



# Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association

## Thanks Volunteers

On February 28, 2009 more than 80 community members planted 27 native oaks, cleaned up graffiti and litter, swept sidewalks and cleared out drains along Moorpark Avenue. With funds from a San Jose Community Action and Pride grant, the Burbank/Del Monte NAC sponsored the event. Our City Forest provided tools, education and trees. Volunteers came from Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association, Shasta Hanchett/Park, Buena Vista, San Jose City College and St. Leo's School. Staging area was provided by Immanuel Lutheran Church and lunch was enjoyed in their Fireside Coffee House. Thanks to everyone!



**SONA  
General Meeting  
Thursday  
March 12, 2009**

**6:30pm**  
Coffee and Social Time

**7:00pm**  
Welcome

**7:05pm**  
SJPD (if available)

**7:10pm**  
Our City Forest  
Shade and Save  
*How a free shade tree can save you energy and money. Bring your questions about appropriate trees for your yard*

**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

### **Congratulations and thanks to everyone who participated in our February 28, 2009 event!**

Over 80 people planted trees, swept sidewalks, cleaned graffiti, picked up litter and cleaned gutters along Moorpark Avenue. And all this was done while dumpster day was running. We hope everyone had a chance to get rid of all the "stuff" that accumulates around the home.

**Heart Safe City** was the theme of our February meeting. We learned that people treated within the first four minutes of a cardiac event will have a much greater chance of survival. In San Jose we can expect emergency response teams to arrive at our homes in eight minutes 80% of the time, leaving at least four extra minutes of danger. In the past you would have to go through a day long CPR training session to ensure you can react in such a situation. SJFD is now offering a "CPR Anytime" course that can be taken in less than an hour and will be presented at our April meeting. You will be trained in how to assist a cardiac arrest victim and be given a DVD to take home. You are then encouraged to train your family members, friends and neighbors. Seating at our April meeting will be limited so we will provide sign up info in our next newsletter. This class is appropriate for all ages and is being taught in middle and high schools. Since 25% of all cardiac victims are under the age of 25, it is important that we train people of all ages. This is also a great course for those of us who took CPR many years ago and could use a refresher. While not a certified life saving course, it can still help you keep someone alive for those 4 minutes.

**Our City Forest** will be our guests at our March meeting. Besides their incredible program of providing free trees for public streets, they have a program that supplies appropriate shade trees for your yard. You can learn what type of species is appropriate, sign up for the program and learn more about tree maintenance in general. Appropriate shade trees add to the value of property, store rain water and reduce your summer energy costs.

**SONA election for board members will be held at our April meeting.** Anyone can be a board member if they are willing to give a couple hours a month towards developing speaker programs, working closer with neighbors here and outside SONA and coordinating projects. Contact any board member with questions.

**San Jose City College Supplemental Draft Environmental Report** has been completed and will be on the campus' website the first week of March. Hard copies available at the campus and the MLK library downtown. The next public meeting is 5/12/09 7pm at the Evergreen Campus. Public comment is due by 4/10/09. Direct comment to Robert Dias, 4750 San Felipe Road, SJ CA 95135-1599. Robert.dias@sjeccd.org or call 408.270.6400

Our thanks to **Patrick Solomon** who has been updating our website. His contact information is listed below if you have questions or suggestions.

PRESIDENT, Randi Kinman	835.2881	randikinman@yahoo.com
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Website Administrator, Patrick Solmon	287-8795	
Website	www.sona-sj.com	

SONA's 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: Patrick Solmon

## Join the SONA Squeaky Wheel Corps

by, Steve Kline

When you have a problem in the Neighborhood like graffiti, sofas or furniture piled up on the street, cars parked on the street during street-cleaning day, or one of the many nuisances that hurt our neighborhood, what do you do?

Most people call a City or County agency in an attempt to correct the problem. Good idea, but it 's often only one voice among hundreds of other problems that governments deal with every day. In these times of budget cuts and diminished resources, it's going to be those who are organized that get officials to pay attention to get the corrective action.

### **Our solution --- The SONA Squeaky Wheel Corps!**

How does it work? Simple.

Join the Corps by sending your name, address, email address and phone number to [SONASWC@gmail.com](mailto:SONASWC@gmail.com)

If you experience a neighborhood problem send an email to [SONAACTION@gmail.com](mailto:SONAACTION@gmail.com).

The Squeaky Wheel Corps will email a Community Response Alert to others in the Corps with the details along with the name and telephone number of the governmental agency to be called for action.

Each member of Corps will be asked to politely call that agency within 24 hours requesting correction.

Follow up will be undertaken to see that the problem is corrected and whether additional Community Response Alerts may be needed.

As the old adage goes, "the squeaky wheel gets the grease". As President Obama's election has proven, an organized community can bring about change. Our strength will be in our numbers - many people calling to get government into action and to seek mutual assistance. Not just one person. So please join **The Squeaky Wheel Corps** today!

REMINDER: This system is **not** for Emergency situations. **Call 911 if you have an emergency or your problem is so sever that it needs immediate attention.**

## Mark your Calendar

**03/12/09** SONA general meeting. Shade and Save with our City Forest

**03/17/09** SONA board meeting at Sherman Oaks Community Center begins at 6:30pm.

**03/17/09** Burbank/Del Monte NAC will be meeting after the SONA board meeting. This special meeting will allow community members to assist in prioritizing new project lists. Plan on adding your voice in prioritizing work for the next few years. Some accomplishments in our area include street signs for sweep days, access ramps at intersections and long term projects like our community center.

**03/21/09** Cahill Park Playground dedication 10am. Community is invited to attend, refreshments on hand. Cahill Park is adjacent to Diridon Light Rail station. Limited parking will be available around the park on Wilson and San Fernando.

**3/25/09** from 3-7pm is the scoping meeting for the High Speed Rail system at the Roosevelt Center. If you have questions or comments you can drop in anytime. You can also submit comments and questions by mail or email. For info call 415.613.3612 or go to [www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov](http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov)

**03/26/09** Burbank/Del Monte NAC regular meeting 6:30 Sherman Oaks Community Center.

**04/10/09** Comments due regarding San Jose City College EIR.

**04/25/09** District 6 Leadership Group meeting 9am-noon Sherman Oaks Community Center.

**05/12/09** 7pm Board of Trustees meeting for SJCC EIR. District Office Board Room, 4750 San Felipe Rd, SJ CA 95135.

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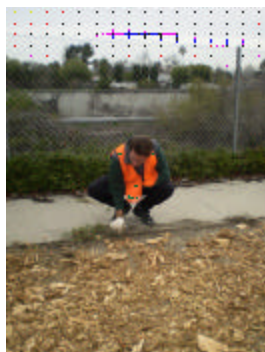
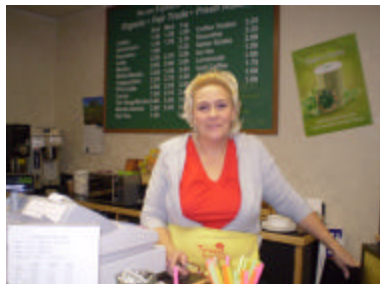
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After a day of tree planting, volunteers took a break and enjoyed lunch at the Fireside Coffee House operated by Immanuel Lutheran Church. While not usually open on Saturdays, they showed us they were up to treating volunteers great either inside or on one of two outdoor patios. Councilmember Pierluigi Oliverio revealed after the tree planting that he hates weeds and got to work on that problem as well as our very confusing sign at the Moorpark/Menker intersection. Thanks volunteers!

