



Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association (SONA) general meetings are open to all interested parties. General meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of the month at Bascom Community Center, 1000 S. Bascom Ave beginning at 6:30pm. SONA board meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month at the Sherman Oaks Community Center at 6:30pm. **NOTE THAT THE AUGUST 2013 MEETING WILL NOT BE HELD!**

Notes from the President

I hope everybody is having a great summer! I've seen lots of activity around the neighborhood with boats and campers and people packing up for trips. Others are taking advantage of the great weather to get major chores done around the house and I have envied some of the landscaping and gardening I've been seeing.



August Meeting Will Be at Your House!

Host a National Night Out Event

www.natw.org

SONA will not be having an August meeting because we want you all to participate in National Night Out on Tuesday, August 6 by either hosting a small event on your block or visiting somebody else's event. Since 1984 communities around the world set aside this night to fight crime by getting to know their neighbors and lighting up the streets. Your participation can be as simple as turning on your porch light. Or, grab a couple of lawn chairs, a cooler of sodas and invite the neighbors over for a driveway or front yard chat. How many of you waive to those neighbors across the street but really don't know anything about them? How many times do you wonder if somebody close by can keep an eye on your house while you're gone or have a kid who can mow lawns or babysit? Do you worry about your elderly neighbors when you don't see them? Are you a senior who knows you're going to need help down the line? Would you like to get to know the new neighbors and welcome them or are you new to the neighborhood?

And how many times have you wondered how you can help make your neighborhood safer?

By taking one night to get together casually you can swap ideas, meet the neighbors and talk about what is important on your block. Your neighborhood becomes a safer place when people know who lives nearby and begin developing relationships. We can talk about security systems, the lack of police and the rise in crime, but the bottom line is, your neighbors are your first line of defense and you are theirs.

The National Association of Town Watch is a non-profit that is celebrating 30 years of National Night Out events. You can register your home on their website (www.natw.org) and get some great ideas for themes, invitation, activities and organization. When you register your site your neighbors will also be able to find the closest event to attend. And I can also guarantee you that elected officials love going to these events, so if you want to bend their ears, tell them where your party is. **If you email me directly I can post your event address on our Facebook, Nextdoor and Yahoo group list to get the word out.**

I also want to thank my board members for putting together a great Ice Cream Social last month at St. Elizabeth Park. We met dozens of new families and got caught up with old friends. It was a beautiful evening and I know that each of these events helps bring us together.

See you at our September meeting and I look forward to dropping in on your National Night Out get together!

Randi

Notes and News

- August 16** Meet State Senator Jim Beall at Roy's Station Coffee and Teas in Japan town from 8-10:30am at 197 Jackson Street. Senator Beall holds informal coffee meetings with constituents to find out what is on your mind. Drop in or RSVP 408.558.1295. This is just a short light rail ride away!
- August 13** **Registration week for Del Mar High School.** Classes start on the 19th.
- August 19** **First Day of School for Campbell Unified!** Watch out for our kids.
- August 23** **Senior Scam Stopper.** Seniors are becoming a prime target for scams in person, on the phone and over the Internet. Learn what you can do to protect yourself (or a loved one) and learn what your rights are if you think you've been a victim. Hosted by State Senator Jim Beall at the Almaden Community Center, 6445 Camden Avenue from 1-3pm. RSVP by calling 408.558.1295 or email frnces.herbert@sen.ca.gov
- August 24** **Creek Clean Up Day!** Join Senator Beall at the Campbell Park, 2 Gilman Avenue, Campbell for his annual creek clean up of Los Gatos Creek. Plenty of parking onsite or take the light rail in. Registration begins at 8:30am cleanup runs from 9-11am. Drop in or RSVP 408.558.1295.
- September 2** **Labor Day!**
- September 3** **Fall Classes start at San Jose City College.** Be prepared for people who are new to the neighborhood, late to class and are in a panic driving around the neighborhood. This lasts about two weeks until the last day to drop classes and everybody gets settled in.
- Sept 12** **SONA general meeting**
- October 5** **Medicare and the new Healthcare Reform; how does this affect you?** Campbell Community Center, 1 Campbell Ave, Campbell CA. For more info contact Sen. Beall
- October 10** **SONA general meeting**
- October 6-12** **National Fire Safety Week: Prevent Kitchen Fires!** The National Fire Prevention Agency's website has some great tips, ideas and planning materials for your home and the classroom. Visit them at www.nfpa.org.

SONA Contact List

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SONA Chat Group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/talk2sona/>

Facebook: Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association (San Jose)
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Sherman-Oaks-Neighborhood-Association-San-Jose/151383304945052?fref=ts>

Nextdoor Neighborhood: www.Nextdoor.com

Website www.sona-sj.com

SONA's newsletter is published monthly and distributed to 1100 residences. All ad copy is due by the 15th of each month. Newsletter editor is Randi Kinman. Our all-volunteer group welcomes your participation. Feel free to contact any of us with ideas or questions.