



Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association

Notes From The President

November Agenda

As this issue goes to press, national elections are over and many SONA residents made their first visit to the new SJCC Student Center when they voted. No matter who or what you voted for, this is a time when we can look back on what we've accomplished this year and what we want to accomplish next year.

In the last year we've seen crosswalks installed, school crossing signs and other traffic issues addressed. We've hosted the dedication of our newly remodeled fire station, held celebrations and multiple dumpster days and have worked with developers to make sure new shopping centers work for the neighborhood. Sidewalks have been fixed near Albertson's, the light rail system is almost complete, we have better working relationships with all city departments and each month receive police updates. By the time this issue is at your door, the Richmond Menker improvement project will have broken ground.

The November general meeting will be a time for all of us to talk about what we would like to see happen next year. This is your chance to grab a neighbor who has never attended a meeting to enjoy coffee and desserts. **If you've never attended a meeting, drop in on this one.** Bring the kids and just take a few minutes to get to know each other and talk about the coming year. We traditionally don't have a general meeting in December so you can enjoy family time.

I would personally like to thank my friends and neighbors who have made this an exciting and productive year for all of us. For an organization that is fairly new, we've accomplished a lot and should be proud of ourselves. I look forward to working with all of you in the coming year....see you at the meeting...*Randi*

November 18, 2004

Agenda

*****Date Changed*****

6:30 p.m.

Snacks and Socializing

7:00 p.m.

Welcome

7:05 p.m.

Police Report

7:20 p.m.

Approval of

Sept 2004 Minutes

7:25 p.m.

Treasurer Report

7:30 p.m.

What Are SONA's

Goals for 2005?

What would you like to see happen in your neighborhood?

Meeting date moved due To Veteran's Day Holiday

The Good Neighbor Corner

Loui Tucker organized a one time clean up of the Moorpark/Parkmoor exits and has arranged for this section of freeway to be adopted by local residents. Look for future clean up dates. Picking up other people's trash isn't exciting, but it sure makes our neighborhood more pleasant to drive into.

Crackdown on Drivers

Many neighbors have observed lately an increase in tickets being issued around San Jose City College along Leigh and Moorpark. SONA residents have complained about the hazards created when students and other users of SJCC are making illegal turns in and out of the new parking garage. SJPD has responded to the complaints by bringing in extra patrol units at peak times and pulling over the offenders.

While an illegal u-turn may not be a big fine in other areas, due to the fact this street is near a fire station, the fines can be several hundred dollars. While this generates revenue for the city, it helps reduce the number of accidents and near misses that pedestrians and neighbors have endured lately.

In addition, SJPD has been cracking down on trucks left parked along Moorpark and Parkmoor near the freeway entrances. This area is posted "No Vehicles over Six Feet" but the signs were initially ignored. SONA residents and the residents of the Buena Vista Neighborhood across the freeway asked for the signs and enforcement due to the blight these trucks cause in our neighborhoods.

Vehicles parked across the curb lines, on the sidewalks or without current tags are also being targeted lately in the area in response to numerous complaints around the neighborhood. SONA often receives numerous calls concerning persistent violators and forwards these complaints to the parking enforcement and code compliance departments.

Neighbors Have Asked...

Neighbors often ask SONA board members to forward general reminders to the membership at large. This month, some of the reminders were:

Yard Sale Signs that are left on light posts and in the public right of way need to be removed. It's not legal to post them there and when you leave them for days and weeks after your sale you are creating a problem for your neighbors.

Parking on Sidewalks is not only illegal, it makes it very difficult for people to walk through the neighborhood.

Free items or items going to the dump that are left out in front yards are unsightly and a hazard. We recently had several appliances left out without being taped shut, creating a potential hazard for children. In addition, pieces of furniture left out with "free" signs on it have made their way part way down the street because they are great targets for pranksters.

Neighborhood Watch programs will be initiated soon in our area. Board member Tommy Ellis has volunteered to kick off the first group along his block. If you are interested in starting one in your area, contact Tommy at

Web People out there who would like to help maintain our site should contact Sonya at sjsona@pacbell.net. We're looking for experience people who can donate a few hours a year and help with our bulletin board.

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The SONA newsletter is published monthly and distributed to almost 1500 residences. All ad copy is due by the 15th of each month. Our all-volunteer group welcomes your participation and comments.

SONA Newsletter Editor: Randi Kinman
SONA Website Administrator: Sonya Paz

What's on Your Mind? What Should SONA Be Doing Next Year?

This is the time of year we take stock and try to determine where we are going next year and what we as a community want to achieve.

This last year we held clean ups, hosted a dedication ceremony for the fire station and cleaned up our community center among other things. What is important for you to see happen in your community next year? SONA's board is busy trying to lay out plans for next year, but we need your help.

What events or activities would you participate in?

Are you interested in Neighborhood Watch, Emergency Preparedness or other safety training?

Are you interested in working for more parks and recreational facilities in our neighborhood?

If you don't attend meetings, why not? If you do, what would you like to see on the agenda next year?

Are you interested in traffic calming? Would you like to help in that area?

What interests you and your neighbors that might be of interest to others in the area?

Would you be willing to host a block party if SONA helped with funding? How about a block wide garage sale?

If you want to respond to any of these questions or have other thoughts and/or comments, please mail or email them to SONA. We know many of you cannot attend the monthly meetings, but we want you to know your ideas, questions and needs are important to us.

If you can, attend the November 2004 meeting where we will discuss these and other ideas to make sure that in 2005 we take the right steps to make our neighborhood the best place to live in this city.

SONA November Survey

I would like to see SONA meetings talk about:

I would like to receive my letter via email at the following address:

I have been to ____ SONA meetings in the last year.

I ___ am / ___ am not a SONA dues paying member.

I am looking for this in my neighborhood:

Next year I think SONA should:

Name, address and phone number optional.

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

WHO IS SONA?

And What do They Do?

SONA is a group of neighbors who live in the area surrounded by Bascom, Highway 280, Meridian and the Los Gatos Creek. We meet monthly and work together to try to make our neighborhood the best it can be.

SONA board members are nominated and elected by the general membership, serving on a voluntary basis. The board meets once a month.

SONA members represent our interests in other organizations and in cooperation with other groups. We work for better streets, parks and recreational programs.

SONA has brought neighborhood "Dumpster Days" to our area at least once a year. We have lobbied successfully for improvements to the light rail line construction, an increase in police presence and better code enforcement. This year we held our first National Night Out celebration in August with games, activities, fun and food for all. We were successful last year in assuring summer activities for kids in our neighborhoods during a time when city budgets were being slashed.

The goals of SONA are determined by the wishes of those in the neighborhood. Even if you don't attend meetings, you have a voice and are encouraged to let us know how we can help you.

Who is SONA? It is you and your neighbors. What do they do? Work together for a better neighborhood.

SONA Membership Dues

Join the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association and become part of a network of residents working to improve and maintain the neighborhood quality of life (safety, property values, aesthetics) and represent SONA neighborhood interests before local governments.

Dues \$12.00 per year, payable yearly.

All residents, businesses, elected officials and organizations within SONA's boundaries are eligible for membership.

Meetings are held from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the Sherman Oaks Community Center, 1800A Fruitdale Avenue, San Jose, CA 95128.

Membership dues help fund projects and social events working towards SONA's mission of moving in a positive direction for the improvement of our neighborhood.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE and/or EMAIL: _____

Sign me up for the following committees:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paint Out Graffiti | <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Preparedness |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beautification | <input type="checkbox"/> Political |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Delivery | <input type="checkbox"/> Welcoming |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic/Safety | <input type="checkbox"/> SONA Board |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Block Watch | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) |

Mail to: Membership Dues: \$12.00

SONA Additional Donation: _____

PO Box 59146 Total Enclosed: _____

San Jose CA 95159-0146

San Jose City College Speaks with SONA

Facilities manager Robert Dias and Chief of Police Larry Lutzow both attended the October SONA meeting at SONA's request. While board members have had ongoing discussions with SJCC, SONA felt it was important to have a public forum for residents to talk directly to the campus about all issues.

Potential campus changes were outlined in a brief overview of Measure G. These changes would mean a continuation of the upgrade of campus educational facilities.

Security was a big concern for the neighborhood and SJCC pledged to continue to work with the City of San Jose and SONA to address problems relating to the use of the campus and how it affects the neighborhoods.

Residents complained about traffic on both sides of the campus along with the noise generated from the batting cage. Chief Lutzow promised to take several immediate steps to help with these issues.

Residents felt strongly that closing the South side of the Kingman gate access would help resolved problems in that part of the neighborhood. Chief Lutzow stated that this is an important component in evacuating the campus. While it can't be completely closed off, he was open to looking at some alternatives.

Residents pointed out that while we are asked to continue to support bond measures, we cannot vote for any bond relating to this campus. Residents also pointed out that we were promised with the last bond issue that the access on the south side of the campus would be a priority for resolution and we did not see that happen.

Chief Lutzow also advised us that he has only two officers for the entire campus, thus making it difficult to monitor the campus at all times. Residents asked for additional coverage during peak use times such as the high school football games that affect so many of us.

Free Basketball Tickets

SJCC has supplied SONA with free passes to both the men's and women's home basketball games. If anybody is interested in attending, contact Randi. Tickets are not good for tournament games, but are valid for the 2004-2005 home games. Great free fun within walking distance of your house!



Dog Obedience Classes
In your neighborhood!

Keep your dog safe with commands like Stay, Sit, Come, and Heel.

Learn about dominance issues such as biting, chewing, climbing on furniture, and housebreaking. Training will include puppy playtime to develop safe socializing skills.

Classes will be limited to 10 and will be grouped by age: puppy, juvenile, and adult.

Classes begin September 18th, 2005.

Private classes available.

Please call, Roxana @ 293-5048

The poster features illustrations of a dog sitting, a dog standing on a platform, and a dog sitting with a book.

San Jose City College Police Department

Chief Larry Lutzow
408.288.3735

Call this number if you have questions or comments about campus security issues, graffiti, noise or other problems.

ADVERTISE WITH SONA

The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association (SONA) prints and distributes 1500 newsletters the first week of each month. Newsletters are distributed to households and businesses with SONA's boundaries by volunteers.

Where is SONA and who lives there?

SONA boundaries are Bascom Avenue on the west, Los Gatos Creek on the south, Highway 280 on the north and Meridian Avenue on the east.

- ◆ Median household income \$54,141
- ◆ Average age 30.2 years
- ◆ Married Households 44.9%
- ◆ Households w/children 34.5%
- ◆ 4,000 households and multi-family units

*data provided by Coldwell Banker

Specifications and Deadlines

- ◆ Advertisers to provide art or ad copy via e-mail or diskette.
- ◆ Black & White Only
- ◆ Payment and ads due by 20th of the month. Checks, cash or money orders.
- ◆ Site placement not guaranteed.
- ◆ Periodic or seasonal discounts cannot be combined.
- ◆ 1500 copies circulated monthly

Ad Size and Cost

Discount rates are only valid if payment in full is made at beginning of ad run.

- 3.5"x2" Business Card (shown below)
 - \$ 25.00 1 month
 - \$ 60.00 3 months
 - \$ 90.00 6 months
 - \$120.00 1 year
- Combination of Business Card size available either horizontally or vertically.
- 1/2 page either vertically or horizontally
 - \$ 80.00 1 month
- Full Page \$150.00 1 month
- Coupon Inserts \$50.00 per 1500

Disclaimer

SONA will not accept ads for tobacco, alcohol, firearms or other products or services deemed inappropriate for household delivery. Acceptance of advertising is at the sole discretion of the SONA advertising and editorial staff. Advertising rates subject to change. Ad rates effective 01/01/05

Your ad could be here and on our website!

For information or to place an ad, contact:

Randi Kinman

408.835.2881

Mail payments to SONA, PO Box 59146

San Jose CA 95159-0146

November 2004

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
November is National: Novel Writing, Adoption Awareness, American Indian & Native Alaskan Awareness, Caregiver Appreciation, Diabetes Awareness, and Epilepsy Awareness Month	8	9	10 SJCC vs DeAnza Women's BBall 7pm	11 Veteran's Day NOTE: SONA General Meeting Moved to Next Week	12	13
14	15 National Clean Out Your Refrigerator Day	16 NOTE: SONA Board Meeting Moved to Next Week	17	18 Street Sweep Day American Cancer Society Great American Smoke Out SONA General Meeting 6:30 pm SOCC	19 SJCC vs San Francisco Women's BBall 7pm	20 SJCC vs Skyline Men's BBall 7pm
21	22	23 SONA Board Meeting 7pm SOCC	24	25 Thanksgiving San Jose vs Lincoln HS @ SJCC 11am Big Bone Game	26 CCS Playoffs @ SJCC Time TBA	27 CCS Playoffs @ SJCC Time TBA
28	29	30	1	2 NAC Nov/Dec Meeting @ SOCC 6:30 p.m. Joint Nov/Dec Mtg	3	4 CCS Playoffs @ SJCC Time TBA
5	6	7 Pearl Harbor Day Hanukkah Begins at Sundown	8 Hanukkah PAC Meeting 6:30 Joint Nov/Dec Mtg	9	10	11

DOT Department of Transportation	SOCC Sherman Oaks Community Center located at 1800A Fruitdale Ave. Phone
B/DM NAC Burbank Del Monte Neighborhood Advisory Committee, a coalition of local neighborhoods under the SNI	SOCCS Sherman Oaks Community Charter School 1800 Fruitdale Avenue. Phone
PAC The SNI Advisory board required by law.	UNSCC United Neighborhoods of Santa Clara County offers neighborhoods opportunities for a common voice. An annual conference includes workshops and face to face time with many city and county officials.
RDA Or, SJRDA San Jose Redevelopment Agency	
SJCC San Jose City College	
SNI Strong Neighborhoods Initiative. A group of 19 areas under a redevelopment zone to improve neighborhood services.	

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.

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