



## Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association

### Notes From The President

### Agenda 05/13/04

Spring is my favorite time of year. The weather warms up and we all seem to be out walking or working in our yards. It's great meeting new neighbors and catching up with people I haven't seen in awhile. SONA has been busy with it's own version of spring cleaning. In April we saw a new street sweeping program come to our neighborhood along with dumpster days and lots of volunteers helping to improve our neighborhoods.

**Do you walk around the neighborhood?** If you do, and would be willing to help out once a month, contact Sheila Cvitanich. With vacations coming up, we need newsletter delivery people to fill in part time and full time.

**Want to do something about traffic?** Mark Kovich is heading up our traffic calming and parking committee. For more information, see page 6.

**Want to know what's going on at Sherman Oaks Community Charter School?** Our May meeting will include a presentation by CORAL and the YMCA.

**Want to know how to get rid of cars on the street?** Come to our next meeting where you will learn about a new city program that has reduced abandoned vehicle complaints by 90%! You can become a volunteer vehicle spotter and keep SONA streets clear.

Congratulations to the new SONA board members. Elections held last month moves some board members around and brought us three new members: **Julie Easterbrook, Mark Kovich and Rick Acquistapace.** For your new contacts, see page 2. Many thanks to outgoing Treasurer Paul Owens.

**SJPD Sgt. Graham** (badge 2517) and **Officer Rangel** (badge 3670) of SJPD can be reached at 277.4272. They are new to the area and appeared at last month's SONA meeting. They work swing shift in our area and will be glad to answer questions or concerns from the neighborhood.

6:30 p.m. Snack and Socializing  
7:00 p.m. Call to order  
7:03 p.m. Approval of Minutes  
7:07 p.m. Treasurer's Report  
7:10 p.m. Dumpster Day Recap  
7:15 p.m. Speakers

#### SJPD

#### CORAL/YMCA

#### Vehicle Spotter Program

7:50 p.m. Announcements  
8:00 p.m. Adjourn

SONA general meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at the Sherman Oaks Community Center, 1800A Fruitdale Avenue, San Jose. SONA board meetings are the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Sherman Oaks Community Center. SONA boundaries are Bascom/280 south to Meridian then west to Los Gatos Creek. From the creek the boundary runs north back to Bascom.

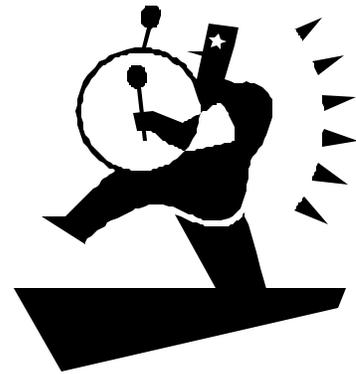
### The Good Neighbor Corner

**Councilman Ken Yeager** donated tickets to the first game of the Sharks playoffs, allowing SONA members to attend the Saturday, April 10th game. Among those who saw hockey at it's best (we won and there was lots of excitement) were **Rich Anderson, Joe Pizzo, Michael LaRocca, Manuel Pineda, and Art Magana.** **Erik Larsen and his son** also received a pair of tickets to their first ever live hockey game. From what we hear, everyone had a great time thanks to District 6 leader Ken Yeager. Thanks, Ken.

## Neighborhood News

**Del Mar High School** will be presenting its second annual **Feste Del Mar** on May 22, 2004. This day long musical event includes a parade competition that will begin at the back side of the high school at 9:30 a.m. There will be some street closures from approximately 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Parking for residents will be made available in the Del Mar High School parking lot to allow you to get in and out of the neighborhood during this event.

This competition is professionally judged, but residents who attend will be asked to vote for a people's choice award. You can attend a fun event and also be one of the judges! There are also a variety of concerts in the day's activities that are open to the public. For more information, contact Bill Burkhead at 408.298.0260 ext 3259



## June 5 is Community Center Clean Up Day



SONA is leading the way in cleaning and sprucing up Sherman Oaks Community Center. **Dr. Charles Crowder** and Community Coordinator **Erik Larsen** have recruited members of the Korean American Community Services, Sherman Oaks Community Charter School and families who's children attend the after school programs run by CORAL and the YMCA. In addition, there will be assistance from the City of San Jose and Campbell Union School District.

The plan is to clean and paint interior surfaces of the meeting rooms, replace damaged ceiling tiles, steam the bathrooms and sidewalks and make minor repairs. You've watched television shows where homes are transformed in one day and now you can help transform the community center. Materials will be donated by local businesses and volunteers are encouraged to spend a day making a little magic in our own neighborhood.

### Volunteers Needed!!!

**For More Information Call Charles Crowder 287-2615 or Erik Larsen 858-**

## SONA Board Member Contacts

Randi Kinman, PRESIDENT	835.2881	randikinman@yahoo.com
Susan Price-Jang ,ADMINISTRATIVE VP	287.0769	sleeprice@aol.com susan_price@campbellusd.org
Michael LaRocca, TREASURER	289.8449	mlroo1@yahoo.com
Julie Easterbrook, COMMUNICATIONS VP	836.6453	jkeasterbr@aol.com
Sheila Cvitanich HOSPITALITY VP	292.2690	
Richard Acquistapace, AREA CAPTAIN	298.3142	babarfloyd@yahoo.com
Dr. Charles Crowder, AREA CAPTAIN	287.2615	drchar@earthlink.com
Mark Kovich, AREA CAPTAIN	295.7507	mark@spazart.com
Carl Lindner, AREA CAPTAIN		
Jussi Rajna, AREA CAPTAIN	291.0202	

Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association welcomes participation and input from all of you who live in our area. We are actively recruiting volunteers and board members at this time. If you have any questions, comments or concerns (no matter how large or small) please feel free to contact any of our board members. You may also send an e-mail to: **[sjsona@pacbell.net](mailto:sjsona@pacbell.net)**.

SONA Newsletter Editor: Randi Kinman

SONA Website Administrator: Sonya Paz

# New Streetsweeping Program Comes to SONA

As announced at last month's general meeting, SONA has been chosen to be part of a pilot streetsweeping program offered by the City of San Jose. **Brandon Casper** from the Department of Transportation and his crew have worked quickly to implement the program along the eastern side of SONA's borders.

This program allows one side of the street to be swept in the morning and the other side is swept in the afternoon. This assures each street receives a full cleaning each month by moving cars to one side or the other. Cars don't have to move to another street and all streets will now receive a "clean sweep" each month.

The program kicked off with a "clean sweep" of the affected streets. Portions of Richmond, Menker and Moorpark were cleared on Thursday, April 20 for an entire day. The sweepers came through twice that day. Neighbors were thrilled as this was the first time in years that the entire street had been cleaned.

The added benefit to the first phase was the towing of at least ten cars that met legal criteria for being removed from the streets.

Phase two was installation of the signs advising when cars must be off each side of the street. Moving cars each month will be mandatory and we have been assured that tickets will be handed out. The first month of implementation (May) will see warning tickets, but after that, leaving your car on the wrong side will mean money out of your pocket. Thanks to **Ray Martinez** of DOT for moving the placements of some of the signs before they were installed. This meant signs were aligned to the property lines when possible and not in the middle of people's yards.

This program is in response to SONA's complaints that streets aren't being completely swept. This left our neighborhood paying for services not received and some of our streets always looked dirty. In the winter, drains clogged, making a bigger mess.

SONA will be surveying residents at the beginning of this program and in a few months to see how it is working for the residents.

Streets included in the pilot program are:

Richmond from Fruitdale to Moorpark	Deland (all)
Menker from Kingman to Moorpark	Nevin (all)
Moorpark from Leigh to Kingman	
Kingman from Leigh to Moorpark	

## CLIP AND MAIL TO SONA

I have read about the new streetsweeping program coming to my neighborhood.

\_\_\_\_\_ I **DO** live on one of the streets that will receive signs.

\_\_\_\_\_ I **DO NOT** live on one of the streets that will receive signs.

\_\_\_\_\_ I think this program is a good idea.

\_\_\_\_\_ I think this program is a bad idea.

Comments:

Name and Address:

Mail to SONA, PO Box 59146  
San Jose CA 95159-0146

# SONA Volunteers Making A Difference

SONA volunteers directed traffic, monitored dumpsters and cleaned up the neighborhood on April 24, 2004.

Our annual dumpster day was funded through donations to SONA and grants. The City of San Jose provided grant funding through a Community Action and Pride Grant and the Burbank Del Monte Neighborhood Advisory Committee of the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative provided additional funding.



Taking a Break on College Avenue

## Star Program

Justin Benjamin  
Kenny Carpenter  
Nick Rafferty

## San Jose City College

Joe Macedo  
Karl Poole  
Alicia Scheffler  
David Torres  
Latoria William

## Special Thanks

Anne & Craig Hallada  
Cynthia & John  
Freedman  
Cindy Buck  
Agnes Dahlin

For allowing us to place  
dumpsters in front of your  
houses on College Drive

## SONA Event Coordinator

Michael LaRocca  
**Volunteers**

Dee Dobbs  
Julie Easterbrook  
Tom Ellis  
Paul Gonda  
Randi Kinman  
Elaine & Carl Lindner  
Nancy Maddox  
Susan Price-Jang  
Clair Rucker  
Gib Smart  
Bill Todd

**A special thanks to the  
College Drive resident who  
supplied the crew with  
brownies!**



Sherman Oaks Community Center

# Dumpster Day Around the Neighborhood



Ken Henning and Robert Solis,  
Buena Vista Neighborhood  
Association

This year, the Burbank Del Monte Neighborhood Advisory Committee members decided to hold neighborhood clean ups simultaneously in the Buena Vista, Sherman Oaks and Del Monte Neighborhoods.



The Crew at Sherman Oaks Community Charter School



Taking a Break on Richmond Avenue



Buena Vista Neighborhood

## Clean Up Totals By Locations

Sherman Oaks Community Charter School Parking (SONA)

3 Dumpsters = 110 yards trash, debris, wood, etc.

1 Metal Dumpster = 12 tons of metal to recycling

College Drive (SONA)

3 Dumpsters = 120 yards trash, debris, wood, etc.

1 Metal Dumpster = 8 tons of metal to recycling

Richmond Avenue (SOINA)

4 Dumpster = 120 yards of trash, debris, wood, etc.

448 Menker Avenue (Buena Vista Neighborhood Association)

3 dumpsters = 120 yards of trash, debris, wood, etc.

Chiechi Avenue (BVNA)

3 Dumpster = 80 yards of trash, debris, wood, etc.

30 mattresses (from all areas)

569 Hanna Street (Del Monte Neighborhood Association)

1 Dumpster = 40 yards trash, debris, wood, etc.

**19 Dumpsters**

**590 Yards of non-recyclable trash, wood, debris**

**20 Tons of recyclable metal**

**30 Mattresses**

# Traffic Concerns and Traffic Calming For The Sherman Oaks Area

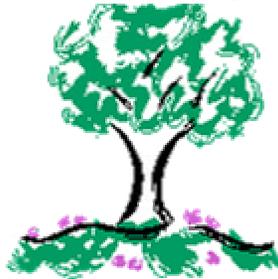
By Mark Kovich

It seems many of us residents of the Sherman Oaks area are concerned and tired of the constant unsafe traffic conditions. Many residents have expressed outrage regarding the parking situation and overflow of San Jose City College visitors. I am reaching out to solicit and ask your help in getting these issues resolved once and for all. I am new to the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association Board and desire to work with this neighborhood so that we can stand up as "One Voice" and get traffic and parking under control in our neighborhood.

Let me share with you some of the actions taken by myself along with your SONA Board to get some resolution to these matters.



We now have a direct contact with the San Jose Police Traffic Enforcement unit. SJPD will continue to come out upon our request to monitor and enforce speeding and reckless driving in the area. San Jose's Department of Transportation's (DOT) Avenue to keep drivers aware of their various times within our neighborhood. We are also working with DOT to find a parking. Many ideas are being speed signs, decreasing the speed limit adding bicycle lanes and better include median street chokers,



radar trailer has been out on Kingman speed. This device will be installed at to help as a measure to slow traffic down. more permanent solution to traffic and discussed, such as permanent radar on Leigh and Fruitdale, along with crosswalks. Long term plans and desires roundabouts and speed humps.

We are also working on adding trees to common areas and park strips; lots of them! DOT tells us that trees have a tendency to slow traffic down. With that said, what an excellent idea to also make our neighborhood more beautiful and natural!



All this said is one thing. Getting resolution and installation of these ideas is another. The City of San Jose wants to work with us, but it can't happen without your help. On Monday, April 19, 2004 on the corner of Kingman Avenue and Leigh Avenue, there was an injury accident involving two bicycles and an automobile. Thankfully, this was not a fatal accident. But, with this said, we, as a community must take pre-emptive action to avoid a fatality. I ask that we get these matters fixed.

As your SONA Team Captain of Traffic Calming, I ask you to contact me to solicit your input. I want to hear from everyone possible to address your concerns so that a Master Traffic Calming and Parking Plan can and will be implemented. Please feel free to stop by, call or write to express your concerns, grievances or comments about what is going on (good and bad) regarding this issue. I would like to introduce you to my family because I believe all of us live together here as one family. All of us can and will make a difference to make our neighborhood the envy and pride of this valley.



Mark Kovich 1687 Kingman Avenue 295-7507 mark@spazart.com

**Yes, sign me up for SONA !**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Languages other than English: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Skills or Technical Knowledge: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Sign me up for the following committees:

- |                                                 |                                                |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Beautification        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Political              | <input type="checkbox"/> SONA Board            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic/Safety         | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Watch     | <input type="checkbox"/> Welcoming             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Delivery    | <input type="checkbox"/> Paint Out Graffiti    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle Spotter        | <input type="checkbox"/> Clean Up/Dumpster Day |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Preparedness |                                                |
|                                                 | 12.00 Dues                                     |
|                                                 | _____ Additional                               |
|                                                 | _____ Donation                                 |
|                                                 | _____ Total                                    |

Mail to: SONA, PO Box 59146, San Jose CA 95159-0146

Comments:

**New and Renewing Members**

Welcome and thanks to the new and renewing members in the last few month. Among these are **Buck and Carol Aurstin, Geraldine Stewart, Dave and Sandi Abascal, Paul and Clara Carney, Mr. And Mrs. Joe MosherMan-Szi Li,Roy and Florence Roat, Marion McClellan, Jack and Gloria Barone, Sann and Richard Cirigliano, Sheila and Jerry Cvitanich, Mary Kay and Michael LaRocca, Sally and John O'Toole and Liels Alemania.** Besides dues, we received additional funding from many members. This funding allows us to print the newsletters, pay for our website and post office box, supply you with coffees and treats at meetings as well as paying for insurance and other expenses related to running our organization.

**Take some time to say hello to your new neighbors!**

**Fruitdale/Southwest/Corlista  
 On Schedule**

The medians on Fruitdale at Southwest are on schedule for completion in mid-May. At this time, the median on Corlista will be removed.

Sharp-eyed neighbors noticed that there was trenching done only part way to Corlista on Fruitdale in preparation for the median. According to Mark Robinson of VTA, the excavation was in two parts, with the deeper part done first. Because the second part of the median did not require deep trenching it was scheduled for later.

**KB Homes/Del Monte Site**

An update on the progress of the KB Homes development at the old Del Monte Cannery site will be held at the Burbank Del Monte Neighborhood Advisory Committee's May 2004 meeting. If you are interested in seeing the proposed development and how it will fit into the surrounding area, you are welcome to attend the meeting on May 27, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. at the Sherman Oaks Community Center.

**Council Office Changes**

**Rick Crossetti** will be leaving Councilman Ken Yeager's office in the near future and is currently working part time. New **Chief of Staff John P. Mills** is already on board and hard at work. He can be reached at 408.277.2523. We will still be working with Tony Filice in SONA. Tony has been doing a great job for us. His number is 408.27.2206.

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# SUPPORT SONA ADVERTISERS

## Local Educators Honored

On April 28, 2004, two local educators were honored for their outstanding achievements and contributions in schools during a ceremony in Lost Gatos by the Boston based Golden Foundation for Excellence in Education ([www.goldinfoundation.com](http://www.goldinfoundation.com)).

**Sherman Oaks Community Charter School Principal Peggy Bryan** was recognized for parent empowerment at the school, for creating a mid-day teacher training block and for bringing the school's Academic Performance Index up 153 points, the greatest increase of any school in the state.

**Del Mar High School Science Department Head Ray Jones** was recognized for innovations which have brought more students into physics classes than any other high school in the district, despite the fact that homes in this area have a lower income.

**Congratulations to both!**

**Submitted by Susan Price -Jang**

## Advertise Locally

### Invest in Your Neighborhood

Whether looking for long term exposure or short term advertising of special events, you should be using your local newspaper.

Delivered the first week of each month, SONA's newspaper reached over 1000 households directly.

For as little as \$25.00 a month you can reach local residents who depend on local businesses.

Contact the SONA newsletter at 408.835.2881 for more information or visit our website: [www.sona-sj.com](http://www.sona-sj.com).