

THE ACORN



Arden Oaks Neighborhood Association Newsletter - ardenoaks.org

February 2026

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2026

AONA Annual Meeting

Tuesday, March 3rd, 7 p.m.
Arden Park Community Center
1000 La Sierra Drive

4th of July Parade and Games

Saturday, July 4th
Streets of Arden Oaks and
Windemere Park

Neighborhood BBQ

Sunday, September 13th
3830 Random Lane

Holiday Lighting & Decoration Contest

December

AONA 2026

All-Volunteer Board of Directors

Glen Fowler, President
James Jack, Vice President
Kathleen Deeringer, Treasurer
Laurie Sopwith, Secretary
Linden Beck
Debbie Cunningham
Lindy Cunningham
Sharon D'Arelli
Tom Harvey
Joyce Hsiao
Maggie Marszal
Marcia Rodebaugh
Larry Smith
Eric Stiff
Libby Wickland
Eric Stiff
Libby Wickland

The Acorn is prepared by Joyce Hsiao, edited by Kim Swanson, and designed by Ron Teitel.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Neighbors,

As we finalize plans for the upcoming Arden Oaks Neighborhood Association Annual Meeting—where we will hold the election for eight members of the Board of Directors—I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to the Board members. Their dedicated service and commitment to our shared goal of supporting, promoting, and enhancing the quality of life for the residents of the Arden Oaks neighborhood are invaluable. The efforts and collaboration of the Board help ensure our community continues to thrive, and I am grateful for their ongoing contributions.

In addition to the hallmark events that AONA sponsors like the 4th of July Parade and Games, the Neighborhood BBQ, and the Holiday Lighting Contest, Board members are conducting essential behind-the-scenes tasks that ensure the association operates efficiently and continues to serve the residents. Their work includes drafting meeting minutes (Secretary, Laurie Sopwith); managing the Board's budget and financial business (Treasurer, Kathleen Deeringer); coordinating neighborhood security patrol coverage (Security Committee Chair, Tom Harvey and James Jack); responding to Neighborhood Preservation Act variance requests and spearheading strategic planning (Linden Beck and Eric Stiff); and keeping our residents informed through the Arden Oaks website (ardenoaks.org), email blasts, sandwich board notices, New Neighbor Welcome Packets, our new Instagram presence, and this wonderful newsletter, *The Acorn* (Communications Committee members Joyce Hsiao, Linden Beck, Tom Harvey, and Maggie Marszal).

I would also like to extend my thanks to all the AONA members for their support and active participation—you are the heart of the Arden Oaks community. Please feel free to email me anytime if you have any questions or concerns. I look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting on Tuesday, March 3rd.

Thank you,

Glen Fowler
AONA President
aona.president@gmail.com

WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS

2026 New Homeowners in Arden Oaks - **Mathew & Jennifer White**

SECURITY REPORT

The Security Program is a cornerstone of the AONA. The program provides consistent and dependable patrol services through off-duty deputies from the Sacramento County Sheriff's Office, who monitor every residential street in Arden Oaks. Special emphasis is given to Windemere Park and areas with ongoing construction projects. Patrol shifts generally last four to five hours and can occur any day of the week at random times. In response to requests, deputies conduct vacation checks on specific homes during their shifts, averaging about six homes per shift. While patrolling neighborhood, they also look out for traffic violations within Arden Oaks, occasionally issuing warnings or even citations for issues such as cars blocking a roadway or driving without headlights at night.

Arden Oaks continues to be a safe neighborhood, thanks to the continued and generous support from residents. Still, there have been a few incidents over the past four months: one residential burglary and one vehicle burglary. To find out more about reported crime incidents, check the Sacramento County Sheriff's Office website for daily updates on reported crimes via their online crime map (sacsheriff.com/pages/online_crime_mapping.php). To help keep Arden Oaks safe, please review and follow the following recommended safety tips.

Around Your Home

- Lock all doors and windows of your home and vehicles.
- Bring in mail and packages daily.
- Keep an eye on your bikes, gardening equipment, and other small property.
- Leave some lights on in your home.
- Maintain landscaping.
- Use Vacation Watch Services while you're away.
- Activate and utilize your home security services.

Around the Neighborhood

- Pedestrian Safety: Walk facing traffic and wear reflective clothing and/or use a flashlight when it's dark.
- Driver Safety: Observe the speed limit at all times and watch for pedestrians.
- Street Parking: For home events, tell guests to park on only one side of the street to keep emergency access clear.
- Stay Connected: Know your neighbors and stay alert for suspicious activity.

Found at the 2025 Neighborhood BBQ

One pair of black Martha Stewart sunglasses. Contact us at aona.president@gmail.com if these belong to you..



SECURITY CONTACT INFORMATION

- **Call 911 for Emergencies.** If an off-duty sheriff deputy is patrolling Arden Oaks at the time of your call, the call will be assigned to them. Otherwise, an on-duty deputy will respond.
- **Report Suspicious Activity or Concerns.** Call the Sacramento County Sheriff's Office non-emergency line at **916-874-5115** to make a report.
- **Contact Patrolling Off-duty Sheriff Deputy.** Call, text, or leave a message at **916-612-9410** regarding any neighborhood concerns or issues. This phone line is for use by Arden Oaks residents only, paid for by AONA.
- **Request Vacation Monitoring.** If you plan to be away for an extended period, the off-duty sheriff can monitor your property during their patrols. To request this service, email AO4@sacsheriff.com with your name, address, contact details, dates of absence, and any access instructions (e.g., gate codes). You can also call or text **916-612-9410**, the dedicated Arden Oaks line, and provide the same information.
- **Crime Reporting.** Victims of vandalism, mail or property theft, or illegal dumping, should file a crime report at sacsheriff.com/pages/crime_report.php. The online report takes less than five minutes to submit, and reporting crimes helps ensure adequate sheriff patrols in Arden Oaks, both on- and off-duty.
- **Non-Emergency County Services.** To request non-emergency services from Sacramento County call **311** or **916-875-4311**, email sacco311@custhelp.com, or download and utilize the **Sac County 311 Connect app** on your smartphone



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Would you like to connect with your neighbors, make new friends, and contribute to our community? The Board is always seeking volunteers. If you have time and are willing to share your skills, we'd appreciate help in the areas of technology, social media, accounting, legal work, graphic design, event planning, writing, editing or even bringing fresh ideas to support our neighborhood.

4TH OF JULY EVENT

This year marks the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, and AONA intends to mark this occasion with an enhanced Fourth of July event. If you have suggestions for activities—like music or marching bands, food trucks, performers, etc.— or are interested in assisting with the planning process, please email us at aona.president@gmail.com.

2025 HOLIDAY LIGHTING CONTEST WINNERS

Congratulation once again to Kay and Paul Morrison for taking Best in Show in the Holiday Lighting and Decoration Contest. Their impressive array of lights and inflatables not only illuminated Rockwood Drive but also brought cheer to all of Arden Oaks! Special recognition goes to the Jack, Bettar, Wickland, Hollday, Cooney, Marks, Parnell, and Spoto families, who rounded out the top ten winners, as determined by a diverse and impartial judging panel of local residents spanning all ages. Thank you to everyone who participated in the lighting contest and to each neighbor who decorated their home, adding extra sparkle to the neighborhood during December's dark nights.



Merry Christmas love

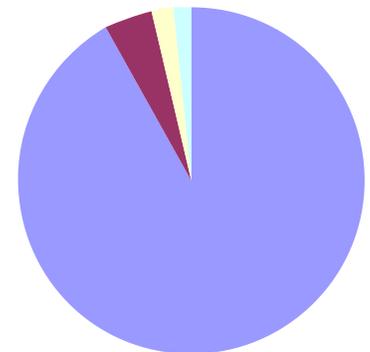
Name of Judge: [Redacted]

STREET NUMBER	STREET NAME	SCORE
1800-12	Maple Glen Road	4
1800-10	Maple Glen Road	7
1821	Maple Glen Road	6
2071	Maple Glen Road	6
1919	Rockwood Drive	10
2000	Rockwood Drive	10
2121	Rockwood Drive	10
2130	Rockwood Drive	10
2140	Rockwood Drive	10
2151-7	Rockwood Drive	10
3530	Winding Creek Road	10
3711	Winding Creek Road	10
3915	Winding Creek Road	10
3920	Winding Creek Road	10
4220	Winding Creek Road	10
3751	Random Lane	10
3770	Random Lane	10
3810	Random Lane	10
4000	Random Lane	10
4001	Random Lane	10
4010	Random Lane	10
4011	Random Lane	10
1724	Short Hills Road	6
1910	Ladino Road	6
1921	Ladino Road	6
3810	Arden Creek Road	6
3630	Meadow Lane	5
3640	Meadow Lane	5
3650	Meadow Lane	5
1911	Rolling Hills Road	5
WRITE INS		
2640	Winding Creek Rd	8
1800	Cathay	7

Handwritten notes on the right side of the table include: "Merry Christmas love", "jingle bells", "love", "August", "Merry Christmas", and various drawings of snow globes, trees, and snowflakes.

WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES

In 2025, AONA incurred total expenses of about \$148,000. Consistent with previous years, approximately 94% of these funds were allocated to the Security Program, 4% to the neighborhood events, and 3% for communications and AONA operations (including this newsletter, our website, insurance, and accounting). All of this was made possible by the ongoing and generous contributions of neighborhood residents. With your help, we look forward to more of the same in 2026 and beyond, and we are especially appreciative of the countless volunteer hours by AONA board members who make it all happen.

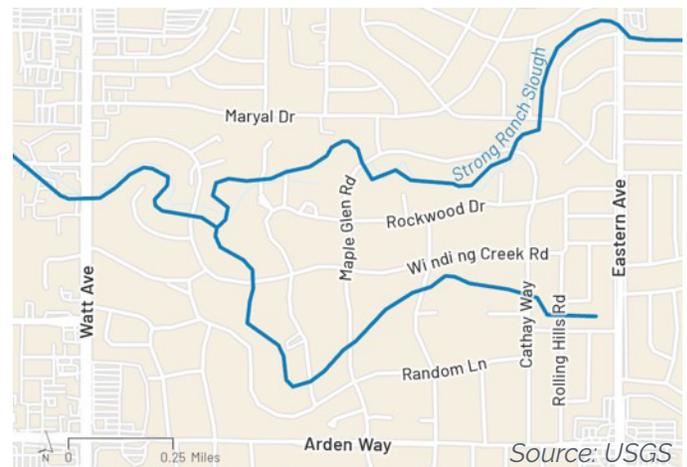


■ Security Program
 ■ Neighborhood Events
■ Communications
 ■ Association Operations
Breakdown of AONA 2025 Expenses

STRONG RANCH SLOUGH

Strong Ranch Slough, which winds its way through Arden Oaks before joining the American River near Cal Expo, is a major reason for the neighborhood's lush trees and vibrant vegetation. The slough and the vegetation it supports provide shade throughout Sacramento's hot summers, creates habitats for birds and other wildlife, filters pollutants, and helps safeguard water quality.

Over time, floodplains along this portion of the slough have been altered to protect our homes from flooding. However, homeowners should still work to protect and preserve the natural character of the stream. It's essential to keep creeks and their borders clean by removing debris that could block the channel, avoid dumping chemicals, oil, paint or other toxic substances near the creek, and protect native plants along its banks to help reduce erosion. If your property borders Strong Ranch Slough (see map), it may be subject to the Natural Streams Combining Zoning District regulations outlined in the Sacramento County Zoning Code which is available on the Arden Oaks website at ardenoaks.org/natural-streams.



Life on the Slough

When we first moved here it was July and the slough (we called it creek) mostly standing water, mud and concrete, trickles of sprinkler runoff. We didn't know how deep our creek could be.

Then earth wobbled its way to winter, and over the valley spread hard, steady rain: water gushed down gutters, streaming swales to find and follow the low-lying line of the stream.

Slough rose to creek, creek turned to river, a swift and narrow channel, inundating lowland lawns, rushing under roadbed and bridge, still rising.

Today, it's true, we call it a slough. Most of the time it's slow and wet, home to a few happy mallards. But the years have helped us know the power, the flow, the fear, the excitement of life's waters rising again.

— Bob Stanley

SMUD TREE TRIMMING

If you have recently been visited by the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) to trim the trees in your yard, it is likely part of SMUD's Vegetation Management program. This initiative aims to ensure adequate clearance between vegetation and power lines, poles, and transformers to prevent power outages, reduce fire risk, and enhance public safety. SMUD typically maintains a minimum clearance of 12 feet between tree branches and power lines, with increased distances for certain fast-growing species.

If SMUD determines that a tree on your property requires pruning, trimming, or even removal, you will be notified in person or via a door hanger prior to the commencement of work. SMUD utilizes professional arborists and contractors who are trained and certified in line-clearance trimming, ensuring essential portions are trimmed for safety and minimizing unnecessary damage. If you observe a tree limb touching a power line, do not attempt to trim it yourself! Call SMUD for assistance.

It should be noted that SMUD has legal authority to conduct work within easement areas without seeking permission. Likewise, SMUD may trim trees on your property if they pose an immediate safety concern, as they are legally obligated to maintain their power lines in a safe and hazard-free manner.

To safeguard yourself and your property, it is advisable to review your deed for any utility easements and be present during scheduled tree trimming so that you can consult directly with the onsite crew supervisor regarding which branches will be trimmed. If your tree's trunk is entirely located on your property, outside any recorded easement, and its branches do not breach safety clearance requirements, SMUD must obtain your consent, provide advance notification, and give you the opportunity to discuss the scope of the trimming.

Let's work together and collaborate with SMUD to maintain the well-being and safety of Arden Oaks' iconic trees.

AONA ANNUAL MEETING 2026

We are pleased to announce that Supervisor Rich Desmond will once again serve as our guest speaker at the AONA Annual Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 7 p.m. at the Arden Park Community Center. Supervisor Desmond is now in his sixth year representing Sacramento County District 3, an area that includes significant urban unincorporated regions including Arden Oaks. As a lifelong resident of Carmichael and a fifth-generation Sacramentan, Supervisor Desmond cares deeply about community issues and welcomes input from Arden Oaks residents regarding their perspectives, concerns, and suggestions.

At the Annual Meeting, participants will elect a slate of AONA members for the board of directors. Since this is an even number year, we will be electing eight residents to a two-year term starting March 2026 to complement the remaining seven directors for a full board of 15 directors. The slate of officers up for election are:

Sharon D'Arelli (incumbent)
Kathleen Deeringer (incumbent)
Glen Fowler (incumbent)
Erin Grinberg (new candidate)
Tom Harvey (incumbent)
Joyce Hsiao (incumbent)
James Jack (incumbent)
Marcia Rodebaugh (incumbent)

We invite you to attend the upcoming Annual Meeting to vote for our slate of directors and to gain insight into the initiatives Supervisor Desmond is undertaking to enhance our community. Should you be unable to attend in person, you may participate via video conference by emailing aona.president@gmail.com to request a connection link.

AONA MEMBERSHIP AND SECURITY CONTRIBUTIONS A huge thank you goes out to the 167 families listed below who have—as of February 17, 2026—contributed to the AONA membership and/or security programs for this year. We would like to extend special gratitude to those highlighted in **bold**, recognizing their generosity in exceeding the requested contribution. If you have yet to send in your payment, it's not too late to contribute, and your name will appear in the next issue of *The Acorn*. Every contribution—large or small—helps make a positive impact on our entire neighborhood.

*Membership Program contribution; ^Security Program bi-annual contribution; **Bold** additional contribution above the requested \$65 for membership and \$250 for security

Jesse & Sallie
Bruce & Lori
Pat & Gail
William & Laurie
Doug & Anne
Edward & Linden
Blake & Linda
Gary & Martha
Philip & Michelle
Scott & Tracy
Jason
Larry & Marjorie
Mark & Priya
Jack & Anne-Marie
Daniel
Andy & Beth
Tim & Laurel
Tony & Lydia
Steve & Donna
Cindy & Chris
Aaron
Sam & Deborah
Matt & Lindy
Matthew & Kaoru
Mike & Sharon
Jim & Kathleen
Maryanne Giokas & John
Patricia Geyer & Carolyn
Michele
Pam
Sara
Tom & Jackie
Rosemary

Greg & Danae
Rowena
Michael & Linda
Jim & Ann
Susan Summers & David
Glen & Alicia
Mollie
David & Stacey
Larry & Laurie
Dave & Erla
Hedy
Greg & Linda
Thomas & Joanne
Gary & Erin
Mark & Liz
Pete
Tom & Nancy
Taryn Fischer & Zachary
Bryce & Tiffany
Mia Bellante & Anthony
James & Crystal
Perry Arellano & Janna
Judith & Robert Taff
Ara & Viva
Liz Gosnell & Nancy
Natalie Lowe & Dennis
Steve & Linda
Sobha
Joseph & Sheri
Nancy

Adams*^
Anapolsky*^
Anderson*
Barron*^
Bayless*^
Beck*^
Bender*^
Benvenuti*^
Bernstein*^
Best*^
Bollinger*^
Booth*^
Brink*^
Bruner*^
Brunner*^
Byers*^
Cahill*^
Cameron*^
Carlson*^
Cheney*^
Cook*^
Cunningham*^
Cunningham*^
Cutshall*^
D'Arelli*^
Deering*^
Demas*^
Duty*^
Ehlert*^
Elmore*^
Elrfai*^
Eres*^
Erlewine*^
Evolve*^
Evrigenis*^
Fahn*^
Fazio*^
Fish*^
Forbess*^
Fowler*^
Freeman*^
Friedman*^
Goldman*^
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Govenar*^
Grant*^
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Grinberg*^
Grotewohl*^
Halimi*^
Harvey*^
Heinzer*^
Holladay*^
Ingoglia*^
Jack*^
Jones*^^
Kahler*^
Karamanoukian*^
Kibbey*^
Knoll*^
Koire*^
Kollipara*^
Kozina*^
Kraus*^

Chris Smith & Vivian
Sheron
Luko & Lisa
Scott & Linda
Susan & Richard
David & Jennifer
Samuel & Rebecca
Paul & Paula
William
J. Tim
Wen-pen & Yang-ching
Alex & Stacy
Nick & Chris
Kimarie
Daniel Whisman & Brenda
Michael & Maxine
Adam & Maggie
Ann & Jason Fass
Lorraine
Courtney
Robert & Gail
Richard & Nancy
Steve & Marcy
Courtney Chandler & Anthony
Bob & Jerrienne
Larry & Patty
John
Jacob & Molly
Ravi & Tiffany
Valerie & Joel
John C.
Gary
Patty & Shannon Moody
David & Susan
Matthew & Erin
Tatia Wagner & Tim
Praveen & Nalini
Brian Pifferini & Brian
Vincent & Ellen
Lor & Susannah
Bkaskara & Sharan
Anita
Ed & Jessica
Mark & Marcia
Steve & Cheryl
Jessica DeHart & Anthony
Jeff & Julie
Cheryl Lyles & Adham
William & Elaine
Tim & Summer
Jennifer
Larry
Laurie Borges
Christiane & Stuart
Joyce Hsiao & Bob
Bryan & Lisa
Eric & Louisa
Predrag
Michael & Lindsay
Phil
Worth & Janet
Marc & Carole
Cas & Jakki
Chris & Lynda

Kwan*^
Landis*^
Laptalo*^
Lasher*^
Lazansky*^
Leatherby*^
Lee*^
Legacki*^
Lewis*^
Lewis*^
Liu*^
Locke*^
Lowe*^
Lyon*^
Main*^
Mantell*^
Marszal*^
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McHarg*^
McMichael*^
Miller*^
Mills*^
Montero*^
Naify*^
Nicholas*^
Pappas*^
Parnell*^
Patel*^
Pearlman*^
Perlegos*^
Perry*^
Philips*^
Post*^
Post*^
Powell*^
Prasad*^
Putler*^
Quilici*^
Randall*^
Reddy*^
Ricci*^
Rincon*^
Rodebaugh*^
Rossiter*^
Saccani*^
Sauls*^
Sbeih*^
Schaedler*^
Schaedler*^
Shaw*^
Smith*^
Sopwith*^
Spoto*^
Stanley*^
Stanton*
Stiff*^
Stojakovic*^
Stovall*^
Stubblefield*^
Summers*^
Sussman*^
Szymanowski*^
Taylor*^

Tim & Kristine
Cynthia
Jerry & Joyce
Bob & Darle
Julie Steiner & Tony
Don
Heidi
Thomas Huang & Paul
Scott & Janelle
Jane
Shirley
Trey & Kelli
Lori
Josh & Libby
Marilyn
Robert & Susan
Franklin & Sandra
Karun
Pandurango & Sudha

Taylor*^
Teixeira*^
Thompson*^
Tilly*^
Tsai*^
Turner*^
Wagner*^
Wansik*^
Wetch*^
Wheaton*^
Wheeler*^
Wheeler*^
White*^
Wickland*^
Wickland*^
Wood*^
Yee*^
Yee*^
Yenumula*^

EASTSIDE

Hamed & Katherine
Peter & Joan
Virginia & Albert
Dylan & Lyria
Scott & Chrissy
James & Claudine
Jeremy & Anna
Machi & Janice
Richard & Mary
Craig
Tom & Virginia
Mike & Krista
Kim
Walter

Benour*^
Dangermond*^
Flynn*^
Hojnacki*^
Hundahl*^
Irwin*^
Juern*^
Kuwabara*^
Lawrence*^
Locke*^
Manz*^
Stassi*^
Swanson*^
Zacharias*^

WESTSIDE

Ann Ngo & Anthony
Bruce & Cathy
Ken & Kathy
Michael & Andrea
Ray & Nancy
Bruce & Cherene

Basco*^
Levering*^
Morton*^
Ogden*^
Thompson*^
Walter*^



Annual Meeting

Tuesday, March 3, 2026, 7pm

Arden Park Community Center
1000 La Sierra Drive

Guest Speaker: **Sacramento County Supervisor Rich Desmond**

Come mingle with your neighbors, enjoy a snack, and learn about what's going on in the community.