



The Oak Leaf



October 2011

ANNUAL MEETING

MODA will be hosting our Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 13th from 3-5 p.m. in the Peninsula School Auditorium. This meeting like the picnic is an opportunity for you to meet the MODA Board and your neighbors. We encourage both new and old members of our wonderful community to join us.

The Treasurer's Report will be given and a copy distributed. Questions will also be answered regarding where your dues are spent.

A couple of positions on the MODA Board are likely to open up and we will need to fill them with members for about 9 meetings a year. The responsibilities include writing articles and processing the newsletter, providing help with the Annual Meeting, Picnic and communicating information to neighborhood when important issues arise.

2011 ANNUAL PICNIC

By Bianca Johnston (age 8)

I had a lot of fun at this year's picnic. From what I saw other people did too. At the picnic there were 2 jumpy houses. The big kids' jumpy house had a slide. They were a big hit. Mr. Horsefeathers was fun. He was a big hit too. The food was delicious, especially the dessert. I have a sweet tooth. I'm already thinking about next year's picnic.

BURGLARY TIPS

Our neighborhood has been the target of several burglaries and attempted burglaries of late. These burglaries have taken place during the day as well as in the evening. Some burglars gained access to unlocked cars parked in driveways and carports and some gained access through open windows.

Some safety reminders:

- Lock all windows and doors before leaving your home, even if you only plan to be away a few minutes.
- Lock your car.
- Keep your bicycles out of sight from the street and lock them.
- Do not leave valuables in your car.
- Placing, and using, locks on gates will be a deterrent for those attempting to gain access through your yard into your home.
- Lock your garage and tool shed as they generally contain tools that can be used to gain access to your home.
- When you are on vacation stop your newspaper and mail or have a trusted friend or neighbor pick them up daily.
- If you see something that appears to be out of place please call the San Mateo County Sheriff at 650 363 4911 or dial 911.
- Take a photo of any suspicious vehicle.
- We invite you to share any safety tips you may have with the neighborhood.

MODA BY-LAWS

The Menlo Oaks residents have approved the changes your MODA Board proposed recently. The revised By-Laws are available on Big Tent or go to the MODA web site under the Rules and Regs section.

Calendar 2011

Nov 13th Annual Meeting

PICNIC WINNERS

Children's Salad

- 1st Macaroni Salad by Addison Rusky age 6
- 2nd Mom's Own by mystery chef (prize yet to be claimed)
- 3rd Salade Nicoise by Victoria & Blake Sanie

Children's Dessert

- 1st Bears at the Beach by Gigi Rusky age 11 and Friends
- 2nd Mt. St. Helena Sugar by Jonathan & David Blecherman
- 3rd S'more Cupcakes by Mayson Rusky age 9

Adult's Salad

- 1st Grilled Vegetable Salad by Baxter
- 2nd Tomato Salad by Amsbaugh - Lozano
- 3rd Black Bean, Corn & Avocado Salad with Quinoa by Susan Ellis

Adult's Desert

- 1st Elvis Cookies by Danielle Wood
- 2nd Strawberry Pie by Gallo
- 3rd Lemon Squares by Sigrid Chase

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MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

Another introduction to some 'old-timers' and 'new-er' residents of Menlo Oaks! This time we have two neighbors on Arlington.

YUKIO AND DOROTHY YAMAMOTO moved to their Arlington Way home almost 40 years ago in 1972. Yukio was with USGS, United States Geologic Survey, here on Middlefield as a District Project Manager and enjoyed the lack of a commute, being close to work. For many years, other old-timers may remember, their house was the local voting site, as indicated by the American flag on display. In addition to their patriotic service, both Yukio and Dorothy were active volunteers at Chope County Hospital. Dorothy says he was 'a really good man, with not any enemy in this world' and avoided talking about the internment during WWII.

Dorothy and Yukio met 44 years ago when he was on a USGS assignment in Oregon where Dorothy had lived for 20 years raising her four children. At the time she was assisting a paraplegic man through her church. And, yes, it was a romantic turn of events for this pretty blue-eyed blond and this hardworking mapmaker (who had never been married). They were married 6 months later, and as you can see, four years later they settled in Menlo Oaks!

Sadly, Yukio is no longer with us, but Dorothy continues to keep busy doing things for others. She is a skilled seamstress and has done elaborate sewing projects on gowns for ladies of the night in the 1930's in Portland. Now she makes exquisite silk scarves and gives them as gifts, especially to those she sees struggling with their problems, to bring a moment of joy and a smile. Dorothy's lovely daughter, who lives in Pescadero, is over regularly to give a hand, although her mom is amazingly organized, looks great, and maintains a lovely home in the changed neighborhood among our giant oaks.

KEN AND KIA FRIEDMAN, are new neighbors, having moved here two years ago. Their home on Arlington is on an over-sized property and beautifully situated and maintained. Ken and Kia are business partners in their Financial business, although Ken's background includes a degree in History and his possible future interest is in property development.

Ken grew up on the East Coast and has lived in the San Jose/Palo Alto area before discovering and 'falling in love with' Menlo Oaks. 7-year old Nathan is comfortable riding his bike in the area and Ken enjoys his walks with their adorable golden retriever (I think) Maggie! Also, back from a mom and dad funded 8-month trip (graduation gift) to see the world, are the family's older boys, Chris, 25, and Brandon, 23. Chris has a Masters in Psychology and works with autistic children, and may be considering going back to teach in Korea. Brandon seemed most taken with Australia and is hustling (good tips) in a waiter job to come up with more \$'s and check out more of what's out there.

The Friedmans love the treed streets in the neighborhood which remind them of 'back East'. Ken has gotten himself pretty involved with Nathan's school (Laurel) and with other Board commitments, but he is open to helping with MODA, possibly in the future.

Elizabeth Gheleta

CALLING ALL GHOSTS AND GOBLINS! TRICK OR TREATING IN MENLO OAKS HALLOWEEN 2011

We are inviting the neighborhood to stay in Menlo Oaks this year to Trick or Treat and celebrate Halloween. We have the perfect environment here with our quiet streets and few street lamps for a ghoulish celebration. Come on! Stay home and help get the trick or treating going! In order to kick this adventure off, we are looking for a few volunteers.

First – if you will be home and passing out treats this Halloween, please let us know so we can list you on the neighborhood trick or treating map.

Second – we are looking for a point house on each block to be a pit stop of sorts (possibly with a signature adult beverage) and place of interest to facilitate trick or treating throughout the entire neighborhood.

Third – will you decorate your home for Halloween? Please let us know as we will be passing out prizes for the best decorated home. Wait a minute. Prizes?! Yes that's right! There will be judges circulating throughout the neighborhood searching for home with the best Halloween decorations.

Fourth – JUDGES. Would you like to search for the best decorated home OR for the best Halloween costume? Please let us know.

And, oh yeah, there will be MORE prizes for the best costume – adult, child and pet. Yes pet! And maybe the best treat. We know some of you hand out FULL SIZE CANDY BARS.

Interested? E-mail janetbernadicou@co-mast.net or call 650 722 0408 by OCTOBER 3rd.

Let's have fun in Menlo Oaks this Halloween!

Neighborhood Directory

A Menlo Oaks Neighborhood Directory will be published again in February 2012. Only MODA members who have requested to appear in the Directory will be included and will automatically receive a copy. If you were in the last Directory, you will be included in the next unless you drop a note to me at 441 Arlington Way requesting to be removed, treasurer@menlo-oaks.org.

Below are the street numbers of homes included in the last Directory. The requests I have received over the past year are also shown in this list. If your number is on the list and you want to be in the next Directory, you do not need to do anything. Please let me know if there are name, additional children, e-mail or phone number changes or errors to last years Directory.

If you're not on the list and want to be included in the next Directory, please fill out and return the newsletter mailing list & directory additions/deletions & changes form inserted in the newsletter. The envelope included with this newsletter may be used for both the MODA information form and your 2011-2012 dues.

Arlington Way	Berkeley Avenue
125	381
151	383
199	390
220	411
221	440
260	441
280	443
281	450
298	450
300	470
301	480
320	490
380	
	620
	622
	626
	630
	660
	662
	680
	700
	701
	710
	720
	740
	754
	760

Colby Avenue	Coleman Avenue	Entrada Way	Frederick Court	Menlo Oaks Drive
930	870	511	1	210
935	876	521	2	220
940	890		3	221
950	900		4	240
960	951			241
				241
				281
				298
				299
				300
				301
				330
				331
				360
				361
				398
				399
				400
				420
				451
				461
				462
				481
				500
				501
				507
				510
				520
				530
				531
				549
				550
				551
				560
				999

Peninsula Way	Ringwood Avenue
915	200
925	220
935	250
941	300
945	320
951	400
955	410
961	420
990	440
	440
	540
	550
	570
	572
	660
	670
	680
	780
	788
	790
	800
	890
	894

MODA DUES

Annual MODA dues are collected each year starting the first of October. Dues are \$20.00 per household and are used to publish newsletters and the neighborhood directory, for the annual picnic and annual meeting, as well as occasional incidental neighborhood related expenses and flyers.

Thanks to everyone who supported MODA with their dues last year. If you have any questions about dues, expenditures, etc., contact Remona Murray-Collyer, MODA Treasurer, at 327-2806 or treasurer@menlo-oaks.org.

An addressed envelope is included to this newsletter if you prefer to pay by mail, or bring your 2011-2012 dues of \$20.00 to the Annual Meeting.

Make a check for \$20.00 payable to Menlo Oaks District Association

Neighborhood News

CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS

October 9th-15th is Fire Prevention Week which was established to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire, the tragic conflagration that killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures and burned more than 2,000 acres. The fire began on October 8, but continued into and did most of its damage on October 9, 1871.

Smoke Detectors

Properly installed and maintained smoke alarms in the home are considered one of the best and least expensive means of providing an early warning of a potentially deadly fire. Smoke alarms save lives, prevent injuries, and minimize property damage by enabling residents to detect fires early in their homes. The risk of dying from fires in homes without smoke alarms is twice as high as in homes that have working smoke alarms.

Fire prevention week is a good time to replace the batteries of the smoke detectors in your house. All smoke alarms in your house should be tested once a month, and their batteries replaced annually. But if smoke alarms in your home are more than 10 years old, NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) recommends replacing them, as well.

Federal officials estimate that up to 85 percent of all dwellings in the United States have smoke detectors, but that as many as a third of them may not work.

Fire-safety officials have long believed that the leading cause of smoke-detector failure is a power-source problem, primarily dead or missing batteries since most detectors are battery powered. But many of those experts are increasingly concerned that some detectors may fail to work because they are too old.

“Many people are vigilant about keeping their batteries fresh, but they may not realize that the mechanism is worn out,” said James F. Coyle, the assistant administrator of the United States Fire Administration, which monitors firefighters’ safety.

Carbon Monoxide Detectors and the new law

In May 2010, the state of California enacted The Carbon Monoxide Prevention Act of 2010 (Cal. Health & Safety Code §§ 13260 et seq.) The law requires owners of California dwelling units (even those that are not being sold) that have (i) a fossil fuel-burning heater, appliance or fireplace (for example, a gas stove or water heater) or (ii) an attached garage, to have a CO-alarm in place: (1) July 1, 2011, as to single-family dwellings and 2-4 unit buildings, or (2) January 1, 2013, as to all other dwellings. If you have not yet installed Carbon Monoxide detectors in your home this would be

a good time to do it. Virtually every hardware store including Ace, Lowe’s, Home Depot & even Costco has them on sale. There are also combination CO/smoke detectors available and this might be a good choice if your existing smoke detectors are almost 10 years old or older or if you don’t know how old your smoke detectors are. Another good reason to get the combination units would be to reduce the clutter on the ceilings and/or walls of your home. Before you install the new units, write the date on the back with a sharpie.

If the home has only one smoke detector/CO alarm, it should be installed in the main bedroom or in the hallway outside the sleeping area. Place the alarm at least 15 feet away from fuel burning appliances (furnaces, fireplace, etc.)

Make sure nothing is covering or blocking the unit.

Do not place the smoke detector/CO alarm in dead air spaces (behind the couch, in a closet) or next to a window or door.

One unit should be installed on every floor and in all sleeping areas.

For more information use these links <http://www.nfpa.org/categoryList.asp?categoryID=2017&URL=Safety%20Information/Fire%20Prevention%20Week>

Michael Johnston

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The Oak Leaf is published by the Menlo Oaks District Association and is distributed to all homes in the Menlo Oaks neighborhood of unincorporated San Mateo County.

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