

THE ACORN



Arden Oaks Neighborhood Association Newsletter - ardenoaks.org

February 2024

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday

March 12, 2024, 7 pm

AONA Annual Meeting
Arden Park Community Center
1000 La Sierra Drive

Tuesday, July 4, 2024

Parade through Arden Oaks
and Games at Windemere Park

Sunday

September 8, 2024

(date to be confirmed)
Neighborhood BBQ at an
Arden Oaks residence to be
determined

Welcome New Neighbors

New homeowners in Arden
Oaks since September 2023)

Dennis Knoll & Natalie Lowe

The Arden Oaks Neighborhood Association is a nonprofit public benefit corporation and has tax-exempt status under Section 501 (c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code. As such, contributions to AONA are not tax deductible.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Neighbors,

The 2024 Arden Oaks Neighborhood Association (AONA) Annual Meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at the Arden Park Community Center. We are honored to have our Sacramento County Supervisor Rich Desmond as this year's guest speaker. All Arden Oaks residents are invited and encouraged to attend either in person or via Zoom. The meeting agenda, including the slate of candidates up for election, is included in this issue of *The Acorn*. Please take this opportunity to mingle with your neighbors and meet your County supervisor. We hope to see you there!

This year promises to be another lovely year to live in Arden Oaks. Daffodil buds, pear blossoms, and other early signs of spring are popping up all over the neighborhood. As you stroll with your dog along our tree-lined streets, share a smile and wave to your neighbors. Maybe this will be the year to meet new neighbors, join them for coffee, or even invite them over for a glass of wine. And be sure to mark your calendars for the annual neighborhood events, including the 4th of July parade and games, the fall barbecue, and finally the holiday lighting contest.

Currently, there is one opening for a board member. If you are interested in meeting new neighbors, supporting the neighborhood, and bringing new ideas to the AONA Board, please consider joining the Board. Contact me at the email below.

See you around the neighborhood!

Joyce Hsiao
AONA President
aona.president@gmail.com

For a color version of this newsletter, go to ArdenOaks.org.

SECURITY REPORT

Thanks to the generous and ongoing contributions of you and your neighbors, the security program continues to provide regular patrols throughout Arden Oaks and adjoining areas. The Sacramento County off-duty sheriff deputies drive through all the streets in the neighborhood, generally daily, with each shift lasting from four to six hours. During the holidays, we augmented the regular patrol schedule, as sheriff deputies were available. We are pleased to report that there have been no incidents reported in the neighborhood in the last six months.

The success of this program is based entirely on your contributions. See the list at the end of this newsletter for the 173 neighbors who have already contributed to the 2024 security program.

SECURITY AND SAFETY REMINDERS

Pedestrian safety. Wear reflective clothing when walking at night or in the early morning.

Lock doors and windows of your home and vehicles. Surprisingly, one of the most common mistakes homeowners make is erroneously assuming their neighborhood is safe enough to leave doors and windows unlocked.

Trim landscaping. Plantings that grow to more than three feet high can provide adequate concealment for a burglar who is attempting to enter your home. Trim back all landscaping to ensure the front of your home is clearly visible from the road.

Bring in mail and packages. Mail and package theft is all too common, so don't let mail accumulate in your mailbox and don't leave packages on your doorstep. Bring in your mail every day, and bring packages inside your house as soon as possible.

Keep the lights on. Your house should always appear occupied. Use timers to switch lights on and off when you're not at home. Better yet, invest in "smart light bulbs" that can be controlled remotely or scheduled to turn on at certain times of the day.

Purchase and deploy home security services. Many insurance companies offer discounts and incentives to offset their cost, and home security video may assist in prosecuting the culprit should valuables be stolen. Examples of some inexpensive cameras include Ring, Arlo, Nest, and SimpliSafe, although there are many more available.

Get to know your neighbors and be on the alert for suspicious activity. Knowing your neighbors, their vehicles, and their living patterns will help you differentiate ordinary behavior from suspicious activities. As neighbors, we can all provide extra eyes for each other.

Report any suspicious activity or concerns. Call the Sacramento County Sheriff's Office non-emergency phone number (916-874-5115) to make a report.

If there is an emergency, call 911. This call will reach the off-duty sheriff patrol if they are currently patrolling in our neighborhood.

If you become a victim of vandalism, theft of mail or property, or illegal dumping, the Sacramento Sheriff's Office asks that you file an online crime report at: sacsheriff.com/pages/crime_report.php. The report takes less than five minutes to submit, and since patrol decisions are based primarily on where crime is being reported within the county, submitting a report helps ensure that Arden Oaks receives adequate service from both on- and off-duty sheriff patrols.

For more information about AONA, visit our website at: ArdenOaks.org

COUNTY SUPERVISOR RICH DESMOND TO SPEAK AT AONA ANNUAL MEETING

As previously mentioned in the AONA President's message, we are proud to announce Supervisor Rich Desmond as our guest speaker at the AONA Annual Meeting on March 12, 2024. Rich Desmond is now in his fourth year of serving as the representative of District 3 on the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, which includes Arden Arcade and thus, our neighborhood of Arden Oaks.

Supervisor Desmond is a lifelong resident of Carmichael and a fifth generation Sacramentan. He graduated from Jesuit High School and earned a bachelor's degree in English from Santa Clara University as well as a Juris Doctor from McGeorge School of Law. Prior to being elected to the Board of Supervisors, Desmond worked for the California Highway Patrol for 24 years, first as a patrol officer, then as the commander of field operations, head of the legislative affairs, and finally as CHP Chief. He was a key participant in the creation of the CHP's Amber Alert system to locate missing children, as well as the CHP's Mental Illness Response Program that trains officers to safely resolve encounters with people experiencing a mental health crisis.

If you have any specific issues that you would like Supervisor Desmond to address at the annual meeting, please email them to <aona.president@gmail.com> and we'll relay the information to him prior to the meeting. Don't miss this opportunity to meet our Sacramento County Supervisor!



WINNERS OF THE 2023 HOLIDAY LIGHTING CONTEST

Congratulations once more to the Morrison Family at 2121 Rockwood Drive for continuing their streak of winning Best in Show in the Arden Oaks Holiday Lighting Contest! This year, however, the competition was very close, with several houses within just a few points of the top prize. A panel of 54 Arden Oaks residents of all ages served as judges, and winners were picked from those with the highest composite scores. The five winning entries were: 2071 Maple Glen Road, 3750 Random Lane, 4021 Riding Club Lane, 1705 Cathay Way, and 4001 Random Lane. Honorable mentions were awarded to 2200 Rockwood Drive, 1821 Maple Glen Road, 3810 Random Lane, 2151 Rockwood Drive, and 3915 Winding Creek Road. All winners received an elegant lawn sign and gift certificate to Emigh Hardware.

Thank you to all the residents who participated in the contest as well as all the judges. We would also like to thank those that beautifully decorated and illuminated their homes but did not officially enter the contest. They definitely brightened the neighborhood (and might even have been winners)!

We look forward to continuing this tradition next holiday season. Remember, every home in the neighborhood is eligible to enter, and any one of any age who lives in the neighborhood can be a judge.

AONA MEMBERSHIP AND SECURITY PROGRAMS

You are receiving this newsletter because you either live within the Arden Oaks Neighborhood Preservation Area (NPA), as defined in the Sacramento County Zoning Code, or you live in an adjoining residential neighborhood and have contributed to the AONA security program.

As specified in the AONA bylaws, all persons over the age of 18 living within the NPA are members of AONA. Membership dues are not required, but AONA asks for a voluntary annual contribution of \$65 per household to help support the association and its activities, including this newsletter, the Fourth of July parade and games, and the annual fall barbecue. We are pleased to report that in most years, 65 to 70 percent of the NPA households contribute to the membership program.

The security program, however, is the core of AONA's neighborhood services. Residents have the peace of mind knowing that Sacramento County off-duty sheriff deputies conduct regular, street-by-street patrolling of Arden Oaks and the areas directly to the east and west. This program is supported entirely from contributions from Arden Oaks and the adjoining neighborhoods to the east and west, with close to 70 percent participation in the NPA. Remember that contributors receive the added benefits of vacation checks of their homes by the deputy sheriffs, plus email security alerts when incidents occur. If you are not already on our email distribution list for periodic security reports and would like to be added to the distribution, please email <aona.president@gmail.com>.

FEATHERED FRIENDS OF ARDEN OAKS

Among the many benefits of living in the verdant greenery of Arden Oaks is the wide diversity of bird life that lives here with us year-round. Below is just a small sampling of the birds that frequent our yards and feeders as well as serenade us when we saunter through the neighborhood. Check out ArdenOaks.org for descriptions and photos of more birds commonly spotted in our neighborhood. (All photos were taken by long-time Arden Oaks resident Lori White.)



Spotted Towhee

We see these birds everywhere hopping around the bushes and shady undergrowth. Small and bold, they have a reddish chest, a black head, and white spots on their back. You can identify their song as it sounds like a wheezing kazoo, so listen for that wheeze.



Oak Titmouse

This jittery bird is a tiny gray-brown puffball with big beady eyes and a pointy crown. While it might be hard to spot them flitting through oaks, they are frequent, year-round visitors to bird feeders. Listen for their bright repetitive song emanating from the trees.



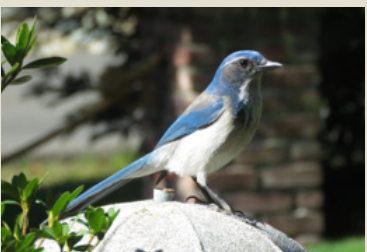
Black Phoebe

Flitting around on fence posts or mailboxes with its tail wagging up and down, phoebes are everywhere and don't seem to mind being close to people. They gad about, hither and thither, making short, dipping flights to catch bugs flying in the air, making short and repetitive chirping calls.



White-breasted Nuthatch

A great tree climber! You will find these birds skittering up, down, and sideways on tree trunks and branches, and they seem to be upside down more often than not. They are very small, low and sleek, and have a long flat head and a long beak to poke into holes in trees. It's fun to watch their gravity-defying antics as they search for food.



California Scrub-Jay

Despite the grating sound of its persistent squawk, the scrub-jay sports a rich azure blue head, tail, and wing feathers that rival the color of the sky. One of the larger songbirds, the scrub-jay has a long floppy tail that you'll often see flashes of as it darts through the trees.

SIERRA ARDEN FOOD CLOSET NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Imagine being part of something truly worthwhile while enjoying a chance to meet new people and work alongside your friends and neighbors. The Sierra Arden Food Closet, located at Morse and Northrop, is offering that opportunity. Each month, the food closet distributes canned goods, fruits and vegetables, as well as dairy and meat products to more than 500 needy individuals and families in our area, in coordination with the Sacramento Food Bank.

The food closet is looking for 6 to 10 volunteers to augment their existing volunteer staff. The volunteer commitment is generally one morning per week from 9 a.m. to noon, with most of the time spent packaging food and stocking shelves for distribution. The remainder of the time is spent in actual distribution of the food to those in need. It takes approximately six volunteers to staff one morning a week, so with the additional requested volunteers, the food closet could provide more flexibility to the volunteer schedule or open an additional day each week to serve families and individuals in need.

The work itself is fairly easy and while the food closet values all contributions, it is most helpful if volunteers are fairly mobile and can easily lift 10 to 15 pounds. Beyond simply distributing the food, there's an underlying sense of purpose and community that volunteers gain from participating.

If this resonates with you in any way, don't hesitate to reach out to Linden Beck at <Linden.w.beck@gmail.com> or at 916-202-9021 by March 30th. Food closet staff will schedule an orientation meeting at a future date and time, depending on the number of interested neighbors. Let's make this an unforgettable community endeavor by joining the food closet and making a difference to our wider community!

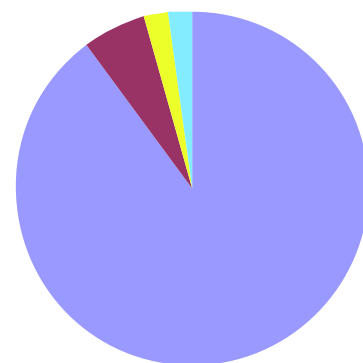
WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES

In 2023, AONA had approximately \$108,000 in total expenses. About 90 percent of that went towards the security program, which is comprised primarily of the cost of the off-duty sheriff patrols. This expense is paid entirely by the security program contributions from Arden Oaks residents as well as from participants from the neighboring areas to the east and west.

The neighborhood events (4th of July, neighborhood barbecue, and holiday lighting contest) totaled around 6 percent of expenditures; communications (*The Acorn* newsletters, signage, and website) comprised just over 2 percent, and association operations (i.e., insurance, accounting, website, and internet fees, etc.) accounted for the remaining expense, under 2 percent. These non-security expenses are paid for entirely with the membership dues. As residents were previously notified, AONA determined that beginning in 2024, it was necessary to raise the annual membership dues from \$50 to \$65, to cover the rising costs of these expenses.

The AONA programs and services are only possible because of your generous — and ongoing — security and membership contributions. Because of you, our neighborhood has enjoyed a long history of programs and activities in a safe and friendly environment, and 2024 promises to bring more of the same. Thank you.

More importantly, however, we must note that in addition to this financial accounting, the AONA Board members have donated countless hours of their time and expertise to make all these programs and events happen. The entire neighborhood is indebted to this invaluable volunteer effort that AONA Board members have and continue to devote. Thank you to all AONA Board members — past, present, and future — for your immeasurable contributions.



■ Security Program ■ Neighborhood Events
 ■ Communications ■ Association Operations



2024 Annual Meeting Agenda

March 12, 2024, 7 – 8 pm

Arden Park Community Center, 1000 La Sierra Drive
and via Zoom*

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 1. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME | Joyce Hsiao, AONA President |
| 2. AONA Board of Directors Elections | Glen Fowler, Vice President |
| - Kathleen Deeringer | incumbent |
| - Glen Fowler | incumbent |
| - Tom Harvey | incumbent |
| - Joyce Hsiao | incumbent |
| - James Jack | incumbent |
| - Marcia Rodebaugh | incumbent |
| - Debbie Cunningham | new candidate |
| - Sharon D'Arelli | new candidate |

Existing Board members whose terms continue through March of 2025 are: Linden Beck, Paul Legacki, Molly Parnell, Laurie Sopwith, Eric Stiff, and Libby Wickland. There is currently one opening on the Board to complete a one-year term

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 3. SECURITY PROGRAM UPDATE | James Jack |
| 4. GUEST SPEAKER, RICH DESMOND | Sacramento County,
Supervisor, District 3 |
| 5. Q & A | All |
| 6. ADJOURNMENT | |

*If you are unable to join the meeting in person, you can participate by video conference by sending an email to <aona.president@gmail.com> and we will send you the instructions for connecting to the meeting.

IS YOUR NAME ON THIS LIST? A heartfelt thanks to the 176 families listed below who have already contributed to the membership and/or security programs for 2024 (received as of February 15, 2024). The asterisk (*) indicates contribution to the membership program, and the caret (^) indicates contribution to the security program. Special thanks to those shown in **bold** who have made extra contributions beyond the requested amount of \$65 for membership or \$250 for security. Our apologies if your name is not listed and you've already sent your check, but we'll be sure to include your name in the fall issue of *The Acorn*. If you haven't sent your contribution in yet—either for the membership or security program—there's still plenty of time to send it! Every contribution helps!

Jesse & Sallie
Debbie & Mark
AKT Development*^
Bruce & Lori
Gus & Bronva
Harrison & Brittany
William & Laurie
Doug & Anne
Edward & Linden
Blake & Linda
Gary & Martha
Philip & Michelle
Scott & Tracy
Larry & Marjorie
Jack & Anne-Marie
Daniel
Tim & Laurel
Tony & Lydia
Michael & Lynda
John & Celeste
Aaron
Matthew & Kaoru
Mike & Sharon
Robert & Margaret
Jim & Kathleen
Maryanne Giokas & John
Mallory & Heather
Michele
Doug & Pam
Tom & Jackie
Rosemary

Greg & Danae
Rowena & Kenneth
Daniel and Debra
Michael & Linda
Taryn & Zachary Heinzer
Glen & Alicia
Mollie
David & Stacey
Gabe & Lauren
Carolyn Duty & Patricia
Larry & Laurie
Hedy
Greg & Linda
Thomas & Joanne
Pete
Tom & Nancy
Geoffrey Brewer & Russ
Loi,ars & Mimi
Bryce & Tiffany
Anthony & Mia Bellante
Antoinette
Concetta
James & Crystal
Bruce & Elizabeth
Ara & Viva
Liz Gosnell & Nancy
Cole & Wendy
Natalie Lowe & Dennis
Steve & Linda
Sobha
Joseph & Sheri
Nancy

Adams*^
Aizenberg*^
Anapolsky*^
Bagatelos^
Barnes*^
Barron*^
Bayless*^
Beck*^
Bender*^
Benvenuti*^
Bernstein*^
Best^
Booth*^
Bruner*^
Brunner*^
Cahill*^
Cameron*^
Campos^
Chin*^
Cook*^
Cutshall*^
D'Arelli*^
DeCicco*^
Deeringer*^
Demas*^
Dunkl*^
Ehler^
Elmore*^
Eres*^
Erlewine*^
Evolve*^
Evrigenis*^
Fahn*^
Falco*^
Fazio*^
Fischer*^
Fowler*^
Freeman*^
Friedman*^
Gardner*^
Geyer*^
Goldman*^
Govenar*^
Grant*^
Grant*^
Halimi*^
Harvey*^
Hayden*^
Hekmat^
Holladay*^
Ingoglia*^
Irwin*^
Isola*^
Jack*^
Jones*^
Karamanoukia*^
Kibbey*^
Klokkevold*^
Knoll*^
Koire^
Kollipara*^
Kozina*^
Kraus*^

Chris Smith & Vivian
Ram & Sita
Sheron
Luko & Lisa
Virginia
Scott & Linda
Susan & Richard
David & Jennifer
Paul & Paula
Josh Mastronarde & Kelly
William
Tim
Alex & Stacy
Nick & Chris
Kimarie
Daniel Whisman & Brenda
Michael & Maxine
Ann & Jason Fass
Robert & Gail
Richard & Nancy
Steve & Marcy
Anthony & Courtney Chandler
Shannon
Terry & Dave
Helen
Bob & Jerrienne
Larry & Patty
Sally
Daniel & Lynne
John
Jane
Ravi & Tiffany
Valerie & Joel
Gary
Manny Alvarez & Erica
David & Susan
Matthew & Erin
Praveen and Nalini
Bkaskara & Sharan
Ron & Anita
Ed & Jessica
Mark & Marcia
Steve & Cheryl
Adham & Cheryl Lyles
William & Elaine
Tim & Summer
George & Dorothy
Kuppe & Shaku
Jennifer
Tim & Dana
Larry
Budmir & Sherri
Laurie Borges
Christiane & Stuart
Katerina Christiansen & Warrick
Joyce Hsiao & Bob
Eric & Louisa
Predrag
Phil
Worth & Janet
Marc & Carole
Sherif & Sumaya
Cas & Jakki

Kwan*^
Lalchandani*^
Landis*^
Laptalo*^
Larson*^
Lasher*^
Lazansky*^
Leatherby*^
Legacki*^
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Lowe^
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Main*^
Mantell*^
Marszal*^
McMichael*^
Miller*^
Mills*^
Montero*^
Mooney^
Moore*^
Moorefield*^
Naify*^
Nicholas*^
Nichols*^
Nix*^
Pappas*^
Parsons^
Patel*^
Pearlman*^
Perry*^
Pham*^
Post*^
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Prasad^
Reddy*^
Ricci*^
Rincon^
Rodebaugh*^
Rossiter*^
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Schaedler*^
Schaedler*^
Separovich^
Shankar*^
Shaw*^
Sloan*^
Smith*^
Sokolovich*^
Sopwith*^
Spoto^
Staines*^

Stanley*^
Stiff*^
Stojakovic^
Stubblefield*^
Summers*^
Sussman*^
Sweha*^
Szymanowski*^

Chris & Lynda
Tim
Tim & Kristine
Cynthia
Jerry & Joyce
Peter & Jelena
Bob & Darle
Vinod & Archana
Tony Tsai & Julie Steiner
Angelo & Sofia
Patty Cheong & Billy
Don
Heidi
Christopher & Staria
Thomas Huang & Paul
Jane
Shirley
Jonathan
Trey & Kelli
Lori
Robert & Susan
Austen & Theresa
Franklin & Sandra
Karun
Pandurango & Sudha

Taylor*^
Taylor*^
Taylor*^
Teixeira^
Thompson^
Tiemann*^
Tilly*^
Trivedi*^
Tsai*^
Tsakopoulos*^
Tsoi*^
Turner*^
Wagner*^
Wahnsiedler*^
Wansik*^
Wheaton*^
Wheeler*^
Wheeler*^
Wheeler*^
White*^
Wood*^
Worsham*^
Yee*^
Yee*^
Yenumula*^

EASTSIDE
Peter & Joan
Virginia & Albert
Lissa Oshei & Caitie
Dylan & Lyria
Tim
Scott & Chrissy
Jeremy & Anna
Richard & Mary
Michael & Helen
Craig
Tom & Virginia
McGee Trust^
Mike & Krista
Kim
Amy Flores & Patrick
Walter

Dangermond^
Flynn^
Higgins^
Hojnacki^
Homan^
Hundahl^
Juern^
Lawrence^
Lawson^
Locke^
Manz^
Stassi^
Swanson^
Wilson^
Zacharias^

WESTSIDE
Ann Ngo & Anthony
Esther & Lynette

Ken & Kathy
Michael & Andrea
Dustin & Fantasia
Ray & Nancy
Jose & Shiella
Bruce & Cherene

Basco^
Hattingh/
Johnson^
Morton^
Ogden^
Stumpf^
Thompson^
Velilla^
Waltert^