NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2024



1

The Parkmead Community Association (PCA) is a voluntary organization, run by volunteer board members who are passionate about engaging in and improving their community.

2024 PCA Events

Mark your calendars!

All in-person events will be dependent on county health guidelines.

Sat. April 20: Earth Day Neighborhood Beautification

Sat. June 1: Garage Sale

Sat. August 24: **Summer Block Party** Nominate your street to host this event!

Sat. November 2: **Chili Cook-off** Nominate your street to host this event!

Find Us Online

Website: www.parkmead.org

Facebook: Parkmead Community Association WC

Email: parkmead@parkmead.org

Donate Today

Voluntary annual dues (\$20*) fund our events, newsletter, and website. Please consider joining today by sending cash or check to the PCA Treasurer at 1521 Arbutus Dr. or via PayPal or Zelle: parkmead@parkmead.org. The PayPal link is also on the PCA website.

President's Corner: Winter Storms and Roaring Winds!

Welcome to another year of memories and community building in our Parkmead neighborhood. The winter weather is certainly taking its toll as gusting winds roar down Newell Ave and shake loose branches from the trees that line our streets, making Parkmead such a special place to live.

This year denotes the 75th Anniversary of Parkmead Elementary School, and the school welcomes all Panthers present, past, or future to join in the festivities. I'm sure many of us have memories of going to school at Parkmead, being parent volunteers on campus, or keeping time to the rhythms of the school bells as they ring out across the playground. Parkmead will be hosting an anniversary celebration on Friday, May 3, from 4-7pm, and welcomes the neighborhood to join in the festivities, including music and food trucks. Do you have old photos of Parkmead Elementary School, yearbooks, or other memorabilia? Contact Jaine Nejedly at jnejedly@walnutcreeksd.org if you would like to share your part of the school's history.

Our PCA board is 15 strong this year, with two new members joining our mighty group of volunteers. We recently had our annual off-site to set goals for 2024 and establish event dates (see the full list in the margin). Two of our events are looking for a new location as we aim to move our **Summer Block Party** and **Chilli Cook-off** to a new location every 2 years so that different streets can show their community pride. If you and your neighbors would like to host one of these events on your street, please email us at parkmead@parkmead.org with the Subject: **Nominate My Street**, and the event chairs will reach out to share event details.

We want to remind you that we also work as a conduit of information to our community: check www.parkmead.org for upcoming news such as Measure J (2022 school bond) construction at Parkmead Elementary School this summer and next. **There will be an info session on Measure J Tuesday, March 12th from 6:30pm-7:30pm in the Parkmead Multipurpose Room.** You can also email us with questions and concerns, and we will do our best to guide you to municipal, city, and county resources.

We always appreciate your support and participation!

Sadie Waddington PCA President 2023-2024

*Note: At the 2023 PCA annual meeting (held during the Chili Cook-off in November) the association voted to raise annual dues from \$15 to \$20 per household, in order to better meet the annual costs of providing the newsletter and holding our neighborhood events.

Parkmead Community Association Membership Form

\$20 annual household PCA dues		\$ additional donation
Name(s):		
Address:		
Email(s):		

Email addresses are never shared, they are used for occasional informational email updates.

Please make checks payable to Parkmead Community Association, and return to **1521 Arbutus Dr., Walnut Creek, CA, 94595**. Otherwise, submit electronic payments to parkmead@parkmead.org.



2024 PCA Board

(year joined)

Officers

President, Sadie Waddington (2015)

Vice-President, Amy Sherman (2021)

Treasurer, Chris Morris (2016)

Secretary, Kristen McLeran (2015)

Board Members

Zoe Allen - LLHS Rep (2023)

Josh Brann (2014)

Craig Geldard (2022)

Jodi Hayes (1993-2009, 2022)

Tiffany Hillis (2022)

Kristin Lanham (2011)

Dallas Lindauer (New! 2024)

Silvia Lucchi (2022)

Paul and Raigan Roy (2019)

Richard West (2006)

Mike Wilt (New! 2024)

Join the PCA!

We always welcome neighbors who want to get involved and make Parkmead an even better place! Reach out to parkmead@parkmead.org if you would like to participate as a board member, help volunteer at an event, or anything else.

2024 Goals

Gathering at Sauced in downtown Walnut Creek, the board established several goals for the coming year. We are delighted to have so many engaged board members and are kicking-off the year with the following list of outcomes for 2024:

- Increase household membership to 260 There are 600+ homes in our Parkmead neighborhood, and we hope to keep increasing the number of households participating in our community events and services.
 Organize 4 community events - Earth Day Neighborhood
- Beautification, Garage Sale, Summer Block Party, Chili Cook-off & Cornbread Contest
- 3. Secure Non-profit Status we hope to establish non-profit status for the Parkmead Community Association as this will give us a stronger voice for our community, and allow us to secure in-kind donations, among other potential benefits.*
- 4. Provide community information for Measure J developments at Parkmead Elementary summer of 2024 & 2025.
- 5. Improve our internal organization of events so that each event has a playbook of tasks and needs to help support new event chairs and capture event details.

*Note: At the 2023 PCA annual meeting (held during the Chili Cook-off in November) the association voted to raise annual dues from \$15 to \$20 per household, in order to better meet the annual costs of providing the newsletter and holding our neighborhood events.

2023 Chili Cook-off Recap

On Saturday, November 4th, 2023 the Annual Parkmead Chili (and cornbread!) Cook-off was held on Maple Ln. It was a beautiful fall day, and there was fantastic neighborhood turnout for this popular event. The many kids seem to be just as eager as the adults to vote for their favorite, and it is so fun to see those memories being made. This past fall we had more than a dozen excellent chili and cornbread chefs, many of whom make it a family affair. (As can be seen in our winners photo!)



Start testing your chili recipes now, the chili cook-off will be returning Saturday, November 2nd, 2024! Many thanks to our neighbors on Maple Ln, who have graciously hosted the event on their street the past few years. For 2024 we'll be moving the event within the neighborhood - if you think your street could serve up a great chili cook-off, let us know! **Nominate your street!**