



# Council of Neighborhood Associations

**GOAL** CONA will provide support for new, re-vitalized and established neighborhood associations with the understanding that the neighborhood association will then become an active, supporting member of CONA.

**LONG-RANGE GOAL:** CONA will increase to 30 member associations.

**OBJECTIVE A:** CONA will help neighborhoods with the development of an association that fits with the needs and the time limits of the neighborhood residents but fulfills necessary elements for an effective association.

This objective calls for CONA to help neighborhoods organize into workable associations in harmony with what their individual neighborhood needs are. CONA will also help with organizational issues such as by-laws, furnish a handbook with many sources of information and CONA can also serve as a fiscal agent for the neighborhood associations having projects receiv-

## MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT from CONA the Strategic Plan Update (SPU) con't from January Newsletter

ing contributions. CONA can allow a tax deductible status for the contributors.

**OBJECTIVE B:** CONA, as a countywide organization, will attempt to nurture and bring into CONA membership several county neighborhoods

CONA wants to include rural neighborhoods in its membership. An effort will be made to contact county neighborhoods. County neighborhoods are contacting the organization so the interest is two ways.

**OBJECTIVE C:** CONA will continue to support member neighborhood associations in all ways possible.

CONA uses and will continue to use various methods to keep in contact with neighborhood associations. We presently publish a quarterly newsletter, maintain a

website ([www.conaonline.org](http://www.conaonline.org)), and an email address ([cona@bloomington.in.us](mailto:cona@bloomington.in.us)). The email is also used for reminders, special alerts, and important timely information. We form links with neighborhood associations who have their own web pages and will continue to encourage new websites from neighborhoods.



Neighbors invite neighbors

**OBJECTIVE D:** The organizational structure of CONA (reflected in the by-laws) must enhance and accommodate CONA's mission, vision, and work plans.

Changes to the By-laws will be voted on at the April 17 meeting.

**CONA**  
VOLUME 3  
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### Questions and Answers:

- Q: Are my contributions to CONA tax deductible?
- A: Yes, they are.
- Q: Will I be acknowledged for my gift?
- A: Yes, you will—in our newsletter and on our website.
- Q: Does CONA need my financial support?
- A: Yes, it does. Our city grants are reduced yearly and will end in 2005.

### HOW CAN I HELP CONA?

- Work actively in your neighborhood association
- Have your neighborhood association join CONA
- Become an observer for CONA
- Become a committee member for CONA
- Contribute financially to its mission and program.

## INKIND HOURS

The Second Annual Blooming Neighborhoods will be celebrated on May 11, 2002 at the Farmers' Market at City Hall, the Showers Building from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Once again, the City of Bloomington will highlight and honor its neighborhoods and CONA will be joining that celebration. The city will be giving three awards: Mayor's Excellence Award, the City Council Neighborhood Enhancement Award, and the HAND Neighbor of the Year Award. Neighborhoods must

be registered with HAND in order to apply for one of the awards. Registration with the city consists of filling out an information form and submitting by-laws of your organization.

Every neighborhood association should have received the information about the awards. The deadline is April 12, 2002 by noon. Contact Vickie Provine 349-3505 or

provinev@city.bloomington.in.us for details of the nomination process.



The wonderful look of spring!

CONA also will recognize the hours of in-kind contributions individuals make to their neighborhoods and to CONA. Make sure that you and your

neighbors have recorded and submitted these volunteer hours. Call 333-6377 or email cona@bloomington.in.us for more information regarding this program.

## Action Team

In order to carry out the goals and objectives outlined by CONA, the board believed that it was necessary to be in attendance at board and commission meetings having to do with neighborhood concerns. A list of appropriate groups was developed. All the boards and commissions listed are city ones but as we

have county neighborhood associations join us, some county boards and commissions will be added to the coverage.

Volunteers have come thus far from Board members but you do not have to be a member of the Board to serve in this capacity.

Your obligations are: attend the meeting, write up a brief report

CONA  
NEEDS  
YOU!

How can YOU help to keep neighborhoods strong? READ THIS NEWSLETTER!!

(form is available on the website or can be sent to you by mail or email), and send it to CONA, either by email or postal mail.

Volunteers as of this date: Jim Opiat, Carole Darling, Jack Baker, David Walter, Bill Sturbaum, and Bill Hayden. Still needing ACTION TEAM members: City Council (2 people), Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Commission, Economic Development Commission, and School Board.

## Financial Support

CONA as a nonprofit organization must deal with the reality of fundraising for its existence and maintenance. CONA receives a Grant through HAND but this grant will be reduced yearly until 2005 when we are expected to be able to support ourselves as an organization.

CONA, at this point, needs to rely heavily on "friends of CONA" or those

individuals who are interested in seeing the organization thrive. I am sure we have not heard from all the "friends of CONA" but contributions have been received from the following individuals: Bill Sturbaum, Fran Moore, Nancy Lumbley, Sacha and



Jeffrey Willsey, J Bruce, Mark Hood, Anthony Pizzo, David Walter, James and Monica Overman and Christine Mitchell.

Contributions to CONA are tax-deductible and accepted with great appreciation. No amount is too small to show your support.

If you would like to help CONA with fundraising ideas, give us a call!!!

# MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT (con't. from page 1)

They are being updated to reflect the work and organizational structure determined by the Update.

**OBJECTIVE E:** *CONA will keep its membership aware of the progress in meeting goals and work plan and the financial aspects connected with it.*

CONA will revisit the Strategic Plan Update on a yearly basis and will assess its short-term and long-term financial situation on a monthly basis. **The Strategic Plan Update will be reviewed again in March 2003 if it has not been addressed before that date.**

**OBJECTIVE F:** *CONA will develop a definitive membership plan*

CONA has developed a membership plan outlining points pertaining to membership recruitment and maintenance. It also includes the responsibilities and benefits of membership.

This plan will be evaluated yearly.

For copies of the membership plan, visit our website.



**OBJECTIVE**

**G:** *CONA will maintain a file on each neighborhood association.*

This resource file will contain by-laws, newsletter, projects information, copies of grants submitted, meeting times, etc.

They will be available to other neighborhood associations for ideas, examples, etc.

**DO YOU KNOW OF A NEIGHBORHOOD, CITY OR COUNTY, THAT IS WANTING TO BEGIN A NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION? IF SO, GIVE CONA A CALL AT 333-6377.**

## SIG Grant

For the past few years, CONA has been encouraging its neighborhood associations to devise a plan in conjunction with the local police department that will lead to better surveillance of the neighborhood. As a part of this process, neighborhoods can purchase signs that proclaim it as a Neighborhood Watch neighborhood. Materials needed to get the word out to the neighborhoods will also be paid

## Monroe County Community Prevention Coalition

by the grant. That offer is still in effect.

The grant will allow other things to happen. For instances, is your neighborhood populated with children who would benefit from time spent with an adult, other than the parent? Is there a project that you can undertake in your neighborhood that would cause youth and adults to interact in meaningful ways? The grant

could fund those activities. Do you know of a neighborhood that is wanting to begin an association but no one wants to assume "start up" expenses? The SIG grant may be able to help you in that regard.

Assess your neighborhoods — find out how many children (under 18) are your neighbors too. Think of some activities to specifically involve them. Contact CONA with your ideas.

## Neighborhood Happenings

**McDoel Gardens:** This neighborhood association cleaned the banks of Clear Creek that run through its neighborhood. Many of us enjoy the view of the Creek as we drive by but we need to thank this neighborhood for keeping it clean for all of us.

**Prospect Hill:** Involved in an oral history project that will probe the memories of neighbors who have been there for awhile. Think about this

for your neighborhood. Are there neighbors who have great early memories you would like to capture?

**Bryan Park:** Has one of the Small and Simple grants and they are restoring brick sidewalks in their neighborhood. Bryan Park is using CONA as its fiscal agent so contributions can be solicited on a tax deduction basis since CONA has that designation.



Waterman will be making plans to

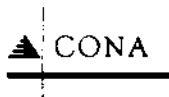
landscape the bridge project painted last fall.

Matlock Heights and Blue Ridge neighborhoods will at last have a calmer North Dunn (we hope!) when the North Dunn project is completed.

**WHAT ARE OTHER NEIGHBORHOODS DOING?**

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Bloomington, IN 47402-0252  
(812) 333-6377  
cona@bloomington.in.us  
<http://www.conaonline.org>

Building Community ...  
Neighborhood by Neighborhood



6th and Ritter  
David & Carole Walter  
208 N. Ritter  
Bloomington, IN 47404

Non-Profit Org.  
Presorted Std.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 484  
Bloomington, IN



## Spring Time is Celebration Time

Spring is always eagerly awaited after a winter of bare branches, brown lawns, and empty patios. As you refresh your yard with new plantings, trimmed shrubs, and varieties of flowers, consider making at least part of your yard, a Wildlife Habitat. It isn't that difficult. Remember you need food, shelter, a source of water, and a place to bear young. Your reward: a beautiful yard and the wonderful sound of birds and the sight of graceful butterflies also admiring your floral choices! We celebrate that aspect of the coming of spring.



Other celebrations are a part of spring. We witnessed community celebrations over the success of the Indiana University basketball team. Some of this celebrating, unfortunately, was not the kind that neighborhoods like when there is injury to persons and destruction of property.

Spontaneous celebrations are hard to predict and to prepare for; however, we have other celebration times in the spring that we need to be aware of. We know springtime brings the Little 500 — April 20.— but the partying happens for the week preceding also. If you live in a neighborhood populated by university students, consider talking with them

about their party plans and voice your feelings about appropriate noise levels, etc. Most people understand the importance of this weekend to college students but consideration is also called for.

Other events to celebrate involve our underage (for drinking) teenage population. Prom times and graduation are both big events to celebrate. Dates of proms: Bloomington North — May 11; Bloomington South— May 18; Edgewood — May 18. Graduation for all three high schools is June 1. Remind your neighbors of teenage children that there are consequences to allowing underage young people to drink alcohol. Be a good neighbor and talk to anyone planning a party. Help to make sure parties in your neighborhood remain responsible.