



FROM THE FIELDS

A Newsletter of the Los Olivos-Riker Neighborhood Association

Second Quarter 2011

www.lorneighborhood.com

LORNA News – Announcements and Reportage from the South Side

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Submitted by Steve McShane

This will be my last newsletter as your president of LORNA. I can tell you that our neighborhood leadership is in great hands as **Cynthia Shaffer** assumes the role of President, effective July 1st.

In the last year we've accomplished so much. In fact, I can say pretty confidently that our neighborhood association is one of the best organized in the city. We've kept the neighborhood safe while networking neighbors in creative ways through social events and improvement projects. In the coming year, I look forward to being involved as your past-president and can only imagine what we can accomplish together.

Whether this is the first time you're reading our newsletter or the fourth, I invite you to join us for one of our energetic one-hour neighborhood association meetings. Knowing your neighbors and getting involved in your community are truly the first steps to a better life here in Salinas. I look forward to meeting you soon. **Steve**

GARDEN OF THE MONTH



With great fanfare and success, LORNA unveiled its coveted *Garden of the Month* award. Our committee, consisting of five judges, roams our neighborhood and elects one yard as the bearer of a beautiful Garden of the Month sign.

The very first winner is **Ursula Benedict** at 418 Shelley Way! Ursula received the honor of displaying the elegant sign in her yard, and was presented with a \$50 gift certificate from *McShane's Nursery and Landscape Supply*. If you know of a yard you would like to nominate, please contact **Kevin** at **751.9654** or g.appletree@juno.com.

BEAUTIFUL NEW ENTRANCE

Thanks to the leadership of **Kevin Low**, the entrance to our neighborhood at Los Olivos and Blanco continues to look better and better. Following on the heels of our winter work, volunteers of all ages showed up in May to help pull weeds and remove trash along the median.

Efforts are underway to add additional cobbles on the east side of the median. Join us at 8:00 am, Saturday, August 20th. There will be hot coffee and donuts. If you would like to participate, contact **Kevin** at **751.9654** or g.appletree@juno.com.

MOSQUITO ABATEMENT

Submitted by Mary Richardson



Are you raising mosquitoes in your backyard? The *Northern Salinas Valley Mosquito Abatement District* has published a pamphlet that will tell you where to look and what to do about the pestilence. Call the District at **422.6438** or visit the website at www.montereycountymosquito.com.

Mosquito-eating fish, indispensable to an abatement program, are available at no charge from *McShane's Nursery and Landscaping Supply*.

VERY SPECIAL NEIGHBOR

This issue's *Very Special Neighbor* is LORNA member and retired Army Colonel **Bob Lokkesmoe**. A former chaplain, Bob sings in the choir and is an active member of First Presbyterian Church. Two years ago, he lost his beloved wife, Betty, to whom he was married for 56 years. Fortunately, Bob's daughter and grandsons live nearby and together they have managed to carry on as a family.

One of the few things SuperPatriot Bob loves more than his country is his golf game. He stays in excellent physical condition, and still plays regularly. He also recently went wireless at home and is enjoying his new laptop and Kindle reader. Bob turns 84 in August.

RODEO PARADE WORKSHOP



LORNA members attended a float building workshop and came away very excited and full of ideas for our entry in the Colmo del Rodeo Parade. The parade will be a night-lighted spectacular extravaganza and our parade team is calling on all able bodies willing to help build and decorate our fabulous entry. Please contact **Elena** at **596.6909** or emlightbown@yahoo.com, or **Mary** at **757.3160** or maryjohnr@sbcglobal.net.

LORNA LOG

We have a blog! Go to <http://lorنالog.blogspot.com>, or visit our website at www.lorneighborhood.com, then click on **The Blog**. Engage in some e-chatting and share information with other LORNA residents.

LORNA MEETING

Because of the July 4th holiday, the July meeting will take place on **Tuesday, July 5th**. Business begins at 7:30 pm. Come and join your neighbors!



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MEMBERSHIP MANIA

LORNA members, it's time to renew your membership! LORNA residents, it's time to join the Association! We have a full slate of fun and exciting events and projects scheduled for the next 12 months, and we need your support. Membership increased dramatically throughout our first year, and we are eagerly anticipating a record number of memberships this year. Join now and gain the confidence and security of belonging to our Neighborhood Watch.

Upcoming events include the *Mega Yard Sale and BBQ*, *Colma del Rodeo Parade*, *South Salinas Clean Up Day*, *Festival of Lights Parade*, and *Home Holiday Lighting Contest*. Among other community projects, the second phase of the *Los Olivos Gateway Beautification* plan will be implemented.

Join now and receive a handsome yet imposing Neighborhood Watch gate/fence/wherever-you-want-to-put-it sign!

LORNA MEMBERSHIP FORM

New Renewal

Household Membership \$10 (minimum) \$25 \$50 Other: \$ _____

Business Membership \$50 (minimum) \$75 \$100 Other: \$ _____

Member(s)/Business Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home/Office Phone: _____ Mobile: _____ FAX: _____

E-Mail: _____

How would you like to get more involved with LORNA?

- Join the Board
- Provide food/beverages/baked goods for events/projects
- Citizen Patrol
- Host/coordinate/volunteer for an event or project
- Distribute flyers/newsletter
- Other _____

Send completed form and check to:

LORNA Membership, c/o Villa Serra, 1320 Padre Drive, Salinas CA 93901

LORNA's Historical Timeline





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Eyes and Ears – Neighborhood Watch

E&E ALERTS

E&E alerts are our way of spreading the word, via e-mail, about suspicious activity going on in the neighborhood. The more eyes and ears on the street, the better chance we have of averting people who want to do us harm or destroy our property.

Neighbors who send the E&E alerts should call the Salinas PD non-emergency number **(758.7321)** to report the activity. It is very important to alert the SPD as to what is going on so appropriate action can be taken. You can report it anonymously or request a call back.

Remember: **SAFETY FIRST!** Do not put yourself in danger. Salinas police want us to call so they can do their job.

Here are some examples of recent E&E alerts we received from vigilant neighbors, all of whom called the non-emergency line.

- Suspicious man slowly riding a small bicycle looking at cars and houses on Shelley Way
- Unstable homeless man with a shopping cart feeding the dogs through the fence on the corner of Padre and Chaucer; also having a verbal altercation with one of the female residents from Villa Serra
- Out-of-place couple with a half-filled shopping cart sitting on the grass at Coleridge and Primavera; overdressed for the weather, bundled up in big jackets
- Out-of-place guy on a red ten-speed bicycle riding through and around Los Olivos Village; making and receiving cell phone calls

Neighborhood Watch...it works!

DOOR-TO-DOOR SOLICITORS

Our Neighborhood Watch is taking into consideration what the Salinas PD has informed the public regarding reports of people posing as salespersons for Kirby vacuum cleaners. These would-be sales people have been casing residences with intentions to later burglarize them.

It is not against the law for Kirby or others to send salespeople door-to-door and it is your choice to invite them in to demonstrate their product. However, we cannot be too careful when it comes to opening our doors to people we don't recognize.

SOLICITORS *(continued)*

Should you choose to open your door, you may ask the solicitors to produce their City of Salinas Solicitor's Permit, Business License, and photo identification. Without the license, it is illegal for them to sell to you.

Police recommend posting a *No Soliciting* sign. It is a citable offense to disregard the sign. SPD also recommends calling **911** if the person refuses to leave your residence.

If people you don't recognize knock on your door, don't open the door, but be sure they hear you say something, such as "not interested". This is so if they are casing the area, they know someone is home and they will move along.

CIVILIAN PATROL TRAINING

Submitted by Cynthia Shaffer

On Saturday, June 25th, our sister watch, Monterey Park Neighborhood Watch (MPNW), extends an invitation for LORNA to attend their semi-annual MPNW *Stay Safe and Civilian Patrol Training*. I cannot stress enough the quality of the presentation and the invaluable crime fighting tips we learn. Former and current law enforcement personnel provide the training.

This training class is a fine example of greater Salinas neighborhoods coming together to not only get to know each other, but also share resources and information so we'll all have a more educated and empowered Eyes and Ears neighborhood!

- Everyone is welcome to attend the training
- You do not have to wear a vest
- There is no cost to attend

Note that MPNW uses the term *Civilian Patrol* while LORNA uses the term *Citizen Patrol*. The concept is exactly the same: neighbors patrolling with a heightened sense of E&E.

If you are interested in acquiring a LORNA Citizen Patrol vest, please contact Watch Co-Chair **Don Jones** at bearpaw05@sbcglobal.net. The cost is \$10 for LORNA members.

This MPNW training session is from 9:00 am to 10:30 am at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. RSVP to **Brian Foucht** at **754.0879**, or brian@bgfplanning.com.

After the training, come out and spend the rest of your day enjoying our **Mega Yard Sale and BBQ!**



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Mega Yard Sale, Annual Meeting, and BBQ

Saturday, June 25th • 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM



Chaucer Drive

Los Olivos-Riker Neighborhood, Salinas

7:00 AM: Set Up ☉ 8:00 AM: Yard Sale ☉ 11:00 AM: Meeting and BBQ

Great Neighbors, Fun Games, and Fantastic Food

Thanks to the leadership in Los Olivos-Riker Neighborhood Zone 7, we've set the date for our second annual Los Olivos-Riker Neighborhood Association Yard Sale and Annual Meeting.

We've planned a Mega Yard Sale and BBQ for **Saturday, June 25th** on **Chaucer Drive** from **8:00 AM to 1:00 PM**.

At **11:00 AM**, we will have our brief Annual Meeting where residents will learn about LORNA's success in the last year and meet the incoming leadership team. Salinas PD Chief **Louis Fetherolf** and our Area Commander **Stan Cooper** have been invited and will be in attendance, schedule permitting.

Residents are invited to RSVP at no charge for a plot where they will be able to set up for the community yard sale. If they so choose, some or all of their proceeds will go to LORNA.

Festivities will include music, free bicycle/helmet safety checks, contests, a bounce house, and BBQ hot dogs. Residents are invited to bring side dishes and desserts to share and, as an annual event, awards will be given by judging the best in each category. We also plan on games and a raffle, and we are looking for prizes!

If you wish to sign up for a yard sale plot, or to volunteer or donate prizes, please contact **Steve** at **970.4141** or steve@mcshanesnursery.com. We are willing to pick up material you'd like to donate to be sold. Just give us a call.

Directions: Go to the end of Chaucer by Dickens. The action is all the way at the end of Chaucer Drive. If you get lost, call **Steve** at **970.4141**.