

CONA Newsletter

The Council of Neighborhood Associations of South Pinellas County

March 2011

President's Letter - A challenging 2011

2011 has certainly started with some challenges. St Petersburg has lost yet another friend, neighbor and protector, Officer David Crawford. As with Officer Jeffrey Yaslowitz and Sergeant Thomas Batlinger, we extend our deepest sympathies to the wives and children they leave behind as well as to their St Petersburg Police Department family. As we honor and respect Officer Crawford, Officer Yaslowitz, and Sergeant Batlinger, we will also remember why they served – to protect a peaceful, law abiding community. It is our community and CONA members will redouble their efforts to help each neighborhood city-wide to achieve that goal.

CONA's primary focus is on neighborhoods. We will use our expertise and strength to help build and support enduring neighborhood networks and promote a rich sense of community. As neighborhood leaders, we should be involved in making our neighborhoods more "neighborly". Our experience shows us that communities with a strong sense of togetherness have lower overall crime rates and withstand adversity much better than those that do not. This concept, referred to in our Goals Retreat as a "seamless city", is one our Mayor supports and one we strive for in all that we do.

As CONA President, I want to promote not just a seamless city but a seamless CONA too. We not only need to ensure that our

rules, regulations and laws are applied equally and fairly across the city, but that we treat each other equally and with respect city-wide. CONA is a family and, like all families, we occasionally rub each other the wrong way. As we work to make St. Petersburg "the best city" in our region, please remember to make your differences with each other about issues and not personalities. It is healthy to disagree but we must strive not to make it personal or to take it personally when other members of our family don't see things our way. One of the greatest strengths of CONA is our diversity. We come from different cultures, different parts of the country, even different parts of the world. Each of us approaches and solves issues differently. Embrace those differences and let's work together on the issues where we agree.

Come join one of our committees – Public Safety, Membership, Court Watch, Land Development & Historic Resources, CONA Leadership, Diversity, Midtown Outreach, City Budget Review, Energy and Environment and Codes, There is enough heavy lifting for all of us. Over the next few weeks we will be exploring partnerships and alliances that will allow us to use our committees to work towards that seamless city.

Mike Gulley, CONA President

CONA Board Meeting Wednesday, March 16, 2011

The SUNSHINE CENTER, 330 5th St. N.
Doors open at 6:30 p.m.; meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.

Agenda Items:

Housekeeping (Minutes, Treas Report, etc)
Our Diverse Community
PACT--
Community Tampa Bay
Committee Reports
New Business

Upcoming Events:

April 20, 7PM - Regular CONA Meeting

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CONA Newsletter Deadlines

Copy Deadline: 25th of each month

In Hand: 2nd Wednesday of month

Coordinator: Cathy Wilson, 455-9546

We welcome articles, items of interest and meeting reminders. All submissions to the CONA Newsletter may be edited for clarity, taste and length.

Honoring the Fallen

As this issue of the CONA Newsletter goes to press, we are again a city in mourning. St. Petersburg Police Officer David S. Crawford was killed in the line of duty on February 21st. He leaves behind a wife and daughter as well as a department full of fellow officers who share the daily risks he bore so bravely. Our city and each neighborhood in it are diminished by his loss. CONA stands with the officers of the SPPD during this period of mourning and every day as they protect us. We honor Officer Crawford for his dedication to the duty and ideals of policing. He will be greatly missed.

CONA President Names New Codes Committee Chair

CONA President Mike Gulley has named a new Chair for the Codes Committee. Please welcome Jim Gee from Coquina Key! Jim is the new president of the Coquina Key Neighborhood Association and will be leading CONA's Codes efforts for 2011. He was president at Coquina Key for several years in the 1990's and also served in 2008. He's passionate about Codes and plans to hit the ground running. Contact him by phone at 727-599-9159 or by email at smallworldjag@gmail.com.

Vacancies on City Boards

Following are the open positions on the various Boards and Commissions for the City of St. Petersburg. Application rules and requirements vary by the board so check the city website at www.stpete.org for more information:

City Beautiful - 6 Regular Members (Terms expire 12/31/11, 12/31/12 & 12/31/13)

Commission on Aging - 1 Regular Member (Term expires 12/31/13)

International Relations Committee - 2 Regular Members (Terms expire 12/31/13)

Nuisance Abatement Board - 4 Regular and Alternate Members
(Terms expire 8/31/12, 11/30/12, 12/31/12 & 12/31/13))

Code Enforcement Board - 1 Regular Member - Architect category (Term expires 12/31/11)

2011 CONA Members

THANK YOU to these **CONA Members** who have sent in their 2011 dues...

Albert Whitted Airport Advisory Committee	Downtown Residents	Lakewood Estates
Americana Cove	Eagle Crest	Lakewood Terrace
Azalea	Eden Isle	Live Oak
Bahama Shores	Euclid/St. Paul's	Maximo Moorings
Bartlett Park	Fossil Park	Meadowlawn
Bayway Isles	Grand Central	Mel-Tan Heights
Brighton Bay Master	Greater Pinellas Point	North Kenwood
Broadwater	Greater Woodlawn	Northeast Terraces
Campbell Park	Harbordale	Old Southeast
Central Oak Park	Harris Park	Pasadena Bear Creek
Coquina Key	Highland Oaks	Pasadena Vista
Crescent Heights	Historic Kenwood	Riviera Bay Civic
Disston Heights	Historic Old Northeast	Snell Isle
Downtown Neighborhood	Historic Roser Park	Tropical Shores
	Jungle Terrace	Wildwood Heights

Mistakes can happen so... If your association has paid their 2011 dues but you don't see your name here, please contact our Membership Chair, Andrea Hildebran by phone at 727-643-7189 or by email at hildebran@gmail.com.

{Correction from the February CONA Newsletter: The Albert Whitted Airport Preservation Society was listed as a paid member when actually the paid group was the Albert Whitted Airport Advisory Committee. The mistake has been corrected in our files.}

Committee Reports/Updates

The "Our Diverse Community" module of **CONA Leadership 2011** had a rare opportunity to meet in and tour one of the world's most sought after venues, the **NEW Dali Museum** on February 28, 2011. CONA Leadership Students and Mentors were given the VIP treatment with a private tour of this exquisite museum and facility before the thought provoking panel discussions began. Ingrid Comberg, chair of CONA Leadership for many years started requesting the site for CL2011 when it was still a dream. Kudos to Ingrid for this CONA coup.

By Monica Abbott

The **Court Watch Committee** has been working on communication and establishing partnerships with law enforcement and the judicial system. This is one of the goals set forth in previous discussions. We are looking for volunteers within the community to join us and show strong support when these cases go before the judges. Appearances of volunteers in the courtroom began and judges took notice of the support, fewer continuances and longer sentences resulted. Cases monitored by Court Watch volunteers receive significantly longer sentences. What can you do to help? Volunteer your time! We are currently looking for volunteers who can give of their time for show up for court. A training session will be provided for our volunteers. The results can only be positive in these cases. Together we can build bridges and make a difference within our community. Contact Donna Law by phone at 727-459-8549 or by email at lawholdingsinc1@yahoo.com to help.

At the **Diversity Committee's** last meeting the committee made recommendations regarding the pending CONA Code of Conduct Policy, reviewed the Committee Mission Statement and a draft Committee Vision Statement, and

endorsed the Diversity/Race Relations Forum proposed by City Council Member Jim Kennedy. A draft CONA Diversity Policy Statement will be considered at the next meeting. Community Tampa Bay, a local chapter of the National Conference of Community and Justice, has been invited to give a presentation on diversity at the next CONA Board meeting. Our next committee meeting will be Monday, March 7, 6:30 PM, tentatively at the Davis Center. For more information contact Will Michaels, Co-Chair, at 420-9195 or wmichaelscona@tampabay.rr.com.

Lillian Baker, President of the Wildwood Neighborhood Association and CONA 2nd VP met with Maureen Stafford a member of the **Land Development & Historic Resources Committee** and active St. Petersburg Historic Preservationist to further the land marking process for Jennie Hall Pool. Maureen reports that the research is expected to be completed and ready for submission to the City by June 2011.

The **Membership Committee** reports that we have 44 currently paid members for the year. Membership dues are \$35, plus \$15 if you want to have access to CONA's bulk mail permit. Our February meeting included a drawing for a cake from a local St Pete bakery called *Gateau-O-Chocolat*. All up-to-date paid members who attended the meeting were eligible in the drawing and Faye Jackson of Highland Oaks was the winner. We hope to provide visibility to local St Petersburg businesses by holding drawings with their donated items at monthly meetings. Let us know about local businesses who might be willing to contribute items and we'll reach out to them regarding getting involved.

2011 CONA Goals Retreat

CONA's 2011 Goals Retreat was held Saturday February 26th from 9am until 2pm at Suncoast Hospice. In a first for CONA, the goal setting exercises were led, not by CONA leaders but by four students from USF. The students utilized consensus building modules developed by USF and received class credit for leading the discussions. Attendees were guided in learning more about themselves, their leadership styles and their goals, for themselves, their neighborhoods and our city. The results of the goal setting are currently being tabulated by CONA President Mike Gulley and his able assistants. We hope to be able to print them in the April edition of the CONA Newsletter

A BIG CONA THANK YOU!!!!

To Bob Jeffrey for providing refreshments for the 2011

CONA Goals Retreat. His Grand Central Perc provided delicious muffins, savory coffee, water and soft drinks for the attendees. If you missed the retreat, you might want to thank Bob in person at Grand Central Perc, 2444 Central Avenue, so you can try some of his marvelous food yourself!

To Suncoast Hospice Director Mark Epstein and staff for providing such a beautiful setting for our retreat. If you've never been there, please stop by. It's a lovely facility and being open to the community is part of the mission for Hospice.

They are a blessing in a time of need for families experiencing the coming loss of a loved one and they do not charge for their services.

New Online CONA Reps Forum

In 2009, CONA created a Listbot Evaluation Committee and tasked this group with evaluating CONA's online listserv communications. Some of the key outcomes from this committee's work were 1) the Rules for Use of CONA's online listserv, 2) a recommendation that CONA rename what many have called 'the listbot' to the 'CONA Reps Forum', and 3) the recommendation that CONA start fresh with a new listserv account, allowing for the change of name and more accurate management of membership.

In the past few weeks, CONA's Secretary, Conrad Weiser, and Membership Chair, Andrea Hildebran, have begun this process. Our new listserv has been created. It is a YahooGroup called "CONA Reps Forum" per the recommendation of the committee. The email address for this list is CONARepsforum@yahoogroups.com. Over the coming weeks the new group will be adding 10 new members per day until all CONA member presidents and designated representatives are subscribed. Once everyone is on the list, our previous listserv (Stpetecon@yahoogroups.com) will be deactivated.

So what do you need to do?

- 1) Wait for the email subscribing you to the YahooGroup called CONA Reps Forum and click through the prompts.
- 2) Make sure your spam filter doesn't filter out emails from this new group by adding CONARepsforum@yahoogroups.com to your address book.

We will continue to use the older list for CONA communications until the authorized people are all added to the new list. We anticipate the transition will take place toward the end of March 2011. Both Conrad and Andrea have offered to help one-on-one with any technical problems people may have in subscribing to the new list. Please do not hesitate to email or phone directly:

Conrad Weiser

email: conrad33702@verizon.net, phone: 522-5008

Andrea Hildebran

email: hildebran@gmail.com, phone: 643-7189

Calling All St. Petersburg Neighborhood Associations...

We invite you to join the Suncoasters of St. Petersburg for the 90th Annual Festival of States Parade!

Dear Neighborhood Leaders:

A quick note to say THANK YOU to all of the neighborhoods who have expressed interest in participating in this year's Illuminated Night Parade. Detailed information on the night events will be coming to you soon as we are quickly approaching the date of this great event and our city's celebration.

For those of you who are undecided there is still a short window to show off your entire neighborhood and celebrate all of your hard work. We have extended the application deadline for the neighborhoods; applications must be received by **Friday, March 11th** for your entry to be accepted.

Remember, you do not have to build a big float or spend a great deal of time and energy to participate. Bring the kids out, let your neighbors show off their classic cars or just walk the route with a sign and wave to the fans.

As a reminder the Illuminated Night Parade will begin at 7:00

PM on Thursday, March 24, 2011 as the kick-off to the St Petersburg Honda Grand Prix with a party and fireworks in the park after the parade. Look for several exciting additions to the parade to be announced soon – you won't want to miss this event.

A parade application is available on our website at: www.festival-ofstates.com. Completed applications should be returned as soon as possible. Please note that entry fees will be waived for all Neighborhood Associations. Contact me with any questions at either 727-434-2386 or aaron.sharpe@53.com.

Also, save the date for the return of the Festival Day Parade to be held in conjunction with All Children's Hospital and the Taste of Pinellas on Saturday, May 21st!! More information to follow soon.

We look forward to receiving your completed application and to your participation in the 2011 Festival of States Parade!

By Aaron Sharpe, Committee Chair for Neighborhood Associations, Suncoasters of St. Petersburg

Nursing Scholarship Event

The St. Petersburg Chapter of the National Black Nurses Association, Inc. will present their Seventeenth Scholarship Banquet featuring Dr. Debra A. Toney, NBNA President, as the keynote speaker. Dr. Toney is a Board Member of First Lady Michelle Obama's ambitious campaign to end childhood obesity in one generation. She is also chairs the Office of Minority Health for the State of Nevada and is a Robert Wood Johnson Executive Nurse Fellow.

The banquet will be held on April 23, 2011 at the St. Petersburg Hilton and begins promptly at 6pm.

Local NBNA members are excited to have the NBNA President as the speaker for their event. Contact Evelyn C. Gardner, NBNA Coordinator of Community Education and Outreach by phone at 727-895-2926 or by email at egard84421@aol.com for more information or to make reservations.

Tom Killian – Taking Time Off/Time Out

Most of us know Tom Killian as a super dedicated community volunteer. But there is another side to Tom and he'll soon take leave to pursue some of his favorite hobbies, including treasure hunting and travel. He's also a talented artist in many mediums and is a jazz enthusiast.

Tom joined the Jungle Terrace Civic Association in 2000 and has served in various positions since then, including three years – 2003 to 2005 – as President. Under his direction, Jungle Terrace won Newsletter of the Year in 2004 and Tom was named Neighborhood President of the Year in 2005.

In 2006, he was named CONA Citizen of the Month for his work with neighborhood associations throughout St. Petersburg. He began as the JTCA representative to CONA in 2000 and held that

position for ten years. A graduate of the CONA Leadership Class of 2002, he worked as the 2003 Recruitment Chair and the 2004 Planning Chair. He also volunteered as a Group Leader and served seven years as a speaker on newsletter development for the program's Effective Communications segment. He served as CONA Vice-President in 2006 and as Membership Chair in 2005 and 2006. In 2007, he served on CONA's Executive Committee as the Nominating Committee Chair. The City of St. Petersburg selected him to speak on Umbrella organizations (CONA) at the 2007 Florida Neighborhoods Conference in Sarasota, FL.

Tom currently runs the CONA Mentoring Program, helping associations start newsletters, plan events and apply for

Neighborhood Partnership Grants. He has organized five trips to Tropicana Field for CONA Neighborhoods to see the Rays play. But after he serves as a speaker for the 2011 CONA Leadership class and then oversees the JTCA Easter Egg Hunt in April, he will take his metal detector and go on a quest for treasure and adventure. He has been trying to ease out of his volunteer commitments for about a year now, bringing to mind Michael Corleone's memorable quote from the movie *Godfather III*: "Just when I thought I was out... they pull me back in." There is no dispute that Tom is a professional volunteer. JTCA is honoring him with a "retirement" dinner in March and an appropriate send-off with the sincerest of well wishes for his new carefree life.

By Monica Abbott

Recycling Makes Good Sense

When you don't recycle, your waste heads to the Pinellas County Waste Management Facility where it is sorted into types that will be burned at the Waste-to-Energy plant or go directly to the landfill. What goes into the landfill are debris that cannot be combusted or recycled. Pinellas County has filled two very large landfills, now closed, and is now utilizing a newer landfill, named Bridgeway Acres today. Less than 15% of the waste the County receives ends up in the landfill. The Waste-to-Energy plant contributed \$25 million in energy reimbursements to the County's coffers in 2006.

So why do we need to recycle?

In Pinellas County, potential landfill space is very limited. It is estimated that residential recycling will add at least 6 years to the life of the current landfill. Burning trash that could have been recycled is wasteful and does not take advantage of the full potential of the resource. For instance, it is easier and cheaper to recycle paper and more expensive to incinerate it. Recycling paper also saves trees, many of which are being felled in the rainforests (tropical and Pacific coast).

Not all waste-to-energy plants meet the newest standards for pollution control. Pinellas County's plant was last upgraded 10 years ago. Epidemiologists and others in similar fields are concerned that EPA's standards are too lax for airborne carcinogens (e.g. mercury). Oh, and what happens to the filters used to clean the WTE emissions? They end up in the landfill! So does the ash incineration produces and it's full of toxic compounds too.

Landfills are not only unsightly, they are downright toxic!

Most of their contents will take hundreds of years to degrade, because there is no oxygen to aid decomposition. No matter how well they are capped, water always permeates them, and

toxic liquids from their contents flow to the bottom. Most new landfills are lined with sheeting only 1/10 inch thick. Our Bridgeway Acres apparently only relies on natural clay reinforced with more clay. The EPA states that ALL landfills leak over time. That toxic leachate contaminates groundwater which flows to nearby water bodies. If the plume can be found, it can be cleaned. If not, it continues to pollute. Recent studies indicate that people living within 2 miles of a landfill are at increased risk for cancer and immune system disorders. Children have an increased risk of birth defects and acute respiratory disorders. Europe is leading the way in more environmentally-friendly methods to deal with their horrendous waste problems. We should pay heed to their efforts.

Recently, there have been proposals to tap the methane gas in our landfills to convert it into energy. Sounds like a good idea, doesn't it but hold on... The gas produced in our landfills is a mixture of methane and carbon dioxide. This combination is incredibly toxic to breathe and is extremely flammable. If the operators of these methane harvesters are not careful, can you imagine what would happen if the landfill caught fire?

Clearly, recycling is not the only answer to these problems, but it certainly helps to ameliorate a bad situation and it is something we all can do. We can also contribute to America's future by conserving non-renewable resources, like petroleum (plastic) and metals. Recycling makes economic sense: it costs \$30 per ton to recycle trash, \$50 to send it to the landfill, and \$65 to \$75 to incinerate it.

By Judy Landon

Sources: www.sixwise.com, www.zerowasteamerica.org, www.environment.about.com, www.pacebutler.com, and the Pinellas County Government webpage.

CONA BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING MINUTES

The Sunshine Multi-Service Center - February 16, 2011

- President Mike Gulley opened our meeting leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.
 - It was noted that memorial t-shirts are on display in the lobby in support of the fallen Police Officers.
 - We were reminded that contributions for our refreshments are welcome.
 - CONA Court Watch Committee Chair Donna Law read their goals and asked that they be incorporated, as a correction, in the Minutes of our January CONA Board Minutes: 1) To increase public awareness of the threat of the criminal elements not confined to jail. 2) To promote proactive prosecution of criminal elements. 3) To monitor the accountability of court sentencing. 4) To cultivate close relations between the Police, the Courts, the Justice Department and the Community.
 - Travis Jarman, (Bayway Isles) moved approval of the January Board Minutes as amended. [Motion Approved]
 - The CONA Citizen of the Month Plaque was awarded for Mr. L.A DelPrete Sr.
 - Past President Will Michaels presented an award the Previous CONA President Barbara Heck who served in that office for three years.
 - Mayor Bill Foster made a presentation on the status of our iconic water front Pier. His remarks were offered to rebut last month's CONA presentation "Save The Pyramid".
 - The Mayor was accompanied by City Engineer Mike Connors and his assistant.
 - The Pyramid and the access roadway that leads to it are two distinct structures, one built in the seventies, the latter constructed in the late twenties.
 - Corrosion of the support pilings has reduced the load bearing capacity on the outer lanes of the access roadway.
 - New electrolytic designs can reduce the threat of future construction corrosion, but there is no process to restore damaged reinforcement bars, (rebar), in the existing pilings.
 - Of recent years, Pier subsidization has been costing our taxpayers \$1.5 M annually.
 - In a recent poll, residents reported visiting the Pier only once a year if at all!!!
 - The Mayor promised: 1 There will be a new "Iconic" Pier Structure, 2 It will be elevated and surrounded by water, 3 It will have a restaurant and activities to attract repeated visits by our residents, 4 It will be constructed under budget with reduced future operating subsidies.
 - The Mayor then responded to questions from the floor.
 - Q. Where will the money come from? There is a \$50M set-aside for Downtown Development in TIF funding. Will that be sufficient? Yes.
 - Q. Will the city join with developers? There will be no long term transfer of property rights of the waterfront site.
 - Q. What is the status of the Upland options and recommendations made by the Pier Task Force (family entertainment, pedestrian bridge to Vinoy Park, more transient docks, etc.): Those recommendations will depend on available funding which is limited. However, I am not in favor of new structures if they obstruct the waterfront views.
 - Q. How about a Casino? The city cannot own a Casino.
 - We then heard a presentation by Greg Plantamura, of the Pinellas County Extension Service, speaking for the Pinellas Energy Efficiency Project (PEEP).
 - The project, focused on "Green Education" is funded by a federal grant promoting reduction of atmospheric greenhouse gases.
 - His organization is anxious to make "Green" presentations before and group audience of 10 to 30 people.
 - He offered free samples of "second generation" CFOs.
 - He had numerous handouts of energy efficiency tips.
- We then heard our CONA Committee Reports**
- Cass Rael provided an update of his Public Safety Committee.
 - Donna Law explained that her Court Watch Committee is currently focusing on trying to coordinate Police arrest and Court Watch activity.
 - Monica Abbott renewed the appeal of her LDR & Historic Preservation Committee to convene another Historic Summit by our city.
 - Ingrid Comberg reported this years CONA Leadership Class is working well.
 - Latoya Brown spoke for the Membership Committee and noted that the A. Whitted Airport group had been incorrectly identified. She conducted a raffle for a layer cake door prize won by Highland Oaks Neighborhood.
 - Cathy Wilson, our VP and Newsletter Editor was pleased to announce that a neighbor from Euclid/St. Paul was attending that evening and she hoped they'd become active with CONA once again.
 - Faye Jackson reported on the status of our CONA Audit Committee.
 - Travis Jarman encouraged additional volunteers for the CONA City Budget Review Committee. The 2012 City Budget faces about the same shortfall as last year!
 - Jeremiah Rohr substituted for Tim Martin, Chair of the Energy & Environment Committee. There was a Booker Creek Cleanup done in Historic Kenwood last week.
 - Lillian Baker stood in for Vel Thompson, Chair of the CONA Midtown Outreach Committee. Their next meeting will be February 24th.
 - Will Michaels reported that the Diversity Committee's Mission Statement was recently published on the Reps Forum. The Committee is making input into the new Code of Conduct being considered by the Executive Committee, has invited Community Tampa Bay to speak on diversity at a future meeting, and endorsed the proposal for a City Diversity/Race Relations Forum recently proposed by Council Member Kennedy. The next Diversity Committee meeting will be on March 7th at the Davis Center.
 - CONA President Mike Gulley would like to continue the Codes Special Committee from last year but is seeking a Chair. Candidates are solicited.
 - Mike Gulley reminded us of our CONA Goals Workshop, February 26th. from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. to be held at the Suncoast Hospice Center, First Avenue South at 31st. Street. Luncheon is provided. More than 1 attendee per neighborhood is encouraged. Maximum seating is for 100.
 - Barbara Heck, (Snell Isle), invited us to attend the Theater In The Park production, (April 13 to May 8), of the play "Rent". There is a 25% ticket discount for CONA members.
 - City Council Member Karl Nurse spoke of the codes violation liens on many properties, discouraging sales or renovations. City policy will give the liens if the properties are restored and inspected. He is bringing forward an initiative to forgive liens sooner so mortgages may be obtained on the properties. He hopes that clears the way for new owners to make the homes functional again.
 - City Council Member Wengay Newton spoke briefly regarding several subjects He applauded the new Free Fall Theater, (6092 Central Ave.), for expanding the cultural center of our community beyond downtown.
 - He noted the divided responsibility between Codes and Police in prosecuting some property and parking violations.
 - He urged attendance at the Police Sector Meetings where issues can be discussed in person. Police "Directed Patrols" can be discussed there.
 - Member associations were encouraged to schedule a speaker from the S.P.C.A. who has a compelling presentation on Dog Fighting and Animal Cruelty.
 - David Hoover, (Riviera Bay), reviewed a variety of memorial fund raising opportunities, sponsored by the local Police Benefit Association, to support the families of our fallen Police Officers.
- Our meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. - Conrad Weiser, CONA Secretary
{Note: Minutes shown are a draft version only - to be discussed, amended if needed and approved via voice vote at the March 16th CONA Board Meeting}

Mayor's Pancake Breakfast

Spend quality time with your family, win door prizes, while Mayor Bill Foster flips a stack for you at the...
Harbordale YMCA's 9th Anniversary Pancake Breakfast
Held on Saturday, April 2nd, 2011 at the Y – 2421 4th Street S. in St. Petersburg

Tickets are \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children 10 and under. You can choose your seating time too – first seating is 8:15-9:30am and second seating is 9:45-11:15am. Contact Elena Stowers by phone at 727-821-9348 or by email at estowers@stpeteymca.org for tickets and/or information. OR... see our Nominations Chair Theresa McEachern – rumor has it that she carries tickets wherever she goes!!!

Did You Know?

The City of St. Petersburg's website at www.stpete.org is an amazing collection of information for residents, businesses and neighborhoods? It is! On it you can find information on City Code, development rules and requirements, neighborhoods and statistics, meetings, hearings and more. Give it a try and you'll be surprised by how much information it actually contains.

Historic Preservation and Sustainability

Historic preservation can – and should – be an important component of any effort to promote sustainable development. The conservation and improvement of our existing built resources, including re-use of historic and older buildings, greening the existing building stock, and reinvestment in older and historic communities, is crucial to combating climate change.

The construction, operation and demolition of buildings accounts for 48% of the United States' greenhouse gas emissions. But reusing and retrofitting our existing buildings can reduce these emissions dramatically. In fact, our existing buildings are one of our greatest renewable resources.

We don't discount the value of new, green construction – in fact many green technologies can and should be applied to existing buildings to improve performance. But new construction – no matter how green – still uses energy and other natural resources and generates construction waste that clogs landfills.

Through its research, the National Trust's Sustainability Initiative is demonstrating that conservation and improvement of our existing built resources are environmentally logical and economically viable elements in combating climate change. Sustainable Stewardship of our Buildings and Communities, Guiding Principles:

Reuse existing buildings: Use what you have. The continued use of our existing buildings reduces the amount of demolition and construction waste deposited in landfills, lessens unnecessary demand for energy and other natural resources and conserves embodied energy (the amount of energy originally expended to create extant structures).

Reinvest in our older and historic communities: Older and historic communities tend to be centrally located, dense, walkable, and are often mass-transit accessible – qualities celebrated and promoted by Smart Growth advocates.

Reinvestment in existing communities also preserves the energy embedded in infrastructure, such as roads, water and sewer lines.

Retrofit our existing building stock: Many historic and older buildings are remarkably energy efficient because of their site sensitivity, quality of construction, and use of passive heating and cooling, while other buildings require improvements to reduce their environmental footprint. Historic buildings can go green without compromising historic character.

{Excepted from the National Trust for Historic Preservation Position Statement: Historic Preservation and Sustainability (2011)}



CONA 2011 Executive Committee Members

President
Mike Gulley - Coquina Key
244-8374 - jmgulley1@hotmail.com

1st Vice President
Cathy Wilson - Greater Woodlawn
455-9546 - catgwna@knology.net

2nd Vice President
Lillian Baker - Wildwood Heights
743-7463 - ebylily7@hotmail.com

Secretary
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522-5008 - conrad33702@verizon.net

Treasurer
April Gayle Gausman - Historic Uptown
244-1896 - april@realestatebyapril.com

Audit Committee
Faye Jackson - Highland Oaks
327-9844 - lfjx@msn.com

CONA Leadership Committee
Ingrid Comberg - Historic Uptown
894-3048

Court Watch Committee
Donna Law - Central Oak Park
lawholdingsinc1@yahoo.com

Land Development & Historic Resources Committee
Monica Abbott - Jungle Terrace
rabbott100@aol.com

Membership Committee
Andrea Hildebrand - Bartlett Park
643-7189 - hildebran@gmail.com

Nominating Committee
Theresa McEachern - Harbordale
823-6390 - terre66@aol.com

Public Safety Committee
Cass Rael - North Kenwood
744-9560 - cvraelsr@hotmail.com

Immediate Past President
Will Michaels - Bahama Shores
420-9195 - wmichaelscona@tampabay.rr.com

OTHER CONA COMMITTEES
City Budget Review Committee
Travis Jarman - Bayway Isles
cona.mail@bayway.org

Codes Committee
Jim Gee - Coquina Key
599-9159 - smallworldjag@gmail.com

Energy & Environment Committee
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Diversity Committee
Will Michaels - Bahama Shores
420-9195 - wmichaelscona@tampabay.rr.com

Midtown Outreach Committee
Vel Thompson - Lakewood Estates Resident
864-4597 - velthompson2@aol.com

Frequently Called Numbers

Animal Control:	582-2600
City Council:	893-7117
Codes Compliance:	893-7373
County Commission:	464-3377
Mayor's Action Line:	893-7111
Neighborhood Partnership Office:	892-5141
Sanitation:	893-7334
SPPD:	893-7780

(non-emergency)

Florida Abuse Hotline: 800-962-2873

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

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Neighborhood Times Contact Info

Carly Hart is the reporter to contact to get neighborhood news and items of interest into the paper. Her contact information has recently changed so please correct your records to:

Carly Hart, P.O. Box 3235, St. Petersburg, FL 33731
Phone: 727-564-8366 Email: onewritersink@yahoo.com

Recipe Corner

Try this punch at your next gathering. It's easy to make and tastes great!

Planter's Cool Punch

1 gallon Hi-C Fruit Punch

1 2 liter bottle of Ginger Ale

1 32oz package Lime Sherbert

2 Oranges sliced thinly across sections

Pour Fruit Punch into a large punch bowl. Add Ginger Ale and spoon in Lime Sherbert. Add Orange slices and serve. Makes almost 2 gallons.

CONA's March Citizen of the Month

Bob Jeffrey is our March 2011 Citizen of the Month! You might think you know all about Bob - but HOW you know him says much about him. It could be from his work with the city's Development Services division, his leadership of the Vision 2020 process, his organization and persistence in shepherding the new LDRs to adoption, his alternate life as a neighborhood advocate, his hobby of rehabbing old buildings or in his current incarnation as a restaurant owner. St. Petersburg and her residents would be poorer without all of the contributions from this one amazing man. Thank you Bob, for all you do and all you've done for us!!!