

# CONA Newsletter

The Council of Neighborhood Associations of South Pinellas County

December 2006

## President's Message

After three years as CONA President, this is my final President's Corner. I have enjoyed the job of representing the interests of neighborhoods of St. Petersburg. I am happy to be handing off this to the very capable hands of Barbara Heck. She has a different style and different priorities that will allow us to continue the efforts to make every neighborhood in our community better.

2006 has been a successful year in making progress on the CONA priorities. They were: policing, environmental issues, implementing the LDR's, under grounding utilities and traffic calming. In all cases, we were able to raise the issues and get the decision makers to respond to our requests. The answer was not always yes, but there was always an answer.

The top priority of neighborhoods is always policing. We worked on improving the Court Watch program. We saw one of our greatest allies, an assistant state prosecutor, get elected Circuit Judge. Another state prosecutor has come forward to work with us. The City has agreed to do a major review of the police department. We hope this will result in a better police department. The Sheriff has come into the City and worked on several major drug busts.

Environmental issues played a large role during the year. CONA took the lead on the hugely successful Pinellas Living Green Expo and is working on the 2007 event. We helped convince the City and the County to join the "Green Cities"

effort. Dunedin joined them late in the year. We have regularly worked with several environmental groups on projects throughout the City.

The LDR's (zoning) process was completed with buy-in from all groups across the City. Neighborhood leaders contributed thousands of volunteer hours on a project that will serve us well for decades to come. The new regulations will take effect in the Spring. The downtown zoning changes are still in the works.

Traffic calming will be revisited in 2007. CONA has been requested by the City to re-activate a traffic calming committee to review the current process and consider changes. Volunteers may contact Barbara Heck to begin this process.

The other thing that happens as CONA president is that you get asked to serve in other volunteer positions. Therefore, I am currently the Secy/Treas of the PSTA, the VP of Neighborhood Housing Services, a member of the Homelessness Task Force and on the Board of the Sierra Club. I will be around working on issues of transportation, affordable housing, and the environment. Thank you for this opportunity.

I have enjoyed almost all of it.

Karl Nurse

## CONA Board Meeting Wednesday, December 20, 2006

The SUNSHINE CENTER, 330 5th St. N.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m.; meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.

Refreshments provided by Snell Isle Property Owners Association

### Agenda Items:

2007 CONA Officers Election

CONA Business – Treasurer's Report - Updates

Salute to Deputy Mayor Mike Dove

Neighborhood Associations –Presidents' Bragging Night

### Important Upcoming Event:

December 31 – First Night (Downtown St. Petersburg)

January 17 – Installation of CONA's 2007 Officers

## On the inside

CONA Mentoring Program.....	2
CONA Membership Application .....	4
2006 CONA Membership .....	5
CONA Minutes .....	6-7
CONA Welcomes Herb Polson .....	7
Citizen of the Decade .....	8



# CONA's Mentoring Program – New

CONA wants to help your Neighborhood Association overcome some hurdles you might face as you grow. We have a wonderful group of very knowledgeable people who are ready to help you. Over the past years, each Association has faced similar issues and found solutions appropriate to their needs. Below are just a few of the topics we cover:

- Neighborhood plans**
- Grant writing**
- Crime Watch**
- Codes issues**
- Annexation**
- Zoning issues**
- Traffic calming**
- Qualifying as a 501 c (3) – tax exempt**

Now, we won't be doing the project for you. However, we will give you sound advice on how to proceed. We can help you identify your options. We can provide appropriate City and business contacts. We will help you monitor your progress and we can review and proof your submissions.

Please call Tom Killian (727-343-2041) or e-mail him at [tomkillian@juno.com](mailto:tomkillian@juno.com) today to start the Mentor Program process for your neighborhood.

Remember, we want you and your Association to be the very best it can be. We are one very large family and helping you is what we do best.



## Knowledge is powerful medicine.

As part of our commitment to community education, Edward White Hospital offers FREE seminars on a range of topics, including stroke awareness and diabetes. We also provide free Blood Pressure Screenings and more.

For more information, contact Aimee Bennett, RN, Director of Marketing at 727-328-6245.

- 2323 9th Ave. N., St. Petersburg, FL 33713
- 727-323-1111 – Main
- [www.edwardwhitehospital.com](http://www.edwardwhitehospital.com)



## Call before you dig

It's not just another catchy slogan. It's the law.

**1-800-432-4770**



Learn more about the "Call Before You Dig" law at your next homeowner's association meeting.

Contact  
Brian Dean at  
(727) 669-5747

[www.callsunshine.com](http://www.callsunshine.com)

Join us for the Second Annual



# Pinellas Living Green Expo

**Saturday, June 16**

9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**Sunday, June 17**

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The Coliseum, St. Petersburg

**Pinellas Living Green Expo** is a **FREE** educational event focusing on smart energy solutions. Participants will learn how to **save money, save resources, and protect our environment for future generations.**

Mark your calendars. Stay tuned as we make more announcements about the the exciting new details for the 2007 event.

**[www.pinellaslivinggreenexpo.org](http://www.pinellaslivinggreenexpo.org)**



## 2007 CONA Membership

2007 CONA Membership fees are now due. Please complete the form below and mail it to CONA, or bring it to the next meeting.

We will be using these forms to update our mailing list so be sure to include phone numbers and email addresses. Please include the names and addresses of people to whom we should be sending the CONA Newsletter.

# 2007 CONA Membership Application

*Time to renew you CONA membership for 2007!*

2007 dues are due January 1, 2007. Fill out this CONA Membership Application and mail it along with the Membership Fee to: C.O.N.A., P.O. Box 13693, St. Petersburg, FL 33733-3693. Or you may bring it to the next Board Meeting.

Association Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Boundaries: \_\_\_\_\_

# of Households: \_\_\_\_\_ # of Members: \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Dates & Location: \_\_\_\_\_

President: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

CONA Representative: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternative Rep: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Add these names to the CONA Mailing List:

Name	Address	Zip
------	---------	-----

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please include annual dues of \$35. If you would like to use the Bulk Mail Permit #, please add \$15 to your dues to help pay for the cost of the permit. Indicate below, the frequency of your mailings (monthly, quarterly, etc.), approximate mailing dates and # of pieces per mailing.

Frequency of Mailing: \_\_\_\_\_ (monthly, quarterly, etc.)

Approximate Mailing Dates: \_\_\_\_\_ # of pieces per Mailing: \_\_\_\_\_

# 2006 CONA Members

**Thank you to all our paid members.**

Albert Whitted Airport Advisory Committee

Americana Cove

Azalea Neighborhood Association

Bahama Shores Homeowners Association

Bartlett Park Neighborhood Association

Bayou Highlands Neighborhood Association

Bayway Isles Home Owner's Club

Brighton Bay Homeowners Association

Broadwater Civic Association

Causeway Isles Neighborhood Association

Central Oak Park Neighborhood Association

Childs Park Neighborhood Association

Coquina Key Property Owner's Association

Crescent Heights Neighborhood Association

Crescent Lake Neighborhood Association

Crossroads Area Neighborhood Association

Disston Heights Civic Association

Downtown Neighborhood Association

Eagle Crest Civic Association

Euclid/St. Paul Neighborhood Association

Fossil Park Neighborhood Association

Fourth Street Business Association

Garden Manor Neighborhood Association

Grand Central District Association

Greater Pinellas Point Civic Association

Greater Woodlawn Neighborhood Association

Harbordale Neighborhood Association

Harris Park Neighborhood Association

Historic Kenwood Neighborhood Association

Historic Old Northeast Neighborhood Association

Historic Roser Park Neighborhood Association

Historic Uptown Neighborhood Association

Holiday Park Home Owner's Association

Isla del Sol Owner's Association

Jungle Prada Neighborhood Association

Jungle Terrace Civic Association

Lakewood Estates Civic Association

Live Oaks Neighborhood Association

Magnolia Heights Neighborhood Association

Mangrove Bayou Neighborhood Association

Maximo Moorings Civic Association

Meadowlawn Neighborhood Association

Mel-Tan Heights Neighborhood Association

North Kenwood Neighborhood Association

Northeast Park Neighborhood Association

Old Pasadena Neighborhood Association

Old Southeast Neighborhood Association

Placido Bayou Community Association

Ponce De Leon Neighborhood Association

Riviera Bay Civic Association

Shore Acres Civic Association

Snell Isle Property Owner's Association

Sterling Manor-Brighton Bay Neighborhood Assoc.

Tropical Shores Neighborhood Association

Tyrone Landings Neighborhood Association

Venetian Isles Home Owner's Association

Westminster Heights Neighborhood Association

Winston Park Neighborhood Association

Wyngate HOA

# CONA BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING MINUTES

## The Sunshine Multi-Service Center - October 15, 2006

First Vice President Barbara Heck opened our meeting at 7:00 p.m.

- She then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to Our Flag.
- The Chair welcomed City Councilwoman Leslie Curran.
- There was a call for approval of the October 18th Minutes as published. [Approved]
- Annie McWilliams gave the Treasurer's Report of a current balance of \$2,361.29. She noted our membership stands at 59 associations.
- Our Acting President presented Annie with a plaque of appreciation naming her as the Citizen of the Year for 2005 and 2006. Her support of CONA and her tenure in office ends in December.
- We then enjoyed a presentation from Greg Pierce, President of Childs Park Neighborhood Association, our Featured CONA Neighborhood this month.
  - Highlight of the Childs Park presentation was a performance of a mime musical- "He's Incredible" by 10 young people, directed by Miss Clark, from the Recreation Center supervised by Yolanda Anderson.
  - We also learned of the N-Team, a group of volunteers from the local corrections facility situated in Childs Park.
  - They were pleased to announce that the anticrime Weed & Seed Program now embraces Childs Park as well as Midtown.
- Barbara Heck took the opportunity to invite all city neighborhood organizations to join with CONA to share solutions to common problems and to speak as a single voice in urging city government to cooperate in raising the quality of life for all St. Petersburg residents.
- Journalist and Historian Author, Scott Hansel, then provided a fascinating review of our city's past.
- Chair of our CONA Nominations Committee then announced their draft slate, noting that nominations will be accepted from the floor until closed at the conclusion of tonight's meeting. The election of officers will be held at our December meeting.
  - For President- Barbara Heck, [procedural promotion of 1st V.P.], for First V.P.- Darden Rice, for Second V.P.- Will Michaels, for Secretary- Conrad Weiser, and for Treasurer- April Gausman or Keith Locke.
  - Calling for additional nominations, our President nominations would remain open until the close of the meeting. She offered thanks to Cathy Wilson and her Nominations Committee.
- We then heard a presentation about the CONA Leadership Program for 2007 provided by Chair. Patricia Guaveia.
  - The 11 classes, limited to 40 enrollees, extend from January '07 through May. The nominal deadline for applications is November 30th, but the deadline may be extended until December 15th.
  - It may be possible to identify sponsor organizations for candidates who cannot afford the \$75 tuition.
  - CONA Leadership is an important education for any neighborhood organization officer.
- Barbara proudly noted the synergy between our CONA Living Green Expo and the recent reports of St. Petersburg pursuing "Gold" certification as a Green City, in parallel with similar endeavors by several Pinellas sister cities.
- The next presentation, provided by Cassie Chenevert, representing Citi Wi-Fi Networks, focused on the competition between two firms bidding to install a Wi-Fi network to blanket St. Petersburg with wireless Internet access. Citi Wi-Fi is competing with Earthlink a nationwide broadband provider; Citi Wi-Fi is headquartered in St. Petersburg.
- The resignation of City Councilman Richard D. Kriseman has necessitated appointment of an interim replacement. The four candidates for that opening were invited to give 5-minute presentations to our members. We heard from three: Robert Kersteen, Tom Killian, and Herbert Polson.
- Our President invited all residents to attend the December CONA meeting that will feature our appreciation for retiring Vice Mayor Mike Dove. We want to acknowledge his service as twice leader of the Neighborhood Partnership Office that has been so important to the political empowerment of our neighborhood associations.
- Barbara also recalled the recent success in establishing historic recognition of the Albert Whitted Airfield Facilities.

- City neighborhoods still struggling with organization problems were encouraged to utilize a CONA program of Neighborhood Mentors. We seek to connect new neighborhood groups with established organizations to share their experience and guidance.
- Recently elected Circuit Court Judge Pat Siracusa made a brief appearance to thank our CONA members with whom he has worked, for 4-1/2 years. Prior to his election, Judge Siracusa worked in the State Attorney's Office.
- Leslie Curran of our City Council spoke briefly to thank the council candidates we heard from this evening and to express appreciation for the remarkable progress Greg Pierce and his Childs Park Neighborhood Association have achieved in elevating the quality of life for the residents in their area.
- In concluding our CONA meeting at 8:25 p.m., V.P. Heck closed the call for nominations for officers for 2007.

Conrad Weiser, Secretary

## CONA welcomes Councilman Herb Polson

Herb Polson, a former 30-year top city administrator was selected by the City Council November 30th to serve the final year of Rick Kriseman council term in District One. District One covers the western portion of St. Petersburg.

Herb Polson has been the City's chief lobbyist for the past 21 years. He has worked with five mayors and has been a close advisor to both Mayors David Fischer and Rick Baker. He has been a city resident since 1959.

Councilman Polson will be sworn in and assume his duties at the December 14th Council meeting. Congratulations, Herb.

CONA Officers, Board and Neighborhood Associations welcome you and look forward to working closely with you and all our other City Council members on future projects.

**RELIABLE POWER.**

**AND PEOPLE DEDICATED TO KEEPING IT THAT WAY.**



Reliability means improving how we deliver your power. Quickly restoring power after storms. Striving to make our customer service the best it can be. And evaluating and preparing for the energy needs of future generations. The relentless pursuit of excellence. It's what we're all about.  
progress-energy.com



**Progress Energy**

People. Performance. Excellence.

©2005 Progress Energy Carolinas, Inc. and Progress Energy Florida, Inc.



## 2006 Officers

### **President**

Karl Nurse  
Old Southeast  
572-9311 Ext. 24  
karl@baytechlabel.com

### **First Vice President**

Barbara Heck  
Snell Isle  
894-6020  
bg@racerrex.com

### **Second Vice President**

Tom Killian  
Jungle Terrace  
343-2041  
tomkillian@juno.com

### **Secretary**

Conrad Weiser  
Edgemoor  
522-5008  
MAOA1999@aol.com

### **Treasurer**

Annie McWilliams  
Isla Del Sol  
906-4042  
annie01@tampabay.rr.com

### **Frequently Called Numbers**

Neighborhood Partnership  
Office: 892-5141  
Mayor's Action Line: 893-7111  
Codes Office: 893-7373

### **CONA Newsletter Deadlines**

*Copy Deadline:*  
30th of each month.

*Publication:*  
2nd Monday of month.

*Mailing:*  
2nd Wednesday of month.

*Editor:*  
Barbara Heck - 894-6020

*Layout:*  
Mo Eppley - mo@mitymo.com

# CONA's Citizen of the Decade

## CONA's Citizen of the Decade Award

goes to

# Mike Dove

As the founding father of the current Neighborhood Partnership department, Mike has played an integral role in the development of what is today over 115 vibrant neighborhood associations in the city of St. Petersburg, Florida.

Mike, we thank you for all you have done to foster the neighborhood concept and the outreach programs. We are indebted to you for providing strong leadership, guidance and sound advice to all of us. We wish you the very best as your journey begins towards new horizons.

CONA Officers, Board Members and Associations Past and Present salute you and thank you December 2006.

---

**The Council of Neighborhood  
Associations of S Pinellas County  
P.O. Box 13693  
St. Petersburg, FL 33733-3693**

Presort Std U.S. Postage <b>Paid</b> Permit #1084 St. Petersburg, FL
--

**Forwarding Service Requested**