



# Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association

## Meeting Notes

**Renters Wanted.....***No, this isn't an advertisement, it's a call to all SONA residents who are renters. While over half the population of our neighborhood lives in a rental house, condo, duplex or apartment, we don't see many of you at the meetings. SONA meetings are not just for homeowners....they're for everyone who lives or works in our neighborhood. The next few meetings are ideal for renters to come visit for the first time:*

**August 11, 2005** will be our National Night Out Ice Cream Social.

*Grab your kids and come on down for a relaxed and fun evening. Activities, free glow-sticks and ice cream for all!*

**September 8, 2005** will be a program with San Jose Fire Department. Besides basic fire safety tips, SJFD has a **Vial of Life** program that ensures all necessary medical information is available in case of an emergency. Vials of Life will be distributed at no cost to residents who attend the meeting.

*Our October meeting will focus on solar power and our November meeting will address emergency preparedness.*

*We don't care if you are a dues paying member or not...just come on over and say hello! Get to know your neighbors, learn about SONA's HiFive program that is step one in emergency preparedness and learn a little more about where you live.*

*SONA's goal is to build a stronger neighborhood, so come on out....See you at the meeting.*

## AGENDA

### SONA GENERAL MEETING

**August 11, 2005**

**6:30 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.**

### Ice Cream Social

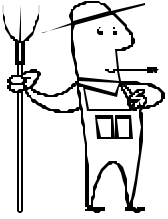
**No fuss, no muss,  
just join us...**

**Ice Cream, games,  
activities and just  
hanging out with  
your neighbors.**

SONA general meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month at 1800A Fruitdale Ave. San Jose CA 95128

## Good Neighbor Corner

Woody and Brenda Wilson would like to thank neighbors who noticed their garage door on Chatsworth Place was open in the early morning of July 6. Neighbors called SJPD who came to the house and called to see if everything was ok. SJPD stayed on site until all was cleared. The Wilsons would like to thank you for noticing a potential problem and reporting it right away. The Wilsons are glad they have neighbors who look out for each other.

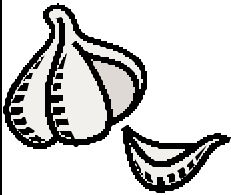


## Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)

You can have fresh organic fruits and vegetables direct from the farmer once a week delivered near your home. The veggies even come with recipes. Is it possible here in Sherman Oaks? This is phenomena is called CSA, or Community Supported Agriculture. (Perhaps you saw the short article in the June issue of Sunset Magazine -page 22, left-most column). There are two CSA programs serving our area that I know of: Two Small Farms in Watsonville ([www.twosmallfarms.com](http://www.twosmallfarms.com)) and Live Earth Farms, also in Watsonville ([www.liveearthfarm.com](http://www.liveearthfarm.com)).



I use Two Small Farms, but I have heard good things about Live Earth also. Here is how it works: You buy shares in the farm's production. For about \$20 per month (minimum purchase is for four weeks) you receive once a week a box full of whatever has come in to season that week. Pickup for me is at a front porch on Shasta on Wednesdays between 4:00 and 8:00 PM. For my \$20 dollars I receive organic veggies and fruit recently picked from a farm not too far away. No middle man. Just me, the farmer (Andy) and the other share members.



The advantage for the farmer is a guaranteed market plus a relationship with his buyers. We give him feedback via e-mail or phone. He gives us recipes and stories via e-mail or newsletter. And everything tastes better than the stuff at FoodMax or Albertsons. Plus, there are no pesticides, I get a variety of veggies (some that are new to me), and I get a feel for the seasons (available March through November).

Your neighbor,  
Susan Price -Jang

## Board Member Resigns

SONA board reluctantly accepted the resignation of Block Captain Mark Kovich at the July board meeting. While Mark and Sonya will still be here, the popularity of Sonya's art means Mark's role of business manager is taking up more of his time. While it's nice to know our local artist is being appreciated world wide, we will miss their (temporary) absence while the business is going through it's growing stage. For those of you who wish to see more of her work, visit her studio in Santa Clara or her online site at [www.sonyapaz.com](http://www.sonyapaz.com). Mark is continuing his Spanish lessons to help bridge the language gaps in our area. Mark's role in the SONA traffic calming program will be taken over by Randi Kinman for now. Good luck to both Mark and Sonya.

### PRESIDENT

#### ADMINISTRATIVE VICE PRESIDENT

Michael LaRocca, TREASURER	289.8449	<a href="mailto:mlroo1@yahoo.com">mlroo1@yahoo.com</a>
Sheila Cvitanich HOSPITALITY VP	292.2690	
Randi Kinman, Communications VP	835.2881	<a href="mailto:randikinman@yahoo.com">randikinman@yahoo.com</a>
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Carl Lindner, AREA CAPTAIN		
Jussi Rajna, AREA CAPTAIN	291.0202	<a href="mailto:jussi-sona@earthlink.net">jussi-sona@earthlink.net</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.sona-sj.com">www.sona-sj.com</a>	
Online Chat/Info	<a href="mailto:talk2sona@yahoogroups.com">talk2sona@yahoogroups.com</a>	

The SONA newsletter is published monthly and distributed to almost 1500 residences. All ad copy is due by the 15th of each month. Our all-volunteer group welcomes your participation and comments.

SONA Newsletter Editor: Randi Kinman

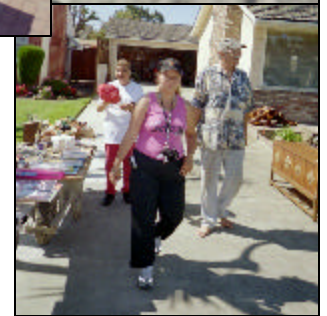
SONA Website Administrator: Sonya Paz



**Get Your  
New  
SONA  
Hat by  
Joining  
today!**



Treasure hunters and bargain shoppers at SONA's first annual neighborhood wide garage sale in May. Dozens of neighbors brought out their finest for this sale. Afterwards many joined the two block parties sponsored by SONA, enjoying hotdogs, hamburgers and a beautiful spring afternoon. Funds are available for neighbors who wish to hold block parties that will help build a stronger SONA neighborhood. Funds are available from a City of San Jose Community Action and Pride (CAP) grant.



**Burbank/Del Monte NAC Sponsors  
National Night Out August 2,  
2005**

**The Burbank Del Monte Weed and Seed Program along with the Burbank Del Monte NAC and the Buena Vista Neighborhood Association are sponsoring a NNO event on August 2, 2005 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Luther Burbank Elementary School on West San Carlos. Feel free to walk to this event as flashlights will be given out to the first 900 people. There will be games, sports mascots, a free barbeque, ice cream and a bike raffle. For more information contact Ray Mendoza, County District Attorney's office at 408.792.2614.**



SONA members meet (above) with Department of Transportation employees to discuss adding the fourth crosswalk at the Southwest/Fruitdale intersection to allow full and legal crossing across Fruitdale at the new light rail station. Residents have observed illegal crossing along the tracks and are working for a safer neighborhood.

## Dumpster Days This Fall

The always popular dumpster day is coming again October 23, 2005 so start collecting now. As part of the efforts to keep our community clean and help you keep your dump expenses limited, SONA has once again received funding to bring dumpsters to you again at two locations this fall. The first location will be at the Sherman Oaks Community Charter School parking lot on Sherman Oaks Drive. The cross street is Fruitdale. This is the parking lot adjacent to the school, not the one on Fruitdale. The second location will be on Del Mar Avenue across from Del Mar High School. The second location is a new site for us and we hope to increase service in this area.

Dumpster days require some help from the community. If you can help monitor the site, direct traffic or wish to bring coffee and sweets to the volunteers, we can use your help. In addition, we encourage you to work with your neighbors in organizing your block. There are always neighbors with trucks, and neighbors who could use some help, so don't be afraid to ask for help or volunteer your services.

Because funding is limited, we are not expecting at this time to be able to accommodate appliances, computer equipment, TVs or other electronic materials as these require special dumpsters. We will keep you posted on what materials are acceptable. For more information, or if you would like to volunteer, contact Michael LaRocca at 289-8449 or email him at: mlroo1@yahoo.com.

## Permit Parking

For those of you on the south side of San Jose City College, the permit parking ballots will be mailed in the middle or end of August. Keep an eye out for envelopes coming from the new City Hall. If you are going to be on vacation, don't worry as you have weeks to turn in the ballot. Remember, in this case your vote counts! Any ballots not returned will be counted as a "no" vote. We will let you know in the next newsletter when they were mailed and when they are due. If you have questions about the permit parking program, call Micahel LaRocca.

## Neighborhood Messages

**This new column is in response to all those calls and messages that start with, "Can you tell people.." Feel free to write or call in with your own message for next month.**

**Dog Walkers...scoop your poop!** Neighbors have complained about unwanted "presents" left on front lawns. They shouldn't have to clean up after your pet. Based on the fact we received responses on this problem, we're running it again...your neighbors' lawns are not "dumping" grounds.

**Garage sales** are restricted and you cannot have "sales" every other weekend. Neighbors from around the area are complaining about weekly garage sales and about people who are leaving items in driveways or at the edge of the property hoping somebody who wants them will show up. Both actions can get you cited and fined. You can only have two garage sales a year and you are never allowed to put couches, chairs, fridges, etc. out with "free" or "for sale" signs on them

**Burglary/Break Ins:** Neighbors in the Princess Anne and Cheney areas found notes in their mailboxes alerting them to problems with break ins or burglaries. The problem is none of these issues are showing up on the SJPD website and the police department couldn't answer any questions. If you left these notes, can you please contact SONA and let us know what the problem was? We can't answer your neighbors questions and since you left no contact info, people are wondering what's going on. **Report all crimes to SJPD even if you don't file a claim so they can track the problem.**

**Gardeners....do you have extra produce?** If so, bring it to the next meeting along with some extra bags. Make sure it's clean and usable and our neighbors who aren't growing tomatoes, beans, squash, etc. can go home with your extra (and extra good) home grown beauties. Anything not picked up that night will be left for the senior program run by KACS during the day. This is a great way to share with your neighbors.



## Wild Birds and You....



Our July Speaker, Freddie Howell from the Wild Bird Center of Los Gatos came prepared with information, props and tips for those who wish to know more about, attract or fend off the wild bird population in our neighborhood. And attendees went home with free samples of feed for the neighborhood feathered friends. We learned that birds need four basic things: food, water, shelter and habitat. While every home may not be able to supply all four, any home or apartment can provide some of the components.

- ★ **FOOD:** The type of feeder and the type of seed will determine what birds you attract. Ground feeding birds (jays and doves) like platforms (as well as the ground) that allow them to firmly anchor. Smaller birds can be fed seed from net socks. Hopper and tube feeders come in a variety of sizes and shapes, are easy to fill and have squirrel deterrents. Many small feeders can attach to a window with suction cups and the birds will learn to live with human presence on the other side of the glass. If you don't want to use feeders, there are products that come in blocks and can just be hung from the tree.
- ★ **WATER:** Fountains, bird baths and small dishes will attract birds. Keep close to food supplies and keep them clean. If your water doesn't have something to circulate and break up surface tension, use one of the many non toxic products that will keep build up from happening and keep West Nile Virus away from your yard.
- ★ **SHELTER:** Birds love a variety of housing and will nest in safe areas. Housing should be out of reach and should have lots of air circulation and water drainage and placed in shaded areas.
- ★ **HABITAT:** To attract birds to your yard, plant natives that are their usual supply of food. Keep feeders and water clean. Know that some bird seed will sprout so don't place seed feeders over pristine lawn. If you want to keep squirrels out, remember they can jump 5' high and 6-8' sideways. To protect against attracting hawks to your yard, feed under sheltering bushes or trees.

We also learned that our mockingbird friends will soon be leaving us (and hopefully stop attacking some of our neighbors) and that birds who live in the area year round sometimes "migrate" for a season to neighboring cities.

If you should come across a dead bird, don't pick it up with bare hands. Use plastic gloves and dispose in your garbage. If your feeders become dirty, the Wild Bird Center has a feeder cleaning program. For a donation to one of several charities you can drop off your feeder and pick it up cleaned the next day.

The Wild Bird Center offers programs year round for kids in house and will be glad to bring speakers to schools or clubs. In addition they have weekly weekend walks locally that are only two hours to introduce you to birding as well as monthly field trips to various bird watching sites.

For more information or to get regular mailings from the Wild Bird Center, you can drop by their store in King's Court Shopping Center in Los Gatos (792 Blossom Hill) which is the corner of Blossom Hill and Los Gatos Blvd. (by Togo's and Lunardi's) or give them a call at 408.358.9453. Their website is [www.wildbird.com/los](http://www.wildbird.com/los)

### Hummingbird Food

1 cup Sugar  
4 cups Water

Place in pan and bring to rolling boil. Remove from heat and cool. Do not use corn syrup, honey, brown sugar or food coloring. Change water every three days if not used (it will ferment). Store extra food in fridge. If hummingbirds do not show up, move feeders around and tie something bright red near feeder.

Join our online email group mailing. Contact any board member or write to [talk2sona@yahoo.com](mailto:talk2sona@yahoo.com)

## SONA Membership Dues

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.

Dues \$12.00 per year, payable yearly. All residents, businesses, elected officials and organizations within SONA's boundaries are eligible for membership with voting privileges. Residents, businesses and elected officials outside the boundaries can join as non voting associate members.

Meetings are held from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the Sherman Oaks Community Center, 1800A Fruitdale Avenue, San Jose, CA 95128.

Membership dues help fund projects and social events working towards SONA's mission of moving in a positive direction for the improvement of our neighborhood.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE and/or EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Sign me up for the following committees:

<input type="checkbox"/> Paint Out Graffiti	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Preparedness
<input type="checkbox"/> Social	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership
<input type="checkbox"/> Beautification	<input type="checkbox"/> Political
<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Delivery	<input type="checkbox"/> Welcoming
<input type="checkbox"/> Traffic/Safety	<input type="checkbox"/> SONA Board
<input type="checkbox"/> Block Watch	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____

Mail to: Membership Dues: \$12.00

SONA Additional Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

PO Box 59146 Total Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

San Jose CA 95129-0146

Comments:

## Free Summer Movies

There are two great venues for watching free movies this summer! Just grab a chair, bring a blanket and some snacks and enjoy!

**Cinema San Pedro** is held every Wed. at San Pedro Square. Food and alcohol available on site. No outside food or coolers allowed. Concessions start at 7:30 with pre-show events, short film and prizes. Contact Cinequest or e-mail [jhussey@cinequest.org](mailto:jhussey@cinequest.org) Sponsored by Cinequest and the merchants around San Pedro Square.

- 8/3 Dirty Harry (R)**
- 8/10 Moonstruck (PG)**
- 8/17 This is Spinal Tap (R)**
- 8/24 Breakfast at Tiffany's (G)**
- 8/31 Ferris Bueller's Day Off (PG 13)**
- 9/7 The Philadelphia Story (G)**

**Gypsy Cinema** roams around town at different public sites. Bring your own chair, blanket and food. Alcohol is not permitted in public parks. Movies start at approximately 8:00 p.m. For more info call 286-1313 ext 8 or [www.sjdowntown.com](http://www.sjdowntown.com). Sponsored by Giant Creative Services, San Jose Downtown Ass. And SJ Redevelopment.

- 8/4 Frankenstein (not rated 1931)**  
**Circle of Palms**
- 9/15 Young Frankenstein (PG)**  
**Circle of Palms**
- 9/30 North by Northwest**  
**St. James Park**
- 10/7 Whale Rider (PG 13)**  
**Saint James Park**
- 10/14 Like Water for Chocolate (R)**  
**Saint James Park**
- 10/21 Car Wash (PG)**  
**Saint James Park**
- 10/28 Psycho (R)**  
**Saint James Park**

## **Light Rail Opens August 12**

The Vasona Light Rail Line officially opens on August 12, 2005. This is your chance to get to know the new route that runs through your neighborhood. Official celebration is from 11am-3pm with free rides and refreshments at the downtown Campbell station.

SONA residents have been working with VTA and the City's Department of Transportation to make the Fruitdale station site more convenient and safer. The bus stops at this corner have been moved to the pedestrian island on Southwest at Fruitdale. It is currently a temporary stop, but the construction of a permanent covered station is in the permit process. DOT is investigating what it would take to add the final cross walk at this intersection to provide 4-way pedestrian access and will be working on re-timing the lights.

Join the party for the Vasona Light Rail Line. For more info contact Sunshine Borelli at 299.5040

## **Adopt a Creek August 27**

Sponsored by the Santa Clara Valley Water District the annual Adopt a Creek program is coming your way and there are opportunities for you to help keep our local water ways and walking paths clear of debris and garbage. Supervisor Jim Beall's office is coordinating one of the events in Campbell this year. This year you can take Light Rail to the Clean up!

**August 27, 2005**

**8:45 a.m. Sign in and Refreshments**

**9-Noon Clean up**

**Location:**

**Campbell Inn**

**675 East Campbell Ave**

**Campbell CA 95008**

**Contact:**

**Sunshine Borelli**

**408.299.5040**

**[sunshine.borelli@bos.co.santa-clara.ca.us](mailto:sunshine.borelli@bos.co.santa-clara.ca.us)**

## **New and Renewing Members**

Thanks to the many new and renewing members in the last few months. SONA membership is growing. Remember, you now get free hats! Among the new or renewing members :

Bill and Lea Adams, Alexandra Adams and Michael Gradis, Bruce Bardell, William and Rena Bailey, Konrad Beck and Nancy Huff, Michael Broxmeyer, Paul and Clara Carney, Elsa and Robert Carvalho, Carol and Ken Cooper, Richard and Marci Deyhle, Robin and Corky Dick, The Dubbs-Roat Family, Steve Earl, Roberta Emmerson, Jack and Lydia Ford, Paul and Maricela Gallarate, Tom and Joyce Gibbons, Pauline Gillet, The Giluso Family, Paul Gonda and Yoka Drion, Mary Hayden, Patricia Hranilovich, the Hunt Family, the Li family, Bill and Celena Jhun, Carmel Johnston, Mike and Kim Kirouac, Mary Kay and Michael LaRocca, the Latif family, Art and Marg Magagna, Troy and Ingrid Mann, Marion McClellan, Don and Velma McGoldrick, David Michima, The Nguyen-Tran Family, Joseph and Frances Pizzo, the Price-Jan Family, Richard Puglia, Jussi and Lena Rajna, Larry and Sharon Robinson, Richard and Susan Ryzinga, Janet Sims, Daniel Smith, the Smith-Rohrer Family, Geraldine Stewart, Laura Stewart, Can and Lien Thai, Denise and John Verbrugge, the Clark Williams and James Moore, Woody Wilson, Larry and Pat Wolf.

## **Delivery People Needed**

If you have one hour a month to give us, we could use you for our newsletter delivery. We deliver the newsletters to you and all you have to do is put them on your neighbor's door. All we ask is for a one block commitment. We could use delivery people along College Drive and other areas. Contact any board member if you have the time and desire to help out.

Join our on-line group by contacting any board member or e-mailing: [talk2sona@yahoogroups.com](mailto:talk2sona@yahoogroups.com)

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### Hours Available:

Sat.	9:00	7:00
Sun.	10:00	6:00
Mon.	12:00	8:00
Tue.	12:00	8:00
Wed.	8:00	4:30
Off	Thurs & Fri	

**\$25 Donated to SONA with each car sale**

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Fax: (408) 296-2155

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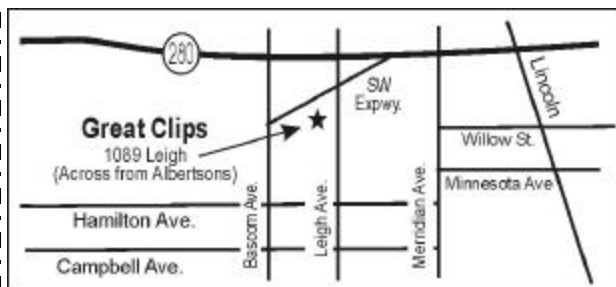


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