



Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association

Notes From The President

Well, we're fully into the spring activities here in SONA-land with houses being painted, gardens going in and garage sales breaking out all over. Don't forget that we have our SONA-wide garage sale coming up and it's not too late to get listed on the map (see inside). If you don't have enough to do a sale you can always combine with another SONA resident in your area. Signs and maps will be distributed before the event. And there are **two** block parties you can attend. For information on the block parties, see page 2.

There are some great meetings lined up in the next few months, and we're taking requests for upcoming meetings. Who do you want to hear from and what subjects are you interested in? See page 7 for more details on upcoming meetings. We have the Master Gardener Program, permit parking and Councilman Ken Yeager booked. We are also working with a local solar installer for a meeting later this summer. With dumpster days, national night out and other events we'll have a full summer.

Congratulations to Peggy Bryan and the staff and parents at Sherman Oaks Community Charter School for their recent efforts at re-certification. While it would seem a no-brainer that an award winning school would automatically be re-certified as a charter school for five more years, it actually took a great deal of lobbying (including formal support from SONA) to make this happen. We look forward to the next five years of this outstanding school in our neighborhood.

As I end my two year term of service as President, I can't help but think how our neighborhood has changed. Crime is down, our streets look nicer and more neighbors are out talking to each other. We've reduced litter to the point it's becoming difficult to station crews here during the Annual Pick Up San Jose event. A great job done by some great neighbors. See you at the meeting.....Randi

AGENDA

SONA GENERAL MEETING

May 12, 2005

6:30 P.M.

Snacks & Social

7:00 P. M.

Call to Order

7:05 P. M.

Police Report

7:25 P. M.

Master Gardener

Sharon McRay

Practical Solutions to

Common Gardening

Problems

8:00 P. M.

Announcements

Adjourn

SONA general meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month at 1800A Fruitdale Ave. San Jose CA 95128

Good Neighbor Corner

Jerry Cvitanich and Mel Bingham were both in need of an accessible ramp to get in and out of their home's front doors. Well, thanks to Frank Fanger their neighbor and friend, Jerry and Mel now have attractive and very usable ramps leading up to their front doors. Job well done, Frank. Good neighbors like you are appreciated.

Come One-Come All

Neighborhood Garage Sales & Block Party

Meet Your Neighbors

Review Traffic Calming Plans

High Five Program

Enjoy Food & Beverages or Just Hang Out

Saturday May 21, 2005

Garage Sale: 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Block Party 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM

1st Location: Randolph Drive, Rexford Way, Kingman Drive, Mansfield Drive, and Sherman Oaks Drive North of Fruitdale Avenue with block party on Mansfield between Randolph & Rexford

Contact Michael at 289-8449

2nd location is 1064 Sherman Oaks Drive

Hawaiian Theme Potluck

Contact Marge Waggoner 295-2406

If you want to have a garage sale in your area, let us know and we'll put your location on a map that will be run in the newsletter and available that day. We'll also help provide signage.

Join other SONA residents in our first area wide garage sale and block party event. Do your spring cleaning and take some time to get to know your neighbors. Open to all SONA residents.

Garage Sale Listing

DUE MAY 9, 2005

YES!!! COUNT ME IN ON THE ANNUAL SONA GARAGE SALE AND CELEBRATION!

NAME:

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

SPECIAL ITEMS OF INTEREST:

— I WILL BE COMING TO THE AFTER SALE BLOCK PARTY AND POTLUCK AND BRINGING PEOPLE WITH ME.

Your location (without phone numbers or names) will be added to the SONA map. Locations will be listed in our online website and other advertising materials before the day of the event. Maps will be available for each location the day of the event. Mail this coupon to SONA, PO Box 59146, San Jose, CA 95159-0156.

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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

New Board Elected Officers Still Needed

By unanimous decision, a new board of directors was voted into office at our April meeting. Michael LaRocca headed up the elections committee and presented a list of volunteer candidates. Offices are effective May 1, 2005.

Our organization is still in need of officers due to recent resignations of several people and the fact that our bylaws limit terms in any office.

Volunteer officers can be voted in at any time by a majority of the existing board. Time commitment depends on the position.

The slate offered and accepted was:

President	Vacant
Administrative VP	Vacant
Communications VP	Randi Kinman
Treasurer	Michael LaRocca
Hospitality	Shiela Cvitanich
Area Captain	Dr. Charles Crowder
Area Captain	Mark Kovich
Area Captain	Carl Lindner
Area Captain	Jussi Rajna
Area Captain	Vacant

Thanks to all who have served in the past and congratulations to our new officers.

1st ANNUAL BLOCK PARTY

You are invited to attend the 1st Annual Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association's (SONA) Block Party. The event will be held on Mansfield Drive between Rexford Way and Randolph Drive on May 21st starting at 3 pm and ending at 6 pm. Second event will be at Marge Waggoner's, 1064 Sherman Oaks Drive.

SONA will provide Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Veggie Burgers, Sodas, and Water. People attending are encouraged to bring a Potluck item of their choice to share.

The event is a way to mix and mingle with neighbors and friends as well as meet city and county officials and staff.

We will also be providing information and collecting your thoughts and ideas regarding the following:

- SONA's Traffic Calming Master Plan
- SONA's Hi-Five Program
- Proposed "Residential Parking Permit" Area South of San Jose City College
- Street Sweeping Signs for Residential Streets

Again please join us for a relaxing afternoon to meet your neighbors and others.

For More information contact Michael LaRocca at 289-8449 or mlr001@yahoo.com

California Youth Outreach

Corlista Neighbors

At our March meeting we heard about opportunities to volunteer with the California Youth Outreach Program. Nicki Dang and Jorge Corona Jr. explained the various programs and how community involvement can help.

The Restorative Justice Program works in collaboration with the Santa Clara County Probation Department to help keep first time offenders from becoming a permanent part of the justice system. By engaging youth in recreational activities and community service projects, volunteers can help teach leadership skills and experience alternatives to criminal behavior.

After-school programs help provide supervision and tutoring for students attending CYO's charter school.

The mentoring program pairs adults and youth to help build self esteem and provide positive role modeling to encourage a turn away from gang and criminal behavior.

Volunteers are needed for all programs and your time in any of the programs is built around your schedule. As little as 8 hours a month could mean a big difference in the life of a local youth. Volunteers are screened and must receive training.

The CYO's mission statement is: Educate Youth and Adults regarding the pitfalls of living a gang and drug lifestyle. Assist those that are looking to find their way out of a drug and gang lifestyle. Create alternatives that will enhance their "New" lifestyle.

For more information contact:

Nicki Dang- Mentoring Coordinator
California Youth Outreach
2029 Alum Rock Ave.
San Jose CA 95116
(408) 272-7664
ndang@cyoutreach.org

Our Neighbors on Corlista have been busy this year trying to address the problems associated with traffic and parking issues.

Several years ago they were successful in lobbying for a temporary barrier that helps slow down traffic coming off of Fruitdale. Because Corlista is a direct link for the apartment dwellers behind them, speed needed to be reduced. The temporary barrier is still there and according to neighbors doing a fine job.

Residents have long complained that cars are left parked for extended periods, are not moved during street sweeping times and leave no room for residents of Corlista or their guests. The continuing problem with over flow parking led to a drive for permit parking, but after months of working with the Department of Transportation (DOT) and Councilman Ken Yeager's office, a compromise has been reached.

Corlista now has signage stating it is a no parking zone during the hours of 12-6am. This will mean that overflow parking from neighborhood streets will no longer be allowed on Corlista.

Neighbors were out advising drivers of the new signs immediately after the installation. They hoped to spread the word and help others used to using the street as a parking lot avoid receiving citations.

It is expected that by reducing the over-flow parking Corlista residents will now be able to enjoy having their street swept on a regular basis. They also will be able to enjoy using the street for their own and guest parking.

While Corlista residents were at first disappointed when they couldn't get permit parking, they were happy with the compromise and the City's promise to continue monitoring the problem. All parties should be commended for finding a solution that works for everyone.

May-June 2005

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 National Disaster Preparedness Month	2	3 National Teacher's Day	4	5 Cinco de Mayo	6	7 National Scrap-booking Day
8 Mother's Day	9	10	11	12 6:30 pm SONA Gen Mtg Master Gardner Program	13	14 Affordable Housing Week www.affordablehousingweek.com
15	16	17 7pm SONA Board Mtg	18	19	20	21 1st Annual Garage Sale and Block Party!
22	23	24	25 PAC Mtg	26 NAC Mtg	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Members of the Richmond Menker Improvement Team received the District 6 Good Neighbor Award at this year's State of the City Address. They are shown here after receiving plaques at the April 19, 2004 City Council Meeting. Recipients included members of the PRNS, Housing, Planning and RDA staff, Richmond Menker Property Owners, Catalyst, Landgro, MIRA and SONA.



April 23, 2005 Pick Up San Jose!

Dozens of volunteers gather at Sherman Oaks Community Center beginning at 8:30 a.m. to pick up trash and litter



SONA President Randi Kinman flanked by Mayor Gonzales and Councilman Ken Yeager



Volunteers receive a briefing before heading out. Three territories were covered this year, including two in the SONA area. Our area covered Fruitdale to Del Mar and branched out onto either side of Del Mar Avenue. One group went to Stokes and the other tackled the other side of Del Mar, concentrating on the end where abandoned carts, clothing and lots of cigarette butts were picked up.

Upcoming Program Notes

Carl Lindner has arranged for a presentation from the Master Gardener Program for our May meeting. Our Speaker will be Sharon McRay. The title of the presentation is "Practical Solutions to Common Gardening Problems". The Master Gardeners are a group of trained volunteers who can help you make the most of your landscaping and gardening sites. They run a hotline to answer your questions and also run a column in the San Jose Mercury News. They train other volunteers from around the county and sponsor numerous activities throughout the year.

Our June meeting will be a full one and will run a little longer than usual due to the agenda. First on the agenda will be permit parking in the areas adjacent to San Jose City College (Randolph, Rexford, Sherman Oaks, etc.) Neighbors have lobbied and signed petitions and Jim Bintner from the Department of Transportation will also be in attendance to explain the ramifications of permit parking in this area.

This will be followed by our annual visit from Councilman Ken Yeager. Ken has had a busy year with multiple issues in our neighborhood and District 6 in general. As of our print deadline there are still no answers on when we can expect a community center, so we will be asking Ken about this and other issues.

To make the most of Ken's time, we ask that you submit questions in writing or call or email us with your questions. This will allow Ken and his staff to research your questions and hopefully come up with some answers before the meeting. What are your concerns? Crime, parking, speeding, light rail? Feel free to contact any board member with your questions or submit them anonymously.

Take advantage of our online information when you get a chance. We have a great website with all contact info and past minutes plus some great links if you go to www.sona-sj.com. You can also join our online chat group by signing up at tal2sona@yahoogroups.com. If you have any problems with either site, give us a call.

Questions for Ken

I have questions for Councilman Ken Yeager that I would like him to address at our June, 2005 meeting:

Name and address (optional)

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

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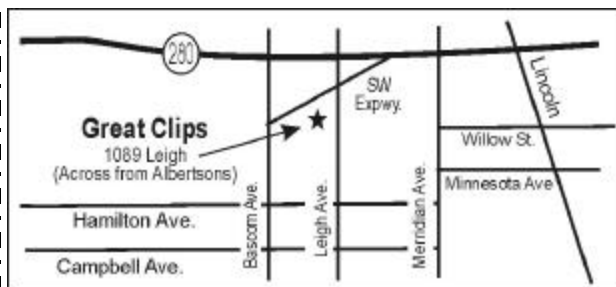


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