

June, 2002

**Neighborhood
Garage Sale:**

June 22

**Ice Cream
Social:**

**August 17,
2 to 4 PM**

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**REMINDER:
Please, for our
children's safety,
obey the posted
speed limit.**

**Be a considerate
neighbor.**



Message from SGANA President

In our initial newsletter, we stated what our hopes, goals and objectives would be for the neighborhood. With your help, we believe that the neighborhood is moving forward with the *shared* aim of creating a good home. Implicit in this ideal is the notion of safe refuge. Pleasant and quiet surroundings and a comfortable social setting, among others, are important as well. SGANA's aim is to cultivate and enhance the attributes of what already is a good place to live and minimize the negative. It is a mission that needs *you* to prevail.

We expressed our hopes of improving communication amongst members of the community. This we have done in the creation of this newsletter and the SGANA website found at www.swcp.com/sgana/. Please visit this site and tell us what you think.

We have further expanded communication opportunities through our General Meeting held in April. It was, according to veterans of the Association, one of the best for content, attendance and enthusiasm.

We had two speakers who gave very informative presentations. Richard Luna, a Code Enforcement Inspector with the City, spoke about the bureaucratic and enforcement issues involving the property located on 9913 San Gabriel. This crime magnet has been an eyesore and safety hazard for years. It depressed property values in the area as well.

Mr. Luna's presentation led to the cleanup of the property's exterior by the Beautification Committee and fifteen volunteers. (See Cleanup story below.)

We thank Mr. Luna for his efforts.

Our other speaker, Stephanie Wiebe (pronounced Weebee) is a Crime Prevention Specialist with the APD. She offered information consistent with her title that could prove dear in an emergency situation. She has also graciously contributed the article below. We appreciate her work on our behalf and wish her a speedy recovery from knee surgery.

There are two events planned for the neighborhood. The first is a neighborhood garage sale and the other is an ice cream social.

We would like to thank each of you who have volunteered for these community projects and those of you who helped in the cleanup.

Remember that our goals can be reached only with your help.

Carl and Jean Chavez

<p>Events Committee Chairperson Debbie Chavira needs volunteers</p>

Neighborhood Events

The Events Committee, chaired by Debbie Chavira, will organize the following two events on behalf of the

neighborhood. If you would like to volunteer for the committee or just

assist Debbie and her committee with one or both of the events, give her a call.

Board of Directors

President: Carl and Jean Chavez, 292-4907

carlcbowls@cs.com

Vice-president: Dan Jones, 299-1677,

abgdanj@swcp.com

Secretary: Joan Reynolds, 293-0180,

reynoldsjo@aol.com

Treasurer: Debbie Chavira, 271-0005,

Dchavira@email.msn.com

Director at large: Frank Simpson, 298-1935

Consultant: Mark Webb, 299-6675

mwtennis@swcp.com

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Crime Committee
Chairperson: Richard Toledo, 573-4404
Needs Members

Neighborhood Garage Sale

Clean out your garage and closets or get a treasure for pennies. SGANA will sponsor a neighborhood garage sale (a.k.a. tag sale or yard sale) on Saturday, June 22. The SGANA will provide the advertising through the newspaper, newsletter, web site and signs. We hope to attract large numbers of buyers for your items. We think we can help make it more enjoyable for you to share the chore with the others in the neighborhood. We hope to make it a social event held annually.

Ice Cream Social

This event is pure fun - no chore here. SGANA will sponsor this event on August 17 from 2 to 4 PM at the Mitchell Elementary School Park. There will not only be ice cream but other refreshments and games. The Association has held this before and it has proven to be the most popular event of the year. Meet your neighbors and other important people and have a sweet time.

Committee News

Beautification Committee: Cleanup

In late April, Mark Webb and his committee, prompted by the Code Enforcement Inspector and the Mayor's Spring Cleanup, organized the cleanup of the yard at 9913 San Gabriel. About fifteen volunteers braved the cold and windy weather to remove the debris and even large car parts that had made that property the bane of the neighborhood. The neighborhood should be very thankful to each person who participated in this important beautification project. Unfortunately, we failed to obtain a list of the volunteers so we cannot mention them here.

Crime Committee

The chairman of the newly established Crime Committee is Richard Toledo. Fortunately, our neighborhood has a relatively low crime rate but crime is far from nonexistent here. You may be surprised by how many of your neighbors have experienced crime. We might be able to see some patterns develop if we are able to document what crimes occur and when. Contact Richard if you experience a problem. Obviously, this communication will only be used to give the Association and the neighborhood information, and should not be a substitute for contacting the police when needed. Richard's cell number is 573-4404. Call only at a reasonable time please, for Richard's sake.

Mission Statement:

Objective is to help prevent crime especially burglaries, vandalism, speeding and loitering. This will be accomplished by encouraging the community to provide good lighting around the home, encourage and assist formation of neighborhood watches, encourage people to observe and report suspicious activity, to encourage neighbors to get to know each other better and to form a close cooperative relationship with law enforcement.

Crime Committee (continued)

Project: Recruit a Block Volunteer for each block to: Gather list of names and contact numbers of neighbors and update list; attend one meeting per year with committee and gather crime information on block and report this to the Committee.

Please contact Richard if you desire to be a part of this most important task.

Youth Committee

Neighborhood meetings:

The Youth Committee adults provide baby-sitting services for neighborhood meetings so you can attend comfortably and your children can enjoy themselves while meeting other kids in the neighborhood. Children attending the last neighborhood meeting planted seeds, drew pictures, played games and ran off a lot of energy at the playground; fun was had by all! No reservations needed.

Who's Out There?

The Youth Committee would like to get a count of children in the neighborhood so we can plan events for them effectively and be able to provide some general information to newcomers. We are requesting that parents of children under 18 call (323-2749) or e-mail (ncarrill@unm.edu) Nancy Carrillo with the birth dates of your kids and the name of your street. We *won't* be collecting kids' names or specific addresses.

Hey Kids!

If you are interested in contributing to your community, there are many ways you can do so right here in your own neighborhood! You can...

- Join the Youth Committee! This committee meets every few months to plan events for and by kids of all ages. We need your ideas! Please call Nancy at 323-2749 for details.
- Write a column for youth in the SGANA newsletter! Call Carl Chavez.
- Make signs (or sell lemonade?) for the upcoming neighborhood garage sale on June 22nd. Call Debbie Chavira for details.
- Help out at the upcoming ice cream social on August 17th. We'll need help serving ice cream and running games. all Debbie Chavira to find out more.

Would you like to make some extra money baby-sitting, cleaning, or doing yard work? Why not advertise to the neighborhood in the SGANA newsletter? Call Carl Chavez for details.

Welcoming Committee

Chairperson Joan Reynolds and the other members of the committee have been busy welcoming new neighbors. They need your assistance in finding them. Contact Joan if you know of anyone who has recently moved here.

Traffic Committee

Dan Jones is the chairperson and he needs a couple of volunteers to help him address some of the issues involving traffic. Have you wanted a speed bump or a No-U-Turn sign? If so, this is the committee for you. Contact Dan for more information.

Comanche Medians

The City has informed the Association, rather vaguely, that the median project is scheduled to begin this year and be completed this year. Ed Adams, the Manager of the Transportation Division said that "In terms of visual appearance of the medians, the City of Albuquerque will work with the landscape designer to provide more colorful xeriscape plants along Comanche Road to make the medians more attractive."

Youth Committee
Chairperson: Christy Weisz,
299-8108,
weiszguys@aol.com
Members: Nancy Carrillo,
ncarrill@unm.edu
Adrian Chavez,
achav@pepsi.com
Jean and Carl Chavez
Needs a teenage members

Community Service
looks great on college
applications

Welcoming Committee
Chairperson: Joan
Reynolds, 293-0181,
reynoldsjo@aol.com
Members: Jean Chavez
and Joan Parker

Neighborhood Watch

By Stephanie Wiebe, APD Crime Prevention Specialist

Stephanie Wiebe,
Foothills Substation,
1540 Tramway Blvd NE
332-5240

Neighborhood Watch is one of the most effective and least costly ways to prevent crime and reduce fear. Members of a Neighborhood Watch learn how to make their homes more secure, watch out for each other and the neighborhood. They become the extra eyes and ears for reporting crime and helping neighbors. It creates a bond among area residents, helps reduce crime and improves relations between police and the community.

It's an unfortunate fact that when a neighborhood crime crisis is not apparent or goes away, so does the enthusiasm for the Neighborhood Watch. Neighborhood Watch is a **proactive** crime prevention tool. Work to keep your watch group a vital force for community well being.

"Neighborhood Watch is a proactive crime prevention tool."

The Albuquerque Police Crime Prevention Neighborhood Association database lists two Neighborhood Watches for the entire San Gabriel Neighborhood Association. If you are interested in preventing crime by organizing a new or reorganizing an existing Neighborhood Watch please contact me at the Foothills Area Command, 332-5240.

General Home Security Tips

Burglary and theft are generally crimes of opportunity. Remove the opportunities and you will reduce the crime.

"Keep your porch lights on at night."

Remove the burglar's hiding place by keeping hedges and trees trimmed around doors and windows.

Keep your doors and windows locked. Keep the garage door down and locked.

If you park a vehicle outside, remove all valuables, keep it locked and use lighting over the garage to deter burglaries in the driveway.

Use timers or photosensitive cells to turn outside lights on and off. Keep your porch lights on at night. Make sure your address is visible from the street to assist emergency personnel, especially at night.

Keep a detailed inventory of your personal possessions. Inscribe your valuables with an identifying mark or numbers.

Develop rapport with neighbors. Establish that you can count on them and they can count on you to report suspicious activities to the police.

JOIN A NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Recycling will be picked up every other week on the same day as your regular trash collection. If you have any questions, call Solid Waste Customer Service at 761-8100 or see www.cabq.gov/solidwaste.

SGANA Facts

San Gabriel Area Neighborhood Association is sanctioned and assisted by the city to promote the welfare of the neighborhood and is bounded by Montgomery, Comanche, Morris and Eubank and consists of nearly 500 families. The present Board members were chosen at the General Meeting on October 25, 2001.
