

Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association

PO Box 59146 San Jose, CA 95129-0146

Website: http://sherman_oaks.tripod.com

Message Phone: (408) 292-2935



Neighborhood Newsletter

Issue 19, August 2002

Where is SONA? The boundaries of the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association are Bascom Avenue on the west, Los Gatos Creek on the south, Highway 280 on the north, and Meridian Avenue on the east.

DON'T MISS THE NEXT MEETING ON AUGUST 8!

SONA meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month. Refreshments and socializing begin at 6:30 p.m. The meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. Meetings are held at the Sherman Oaks Community Center 1800A Fruitdale Avenue next to the Sherman Oaks School.

SONA AGENDA 08/08/02

- 6:30 Pizza, Soda and Socializing.**
- 7:00 Welcome** – Jussi Rajna, President.
Approval of July minutes.
- 7:05 Treasurers Report** – Paul Owens.
- 7:10 Bulky Waste Clean Up Day** – Charles Crowder.
- 7:15 NAC/PAC Update** – Charles, Carl Lindner and Randi Kinman will give committee and status updates. Information on projects will be available.
- 7:25 Follow ups and new business.**
- 7:30 Robert Dias** will be speaking on behalf of San Jose City College. He will be answering questions raised on various issues and taking new questions from the floor.

It's Pizza Night at SONA

Come early to our August general meeting for **free pizza**. Get to know your neighbors and settle in for an interesting meeting. Thanks to Michael LaRocca and Javier Meneses for coordinating our Pizza Night.

July Meeting Re-Cap

Carl Lindner and Michael LaRocca briefed the crowd on their recent presentation to San Jose City College Board of Trustees. The SONA board sent a letter outlining concerns of various issues that residents have. We feel that for us all to be good neighbors we need an ongoing dialogue. Trustees have appointed Robert Dias as the liaison to SONA. Mr. Diaz will be at our August meeting. Also available at the meeting will be ongoing plans at City College.

Code Enforcement made another sweep through the area.

Our Clean Up committee is running at full speed for an October clean up. More at the next meeting.

Our new website is in the design process. For those who don't have a computer at home, you can access the web at your local library. Computer classes are available at various school and community center locations.

GUEST SPEAKERS: Our guest speakers will be taking questions from the floor. Please fill out a speaker card when you come to the meeting. The guest speaker can then review your questions, organize them and be prepared to answer.

Visit Our Website:

[Http://sherman_oaks.tripod.com](http://sherman_oaks.tripod.com)

CRIME LOG

On June 21, 2002 our neighbor Veronica Mohr suffered over \$2500 in property loss when her car was broken into on Kingman Avenue. Among the missing items were CD wallets and approximately 150 CDs, a stereo faceplate and cell phone charger.

Veronica has asked that we circulate this information not because she holds out much hope for recovering these items, but because we all need to be aware that crime is a concern to all of us.

During the summer we see more people out and about but don't always stop to see if they are involved in criminal activities. Keep an eye out and report any suspicious behavior immediately to 911.

If you don't feel that you have received adequate response from SJPD on issues, you can always contact SONA board members to help follow up.

SJPD will be invited to future meetings to field questions.

CODE ENFORCEMENT UPDATE

Loren Due conducted another curbside sweep in the SNI section of SONA. Code Enforcement officers drove through the neighborhood looking for any code violations visible from the street.

Code Enforcement found only 4 violations in our neighborhood compared to over 60 in the sweep conducted five months ago. **We should give ourselves a big round of applause.** This is a great example of how we utilized existing programs at no cost to benefit the neighborhood.

For further questions contact the Code Enforcement office directly at 408.277.4528.

SONA MEMBERSHIP DUES

Have you paid your yearly membership dues? Dues are \$12.00 per year (a bargain) and help us develop ongoing neighborhood projects. Dues can be mailed to our PO Box or brought to our meetings.

We are currently using dues to launch a dependable website and pay for our post office box. In the future, we will be using your dues to develop our newsletter, support annual bulky waste pick up and other projects of benefit to the entire neighborhood.

Help support your neighborhood.

The Good Neighbor Corner. This month we would like to thank neighbor LeAnne Thomas (sadly moving from the area) who has been instrumental in ridding the neighborhood of abandoned vehicles. LeAnne calls vehicle abatement and makes sure she gets follow up response. Thanks to LeAnne we are now rid of 3 abandoned cars that were sitting on the street. Do you have a story to share? Contact the editor at randikinman@yahoo.com.

SONA BOARD OPENINGS

We still have one board opening for an Area Captain. Area Captains will be developing neighborhood ties. Area Captains are expected to attend board and general meetings and participate in committee work that is of interest to that person. We are looking for someone who lives on the west side of Fruitdale as we have no captain in that area. If you are interested, please contact any board member or volunteer at the next general meeting.

NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN UP

Charles Crowder, chair of the bulky waste pick up day, applied for and received a CAP grant from the city to conduct a neighborhood bulky waste clean up. The \$8600 CAP grant received by SONA along with additional funds from NAC provide you the opportunity to clear out all of those bulky items that don't fit in your weekly garbage pick up.

The clean up day is scheduled for October 2002. There will be at least three dumpster sites: St. Elizabeth's area, Kingman/College and Sherman Oaks School.

We need people who are willing to bring trucks, help laid items, man dumpster, direct traffic and more! If you are interested in volunteering or will need assistance in removing bulky items, contact Charles at 408.244.5317. The next committee meeting is 7:00 p.m. 8/15/02 at the Sherman Oaks Community Center.

UNITED NEIGHBORHOODS

SONA has joined the United Neighborhoods coalition. This county wide organization helps develop local neighborhood organizations and provides an umbrella insurance policy that helps protect our organization.

UNSCC conducts many programs and seminars which are available to all members of SONA. These programs teach you the basics of running a committee or walk you through setting up the financial paperwork necessary to run your group.

UNSCC and the Redevelopment Agency are combining forces to hold a city wide community development meeting on October 12, 2002. This is an excellent opportunity to meet others from around the city and find out how they solved the problems that we all face such as traffic in residential neighborhoods. There will be numerous break out sessions, refreshments and interpreters. For more information, please contact United Neighborhoods at 408.286.8661.

RECYCLING AND GARBAGE

Almost everyone should now have new recycling and garbage carts. While any new system of this size is bound to have a few glitches, most people report that they have received new carts and old containers have been picked up. If your old containers haven't been picked up, you call 277.2749. All old containers should be picked up by the end of August.

If you have not received a **streetsweeping and pick up schedule** you can call 277.2700 or visit www.sjrecycles.org. Schedules were mailed out to all residents, but new neighbors should be advised. The schedule is printed on a handy fridge magnet.

NEW NEIGHBORS?

With new neighbors moving in all the time, the one thing you can do for them is make sure they get a newsletter. Contact the editor and we will make sure that the most recent newsletter is mailed out to the new residents. Or, you can pick up an extra copy of the newsletter at the Sherman Oaks Community Center for your neighbor or local Real Estate agent.

NAC AND PAC UPDATES

The City of San Jose's Strong Neighborhood Initiative (SNI) has generated governing Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) and Neighborhood Action Committee (NAC) to develop ongoing

projects in the SNI boundaries. The PAC is an oversight committee of elected and appointed citizens. NAC is the local organizing committee comprised of several neighborhood organizations along with school and other community resource groups.

PAC meetings are held once a month on the 4th Wednesday of the month. Meetings are rotated to a different district each month but always begin at 6:00 p.m. with dinner and socializing.

NAC meetings are always held the 4th Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m. The meeting is preceded by a light meal. The August meeting will be at the Sherman Oaks Community Center. For more info you can visit [burbanknac](#) under Yahoo groups.

Sign up and make a difference in your neighborhood!

Current NAC committees are:

Buena Vista Tot Lot Demolition of existing property has taken place. Meetings are ongoing with the next one scheduled for 6pm at Scott and Menker.

Scott/Auzerais Pedestrian Projects The first walk through has been held. Contact Sandra DelaSerna at Sdelaserna@fwg2.com.

Highway 280 Freeway Park The group has not met yet to begin the feasibility study. Contact Randi Kinman or burbanknac@directv.com if you want to be advised of meeting dates and places.

City College Joint Use Community Center Chaired by Susan Price-Jang, this group is actively looking at existing community centers for dos and don'ts. Next community meeting is 7pm at Sherman Oaks Community Center on 8/20/02. Contact Susan at 287.0769

Bulky Waste Pick Up Contact Charles Crowder for more info. Next meeting is 8/15/02 at 7pm at Sherman Oaks Community Center.

Code Enforcement This committee is looking at various ways to improve existing code enforcement. Richmond Menker apartments are being considered for pilot rehap projects to help maintain local affordable housing. First community meeting is August 13 at 7pm in the Sherman Oaks Community Center. Contact Randi Kinman at 835.2881 or randikinman@yahoo.com for more info.

DATES TO REMEMBER

08/06/02	National Night Out. Local events held at 5:30 p.m. at the San Jose Water Company site.
08/08/02	SONA General Meeting 6:30 p.m. Sherman Oaks Community Center
08/15/02	SONA bulky waste committee meeting 7:00 p.m. Sherman Oaks Community Center
8/20/02	Community Meeting NAC Community Center Committee 7:00 Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Center
08/22/02	NAC monthly meeting. 6:00 p.m. at Sherman Oaks Community Center. On agenda are bylaws development.
08/27/02	SONA Board Meeting 7:00 p.m. at Sherman Oaks Community Center.
08/28/02	PAC meeting 6:00 p.m. at site TBA
09/04/02	NAC Scott Street Park Project 6:00 p.m. Scott and Menker
09/12/02	SONA General Meeting 6:30 p.m. at Sherman Oaks Community Center
09/17/02	NAC Code Enforcement Meeting 7:00 p.m. Sherman Oaks Community Center
09/24/02	SONA Board Meeting 7:00 at Sherman Oaks Community Center

NOTE: City Council meetings are every Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. Evening sessions begin at 7:00 p.m.

Hope everyone has a chance to enjoy the summer. See you at the meetings.

Randi Kinman, Editor

NUMBERS TO REMEMBER

If you do not know who to call in the city of San Jose for action, you can always call 277.400. This is the main City Hall number that can connect you to any office.

Emergency	911
Police Department (non-emergency)	311
City Hall Center (24 hours)	277-4000
Airport Noise Hotline	452-0707
Fire Department	277-4444
Recycling and Garbage	277-2700
Energy Conservation	277-5533
Street Sweeping	277-2571
Street Tree Permits	277-2762
Library Services	277-4846
Senior Programs	277-4101
Parks and Recreations	277-4661
Anti Grafitti Hotline	277-2758
Rental Dispute	277-5431
Transit/Light Rail Info	277-2300
Vehicle Abatement Hotline	277-5305
Code Enforcement	277-4528

SONA Board

Jussi Rajna, President

Charles Crowder, Vice President

Randi Kinman, Secretary

Paul Owens, Treasurer

Javier Meneses, Hospitality

Sheila Cvatinich, Area Captain

Carl Lindner and Susan Price-Jang, Co-Area Captain

Robin Wood and Robert Kabanek, Co-Area Captain