



Beresford/Hillsdale Neighborhood Association

www.beresfordhillsdale.org

July 2015

Summer Social

25th Anniversary Celebration

Tuesday, July 21, 2015
7:30 PM

Beresford Recreation Center
(28th & Alameda)

note: member votes may be taken

July General Meeting

BHNA will hold its annual Summer Social on July 21st. Come and celebrate summer with us at this fun event. There will be cake and ice cream, and live music will be provided by the Montgomery Coe Band. This year's Summer Social is special because BHNA is celebrating its 25th birthday. We hope to see many of our long-time members and share their memories and experiences of our ever evolving neighborhood. This will be a great event for all members and their friends and families. Children are very welcome.

BHNA general membership meetings are every 3rd Tuesday of the month, 7:30pm-9pm

Upcoming BHNA General Meetings

August - No Meeting. Enjoy your summer vacation!

September 15th - Representative of Next Step Committee for SMFC School District

October 20th - Candidates for City Council

BHNA 25th Birthday – A Reminiscence By Former Director, Karen Herrel

BHNA's history tells us a lot about who we are today, and why. Our future possibilities are shaped by the people who gave countless hours to form this group and keep it vibrant for a quarter of a century. A wide variety of past leaders' views helped balance BHNA's positions and efforts, making it a success. If you remember Richard Schram, Art Weiner, John Mason, John Belforte and Gary Germano, you have probably been a member since the early 1990's. Lily Yee was our treasurer for many of those years. Ana Terranova and Susan and Stacy Litvak led us through the late 90's. Anne Arnold and Bruce Klafter were new millennium presidents, along with Mike Germano and Susan Rowinski. Suddenly it is 2015 and BHNA is 25 years old!

BHNA has always been committed to our neighborhood. Founded over opposition to a huge development proposed for the Callan property (now site of "Verona Ridge"), BHNA was also key in passing Measure H for height and density limits and active in opposition to the Bay Meadows developments. BHNA supported the voter renewal of Measure H (as Measure P) in 2004. There also have been smaller scale victories – stop signs installed, better traffic enforcement, improved branch library hours – over the years. Everyone contributed to making BHNA a lively and influential "player."

Our newsletters have been the key to an involved and growing membership. Over the years, several editors put their individual stamps on the format and content. Diana Mongini and her intrepid crew of volunteers have ensured timely mailing.

Keeping BHNA thriving has never been easy. Members join, but few volunteer for leadership positions to keep up our informed involvement in the community and our positive representation for our neighborhood. Those have always been our values and goals. As one president wrote about BHNA, "It's your city and you can make a difference. If you leave its care to someone else, you probably won't get what you want." In the words of an early president: "This is a volunteer organization and its continued growth depends solely on your willingness to participate – and participate you must – if you want your opinions to be heard by your neighbors. Complaining after the fact will not produce positive results . . . Participate in the operation of BHNA and help mold its policies. BHNA needs each and every one of you."

Many neighborhood leaders have gotten us to our impressive 25th birthday. Come share your memories at the party on July 21st. Let's celebrate as we commit to being involved in BHNA's leadership in the future.

June General Meeting Recap

Julie Montanari, a Certified Master Gardener, was the speaker at our June meeting. She explained that ground water aquifers are being depleted due to over-pumping, resulting in land subsidence. Per capita water use in Bay Area communities increases with average property size, due largely to lawn watering. Julie provided tips on how homeowners can achieve lower-water use while maintaining beautiful landscapes.

Plants should be grouped by water needs (hydro zoning). No more than 25% of a landscape should be composed of high-water plants; at least 50% should be low-water plants. Food growth areas are exempt from these recommendations. Julie compared the water needs of the various categories of landscape plants. High-water plants, such as white birches and most annuals, require 1 inch of water every six days during the summer. Low-water plants need 1 inch of water only every 23 days.

Excellent sources for learning about low-water plants are the WUCOLS project of the California Department of Water Resources, <http://ucanr.edu/sites/WUCOLS/> and the UC Davis website, http://arboretum.ucdavis.edu/arboretum_all_stars.aspx. Residents that convert their lawns to water-efficient landscapes can do so with rebates from a BAWSCA program, <http://bawsca.org/conservation/lawn-be-gone/>.

25th Avenue Improvements

25th Avenue is about to undergo a facelift. Overhead power poles and lines will be replaced by below ground power lines (located in the alleys behind the shops), and pedestrian improvements (concrete bulb-outs, new mid-block crosswalk, re-striping of parking spaces) will be installed. The electrical work has started; the entire project is scheduled to be finished in the winter of 2016. Please continue to support our local businesses while this important work progresses.

City Services Academy

The [City of San Mateo's City Services Academy](#) is a comprehensive, hands-on learning experience that gives participants the opportunity to interact with City staff and learn about the challenges facing municipal government today. Interactive activities will give Academy participants a better understanding of the evolving principles of the City of San Mateo's Council/City Manager form of government. Applications are now being accepted for the session beginning on August 19.

Downtown Parking Changes

We all know how hard it is to find parking downtown at lunch time, or when we want to see a movie on Friday night. Effective July 1, the City implemented changes in parking regulations designed to improve the situation. There will now be green spaces (\$.50/hr) and orange

spaces (\$1.00/hr), with the more expensive spaces in more convenient locations and intended for shorter term parking. And don't forget that there is additional weekend parking at the Main Library and on Ellsworth. For more details, see www.cityofsanmateo.org/DowntownParking.

Music in Central Park

The 2015 Central Park Music Series – the City of San Mateo’s signature summer event – is in full swing! The City sponsors this event every year to provide you with memorable summer evenings of FREE live music, showcasing the diverse Bay Area music scene. Music lovers of all ages gather in San Mateo’s beautiful Central Park on Thursday evenings, from 6-8pm, for a night of music, dancing, food, and fun! See the Band Line Up at <http://www.cityofsanmateo.org/index.aspx?NID=1367>.

Get Involved in BHNA

BHNA is looking for a few good neighbors to join the board of directors and to ensure that BHNA continues to be the welcoming, neighborly, and informative organization it has been for the last 25 years. We are also looking for a Hospitality Chair for our General Meetings. Board membership is not required for this position. If you are interested in helping us to be not only the largest, but also the best, neighborhood association in town, please contact the board@beresfordhillsdale.org.

Upcoming Events

August 29th: Get ready to clean out your garage and long-forgotten drawers and cupboards, by registering for the [Citywide Yard Sale](#). Registration starts on July 20th. Join this community event to reuse, recycle and resell items you no longer need.

Favorite Merchant

Ace Shower Door and Glass Company, at 28 E 25th Avenue, is the place to visit when you need to replace your glass or shower door. Ace is a residential glass shop for all your shower door and glass needs. Mr. Kouros, the owner, will come to your home to take measurements and make recommendations, and he will provide a fast turnaround and quality installation. Call Ace at (650) 458-3414 for prompt service. Andrea, Arbor Lane.

If you have a favorite shop or business in our neighborhood, let us know. Call or email the newsletter editor (see below).

2015 BHNA Officers & Directors

President	Lisa Taner	(650) 504-8181	president@beresfordhillsdale.org
Vice President	Andrea McCutchin		vicepresident@beresfordhillsdale.org
Treasurer	Ellen Wang	(650) 773-3053	treasurer@beresfordhillsdale.org
Secretary	Jan Prisco	(650) 341-9519	secretary@beresfordhillsdale.org
Newsletter Editor	Monika Lee	(650) 572-0821	newsletter@beresfordhillsdale.org
Directors: Andrea McCutchin, Jan Prisco, Robert Sellers, Lisa Taner, Anne Wilson; Directors Emeritus: Monika Lee, Ellen Wang			

If you picked up this newsletter at one of our neighborhood locations, or a member shared this with you, we invite you to contact an officer or visit our website at http://www.beresfordhillsdale.org/?page_id=15 to join our association.