



Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association

Notes From the President

By the time this newsletter goes to print we will be done with our national and local elections. Signs will come down, TV commercials will cease, robo-calls will disappear and our junk mail will turn from politics to seasonal sales. I only hope that the country and our communities can begin the healing process just as quickly. While it gives me great pride to see the huge crowds of people lining up to vote, I was appalled by how quickly many campaigns turned to fear, negative tactics and name calling and half truths rather than a calm discussion of issues. What happened to celebrating our diversity?

Politics could take a lesson from neighborhoods like ours.

We may meet our neighbors for the first time when a fire truck or the police show up nearby. We may stand in our yards complaining about traffic and speeding. We may band together because we are tired of not receiving our fair share of the pie.

We aren't successful as a neighborhood, however, until we calm down, discuss our common goals and plan a course of action that will correct deficiencies or make improvements. We empower ourselves when we change from making "this doesn't work" statements to saying "this is how it should look and this is how we'll do it."

SONA has a history of making changes to better our neighborhood. We took complaints about student parking on residential streets and converted some areas to permit parking. We identified important pedestrian routes that needed upgrades to allow our disabled to move safely through our streets. We identified a hazardous situation at Leigh and Kingman, worked with City staff to alleviate the problem and will soon be seeing a new signalized intersection.

SONA has plans in the coming months to hold more neighborhood get togethers, perhaps a pot luck, participate in the artistic component of a library and community center, replace trees along Moorpark, hold clean ups and E-waste events. These things are possible because you, as residents, have made the decision to work together. Pat yourself on the back and congratulate yourself...and I'll see you at the meeting...Randi

SONA

General Meeting

Thursday

November 13, 2008

6:30pm

Coffee and Social Time

7:00pm

Welcome

7:05pm

SJPD (if available)

7:10pm

By-Laws Amendment

7:15pm

Workers Rights Workshop

Presented by the Katharine & George Alexander Community Law Center

Speakers:

Jeffrey Eng, Attorney

Rocky Hearn and Katrina Kimovec,

Law Students

8:00pm Adjourn

Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at the Sherman Oaks Community Center, 1800A Fruitdale Ave. SJ CA 95128

Notes and News

Our November meeting will be of interest to many people. The Katharine & George Alexander Community Law Center provides a series of workshops and lectures conducted by law students and attorneys on a variety of subjects. **Attorney Jeffrey Eng and students Rocky Hearn and Katrina Kimovec will be conducting a workshop on Worker's Rights.** Most of us are either employers or employees so this workshop will be of great benefit to SONA residents. With an economy that is all over the place, it is more important than ever to know exactly what your rights and responsibilities are to ensure your job is safe in these tough economic times.

The process for conducting a supplemental to the Environmental Impact Report generated for **San Jose City College's Capital Improvement Plan** has begun. Consultants have been hired to complete the necessary studies. For information or to provide input, contact Robert Dias at San Jose City College, 4750 San Felipe Road, San Jose, CA 95135 or call him at (408)720-6400.

Noise complaints regarding this year's football season are tapering off somewhat, but SONA board members are still fielding phone calls. It would be more effective if you called SJCC's security office when you have complaints. **All security issues can be directed to 270-7507.** If you cannot reach them, feel free to call San Jose PD's non emergency line at 277-8900.

BY-LAWS AMENDMENT

The SONA Board is proposing an amendment to the by-laws. The proposal is to change the name of the positions of Area Captain on the Board to Board Member. This change will allow us to be consistent with other neighborhood associations and help clarify and define those board positions.

Applied Materials Silicon Valley Turkey Trot

When: November 27 with races starting at 9 a.m. (check-in begins at 7:30 a.m.)

Where: Guadalupe River Park, Confluence Meadow between Autumn St. and Hwy 87, San Jose

More Information: Visit <http://svturkeytrot.com/>.

MEET THE ARTIST

While the **Bascom Community Center and Library** construction is moving along quickly, we are being asked to re-visit the public art component for this facility. All facilities are required to have a public art component. An artist was originally hired and he came up with a concept that unfortunately conflicted with the architect's use of white walls for energy savings. A new artist was picked by a panel of community volunteers, art commissioners and staff. **The new artist is Ron Baron and he will be flying out from the east coast to get to meet us on Thursday, November 20 at the Sherman Oaks Community Center from 7-9pm.** This is a chance for the entire family to meet our new artist and let him get to know the people in our neighborhood who will be using the facility.

PRESIDENT, Randi Kinman	835.2881	randikinman@yahoo.com
ADMINISTRATIVE VICE PRES, Marlene Bird	288-9727	mbird@cbtnorcal.com
SECRETARY, Nancy Moritz	993-1059	
TREASURER, Michael LaRocca	564-2374	mlrool@yahoo.com
AREA CAPTAIN, Sheila Cvitanich	292-2690	
AREA CAPTAIN, Roberta Emerson	297-9093	
AREA CAPTAIN, Jussi Rajna	291-0202	
AREA CAPTAIN, Lisa Steingart	666-3287	
AREA CAPTAIN	Vacant	
Website	www.sona-sj.com	

SONA's newsletter is published monthly and distributed to almost 1500 residences. It is partially funded by a City of San Jose CAP Grant. 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: **Help Needed**

Membership Drive

Last month we conducted a mini membership drive by placing a self addressed envelope in the SONA newsletter. We picked up more than a dozen new memberships and renewed dozens more. It's not too late to support SONA by sending in dues or donations. This membership drive allows us some small breathing room in generating enough money to pay for our newsletters. Thanks to the following:

John Carter, Elaine & Carl Lindner, Florence Dubbs Roat, Gary Groh, Michael Broxmeyer, Phyllis and Richard Cirigliano, Michele & Mark Costanza, Mary Hayden & Rachel Galan, Tricia Hurley Bem and Jonathan Bem, Andrew Maino, William & Rena Bailey, Lavina & Charles McClain, The Kinyon Family, Jerry Clark, Corky Dick, Bruce Bardell, Ginny & Tom Lem, Sharon & Robert Rabbiosi, Heather & Jason Hunt, Denise & John Berbrugge, Ken Barone, Pauline Gillet, Linda & Gene Lam, Benjamin & Remedios Buerostro, Clara & Paul Carney, Roberta Emerson, The Carvalho Family, Jennifer & Scott Kirkland...

Kim & Dan Staringer, Debra Arredondo, Theo & Christine Martinez, Leah Haynes, Richard Anderson, Man-Sze & Luen Hay Li, Teresita & Eric Gerggren, Geraldine Stewart, Louis Bottini, Shabbir & Jumana Latif, Marci & Richard Deyhle, Kim Szelot, Patricia & W. T. Matranga.

SONA dues help pay for meeting expenses, our website and our newsletter. As a grassroots operation, we depend on dues and donations for revenue. **Thanks to our new and renewing members this month!**

Household Hazardous Waste

With new laws, going into affect, it is time to update you on how to dispose of hazardous waste correctly. Many household items cannot be placed in garbage or recycling and must go to special sites.

Needles or sharps are described as disposable hypodermics, syringes, lancets and other devices or instruments used for injection or blood tests. **These must be placed in a red biohazard Sharps container** which can be purchased at any drug store or pharmacy. You can no longer use plastic, milk bottles or glass jars. Containers must be in an approved and labeled biohazard container. Seal the container when it is 3/4 full. If you purchase your supplies online you can request a pre-addressed envelope to return used materials. Local hospitals, healthcare clinics and some pharmacies will accept sealed containers for disposal.

Compact Fluorescent Light bulbs (CFLs) cannot be thrown in the garbage and must be taken to approved disposal sites. Some hardware stores offer a free disposal service.

All Household Batteries must be taken to approved sites for disposal, including alkaline batteries. Some hardware stores offer free disposal service. This also includes batteries for your cell phone and other electronic equipment.

Electronics such as computers, printers, cell phones, TVs, cd players and radios should be held and disposed of at an E-waste recycling. With gift giving season upon us, there will be a lot of turn over in these items. SONA is hoping to have a local recycling event that will act as a fundraiser, so hold onto them if you can.

The County of Santa Clara County handles household hazardous waste and has several sites where you can drop off items. You can get a complete list of products banned from garbage and recycling containers, make an appointment, find a drop off site and make your neighborhood safe by contacting them at www.hhw.org or calling (408)299-7300.

SUPPORT SONA ADVERTISERS



Marlene Bird

408-491-1627 Direct
mbird@cbnorcal.com
www.marlenebird.com

Your Sherman Oaks neighbor for 40+ years...For all your real estate needs...CALL ME...I'm always here to help!

1045 Willow Street, San Jose CA 95125

**COLDWELL
BANKER**

RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

PRIME Mortgage Funding, Inc.
Your Primary Choice in Home Loans

Shane Costanza

408 499-8221
2001 Gateway Place 301E
San Jose, CA 95110
E-mail: shane@pmfloan.net



Nicole Morrella-Costanza

Moving people and places
leaving happy faces!

408 781 3093

Century 21
Hallmark Realty
www.morrellahomes.com

November Notes

With the first rains already behind us, you've probably done those little chores like finding leaks, sealing windows and doors and making your home winter proof.

You've also been busy getting rid of summer gardens and transitioning to winter ones. There is still tree pruning and other yard work that produces a lot of yard waste. Make sure that if you are using the street to dump yard waste that you cut larger items into size and that your piles are 5'x5'x5'. You should also make sure that your yard waste piles are well away from the gutters along the sidewalk. Placing yard waste in the gutters stops the flow of run off water and can cause storm drains to plug up as your trimmings float downstream.

Now is the time to report any slow or sluggish drains in your area. It's a pain in the neck, but take a walk during the next downpour and check out your corner drains to make sure they are clear. If not, you can call in the problem to 277-4373.

Also, check out your street lights. If they are not on, you will need to report them or they won't get fixed. There is a pole number on each unit that will allow staff to know which one is out.

While graffiti may slow down some in the fall and winter, it should not be tolerated at any time. You can call the City's 24 hour hotline for all of these problems by dialing 535-3500

Quality Childcare right in your neighborhood!

Joanna S. Koomas

Childcare Provider

Mon - Fri, 7:30am - 5:30pm

Small group, ages 6 weeks & older

Excellent references & competitive rates!

License # 434409814



408-293-4453

WANT TO SLEEP LIKE A KING?

Do you need better sleep?

Is your mattress 10 + years old?

Want the best for LESS?

**If you are in the market for a new
mattress call Shane at 408 499 8221**

Be sure to mention the SONA ad