



CASANOVA OAK KNOLL

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

MAY 2012 www.cona.info

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CONA Fairgrounds Parking Program survey results:

Residents do not want to change present parking program

The CONA Fairgrounds Parking Program Survey went out last February. It was mailed to every home (not just CONA members) in the current Fairgrounds Parking Program defined area. The deadline for return was March 31. Over 100 extra notices were mailed afterward to ensure everyone had a chance to participate.

We have compiled the list of responses. Around 30 of our members sent in their dues but chose to not include the survey. The surveys we received resulted in 47% respondents who want a permanent program and 53% who want to continue with the present barricade program with better enforcement and a double fine zone.

The Monterey City Manager wanted a firm consensus before discussing further changes to a permanent program. He requested that he be able to review the surveys, which he was supplied. Most people just checked a box, but a considerable number wrote comments on the form or attached letters.

After reading all of the surveys, it is clear that everyone acknowledges that the Fairgrounds adversely affects our neighborhood with spillover parking and related problems. Most were saying the impacts occurs approximately 20 days a year. A permanent program affects everyone all year long. Many did not want permanent signs in front of their homes. Others were concerned with not knowing

when enforcement is taking place. Presently, when barricades are put out for an unscheduled concert, it serves as a warning of enforcement. The survey reflected that solutions should not impact everyone more than the original problem.

The two most heavily affected streets, Dundee and Littleness, had a relatively small rate of returned surveys.

We will find out if the increase in fines of up to \$70 does affect the impacts with the Cal Roots Festival May 28, Memorial Day weekend. The promoter for this event will be paying the total city costs for implementing the parking program. Please send us your observations of this event.

CONA 30th Annual Garage Sale June 9 & 10

A new record, 30 continuous years for our annual garage sale. Take the opportunity to join with all your neighbors and clear out all your unwanted possessions. This is the best way to do it.

The association places ads in the Herald for you. Everyone does their own sale in their own driveway. The flyer is enclosed inside. Talk to your neighbors,

the more who participate around you the more customers you will attract.

This newsletter is only delivered to current CONA members. Please encourage new neighbors to join.

Spring Cleanup the sequel will be held this August

Over CONA 50 members checked the box on their membership forms requesting we do another Spring Cleanup.

The City of Monterey is in the process of organizing this event for us.

You will be receiving a survey form by mail in the month of July.

Please be prepared to indicate the types of materials that you want picked up and whether you need physical help getting it out for pickup, just like last year.

We are looking into including hazardous materials and e-waste.

Our neighborhood is the first neighborhood in the city to develop this program under the revitalization program. The cleanup survey will go out to all CONA residents.

CONA ANNUAL MEETING – June 14, 2012 Thurs. @ 7:00 P.M.

CONA 2012 Annual Meeting

We are in the middle of a city-wide rash of break-in's, our members receive timely email warnings on what is happening. Every neighborhood in Monterey is having the same problem. If you are one who did not list their email addresses on your membership form, please send them to conamonterey@aol.com. It is the only effective way we can alert you on short notice. Neighborhood Watch is more important than ever. Knowing your neighbors and looking out for each other is our most important goal. Neighborhood associations work best if everyone participates and does their share.

The FCC (Federal Communication Commission) has a January deadline that makes all our CERT radios obsolete. All radio frequencies must be on narrow banded transmissions, our neighborhood handheld radios cannot be converted. We have to buy new ones. These are the radios CERT would use in a disaster, when all other communication equipment cannot be used (such as a complete power failure). We will discuss using some membership funds to pay for replacement radios at the annual meeting.

Last year CONA purchased two high quality sound meters. We are using them to document sound levels during loud events at the Fairgrounds. Please read the article about excessive sound further in this newsletter.

Ariana Green, Traffic Engineer with the City of Monterey will be at our annual meeting to get your opinion on Monterey's Transportation and Pedestrian Plan. It is all about making Monterey pedestrian and handicap accessible. Let her know what improvements you think are needed.

Rick Marvin, Monterey Housing Department, will also be there to discuss the Spring Cleanup and Federal Grant opportunities that are available to residents of Casanova Oak Knoll.

Jerry Anderson, N. Fremont Business District board member will be at our meeting asking for your opinion on the subject of changing the name of N. Fremont Street.

What you do not hear a lot about is the dozens of meetings that are held each year in which CONA is represented. N. Fremont Business Improvement District, the Fairgrounds, the Airport, CERT directors meetings (every month) and city meetings. Your officers and Board members are the ones contributing their time to make this a better neighborhood and city. We do not write or email about them unless they are very important because there are just too many to document.

CONA receives many inquiries and our surveys show that many of you want more newsletters and more meetings to allow you an opportunity to participate. We can discuss at the annual meeting how we can spread some of this responsibility out with our Board members.

New CERT class!

If you have been thinking that you would like to take Community Emergency Response Training (CERT), you might be interested in our next class. CERT will be teaching the FEMA-approved curriculum over 3 Saturdays:

May 26, June 2, June 9.

8:30a.m. to 4:30p.m. in Monterey's EOC. There is no cost to participants.

This class teaches how to prepare home and workplace for emergencies, light search & rescue, emergency medical techniques, fire extinguisher use, and Monterey CERT organization. Team participation is an optional next step. These are good life skills. Classes are open to ages 13 to 80+.

To register or learn more,

email MontereyCERT@Hotmail.com or leave a message at 646-3416.

DOOR PRIZES

All members at the annual meeting will receive a ticket for door prizes that will be drawn for:
**Fire Extinguishers &
Smoke alarms**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2012

GENERAL MEETING

June 14 – Thursday

7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

PARK CENTER

735 Ramona

Agenda

7:00 Call to order

Reports

2012 Election of officers

Old Business

2012 Priorities

New Business

CONA CERT radio purchase

7:30 Transportation & pedestrian plan

7:45 Neighborhood Revitalization

8:15 2012 Spring Cleanup

8:30 Opinions on N. Fremont name change

9:00 Adjournment

COME & BRING YOUR NEIGHBOR

2011

CONA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President-Richard Ruccello

Vice-president-Gary Carlsen

Secretary-Tuppence Cabot

Treasurer-Darla Gustaitis

Board member-Michael Brassfield

Board member-Denise Marsaquerria

Airport Chairman-Open

Webmaster-Louis Agaze

NIP Representative-Richard Ruccello

Alternate NIP Representatives:

Gary Carlsen

Mike Brassfield

2012 Calendar

June 14 – 7:00 p.m. Annual Meeting

June 9 & 10 – Garage Sale Sat.&Sun

July – CONA CERT meeting-email notice coming.

August – Spring Cleanup (Sat. only)

December – Firemen's Toy Drive

CONA NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

At the May 9th. president's meeting with the Monterey City Manager, neighborhood after neighborhood described increasing home break-ins. Recent events show CONA is no different.

May 7th. A vacant rental home on Lerwick was entered, beer and liquor containers were in abundance and their new carpet was scorched. The owner was fortunate that a fire did not occur. This was a similar incident to what occurred two months ago in a vacant home on Ramona.

May 9th. around 10:30p.m. a small light colored hatchback went down the block on Lerwick hitting garbage cans (6 that we saw), throwing them into the air. The driver was a young white male. Look for that car to have front end passenger side damage. Email us if you see the car.

May 10 7:50 a.m. Single car accident on Ramona at Edinburgh, a residents parked car was totaled.

May 10th. A home on upper Airport Road was broken into, entry through a garage window.

May 10th. In the afternoon the police were at a break-in on lower Airport Road. The front door was kicked in.

Two methods are at play here:

1st. is daytime break-ins: They knock at the door, if there is no answer they try the door knob; if it is locked they look for an open window or another open door. They are looking for precious metals, gold & silver and cash. In quick, and out quick. Most of the break-ins that occur here fit the unlocked opening rule. You would be shocked at the numbers of people who leave their home unlocked.

2nd. method that first hit Laguna Grande across N. Fremont Street: They watch for cars leaving and then they just go to the door and kick it in. 5 so far there, 1 here.

This spreads like a virus until everyone starts paying attention. Without fail the day after is when the alarm systems are put in.

Neighborhood watch cards were passed out with every member's newsletters last year. Do you know your neighbors? Do you look out for them and likewise?

Neighborhood Watch is only as good as your participation in it. It all starts with each of us. Deputy Police Chief Aspland wanted to emphasize three points:

Close it!
Lock it!
Hide it!

That applies to cars and houses.

There was a recommendation that we start block parties with a focus of getting to know your own neighbors, WHAT DO YOU THINK?

DID YOU FILL OUT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH CARD?

The Neighborhood Watch forms are on our website www.cona.info, we have offered these forms to all the neighborhoods in Monterey.

Monterey Public Library

One of this year's NIP proposals was the installation of a quiet room at the Library. This glass enclosed room will have space for several people who need a quiet atmosphere for serious study. If you have been down there recently you would have noticed that there are so many people that there is an actual buzz going. This project was one of the highest vote getters in NIP this year.

1849 Monterey Gold Rush

The Friends of the Library have started a fundraiser raffle to raise money for the Library endowment. Monterey's Library is the first Public Library in the State (1849). The raffle is a \$5 donation to win U.S. Solid Gold Eagles. Go to the Library lobby in the afternoons or pick up one at the Downtown Farmers Market to buy tickets or you can click on the QR symbol to fill out an entry form.

The drawings will be held on July 15th., the Library is holding a Gold Rush history fair before the drawing. Look for announcements and advertisements throughout the month of June.

1849 MONTEREY GOLD RUSH

Monterey Public Library Friends Present
FOUR OPPORTUNITY DRAWINGS
Sponsored by The Shake Family & Jack M. Signorella
2012 U.S. Solid Gold Eagle Proof Coins

\$5 Donation



4th Prize 1/10 oz • 3rd Prize 1/4 oz • 2nd Prize 1/2 oz • 1st Prize 1 oz

Drawing Sunday, July 15, 2012, 2:45 PM
Monterey Public Library • 625 Pacific St. • Monterey, CA 93940
(831)646-5632
Must be 18 years or older to purchase. Need not be present to win.

Tickets entry forms available online at mplfriends.com
or one of the following locations:

Monterey Public Library Lobby
625 Pacific Street • Mon-Fri 1:00-6:00 PM
Sat 1:00-4:00 PM

Old Monterey Farmers Market
321 Alvarado Street • Tues 4:00-7:00 PM

Friends of MPL is a 501(c)(3) non-profit.
Donations are tax-deductible under
Federal Tax ID #91-1976593.



BENEFITS THE MONTEREY PUBLIC LIBRARY

One ounce solid gold proofs are worth more than just circulated coins. The proofs are absolutely brilliant, in sealed cases that sit in velvet boxes. Valued at more than \$1,600 for the one ounce coin, watch the prices rise! Gold is a great gift for grandchildren or just a hedge against the future economy.

C.O.N.A. ACHIEVEMENTS

Our neighborhood had an organization as far back as 1958, but there was a long period of inactivity on the part of our neighbors in the 70's. In 1982 the problems facing our neighborhood started to accumulate. The Mahara condominiums brought them to a critical point. It was this project that focused residents on forming a renewed neighborhood association that could deal with our problems. As you review the *short highlights* (included would be an annual garage sale, and park day), please note how the successes have changed **your quality of life in our neighborhood.**

1983

- Neighborhood Plan & Survey
- Reopened Fairgrounds Road to Jazz Festival parking.
- Park renovation & cleanup
- \$22,000 HUD grant

1984

- CPR class
- Neighborhood mediation classes
- 45 street trees planted
- Neighborhood Watch-1st in Monterey to implement a full watch program & paid for our own signs.
- Carved Park sign (by Leland Peterson)
- Neighborhood Plan completed with highest survey results in City
- Door viewers & smoke alarms specially installed for members.

1985

- CDBG funds for sidewalking one side of Airport Road. \$50,000
- Life membership to Planner Butch Cope
- New Bookmobile ordered for City
- J.C.Penny Community Service Award
- P.G. & E. Community Service Award

1986

- Capital Improvement Program -\$50K Casanova right turn lane to N. Fremont
- Street sweeper is back!
- Fairgrounds parking program
- Sidewalks curbs & gutter on Ramona

1987

- Stop sign installed at Bruce Lane
- New retaining wall with landscaping at Fairgrounds & Airport Road
- Dundee fill in sidewalks completed
- Sidewalks installed on Lerwick
- Ramona side street stop signs
- Casanova finished in fill sidewalks and added a school bus stop area.
- Ralston granite boulders oak island
- Garden road walkway approved

1988

- Sidewalk infill continued on Airport, Edinburgh, Littleness & Stuart
- Cypress Bowl building torn down
- Installed City of Monterey entry monument on N. Fremont.
- N. Fremont Street name change
- Caroling Trolley for Christmas

1989

- Major remodeling of park, new playground equipment, barbecue area
- Approval of sidewalks on Airport, Euclid, Fern and Bush Streets
- Approve bike path on Mark Thomas
- Successfully opposed Ramona 14,000 sq. ft. office building
- Successfully petitioned Monterey Planning Commission to require more attractive design on Blockbuster
- Successfully opposed live entertainment at Brick House

1990

- Airport Road beautification project
- Airport Road & Olmstead intersection approved & in design
- NIP purchased property for a CONA Center

1991

- Airport implements noise abatement
- Community Center planning started

1992

- Fairgrounds **stops** motorcycle racing
- Generator added to Park Center
- Fairgrounds carnival gate landscaped with funds from C.O.N.A.

1993

- Community Center opens!
- Pre-school started at Center
- Ivy street sidewalks approved
- Airport sound insulation under way
- 1993 Xmas Caroling Trolley Ride \$1,237 for Herald's Christmas Cheer

1994

- Emergency Preparedness Class
- CPR Class
- Parking Ordinance approved
- Lilac sidewalks approved
- Voting precinct moved to Center
- Questionnaire compiled
- Neighborhood 5 year plan completed
- Water storage tank for Center
- N. Fremont landscaping approved
- Picnic area renovation approved
- Spaghetti dinner fund-raiser for teen equipment

1995

- N.E.R.T. graduated 25 team members
- Purchased 2 Emergency radios
- Obtained special FCC license
- Picnic area renovation completed
- CPR class
- Acoustical tiles & carpet added to the Community Center

1996

- N.E.R.T. graduated almost 50, #1
- Playground fencing & flagpole
- Purchased 3rd. emergency radio
- Emergency Operations Center passed

1997

- Full time director at Park Center
- NERT radio base station Park Center
- 3 additional NERT radios A.T.&T.
- New park lawn & irrigation (NIP)
- NERT steel storage shed to be installed at our Park

1998

- Successfully raised funds for police night scope and new canine unit.
- Activated NERT team 3 times during heavy rains in February.
- Resident parking program for Melway Circle started.

1999

- First 2 day neighborhood garage sale
- Neighborhood 8 dumpster cleanup with NERT supervision
- Largest NERT drill in city's history
- First CONA City Council town forum at our Park Center
- 35 street trees planted
- NERT emergency shed installed

2000

- Exposed Airport toxic plumes
- New N. Fremont Plan adopted
- N. Fremont Phase I drainage passed.
- 40 street trees planted
- Storage added to Park Center
- Upper BBQ area renovated

2001

- Restored \$350K Health Risk Study
- Additional \$1.5M accelerates cleanup

- \$35K CONA Traffic Study
- Melway drainage improvement
- Opposed PUD development
- \$150K Airport Road drainage passed
- \$7.5K in additional street trees planted

2002

- Melway/Casanova drainage NIP \$52K
- Casanova/Ralston crosswalk \$25K
- Stuart partial street closure \$8K
- N.Fremont signal coordination \$30K

2003

- Cona traffic calming I&II-\$215K
- New playground equip -\$8K
- Bruce Lane curb&gutter -\$43K
- Chemical cleanup accelerated 3 yrs.

2004

- NIP 20 driveway approaches \$60K
- CONA traffic calming phase III \$200K
- Solar speed signs \$30K
- Park Center pre-school deck \$5K
- Park Center power window opener \$4K

2005

- New Park Bench installed at Park Center
- 3 New CONA entry signs approved
- CONA Traffic Calming Phase IV
- NIP 20 driveway approaches Phase II

2006

- CONA appeal of new loading dock for Safeway results in mandatory quiet time
- The day after appeal the carsplitting gas generator turkey trailer left hopefully for good
- CONA Traffic Calming Phase V approved
- NIP 20 driveway approaches Phase III
- Successfully opposed return of motorcycle races at Fairgrounds
- Obtained extra funds for entry signs

2007

- 825 Casanova condo conversion approved
- Final driveway approaches approved
- Two solar speed signs for Casanova approved
- CONA entry signs installed
- Record breaking CONA XMAS toy drive
- City Council supports CONA Airport resolution 2008

- Sidewalk trip hazards repaired
- New streetlight in front of Park Center
- New Fairgrounds fence facing neighborhood
- New traffic calming reduces speeds in CONA
- City engaged in meetings with Seaside to design new entry at Canyon Del Rey
- North Fremont Street Streetscape Plan started. 2009

- Replacement emergency water tank
- N. Fremont streetscape adopted
- CONA CERT team doubles in numbers
- CONA Neighborhood revitalization program
- New Bookmobile serving neighborhood
- Handicap access installed at park play area

2010

- \$40K HUD grant for CONA spring cleanup
- 1st in city to get hazardous waste pickup
- \$20K provided for home remodels
- Program funds for CONA code enforcement

2011

- Crosswalks approved for disabled on Casanova
- Renovation for Park BBQ area approved
- Neighborhood Watch cards delivered to members
- Spring Cleanup was a success

2012 & More to Come