

OAKRIDGE WOMEN'S CLUB

Libby Morse



At the Last Meeting:

We met at "A Taste of Italy" We had a nice time at the Easter Egg Hunt. The kids broke the Pinata and had a good time hunting eggs! Thank you Malissa for all your hard work! Thanks to Karryn for the Special gift.

Adult Activity:

Call Sharron if you are interested in going to Ad-lib's on the 21st of April. She needs to make reservations. 972-530-3873.

Next Month:

We are meeting at Libby's house. It is on Tuesday May 1st. We will have a business meeting to discuss the 4th of July parade then on to a dip in the hot tub or pool.

About the OWC:

Come and join the OWC. We meet the first Tuesday of each month. It is a great way to get to know your neighbors, their families and have fun! Outings are scheduled with a variety of interests in mind. We have holiday parties for the kids, nights out for the girls and couples activities. Our dues are only \$15 dollars per year. Just call Libby Morse at 972-495-9034 or Tom-lib@home.com for more information.

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Neighborhood Crime Activity

Report by Bill Johnson

Officer Stephanie Funk is no longer our Neighborhood Police Officer (NPO). She is also giving up her North Crime Watch Coordinator duties. Her new assignment is Public Information Officer, and host on Channel 16's Crime Watch Live program. As yet, our new NPO has not been named. Until further notice, C.O.P. questions or concerns can be directed to the South Crime Watch coordinator, Officer Shupe, at shupe@ci.garland.tx.us. Residents wishing to report suspicious behavior or unusual activity should call (972) 205-2251 to speak to the dispatcher.

Residents with Internet access are encouraged to visit the City of Garland Police Department web page. Contained here are links to several interesting topics, including crime analysis statistics, current crime incidents by district (Oakridge data is contained in District 12, Beat 7), and lists (and photos) of sex offenders in our area. The web page address is www.ci.garland.tx.us/police/gpd1000.htm

This website reports 12 crime incidents for Oakridge through February 21:

- 2/03/01 07:00am 2800-block Grand Oak Dr
Vehicle burglary
- 2/03/01 10:52am 2400-block Richland Drive
Building burglary
- 2/03/01 10:00am 2900-block Big Oaks Dr
Criminal Mischief (\$500-1500)
- 2/04/01 00:30am 2200-block Diamond Oaks Dr
Criminal Mischief \$50-500)
- 2/04/01 00:30am 2200-block Diamond Oaks Dr
Criminal Mischief (\$500-1500)
- 2/04/01 01:13am 2800-block Hickory Bend Dr
Criminal Mischief (\$50-500)
- 2/06/01 12:00pm 2800-block Stoneridge Drive
Vehicle Burglary
- 2/15/01 01:43pm 2100-block Diamond Oaks Dr
Habitation Burglary
- 2/19/01 02:00pm 2500-block Pepperidge Dr
Habitation Burglary
- 2/21/01 02:00pm 2100-block Rolling Oak Lane
Habitation Burglary
- 2/21/01 04:30pm 2700-block Oak Springs Dr
Criminal Mischief (\$50-500)
- 2/21/01 08:00pm 2500-block Suncrest Dr
Criminal Mischief under \$50

The Police Blotter section of the Garland News supplement in the Dallas Morning News shows crime activity in Oakridge through March 17 continues high. Residents should continue to be alert to suspicious activity, and keep their garage doors closed when not being monitored.

A recent incident on Diamond Oaks where an auto skidded into the front yard of a home, destroying a large tree, has triggered studies in the neighborhood, which we hope will result in actions to slow down automobiles on our streets. The resident of that home, Dennis Cheatham, has taken a personal interest in achieving such actions. All wishing to help him and the ONA in this effort may contact any ONA officer or District Director.

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Garland City Council District Seven

According to census data reported in the Garland Daily News supplement of the Dallas Morning News on April 1, District 7, which contains Oakridge, now has a total population of 24,828. The census data further breaks this population down by race and/or ethnic origin, showing:

White	16,083
Black	2,701
Asian or Pacific Islander	3,864
Other races (including American Indian)	1,456
Two or more races	724
Hispanic origin	3,129

District 7 is represented by Councilman Lowell Hyatt. Garland has 8 districts.

IN APPRECIATION

Hi to everyone. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the district directors and the board for all of their efforts to do an early membership drive. Allow me to explain why we are doing this. Last year, people were joining as late as 6 months into the year and we were unable to publish a directory.

Our plans to publish the directory in July and starting our membership drive in June does not allow us to get our renewals in on a timely basis to have a directory done with most of the members participating. Thank you for working with us collecting for membership from June 2001 – June 2002.

Your participation is vital to our ability to maintain the sprinkler systems and water our flowerbeds at the entrances. The more who participate, the more funds we will have to expand our beautification efforts.

Thank you,

Peggy Richey
Membership Director

ONA Board Nominations

Dennis Cheatham

The 2001 Nomination committee has completed its search for the 2001 ONA Board of Director- Nominees.

President- Scott Youzva
VP.- Dennis Cheatham
Secretary- Debbie Zellars
Treasurer- Mary Musseman
Dist. Director 2- Pam Hubbard
Dist. Director 4- Bill Johnson
Dist. Director 6- Nelson & Kelly Prater

The Oakridge Neighborhood Association would like to thank the members of the nomination committee, Bill Johnson, Joanne Schmerheim, Brenda Olive, Sue Hageland and Dennis Cheatham (Chair) for all the hard work that went into the selection of these nominees.



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OAKRIDGE DAYTIMERS

By *Dianne Winter*

Important announcements of future activities included:

WALKERS are trying to keep on trekking: Call **Mary Pattie**- 972-496-6486.



The **OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH** will be munching at the **Oakridge Country Club** at 11:30 on April 19th. Call **Diane Owens** for reservations. 972-530-6513.

May lunch will be on the 24th at the **Unlimited Antique Mall** at 11:30. Call **Brenda Britton**: 972-495-6722.

The **FUN ON THE RUN BUNCH** will journey to Fair Park to view the **Women's Museum** on **Friday, April 27th**. Meet at the Country Club pool parking lot at 10:00 am. Call **Martha Boyette** at 972-414-9875 for information.

More **FUN ON THE RUN** was introduced also by **Diane Owens**. Call her at **972-530-6513** for information concerning: **April 25th Hollywood Casino** bus trip to Shreveport, LA - 8am-9pm. **Southern Living Cooking School** at 7pm, **May 8th** at **Plano Civic Center** on Spring Creek Pkwy- \$10.00. **Dillard's Home Design Seminars** at **Collin Creek Mall** at 12 noon - free on **Tuesday, May 22nd**. (Lunch before?)

You have several choices now if **BRIDGE** is your game. Call **Jane Buchanan** for information at 972-530-4762. A new **BRIDGE** option is available beginning in May on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays with lunch at the Oakridge Country Club.

CHANGE OF DATE for **STITCH** and **CHAT**- **Norene Murphy**, (who celebrated her 90th birthday on April 7th) announced that this group would meet on the **4th Tuesday, April 24th**, this month only, to accommodate another birthday celebration. Keep on celebrating Norene! This group surprised Norene with an impromptu birthday party at their last meeting. Thanks go to Jackie Griffin and Mary Musseman who baked the cake. (from scratch) At this meeting they also started plans for a Fall project to be raffled for funds for the ONA beautification fund.

Don't forget your **SECRET PAL!**

If you would like to join the **CANASTA** group (daytime or evening) call **Barbara Brunette** -972-530-4288. This great group has bonded beyond Canasta. Come join them.

ARTS and CRAFTS will meet on Monday, **April 16th**, at the home of **Chris Beyers**, 2205 Fulton. Jo brought a preview piece of the craft they will be making, so join them to create. Call **Jo Dietz** 972-530-8308 for more information.

After considerable flair, the door prize was won by guest, **Katee Apple**.

The Sunshine Chairman, **Gail Durbin**, with added comments from others, reported on several members

The **BOOK CLUB** will meet on Friday, April 20th, 10:00 am at the home of **Betty Thomas**, 2706 Laurel Oaks, to review *Crossing to Safety*. Call **Jo Ann Williams**: 972-530-2938.

WATER AEROBICS will begin again soon, reported **Becky Parks**. **Jackie Griffin** has graciously agreed to share her pool for this event, so call Becky Parks, 972-495-8776. or Jackie Griffin, 972-530-4777.

A new interest group, **STUDY CLUB**, is being initiated by **Cheryl Lanning**. Call her at 972-495-8291.

HATS (OPTIONAL) & SALAD LUNCHEON



**May 8th at the home of
Barbara Brunette
at 2017 Diamond Oaks.
Bring a salad and
wear a hat if you wish.
Please join us at 11:30.
972-530-4288**

OAKRIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD GARAGE SALE

\$\$\$\$\$\$ April 28 at 8am \$\$\$\$\$

Call **Barbara Brunette**- 972-530-4288- to be on the map for this service provided by Daytimers. Make reservations by April 24th and pick up maps on the 26th.

The Nominating Committee of **Audrey Golden, Mary Musseman and Martha Boyette** with chairman, **Jo Ann Williams** announced officers, chairmen, and group leaders for June, 2001. A list will be in May's article.

Thanks to everyone who volunteered.

To join Daytimers or for more information, call **Dianne Winter**, president, at 972-530-6210 or email at ddwinter@home.com

(Continued from page 1)

socials would promote the community? The ONA newsletter was established as the medium by which information was communicated to the membership. It is the hope of the present ONA Board that those individuals who created the Oakridge Neighborhood Association are pleased with how the organization has evolved.

The current ONA Board (which has been in place for the past two years) has promoted the involvement of our organization within the city of Garland. It was felt that it was time for this to happen. For an organization to continue to look outward and remain open to its relationship with the City is a good position. There are many excellent functions which are ongoing within our community and these remain a viable part of the whole ONA. Many individuals that live in our neighborhood volunteer their time to the city. It was time for the City of Garland to realize that all of these folks live in an area that is first concerned for its neighborhood and then concerned about the city. The current ONA Board thought it was vitally important that the city understand and commit to our organization. If you have paid attention to the direction the city moving, you should sense the importance of why the Oakridge community be concerned. It is significant that the ONA is known to those who will be making decisions for the city. Neighborhood revitalization is coming to the City of Garland. Oakridge should be part of that revitalization.

Some ideas that future ONA Boards might be interested in pursuing:

- the creation of a “ letters to the editor” section for our newsletter (if this is to be, then the newsletter should be distributed to the GISD Board);
- develop a comprehensive plan for the enhancement of the common areas including the perimeter
- the continued upgrade of the web site;
- resolve the need for the information line;
- the establishment of a community wide picnic;
- the implementation of a community wide Christmas decoration theme (think of how stunning the Spring Park community looks at that time of the year);
- analyze the cumbersome deed restrictions to see if they could be combined and then what, if anything, can be done to enforce these restrictions;
- work with the CPA and the State to complete the necessary forms to eliminate the need to file tax forms every year.

These are just a few ideas that, if completed, would continue to take the Oakridge Neighborhood Association in a positive direction. As one can see, there are a lot of exciting possibilities for involvement by each and everyone of the citizens of the Oakridge community. Where do your interests lie? Are you just interested in paying your annual dues and then let others do the work? That is acceptable, however do not become a CAVE person. What is a CAVE person – citizens *against* virtually *everything*.

Please look for the report from the nominating committee, on page 4 in this issue of the ONA Newsletter. If you are a member you will be asked to vote on the next slate of officers at the May 23rd general membership meeting.

The membership committee and the District Directors will be making a concerted effort the remaining months to increase our numbers. **Why don't you participate?**

**Tired of looking at the same old things?
Does your home need an update?
Want to rearrange your living area?**

If you answered yes to any of the above questions, call me.

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ciation to discuss what the future holds for our police department. First, let's talk about some of the things that we have accomplished recently that will set the stage for the future. Garland PD has always been a leader in the acquisition and use of technology. For example, we were the first police department in the state to acquire mobile data terminals for our police cars. We have endeavored over the years to give our personnel the best tools possible to do the job you expect. By making our officers more efficient and effective with technology, we have been able to keep your cost for law enforcement service the lowest in the State of Texas.

With that thought in mind, in the past year we have acquired a new computer aided dispatch system, a new 911 system, a new records management system, and new mobile data computers for our vehicles. We are currently installing the last piece of this new technology strategy that will take us into the 21st century. In a few weeks, we will have installed wireless data modems in all our police vehicles. This wireless data system will allow our officers to write their offense reports in their vehicle on the mobile data computers, and transmit those reports to our records management system in seconds. This wireless data system will give the officers on the street access to any and all information in our records management system, including graphic data such as mug shots and geographically related crime data. This will make the officers on the street better capable of serving you the citizen.

So, what does the future hold for Garland PD. In the immediate future, we will be constructing a new police facility on land located at the intersection of Forest Ln. and State St. We are busting at the seams in our current facility, and are looking forward to this move. The project is fully funded, and construction should begin in September or October of this year. Included in the complex, will be a new police station, new jail, and a new Court building. Our architects have done a beautiful job designing the facility, and we are convinced that it will be something every citizen of Garland will be proud of. Included in the police building, will be a "community room" designed for meetings and other functions. We will encourage the people to be a part of the facility by making use of that space. We are told that construction will take approximately 18 months, so we should be moving sometime in early 2003.

Development and growth will definitely impact our foreseeable future. Development in the 190 corridor, and development in the I-30 corridor will definitely impact the demand for service that our department will face. One complex alone, Sanmina Corporations manufacturing facility at 190 and Campbell Rd., promises to bring 4,500 employees to that location. That is a lot of people and traffic to move twice a day. Add the regional mall at the other end of the 190 corridor, and the demand for service grows even more. Our officer per citizen ratio is currently 1.40 officers per 1000 citizens. That is the lowest in the metroplex. We have to prepare for the growth we know is coming.

Currently pending in this session of the Texas Legislature are several bills dealing with the issue of racial profiling. The Garland Police Department does not condone racial profiling, nor do we conduct our enforcement activities based on race or color. However, the legislation will require us to capture information related to every traffic stop our officers make. We are already at work on the best way to accomplish what we think the legislation will require. Depending on the final statute, this process could be costly and

time consuming as well as labor intensive. We are doing everything we can to anticipate the requirements, and be prepared to meet that challenge.

Over the next five years, I firmly believe that our department will have to add some additional services to better accomplish our mission. For example, I believe that we will have to seriously consider the addition of an air police unit. Helicopters have proven their value in the law enforcement arena. We have done extensive research in this area, and we are convinced that the need will soon exist as our city continues to grow. Helicopters virtually end the need for high-speed chases. That fact alone justifies the cost

As our city becomes more diverse, so should its police department. Minority recruiting will remain high on our list at Garland PD. We have made significant strides in this area over the past five years or so, but there is still work to be done. As Chief of Police, I firmly believe that law enforcement agencies should mirror the communities they serve.

As you can see, the future here at Garland PD is bright and exciting. We will soon move into a new facility that should serve this city for many years in the future. Considering what the city's projected population will be at "build out", this should be the last police station the City will build. Our manpower needs will certainly grow, and we must prepare for those services that will be much needed in the future.

I want to congratulate the Oakridge Neighborhood Association for being one of the most active in the city. Your efforts have definitely contributed to making Oakridge one of the safest neighborhoods in the city. I would like to encourage all Oakridge residents to consider attending our Citizens Police Academy. That program is our best opportunity to get to know the citizens we serve personally. If you are interested in being a part of our future, please call 972-205-2285, and ask Officer Joe Harn to send you an application.

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District 2	Jim Cook
District 3	June Phipps
District 4	Bill Johnson
District 5	Brenda Olive
District 6	Kelly Prater
District 7	Chris Beyers

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	Nelson Prater
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