

**WEEKLY BARBEQUE**

Several hundred people turned out June 25 for the first weekly barbeque in the Richmond Menker area. Staff from several City offices were on hand to dish out hotdogs and watermelon.

The weekly barbeques, which are open to the public, are held on Richmond Avenue behind the fire station.

This program is part of the ongoing Parks and Rec teen program being run at Immanuel Lutheran Church. Teens from the program earn points for participating. These points can be redeemed towards trips and other program bonuses.

For more information contact Erik Larsen at 977-0160 ext 208. The barbeque, held each Wednesday, is free, but donations towards the program are gladly accepted.

**RECIPES WANTED**

Due to many requests, the SONA Recipe Box is officially opening. We're looking for your favorite seasonal recipes and we will print one recipe in this newsletter each month.

Many of us have inherited citrus, avocado or other trees when we moved into our homes so finding creative ways to use these fruits would be great.

Also, it's that zucchini time of year and many of us have run out of ways to disguise the inevitable excess of this vegetable when our plants start producing.

So, dig out those favorite recipes and start sending or calling them in.

**FREE DINNER AT AUGUST MEETING**

The regularly scheduled August 7 meeting has been changed to allow us to expand our Ice Cream Social into a somewhat larger event. Mark your calendars for our first National Night Out celebration on Tuesday August 5, 2003 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Our meeting will be in the usual place at the Sherman Oaks Community Center.

National Night Out is a nationwide event held to promote crime prevention. This is the 20th year of celebration and SONA is looking forward to the event. The simple idea behind the event is to get neighbors together for a few hours and allow them to meet and mingle with each other. The celebration encourages people to turn on their porch lights and walk through the neighborhood.

SONA will be providing dinner and desserts along with entertainment for young and old. For those of you who

haven't been able to attend meetings due to work or children's bedtimes, we hope you will come out for a purely social occasion. You can pop in any time during the event and stay as little or as long as you like.

Prizes will be given out for people in different categories like "Newest Resident" and "Longest Resident". If you have never been to a SONA meeting, this is your chance.

Funding for this event is being provided by a grant through the Burbank Del Monte Neighborhood Advisory Committee. Event Chair is Michael LaRocca.

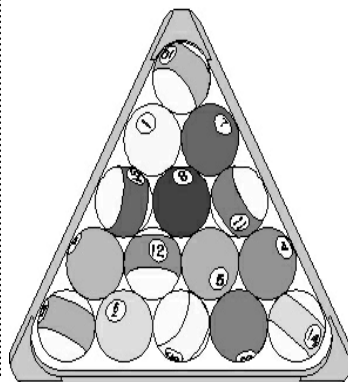
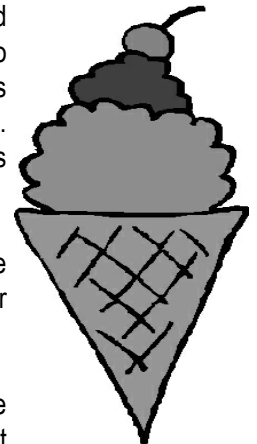
**YOUTH PROGRAMS**

With the summer youth programs in full swing during a city-wide budget crisis, there is a need for community support. These programs are operated at the Immanuel Lutheran Church and open to all teenagers on a drop-in basis.

Among the needs of the program is funding to professionally move a pool table from Monroe Middle School to the church site. This pool table was previously donated to the youth in the area by the former Rose Glen Neighborhood Association.

In addition, the program is looking for sponsors to fund trips and social activities. Through incentives the youth at this program can earn points toward off-site trips such as baseball games, Raging Waters and other fun things.

As this program is in its infancy, there is a need for donations, big and small, to keep things running. This program is the only one in our neighborhood and it encourages kids to become involved in positive past times. If you have a service to offer, donations or questions, please contact Erik Larsen at 977-0160 ext 208.





Issue 30, July 2003

# Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

After the rain and gloom of the last few months, summer is finally here. School's out, gardens are in full bloom and I see a lot of home improvement projects going on throughout the neighborhood. This is the time to laze around and recharge those batteries. With vacations in full swing, some of our contributors are taking some well deserved time off. You'll notice that this month's newsletter is shorter, but we'll be returning to our regular format next month.

One of the best parts of my job is being able to share good news. The latest exciting report from our Council office is that we are quickly moving forward on a new community center. It was recently announced that the new Fruitdale Station development (the old K-Mart site) is the chosen location for the full service community center. Over 20,000 square feet of space will be developed for a District 6 community center using currently available funds. Situated along light rail and bus lines this new center will be an asset to our neighborhood and our district. Stay tuned for more news in the upcoming months.

Our SONA neighborhood survey is almost ready for the printers and will be available in August. We hope to find out on a street by street basis what's working and what isn't. The survey will be available at our inaugural Ice Cream Social in August.

Enjoy your summer and we'll see you at the SONA meetings.

*Randi Kinman, President*

## JULY MEETING

We hope you can join us at our July meeting. We will be hearing a presentation from the Neighborhood Watch program this month. The best crime prevention is neighbors knowing each other and keeping an eye out for problems. Also, don't forget to use the HIFIVE form to introduce yourself to your neighbors and exchange information. With vacations in full swing, make sure that your house doesn't advertise your absence and let your neighbors know how to reach you.

## JULY MEETING AGENDA— 7/10

- 6:30 pm Snacks and Socializing**
- 7:00 pm Welcome/Approval of Minutes**
- 7:10 pm Police Report**
- 7:30 pm Neighborhood Watch**
- 7:50 pm Announcements**

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 pm Meetings are held at the SOCC\*.

## JULY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 4 Independence Day**
- 10 7:00 SONA General Meeting (SOCC\*)**
- 22 7:00 SONA Board Meeting (SOCC\*)**
- 23 6:30 NAC Meeting (SOCC\*)**

## AUGUST CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 5 5-9 pm National Night Out (SOCC\*)**
- 26 7:00 SONA Board Meeting (SOCC\*)**
- 27 6:30 NAC Meeting (SOCC\*)**
- 28 6:30 PAC Meeting & Elections (tbd)**

\* Sherman Oaks Community Center  
1800A Fruitdale Avenue, San Jose, CA 95128  
**City Council Meetings:** Tuesdays at 1:30 pm.  
**Evenings:** 7:00 pm on the first and third Tuesday's.

## GOOD NEIGHBOR CORNER

This month's good neighbor is, believe it or not, the Vehicle Abatement program. Recently neighbors were surprised to find a car "abandoned" on the street about five months after it had been towed off. The vehicle magically reappeared in exactly the same spot along with a couple of other unattended buddies. Vehicle Abatement responded within a week, tagging all cars. Several people have discovered that moving the car over to the next block is not going to prevent the car from being towed.

## SONA MEMBERS SAVE TREES

At SONA's June general meeting Bill Bailey brought up the issue of trees tagged for removal along Southwest Expressway. While we expected removal of dead and diseased trees, the tagging of trees south of Fruitdale were a puzzle. As there is no sidewalk in that area and the trees weren't in obvious distress, it seemed odd that they were slated for removal.

Board member Charles Crowder contacted agencies immediately following the meeting to follow up on the situation. Eventually he was contacted and advised that the tagging of the trees south of Fruitdale was an error that was already being corrected.

This goes to show how it sometimes takes very little to correct problems and also how vigilant we need to be in tracking issues in the neighborhood. Thanks to Bill and Charles both for seeing a problem and taking steps to resolve it.

## COUNCIL AIDE LEAVING

Debbie Rocha, aide to Councilman Ken Yeager, is leaving her position on August 1, 2003. She has been offered a position teaching dance with her former school in Milpitas. While sad about leaving her position with the City of San Jose, Debbie said the offer was too good to turn down. "Dancing is my passion," states Ms. Rocha.

Debbie brought to her current position a long term involvement with District 6. She has fond memories of moving into the Richmond/Menker apartments as a new mother. She currently lives in District 6 and has stated she may get more involved in her local neighborhood group.

Debbie has been a constant presence for many groups in District 6. Her attention to following through on questions and issues has been an asset to us all.

Congratulations, Debbie, and best wishes in your new position. We'll miss you.

## UPDATE ON THE CITYWIDE TRAILS SYSTEM

By Councilmember Ken Yeager

Dear Fellow Trails Enthusiast:

I have great news to share regarding further development of the citywide trails system.

On June 24, 2002, the City Council approved the request for \$1 million to augment the City's efforts in acquiring the Union Pacific Railroad's Willow Glen Spur Line from Coe Avenue to Minnesota Street. The City Manager will now negotiate with the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority to acquire the funds. While we still have to raise additional money, yesterday's decision marks an important percentage of that.

By authorizing the use of the 20 percent open space-funding program from the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority, the Council has taken an important step towards securing a significant amount of property to dedicate towards establishing trails. This piece of property will provide an important East-West connection to three of our most popular trails: the Los Gatos Creek Trail, the Guadalupe River Trail, and the Coyote Creek Trail. Aside from this stretch of abandoned Union Pacific rail line, there are no other off-street opportunities to make this connection in the central part of the City.



To date, \$4.8 million has been designated to purchase the Willow Glen Spur with the potential of an additional \$2 million from Santa Clara County. Because of the hard work and support of County Supervisor Blanca Alvarado, we are closer than ever to making the Willow Glen Spur Trail a reality. Her commitment to this project and her generous allocation of time and resources for this cause deserve much appreciation. A tremendous thank you to Supervisor Alvarado.

Moreover, at the same Council meeting, the City Council accepted a \$500,000 grant for pedestrian/bicycle corridors. The California State Department of Transportation grant provides federal funds for the purpose of constructing a bicycle and pedestrian trail within the Guadalupe River Park between Santa Clara Street and the Union Pacific Railroad tracks south of Coleman Avenue. Slated to be open for public use in the summer of 2005, this half-mile segment is crucial to completing the 2.6 mile trail linking the airport to downtown.

Because hiking, biking, running and walking are among the most popular activities in San Jose, I am committed to building trails and enhancing the ones we already have. Should you have additional comments regarding trails in our area, please contact my office at 277-5166 or by email at [ken.yeager@ci.sj.ca.us](mailto:ken.yeager@ci.sj.ca.us). Please also visit the District 6 website for more information about trails and other current issues at <http://www.ci.san-jose.ca.us/council/dist6/>.

Ken



**SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS**

Support the advertisers who support the SONA newsletter.

The newsletter is our primary form of communication. Without the support of our advertisers, we wouldn't have this communication vehicle!

**SONA's SILLY QUIZ FOR JULY**

What bird has an organ above its eyes that converts seawater to freshwater?

All correct answers turned in at the July 10 SONA meeting will be entered into a drawing to win a gift certificate from a local coffee shop.



**S A G E**  
Alternative Healing Solutions

Randi Kinman, CH


phone: 408.835.2881  
phone: 831.335.3870  
email: randikinman@yahoo.com

*Individual Appointments and Group Classes*

**Tupperware**  
Sales, Service and Career Opportunities




Jo Anne Solomon                      Orders Welcome!  
Phone: (408) 287-1880  
e-mail: JoAnneTupperware@aol.com



**Crowder Chiropractic**  
Sports and Wellness Center

**Dr. Charles Crowder**  
D.C., C.M.T.

(408) 244-5317                      2797 Park Avenue, Suite 204  
Santa Clara, CA 95050



**David Ferguson**  
Network Infrastructure Architect

Ferguson Networking Services


Network Consulting  
Design and Installation  
Wired and Wireless Solutions  
Shared Internet Connections  
Mac/PC Upgrades

2047 Roenoke Way  
San Jose, CA 95128  
Phone/Fax 408-294-3854  
FergNetServ@fergy.org

Lic# 165594303

**COPY AND ADVERTISING DEADLINES**  
Do you have a story, event, good neighbor nomination or other item to you'd like to see in the SONA newsletter? Submit your entry to randikinman@yahoo.com. Deadlines are listed below:

August Newsletter Ads and Copy due 07/28/03  
September Newsletter Ads and Copy due 08/22/03  
October Newsletter Ads and Copy due 09/23/03  
November Newsletter Ads and Copy due 10/21/03  
December Newsletter Ads and Copy due 11/20/03  
January 2004 Newsletter Ads and Copy due 12/16/03



**Real Estate Needs?**

**Harvey Yamanaka**  
*A Professional Approach to Real Estate*

- 16 Yrs Experience
- Comparative Market Analysis

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

408.861-8878 Direct                      hyamanaka@cbnorcal.com  
866.755-4977 Toll Free                      www.harveyyamanaka.com

For rates, see the advertising section at <http://www.sona-sj.com>