



# OAKRIDGE NEWS

A PUBLICATION OF THE OAKRIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Volume 1, No.3

December, 1992

## Officers Corner

### Rash Statements

by Jack Rash  
ONA Vice-President

The reason you're having to read this author again, is that I forgot to ask one of the other officers to write a column for this month's *Oakridge News*.

Now, I have all kinds of excuses --- after all, this is a particularly busy time of year. But, my oversight brings up an opinion that I know all the officers and directors share.

Your neighborhood association is a volunteer organization. As such, we rely on two things to accomplish the goals of the organization: time and money, which, of course, is scarce for all of us.

Some things done by the Association will require our money, hence, annual dues and prospects for other types of fundraisers. In April, you will have the opportunity to say how much ONA should spend on what projects, and where the money will come from.

Time is another matter. You can invest time now.

It's not always true, but for many of us in Oakridge, time is more scarce than money, so we employ different services and people to give us more time to do the things we would rather do.

Some of us choose to use that time to make more money, which seems like a vicious cycle to me. Others of us choose to convert that time we've bought into something we now call "quality time," which I'm told means "anything that contributes in a constructive way to the life-continuum experience." (Or something like that anyway.)

Which finally brings me to mine and your fellow officers' opinion that the time you contribute to the (see "Statement," page 7)

### ONA Board Approves Several Projects

The Oakridge Neighborhood Association Board of Directors in meetings held Nov. 23 and Dec. 7 approved expenditures for three projects and reviewed the fiscal policies and procedures of the Association.

The Environmental Committee was authorized to spend up to \$250 to have the existing watering systems in the entryways of Oakridge surveyed by an irrigation specialist. This will be accomplished once water to the entryways has been turned on. The Committee has arranged to have the water turned on without payment of a deposit for each watering system.

In approving this expenditure, the Board recognized a commitment of approximately \$125 per month for water. A decision on a contract to maintain the entryways was deferred, pending negotiations with a landscaping firm.

### Police Chief, City Official To Address January ONA Meeting

Garland Police Chief Terry Hensley and a representative from the City Attorney's Office will be the featured speakers at the general membership meeting of the Oakridge Neighborhood Association, Jan. 24, at 3:00 p.m., at the Oakridge Country Club.

Both officials will discuss the City's position on arbitration and labor relations, particularly as they relate to the Garland Police Officers Association.

Chief Hensley also will present an overview of all current and future Police Dept. operations and programs. A question and answer period will follow both presentations, followed by the general business meeting of the Association. A "social half-hour" will precede the meeting, beginning at 2:30 pm.

#### AGENDA

- Police Dept. Forum
- Minutes
- Treasurer's Report
- Report on preliminary budgets for all projected ONA projects.

A budget of \$200 was approved for use by the Civic and Political Interest Committee to purchase seasonal decorations for the entryways and major thoroughfares in Oakridge.

The Board also approved a \$200 expenditure for use by the Membership and Communications Committees to recognize the contributions of more than 50 committee members in helping get the Association established.

A reception has been planned for Dec. 20 for all ONA Committee members and their spouses or guests. Part of the expenditure also was approved to help organize Christmas caroling in sections of Oakridge immediately following the reception.

The Board voted to incorporate ONA as a nonprofit Texas corporation, and authorized the Finance Committee to pursue filings with the State and the IRS.

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# Your Committees Hard At Work

## Civic & Political Action

Chairperson: **Donna Dayhoff**,  
ONA  
495-3515

In light of recent news stories, the Committee recommended to the Board that a program on current labor relations between the Garland Police Dept. and the Garland Police Officers Association be presented at the January general membership meeting of the ONA. (See Page 1 for details.)

The Committee continues to search for ideas and volunteers to assist in the creation of youth and seniors organization in the neighborhood.

### *Committee Kudos*

To: **Robert and Mary Musseman** and their two children, and to **Jack Rash** for installing the decorations on the lampposts and entryways.

## Communications and Membership

Chairpersons:

**Diana Berry**, ONA -  
Communications  
414-7377

**Sue Sweetnam**, ONA -  
Membership 495-3948

The two Committees have combined efforts to sponsor, organize, and enjoy the Christmas Caroling event, scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 20, from 6:00 to 9:00 pm.

We still are looking for more vocal participation! Please contact either chairperson of **Diane Owens**, at 495-7383 for details. An alternative date will be set in the event of inclement weather.

Many new volunteers have been added to these Committees, and with everyone's hard work, great ideas, and commitment, we hope to add a Social subcommittee to one or both groups.

Another joint effort is underway to compile the data for an upcoming Membership Directory. If you have joined ONA and have not yet filled out your Membership Registration Form, please do so ASAP! You can mail the form to the address on the form, or you can call any officer or committee chairperson and we will pick up the completed form.

To date, we have 186 households, working hard to reach our goal of 200 by Dec. 31. NOW would be a great time to join!

The next joint meeting of the Communications and Membership Committees will be Thursday, Jan. 7, 1993, at 7:00 pm at the Oakridge Country Club. Anyone interested in either Committee is welcome!

### *Committee Kudos*

The Communications Committee continues to work together with our dedicated Vice-President, editor, and chief writer, **Jack Rash**, to bring you these pages. Thanks, Jack, for all your work.

## Crime Prevention & Safety

Chairperson: **Luanne Payne**,  
ONA  
530-9323

Christmas Dinner will be provided to approximately 45 police officers and 8 firemen on Christmas day, compliments of the Crime Prevention and Safety Committee and the Oakridge Country Club.

The OCC is donating two cooked turkeys, and the CP&S Committee is providing all the "fixin's."

If you can contribute food or a small cash donation, or if you would like to join the group that will take the food to the police and fire stations, please contact the Committee Chairperson, today! Lunch will be served at the Fire Station at 3501 Bobbie Ln. at 11:00 am, and at the central Police Squad Room at 1:30 pm.

### *Committee Kudos*

To: **Oakridge Country Club** for the donation of two fully cooked turkeys.

## Oakridge Crime Watch Statistics


### Only Three!

Only three incidences were reported to the Police in Oakridge in the month of November:

Big Oaks - Burglary, habitation  
Diamond Oaks - Burglary, vehicle

Pepperidge - Theft under \$20

While the incidences reported were low for November, the Committee urges you to be particularly cautious this time of year. Safeguarding yourself and your property requires your attention!



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# Your Committees Hard At Work

## Finance

Patricia Downing, ONA

530-4192

Significant progress has been made concerning the legal status of ONA. At the request of the Board, the Committee researched the ramifications of incorporation, and reported that incorporation as a Texas nonprofit corporation is advisable, because it limits the liability of individual ONA Members.

The Board authorized the Committee to pursue incorporation and filing with the Internal Revenue Service for a 501-C4 (nonprofit) status. The incorporation filing fee is \$35. The IRS filing fee is \$375, but does not need to be completed until Spring, 1993.

In other matters, the Committee voted to recommend a guideline only of maintaining a \$1,000 cash balance in the Associations bank account, and that officers and directors NOT be bonded due to the high cost of insurance.

The Committee continues to develop budgeting guidelines and procedures in preparation for the April general business meeting when the 1993 consolidated budget will be submitted to the membership for approval.

A few Bylaws changes have been noted by the Committee as being necessary to comply with adopted financial procedures and policies. Those changes will be considered in April.

The next meeting of the Committee will be Jan. 9, at 10:30 am, at 2821 Grand Oaks.

### *Committee Kudos*

To: **Steven Hill**, ONA, who is filing the ONA incorporation papers for no charge. Steve has contributed countless professional hours to the Association and has never charged a fee.

## Environmental

Pam and Ron Harbach, ONA

530-5024

The Committee has received a verbal commitment from the City of Garland that water to Oakridge entryways will be turned on without a monetary deposit. A written request has been submitted to the City Managers office, and action is expected soon. Monthly costs for watering the entryways is estimated at \$125.

The Board authorized the Committee to contract with Expert Landscaping, Inc. to inspect the entryway watering systems and to provide an estimate of repairs. A monthly maintenance contract with Expert is being recommended to begin in Spring, 1993, at a cost of \$340 per month. This cost includes mowing, edging, fertilizing, shrubbery trimming, and trash pickup.

Several ONA Members have responded to the call to form a Garden Club. An announcement will be forthcoming.

The next Committee meeting will be Jan. 18, at 7:30 pm, at 3102 Big Oaks.



## Oakridge Recycles

Yes, recycling has come to Oakridge, and we hope this information will encourage everyone to participate.

One activity should be easier now, because we have newspaper pickup every Thursday. Here's what to do:

- Remove all slick paper (ads, etc.) from your pile of newspapers.
- Place the pile on the ground at the curb in front of your house on Thursday morning -- unless it's raining.
- Weight the papers with a brick or other heavy object --- no string.

Here are some other recycling sites:

- Richardson Environmental Action League, Glenville & Columbia. They take newspapers, glass (brown, green, clear), and aluminum cans.
- Kroger, Belt Line & Yale. Aluminum cans, plastic bottles, paper, and plastic sacks
- Food Lion, Campbell & Jupiter. Paper and plastic sacks.
- Albertson's, Buckingham & Jupiter. Plastic sacks.
- Garland Recyclers, 201 S. Shiloh. Scrap metal.
- Almost any car-lube facility. They will be happy to accept your used oil. (They can resell it.)

Remember, you can reduce waste by taking durable bags to your grocery store when you shop.

Please tell us about any other recycling locations or suggestions. Contact **Joan Nichols**, ONA, at 414-9274.

## Update on City of Garland Matters by Mayor Pro-Tem Michael Holden, Dist. 7

Here we are again, almost to the end of another year in the City of Garland. It's amazing how fast time literally flies by. There is always so much to do, and we never seem to be able to get it all done! But, there also are times where you see certain projects progress and ultimately completed.

In 1992, there were a number of positives for our city and Oakridge, such as:

- 1992 Spring Creek Festival
- Purchase and renovations for the North Garland Library
- Additional police officers included in the 1992 budget
- New Shiloh Road extension (from Arapaho to Hwy. 190) contract to be let this year
- Voluntary curbside recycling for interested neighborhoods
- Once-a-week newspaper recycling for all of Garland
- Additional code enforcement inspectors included in the 1992 budget to help enforce our codes and improve the cleanliness of our neighborhoods

The above noted items are just a few of the projects that your City Council has done to help improve Garland.

The Council recently held a Fall retreat, primarily to bring the Council together and refocus on our goals set in the Spring. During the retreat, the Council decided that it was time to send a clear message to our citizens as to what our true purpose should be. The way we decided to present our purpose is through a mission statement. This statement, in a nutshell, has been defined in that no matter what the City does, whether it be small or large, we should be making a very conscious decision on whether or not THIS will enhance the quality of life to the citizens of Garland.

As always, I make a concerted effort to be available to anyone that has any questions, comments, or suggestions. Please do not hesitate to call me at 530-2906, or write me at 2928 Southern Cross, 75044.

Rhanda and I hope you all have a very happy and safe holiday season.  
God Bless.

## As I see it... by Diana Berry, ONA

So I'm a little frazzled. I've decorated the eggnog, mailed the tree, and put our return address on the firewood. So far though, I've made every possible party. We all have our priorities.

Did someone cut out a month between September and Christmas this year? Will they please return it? I'll even pay postage. And whoever let the seasonal lunatics on the road, will they please collect them early this year? I have some parties I actually have to drive to. What a nutty time of year! And I don't mean Chestnuts on an open fire, either!

Now, I'm all in favor of celebrating, as noted, but to add insult to insanity at our house, within two weeks, we celebrate Christmas, our wedding anniversary, traditional New Years eve and day, and another important birthday (mine)! My husband hates this time of year. I think I have a financial clue why!


Even I would like a break from so much fun. Is it legal to change any of the aforementioned special occasions. If I change my birthday can I post date the year? Just a thought.

Our son (5) thinks Christmas is AWESOME!, which I think is a compliment. He told Santa he just wanted a few Ninja turtles and his sleigh and stuff. Translation: Santa, load up your sleigh, be sure to include, Raphael, Donatello and the boys and drop it off at the Berry house on Willow Ridge. Nice try. What will I bribe him with to be good after Christmas if Santa really does show up?

As for New Years resolutions, mine is not to make any. I'll figure out what I accomplished at the end of '93, and act like it was what I resolved to do. Works better than thinking I was a louse for not keeping 92's.

Happy Holidays!

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## What's Happening on Buckingham?

Many questions have been asked about what is going on with the land across Buckingham from the Diamond Oaks entrance to Oakridge. Some have speculated that the land is being cleared for development. Not the case, according to Mayor Pro-Tem Mike Holden.

Apparently, before the land was cleared, a number of child molestations took place in the dense woods and brush. The owner, a private individual, was notified and has worked closely with the City of Garland to make the land more open and safe.

There are no current plans for development of any kind on this land. It has been suggested to the owner that the land be donated for use as a city park. So far, the owner has made no commitment.

**Boat?**  
Interested in a safety course?  
How about a **FREE** safety check of your boat's equipment?  
Call the Coast Guard Auxiliary  
530-7342

## Those Among Us ...

This column recognizes the people of Oakridge who perform a community service, a noteworthy accomplishment, or an act of kindness. If you know someone who deserves our thanks or recognition, please contact Diana Berry, ONA, at 414-7377.

The more we get involved with projects in the name of the Oakridge Neighborhood Association, the more jewels that emerge and shine upon us in the form of people, our neighbors.

Recently, a new family moved into our neighborhood. They were greeted with all the hassles that accompany moving, with one exception. A nearby neighbor noticed the new family, and took the time to make and deliver a hot meal to welcome the family to the neighborhood. The new family was appreciative, and wanted to thank their benefactors publicly.

**Ken and Kathy Davy**, ONA, are new neighbors on Windy Ridge, and the newest members of ONA. They would like to thank **Al and Diane Owens**, ONA, of the same street, for making them feel at home so quickly. It is a reminder to all of us that we can reach out and touch someone without long distance charges.

**Al and Diane** are long-time residents of Oakridge, and wonderful neighbors to have. As a new member of the ONA Membership Committee, Diane already has made many contributions of time, talent, and ideas. She is heading up the Christmas Caroling, Dec. 20.

If you haven't been by to see their decorations, you owe it to yourself to see what a master electrician can do with some wire and a few thousand light bulbs. (Even some amateur electricians in Oakridge have accomplished some amazing light displays. Get out and see them before they're all gone.)

Another matter of importance is to thank the many who responded to the plea for help from Childrens Treehouse. Following the arson of their storage facility, it looked like the Childrens Treehouse would have very scarce decorations. But, thanks to you and many parents of the students, donations of Christmas decorations, including a tree, were gladly accepted and very appreciated.

We regret we cannot publish the names of all those who made donations. Space would not permit it. But, we can be proud of the community spirit shown by the citizens of Oakridge.

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# ONA Crime Prevention Good Neighbor Map

Back by popular demand! Here's a helpful map, done up for you by the ONA Crime Prevention and Safety Committee. Ask your neighbor for the information (while providing him or her with your name and phone number) and keep the map handy. Now that you have two copies, mail a copy to the Crime Prevention Committee, c/o P.O. Box 451873, Garland, TX 75044. We're trying to establish a database of this information.

House #: _____
Name: _____
Phone: _____

House #: _____
Name: _____
Phone: _____

House #: _____
Name: _____
Phone: _____

**Your Street**

House #: _____
Name: _____
Phone: _____

<b>Your House</b>
-------------------

House #: _____
Name: _____
Phone: _____

**Alley**

House #: _____
Name: _____
Phone: _____

House #: _____
Name: _____
Phone: _____

House #: _____
Name: _____
Phone: _____

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Write in street name)

## Your Message: Loud and Clear

Among the preliminary results of the survey included on the ONA Membership Registration Form, was a whopping 70 percent of you who indicated that CRIME PREVENTION is your No.1 concern. While a complete tabulation of the membership database has not been completed, the Membership Committee reports that the second highest priority is neighborhood beautification and the environment. Civic and political concerns run a close third.

There was support for creating a seniors and a youth group, and many neighbors, while not committing to a permanent seat on a committee, volunteered on an "as needed" basis.

A compilation of this information will be published in the forthcoming ONA Membership Directory, scheduled for publication in early 1993. If you have not completed a Membership Registration Form, please forward it to the Membership Chairperson, Sue Sweetnam, 3109 Big Oaks.



### ...Statements

(continued from Page 1)

Oakridge Neighborhood Association not only reduces the amount of money required, but also returns innumerable benefits, both collectively and personally.

Throughout this newsletter, you will see opportunities to invest your time. The Youth Group, Seniors Group, Garden Club, and all six Committees need members. Other groups also have been discussed and may form soon, such as a book club, a business-leads club, and a writers' "workshop."

By investing your time in the ONA, you can increase the investment you've already made in your home, AND realize a great deal of personal satisfaction.

### Classified Ads

**GOOD AS NEW:** Amana microwave, top of the line, \$100. Swivel rocker, beige crushed velvet, \$100. Call Ken or Kathy at 495-8724.

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## OAKRIDGE Neighborhood Association MEMBERSHIP FORM

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

According to the Bylaws of the Association each household is entitled to 2 (two) voting members. Please complete the following information for each voting member. Indicate any information you do not want published in the ONA Membership Directory.

### Member #1

Last Name                      First Name                      M.I.                      Birth Month/Day                      Preferred or Nickname

Employer    Occupation    Business Phone

### Member #2

Last Name                      First Name                      M.I.                      Birth Month/Day                      Preferred or Nickname

Employer    Occupation    Business Phone

### MEMBER #1

### MEMBER #2

I AM INTERESTED IN: PLEASE CHECK ALL APPROPRIATE BOXES

- Actively participating on a committee. Please contact me.
- Learning more about the Association. Please contact me.
- Participating on a committee on an "as needed" basis.
- Offering some type of business sponsorship. (Advertising, Resources, etc.)
- Supporting the Association by paying annual dues and being informed.

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- Supporting the Association by paying annual dues and being informed.

PRIORITIZE YOUR INTERESTS IN THE ASSOCIATION: 1-4 1-MOST IMPORATANT 4-LEAST IMPORTANT

- Social Activites
- Beautification Projects
- Civic, City & Zoning Concerns
- Crime Prevention
- Senior Citizen Organization
- Youth Organization
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

- Social Activites
- Beautification Projects
- Civic, City & Zoning Concerns
- Crime Prevention
- Senior Citizen Organization
- Youth Organization
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

### CHILDREN IN HOUSEHOLD

Name    Birthday    Name    Birthday

Name    Birthday    Name    Birthday