

Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association...the voice of your neighborhood



Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association

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. Newsletter is partially funded with a Community Action and Pride (CAP) Grant from the City of San Jose.

Issue 156 of Your Neighborhood Newsletter

Notes from the President

As we finally enjoy long overdue rain, we still need to remember we are in a long standing drought. This is the time of year when we need to prepare our yards for a long summer and change some of our water use habits. Two of my favorite resources for how to reduce your water use painlessly are on our list of important numbers on page 3. For those of you with automatic sprinkler systems, please check your timers. It's a little surreal to see sprinklers running during a rain storm.

While our featured speaker wasn't available last month, staff from Jim Beall, Ken Yeager and Pierluigi Oliverio along with our Bascom Staff and San Jose Police Department were on hand with a lot of good information and time to answer questions. It's great having them there.

SONA's board will be lining up some great speakers during the next year. We know that if you take the time and trouble to come to a meeting it should be worth your while. Look forward to social events, too!

The Friends of Bascom Library held their second book sale last month and the library celebrated its first birthday! Thanks to all who organize these events. And thanks to you who fill the facility every day and who donate and purchase books. The volunteer program that oversees these sales allows the Bascom Library to bring special programming just for our site.

If it hasn't started for you already, be prepared for the election season this year. New ways of collecting data mean you can count on an onslaught of phone calls and messages. Most campaigns will take your name off the call list if you contact them, but there are a number of independent groups who also work during campaigns.

With half the council running for Mayor, recent issues surrounding police and fire capability, and a changing budget, it is a crucial year for everyone to pay attention. Who we elect determines how our city runs. Don't rely just on the quick news blurbs, listen to the conversation and talk about what is important to you. A series of forums will be held across the city. Because our newsletter goes to print once a month, it's not possible for us to let you know all the time when things are happening. We strongly encourage you to join us on talk2sona or our Facebook site where the most recent information will be posted.

See you at the meeting...in April...Randi

General Meeting

APRIL

**Bascom Library
Community Room
1000 S. Bascom Ave
2nd Floor
San Jose CA 95128**

**We are taking a month off from
our meeting schedule in March.**

**April will be our regularly
scheduled meeting, our board
elections and speakers.**

We hope to see you then!

**We also hope that you consider
joining our board, help us bring
speakers and programs to SONA
and surrounding neighborhoods.**

**If you are interested, contact
Layne Kulwin, info is on the back
page of newsletter.**

Enjoy the rain.

Enjoy the month off.

Make Your Summer Plans Now

It may seem early, but now is the time to start scouting for summer activities for you and your family. Programs around the city and beyond that are run by local groups fill up fast.

San Jose Parks, Recreation & Neighborhood Services

As many of us know, the Bascom Community Center has been running a summer camp for kids that runs at capacity. Your kids can spend all or part of a day having fun and learning great things. The program is also subsidized for low income families. SJPRNS also runs programs for youth and teens as well as adults. A family camp in Yosemite has been a staple for many San Jose families. See how many of San Jose's parks, playgrounds, rose gardens (we have two!), skate parks and swim centers you can visit this year. <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?NID=204>

Guadalupe River Park and Gardens

The miles of parkland that run from downtown to the airport are home to a wide variety of programs and events for all ages. Nature walks, exercise programs, gardening, plant sales and craft classes for adult. Kids can participate in summer camps and special events. You can also create your own program by discovering the sites dedicated our San Jose's sister cities. www.grpg.org

Happy Hollow Zoo

Generations of families have enjoyed the zoo and all of the other facilities. You can book birthdays or other events for your family or just make a day of visiting the zoo, playing or riding the rides. There are educational programs, camps and classes, puppet theater and, of course, the petting zoo. You can purchase daily passes or a season pass. A great place for kids of all ages. www.hhpz.org

Enjoy what San Jose has to offer!

SONA Recipe Corner

This month's contribution provided
By
Lynn Penoyer

Corn and Black Bean Salad

Ingredients:

- 1 - 15 oz. can of corn (drained)
- 1 - 15 oz. can of black beans (rinsed and drained)
- 1 - Red bell pepper (diced)
- 1 - Green bell pepper (diced)
- 1 - Medium red onion (diced)
- 1 - Bunch green onions (diced)
- ½ - Bunch cilantro (chopped)

Dressing:

- 2-3 limes (juiced) – lemons can be substituted
- Salad oil or olive oil
- Salt and pepper – to taste
- Cayenne pepper – to taste
- Cumin – to taste

Place the beans and all other vegetables in a large bowl. Mix the dressing separately. Pour dressing over beans and vegetables and place in refrigerator and let stand over night. Serve at room temperature.

For decorative purposes, place very thinly sliced limes or lemons on top of salad.

Soup:

To make soup with leftover salad, add chicken broth and shredded chicken. Serve with tortilla strips and cheese.

Who Do You Call?

When you need to find help from either the City or the County, it's often confusing as to who you should be calling. Hopefully this helps!

- Program both 911 and 311 into your cell phone. It will automatically go to the San Jose Police Department.
- **211** is an all around service number. Looking for social services for a family member? Not sure if there's a department that can help you with a problem? You can find referrals for Disaster Preparedness, Tax Preparation or figure out how to navigate a variety of other services. Translation is provided.
- **Valley Transportation Authority or VTA** is our local transit agency. Looking for local bus route and light rail information. It is also the referral service for paratransit assistance and qualification. If you are travelling around the bay area, need info on schedules, trip or travel time (either transit or your own car) on any bay area road, 511 is the number to call.
- **Vector Control** will be an important number this year. Any standing water will create a breeding ground for mosquitos; this ageny is the one to call. Also, if you find an area that has vermin (rats, mice) that are obvious.
- **Council on Aging** Whether you have a parent in need or want to make sure you have control over your senior years, this is a great resource.
- **Department of Transportation or DOT** is who you call when a car has been parked on the street more than 72 hours, when drains or sidewalks are flooded or for other local road and sidewalk issues.

Important Phone Numbers

Emergency	911
Cell Phone	1-408-277-8911
Police Non-Emergency	311
Cell Phone	1-408-277-8911
County Services	211
Poison Control Hotline	1-800-876-4766
Valley Transportation Authority	1-408-321-2300
Transit Maps and Routes	511

County Offices

Consumer Protection Unit	1-408-792-2880
Anti-Hate Hotline	1-408-279-0111
Meals on Wheels	1-408-975-4860
Public Health	1-408-792-5040
Registrar of Voters	1-408-299-8683
Vector Control	1-408-918-4770
Office of Affordable Housing	1-408-299-5750
Children's Health Initiative	1-888-CHI-5222
Supervisor Ken Yeager	1-408-299-5040

City of San Jose Offices

24-Hour City Hotline	1-480-535-3500
Code Enforcement	1-408-277-4528
Environmental Services	1-408-535-8550
Streetlight Outages	1-408-277-5517
Department of Transportation	1-408-535-3850
Bicycle Programs	1-408-975-3206
Housing	1-408-535-3860
Parks and Recreation	1-408-535-3570
Bascom Library	1-408-808-3077
Bascom Community Center	1-408-794-6289
Councilmember Pierluigi Oliverio	1-408-535-4906

Council on Aging Silicon Valley in San Jose
1-408-296-8290
www.agingcare.com

Santa Clara Valley Water District
1-408-265-2600
Water wise gardening tips and information on how to reduce your water usage.
Santa Clara County Master Gardeners
1-408-282-3105
Water wise landscaping and gardening tips, classes and plant sales

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jhunt3@farmersagent.com

SONA Contact List

President, Randi Kinman 408.835.2881
Administrative VP, Layne Kulwin 408.256.0761
Secretary, Lisa Steingart 408.666.3287
Treasurer, Michael LaRocca 408.564.2374
Member at Large, Marlene Bird 408.288.9727
Member at Large, Sheila Cvitanich 408.292.2690
Member at Large, Steve Kline 408.768.4154
Member at Large, Jussi Rajna 408.291.0202
Website Administrator, Patrick Solomon
Del Mar High School Liaison

randikinman@yahoo.com

Layne.Kulwin.SONA@gmail.com

mlroo1@sbcglobal.net

marlenebird@att.net

slkesq@me.com

jussirajna@att.net

patrick_solomon@sbcglobal.net

youth.sona@gmail.com

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.