta.

With input from our Association and others, the Neighborhood Preservation Ordinance has moved another step forward with City Council approval of the draft ordinance. We will monitor progress as the NPO works its way through the Ordinance Committee before final adoption.

Our Association now has over 400 members. As with any organization of this size there will be a diverse range of opinions on issues that we address. To effectively represent all our neighbors, member input is very important. Please let us know where you stand on matters affecting our wonderful neighborhood and city.

I also encourage members to get involved in Association activities by volunteering to join a committee or lend your help on various SNA projects. If you wish to volunteer or have suggestions on topics you would like the Association to address, please contact us.

I hope to see you at our October 26th Board and Membership meeting. Guest representatives from the Earl Warren Showgrounds will give a presentation and join in a discussion of Showground/Neighborhood concerns.

Thank you for helping keep our neighborhood a great place to live.

PETER BASCH -

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Contact Us: [staff@SamarkandNeighborhoodAssociation.org](mailto:staff@SamarkandNeighborhoodAssociation.org)  
SNA, P.O. Box 3612, Santa Barbara, CA 93130-3612

# 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.

If there is a mistake on the date of your label, please contact John DeVore at 687-3026 or devore@cox.net.

**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.**

*If the number following your name is 06, it's time to renew your membership.*

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail (lowers communication costs) \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Speaker/Program Interests</b>	<b>Member Directory Info</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> SB Police Beat Coordinator	<input type="checkbox"/> All
<input type="checkbox"/> SB Streets Department	<input type="checkbox"/> Address
<input type="checkbox"/> Adams School	<input type="checkbox"/> Phone number
<input type="checkbox"/> SB Traffic Engineer	<input type="checkbox"/> Email address
<input type="checkbox"/> Earl Warren Showgrounds	
<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

*"Keeping Our Neighborhood a Great Place to Live"*

## AUGUST MEETING SUMMARY

### **Guest Speakers:**

None

### **Treasury:**

Jim Smith reported a balance of \$1217.43, as of 8/17. The major expense in this period was \$81.24 for the newsletter.

### **Committees:**

#### **Allied Neighborhood:**

The major issues around town are Upper East: What to do with St Francis? The residents are concerned about the demolition (vs. recycling) of the building. We may be asked to support the neighbors in this area. The other issue is Hidden Valley development. They are concerned about dense housing on the school property and also Hillside house changes.

As for the NPO, they decided to write regulations and guidelines in the FAR (Floor to lot Area Ratio). There are a lot of unanswered questions on the details of this, for example, with issues of privacy.

Allied also discussed what their mission should be: Dealing with a general plan update, or dealing with the smaller issues (such as Upper State St. and Northside issues) that arise in the meantime. It was affirmed that both were important.

Another issue centered on the Century 21 remodel (across from the San Roque post office). The owner has an encroaching

building that they were allowed to keep. The second story was designated as apartments, but now they want to sell them as condos. Jim Kahan filed an appeal on this.

**Zoning:** SNA did report the abandoned truck. The deadline for removal is tomorrow. If it has flat tires and no current tags, then it might be subject for removal. The owner has cleaned it up (taken the trash out of the back).

At Cuesta and Santa Anita there were some sidewalk blockage issues. Peter noted that we sent a friendly letter to the property owner about the problem.

### **Unfinished Business**

#### **El Mercado Del Norte Report:** Darwin Holter

When we met with Fiesta representatives a couple of months ago, we asked that the carnival be moved and voiced our concerns: generators, noise, safety, etc. In April, the representatives indicated that they needed the carnival to have the Mercado.

Darwin noted that the generators were quieter, but the generators were still close to the residents adjacent to the park.

**Sound:** The sound stage was baffled and aimed more at the intersection of State and Las Positas. Our decibel readings, provided by Darwin: 75-95 db,

within Darwin's house 77db windows open 67db windows closed. Repetitive music from the rides was also better controlled.

**Safety:** Darwin shared detailed observations of safety issues over the Mercado layout.

**Lights:** Improved from last year.

Darwin hopes that we can find a way to get the Carnival moved. He will be working on a communication that will come back to the board for approval. This was discussed, as well as the issue of for-profit vendors having booths in the Mercado.

### **Member List Procedures:**

A procedure for communication to SNA list members was shared with the Board. Anna wondered if it should be an opt-in issue. It was decided to include an opt out on the first incident.

**Newsletter Name Contest:** John DeVore won the contest with the newsletter name: SNApshot.

*Allied Neighborhood: -  
The major issues around  
town are Upper East:  
What to do with St  
Francis? .*

*A procedure for commu-  
nication to SNA list  
members was shared with  
the Board.*

## SEPTEMBER MEETING SUMMARY

### **Guest Speakers:**

none

### **Treasury:**

Jim Smith reported that since the last meeting dues of over 400 dollars have been deposited with a reimbursement to Peter for incorporation. The current balance is \$1298.43.

### **Committees**

**Bylaws:** The Board reviewed proposed changes to the By-laws. Charlie reported on the revision, noting that updates were made to make the By-Laws current and effective. Procedures for elections were modified to make the process efficient. Joyce recommended that the location of the meeting, as identified in Section 5, be modified to make the location less specific. It was generally agreed that Article VI, Section 2 should be amended to make the amendment process less unwieldy by eliminating the mailing requirement.

**Zoning:** Joyce noted that two letters were sent out to encouraging neighbors to take care of sidewalk obstructions. We received no response from the neighbors. The committee would like to follow-up

with the neighbors registering the complaint.

### **Old Business**

**El Mercado, Old Spanish Days Letter:** Darwin shared a draft letter to the Old Spanish Days directors to continue the conversation for improvement of conditions at MacKenzie Park. The letter restates the main issues/concerns as shared by Darwin at the last meeting.

**Incorporation:** We are now an officially incorporated organization. Peter shared the documents with the Board. A signature is still required by Jim Smith as our financial officer.

### **New Business**

**Samarkand Beautiful:** Peter would really like to see this idea go. Jim suggested that each newsletter have a photograph of a property that has contributed to a positive appearance in the neighborhood. This could be done as a nominating process, with a committee picking the properties. Before and after photos would be particularly effective. Possibly, we could solicit volunteers from the newsletters. Realtors in the area might be interested in supporting this as well.

### **Other Business**

**Meeting Conflict:** We discovered that there was a City Parks/Police Dept. meeting to discuss neighbor concerns about alcohol, crime and the homeless in and around Oak Park at the same time as our meeting. We were not notified about this. Only nearby residents received an invitation about this. Peter noted that we shall be in contact with Parks/Police about this.

*Darwin shared a draft letter to the Old Spanish Days directors to continue the conversation for improvement of conditions at MacKenzie Park.*

*October meeting: Thursday, October 26, 5:30 p.m.*

*Guest: Earl Warren Showground Representative*

*Joyce noted that two letters were sent out to encouraging neighbors to take care of sidewalk obstructions.*

### **Graffiti Hotline**

Do your neighbors and your neighborhood a favor: report graffiti to the City of Santa Barbara Graffiti Hotline--phone 897-2513.

Be prepared to give the exact location of graffiti.

*Samarkand Neighborhood  
Association, Inc.*

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.



This newsletter is published 6 times per year (February, April, June, August, October and December) by the Samarkand Neighborhood Association, Inc. Please direct comments to the editor: John Calder (john@thecalder.org or 687-6910) or any board member.



## BOARD MEMBERS

Name	Title	Phone	Email
<b>Peter Basch</b>	President	563-1314	pbasch2000@cox.net
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<b>Wayne Beckman</b>		569-5503	waynebee@cox.net
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From the January 1925 issue of *California Southland* courtesy of John DeVore.

CALIFORNIA SOUTHLAND 3

## SAMARKAND HILLS

*"Completely Improved and Carefully Restricted"*  
IN BEAUTIFUL SANTA BARBARA

THE MOUNTAIN VIEW FROM SAMARKAND HILLS. THERE IS ALSO A FINE OCEAN VIEW

**Buy for a Home**  
Before you consider purchasing your homeseite elsewhere, compare beautiful SAMARKAND HILLS with any other residential section in Santa Barbara—bar none. That is all we ask. We will gladly abide by your decision.

**Buy for Investment**  
Before you consider any city lot as an investment, ask yourself these questions:  
1st. Is it *completely* improved? Or will I be heavily assessed for improvements later?  
2nd. Is it *carefully* restricted? Or can a gas station, or a family living in their garage, be placed next to my property?

**"Round the Horizon View"**  
Think of having a home from which your eyes sweep the horizon!  
From SAMARKAND HILLS you see Mission Canyon, with its live oaks; Mission Ridge and the Old Mission; The City, with its quaint Spanish roofs; the bench line,

with Rincon in the distance; the blue Pacific, edged by Anacapa and Santa Cruz islands; a sunset view ten miles up the Goleta valley; and, towering over all, the ever-changing and always-beautiful mountains, with La Cumbre the nearest peak.

**Improvements**

- 1.—City Water
- 2.—City Sewer
- 3.—Cement Curbs
- 4.—Cement Gutters
- 5.—Cement Sidewalks
- 6.—Gas
- 7.—Telephones
- 8.—Electricity
- 9.—Paving from One Gutter to the other

Few subdivisions offer as much!  
No subdivision offers more!

**Prices**

From \$1,285 for a 60 x 150 foot lot and up.  
No 50 foot lots—many from 75 to 120 feet.

**Terms**

20% down; 2% per month.  
7% on deferred payments.

HOLLISTER ESTATE  
COMPANY,  
OWNER

### EARLE OVINGTON

*Sales Representative*

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