

the Vendome Voice



VOLUME 5, NUMBER 1

Recycle Old Electronics, Support the VNA

Jun

4

Do you have a broken TV in your basement? An obsolete PC in your garage? Are your old cell phones breeding like rabbits?

Get rid of them **for free**, the environmentally-responsible way, and help the Vendome Neighborhood Association at the same time.

On Saturday, June 4th, we will be holding our first E-waste Recycling Event in the parking lot of the Olson & Company CPA building, **447 North First at Fox Ave.** Earth Care Recycling will be there **from 9 AM to 3 PM** to take your old computers, televisions, cell phones and more.

There is no charge for recycling your old electronics. But Earth Care will share a portion of its recycling proceeds with the VNA. So in addition to cleaning out your basement, you also help fund Vendome events, such as the annual Summer Barbecue. The more we recycle, the more money we get, so tell your friends in surrounding neighborhoods!

Our neighbors at Olson & Company CPA have generously allowed us to use their parking lot for this event. Out of courtesy to them, **please do not leave any items at this location outside of the event hours.**

For more details about what can be recycled, visit www.earthcarerecycling.com

Get rid of...

- ✓ computers
- ✓ TVs
- ✓ monitors
- ✓ mice
- ✓ keyboards
- ✓ printers
- ✓ stereos
- ✓ phones
- ✓ VCRs
- ✓ DVD players
- ✓ and more...

But we can't take...

- ✗ freezers
- ✗ air conditioners
- ✗ household batteries



Joey is the new Airedale Terrier on North San Pedro. A rescue dog who was not well-loved before coming to the Vendome, Joey is now top dog in his forever home. Joey likes to guard the house and will bark at strangers, but he has a crush on one of the neighborhood dogs and tries to show off whenever she comes by on a walk. 

Some people retire to Florida, but when Sarah the service dog retired, she left the Sunshine state for California. A ten-

year old Labrador-Shepherd mix, Sarah can be found most afternoons in Ryland Park, where she enjoys a good game of fetch. She likes to be petted, and true to her service dog training, obeys all the commands her person gives her. 

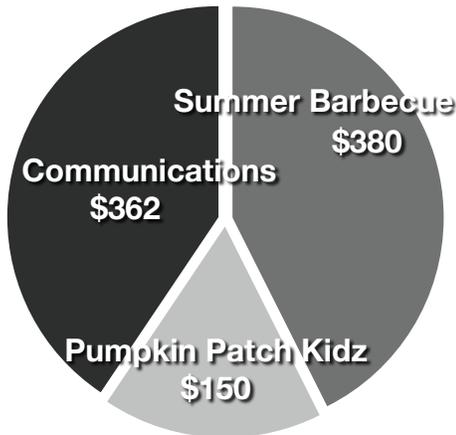
The stylish Boxer playing in Ryland Park is Ginger, and her playmate is Chloe, the lovely Pit Bull. They like to run around, and play fetch. Chloe also has a little Yorkie friend who bosses her around. The other day, the Yorkie won the tug of war contest — three times. Chloe is a gentle friend.

Don't whine! Send tips to bark@vendome.org

Follow the Money

The Vendome Neighborhood Association is an all-volunteer organization, which is funded through donations from Vendome residents. All VNA events and activities are made possible by the generosity of your neighbors.

Vendome 2011 Budget



The VNA does not have a large budget: in 2010, our total spending was under \$1350. About 65% of this was spent on our events, the Summer Barbecue and Pumpkin Patch Kidz. Another 30% was spent for communications — printing of fliers and the *Vendome Voice*, web hosting for *vendome.org* and our Post Office box.

The VNA Board of Directors strives to manage our limited finances responsibly and transparently. Every quarter, the Treasurer prepares a financial report for the Board, and these are always posted on *vendome.org* for all to see. In addition, this past January, the Board decided to prepare a formal Association Budget for 2011.

You can find the detailed budget on *vendome.org*, but the short version is that we've budgeted \$892 in expenditures for the year — including \$380 for the Summer Barbecue, and \$150 for Pumpkin

Patch Kidz. We also decided to pare back our communications expenses as much as possible — see page 4 for some changes to our meeting announcements.

Of course, the other side of expenditures is income. We are trying some new things this year, such as the E-waste Recycling Event (see page 1). But as ever, we rely on the generosity of our neighbors for the bulk of our budget. If you are able to make a donation to the Vendome Neighborhood Association this year, please use the envelope attached to this issue of the *Vendome Voice*, or send your check to P.O. Box 90398, San Jose, CA 95109.

The VNA is not a 501(c)3 organization, so your donation is not tax-deductible, but it is still greatly appreciated.

Openings on the VNA Board of Directors

Two positions on the Vendome Neighborhood Association Board of Directors were up for election at our neighborhood meeting last November: President and Member-at-Large.

Unfortunately, no one stood for election to either position. As a result, we have two vacant positions on the Board.

If you're interested in joining the Board, please contact us at board@vendome.org. We could use your help!

The Vendome Voice

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Charcoal Talk

Q&A with Tina Morrill, 2011 Barbecue Committee Chair

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Vendome Voice: *Congratulations on becoming the 2011 Vendome Barbecue Chair!*

Tina Morrill: Thanks! I love our neighborhood and wanted to be involved after I stopped being the VNA president. The Barbecue is something that's fun. It always seems to come together and everyone pitches in and has a great time.

What new things do you want to do for the Barbecue this year?

I'm not telling! It would wreck the surprise! Actually, I want to get a few folks together and brainstorm, and see what new ideas we can come up with.

I have a theory about volunteers, and we are stretched so thin. I don't want people to think this is going to be a big ordeal, when actually it is a lot of fun. Volunteering doesn't have to take a lot of time. This is a fun event to put together and it can be as big or little as we want it to be.

So your vision is a more relaxed get-together?

Yeah, just a get-together of neighbors, making friends. I'm thinking it should be more of a picnic. I think we should make it like the original event, which really was more of a potluck-picnic. Anyway, it was really fun, we all got to meet each other and make friends.

I also worry about charcoal lighter and the environment, and so I'd like there to be a more green aspect to this. I think making it more of a picnic would allow us to have more time to mingle and develop bonds.

What about activities?

I think activities are a great idea, and that would come out of the brainstorming session.

I don't see jump houses in our future. The Board had the idea of a silent auction for fund-raising. We are going to be looking for nice things to auction off, maybe wine or tickets to events — like to Sharks games, if anyone would be willing to donate some. Go Sharks!

Maybe we could have more special guests, like the people from the Wildlife Rescue Center we had at last year's Barbecue — that was cool. And of course, the chili cook-off and pie bake-off. Heh, friendly competition.

Is the date set yet?

The Board set a tentative date of June 25th. We need to check to make sure that there are no competing events, like the Jazz Festival. Rotary Ryland Pool will be open, too.

Do you have a committee yet?

We've had so many great volunteers over the years! I'd like to have volunteers contact me if they are interested in helping. We need people for planning and people helping on the day of the event; the Barbecue is the kind of event where anyone can help out, even if only just a little.

I hope people will put it on the calendar and stop by, stay a while and talk to their neighbors. I keep thinking how if there were an earthquake, we would end up together, depending on each other. The Barbecue is one way we build community. You never know when you might need a friend.

If you'd like to help out, send an e-mail to tinam777@yahoo.com or call Tina directly at (408) 298-8942.

Vendome Neighborhood Meetings

Aug
TBA

Nov
TBA

The Vendome Neighborhood Association holds a general meeting, open to all in the neighborhood, once each quarter. In the past, we've pre-announced exact dates for these meetings at the start of each year, but we've sometimes had to change them, because our hosts at California Bank & Trust can't commit to availability a year in the future.

This year, we won't be announcing exact dates until closer to each meeting. We expect the remaining meetings for 2011 to be in August and November. (The May meeting has been cancelled, since we couldn't line up our venue with our guests' schedules.) Watch *vendome.org* or the neighborhood e-mail list for announcements.

On the subject of meeting announcements, when the VNA Board of Directors prepared the Association Budget for 2011 (see page 2), we noticed that we've been spending a large chunk of money on the quarterly meeting announcements — more than \$100 per year, in fact. This seemed hard to justify, given that meetings are also publicized via *vendome.org* and the neighborhood e-mail list.

After discussing this issue at February's quarterly meeting, we decided to discontinue the meeting fliers. But we are aware that not everyone in the neighborhood has Internet access, and we don't want to cut out anyone who is interested in attending our meetings. If you want to continue to receive meeting announcements, please send your request, along with your street address, to the VNA at P.O. Box 90398, San Jose, CA 95109. We are happy to deliver a small number of printed announcements to those who are really interested in receiving them.

We meet on the 2nd floor of California Bank & Trust, 515 N. First St. Meetings begin at 6:00 PM.



Art Box Project SJ

Gary Singh, a columnist for *Metro Newspapers*, took pictures of decorated utility boxes in other cities, and wondered about bringing a similar aesthetic to San Jose. The Vendome's own Tina Morrill wants to make this idea a reality, and has created **Art Box Project SJ**.

The goal of this project is to integrate art into San Jose neighborhoods like the Vendome, and as Tina says, "to capture the unique voices of our community."

Art Box Project SJ is in the planning stages and could be launched by the Fall of 2011. Like the SharkByte Art project of 2001, the Art Box project expects to have local artists submit proposals and seek sponsorships from local businesses, civic groups, neighborhood associations, and so forth. The Department of Transportation will review project locations and proposals to ensure public safety.

Palo Alto, Hayward, and Scotts Valley have similar projects in progress. According to the *Contra Costa Times*, art on utility boxes in Hayward has reduced graffiti on the boxes by 97%.

To learn more or get involved, search for "Art Box Project SJ" on Facebook.

Ryland Park Gardening Days

Sunday, May 22nd
Sunday, August 14th
Sunday, October 23rd
9 AM to 11 AM



Vendome Clean Up Days

Sunday, June 5th
Saturday, October 8th
10 AM to Noon