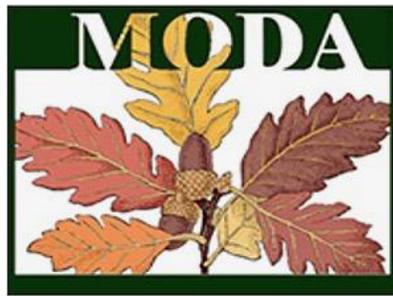


Winter 2021



The
Oak Leaf Newsletter
Menlo Oaks District Association
www.menlo-oaks.org

Calendar of Events

TBD Neighborhood Picnic

TBD Block Parties

September Neighborhood
Yard Sale

October 31 Neighborhood
Halloween Party

TBD Annual Meeting

November 20 Turkey Trot

NEW: You can now pay your annual dues online at <https://menlo-oaks.org/moda-annual-dues/>. New fiscal year began October 1st.

MODA Directory

Make sure your contact information is current. Fill out the form at:
<https://tinyurl.com/MODA-directory-form>

All households with current paid dues will receive a copy of the MODA directory.

Menlo Oaks District Association Election Results

MODA was not able to hold its annual meeting and election in person due to health orders in 2020. Instead, a vote-by-mail was organized with ballots counted following the 11/15 deadline. A total of 74 valid and 5 invalid (duplicate or anonymous) ballots were received. The association included 108 paid members on the day of ballot counting, so the 25% quorum was easily met by each candidate. The 2021 MODA Board will see the following members join president Judy Horst on the board for a 2-year term: Janet Benson, Jim Bird, Brent Brown, Kay Hitch, Stephen Huhn, Remona Murray, Rebecca Partridge, and Celine Sanie.

The new board's focus is on disaster preparedness and emergency response, getting current information from the County on road conditions and improvements, and, once possible, organizing and sponsoring small-scale social events to forge a deeper sense of the community within our neighborhood.

Parking Restrictions

All streets surrounding the Menlo-Atherton high school in Atherton and Menlo Oaks have had a majority of residents requesting and securing parking restrictions during school hours in the past few years, to increase safety on the streets. As a result, residents and guests are also barred from parking in the County easement during those same hours. San Mateo County does not provide parking permits for local residents. Each property must include 2 covered parking spaces per dwelling with 2+ bedrooms (garage or carport), and more for an accessory dwelling unit. Many neighbors park in their driveway during the day.

Street parking is otherwise unlimited outside posted hours, except for commercial vehicles which must leave after their business is completed, and vehicles abandoned for 72hrs or longer. In general, deputies issue parking tickets after receiving a call from a resident, or while routinely patrolling the area close to the high school when classes end around 3PM. If you are unable to locate the owner/driver of a vehicle parked in the right-of-way for over 3 days, you can contact the sheriff at www.smcsheriff.com.

Here are San Mateo documents to review for more details:

Traffic/Parking: <https://tinyurl.com/parking-flyer>

Parking Restriction Info and County Maps: <https://tinyurl.com/smc-pkg>

Zoning Regulations: <https://tinyurl.com/smc-zng>

Emergency Essentials for the 21st Century

During the 2019 annual meeting, Remona Murray presented the latest trends in emergency gear. For a list of information resources, or to compare and purchase products, take a look at <https://menlo-oaks.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/MODA-Presentation.pdf>.

Editor & Layout

Celine Sanie

Contributors

Judy Horst

Remona Murray

Celine Sanie

ABOUT THE OAK LEAF:

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.

The Oak Leaf is also available online at <https://menlo-oaks.org/oak-leaf/>

Do you have feedback on the new Oak Leaf format?

Email celine@sanie.com

Plants and Trees in the County Easement

Many properties in Menlo Oaks are graced by majestic trees out in front. Technically, the area located between your front property line and the roadway belongs to you, with a right-of-way to the San Mateo County. This means that you, as property owners, are responsible and liable for this area, while the County is solely responsible for the roadway itself. All plants and trees located there are your property and you are responsible for the safety of those trees and all pedestrians. Any planting in the "right-of-way" requires a permit from Public Works. PG&E also needs to be consulted to ensure that the new plants or trees won't interfere with underground or aerial utility lines. The postmaster should also greenlight the project as the mail box location must remain unchanged, with easy drive-up access for mail delivery.

County Public Works crews trim and remove trees only for vehicles and pedestrian safety, most often in case of emergency. This type of work is limited to the roadway and can result in a non-symmetrical appearance with further work needed by the property owner at their expense. If you would like to remove a large branch or tree in your easement, you need to apply for a permit to the County at <https://tinyurl.com/smc-tree-permit>.

For more details and contact information, visit <https://tinyurl.com/smc-trees-road>.

Our Oaks Are Living History

Menlo Oak residents are the beneficiaries of San Mateo County's valuable oak savannah, and these natural sculptures have a prestigious and valuable history. They also provide many health advantages to each of us.

Just how old is that tree in your yard? If you have an oak that's 75" in diameter, it is roughly 300 years old. No need to count the rings to get the formula for your tree, click [here](#). It's a safe way to get a general idea of the age of your natural asset, understanding that arborists have a more complicated formula and urban trees grow more slowly than forest trees because of stress.

Taking care of your valuable oak trees can extend their lives! For more tips and resources, visit <https://menlo-oaks.org/trees/>.

How To Reach County Officials

Whether you're looking for our County Supervisor, mosquito and vector control or complaints about streets, visit <http://menlo-oaks.org/useful-information/#smc>.

Subscribing to Electronic MODA Newsletter & Notifications

MODA offers an electronic version of the Oak Leaf as well as email notifications about urgent information such as neighborhood street closures. To subscribe or unsubscribe, visit: <https://menlo-oaks.org/maillist/>. Switching to electronic notifications saves trees and keeps MODA dues low too!
