



VEP Community Association

Representing More Than 2000 Families in the Blossom Valley Area of South San Jose Since 1969

Memorial Day Parade & Festival

Our 2009 Memorial Day Parade & Festival will be held on Monday, May 25, 2009. This fifth annual community event is open and free to the public. It will be co-sponsored by VEP and three public schools in our membership area (Carson Elementary, Parkview Elementary, and Gunderson High).

As currently planned, our event will begin with a parade from Vista Park to Parkview Elementary School. It will include two marching bands, clowns, school choirs, color guards, Armed Forces representatives, Scouts, *Sharkie*, choral and dance groups, a barbershop quartet, San Jose Police Department's Horse Mounted and K-9 Units, San Jose Fire Department, and others who will perform for the enjoyment of the thousands of participants and spectators we expect that day. Members of the public are also encouraged to participate in our parade which ends at, and is followed by a festival at Parkview Elementary School. Our preliminary program is shown below. Our Festival features games for kids and free entertainment for all.

This event has been a great success each year. SJPD estimated that more than 3,000 people attended in 2008. We are working to make this year's event an even bigger success.

VEP is an all-volunteer, not-for-profit association. We use membership dues and donations from residents and local businesses to underwrite the costs of this event. This year we have invited a licensed vendor (Mojo Burger) to provide all prepared food. Our co-sponsoring public school organizations will charge modestly for canned/bottled drinks and pre-packaged refreshments donated by local businesses; they will also charge modestly for children's game concessions. Those discretionary items constitute the only costs to anyone attending.

Although all co-sponsors agree that our objective is family fun, not fund-raising, any and all net proceeds from this event will be donated to Carson and Parkview Schools.

~ Program ~

Costume Parade: From Vista Park (475 Hyde Park Drive) to Parkview School (330 Bluefield Drive)

10 am = Parade line-up begins at Vista Park.

10 am - 11 am = Costume judges review costumes and decorations.

11 am SHARP = Parade steps-off.

Festival: (at Parkview Elementary School, 330 Bluefield Drive)

11:30 am = Memorial Day Ceremony begins

★ Gathering Music - Fair Middle School Band.

★ Welcome: Dave Fadness, Event Chair.

★ Present Colors: Andrew Hill JROTC Color Guard, Honor Guard, Saber Team, Drum Corps, and Drill Teams.

★ *America the Beautiful* with *The Pledge of Allegiance* - Sylvandale Middle School Band - an audience sing-along.

★ *Proud To Be An American* - Parkview-Carson All American Kids' Club Choir.

★ Moment of Silence – Heralds from the audience of names remembered, lead by Sylvandale's Andrew Love.

★ *Taps* – **Erik Gonzalez**, Soloist; Fair Middle School Band.

★ *All Across America* - Parkview-Carson All American Kids' Club Choir.

★ *This Land is Your Land* - Parkview-Carson All American Kids' Club Choir - an audience sing-along?

★ *God Bless America* – Sylvandale Middle School Band - an audience sing-along.

★ *Star Spangled Banner* - Fair and Sylvandale Middle School Bands - an audience sing-along.

★ Retire Colors: Andrew Hill ROTC Color Guard.

12:30 pm = Entertainment begins

★ **Introduction** - VEP President.

★ **Costume awards** – Councilwoman Nancy Pyle (Categories: Best Family, Most Patriotic, Funniest, Most Original, Most Beautiful, Best Bicycle, Best Coaster Wagon, Craziest, Most Colorful, Most Unusual, and Judges' Choice.)

★ **Town Square Harmonizers** - barbershop quartet.

★ **The Living Waters** Hawaiian dancers.



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- ★ **America Tae Kwon Do** - martial arts demonstration.
- ★ **Oak Grove High School Jazz Band**, Chris Moura, Director.
- ★ **Dog Agility demonstration.**
- ★ Disc-Jockey interlude music (throughout the program) - **Mike Lopez.**

2 pm = Field games & prizes (three-legged, sack, and wheelbarrow races; water balloon toss; tug-o-war).

3 pm = Festival ends. Volunteers clean-up the school grounds.