



OAKRIDGE NEWS

Volume 1, No.4

January, 1993

Officers Corner

Bright Future

by Jerry Horn
ONA Secretary

1993 brings a whole new and hopefully bright future to the residents of Oakridge. It will be the first full calendar year of operation and complete fiscal year for the Oakridge Neighborhood Association, better known by its members as the ONA.

As we look back on that first meeting of the Association in August, 1992, each member can be proud of the progress made to date. Thanks to the efforts of many, we have not only succeeded in reaching our year-end goals, but in some instances have exceeded them. Our membership has attained the status that was projected for '92, and it is still growing. The environmental and civic activities have succeeded in drawing the attention and praise of the community. Good and sound financial procedures have been implemented to ensure all members that their funds are being directed to meaningful projects and activities. And last but not least, an excellent means of communications has been implemented through this newsletter. I know that back on that August evening, there were many who had serious doubts that the ONA would have accomplished this much.

I am proud to be part of this growing and active Association, and hope I can continue to contribute in my small way to its on-going progress.

The best part is that the coming year looks even brighter as new members already are being enrolled, and plans are progressing rapidly that will result in further beautification of Oakridge.

(see FUTURE, page 7)

ONA Incorporation Vote to be taken at January general meeting

At the ONA general membership meeting January 24, beginning at 3:00 p.m., at the Oakridge Country Club, a vote of the membership will be taken to determine the interest of members in incorporating the Oakridge Neighborhood Association as a non-profit Texas corporation.

The ONA Board of Directors has been studying this issue for several weeks, and recommends passage of the following motion, approved at the Jan. 13 Board meeting: That the Oakridge Neighborhood Association file for status as a non-profit corporation in the State of Texas, and that classification as a 501 C4, non-profit organization be sought from the U.S. Internal Revenue Service.

Pawn Shop Application Withdrawn

On Dec. 28, ONA Civic and Political Interest Committee Chairperson **Donna Dayhoff** received a call from a Garland merchant informing her that an application had been filed with the State Consumer Credit Commission in Austin to put a pawn shop in the old Standard Brands Paint Store on Belt Line across from the Laurel Oaks entrance to Oakridge.

A telephone canvass of the ONA Board of Directors and committee chairpersons was made, and it was determined (by unanimous vote) that a pawn shop was neither warranted nor desired in the neighborhood.

A letter stating these facts was sent to Mayor Pro-Tem **Michael Holden**, who introduced a resolution opposing the pawn shop at the Jan. 5 City Council Meeting.

Approximately 20 ONA members attended that meeting. President **Scott Youzva** spoke in opposition to the application, as did representatives of other neighborhood associations in the area.

The following day, the owner of the proposed pawn shop withdrew his application!

The issue of incorporation was brought before the Board by the Finance Committee, which determined that as an unincorporated organization, all members of the Association are liable for any action taken by the Association. As a corporation, the membership as a whole cannot be held liable for actions of the corporation.

The stated purpose of the Association and the nature of its business will qualify ONA for status as a non-profit organization. As a 501 C4 (IRS) organization, the ONA will be exempt from certain taxes.

A one-fourth vote of the membership is needed to file for non-profit incorporation. A mail-in letter ballot appears on Page 5 for those members who cannot attend the Jan. 24 meeting. Mail-in ballots will be counted for a period of two weeks following the Jan. 24 general membership meeting.

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Committees take a holiday break from meetings, but not from work

The six standing ONA Committees took a break from their regular meeting schedules in December, but not from an impressive work schedule.

The Crime Prevention and Safety Committee pulled together enough donations of food and money to feed the entire Garland Police Department and the Fire Station at Bonnie Lane on Christmas Day. (See story, Page 6.)

The Membership and Communications Committees had a successful Christmas Caroling party as part of their membership development campaign, resulting in the oh-so-close attainment of their goal of 200 members by January 1, 1993. ONA's current membership stands at 198 households.

The Civic and Political Interest Committee successfully pulled together opposition to a pawn shop, proposed to go into the old Standard Brands Paint Store on Belt Line across from the Laurel Oaks entrance to Oakridge. (See story, Page 1.)

The Environmental Committee solicited more bids for maintenance contracts for entryways, and was pleasantly surprised with an even lower bid than previously submitted. The contract likely will be let in February.

The Finance Committee completed its investigation into the ramifications of incorporating the ONA as a non-profit association, and procured legal services from **Stephen Hill**, ONA, at no cost to file the necessary papers, provided the vote of the membership sustains the proposal. (See story, Page 1, and Letter ballot, Page 5.)

January and February will be important months for all committees. Budgeting for projects for the 1993-94 fiscal year will be completed, and presented at April and May meetings of the Association.

All committees need additional volunteers. Please call one of the chairpersons listed below, and volunteer TODAY!

ONA Committees

Civic & Political Interest

Donna Dayhoff, 495-3515

Environmental

Pam & Ron Harbach, 530-5024

Communications

Diana Berry, 414-7377

Finance

Patricia Downing, 530-4192

Crime Prevention & Safety

Luanne Payne, 530-9323

Membership

Sue Sweetnam, 495-3948

Oakridge Crime Watch Statistics

The following crime statistics are for the month of December:

Richland -- Aggravated assault with a deadly weapon

Greenview -- Burglary habitation

Laurel Oaks -- Burglary habitation

Meadowridge -- Burglary habitation

Ridge Oak -- Burglary vehicle

Rolling Oaks -- Burglary vehicle

Diamond Oaks -- Theft \$750-\$20,000

Overview -- Theft \$20 - \$200

Laurel Oaks -- Theft \$20 - \$200

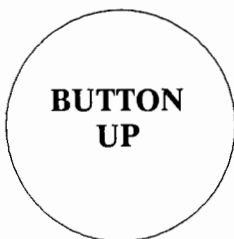
Beaver Run -- Theft \$20 - \$200

Lone Oak -- Theft under \$20

Ridge Oak - Theft under \$20

Crime was up considerably in December. During the holidays, it is important to let your neighbors or your block captain know that you will be away. We still need more block captains. Get involved. Sign up as a block captain TODAY. Call Luanne Payne, 530-9323.

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

Now that the holidays are over, I'm starting to get my life back in order. How about you?

Someone please remind me that Christmas again will be celebrated on Dec. 25th this year, and that to plan ahead is the real essence of "Stress Management."

As a neighborhood association, we've come a long way in a short time. I recognize faces on the streets of Oakridge when I pass in a fury (AT 30 MPH). Some day, we'll be able to stop and talk to each other as friends and neighbors.

I've adopted a new outlook on life: '93 is for thee. I realized that in all the hustle and bustle of life in the 90's, I forgot some really important lessons. In the overall scheme of things, ALL that I hurry off to do, the places I go, and the tasks I complete, won't make a bit of difference unless I've really helped someone else or made a friend to share these experiences with. It doesn't matter if I'm right, but I hope my spirit and effort will encourage others. I hope not to alienate those around me just to make a point.

Treat others as you wish to be treated, but don't expect to be treated as you treat others. This new philosophy will help me deal with my endless hurt feelings, and still behave toward others with the care and courtesy I believe we all deserve.

On a lighter note, as I was coming up with my new philosophy, I examined many "sayings" that I've commonly used that often don't make sense. Like:

"It was in the last place I looked." -
- Why would you keep looking if you find it?

"That's the way it is." -- A terrific grasp of the obvious.

(See "AS I SEE IT," Page 6)

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

Happy New Year! Rhanda and I hope you all had a safe and happy holiday season. Speaking for my Aggie self, I had a great time until the third quarter of the Cotton Bowl. But, oh well, there's always next year, I hope!

Now for more important news. The Oakridge Neighborhood Association had its first major city issue to contend with since the ONA was formed. It came about on January 5.

American Pawn and Jewelry decided that they wanted to expand their business into North Garland at the old Standard Brands Paint building. I was informed by a pawn broker on Walnut the Thursday night before this, and immediately started notifying the Oakridge officers and chairpersons, as well as calling for this to be placed on the Council's agenda for a public hearing.

Your Association swung into action immediately, and by Tuesday night's Council meeting, there was a very good, well thought out, and articulate defense made by Oakridge residents and your President.

There are very few people who are "anti-business." As a matter of fact, to do so would cause undo hardship on homeowners, because business helps remove some of the strain of taxes. But, we all have to make sure that businesses in our community support our needs, both in the services they provide or in the products they produce. We also need to protect businesses that are already established in the community. It is because of this that I believe the Council overwhelmingly denied American Pawn the use of this location.

I truly appreciate everyone's support during this process, and if I can be of further assistance, please don't hesitate to call me at 530-2906, or write me at 2928 Southern Cross, 75044.

Don't ever watch hot dogs or sausage being made.
from Life's Little Instruction Book

JERRY D. JOHNSON, CPA.

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From the President

by Scott Youzva, ONA President

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

This past year has meant some changes for Oakridge. I hope most residents perceive them all as good. I hope too that we will continue to make headway into improving our neighborhood in many ways. I want to thank the many residents who have worked on the committees and established the groundwork for our next year.

It is imperative that everyone involved continue to help in whatever way they can. It is equally important that more residents get involved in the many upcoming projects. I would feel safe in saying that each of the committees could use additional help in planning for next year.

As I reflect on the formation of the ONA, I am not sure that I could have asked for more success. Although this has been a good year, I think we can do so much more.

Because we do not have even a single year of experience, it is difficult to plan properly for events and activities. We are constantly desiring to do more than we have time to accomplish. Hopefully, we are learning from these experiences and will be using this to plan for next year.

All in all, I want to tell everyone in the ONA "thank you" for understanding that this is our first year and that we will make mistakes. Our goal, however, is the same: to make Oakridge the cleanest, safest, friendliest, and most desirable place to live. I look forward to working with as many of you as possible in 1993. If you have not joined the ONA, or would like more information about the Association, please feel free to contact me or any of the officers, directors, or the Membership Chairperson, Sue Sweetnam.

Good luck to all in 1993!



akridge Recycles

Oakridge could get curbside recycling

Garland's pilot curbside recycling program could come to Oakridge if enough support for the program is demonstrated on a petition drive launched recently by the ONA Environmental Committee.

According to Joan Nichols, ONA, 414-9274, who heads the committee's recycling program, a limited number of recycling bins will be distributed to communities in Garland with the largest number of participants.

"We certainly would like to be one of the communities chosen for this program," Joan said. "We've already received verbal support from many of our neighbors and ONA members, which is why we're starting this petition campaign."

Petitions will be available at the Jan. 24 regular meeting of the Association. Several Environmental Committee volunteers will canvass the neighborhood, door-to-door, seeking signatures. There also is a mail-in petition on Page 5 of this issue of the *Oakridge News*.

Currently, the city's curbside recycling program accepts 6 items, including newspapers, which are already being picked up. The other items include clear, brown, and green glass bottles and jars, aluminum cans, steel food cans, and clear #1 and #2 plastics, which are soda bottles, milk, and water jugs marked with the recycling symbol (a triangle of three arrows with the numbers 1 and 2 in the center). No plastic containers coded 3,4,5,6, or 7, or plastic bags, oil, or pesticide containers will be accepted. The city is contemplating eliminating green glass in exchange for colored #2 plastics because of low volume.

If accepted, those who sign up for the program will be given a red recycling bin, which itself is made of recycled plastic. Containers should be rinsed and placed in the bin, which is then placed on the front curb on the designated pick-up day by 7:00 am. The sanitation driver will sort the contents into bins on the truck, leaving in the red bin any items that are not recyclable.

This is a great opportunity for our community to do something positive for the environment. You do not have to be a member of the Oakridge Neighborhood Association to participate or to sign the petition.

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KAYAN'S

Oakridge Neighborhood Association Letter Ballot

I (we) the undersigned member(s) of the Oakridge Neighborhood Association vote (for or against, check one) incorporating the Oakridge Neighborhood Association as a nonprofit Texas corporation and a 501 C4 IRS non-profit organization. NOTE: each ONA household membership is entitled to two votes.

Member 1	
<input type="checkbox"/>	For
<input type="checkbox"/>	Against
_____ Signature	
_____ Name (Please Print)	
_____ Address	

Member 2	
<input type="checkbox"/>	For
<input type="checkbox"/>	Against
_____ Signature	
_____ Name (Please Print)	
_____ Address	

Oakridge Curbside Recycling Petition

I (we) the undersigned residents of Oakridge support neighborhood recycling and wish to be included in the City of Garland pilot curbside recycling program. I (we) agree to abide by the program guidelines.

Oakridge Resident 1	
_____ Signature	
_____ Name (Please Print)	
_____ Address	

Oakridge Resident 2	
_____ Signature	
_____ Name (Please Print)	
_____ Address	

Mail ballot and/or petition to: Oakridge Neighborhood Association, P.O. Box 451873, Garland, TX 75045-1873.

NOTE: You DO NOT have to be a member of the ONA to sign the recycling petition.

Christmas Dinner Provided Police, Firefighters by ONA

Enough food to feed a small army, or at least a regiment of Garland police and firemen was assembled by the ONA Crime Prevention and Safety Committee and delivered to the troops Christmas Day.

Luanne Payne, ONA chairperson, said approximately 50 police officers and 8 firefighters were fed with food and money donated by ONA members and Oakridge residents. The Oakridge Country Club donated two fully cooked turkeys, with enough dressing, sweet potatoes, pies, cookies and money donated to serve up a complete Christmas dinner.

ONA members Harry and Lila LaGrassa, Jack Rash, and Scott Youzva delivered the food Christmas morning to grateful police at the central police station downtown and to the firefighters at the station on Bonnie Lane.

Police Chief Terry Hensley expressed his appreciation in a note to the Association, adding that the police and firefighters were overwhelmed with the kindness and generosity shown by Oakridge. "I would like to thank each and everyone of you who donated your time, food, and money to make this possible," said Luanne. "Without willing participants, it could not have been done."

As I See It... from page 3

"Happy as a lark" --- How does one determine the temperament of a bird?

If there are any sayings you think are confusing, silly, or even inspirational, let's have some fun, and send them to Diana Berry, 2810 Willow Ridge, fax, 613-8368. Copy deadline for the *Oakridge News* is the 15th of each month. Don't delay, we need them today!

New Neighbors on Buckingham

The construction you may have noticed next to Children's Treehouse on Buckingham is going to be a restaurant. Ryans Family Steakhouse has secured the property and anticipates an April 6, 1993 opening.

Ryans is a corporation headquartered in Greer, South Carolina that currently supports 202 restaurants. 167 are company owned, and located predominately in the Southeast. This local restaurant will be company owned. In 1992, Ryans opened 23 new company locations, and forecasts 30 more in 1993.

New Groups Forming

Interest is growing in forming various "special interest" groups (non political) within the ONA. Suggestions include a business leads club for exchanging business leads, youth and seniors groups, a garden club, and a writer's group.

Following are the people to contact if you are interested:

Garden Club -- Bonnie Fisk, 414-3396.

Writers' Group -- Jack Rash, 530-9742

Youth Group -- Mary and Bob Musseman, 414-1098

Seniors Group -- A.D. Woods, 414-2973

Business Leads -- Donna Dayhoff, 495-3515.

According to Randy Hart, Executive Vice-President, each restaurant typically seats 410 to 430 people, can park 183 vehicles, and employs approximately 100 people. The food fare includes a "MegaBar" that includes salads, fresh vegetables, hot foods, and baked goods. In addition, a variety of standard entrees is available.

The concept is most often compared to places like Golden Corral and McKays. The price structure also is said to be similar. Patrons can opt to be served by waitpersons, or use the self-serve, all-you-can-eat MegaBar. They are open 7 days a week from 11:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, and until 11:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

In addition to the main dining room, two separate areas are available for private parties and special functions. Mr. Hart has assured the ONA that they are very community conscious, and will notify our membership of employment opportunities and special events before the general public.



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City of Garland Telephone Numbers

Police, Fire, Ambulance

Emergency.....	911
City Hall.....	205-2000
Action Center/Information.....	205-2392
Animal Control.....	205-3570
Building Inspection & Permits.....	205-2300
City Attorney.....	205-2380
City Manager.....	205-2370
City Secretary.....	205-2404
Customer Service	
Billing Information.....	205-2671
Credit Department.....	205-2672
Disconnects/Transfers.....	205-2674
Energy Conservation Service.....	205-2671
New Utility Service.....	205-2673
Engineering Department.....	205-2170
Environmental Code Enforcement.....	205-3374
Environmental Health Department.....	205-3460
Technical Services.....	205-3459
Public Health Nurse.....	205-3461
Fire Department Administration.....	205-2250
Firewheel Golf Park.....	205-2795
Garland Power & Light	
Electric Administration.....	205-2650
Electric Emergency.....	205-3000
Street Light Repair.....	205-3449
Housing Office.....	205-3393
Library System	
Nicholson Memorial (Central).....	205-2500
Ridgewood Branch.....	205-2577
Walnut Creek Branch.....	205-2584

See City of Garland Phone Numbers, Page 8

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Future... from page 1

In addition, stepped up efforts are being made to better control the safety of our area through stricter traffic regulations and crime prevention procedures.

Unlike previous attempts to create a neighborhood association, I feel that "ONA is here to stay." But, we must not get lax in our efforts to continue to improve on what we started. Only through the efforts of its members will additional goals be achievable and through our good examples can we attract the interest of other residents which is badly needed.

In conclusion, I would like to wish each and everyone of you a healthy, prosperous, and safe 1993. And as part of your New Year's Resolutions, I ask that one of them include being active in the Association.

Classified Ads

TAX PREPARATION, Accounting Services, Small business or individual. Evenings and weekend appointments available. James R. Wilson, CPA, 414-1050

HASSLE FREE WEIGHT LOSS! Herbal tablets from Herbalife. Cut the fat. Suppress the appetite. Lose inches. Call now, your Herbalife Distributor Heide Herzog, 530-0542.

WISH TO START BUNGO GROUP, looking for fun people to help organize and participate. How 'bout them Cowboys! Diana, 414-7377

ALTERATIONS! Experienced with casual, professional, and formal wear. Fast service. Ladies and Gents. Children too. 40% off for Oakridge residents. Donna, 530-1504

Member Info Needed

ONA Treasurer JoAnn Schermerheim reports that completed membership information forms have not been received from the following ONA Members. Please check the alphabetical list, and if you find your name, call JoAnn at 495-2726 or mail a completed form to ONA c/o P.O. Box 451873, Garland, TX 75045-1873.

This information is needed for the first publication of the ONA Membership Directory, which is ready to go to press. Please respond IMMEDIATELY!

AUTREY, Greg & Doris
 BISHOP, Charlie & Bette
 BOB, Mark & Tammy
 BOLANDER, Thomas & Robin
 BRUNS, Robert & Elaine
 CONRAD, Jim & Marylyn
 FARVER, Cy & Del
 FRITSCHKE, Roger & Karen
 GLOVER, Don & Betty
 HILL, Steve
 LOWENTHAL, Richard & Jeanne
 McFARLAND, Barbara
 McGHEE, T.C.
 MICHAELS, Terre & Cindy
 MOELLER, Dennis & Doris
 MULLER, Paul
 SMART, Bill
 SUHREN, Glen & Constance
 TRAYLOR, Mike & Sara
 WANAWICHAYEN, Skol & Pam
 WEAVER, Gary & Billie
 WOOD, Michael & Cheryl
 WOOLDRIDGE, Jewel



City of Garland Telephone Numbers

continued from Page 7

Mayor.....	205-2400
Municipal Court.....	205-2330
Teen Court.....	205-2346
Neighborhood Service Center.....	205-3310
Office on Aging.....	205-2779
Carver Senior Center.....	205-3305
Downtown Senior Center.....	205-2769
Park & Ride.....	205-2297
Parks & Recreation Department.....	205-2750
Athletic Office.....	205-2760
Recreation Buildings	
Audubon Park.....	270-2236
Bradfield Park.....	205-2770
Central Park/Granger Center.....	205-2772
Holford Park.....	205-2772
Lou Huff Center.....	205-2773
Swimming Pools	
Bradfield Pool.....	205-2774
Central Pool.....	205-2775
Holford Pool.....	205-2776
Pecan Grove Pool.....	205-2777
Surf & Swim.....	686-1237
Tennis Center.....	205-2778
Performing Arts Center.....	205-2780
Ticket Information/Ticketron.....	205-2790
Personnel Department.....	205-2475
24 Hour Job Information.....	205-2349
Planning Department.....	205-2445
Police Department Administration.....	205-2010
Non-Emergency Police Service.....	205-2150
CRIMESTOPPERS.....	272-8477
Purchasing Department.....	205-2415
Sanitation Department.....	205-3420
Street Department.....	205-3555
Tax Department.....	205-2410
Traffic & Transportation Department.....	205-2430
Signal Light & Sign Repair.....	205-3495
Evenings & Weekends.....	205-3210
Warehouse & Service Center.....	205-3400
Salvage Surplus Outlet.....	205-3450
Water/Sewer Administration.....	205-3200
Water/Sewer Emergency.....	205-3210