

FROM THE FIELDS



A Newsletter of the Los Olivos – Riker Neighborhood Association

First Quarter 2014



www.lorneighborhood.com



*E&E – This is how we do it on the South Side! **JOIN LORNA***

President's Corner

Hello Neighbors,

We are full steam ahead into our 2014-2015 LORNA year. Your LORNA Steering Committee held their annual retreat in late July to come up with some fresh ideas for fun events and meeting topics for the year. There will be several ways for neighbors to get involved and meet one another. I'm excited because we have several new and returning members on the steering committee who are ready to make this our best LORNA year yet! We look forward to seeing you at a meeting or one of our social events. If you haven't joined us on our email list or Facebook group yet, please do so. Both avenues help get the word out about what is going on in our neighborhood in addition to this newsletter. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me. I hope to see you soon!

**Sincerely,
Nicole Capps
LORNA President**

Los Olivos – Riker Neighborhood Association (LORNA) seeks to enhance safety and quality of life for folks living within our geographic boundaries. Our membership is over 350 strong and includes a wide variety of families and businesses. There is no charge for membership, but donations of any amount are greatly appreciated. Your return on your investment is much greater than the dues. Besides receiving a membership decal and a discount on the Citizen Patrol vest, your membership helps to cover the costs incurred in fostering a successful neighborhood group. There are modest costs such as funding neighborhood activities (like the hot dogs that were provided at the Annual Neighborhood Fair and BBQ) where we have a chance to meet and hang out with each other, which is the best way to combat crime. Neighborhood Watch works best when neighbors know each other!

Join LORNA

It doesn't matter if you're a renter or homeowner or just moved into the area. You will benefit from what LORNA has to offer. Minimum suggested annual membership is \$10 per household or \$50 per business. You can find the membership form attached to this newsletter or at www.lorneighborhood.com/membership. You can mail your donation of any amount to: LORNA Membership, c/o Villa Serra, 1320 Padre Drive, Salinas CA 93901. Please include your e-mail address so we can add you to our E-Mail Alert List. This is how we quickly get the word out about suspicious activities in the neighborhood and share crime-fighting tips with each other.

LORNA Meetings

LORNA meetings are scheduled for the second Monday of each month and are held at Villa Serra, unless otherwise notified. Fun and business begins at 6:30 pm. In addition, LORNA members will host neighborhood gatherings and meetings in their homes throughout the year. Dates and locations will be announced. All are welcome, so come, join your neighbors, get involved, and be aware! If you are interested in hosting LORNA in your home, please contact Nicole Capps at koicapps@hotmail.com or 831-776-8547.

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. SPD wants us to call so they can do their job.

Noise Complaints & Loud Parties

Contrary to popular belief, loud noises do not have to be tolerated. There isn't a "free" period where parties or loud noises are acceptable during certain hours or up to a certain decibel. According to the SPD, "Class D Noise is defined as noise that is unnecessary, unnatural or unusual noises created by a human voice or animal outcry, or by any other means which is so annoying, or which is so harsh or prolonged, as to be injurious to the health, peace or comfort of any reasonable person residing in the area. **Class D noise is not permitted at any time.**" The key here is to be considerate of others around you. No one wants to prevent you from having fun, but there is a time and place; for example, midnight or 4:30 a.m. are not appropriate times, and neither is operating a karaoke machine in the middle of the night.

What laws are being broken if I give a loud party and refuse to lower or stop the noise?

There are several laws that may be broken if you are responsible for giving a party that is too loud. **California Penal Code (415.2)** states it is illegal to maliciously and willfully disturb another person by loud and unreasonable noise. **Salinas Municipal Code** states it is illegal to use any sound equipment between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m., or at any time when it is unreasonably loud **(21A-16)**. It is also a violation of the Salinas City Code to willfully make any loud, unnecessary, or unusual noise which disturbs the peace or quiet of any neighborhood **(21A-22)**. You could be issued a citation or be subject to arrest for a violation of either of these codes.

DOOR-TO-DOOR SOLICITORS

Salinas PD has warned the public about people posing as salespersons for Kirby vacuum cleaners, magazines, or grease/spot removers. These would-be salespeople 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, but 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. 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.

Who do I call if...?

I hear dogs barking incessantly?	Animal Services	758-7285
I need a building permit?	Engineering & Transportation	758-7251
I have a conflict to resolve?	Monterey County Mediation Center	649-6219
I need a permit for a garage sale or yard sale?	Finance Department	758-7211
I need to dispose of hazardous materials?	Household Hazardous Waste Facility	758-7928
I hear a loud or have a noise complaint?	Salinas PD Non-Emergency	758-7321
I need a birth certificate or marriage license?	Monterey County Clerk Recorder	755-5041
I want to report a street light outage?	Environmental & Maintenance Services	758-7989
I want to report trash, junk, or debris?	Monterey County Health Department	755-4500
I want to report an abandoned vehicle?	Abandoned Vehicle Office	758-7316

Visit the City of Salinas website at <http://www.ci.salinas.ca.us/who2call.cfm> for these numbers and more.

Events!

- *Join us for the **Annual LORNA Holiday Gathering** – December 7th at 7 pm, 20 Dickens Circle.
- *Enjoy the **Holiday Home Lighting Tour** - December 21st at 5 pm. Hop on a bus at Nob Hill and tour the city and vote for your favorite decorated homes.

LORNA Website

Residents are encouraged to visit the website at www.lorneighborhood.com for news, event information, Neighborhood Watch updates, helpful links to city services, security resources, and membership information. The site is constantly evolving and expanding, so visit and browse often.

LORNA is on FACEBOOK ®

For up-to-date information and for a way to instantly communicate with members of our neighborhood, visit us on Facebook ®, join the group, and stay informed! Search for us by entering Los Olivos-Riker Neighborhood Association.

LORNA Needs You!

In addition to attending meetings and social events, there are other ways to be involved with LORNA. We are currently looking for someone who is interested in maintaining our master list of LORNA members. As new members come on or past members renew their membership, we need someone to keep track of that information in an Excel spreadsheet. The current individual unfortunately has to step down from the position, but is willing to train the new person. So, if you are familiar with spreadsheets and are interested in helping out, please let Nicole Capps know by contacting her at koicapps@hotmail.com or 831-776-8547. We are also seeking Zone Coordinators for Zone 3 (La Canada/La Jolla Way) and Zone 2 (San Blanco/Las Cruces). A major responsibility of a Zone Coordinator is to pass out any LORNA information (such as this newsletter) to the neighbors in your zone.

