



Eureka!

News for Eureka Valley, Upper Market, Castro, Duboce & Twin Peaks. Published by the **Eureka Valley Promotion Association**
Serving the neighborhood since 1881.

Volume 127, Issue 02 February 2008

www.EVPA.org

www.PinkTrianglePark.org

A Few Notes from the EVPA President

by Steve Clark Hall

My thanks to all who participated in our January meeting forum "Maintaining Neighborhood Character" - the beginning of what I hope will become a dynamic tool for the leadership and members of the EVPA to focus our priorities within our limited assets of time and personal energy.

Many have you have approached me and other board members expressing a desire to get more involved as members. This is great to hear. Most of us who have participated in other all-volunteer organizations know that the bulk of the "work" actually gets done at the "committee level." As of the February board meeting, we are standing up or "restanding up" a few more committees in which members may participate. Some of these committees are for a single purpose, then will dissolve or be merged into another committee once the task is completed. Others will remain as long as there is a need. Want to do more? Want to see things actually get done? Join or suggest a committee to get it done! At the November membership meeting, I plan on presenting the "Report Card" for the EVPA -- a list of accomplishments that we achieved in 2008. I hope we can look back at a successful year where the EVPA has made a difference in the quality of life in Eureka Valley.

Lastly, I want to point your attention to what I feel is a very important us Eureka Valley -- in this issue of Eureka! you should find the announcement of a very special training opportunity -- Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT) Training. Normally held over six class sessions, the upcoming training will be presented in two intense Saturday sessions in March. I encourage every able-bodied resident (over 18) to participate -- the training you receive may make a difference in saving lives as well as possibly saving our neighborhood.

See you at the Membership Meeting on the 21st!
/steve

NERT Training

The San Francisco Fire Department will be holding Eureka Valley "Neighborhood Emergency Response Team" (NERT) training on two consecutive Saturdays, March 15 and March 22, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at Davies Medical Center. This training is normally given in a series

of six sessions. The goal of the program is to help the residents of Eureka Valley be self-sufficient in earthquake and other major disaster situations by developing multi-functional teams, cross-trained in basic emergency skills. Through this program, individuals will learn



hands-on disaster skills that will help them as members of an emergency response team and/or as a leader directing untrained volunteers during an emergency, allowing them to act independently or as an adjunct to City emergency services. There is no cost for the training. Attendees must commit to both full-day sessions.

Although the training will take place in March, the opportunity to sign up for the training is now. There is a limit to the number of persons who can be trained - so the sooner interested persons sign up, the better their chances of participating in the program.

To register for the training, go to

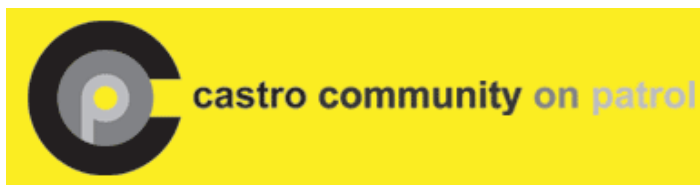
<http://www.sfgov.org/sffdner> to sign up online or email sffdner@sfgov.org or call: (415) 970-2024.

For additional information about the Castro NERT training, visit

<http://www.ci.sf.ca.us/site/uploadedfiles/fire/sfnert/Castro-Duboce-Triangle-Davies3-15-08.pdf> or go to the NERT training website, at: http://www.ci.sf.ca.us/site/sfnert_index.asp.

Castro Community on Patrol

By Scott Wiener



In late 2006, after several violent attacks in the Castro, we as a community decided that we needed to protect ourselves. Although the police do a great job, they have limited resources, and they can't be everywhere all the time. As a community and as a neighborhood, we are ultimately responsible for improving the safety of this great place where we live, work, and play.

We therefore founded Castro Community on Patrol, a grassroots neighborhood organization dedicated to safety awareness in the Castro and Duboce Triangle. The goal was to have walking patrols every Friday and Saturday nights to keep an eye out on the neighborhood, to create a visible presence, and to educate people about the need to promote a safe neighborhood. We decided that we did not want our patrol volunteers to become physical with anyone, but rather to be eyes and ears and to report problems.

We have now been patrolling for over 14 months, and the organization has been a success. We have had walking patrols every Friday and Saturday night with only a few exceptions during inclement weather and the holidays. People in the community know and recognize us, and people often thank our volunteers as they patrol.

Our patrols take their jobs seriously. They have helped prevent or report crimes in progress, for example stopping a hate crime that was about to occur, seeing an armed robbery in progress and calling the police immediately, and preventing several assaults. Our patrols also keep an eye out for streets that are too dark, whether from overgrown trees or burnt out streetlights, since dark streets can reduce safety.

Castro Community on Patrol is certainly not the total answer to the safety challenges confronting the Castro. But, we are part of the solution. After 14 months, we are going strong, and we hope to be a long-term presence in the neighborhood.

Scott Wiener is EVPA's secretary and serves on the board of directors of Castro Community on Patrol. To volunteer for Castro Community on Patrol, email training@castropatrol.org. Trainings for patrol volunteers are offered every 2-3 months.

Upper Market Workshop Update

By Demian Quesnel

I spoke to Sarah Dennis at the planning department the other day to find out the status of the Upper Market Workshop Series. She said the consultants, Moore Iacofano Goltsman (MIG), with Seifel Consulting, are currently at work on the document that will be the product of the community meetings. She said the Planning Department expects to receive the document from them by the end of February or early March. Then, depending on the state of the document [readiness for presentation to the public] they will be able to schedule the next workshop for the community to review the document. At that point, depending on the community input, the document can be finalized and presented to the Planning Commission. If there is significant community input that the document isn't ready to move forward, there will be a rework period. She also indicated that involved community groups [such as EVPA] can request additional focus work on the document and the Planning Department will accommodate them.

One thing that has to be remembered in this process is that the majority of the area [up to Noe Street] and the majority of the development opportunity sites are under the domain of the Market/Octavia Plan which has not been finalized as of yet.

Eureka Valley Branch Library Closing Party

March 1st, 1pm-3pm

By Demian Quesnel

There will be a party for the closing of the Eureka Valley branch of the San Francisco Public Library on March 1st from 1pm to 3pm. The branch is closing for seismic upgrading and general modernizing and updating of the facilities. It is anticipated the branch will be closed for up to 2 years. Also present at this event will be resources for those who depend on this branch for materials.



There will be free food [prepared by neighborhood establishments] and refreshments provided. There will also be entertainment including Jazz provided by the Jules Broussard Trio and dancing exhibition by the Poi dancers. Additionally, there will be children's activities and arts and crafts. Come one, come all. I hope to see you there.

The "Maintaining Neighborhood Character" forum of our January Meeting

Many thanks to those who participated in our January membership meeting discussion of what it means to "Maintain Neighborhood Character." We will be building on this initial list to develop a "living list" of priorities for the Eureka Valley Promotion Association. The collated listing developed from our concerns expressed at the last meeting were:

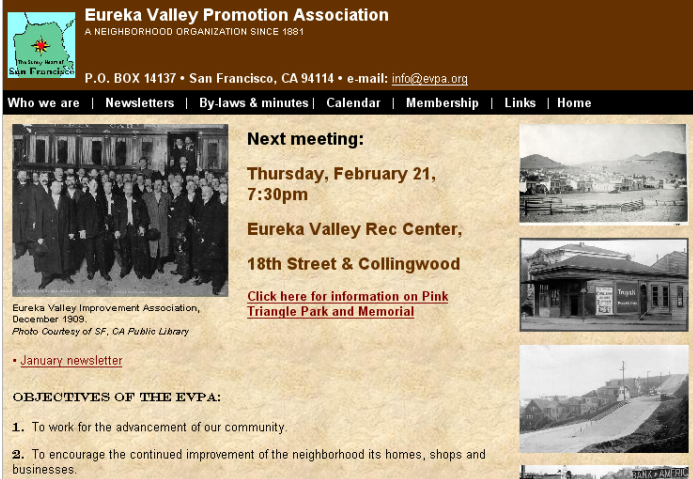
1. Housing
 - a.) Preserving Victorian homes
 - b.) Diversity of housing (apartments, condos, flats, single family homes)
 - c.) New building to support neighborhood
2. Self-sustaining neighborhood: stores, transit, restaurants, groceries
3. Businesses
 - a.) Uniqueness of business
 - b.) Chain stores?
4. Preserving our residential/commercial balance
5. Preserving views and limiting heights of new buildings
6. Preserving population diversity (gay families, straight families, single people, different ethnic groups)
7. Remembering the neighborhood's history, character and identity
 - a.) LGBT character and history
8. Preserving nightlife
9. Making the neighborhood walkable
10. Protecting front/rear yard open space
11. Ensuring adequate public transit
12. Maintaining and creating public space (plazas, parks, wide sidewalks, etc.)
13. Disaster preparedness: neighborhood needs to take care of itself
14. More exposed earth to facilitate water absorption into the ground
 - a.) Larger cut-outs around street trees to facilitate this goal
15. Public safety and safety of all residents
16. Utility undergrounding
17. Preserving (maintaining) hillside staircases

This is the just the beginning of the list. With the unveiling of a new EVPA website, we will be providing those who were unable to attend the January meeting opportunities to add their concerns.

www.evpa.org

The World Wide Web has come a long way since the EVPA stood up our first website years ago. Use of the web has become an integrated daily function into most of our lives and has drastically changed the ways in which we communicate with each other. So is it time for a new EVPA Website?

Take a look at our current site at <http://evpa.org>, and you can see that we should probably refresh our face to the world on the web. The goal is to introduce the beginnings of an all-new site by March 10th, 2008, a very aggressive schedule, but very doable with good, meaningful participation. Expected revisions to the site would allow more user interface to sign-up for the newsletter, pay dues and become a member online, provide means for the leadership and committees to keep the membership informed, as well as be a neighborhood resource for neighborhood issues.



If you have a vision of what you feel our website should provide, or have a graphics mind, or have developed other websites, or just have some ideas of what you want to see when you visit our website, please either join the ad hoc "Website" Committee and/or send a note to web@evpa.org.

EVPA Announcements via EMAIL

Have you gotten any EVPA announcements via e-mail? If not, probably because we probably don't have a good e-mail address for you, or perhaps your spam filter is catching us! Please stay in touch by keeping your EVPA membership info up-to-date by sending a quick note to membership@evpa.org with your updated contact data, and add Eureka@evpa.org to your address books.

THANKS!

General Membership Meeting Minutes January 2008

1. The president called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
2. On motion and second, the minutes from the December 2007 meeting were approved.
3. The president presented the treasurer's report and reported that the EVPA account contains approximately \$9,000 and that the foundation account contains approximately \$1,000.
4. The president presented the Planning Committee report, including an update on website improvements relating to planning issues and an update on planning issues in the neighborhood.
5. Dennis Richards, president of DTNA, provided an updated on the work of the Upper Market Alliance, particularly UMA's meeting with Washington Mutual Management relating to the proposed site at Market and Sanchez. UMA voted to support the project.
6. The Frameline proposal to use the parking lot behind the Castro Theater during the LGBT Film Festival was discussed. No action was taken on the proposal, given that prior notice on the item had not been provided to the membership.
7. The membership discussed what "neighborhood character" meant and provided a number of different elements of that concept.
8. A report was provided on the neo-nazi graffiti at Pink Triangle Park, including the clean-up of the graffiti and maintenance issues relating to it. The membership expressed its appreciation to City officials and employees for their prompt attention to this crime.
9. Alan Beach provided an update on efforts to plan for Halloween 2008. Members expressed their concerns about the slow progress of planning.
10. Gustavo Serina provided an update on the Community Benefit District's activities relating to streetscapes in the Castro and pedestrian safety at Noe and Market Streets.
11. The president then adjourned the meeting.

Upcoming EVPA Meetings

EVPA meetings are back in the Eureka Valley Recreation Center Auditorium, 100 Collingwood (behind Cala Foods). See you there!

Membership Meetings

February 21
March 20
April 17
May 15
July 17
September 18
November 20

Board Meetings

17 April
19 June
21 August
16 October

Committee meetings are scheduled by committees. "Special Meetings" of the Board and of the Membership may be called in accordance with the EVPA ByLaws.

Meet the 2008 EVPA Board Members

President: Steve Clark Hall
(415) 863-2593 steve.hall@evpa.org

Secretary: Scott Wiener
(415) 437-9414 scott.wiener@evpa.org

Treasurer: Joe Caruso
(415) 307-5050 joe.caruso@evpa.org

Board of Directors:

Frank Weiss - frank.weiss@evpa.org

David Weiss
(415) 652-4004 david.weiss@evpa.org

Demian Quesnel
(415) 861-5084 demian.quesnel@evpa.org

Alan Beach-Nelson
(415) 431-5152 alan.beach@evpa.org

General Membership Meeting

Thursday, February 21, 2008 @ 7:30PM

Eureka Valley Recreation Center
100 Collingwood St.

AGENDA:

1. Introductions
2. Reading and Approval of the Minutes
3. Reports of Officers, Boards and Standing Committees
President
Treasurer
Planning
4. Reports of Special Committees
Halloween
5. Business
Review and Approval of the 2008 Budget and Dues Rates
Ratification of the Internal Affairs Committee
Introduction to the ByLaws modifications for 2008
Selection of the EVPA "Tag Line"
Announcement of the "Web" "Transportation" "Kiosk"
and "Halloween" committees
Review of the 2008 Meetings Schedules
6. New Business
7. Adjournment



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| Assemble Kit Furniture | Organize a Move |

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Handy Resources for Home

Report Litter 28-CLEAN
Report Graffiti 241-WASH
Police Non-Emergency 553-0123
Police/Mission Station 558-5400
Help A Homeless Person 431-7400
(Mobile Assistance Patrol dispatched)
Street Cleaning 695-2017 or 695-2020
Abandoned Vehicles 553-9817
DTP Dispatch 553-1200
Street Signs Missing/Damaged 554-9780
Pot Hole Repair 695-2100
Supervisor Bevan Dufty's Office 554-6968
bevan.dufty@sfgov.org
CBD Hotline 559-6968

Contact EVPA Board Members

If you would like to volunteer or have questions, please feel free to contact any of the following EVPA Board Members:

- President: Steve Clark Hall
(415) 863-2593 steve.hall@evpa.org
- Secretary: Scott Wiener
(415) 437-9414 scott.wiener@evpa.org
- Treasurer: Joe Caruso
(415) 307-5050 joe.caruso@evpa.org
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EVPA P.O. Box 14137
San Francisco, CA 94114-0137
Address Service Requested
www.EVPA.org www.PinkTrianglePark.org

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Join EVPA by Sending Us This Completed Membership Application

Name: _____
First Last

Name: _____
First Last

Organization: _____

Address: _____ Apt. _____
City: San Francisco, CA Zip Code _____

Day Phone: (____) _____ Evening Phone: (____) _____

Email _____
Address: _____
(EVPA does not share your contact information with other groups)
My concerns for the neighborhood include _____

I am interested in working on the following issues:
 City Planning/Zoning Transportation, Utilities & Neighborhood Commerce
 Public Health/Safety Education/Recreation Membership & Promotion
 Finance Internal Affairs Pink Triangle Park
 Renewing membership. **New membership.**
 I wish to receive my copy of the Eureka! Via the internet rather than by US Mail

Annual Membership dues are \$20 per calendar year for individuals, \$30 for households and \$40 for businesses or nonprofits in Castro, Upper Market, and Duboce Triangle (Eureka Valley). EVPA is a non-profit California corporation. Please return this form with your check payable to EVPA to: **EVPA, PO Box 14137, San Francisco, CA 94114-0137**

