



Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association

Notes From The President

Thanks to **Councilman Ken Yeager** for attending our last general meeting. Many SONA residents were able to speak directly to our councilman about problems and concerns throughout the neighborhood.

Traffic is always an ongoing problem with many streets experiencing cut through traffic and speeding. Combined with parking problems this creates a less than desirable situation for our local pedestrian traffic.

Jim Bittner from the Department of Transportation will be speaking at our April meeting to address many of the concerns brought out at our meeting and through the SONA surveys.

The new **branch library** will be on track now that the City has purchased the Murrays Bar site on Bascom Avenue. Our March meeting will include a presentation for the time line of this project.

Plans for a full service **community center** on the old **K-Mart** site are still in the processing stage. PRNS has applied for a grant to underground parking for this facility.

Parks are always an issue for our area and Councilman Yeager's office will be getting more information to us on the proposed park space on Curci.

A special thanks to all the good neighbors who deliver more than 1,000 newsletters each and every month. Whether it's the blazing sun of summer or the winds and rains of winter, these volunteers get the news out to all of you. Thanks to **Carol Cooper, Carl Lindner, Michael LaRocca, Lucy, Gary Palmer, Jack Ford and Sal LaBarbera**. If you have some free time and would like to help distribute our newsletter, contact Sheila Cvitanich at 292.2690.

Agenda 03/11/04

- 6:30 p.m. Snack and Socializing
- 7:00 p.m. Call to order
- 7:05 p.m. Approval of Minutes
- 7:10 p.m. Treasurer's Report
- 7:15 p.m. Nominations for Board and Officers, Bylaws Changes
- 7:25 p.m. April 24 Clean Up
- 7:30 p.m. Library Update—What's New and What's The Process
- 7:55 p.m. Announcements
- 8:00 p.m. Meeting Adjourned

SONA general meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at the Sherman Oaks Community Center, 1800A Fruitdale Avenue, San Jose. SONA board meetings are the fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Sherman Oaks Community Center. SONA boundaries are Bascom/280 south to Meridian then west to Los Gatos Creek. From the creek the boundary runs north back to Bascom.

The Good Neighbor Corner

Carol and Clyde Combs heard a lot of commotion one evening at the rear of their house. They discovered a police officer who had severely cut his hand while pursuing three young men who were attempting roof hopping. The Combs took the officer in and successfully administered first aid. They also alerted neighbors of the situation. Thanks to the police for their constant vigilance and many thanks to the Combs for being great neighbors.

Neighborhood News

Dumpster Days are here again.

We will have dumpsters available on April 24, 2004 from 8a.m. to 11a.m. Tentative sites for dumpsters are College (between Kingman and Moorpark) and the Sherman Oaks Community Charter School. This is your chance to get your spring cleaning done. It's first come first served, so get there early. A complete list of acceptable materials will be available in the next newsletter. If you have questions or wish to volunteer, contact Michael LaRocca at 408.289.8449.

The **Burbank Del Monte Neighborhood Advisory Committee** will be voting next month on the **purchase of new park land** in the district. With over **\$1.06million** in available funds, this group will advise the City on which properties should be pursued for purchase. The BDMNAC plan calls for a series of pocket parks along the Scott Street corridor. Next meeting is 3/25/04 at 6:30 p.m. at the community center. Contact Susan, Randi, Michael or Carl for more info.

San Jose City College is hosting the **3rd Annual Street Rod and Classic Car Show** on May 22, 2004. This is a great experience for any age group. Mark your calendars for the evening of May 27, 2004 when commencement exercises begin at 6:00 p.m. This is a time for celebration for students at SJCC. A full schedule of track and field, baseball and academic events are on schedule for this spring along with a career day. For more information contact SJCC at 408.,298.2181 or visit the website at www.sjcc.edu

Elections and Bylaws

SONA hold annual elections in April of each year. Per our bylaws, written notification must be given to members at least 15 days in advance of the elections. This will be done at our March meeting and reprinted in our April newsletter.

This year's nominating committee is headed by **Dr. Charles Crowder** and **Susan Price-Jang**. All positions are open for nomination. If you are interested or have questions, the nominating committee can answer them for you.

While being on the board of any group can sound intimidating, SONA does not put a lot of burden on you if you volunteer. Being an **Area Captain** for instance takes little time. Captains attend meetings, help deliver newsletters and keep us informed about things happening in each area. This helps us collect crime information and find volunteers for projects.

There has been a proposal submitted to the board and approved for the membership to vote on in the upcoming election process. The change requires a 2/3 approval by members present at the meeting. The **proposed bylaws change** is in section 5 concerning the meeting times of the board. It currently reads "...The Board shall meet at least once a month on the fourth Tuesday.." The change would be "...The Board shall meet at least once a month on the **third** Tuesday."

SONA Board Member Contacts

Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association welcomes participation and input from all of you who live in our area.

We are actively looking for new board members at this time. If you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact any of our board members.

Randi Kinman, PRESIDENT	408.835.2881	randikinman@yahoo.com
Dr. Charles Crowder, ADMINISTRATIVE VP	408.7.287.2615	drcrowder@earthlink.net
Paul M. Owens, TREASURER	408.853-2048	
Vacant COMMUNICATIONS VP		
Sheila Cvitanich HOSPITALITY	408.292.2690	
Vacant BOARD MEMBER (2)		
Michael LaRocca, BOARD MEMBER	408.289.8449	
Carl Lindner, BOARD MEMBER		
Susan Price-Jang, BOARD MEMBER		
Jussi Rajna, BOARD MEMBER	408.291.0202	

Questions

Do I have to be a member to attend meetings? No. Everyone is welcome. We encourage you to stop in and get to know your neighbors and learn about this neighborhood.

Do I have to join a committee? All of our activities are run by volunteers. Don't feel like you are signing up for more work. We all lead busy lives and don't require any additional participation.

What if I can't attend the meetings but have something to say? Contact any of your board members. If you don't know them, that's ok. If you wish to remain totally anonymous, you can always visit our website or write to us.

Where do my dues go? Dues pay for the website, newsletter and materials needed for meetings. In addition, we are members of the United Neighborhood of Santa Clara County and this allows us to insure our events.

What kind of things do you do? Along with neighborhood clean ups, SONA is working on traffic calming, reducing crime and other projects to enhance our neighborhood. We join with other neighborhood groups to monitor development and issues throughout the larger area. We work with public officials to make sure we are receiving the services we deserve and need. We hold monthly meetings and last year had our first National Night Out barbecue in August as well as a spaghetti feed.

How much are dues? \$12.00 per year.

Department of Transportation Update

Many of you have seen the radar trailer on Kingman Avenue in recent weeks and some mysterious black hoses at different intersections. These are helping the Department of Transportation (DOT) assess traffic in our area.

Our **April 2004** general meeting will bring staff from DOT to give us results of these studies and to answer questions. If you have traffic related questions, please forward them to any SONA board member. We'll pass them along to staff so we can have a meeting that includes answers and not just questions.

In addition, DOT will be painting **red curbs** in our neighborhood. Besides general maintenance, they will be painting some new areas. Neighbors have complained about cars parking in the small area between driveways that run side by side. These small areas are not large enough to accommodate cars without blocking part of the driveways. If you would like to have this curb painted, forward your street address to the SONA address or phone

New and Renewing Members

Welcome and thanks to the new and renewing members in the last few month. Among these are the Solomon and Goodrich families (who donated additional funds) along with the Hogans and Kinmans.

SONA Membership

Join the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association and become part of a network of residents working to improve and maintain the neighborhood quality of life (safety, property values, aesthetics) and represent SONA neighborhood interests before local governments.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE and/or EMAIL: _____

Mail to: Membership Dues: \$12.00

SONA Additional Donation: _____

PO Box 59146 Total Enclosed: _____

San Jose CA 95129-0146

