



Future Meetings:

May 5, 2005

August 4, 2005

October 6, 2005

December 1, 2005

Pizza 6:45 P.M.

7:00 P.M.

*Almaden Winery
Community Center*

*AWNA Web Site:
www.awna.org*

*AWNA Webmaster
Paris Deiker
pdieker@comcast.net*

AWNA Board:

*Mike Kubiniec,
President
5666 Brionne Drive
445-2644
mtkubiniec@cs.com*

*Carmella Graham:
Vintage Rep
269-3197
cgraham@apr.com*

*Position is Available
Tresor Rep
Please contact
Mike Kubiniec*

*Nick Wright
Vineland Rep
265-2983*

Directors at large:

*Joe Cassetta
cassetta@us.ibm.com*

*Nick Labosky
nick_labosky@hp.com*

Councilmember Nancy Pyle, the City of San Jose, the Almaden Winery Neighborhood Association and the Youth Lot Committee invite you to attend the

Almaden Winery Park Youth Lot Ribbon Cutting

Located at the corner of
Chambertin Drive and Treviso Avenue

Saturday, May 14, 2005

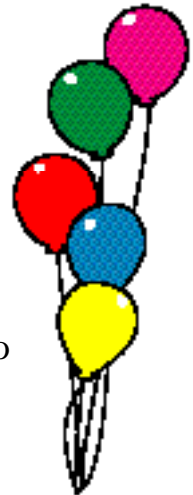
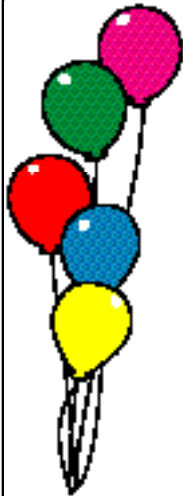
11:00 a.m.

Join us for a neighborhood celebration and
be among the first to play on the new Youth Lo

Picnic and Potluck to follow
(Hot Dogs & Beverages Provided)

Please bring a dish to share!

For more information, please contact Dede Smullen
dorthea_smullen@sbcglobal.net



*Please Join Us
(and bring a neighbor)...*

AWNA Meeting

Thursday, May 5

Almaden Winery Community Center

Pizza Social at 6:45 pm Meeting Begins at 7:00 pm

*Don't miss this opportunity to meet your neighbors
and discuss issues pertaining to your neighborhood*

Fond Farewell To Nancy Sakal - Matron of Almaden Winery Park

by Michael Kubiniec

During the week of 18 April, original Tresor residents, Nancy and Doug Sakal packed up their belongings and moved to Tucson, AZ, to enjoy their new life in retirement. Nancy, as many people know, was one of our most active members in our Almaden Winery community. She volunteered on numerous committees, activities and projects including: the annual Halloween Party and Parade, Park Christmas Tree Decorating, Awna newsletter distribution, watering in the park, the annual Awna sponsored picnic and so many, many more. However, she will be most remembered for her selfless dedication towards the maintenance and improvement of our centrally located park.

Over the past 9 years, Nancy coordinated several community planting and mulching days. As the most active member of the Awna Park Committee, she established relationships with City officials and parks maintenance staff to ensure the park always received the attention it deserved. Several months ago, she submitted (and received) a grant request to the City to help beautify the park with new plants, perform irrigation repairs and to repaint the gazebos. Nancy also spearheaded the replanting of the Chambertin planter beds by negotiating with the City with the plant selections, and she organized the neighborhood effort to remove the existing plants and to replant the area.

For all these improvements we have accomplished in our park over the years - Tot Lot construction, Upper Area improvements, park strip planting and irrigation and many more - Nancy has been behind the scenes, and involved. All her efforts have greatly contributed to the quality of life we enjoy in our park and neighborhood, and also the tremendous increase in value of our homes.

Thank you so much Nancy for all your efforts. We will miss you dearly. Nancy's email remains the same (dsakal@earthlink.net), so if you'd like to drop her a line to say "thank you", I am sure she'd enjoy hearing from you.

Again, thank you so very very much. Our neighborhood will miss you. All the best to you and Douglas in the years ahead.

Public Use of the Almaden Community Center

At the February 2005 Awna meeting, Traci Tokunaga, the Almaden Winery Community Center building supervisor, presented the programs and public use of the facility. Classes began in January and are typically Monday through Thursday, 8:00 AM - 9:00 PM. There are many senior activities available. Sometimes, there will be weekend events.

Available at the front desk of the Community Center is a brochure detailing rental costs, policies and capacities. Applications for rental of the facility are being taken now for events occurring after April 1st.

Members of the community expressed concern regarding several traffic related issues: increase in traffic, speeding along Chambertin, parking in the no parking area on Chambertin in the Tresor development, and parking in front of mail boxes making it difficult for the mail carrier to deliver mail. The City is very concerned and is committed to working with us to ensure there is minimal impact to the community. Traci is available to speak with you if you care to stop in and see her. Once the Almaden Community Center on Camden reopens, many of the current programs will relocate back there. Therefore, this will lessen the impact to our community.

Traci will be attending at the upcoming, May 5th Awna meeting to answer any additional questions the neighbors may have.

Multiple Volunteers Wanted!!!

Nancy Sakal has moved from our neighborhood and headed to the wonderful sunsets in Arizona. As noted in the above article, Nancy was very busy with the community and her departure has created numerous vacancies in a number of committees. If you would like to get further involved with your neighborhood, please contact Mike Kubiniec at (408) 445-2644; mtkubiniec@cs.com.

*Articles Wanted
for the next
AWNA
Newsletter
Submit them to
Jim Graham
jgraham269@
earthlink.net
by
July 15, 2005*

Neighborhood Bits & Bytes...

Make some New Friends!

By Teresha Sciotiono

Make some new friends, create new relationships and meet some of your neighbors. In this fast paced world, we sometimes lack the opportunity to create a community around us. If anyone is single or perhaps married without children and would like to get to know some of the people in the neighborhood, please email me and I would love to open my house to everyone and try to get a once a month "Make New Friends" club started. We could have the first meeting at my house and then decide what type of fun activities we could plan once a month that would be enjoyed by everyone. Please contact me at teresha@ibsystems.com and let me know if you would be interested in participating in this group. I would like to get this started in the next month or so.

Dear Lady On Bergerac Drive.... from a neighbor

This is a personal letter from the community to you on a matter of utmost importance to those of us with children who often visit the park and tot lot to play. I was wondering why you routinely ignore the stop sign at the 4-way intersection at Chambertin/Touraine/Treviso and drive right through. I know this because I have seen you do this on several occasions. Is it because you are always in such a hurry and cannot afford to wait the extra 5 seconds it would take if you were to come to a stop? Or perhaps, you are really not aware of what a stop sign is and its purpose at a controlled intersection? Or, maybe you are filled with your own self importance that you don't care about public safety and just being a good neighbor? Please consider the implications of your actions the next time you drive through our neighborhood. You never know when a child may be present - or maybe a police officer.



Almaden Winery Community Center

Many people have asked about reserving a room for an social or family activity at our Almaden Winery Community Center. The City's point of contact for this is: Patricia Hall; (408) 979-7820; patricia.hall@sanjoseca.gov. You will need to make an appointment with her to complete paperwork and to pay any required rental fee. Information on fees and capacities for the Community Center are available at the front desk or in the brochure rack located in the entry.

The Almaden Winery Crime Blotter

Over the last several weeks, the following "incidents" have occurred in our neighborhood: Bergerac Drive - car broken into and a purse was stolen. The homeowner confirmed that the purse was in her car and was in plain sight. She forgot it was there. Even though the car was parked right in front of her home, a thief still felt emboldened enough to break into the car. On Treviso Avenue - a garden hose and garden cart were taken from the homeowner's front yard. On Brionne Drive - a garden hose was taken from the front/side of the house. On Bordelais Drive a garden hose and cart were removed from the side of the house. Most recently, two large palms were removed from the front porch of a home of Touraine.

We all need to be vigilant to the goings on in our neighborhood. If you see something suspicious, report it right away. Let's all look out for our neighbors!



Carmella's Real Estate Corner

By Carmella Graham, Neighbor & Realtor

I received the following question from a resident of Tresor.

I have noticed that before a SOLD sign is placed on the real estate agency's sign in front of a home for sale that there is sometimes a SALE PENDING and then the SOLD sign at a later date, could you please explain?

As homes are placed on the market for sale, many (but not all) will have the agency sign placed in a very visible location on the property. When a purchase offer is written on this property, it will always have contingency time periods for the owner's to provide property disclosures to the potential buyers and additional contingency times for the buyers to arrange financing, read the disclosures, arrange for property insurance and have the suggested inspections (Pest, Home, Roof and perhaps chimney). In the not too distant past, often times one of the buyer's contingency's might have been a home that needed to be sold. Until these contingencies are removed by the buyer's, the home is a "SALE PENDING". Once the disclosures have been read, inspections reviewed and financing confirmed, the buyer's agent will remove all the contingencies of the contract and the home is considered SOLD.



WINDOW ALERT-VINTAGE HOMEOWNERS

I would like to use this opportunity to inform the homeowners in Vintage of a potential problem with the original windows installed by the builder, New Cities Development and Pacific Industries. As many of the Vintage homeowners are aware, after a period of time, the window tilting clips become brittle and can easily break when the window is opened and the clip hits the window header. This creates a potential for serious injury because when both clips have broken, the window is not secured in its frame. Most of us have been able to order new clips from Pacific Industries and have taken this project on as part of our home maintenance and general repair. When selling a home in Vintage, I have either had the seller replace the window tilting clips prior to the sale or have provided the new owner with replacement clips as they move into their new home and our neighborhood. With the most recent sale of a Vintage home, I was concerned when my numerous calls to Pacific Industries were not returned and had my worst fear confirmed when, on my last call, I received the recording stating that the number had been disconnected with no referring number.

Since that time, I have been searching for a comparable tilting window clip but have not been successful. I have contacted a number of window companies and had discussions with New Cities Development regarding this problem but have reached a dead end. I am appealing to my neighbors as residents of Vintage to help provide us all with a solution. It has been suggested that we contract with a plastic fabricator to manufacture a new, stronger tilting window clip that would then be available to Vintage residents or perhaps expand our search to include other window manufacturers who would be able to provide us with a comparable tilting window clip. I am open to any and all suggestions and would appreciate any assistance with obtaining a solution to what could become a serious issue affecting our safety of our families as well as the re-sale value of our homes. Please contact me at 408-357-8717 if you have any further questions or comments on this situation.

*If you have a question for
Carmella's Real Estate Corner
please call Carmella at
(408) 357-8717
or send an email to
cgraham@apr.com*



Almaden Winery Neighborhood Park News...

By Nancy Sakal

At the most recent Park Committee meeting there was continued discussion regarding the status of the grant and suggestions as to which projects should be finalized. Carol Sweetapple has obtained and planted roses that were received from the City of Newark and Nancy Sakal has volunteered to obtain additional mulch for the new plantings.

Brian Cabral has pruned the vineyards and has finished half of the rewiring for the vines. Brian will also seek to get City approval to change the planned irrigations. Larry Ely has been hired to repaint the gazebos and the surrounding rails.

Nancy has met the City regarding automatic irrigation of the Louis Benoist Gardens and the city has agreed to replace all the bushes on Tresor and we will replace the dead tree. The missing and dead plants in the garden will not be replaced until the irrigation issue has been settled. A City landscape architect agrees with Bryan Shisler that the replacement plants should have some kind of cohesive plan. Most of the plants have just been selected and planted with no thought as to a master plan.

The park committee is also losing two more members and is looking for volunteers to assist with maintaining our park and communication with the city. We are hoping for some one from Tresor or Vineland or perhaps both developments to more adequately represent the entire neighborhood. Currently, we have representation by three homeowners in Vintage and one homeowner in Tresor.

Park Committee Members:

Joe Cassetta
cassetta@us.ibm.com

Mike Kubiniec
MTKubiniec@a.com

Amy Paschal
atpaschal@aol.com

Bryan Shisler
sidewasit10@hotmail.com

Shelley Shisler

Nick Wright
nick@wright.org

The Park Committee meets quarterly at a members' house and discusses various plans for park improvement

Evening Mom's Group

Neighborhood moms with children up to kindergarten age meet every other Thursday evening from 5:30 to 7:00 pm both in homes and at the Almaden Winery Park. For more information, please contact Briana Soss at **408-448-2515** or **brianaathome@yahoo.com**

Websites of Interest

AWNA.org- This is the official website for the latest information about our neighborhood activities and for the archive of past AWNA activities and newsletters.

Almadenmothers@yahoogroups.com - This group is used for neighborhood questions related to kids, schools, etc. Can also be used to advertise local events for children and/or parents.

Eveningplaygroup@yahoogroups.com - This group is the evening mom's group which meets every other Thursday night from 5:30-7pm. It is a sub-set of the almaden mothers group. You may request to be added to any of these email lists by going to the website & sending an email to the group moderator.



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Allison Redington
Enrolled Agent
Bookkeeping, Accounting and Tax services
1-1081-266-7269
arfinancial@csglobal.net
www.xulscry.com

ment Travel
Melissa Blue
Travel Consultant
P.O. Box 41460
San Jose, CA 95160
Direct: (408) 266-7999
Fax: (408) 266-6338
melissa@qmenttravel.com

Almaden Winery Neighborhood Directory

Support your neighbors as they support the neighborhood!

Kid's Corner

The AWNA is looking for responsible individuals to distribute the AWNA newsletter to the neighborhood bi-monthly.


Please contact Michael Kubiniec at 408-888-8888 to discuss hourly pay rate. This is an opportunity to earn some "fun money" for summer.

Kid's Corner Listings are available to the neighborhood youth looking for a job at no charge! Listings must be submitted by the 15th of each month to jgraham269@earthlink.net


Margaret Rappuchi
Mortgage Consultant/Construction Specialist




333 North Canyon Parkway #225
Livermore, CA 94551
Phone: 925-245-5258 * Mobile: 408-528-1130
mrapuchi@firsthorizon.com



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The Almaden Winery Neighborhood Association Needs Your Support!

As you know, the Almaden Winery Neighborhood Association does not collect any dues and has no mandatory fees. All community-wide activities and this newsletter are funded exclusively through your individual contributions. This newsletter would not be possible unless we received donations. Won't you consider making a donation? \$5, \$10, \$20 or whatever you chose is fine. Please make your check out to the Almaden Winery Neighborhood Association, and complete the following:

Yes! I would like to make a donation!

(Please fill in the requested information so you can be added to the AWNA Directory. All information will be held in the strictest confidentiality and will not be used for commercial purposes.)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: H: _____ W: _____

Email Address: _____

Amount: \$5 _____ \$10 _____ \$20 _____ Other _____

Mail or deliver to: Almaden Winery Neighborhood Association
c/o Michael Kubiniec, 5666 Brionne Drive, San Jose, CA 95118-3914

Thank you very much for your generosity!

New Fire Station - Art Committee Meeting

The City of San Jose is building a fire station on Blossom Hill Road across from Pioneer High School. Please Join the City of San Jose Public Art Program and attend our first meeting on Wednesday, April 27, 6:00 to 7:30 pm, Almaden Winery Community Center, 5730 Chamberlin Drive. Community involvement in the selection of artists for City public art projects is the cornerstone of the success of the San Jose Public Art Program. We hope you will join us in selecting an artist that will help reflect your community and the new fire station! It's a fun evening of talking about the neighborhood, looking at artists' work, learning a bit about the new fire station, and ultimately selecting an artist.

Spring Book Sale - Saturday, May 7th

The Friends of Almaden/Vineland library will be holding their Spring Book Sale on Saturday, May 7th from 9 am to 3 pm. There will be a large selection of paperback and hardback books for sale. This is a great time to choose books for your summer reading enjoyment. The proceeds from last year's sales helped fund the Summer Reading Club, Family storytelling program, Teens Reach, audio books and language materials and more. Vineland Library is the busiest branch in our library system with over 125,000 items circulating every month, and these extra programs we can provide are greatly appreciated.

Since the Almaden Branch library will be up and running soon (returning their original Almaden membership), we are looking for volunteers to fill board positions for our local Vineland Branch Friends. The board meets four times a year to plan the book sale and recap the Spring and Fall sales. This is your chance to help support our library.

The Friends group will meet next on May 17th from 7pm to 9pm in the community room of the Vineland library. Call Rena Gooding at 408-264-8918 for more information.



AWNA
Future Meeting
Dates-

2005
First Thursday of:
August
October
December

All meetings will
be held at the
Almaden Winery
Community Center
and
will begin at
6:45 with the
Pizza Social
and conclude at
approximately
8:30

Vineland Library Hours

M-W

11-8 p.m.

TH-SA

10-6 p.m.

SUNDAY

Closed

From the Resident Chef

Scott Cooper, Executive Chef, Le Papillon Restaurant

This elegant version of the classic summer shortcake recipe is one of our favorites. I have found excellent berries at the Princeton Plaza Farmer's Market held each Sunday from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm. Gather your family for the short walk to some of the freshest produce available.

Strawberry Shortcake

Two or three baskets strawberries

For the Shortcake:

- 1 cups flour
- A pinch salt
- 1+1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 tablespoons sugar
- 1/4 cup butter
- 1/4 cup cream
- 2 tablespoons buttermilk

Mix the flour, salt, baking powder, and the sugar in a mixing bowl. Work the butter into the mixture, either by using a pastry cutter or by rubbing between your fingers, until it resembles a coarse meal. Pour the cream and the buttermilk into the mixing bowl and stir until barely mixed. Turn the dough out onto a floured surface and knead very gently just until the dough comes together. Be very careful not to over-mix the dough as you could make the shortcakes tough. Stop kneading the dough about three kneads before you think you need to. Roll till about 1 inch thick and use a cookie cutter to form the individual cakes. If you like you can brush the tops with cream and sprinkle a little sugar on top to give the cake a shiny appearance. Bake in a 425-degree oven for 12 to 14 minutes or until golden brown on top and just set. Can be prepared early in the day.

For the sauce:

- 1 pint basket strawberries
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1 tablespoon Chambord Liqueur

Puree all the ingredients together and pass through a fine strainer. Can be prepared up to one day in advance

For the Cream:

- 1/2 cup mascarpone cheese
- 1/4 cup cream
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

Mix the mascarpone cheese with the sugar and vanilla and stir until well combined. In another bowl, whip the cream to soft peaks and then fold it into the mascarpone. Can be prepared up to one day in advance.

Assembly:

Split the shortcakes and place the bottom on a serving plate. Pour a little of the sauce around the plate and a little on top of the cake. Spoon some of the cream on the cake and top with lots of sliced strawberries. Spoon a little more of the cream on and top with the top of the shortcake. Garnish with mint and a dusting of powdered sugar. Serves six.



Scott Cooper Lives in Vintage with his wife Carolyn and their two children

If you have a recipe you would like to share with your neighbors, please contact Jim Graham at 408-269-3197 or via email to jgraham269@earthlink.net to discuss!