

*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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 172 of Your Neighborhood Newsletter*

***Notes from the President***

If anyone one is wondering how they might get involved – even slightly – you’d only have to read this newsletter. Besides all of the work being done behind the scenes there is a “boatload” of things that you might consider:

We have our Popsicles at the Playground program coming up right around the corner. Can someone bring some lemonade or maybe iced tea? Are there any bakers our there that might consider making a cake or perfecting their cookie recipe? You’d be surprised what a couple of dozen cookies can do (especially to my waistline).

Sheila Cvitanich, your super-duper newsletter delivery manager could use some help, too. Nothing too taxing, I assure you. But, she’s expressed a need for some help with the delivery of the newsletter to the team of door-to-door delivery workers.

Here’s an ongoing project that we have solidly supported from day one; our very own Bascom Library. I can tell you from personal experience that they would be ever so grateful for some extra hands on the Friday before a book sale. This is when they do all the setup and staging for the book sale. Sir Isaac Newton is attributed with the saying: *What goes up must come down!* He was speaking about gravity. This axiom is also true with the FOBL book sale. That which gets setup must also come down (on Saturday after the book sale activities). Here’s another opportunity to bet involved and lend a hand.

National Night Out is fast coming upon us and we do hope you’ll have a chance to either host your own event or take advantage of those events that will be hosted in your area. If you plan on hosting your own event make sure to let San Jose Police Department know and invite them to stop by and visit. Steve and I will be hosting a “Meet and Greet” at our house (761 Richmond Avenue). All are welcome!

***See you at our community event this month.  
Bring a neighbor!***

**July 9, 2015**

**6pm**

**Popsicles at the Playground  
FREE!**



**Join SONA friends and neighbors for our annual summer get together. This year we are meeting at the new Sherman Oaks Playground on the corner of Leigh and Fruitdale.**

**Bring your neighbors and meet new neighbors.**

**Tell us what you would like to see as the playground area expands.**

**Sign up to volunteer.**

**Just get away from the heat and enjoy a cool evening at our local park.**

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### Notes and News

**Friends of Bascom Library will be holding another book sale on Saturday, August 8, 2015.** This program has contributed thousands of dollars to bring special programming to our local library. This program is run completely by volunteers who gather the books you donate throughout the year at the Book Nook just to the left as you walk into the library. What you don't see on the shelves in the nook is stored on the second floor. Volunteers spend Friday afternoon bringing the books down on carts, sorting and setting up for the sale. They would love to have a few more volunteers. If you are interested, contact board member Ted Santos. Or, show up at 3pm on Friday the 7<sup>th</sup>.

**The playground at Sherman Oaks will be available every day.** We are still working out kinks in the system that shut the playground during the daytime hours, but have met with the school district to iron out some of the issues. One issue is the expanding pre-school programs would like access to the fields during the day (and anybody who has worked with pre-schoolers can sympathize). Another problem is keeping gates secured. The big issue, however, is people who are using the rest of the campus without authorization. The playgrounds and fields are, and will always be, off limits. The district is in the process of designing and purchasing a new fence system that will keep people off the main campus. The fence will also create a divided section of the grass area that can be secured during school hours. This will allow the schools on the campus to use the field and still make it available to the general public after school hours. The timeline for the new fence system hasn't been established, but you can expect to see the playground area closed off during that time. We still have more to do to enhance the playground area, so join us at our July event and let us know what you would like to see. In the meantime, we appreciate the help we've been getting in keeping the site clean and keeping materials in the Little Free Library.

**The Burbank/Del Monte NAC will be holding a fundraiser for local schools on August 8.** SONA is joining with Buena Vista Neighborhood Association, the Burbank Neighborhood Association and Shasta/Hanchett Park Neighborhood Association to raise funds for local schools. We are bringing in food trucks, bounce houses and entertainment to the area next to the Harley Davidson store on Parkmoor. With a Community Action and Pride grant from the City of San Jose as seed money we hope to put much needed supplies in Sherman Oaks, Luther Burbank and Trace Elementary Schools. More info to follow. Mark your calendars, though, and plan on having fun while raising funds.

**Dozens of residents enjoyed our June Meeting with the Santa Clara Valley Water District and came away with great information.** While there are differences between what the city, water company and state say you should be saving, the Santa Clara Valley Water District can help you reach those goals. With everything from buckets to save shower water and inspections of your home and water use to rebates and free materials, SCVWD is your source for reducing water easier. They will come to your home and give you a free inspection and help you work out a plan. Whether you need new aerators in your faucets, replace your washing machine or change your lawn into something more drought resistant, SCVWD has programs, rebates and more to help you do that. Contact them at 408-279-7900 or visit [www.valleywater.org](http://www.valleywater.org)

**National Night Out is Tuesday, August 4!** This international program is designed to fight crime by setting one night aside to take back the night by getting to know your neighbors and create a few hours where you can just visit with each other. We can reduce crime by simply developing better relationships with our neighbors. While some neighborhoods put on big bashes, SONA encourages you to put together an event on your block. Whether you are hosting a game night, activities for kids, potluck or gabfest, use your driveway or front yard to bring your block together. It's also an opportunity to wander over to another neighbor and see what they are up to. SONA will be posting a map with NNO sites in our area, so let Randi know what address to put on the map by calling 408.835.2881 or emailing [randikinman@yahoo.com](mailto:randikinman@yahoo.com). You can register your event with the national organization at [www.natw.org](http://www.natw.org) or call them at 800.648.3688 and tie into their network, promotional materials and ideas. If you register your event with the San Jose Police Department by July 24, 2015 you can usually count on a visit from the police department and elected officials somewhere during the evening. Call 408.277.4133 or go to [www.sjpd.org](http://www.sjpd.org). SONA President Layne Kulwin will be holding a NNO get together in his driveway on the 700-800 block of Richmond Ave. If you don't organize an event and there's not one on your block, then you can join us by turning on your front porch light that night and taking a walk around the neighborhood. We live in a great neighborhood and by working together we can make it even better.

**SONA Saturdays will be kicking off in July.** We plan to start a neighborhood work party on July 11 as our inaugural event. Each event will focus on cleaning up, sprucing up or getting to know an area of our neighborhood. Join us on the first event at the Sherman Oaks Playground at 9am. We will spend two hours pulling the sod back from the trees along Leigh Avenue. Bring your own shovels, gloves and water. If you have a project, let us know.