

CONA Newsletter

The Council of Neighborhood Associations of South Pinellas County

October 2013

CONA Newsletter Deadlines - Copy Due-25th of each month, Mailing-2nd Wednesday of month, In Hand-2nd Friday of month

CONA Officer and Committee Chair Nominations

Hear Ye, Hear Ye, The Elections are Coming, The Elections are Coming!

No, not those ones, the City elections are probably done by the time you are reading this, but ours are coming just around the corner...

Last Month's meeting was certainly interesting with Mayor Foster and Rick Kriseman squaring off. I'm glad so many people came out.

This month we will be going back to business as usual.

During this Nov General Board Meeting we will be nominating people to fill the Executive Committee (President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary) and Chairpersons for all of the Standing Committees (Audit, CONA Leadership, Court Watch, Land Development & Historic Resources, Membership, Nominating and Public Safety).

Want to make a difference? Step up!

Many CONA positions shall be vacant. Next year is sure to have a lot of new faces, you definitely will want a say in that. To be nominated (or to nominate oneself) for one of these positions the candidate has to be a member in good standing of a Neighborhood Association that is a member in good standing with CONA. The candidate also has to be present (to accept the nomination).

Looking forward to December, other than elections for any contested positions, December's meeting is mostly

going to be social, a time for sharing.

I Look Forward to seeing EVERYONE There!

Kurt J. Donley
CONA President



CONA's mission:

Unite existing neighborhood organizations and to foster the formation of such organizations;

Provide training to and guidance for neighborhood leaders;

Expand the pool of skilled and motivated neighborhood and community leaders;

Promote communication between member organizations and the community at large;

Act as neighborhood advocates with city, county, state, and federal government agencies.

CONA Board Meeting Wednesday, November 20, 2013

The SUNSHINE CENTER, 330 5th St. N.

Doors open at 6:30 PM

CONA Meeting starts at 7 PM

Agenda Items:

Nominations - Officers & Standing Committee Chairs

General Business - Committee Updates

New Business - Neighborhood Sharing

Dec 18 - CONA Meeting and Election of 2014 Officers

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

2013 CONA Membership list

Thank you to those neighborhoods which have paid their 2013 dues as of 11/15/13.

Airport Advisory Committee	Eagle Crest	Meadowlawn
Azalea	Eden Isle	Mel-Tan
Bahama Shores	Edgemoor	MLK District
Bartlett Park	Euclid/St. Paul	Mobel Americana
Bayway Isles	Fossil Park	Northeast Park
Broadwater Civic	Garden Manor	Northeast Terraces
Causeway Isles	Grand Central District	Old Southeast
Central Oak Park	Greater Pinellas Point (GPPCA)	Perry Bayview
Child's Park	Harris Park	Ponce de Leon
Coquina Key	Highland Oaks	Riviera Bay Civic
Crescent Lake	Historic Kenwood	Roser Park
Crescent Heights	Historic Old Northeast (HONNA)	Snell Isle (SIPOA)
Crossroads Area	Historic Uptown	St. Pete Preservation
Disston Heights	Jungle Terrace Civic	Tropical Shores
Downtown Neighborhood Assoc (DNA)	Lakewood Estates Civic	Westminster Heights
	Maximo Moorings Civic	Wildwood Heights

To everyone else – this is another gentle reminder to send your \$35 dues in today. Add \$15 to that check if you want to use the CONA postage permit for bulk mailing. Application forms and invoices are available at www.conastpete.org

R 4 U: Resources for You

Neighborhood News Calendars

Use our local newspapers and websites to promote your meetings and events.

- Tampa Bay Times (formerly St Pete Times): E-mail your information to neighborhoodcal@gmail.com Deadline is 5 PM Friday for the next Wednesday
- St Pete Patch: E-mail your information to William Mansell at www.stpete.patch.com
- City of St Petersburg: E-mail your information to Beth Herendeen at www.stpete.org

Neighborhood Concerns – CONA can help.

Questions? Need help? Don't understand something? Can't find the information you need? Please contact any CONA officer with your problem and you will be put in touch with a mentor who can help your association find a solution.

Garage Sale Leftovers?

Donate your unsold "treasures" at the end of your garage sale to the charity of your choice. Many charities will arrange pickup so you do not have to take anything to a drop off center. This is a win-win-win for everyone. Your home is now clean. The charity of your choice has new gently used "treasures" to sell and the people the charity supports are getting a helping hand.

CONA's Citizen of the Month

Please send us your suggestions of leaders in your neighborhood who deserve special recognition for their contribution, time, and ideas to your neighborhood association. Not only is recognizing our super volunteers something we can never do enough of, it also brings new people into CONA and helps us continue to build our leadership base. So, please send in those names of the leaders who shine in your neighborhood association!

Frequently Called Numbers

Mayor's Action Line	893-7111
SPPD (non-emergency)	893-7780
FL Abuse Hotline	800-962-2873

Animal Control	582-2600
City Council	893-7117
Codes Compliance	893-7373
Community Services	892-5141
County Commission	464-3377
Sanitation	893-7334

CONA Newsletter ad rates – (Monthly Rates)

\$15	1/8 Page–Business Card Size
\$30	1/4 Page
\$100	Full Page
\$50	1/2 Page
Insert (Prepared by Advertiser) \$ 50.00	
Insert - Work-up Time & Material	
Pre-Pay for 6-9 Months-Get 1 Month Free	

CONA Committee Reports

Audit – Faye Jackson

The Audit Committee is currently completing the review of CONA financials for the year of 2012. CONA's Audit Committee members are Faye Jackson (Highland Oaks), Travis Jarman (Bayway Isles), Kai Warren (Historic Roser Park) and Mike Gulley (Coquina Key) who provide their expertise and commitment of time, and have at least one of the following areas or more of experience or background: experience serving on an audit committee, experience as a chief or principal financial officer, principal accounting officer, accountant, auditor, or position that involves performance of similar functions.

Communications Committee – Travis Jarman

The new CONA Forums are up! If you haven't yet registered for the Forums you are missing out on much of CONA's communications with our membership. Sign up now at the link below:

- <http://conforums.org/register>

We are also pleased to announce the immediate availability of a supplemental 'direct to your inbox' email news subscription service. This enhancement to CONA Forums means that you can sign up to receive copies of new CONA News Bulletins and Announcements without having to make a separate visit to our Forums website. You can sign up at the link below – and you can unsubscribe from the mailing list at any time with just a click. This subscription is open to the public and CONA membership is not required.

Your email address will be kept private and will not be sold or used for other purposes. Visit the link below to register:

- <http://conforums.org/email>

Subscribe now so you won't miss the latest news from CONA, and feel free to pass this information on to others who may be interested.

CONA Leadership – Ingrid Comberg

Welcome to another outstanding group of future community leaders who have signed up for our 22nd Neighborhood Leadership Program. Our classes start in January and are held twice a month with graduation in May.

Codes – Robert Thompson

This is the second year I have been working the codes issues for our neighborhoods. In that time we have studied our current Codes Top Ten List and all the codes ordinances. We have had meetings with the Mayor and the Codes staff. We have invited Codes management to the monthly CONA meetings and have reviewed codes issues with the Codes field staff.

Unfortunately, in the end, we have gained little ground approaching control and amelioration of *difficult properties*.

These are the properties that seem to defy all efforts by neighbors, citizens, Codes department and the legal system to right the ills that permeate difficult properties. This is the building on your block with a buckling roof; grass 2 feet high; trash from the porch to the street and beyond; siding that has not seen paint in 25 years; dead cars, bikes and appliances all over. In some cases, these are tenants who participate in crimes that necessitate multiple calls to police, codes, and even the health department along with children and family services. All these calls for service cost money. Your tax dollars are not working as they should.

Recently we were made aware that Madeira Beach has put much time into producing a new and intense set of city ordinances that tie the issues of codes (all manner of illegal issues that we usually call "chronic nuisances") into one document that follows the property until repaired and all other ills cured regardless of owner transfer with continuing escalation of cost to the owner for failure to act.

Aimee Servedio, city clerk for Madeira Beach, suggests you check out their "Chronic Nuisance Ordinance". You can find it on their home page www.madierabeachfl.gov Just go to the Section "Of Interest to All" and click on "Chronic Nuisance Ordinance" to view the full document. Read this document and report back to CONA with your comments.

As we go forward after the upcoming election, we would like to familiarize our city staff and elected officials with this document to evaluate how it will help us with Chronic Nuisance properties.

Court Watch – (Open)

CONA is looking for a Chairperson and Committee members. Please contact Sue Heyen at mimsue@tampabay.rr.com or 727-251-2224.

Energy & Environment – Tim Martin

No report.

Membership – Tom DeMint

Attention all CONA members: CONA would like to thank you for your loyal commitment to your neighborhood and our city. As our city develops and adjusts to the many current and upcoming changes, it is more important now than ever to not only renew your membership, but encourage others to join CONA. Together we can be the change we would like to see. To renew your membership online, simply visit www.conastpete.org and click on the membership invoice. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Tom DeMint via e-mail at tjd1@aol.com or by phone at 727-647-4239.

Committee Reports continued

Nominating – Sue Heyen

CONA 2014 Officer and Board Member Elections are in December. CONA is looking for qualified people to fill all positions. Would you like to be considered for an office? If interested, please contact Sue Heyen at mimsue@tampabay.rr.com or 727-251-2224.

Pier & Waterfront Parks Special Committee – Will Michaels

CONA's Recommendations on the Downtown Waterfront Master Plan may be found on CONA Forum or by emailing the Committee Chair. The CONA Report was included in the briefing book prepared by the City and used by the Urban Land Institute (ULI) in their recent short visit to the city. CONA Committee Chair Will Michaels shared an hour interview along with two other community representatives with one of the ULI sub-teams. The Preliminary Urban Land Institute (ULI) Report may be found at the City website stpete.org. (go to the Waterfront Plan tab on the home page).

The Times also carried an in-depth interview with Mike Higby, the panel's chair on October 27th. Some major ULI recommendations include improving the connections between the Bayboro USF campus and the marine science cluster to the "central waterfront" area; continue to provide a "diverse set of public uses from one end to the other" "becoming more passive the further north you go"; and establishing a new "entity" that has as its priority improving the waterfront.

Mr. Higby stated in his interview that the city "could have done a better job of stewardship" regarding the southern third of the parks, including the area occupied by Al Lang Stadium and Albert Whitted Airport. "In its current form it is a hodgepodge of uses, underutilized land, with 'unfortunate disconnects' between the waterfront and downtown....Unfortunately, special interests and distrust have conspired to prevent a healthy dialogue, let alone any real progress in improving this part of the waterfront....At the very least a repositioning of these uses should be considered. Not to support some new private development, but to allow for growth and connection in this traditionally active section of the waterfront. The opportunities for medical and environmental benefits to emerge from this area are tremendous while still supporting some level of recreational use as well." What is exactly meant by "medical and environmental" benefits is not elaborated on in the interview, but hopefully will be made clear when the final report is received later this year.

The CONA Committee will meet to formally review the ULI report and other recent Pier planning developments at a future date.

Public Safety – Lisa Brown

Here are some Thanksgiving safety tips to keep your family and home safe for the holidays from Protection 1 Home Protection Services:

- Remove fall-related objects that might allow access to your home. For example, ladders for cleaning leaves out of gutters can be used to enter a window or scale a fence.
- Don't post Thanksgiving travel plans on Facebook, Twitter or MySpace letting people know that you will be out of town.
- Turn your telephone ringer down so no one outside can hear repeated rings; and review your answering machine message to make sure it does not imply that you are away.
- Make sure to have all mail, newspapers, and deliveries stopped or picked up by a neighbor, friend or relative.
- Never leave a key hidden outside. Burglars know all the best hiding places.
- Secure all windows, including those upstairs and reduce the chance of easy entry by cutting tree limbs away from second-story windows.
- Have a friend move your car occasionally if it is parked in the driveway.
- Use timers to operate lights.

Also, according to the National Fire Protection Association, Thanksgiving is the leading day for home-cooking fires.

- Be sure to keep a fire extinguisher in the kitchen in case of emergency, and teach your family how to use it.
- Be cautious when using turkey fryers as they pose a number of distinct safety concerns, including burn and fire hazards.
- Never wear loose fitting clothing when cooking. Long, open sleeves could ignite and catch fire from a gas flame or a hot burner. Wear short, close fitting or tightly rolled sleeves when cooking.
- Utilize these Thanksgiving safety tips this holiday season, and be thankful for your home and family's safety.

Land Development & Historic Resources – Judy Landon

The landmarking process for the entire block of Janus Landing will be going to the CPC on November 15th and to Council in December. The owner of the block objects to landmarking. This owner also objected to the landmarking of the Bishop Hotel, but that has now been resolved.

The proposed revisions to the historic preservation regulations have moved out of the Legal department, and the historic preservation staff is busily making the requested changes. The proposed changes will probably go before the DRC on November 6th and then will go to the County Planning Commission, probably as an informational item. Staff is aiming for the second Council meeting in December, before there are changes to the makeup of the Council.

The Henry Bryan house on 4th Ave N was moved to a site on 22nd Street South. It will be the offices of Habitat for Humanity. The Blocker Mansion was sold to the same owner as the Grayl's Hotel, and will not be demolished.

JWB: How Your Neighborhood Association Can Help

By R Ali Montsho, 2nd Vice President

This month (October 2013) I attended the JWB South Community Council monthly meeting held in Gulfport, FL. And for those that have a love for acronyms (JWB) Juvenile Welfare Board, they have a funding source called "You". On your yearly property tax statement, you can check out there bit. Anyway, there are three Councils: North, Middle and South Councils each playing a pivotal role in the lives of our young folks.

Each year JWB provides, maintains, manages, and allocates funds to nonprofit or governmental agencies providing services that are operated for the benefit of Pinellas County children and families. The Board funds new programs that model promising practices and demonstrate the potential to deliver emerging or promising practice outcomes. All new programs are classified as pilot programs for three years.

In order to qualify as a continuing recipient of JWB funds an agency (or Association) must annually:

- Demonstrate organizational capacity and prior outcome attainment through evidence-based programs, to include emerging or promising practices.
- Demonstrate operational cost effectiveness.
- Provide services that align with JWB's Strategic Plan and direction

- Have a total annual agency operating budget over \$500,000 documented for three consecutive years or operate under an Administrative Services Organization (ASO) or collaborative (Join forces with a neighbor Association you get the picture).
- Be in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws.
- Be in compliance with all JWB contract requirements.

A program must meet one or more of the following conditions to be defined a critical community need:

- Operate in a small or underserved area of the county.
- Demonstrate a unique capability to serve populations that other agencies find difficult to reach.
- Be part of a collaborative service strategy and receive funding through a JWB approved subcontracting arrangement.
- Address emerging issues not addressed by other providers.

JWB will not consider funding for the following:

- Recreation programs that do not have a clear youth development component.
- Direct medical services, unless as a catalyst for matching funds as a demonstrated project, or as an integrated element of a program that encourages positive development of children,

youth and families.

- Services or programs requiring worship or religious instructional activities as a condition of participation.
- Retirement of debt.
- Personal expenses of Board members, staff, or volunteers unless directly related to legitimate business purposes.
- Expenses incurred in a closed JWB fiscal year.
- Contributions to or on behalf of any political party or candidate.
- Charitable contributions.
- Costs associated with a funded agency's legal settlement j) administrative costs in excess of the Board adopted percentage of the JWB program allocation
- Expenses associated with fundraising activities.
- Costs not actually incurred or are insufficiently documented.
- Acquisition of real property.
- Expenses not approved through the budget or budget process.

This could be an opportunity for your Neighborhood Association to partner with a qualified Non-Profit, to provide services in your neighborhood and throughout the adjoining neighborhoods. Here is the bridge that could carry your neighborhood across a troubled situation and provide a light tower for other neighborhoods to emulate.

CONA 101 – Planning a Win for the Good Guys (Citizen Initiated Crime Prevention)

What is Crime?

Crime is an act or omission that violates the law and is punishable upon conviction. It includes Criminal Code offenses against a person or property, drug offences, motor vehicle offences and other provincial or federal statute offences. Disorderly behavior such as aggressive pan-handling, public urination and sleeping in the street are not necessarily criminal acts, but they do affect communities by a gradual erosion of the quality of life.

<http://www.criminaljusticereform.gov.bc.ca/en/what you can do/crime prevention/>

Elements Necessary for a Crime to Occur

- Desire or motivation on the part of the criminal
- The skills and tools needed to commit the crime
- Opportunity

What is Crime Prevention (aka Crime Reduction)?

- Reduce the risk of being a victim
- Remove opportunities for a crime to occur
- Present an unattractive target to the criminal

I'm not an officer, what can I do?

- Be the eyes and ears for your neighborhood
- DO – Call in suspicious activities IMMEDIATELY

ATELY and note details of alleged suspect

- DO NOT – Follow anyone or confront anyone

Neighborhood Appropriate Activities

- Crime Watch (Neighborhood & Business) and Court Watch
- Citizens on Patrol
- CPTED – Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design
- Neighborhood Association Activities such as beautification and improvement projects, neighborhood cleanups and neighborhood socials

Create Neighborhood Partnerships

Engage your future neighborhood leaders and everyone who lives, works or plays in your neighborhood. This can be done with a variety of programs, activities and cleanups. Reach out to all of the following to create your partnerships

- Schools, Churches, Synagogues, Mosques
- Recreation Centers and Youth Sports
- Businesses
- Civic and Social clubs (like Rotary, Civitan, Exchange, NAACP, Urban League)

Crime/Neighborhood Watches

• Work with your local law enforcement to start this in your area. There may be vetting requirements to start one. Understand the expectations of volunteers.

• Become the eyes and ears of the Neighborhood/Business Districts

- Share the verified information with neighbors and your association.
- Visit www.crimereports.com frequently for general information on your area.

Citizen on Patrol

• There are various types of patrols (on foot, in vehicles, on bikes and other forms of watching). Choose the one(s) that best work with your neighborhood.

CourtWatch

- Chronic offenders
- Sit in court as a reminder to the elected officials (judges) that this person is a chronic offender.

CPTED – (Crime Prevention through Environmental Design)

Why Neighborhood Association Activities really help

- Engaged Community = Watchful Community
- Engaged Community = Caring Community
- Engaged Community = Decreases the Opportunity

First Night & First Airline Centennial Celebration

December 31, 2013: “First Night/First Flight”

Programs

This year’s First Night Celebration will have as its theme the Centennial of the World’s First Airline. On New Year’s Day, 1914, the World’s First Airline was launched in St. Petersburg. The airline was called the St. Petersburg-Tampa Airboat Line and flew trips twice daily between St. Petersburg and Tampa. First Night will celebrate both the New Year and the Centennial in a variety of ways. Festivities will begin with FirstKids venue at 4PM. Kids can do hat and mask making—aviators’ caps and goggles should be at the top of the list. There will also be a Second Time Arounders Musical Petting Zoo and Art in Flight projects from the Morean Center for Clay, and from Creative Clay. First Kids will finish with the “Procession of Flight” soaring down to the waterfront at 7PM, led by the Mount Zion Drumline and Color Guard for the Bubble Stomp and the First Fireworks.

There will be Luminous Flight sculptural lanterns, glass etching, and flight based clay creations at Williams Park. Plan to join the Dragon Procession to the Waterfront at 10PM. While you are making your art you can listen to a mix of rock, pop, and experimental music.

The first airliner was an “airboat” (what we now call a sea-plane) named the “Benoist Flying Boat” after its manufacturer Thomas Benoist. Beginning at 5PM at the History Museum there will be free Benoist Airboat replica balsa wood gliders to the first 500 young people, and a Benoist model airplane distance throwing contest. Tony Jannus himself (impersonator) will speak at 7PM. A new full size working reproduction of the Benoist Flying Boat will be on display next to the History

Museum. Kermit Weeks, CEO of Fantasy of Flight and builder of the airboat reproduction, will be on hand to tell the story at 8PM. The first passenger on the first airline was St. Petersburg Mayor Abe Pheil. He bid \$400 in an auction for his ticket. In commemoration of that event an auction will be held for two roundtrip tickets to anywhere in the Southwest Airline system. You may bid silently until 8:30PM at which time there will be a short period of additional open bidding. The Museum will unveil a new First Airline Exhibit for the occasion. Special Centennial envelopes for collectors will be on sale. Finally, a Tony Jannus cutout makes for great souvenir photos. This is but a sampling of First Night Programs.

New Year’s Day, 2014: Re-enactment of the First Flight

On New Year’s Day there will be a reenactment of the First Flight of the First Airline using the reproduction of the first airliner, the Benoist 2014, built by Kermit Weeks of Fantasy of Flight. The flight will takeoff from the Yacht Basin near the History Museum in St. Petersburg at 10AM and land at the seaplane basin at Peter O. Knight Airport in Tampa. The Mayors of St. Petersburg and Tampa will participate along with other special guests. The public is invited. Ceremonies will get underway at 9AM.

Also, on December 5th there will be a First Airline Panel at the St. Petersburg Museum of History (Doors open at 6PM; cash bar and light food; program begins at 7PM). Panel includes Warren Brown, Aviation Historian; Joe Lopano, CEO TPA; and Kermit Weeks, Fantasy of Flight. Will Michaels, author of The Making of St. Petersburg, will moderate.



SPPD: Operation Identification

Being caught in the act is a thief’s greatest risk and their second highest risk is being caught “red handed” with the incriminating evidence, the property they have stolen. With modern mass-produced appliances and products looking identical, the police have no way of identifying recovered property as stolen goods unless the serial number is available or the item has been engraved with a property owner’s unique number.

Every year, law enforcement agencies across the country auction millions of dollars worth of recovered lost or stolen property because of the lack of identification. If an item has been engraved, however, the information can be entered into state and national law enforcement computer networks to trace these goods in a matter of seconds and the owner can be identified. This knowledge alone may act as a major deterrent to a potential thief since items that can be traced back to their original owner’s bring a lower

price on the street, making the thief’s efforts less rewarding.

Operation Identification is a crime prevention program where an identifying number is engraved on selected valuables for identification purposes in case the property is stolen. The program is designed to discourage the theft of valuables. Participating in this program will lessen the likelihood of the property being stolen, but in the event of this happening, the chances of the property being recovered by the police and returned to the owner, will increase.

Operation Identification Program

- The recommended number to be engraved onto the property must be determined. The number must be a number easily obtained by the property owner, be permanently traceable back to the property owner and should be acceptable for entry into the FBI’s National Crime

Operation Identification Continues

Information Center computer system for stolen property. Many programs use the driver's license number of the property owner with the two letter abbreviation for the state listed either before or after this number.

- All items should be engraved that might be attractive to a thief.
- The property should be engraved in a prominent place where the marking will be both readily visible and difficult to cover or remove without the attempt being obvious.
 - Televisions, stereos, VCRs, radios and other electronic equipment can be prominently marked on the back of the chassis or case.
 - Engines and body parts of power driven equipment such as riding are sometimes exchanged to reduce the risk of identification. Mark both the engine and frame.
 - Clothing and furs can be marked with invisible or indelible ink, or the number can be embroidered on the material.
 - An additional marking should be made in an inconspicuous area on the property.
- Property that cannot be engraved, such as antiques, jewelry, coins, silver, china, etc. should be photographed in detail.

• The property owner should maintain an inventory of engraved items, including a description of the property, the model number, the serial number, color, cost and the location of Operation Identification markings. The inventory list should be kept in a safe place.

Will Operation Identification Really Deter a Thief?

Some people have questioned the effectiveness of Operation Identification program. Others believe that if a thief knows the property in a home is clearly marked the thief is unlikely to select that home as a target. Further, it is believed that marked property has a reduced resale value to the "fence" making an Operation Identification participant's property less attractive. Another very valuable benefit of Operation Identification is the recording of property descriptions and serial numbers at the time of engraving. This information is very vital in order to enter the stolen item into the NCIC computer system and to aid in identification in case of recovery. Finally another beneficial advantage of Operation Identification is that it sensitizes those persons who participate in it to good security practices and measures. The individual who participates in this program will usually be the same person who practices other good crime prevention habits such as being careful with keys, locking doors and windows, securing property, etc.



SPPD: Tips for a Happy and Safe Holiday

During the year-end holidays, people are often busy, excited and sometimes a little bit careless.

At Home

- Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave your house or apartment, even for a few minutes.
- Don't display holiday gifts where they can be seen from a window or doorway. Store gifts before you go away on a holiday trip.
- If you go out for the evening, turn on lights and a radio or television so the house or apartment appears to be occupied.
- If you take a holiday trip away from your home, have some interior lights activated by an automatic timer. Have a neighbor or family member watch your house, pick up the mail and newspaper and park his or her motor vehicle in your driveway from time to time.
- Participate in Operation Identification and mark your valuables with a unique identification number.
- Be wary of strangers soliciting for charitable donations. They may attempt to take advantage of people's generosity during the holidays. Ask for identification, how donated funds are used, if contributions are tax deductible, etc. If you aren't satisfied with the answers, don't give.
- Immediately after the holidays, mark new gifts with an identification number and record new serial numbers.
- Test your smoke detectors.

- Use only fire resistant ornaments on a holiday tree and make sure electric lights are in good working order. Don't leave the lights on overnight or when you are away from home.
- If you have house guests, advise them of your security precautions and make sure they follow them.
- Avoid leaving boxes from purchases (especially TV's, VCR's, computer, etc.) out on the curb for trash pickup.

Shopping

- Shop before dark if possible. Possibly coordinate shopping trips with a friend. Never park in an unlit lot or area, no matter how convenient it is.
- Lock your packages and gifts in your vehicle's trunk. Keep your vehicle's doors locked and windows closed.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash. Pay for purchases with a check, credit card, or debit card when possible.
- To discourage purse-snatchers, don't overburden yourself with packages. Have your purchases delivered whenever practical.
- Be extra careful with purses and wallets. Carry a purse under your arm. Keep a wallet in an inside jacket pocket, not a back trouser pocket.
- Teach children to go to a store clerk or security guard and ask for help if you become separated. They should never go into a parking lot alone.

CONA 2013 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President

Kurt Donley - Grand Central
331-7373 - kurtdonley@msn.com

1st Vice President

Tim Martin - Historic Kenwood
251-9979 - ftimothymartin@yahoo.com

2nd Vice President

Rashid Ali Montsho - Westminster Heights
803-795-8630 - rmontsho@tampabay.rr.com

Secretary

Sue Heyen - Historic Kenwood
251-2224 - mimsue@tampabay.rr.com

Treasurer

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

STANDING COMMITTEES

Audit

Faye Jackson - Highland Oaks
327-9844 - lfax@msn.com

CONA Leadership

Ingrid Comberg - Disston Heights
894-3048

Court Watch

open

Land Development & Historic Resources

Judy Landon – Harris Park
528-3735 – judylandon55@gmail.com

Membership

Tom DeMint – Edgemoor
647-4239 – TJD1@aol.com

Nominating

Sue Heyen - Historic Kenwood
251-2224 - mimsue@tampabay.rr.com

Public Safety

Lisa Brown - Wildwood
244-9018 - lisab0725@gmail.com

Immediate Past President

Mike Gulley - Coquina Key
244-8374 - jmichael.gulley@gmail.com

OTHER CONA COMMITTEES

Codes Committee

Robby Thompson - Westminster Heights
510-5087 - rightspindle@yahoo.com

Communications

Travis Jarman – Bayway Isles
cona.mail@bayway.org

Energy & Environment Committee

Tim Martin - Historic Kenwood
251-9979 - ftimothymartin@yahoo.com

Newsletter Coordinator

Barbara Heck
barbara@theheckhouse.com

CONA Newsletter Deadlines

Copy Due 25th of each month
Mailing 2nd Wednesday of month
In Hand 2nd Friday of month



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

Return Service Requested

Presort Std
U.S. Postage
Paid
Permit #1084
St. Petersburg, FL

CONA 2014 Elections
Officers and Standing Committee Chairs
Nominate - November 20
Vote - December 18