



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 160 of Your Neighborhood Newsletter

Notes from the President

Just a couple of quick notes for you to ponder...

Every year we have ice cream social at St. Elizabeth Park. This has become one of the favorite and most celebrated activities of our group. We certainly hope that you can join us on July 10 2014 between the hours of 6 PM and 8 PM to share with us the simple joys that come with an ice cream treat, kids with sticky hands and chocolate stained faces.

The *Responsible Landlord Engagement Initiative* has started their work and we need to continue and do ours. I need assistance in getting signatures on the RLEI petitions for the following areas:

1. Stokes Avenue along the Los Gatos Creek Trail between Leigh and Meridian Avenues, next to the Willowbrook Townhomes and surrounding areas;
2. The boundaries of Moorpark, Deland, Nevin, Concord and Kingman Avenues near the rental units and apartment complexes within those street boundaries.

If you can spare an hour or two and live in those areas, you could greatly assist your neighbors and of all the residents by helping secure signatures on these petitions. Please call me for further details at 408-256-0761.

This is a tad early for an announcement, but please mark your calendars for our September meeting (9/11) as we will be presenting to the General Membership the final draft of the bylaws and will hold a vote for passage of these revisions by vote of the members present, Also, keep in mind that membership in SONA is truly a bargain – only \$15 for the fiscal year (July 1 through June 30). Why not join today?

JULY 10, 2014

6-8PM

ICE CREAM SOCIAL!

This month we'll meet at the nearby St. Elizabeth Park for a family night out. This is a great chance to get to know your neighbors, have an evening at the park and just take a break.

St. Elizabeth Park is located at the corner of Curci and St. Elizabeth. From Fruitdale, head towards Meridian and turn right on St. Elizabeth (just at the 7/11). It's just a block down and there is plenty of parking.

St. Elizabeth Park is one of SONA's long-term projects. It has a large fenced in green area, pathways and picnic tables. We'll meet at the gazebo next to the playground.

We supply the ice cream and other treats, you just show up. This is a great way to connect casually with neighbors, make new friends and renew old acquaintances.

And, oh, yeah, did we mention ice cream?

*I scream - you scream –
we all scream for ice cream!*

West Nile Virus is Here

SONA areas have already been sprayed (sometimes twice!) this year for West Nile Virus. This virus is carried by mosquitoes and can produce rashes and flu like symptoms. While most people do recover from the virus, it has proven deadly. Pregnant women, those with immune problems and anybody with serious illnesses should contact their doctors when spraying occurs if you are concerned.

To help prevent the spread of West Nile Virus make sure there is no standing water around your home. Birdbaths should be frequently hosed out, those dripping hoses and sprinkler heads should be fixed and any soggy spot should be corrected. If you see problems on property that isn't yours, contact Vector Control. Also, crows are frequently affected by WNV so if you see a dead crow, report it immediately.

Santa Clara County Vector Control sprays a foggy mist when they find evidence of mosquitoes carrying the virus. The mist is sprayed at night by vehicles driving down the street. It is generally dry by morning but you are advised to keep all pets indoors and to keep all windows closed. While they aren't required to contact everybody prior to spraying, they do attempt to do so. In addition, SONA posts all known spraying times and locations on our website and Facebook page and we send out notices through our online forums.

For questions and concerns about West Nile Virus or to report an area of concern, contact the Santa Clara County Vector Control. They can also supply you with mosquito eating fish, deal with rodent or other infestations and other issues.

<http://www.sccgov.org/sites/vector/>

(408) 918-4770

If you did not receive a notice of the 6/26/14 spraying please let Randi know.

SONA Dues are Due

SONA asks for yearly dues of \$15 per person. Dues pay for newsletters, flyers and special events like the upcoming National Night Out Celebration. While we have augmented dues by obtaining grants, those sources have dried up. This year, more than ever, we need your dues. You can also pay dues online through PayPal and set up an automatic billing by visiting our website at www.sona-sj.com. Thanks for your help. Please note that at no time do we share or release your information.

_____ **YES! Our Family wants to support SONA with our dues payment.**

NAMES:

ADDRESS:

Email/Phone:

Make all checks out to: SONA

_____ **DUES**
_____ **DONATION**
_____ **TOTAL**

Mail to: PO Box 59146, San Jose CA 95159-0146

**Plan Now for National Night Out!
Tuesday, August 5, 2014
Walk Your Block!**

SONA does not hold a general meeting in August so we can help celebrate National Night Out (NNO) and we need your help to do this! NNO is a 31-year-old national tradition of hosting neighborhood activities to fight crime by getting to know your neighbors.

We need you to simply use your front yard to host your neighbors. Set out the lawn chairs and invite your neighbors over. It's as simple as that. You can create a potluck, hold a barbeque, set out tea and cookies and make it as elaborate or as simple as you want. Create a theme, dig out the game boards, have fun. The idea is to take back our streets for one evening, turn on our porch lights and use our front yards to get to know each other.

SONA board members will be moving around the area to visit sites and talk to you about what is and is not working in our area. We can post your site on our social media pages and will be encouraging people to get out and visit each other. And, we'll be encouraging people to "cross the street" and visit parties across SONA.

For more information and ideas, go to www.natw.org. Also, if you would like a patrol car to stop by and get to know some of your local police, go to www.sjpd.org.

SONA can also provide you with contact cards through our HiFive program. This allows you to exchange emergency information with your immediate neighbors. Would you know how to contact your neighbor at work or their family if there was an emergency?

The best neighborhoods are the ones that are connected to each other house by house. So, join us in making that happen.

**Bascom Library Community Center
And Bookmark Café**

There is still time to enroll children and youth in summer programs, work on that beach body and curl up with a good book while enjoying a tasty treat from our new café!

Bascom Community Center is in full swing with a summer program that has something for kids of all ages. It's not too late to enroll. Also, there are drop in activities at the gym; leagues and classes for adults; and the fitness center is always available for that work out.

Check out the library's summer programs and get those pre-readers and young readers involved now. The computer room is always a busy spot where you can find that perfect beach, read or check out music and movies for those summer sleep-over's.

And... if you want to come out for a family night, there are free movie nights on July 18 and August 15 at the outdoor movie plaza. June's movie was Frozen!

Our local café is now up and running!

Bookmark Café opened last month and we couldn't ask for a better "fit" for this location. Operated by local resident, Minerva Arellano, the café is open Monday-Saturday 7:00am-4:30 pm. This is a great spot to grab coffee and breakfast on the way to work, have lunch, or simply meet with friends. Stop by and introduce yourself to Minerva!

Friends of Bascom Library want to thank everyone for turning out for the last book sale!

***The next FOBL book sale is
Saturday, August 9th from 10 AM till 4 PM***

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



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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.