

CRIER

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JANUARY 2010 EDITION

SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT: Whereabouts of Cat-Killing Dogs Still a Mystery

Deni Hodges *SVHOA Safety Committee*

Note: On Friday, December 11, 2009, several Villagers lost their beloved cats when two unknown, loose bullmastiffs roamed the neighborhood on a killing spree. The story ran in the December 17 issue of the San Leandro Times (vol. 19, no. 50). A big thank you is extended to Dawn Chesney for initially contacting the newspaper with hopes that the coverage would result in location of the dogs' owners.

Once again, the importance and benefit of the sheffieldwatch.com Yahoo group was proven during this nightmarish event. The description and location of the dogs spread quickly among Villagers who were online, and by late afternoon many people were out in their cars looking for them, walkers and parents were warned of the danger, police were notified, and a lot of Villagers were on high alert. Everyone who had witnessed the attack on their beloved cat, had seen one or both of the dogs, or just heard about the incident was wondering: where did these dogs come from? Where did they go? Who was responsible for them? Are the streets safe for our children and pets now? Unfortunately, over a month later, these questions remain unanswered.

We do know that one of the dogs was picked up in the Village about 7:30 pm on December 11 by an unidentified man who told a witness that his cat had just been killed; he was visibly upset and nervous while capturing the strange,

bloodthirsty dog. However, according to the witness, the dog was unexpectedly obedient, following commands to come, sit, and jump in the car. The man put the dog in his SUV and said he was going to continue to search for the second dog. It is unknown where he took the captured dog, and he has yet to be identified. Both dogs looked healthy and had collars on, but did *not* have tags (contrary to the Times article).

Neither dog has been seen since that day.

Dawn Chesney, who offered her name and phone number as a contact in the Times article, received two phone calls as a result. One caller had seen two bullmastiffs matching the description running on E. 14th Street not far from Dutton earlier that same day. Another caller advised that a local pet grooming service be contacted because two bullmastiffs were groomed there regularly. Neither callers were Villagers. (Note: I contacted the groomer and have talked to the owner, who assured me that his dogs are well cared for, never off-leash, and were home on December 11.)

So the mystery remains as to the whereabouts of the dogs who viciously killed at least six cats that night. If anyone can help solve the mystery, we'll all be grateful.

2010 SVHOA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The new SYHOA Board wanted to pass on a few tips about what the Board can and can't do. As the incoming SYHOA President, I volunteered to distill our discussion into an article for the Crier. Most of it is just plain common sense but from time-to-time needs to be reiterated. Here you go:

- The Board members are volunteers. The only regular paid SYHOA positions are those of the Book Keeper and Crier Editor. Neither of these positions are Board members nor can they vote on Board matters.
- We are also your neighbors, so please remember that if you have an issue with another neighbor, the Board will not intervene or mediate such matters. Yes, we get calls occasionally asking us to do just this.
- If you have a problem with something you feel is a Village matter,

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Continued from front*

PLEASE PUT IT IN WRITING TO THE BOARD (EMAIL IS FINE) AND THEN PLAN TO COME TO THE NEXT

NO JANUARY MEETING-

NEXT BOARD MEETING: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 7 PM



By Jill & Jennie

There are days when it's tough to see much in the way of good news. When there is suffering far away (the devastating earthquake in Haiti) and right at home (we may all be able to fill in the blank here, I'm afraid) and storm fronts coming in one after another, the sun, both figuratively and literally, seems to refuse to shine. I have often been accused of being too much of a "Pollyanna" and having my head in the sand regarding reality, so this month I'm not going to sugar coat our world out there. However, it takes a lot to **shake** my faith in the world and humanity as a whole, especially on days when I ride my bike around the village and see two neighboring dogs having a play date or kids learning to ride their bikes with Dad running behind them. So if you are feeling a little shaky right about now, here is a list of ways to be prepared for a REAL shakedown from Mother Nature:

- 1) *Make sure each family member knows what to do in an earthquake*
- 2) *Establish a meeting place to reunite if separated*
- 3) *Make sure each family member has the phone number of a friend or relative out of our EQ area for*

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FINANCIALS SHEFFIELD VILLAGE HOA

Income Statement 1/1/2009 to 12/31/2009

Income/Expense	
Income	
Dues	26,200
Other Income	<u>2,390</u>
Total Income	28,590
Expenses	
Bookkeeper	3,600
Crier Expenses	3,347
Parks	10,802
Insurance	4,759
Depreciation	4,527
Other Expenses	<u>799</u>
Total Expenses	\$27,834
Net Income	\$756

Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2009

Assets	
Current Assets	
Checking	7,607
Other Current Assets	<u>5,585</u>
Total Current Assets	13,191
Fixed Assets Net	31,736
Total Assets	44,927
Liabilities & Equity	
Equity	
Unrestricted Assets	44,171
Net Income	<u>756</u>
Total Equity	44,927
Total Liabilities & Equity \$44,927	

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Jill Warner: 430-9097
jilly7@aol.com

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Nancy and Peter Lemcke: 568-4763,
nlfolkers@aol.com

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3223-3378 Revere

Barbara Greenwood: 568-5840

3400-3500 Revere

VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Cranford Way

Gail Rapple: 638-4835
gailybill@yahoo.com

Marlow Apartments VOLUNTEER NEEDED

SheffieldWatch Moderator:

James Nolte: 568-0447,
2-nolte@earthlink.net and
sheffieldwatch@yahoogroups.com

2010

BLOCK CAPTAINS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Condolences

Our sympathies to Joanne Durgin on the passing of her mother, Virginia Murphy.

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everyone to contact (I have a cousin in Washington whose name and phone number I keep in my wallet at all times)

- 4) Find out about EQ plans at your kids' school
- 5) Know where your gas, electric and water shut offs are
- 6) Talk to your neighbors to see who might need extra help or who could provide extra help if necessary
- 7) Take Red Cross First Aid and CPR Training

And in the meantime, take heart knowing that the sun WILL shine again.

Board meeting to discuss it. If it involves a cost to the Village, it would help us greatly if you could obtain a cost estimate. If the matter is an emergency (for example, a tree in one of the two Village parks is about to fall onto your house and it needs to be dealt with ASAP) that involves the SYXOR, the Board will try to act as quickly as possible.

- The Board will be publishing any significant project that would benefit the Village (a new walkway, beautification, etc.) in the Crier.
- Please remember that if you are not satisfied with the Board or the way Village business is conducted, you can put your name in the ring for one of the Board positions. It has always been difficult to find people wanting to serve on the Board, thus making the "elections" more a matter of finding someone who is truly interested in helping to keep Sheffield Village the unique development that it is. It's sometimes very frustrating to be on the Board but it can also be truly rewarding to know that you're helping to make things happen.

The Sheffield Village Homeowners' Association is, in my opinion, one of the benefits of living here. People who volunteer for the Board, who help with clean-up projects and who add quality of life to our Village are the glue that hold the Association together. Over the years some of our neighbors developed Sheffield Watch, a neighborhood safety-oriented list serve, and the Village's website - both for the benefit of our members. Without an active SYXOR, the Village would be merely another neighborhood.

I also wanted to use this space to personally thank out-going SYXOR President Charles Curran for the very fine job he did during his two-term tenure. Charles was always calm and rock-steady, keeping the meetings on track and having clear goals. Thanks very much, Charles.

Rick Jones
SYXOR 2010 President



MESSAGE BOARD

CARPOOL INTO THE CITY FOR FREE!

A daily carpool is looking for another rider. The carpool leaves from Danbury at 6:30 am each day. Riders take AC Transit NX4 Transbay Bus home (see this link for bus schedule

http://www.actransit.org/maps/pdf_schedule.php?line_id=2336&schedule_id=ALL..

Carpool lets off in downtown near Mission/Fremont. Cost to you is nothing and you never have to drive the carpool. If you're interested, contact Eliza at (415) 269-3429.

FREE Mini DVC tapes available for free. Please call 383-9066.

ROOM FOR RENT IN VILLAGE Share hillside home with your own large, private bedroom, separate bathroom, plenty of storage space, and many amenities. Monthly rent of \$825 includes all utilities and wireless internet access. Available January 2010. Call 510.908.2982.

PET CARE & SMALL DOG GROOMING (BY APPOINTMENT ONLY) RIGHT IN YOUR OWN NEIGHBORHOOD Please visit www.4pawswhisperer.com for service information, availability and reservations. Contact Fellow Villager Rachel at 553-0129

VILLAGE R.N. AVAILABLE Dependable, Caring, Friendly Nurse Available. 20+ Years Exp. In all Medical Areas (Basic Care, Wound Care Assistance, Dialysis, etc.) Low rates. Free Phone Consultation! 510-455-1009

BABYSITTER I am 17 yrs. old and am a Sheffield Village resident. I have done a lot of babysitting in the Village and can provide references. Please contact Kristie Grunert at 635-2085.

TUTOR/BABYSITTER AVAILABLE Experienced, energetic, and versatile Village college-grad available on flexible schedule to tutor and babysit. Please contact Jennifer 326-6561 or kinipela525@sbcglobal.net.

Contact the editor to submit classifieds/events/editorial by Saturday of the second week of the month.
crier@sheffieldvillage.org

FYI: The Crier will not run messages from the prior month without the requestor notifying the Editor. Thanks.