



Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association

Meeting Notes

We are very excited about our **March program** since people have been asking for it for a long time. Sonia Azevedo from the City of San Jose's Crime Prevention Unit, along with SJPD officers will be presenting the **Neighborhood Watch Program** to SONA residents. Neighborhood Watch is an opportunity for neighbors to meet with police representatives. The Crime Prevention Unit instructs residents how to discourage, deter, and prevent crimes which are prevalent in residential areas, such as burglary and auto theft. Residents will learn how to work directly with police and each other and which security measures can reduce the risk of crime. Participants receive Neighborhood Watch Signs and other support materials. If you've never attended a SONA meeting, this is one you shouldn't miss. Neighborhood Watch only works when neighbors get involved. **Note that the meeting starts at 6:30 and not 7:00; the program runs a full two hours.**

Bravo to the neighbors who turned out for our February meeting at Brooks House. We met a lot of neighbors, talked about issues in the neighborhood and learned about senior services. We look forward to seeing some of our Brooks House neighbors at our next meeting.

Our April Meeting will be election night, the time we vote in a new slate of officers. We have several people who are leaving due to term limits, so replacements are needed. The board meets once a month to set meeting agendas and go over different issues facing the neighborhood. All are welcome! After elections we will be having a general discussion on what our goals for 2006 will be.

AGENDA

SONA GENERAL MEETING

March 9, 2006

Neighborhood Watch

6:15 p.m.

**Coffee and
Socializing**

6:30-8:30pm

**Program and
sign up for NW**

NOTE: The meeting starts early this month to accommodate the program and to allow you to sign up.

Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at the Sherman Oaks Community Center, 1800A Fruitdale Ave. SJ CA 95128

Good Neighbor Corner

This month's good neighbor award goes to Michael LaRocca and Joe Carpenter (president of the Buena Vista Neighborhood Association). Joe organized a "paint party", obtaining materials from PRNS to paint the light poles along Moorpark and Parkmoor. This is an ongoing party, so if you want to join in and adopt a pole, contact Michael (see page 2). Now our light poles will all be the same color and free of graffiti...thanks neighbors.

Notes and News

You can **ride VTA for free** through March 31 during non-peak hours. Seniors (65+) and all disabled persons are eligible to ride light rail and bus lines at no charge for a limited time. This means you can ride all weekend at no cost or weekdays between 9am-3pm or after 6pm. Great opportunity to take advantage of our transit system! For more information call (408) 321-2300

On February 7, 2006 the San Jose City Council officially adopted Ordinance No. 27651, creating a new **permit parking district** on the South side of San Jose City College. The district includes Kingman Ave, Rexford Way, Randolph Ave., Mansfield Ave. and Sherman Oaks Drive. New signage is being constructed and implementation will begin shortly. Residents should receive written notification and instructions soon.

SONA board members Jussi Rajna and Randi Kinman attended the February 2 display night at Sherman Oaks School. The board was invited by Susan Price-Jang and Akemi Flynn to help bridge activities between the school and the neighborhood. This an evening for parents to visit the school, check out the classrooms and work the students are doing and get to know other parents. A hotdog fest was followed by some very talented lion dancers and a display of Vietnamese martial arts in the amphitheater. Classrooms were then opened for tours and browsing. Thanks to Scholastic Books the teachers' lounge had been turned into a book store for families, students and teachers.

Have a piece of furniture that is in good condition, but not good enough for Salvation Army to accept? Try San Jose's Freecycle's web site:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sanjosefreecycle/>

K/Mart/Fruitdale Station development was slated to be on the February 22, 2006 Planning Commission agenda. The developer requested a delay until March 22, 2006 (tentative). SONA has submitted a position paper noting the deficiencies in the new proposal and representatives from SONA will be attending meetings. This development will have a huge impact on our neighborhood. If you are interested, please contact Michael or Randi.

The **Hudson Property** across the street from the Fruitdale Station development is now back on the drawing board and will be going through the Planning process. This will bring another mid/high density development to our area.

The proposed ballpark will be the subject of several open meetings hosted by the SNI PAC in order to address neighborhood issues relating to the Environmental Impact Study. The SNI PAC group will be studying how a proposed ballpark would affect neighborhoods and what potential mitigation measures should be in place. While the current proposal isn't in SONA boundaries, it would affect our immediate neighbors. EIRs address the scope of a project, not whether it's a good idea.

Facilities Re-use was evidently a big concern for SONA residents. More than 200 people turned out for D6's meeting. SONA residents and Sherman Oaks parents were there in such high numbers that the group was broken up into two sections.

Proposed Liquor Store at 975 Bascom will be subject to public hearings soon.

The Burbank/Del Monte NAC voted to request funding for a signal light at Kingman/Leigh, calming on Kingman, access ramps and coorection of the Moorpark/Menker intersection. **YEAH MIRA!**

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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

SONA Board Elections

SONA board elections are in April. We currently have vacancies due to term limits. Proposed slate of officers for 2007 is:

President (1): Michael LaRocca. Acts as spokesperson, chairs meetings

Administrative VP (1): Randi Kinman. Takes minutes, makes sure newsletter and website done.

Treasurer (1): Open. Keeps the books, handles grant accounting and budget.

Hospitality (1): Open. Brings the coffee and goodies to meetings, coordinates newsletter deliveries.

Area Captains (5): Carl Lindner, Sheila Cvitanich, Jussi Rajna. Act as neighborhood liaisons, help with newsletter deliveries. Brings the concerns of their area to board for attention and action.

The board meets once a month on the third Tuesday of the month at 7pm at Sherman Oaks Community Center.

Because we've been established for a few years, we've learned to divide up responsibilities easily to make sure nobody is overwhelmed. Board members bring different speakers to meetings, rotating hosting the meetings.

Board members make sure that our local politicians and civic leaders are aware of our positions on issues such as traffic calming and development.

Many of our current board are founding members and have rotated through several positions. If you don't want to take on a full board position, but would like to help in one capacity or another, feel free to contact any board member and volunteer your services.

SONA is rich in residents with talents, gifts and dreams to share. If you are interested in helping your neighborhood, this is an easy way to become involved with the process.

Open to all residents in the SONA boundaries. Please contact any board member before or at the April 2006 meeting.

Sherman Oaks Tree Planting And Clean Up Day

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, March 11, 2006 from 9am-11am** as the day you join the neighborhood to plant 17 trees, pick up litter and do some light housekeeping. Sherman Oaks Community Charter School will be planting trees along Fruitdale and Sherman Oaks. They recently planted more than 75 trees around the grounds, but this tree planting will be of great benefit to those who use the streets around the school. Organized by Susan Price-Jang and Our City Forest, the school continues to add trees that provide habitat for birds and shade for people.

In addition to tree planting, SONA members are asked to participate in a litter pick up around the school and Sherman Oaks Community Center. The site is regularly patrolled by members of the Korean American Community Services (KACS) program at the center, but we never have the chance to clean up the school, the community center and the surrounding grounds all at the same time.

SONA resident Dr. Charles Crowder organized our first clean and paint day at the community center and will be leading the charge this time. We'll be scrubbing chairs and tables and doing some touch up painting. All materials will be provided; wear your grubs and come prepared to have fun. This is a great way to meet people from the school, the community center and the neighborhood. All ages welcome. Coffee and snacks will be provided but we won't say "No" to homemade goodies if somebody wants to bake. For more information, contact Susan at 287-0769 or Charles at 287-2615.



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Thanks to New and Renewing Members

Susan & Carlos Zertuche, Marion McClellan, John & Sally O'Toole, Kenneht Barone, Vickie & Thomas Geary, Robert & Sharon Rabbiosi, Krisin & Aaron Gist, Patrick & Joane Solomon, Katherine Puckett, David Christian, Nhut Tuu Tran & Than, Loan Nguyen, Mark Kovich, Sonya & Ryan Paz, Richard Anderson, Charissa DeFrancesco & Anthony Pagkas, Jacqueline Schooler. **We have not been able to deliver hats to some of you. If you still need hats, call Michael at 289-8449. Thanks.**

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Newsletter Carriers Needed

SONA needs carriers to deliver newsletters. If you can help out even one month a year, that will enable us to reach more households. All it takes is one lap around your block! We are especially looking for people in the Lynhaven and Princess Ann areas. If you can help, call Sheila at 292-2690.