

*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 171 of Your Neighborhood Newsletter*

***Notes from the President***

**“Water, water everywhere and not a drop to drink!”** I recall this short piece of prose originally from *The Rime of the Ancyent Marinere* and it is the longest major poem by the English poet Samuel Taylor Coleridge, written in 1797–98 and published in 1798 in the first edition of *Lyrical Ballads*. Now why I remember it, or where I learned it is an utter mystery to me. I suspect that my mother must have said it – perhaps many times – in the course of my formative years.

That short nine-word phrase may have major significance for all of us in California as we attempt to maintain our lifestyles and our homes in the midst of the worst drought we’ve seen in many, many years. Many of us have already taken action and modified our regimes.

I know share my shower with a bucket, and once filled I use it to fill the commode instead of flushing or take it out to the garden and water my very thirsty plants. We have cutoff valves on our shower hood so I’ve my scrub-a-dub-dub routine, too. Get in, get wet, shut off the water flow, soap and shampoo to my hearts content and then quickly rinse away the soap suds! I can still have a long, long shower... just without using so much water. And, who hasn’t heard the drought driven doggerel, “if it’s yellow let it mellow; if it’s brown flush it down.” (Gross, gross, gross...but it works, works, works).

Our speakers this month will bring to us the latest and required rules with regard to conserving water. This is so important for all of us I urge you to make sure that you come to this meeting. Gov. Jerry Brown has set out a water conservation program that if we don’t follow the required cutback criteria it will cost you more than a dead lawn, but possibly a lighter wallet, too (fines and penalties, folks)!



I want to take a moment and extend my congratulations to Randi Kinman, the SONA neighborhoods and those others that participated in the recent KaBOOM playground build-out. Many hours went into the planning and labor intensive work necessary to undertake and make this playground happen. SONA now has a beautiful place where our kids can play and parents can sit and “schmooze” with one another while watching their little ones play. On the next page of this newsletter is a listing of all the groups that helped pull this together. But, I must note for those of you who do not know Randi, she did a lion’s share of the coordinating and picked up the gauntlet when others couldn’t. A Herculean effort and we owe her a very big THANK YOU. And thanks to all of you, too.

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

**SONA General Meeting**

**Thursday, June 11, 2015  
Bascom Library, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Community Room  
1000 S. Bascom Ave**

- ❖ **6:30 pm**  
**Meet your Neighbors**  
**Have some coffee and meet your neighbors before the meeting begins.**
  
- ❖ **7:00pm**  
**Welcome from**  
**President Layne Kulwin**
  
- ❖ **7:05pm**  
**Santa Clara Valley**  
**Water District**  
**How can you get paid to conserve water? What incentives and programs are available to help you cut down on water use?**  
**Presentation followed by Q&A.**
  
- ❖ **8:00pm**  
**Announcements**  
**What’s on your mind?**  
**Drawing**  
**Get Home Safely**

## Notes and News

**Thanks to everybody who has paid dues or donated in the last few years** because this helped us donate \$500 towards building our new playground at Leigh and Fruitdale. More than 200 volunteers from our neighborhood and around the valley came out on May 15 to construct the playground, benches and other amenities. After months of planning, it was amazing to see this all come together in about six hours. And a special thanks to all our neighbors who donated funds, goods and their time to make this happen. We had board members and residents from all around SONA making this happen.

Assisting in this effort was San Jose City College who donated EMS services and parking and the Gilbane Construction crew who turned out a couple dozen folks. Dan Swiney brought a crew from LinkedIn and Dolores Montano brought folks from HP. Susan Price recruited from the First Congregational Church and ran our food supply chain. Bob and Betty Slater shuttled over the tents that shaded us via the Alameda Business Association. If we don't mention your name, it's not because we have forgotten you; we appreciate every hour and every dollar put forward in this project. We are still loading pictures on our Facebook site and will be posting to our website. Lots of photos on the Sherman Oaks Playground Facebook site.

**The new playground will be open daily for all residents** so stop by and envision what else you would like to see there. Our initial first phase is done but we will be looking at creating a tricycle path around the playground in the near future. We are still working out timing of gate openings with the school district, so be patient if there are glitches, but they have pledged this site as our community park. There is a free library on site so feel free to drop off books you don't need anymore.

**The Friends of Bascom Library** had another successful sale. Remember that you can always visit the Friends book nook and purchase books. All proceeds go towards programming events at the library.

**The signal on Moorpark and Leigh** is almost done being replaced. The new signal will mean better visibility and removal of the old signals. This does not mean, however, that people will quit running red lights so beware still at this intersection.

Join us on Facebook at Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association (San Jose) or our Yahoo group [talk2sona@yahoogroups.com](mailto:talk2sona@yahoogroups.com) or join us on the NextDoor network to keep up with the most recent news. If you are trying to solve a problem, give our board a call and we'll try to help you find a solution.

## Free Summer Events

**Daily - 10:30am to 6:30pm Rotary Play Garden** This fantastic new all access 6-acre playground just opened up. Designed for people of all abilities, it is a new must see family destination. There are interactive wind and water features, great big slides, music stations and lots of fun. You can even hold group picnics. The new parking lot ensures easy access. 438 Coleman Ave (across from Target) [www.grp.org/rpg](http://www.grp.org/rpg) 408.298.7657

**First Fridays Celebration** is a great mix of art, street fair, music and more in San Jose's SoFA district between 6:30pm and midnight on the first Friday of the month. SoFA is on S. 1<sup>st</sup> Street between San Carlos, San Salvador and Parque de Los Pobladores.

**June 26, 2015 - Movie Night at Bascom Community Center and Library.** Bring the family for free arts and crafts at 6:30pm then stay until dark and enjoy a family movie night outdoors in the plaza. This is always a great evening. 408.794.6289 or 408.808.3077

**June-August San Pedro Square Market Outdoor Summer Cinema Series** Held the last Wednesday of every month. You can enjoy one of the great dining places at San Pedro Square then pull up a chair for a free movie outdoors. Movies start at dusk. For more info go to [www.sanpedrosquaremarket.com](http://www.sanpedrosquaremarket.com)

**July 4, 2015 - Rose White and Blue Parade** This is a great family event that starts at 10am. A truly small town feel to the parade that stages at West San Carlos and Leigh and winds up on The Alameda. There will be marching groups, music, neighbors and floats. When the parade ends it's time for a family fun day with food booths, arts and crafts booths, an antique car display, music and more. For more information and parade route, go to [www.rosewhiteblueparade.com](http://www.rosewhiteblueparade.com) or contact the Alameda Business Association. Thanks to them and our Shasta/Hanchett Park Neighborhood Association for making this happen every year.

**July 4, 2015 - Rotary Fireworks Downtown** Once again a free fireworks show at Discovery Meadows. This is an easy light rail hop into downtown. Get there early, stake out a site, visit the local restaurants.

**July 25, 2015 - Movie Night at Bascom Community Center and Library.** Bring the family for free arts and crafts at 6:30pm then stay until dark and enjoy a family movie night outdoors in the plaza. This is always a great evening.