

November 2011



JUST TO NAME A FEW OF SHARLENE'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ◆ West End Beautification Project
- ◆ Block Party/Picnic
- ◆ Member Socials
- ◆ Get Ready Training
- ◆ West End Village Celebration
- ◆ Street Paving
- ◆ Liaison with City & Federation of San Rafael Neighborhoods



Mark Your Calendar

Holiday Social

For

WENA Members

Sunday - December 4th

3:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Cocktails & Appetizers

Hosted by

Ian & Jennifer Agrell

We'll be collecting Food for the Food Bank

Bring a Donation



President's Message....

By Sharlene Moss, WENA President

So long, farewell, auf wiedersehn, adieu...the time has come to say goodbye to the West End. After 26 years in our "starter" home, Joel and I made a BIG move to a wonderful neighborhood in Upper Lucas Valley. My mother, who moved in with us this past year, now has her own sitting room, bedroom and bathroom. As hard as it was to leave all of our many friends in the West End, our new home suits our lifestyle.

The WENA Board asked me to finish my term as president and I gladly agreed. We will need to fill a few positions on the board. I know everyone is busy but I hope you will find the time to get involved and support our neighborhood association. Just by becoming a member, WENA can continue to put on events that serve us all and create a sense of community. Volunteering, whether it's delivering

the newsletters or flyers, continuing beautification programs in the West End, helping with the new neighbor welcome packets, writing an article for our newsletter, or helping plan the Annual Block Party/Picnic and Member Socials...your participation and help is welcomed and appreciated. It doesn't require a huge commitment of time. It's a great opportunity to make new friends and build relationships, both business and personal.

In closing, I want to thank everyone who has served on the board of directors. It has been a pleasure working with you. You have all become dear friends. Without your help and support, the association would not have continued.

P.S. Sharlene....we couldn't have done it with out you. Thank you! Janis Peterson & WENA Board



November CERT Basic Class Graduates 24 - by Maggie Lang

During the weekend of Nov. 5 & 6, lots of activity and even what looked like smoke could be observed in the parking lot at College of Marin. Twenty-four Marin County residents, aged 16-91, completed the CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) training and graduated to be CERT team members and state Disaster Service workers. CERT students practiced using a fire extinguisher, reviewed and practiced the basics of searching a room for a missing and possibly injured victim and learned how to triage and treat that injured victim. They also



learned about working together as a team in the midst of the chaos of a disaster.

CERT is a national program, present in all 50 states and is now under guidance of FEMA and Citizens Corp. Marin County sponsors 10 classes each year in 5 locations in the county and residents can attend any class. The class is 15 hours in length and costs only \$30.00.

More information, including the 2012 schedule, can be found at

www.marincountycert.org. Residents can sign up online or print a form and mail it in with a check. The January class is already sold out. The next available class will be in February.

Graduating Class



Falling Leaves - by Dave Borton

Leaves are falling off the trees, **clogging gutters and streets**. Decreased revenue has caused the City of San Rafael to suspend street sweeping. They may do some sweeping of critical streets that would clog storm drains. But... we should not count on it in the West End!

So, please clean up the leaves in front of your property – and help your neighbors as well. Put the leaves in your green recycle bin – or in large plastic bags – for pick up by the city. And if you have not already done it, this is a good time to clean out those gutters on your roof so your downspouts work properly.

The following information comes directly from the City's web site:

“All scheduled residential sweeping has been suspended. Starting 09/20/2010 all City streets will be swept once to remove accumulated debris prior to the winter rains. Fall leaf removal with street sweepers and leaf vacuum will remain unchanged. No schedule will be available for pre-storm sweeping or leaf removal.

“Not all city streets can be swept. Narrow streets or streets that are very steep, have no curbs, or other areas that limit the sweeper's ability to turn around are not swept.

“Any questions, comments or suggestions can be sent to my email address at jim.forsythe@cityofsanrafael.org”



The America's Cup

Interview with West End Resident Paul Curfman - by Janis Peterson



There's a lot of excitement around the America's Cup, dubbed the rich man's sport, which is starting in San Francisco Bay next summer. In 2013 there will be 45 days of races as sailors graduate to the 70 foot catamarans. It's a boon for the Bay Area, creating jobs, stimulating economic activity and building much needed infrastructure along the waterfront. Before this huge undertaking can begin, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) has been required. West End resident, Paul Curfman works for Environmental Science Associates, ESA, and is a member of team working to prepare that EIR in record time for the Port and the City of San Francisco. Paul's role is to evaluate the proposed physical facilities/infrastructure's effects on views of the Bay and the races.



Dave Borton, Vice President of WENA, and I spent a fascinating couple of hours with Paul talking about the ins and outs of the EIR and getting the "back story" on the America's Cup. Paul, a licensed landscape architect who graduated from the University of Oregon, migrated from design and conservation planning to using Geographic Information Systems (GIS), which is really computerized mapping, to, as he puts it "weave new infrastructure into the environment without causing harm". He and the team of approximately 50 other professionals at ESA use their skills to plan for the nearly half a million visitors expected to come to this event.

For those of you who haven't followed the America's Cup, Larry Ellison's Oracle Team, won the America's Cup race in Valencia, Spain in 2010. As a result, Mr. Ellison got to choose the next city to host the 2013 race. He chose San Francisco Bay since he lives here, and it provides a spectacular venue for spectators to view the race (it's always been in the open ocean before). This will be the first time the Americas Cup

can be observed from the land. He needed a host yacht club since he wasn't a member of one, and ultimately found The Golden Gate Yacht Club to agree to his terms. He hired The Event Authority to produce the race and oversee the project with the Port and the City of San Francisco where most of the needed facilities would be located.

It was in December of last year that Mayor Gavin Newsom approved the AC34 Host Agreement that formed the blueprint for bringing the America's Cup to San Francisco. As part of that agreement, the EIR must be completed before any waterfront modifications are made for the America's Cup. Given the magnitude of this project and the development that will take place in order to be ready for the 2012 and 2013 races, Paul said that this is the fastest such a complex EIR could be produced. The 2000 page Draft EIR was released to the Public in August and the federal version, an Environmental Impact *Statement* is being prepared now.

Paul shared with us the computer generated graphics of the proposed development from Crissy Field to Rincon Park. In each of these locations there will be new infrastructure built to accommodate the people, the boats and the event activities. Most of the America's cup facilities are temporary. However, long-term development rights have been offered by the Port of San Francisco in return for improvements made by the Event Authority. What may turn out to be the most controversial aspect of the EIR and the America's Cup are these long-term development rights along the San Francisco waterfront.



One of the more interesting aspects of the project for Paul has been watching the leadership required to bring all of the stakeholders together to make the America's Cup a world class event.

It Just Keeps Getting Better... ! The Cecelia Winters Annual Block Party - September 2011



Giants Raffle Prize Winner
Beth & Jeff O'Halloran

A Special Thank You

Martin Seery & Jon Hart - Barbecue Extraordinaires
 Tim Bowen - Legos Corner
 Hanne Borton - Hat Making Crafts Table
 Joel Moss & Frank Baker - Balloon Animals

David Borton - Grocery Shopping
 Sam Moore & Martin Seery - Beer Keg
 Jay Bellin - It's It Ice Cream
 Vicki Fernandez - Photography

David & Jill Baker - Use of garage & electricity

Setting Up and Cleaning Afterwards - Greg Reel, Ben Negrete, Lester Foote, Deborah Coburn

The Neighbors on Neame for letting us use their street & sweeping the leaves the night before!

Marin Village Update - Stay home - Stay Active - Stay Connected *by Trish Hibben*

MARIN VILLAGE



Our Paths - Our Choices

Marin Village was formed to help seniors remain in their homes for as long as they choose. We recently celebrated our one-year anniversary, and what an exciting year this has been with four full-fledged Villages now in operation including Sausalito, Homestead Valley, Ross Valley and the Tiburon Peninsula. Planning has begun for Villages in Mill Valley, Corte Madera and San Rafael. We finally added a very small staff this summer and our main office is at Whistlestop in San Rafael.

Marin Village is part of nationwide grassroots movement to provide support for the ever -increasing number of seniors in our midst -meeting needs for support services, health and home maintenance and transportation for those unable to drive, as well as providing neighborhood venues for ongoing social

engagement.

Marin Village is the umbrella organization that provides support that enables small communities like Ross Valley and Sausalito to organize and offer services and programs in their local communities. Marin Village provides the insurance, non-profit status, book-keeping, accounting and the vetting of preferred providers, and maintains the website. The local Villages help recruit and train local volunteers and plan and organize programs of interest to their members.

Sausalito Village provides an excellent example of a very robust Village organization. It was our first village and launched in October 2010. It serves 169 members and has recruited 45 volunteers who have passed background checks and are available for member requests. The requests range from transportation to medical appointments and help with computers,

household tasks and even moving furniture. The programs and classes organized for the members include yoga classes, a memoir -writing group, a book group, and even improvisational acting classes. All of those are included in the \$200 membership fee. But beyond that there have been lunches at restaurants, and trips to museums and theater in the City as well.

Marin Village helps make a major difference in a member's life. In many cases it helps to end isolation for seniors who are unable to drive, provides social interactions when friends and families have moved away, offers life -enriching educational programs to engage minds and hearts, and offers volunteer activities to help seniors stay connected to their communities.

For more detailed information please visit our web site at www.Marinvillage.org or call 457-4633

WELCOMING NEW WEST END RESIDENTS

The West End Neighborhood Association (WENA) extends a warm welcome to all the new neighbors who have moved into our neighborhood over the past year. We hope you will join the West End Neighborhood Association, if you haven't already, and enjoy the opportunity to make friends and participate in the many activities. Below is a list of streets where you will find new West Enders. If you're already a WENA member and plan to attend the Holiday Social on December 4th, invite a new neighbor on your street to come with you.

Greenfield
Spring Grove
Terrace
Ross Valley

Sunset Way
W. Crescent
E. Crescent
Elkin Way

Westwood
West Street
Upper Fremont
Tamal Vista

WENA Board 2011www.wenaonline.org

Sharlene Moss, President

Dave Borton, V.P.

Ben Negrete, Treasurer

Vicki Fernandez, Secretary

Directors:

Deborah Coburn - Terrace

Bill Dagg - Greenfield

Greg Reel - Fremont

Save \$ and Help the Environment**Energy Upgrade California Workshops***WENA Member, Tina Cash wanted to pass along this information to West End residents:*

You can contact the Energy Specialist below to set up a workshop for friends and neighbors to understand the benefits and details of the energy upgrade program. Marin County incentives are up to \$6,800 in rebates to help make home energy improvements more affordable.

Napallo Gomez-Somer | Energy Upgrade Specialist

| www.EnergyUpgradeCA.org | 650.796.4148 | napallo@ecoact.org | Ecology Action | www.ecoact.org

Dates to Remember - 2012

January 26	Board Meeting
March 2	Annual Meeting
March 22	Board Meeting
May 24	Board Meeting
June 24	Member's Summer Social
August 23	Board Meeting
September 16	Cecelia Winters Annual Block Party
October 25	Board Meeting
December 2	Member's Holiday Social

WENA Resource Directory

We have so many talented neighbors who make their living as a landscaper, financial advisor, photographer, music teacher, musician, contractor, plumber, realtor, electrician, web designer.....you name it.

If you would like to be in the Resource Directory on the WENA website, send your Name, Business Name and Description, phone, email address, license # if required to WENA's Web Master: Free to WENA Members , \$20 for Non-Members.

Dave Borton at borton193@yahoo.com

The West End Neighborhood Association (WENA) is a non-profit, non-partisan association dedicated to fostering community and to enhancing the quality of life for our residents, both homeowners and renters. WENA provides a forum for voicing issues between residents and our local government. Our mission is to keep neighbors informed and connected so we can work together to solve problems, to safeguard our community, and to promote activities which beautify and respect our environment.