



Dear member,

Here's the November 2015 edition of the Upper East Association's monthly newsletter. Happy Thanksgiving!

## Past and Upcoming Events

- **Garden Party**

The UEA annual meeting, aka the Garden Party, was held on Sunday, November 8th at Serra Hall. About 80 members attended to mingle with neighbors and enjoy light snacks and wine. UEA President Fred Sweeney conducted a short business meeting, followed by a fascinating presentation and Q&A by City Administrator Paul Casey. Thanks to Deb Trauntvein, Scott Burns, Bob Kennedy and Cecia Hess for helping the Board members to set up the event and keep it running smoothly.

Thank you to all who attended. We're already planning for next year's event. Stay tuned!

- **FREE Winter Garden Pruning Clinic**

When: December 5, 2015, 10 am to 1 pm.

Where: Santa Barbara Mission. Walk through the 2300 Garden Street gate or drive to the lower Mission parking lot and walk through the Stations of the Cross. **Bring your garden clippers.**

Who: RSVP to Ken Falstrom at [kefsb@aol.com](mailto:kefsb@aol.com).

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## FYI

- **RV Parking**

RV parking in the neighborhood has become a serious problem directly affecting numerous residents. The Board is working with City officials to proactively deal with the situation.

To quantify the extent of the problem we have developed an [RV Parking Incident Report](#) to gather data about RV parking in the streets of our community. We recently sent an email asking all members to complete this form each day that an RV is parked on their block. It will allow us to track RV movement around the neighborhood and to use this data in discussions with City officials.

A link to the Incident Report is also available on the UEA website [www.sbuppereast.org](http://www.sbuppereast.org). If you would like another copy of the email, send us a request at [ueacomm@gmail.com](mailto:ueacomm@gmail.com). If you have any questions about the Incident Report, call Milt Hess at 895-0116.

- **Inviting Nominations for the Upcoming Board Election**

It's that time of year again. Within the next two weeks a nominating committee from the Board of Directors will be assembling a list of candidates for your consideration for election to the 2016-17 Board.

Our Board consists of nine members, and for 2016 we have four positions up for election. The Board members who currently hold those four positions are eligible for re-election.

We meet monthly for about two hours. Each Board member typically has a unique skill or interest area on which he or she focuses. Examples include Safe Passage, street trees, newsletter preparation, membership coordination, City policy issues, and traffic safety. If you would like to participate, please let me or one of the other Board members know and we'll give you a more detailed description of what's involved.

A final ballot for your consideration and vote will be sent by the end of the first week in December, with the election to be completed by the end of December. Our bylaws allow for an electronic ballot and vote; if you need to have a written ballot please let us know so that we can provide that in the mail for you. More specific information will be sent soon.

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## **Out and About in Upper East**

- **Upper East History – The Storke House**

The beautiful large house at 31 East Pedregosa, most commonly known in the past as the Storke House, was built in 1886 - as you can clearly read high on the façade. The home was built as a 36-room residence for C.A. and Mattie Storke, the parents of Thomas M. Storke, the long time publisher of the Santa Barbara News-Press. At the time of construction, the surrounding area was quite rural and the home occupied a very large parcel of land that was not subdivided until 1958. Through its lifetime, it has served as a home for the developmentally disabled, a boarding house during WWII, an illegal triplex, even an auto repair shop. In 1960, a prominent developer, backed by three other men including the mayor, was given approval by the Architectural Board of Review to build a 27-unit apartment complex. Public outcry caused a reversal of the ABR's decision. In the 1990's the house was carefully restored by Viscountess Escania Cobian.

While not representing one particular architectural style, the house has mostly Queen Anne features. Remarkable is the elaborate carved scrollwork over several of the windows, and the intricate patterns of the shingles.

- **Walking with Mo**

Mo sends his regrets for not being in attendance at last Sunday's annual meeting. That said, Mo and I had a walk this morning and he truly loved the crisp fall morning. At last cool weather is here, and we can start to hope that some good rain will follow.

For those of you who didn't attend the annual garden party, Paul Casey, our city manager, was the featured speaker and, among other things, passed on some good information regarding saving our precious tree canopy. I hope all of you are putting the little water we have to good use and making sure your trees, along with those street trees in front of your house, are well watered. I use my ten-gallon bucket run-off from my roof as the source for that effort.

Recently returning from a three-week trip to Europe (yes we got roped in by Viking Cruises' Downton Abbey ad) makes me appreciate the weather we have here, even if it is warmer than usual. But it also allows me to reflect on how much our city is influenced by what we all see on our travels: downtown outside café seating, pocket parks, the niches along State Street, and our ability to capture views of the ocean, mountains, and streetscape based on how we position buildings and other made elements. This is

why our involvement with and monitoring of our three major city architectural review boards is so important; those boards allow us direct input on how to shape our city. When Mo is not around, I spend time keeping up on their oversight, and I hope you do too. Obviously sometimes they get sideswiped, such as at State and Mission, but the overall result is that our city is being made a better place.

Now the UEA board (and Mo) looks forward to a productive new year, and perhaps a solution to some long-term dilemmas such as the RV parking in our neighborhood. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends.

Fred Sweeney and Mo