

Oakridge News



February 2014

Vol. 22, No. 2

Scatter Shooting with Mike Rose

“Your neighborhood influences your home value”

Did you read an article in the Saturday January 18th Real Estate Section of the Dallas Morning News? Here is a quote from an article in that section – “A newly released survey by the American Institute of Architects shows that **homeowners prefer community-driven**, walkable neighborhoods with contemporary home exteriors.” What we have here in our Oakridge Community is exactly that! Aren’t we lucky to live here where community is important? Are you involved with the Oakridge Community so it maintains its strength?

Please attend our next general meeting on the **27th of February**. All information pertaining to time and place may be found on the back page of each issue of **YOUR** monthly newsletter. Your neighborhood association will be electing a one-time five member nominating committee to recommend to the association a new slate of officers. That slate will be elected at our May 22nd meeting and these new officers will serve June 1, 2014 – May 31, 2015. Additionally the following individuals will make presentations at the

meeting:

Mike Hatfield Community Relations Officer
Garland Police Department
Steve Killen Director of Code Compliance
Garland, Texas.

These gentlemen will inform us as to how their respective departments assist our Oakridge Community in maintaining our strong sense of neighborhood. Are you interested in a strong vibrant Oakridge neighborhood? Come and listen to their story and maybe you will find out what you may do to assist each of their departments to better serve Oakridge.

Finally, do you read all the articles contained in your monthly newsletter? There are (and have been) many articles written by your fellow neighbors who are currently serving on your ONA Board. In this issue read the article by Bill Olive. This article informs us that there are those who are soliciting in the Oakridge Community. Most often they are young people who are trained pan handlers and this is against city ordinance. Check out Bill’s article.

See you all on the **27th of FEBRUARY**.

District 7 City Council Scott LeMay

Hopefully by the time you read this our usually excellent bulk trash and brush removal is back on schedule. It goes without saying that the ice storm in early December had a huge impact on our service delivery and stretched our resources. In early January we received an excellent update from Managing Director of Solid Waste Services, Lonnie Banks. Just to try to summarize we have never had an event similar to this. Yes we have had ice storms and yes we have had tree damage from storms. Rarely does a weather event like this occur where the entire city is impacted to this degree. Our Solid Waste crews worked 7 day weeks and we pulled in employees from our Streets and Utilities Departments to assist.

Citywide for December 2012 our Bulk and Brush crews removed a little over 3000 tons of material. For December 2013 they removed a little over 6000 tons. The council will receive a recap of this event in late February or early March and I will report those results.

Council Updates-

As we enter the New Year it is time to review our Capital Improvements (CIP) budget for 2014. We were presented the proposed budget at our first meeting in January to begin the review process. This budget represents ongoing projects from Bond Elections as well as improvements to facilities and equipment. We will have several Work Ses-

sion discussions on this as well as public hearings. Our projected date for adoption is February 4th.

Once that is complete we will begin the process of reviewing our new Garland Development Code (GDC). In a nutshell we are updating the development codes for the entire city. Some of which have been in place since the 1950’s. Obviously many changes have occurred in Garland since then and those documents have been amended many times. Our goal is to create a set of development codes that will encourage new development and make re-development easier. Our current development codes are really designed for “green fields” that have never been built upon. With our almost complete build out this type is really not what our focus needs to be on anymore. We have more areas in need of redevelopment than I could ever list here. We need to make much more of an effort on those areas and the last thing we want to do is have our own outdated standards standing in the way. We will be holding weekly joint meetings with our Plan Commission on this starting February 13th. Those meetings are scheduled all the way through the end of March and we welcome your input and observations.

I encourage you to use the city’s website or you can contact me. My direct cell phone number is (214) 794-8904 and my direct email is scottlemayd7@gmail.com.




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Income Statement as of Dec 31, 2013 by Dave Morgan

	Year to Date Amounts		
	Current Year	Budget	Prior Year
Income:			
Membership Dues	21,540.00	30,000.00	27,459.00
Beautification	3,527.00	4,000.00	3,990.00
Advertising	1,850.00	6,520.00	0.00
Interest	7.60	13.25	10.01
Other Income	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Income	26,924.60	40,533.25	31,459.01
Expenses:			
Bank Charges - Paypal	46.62	92.40	80.94
Landscaping - Maintenance	7,073.17	7,008.19	7,008.19
Landscaping - Beautification	145.00	4,000.00	925.00
Nighborhood Activities	0.00	0.00	0.00
Office Supplies	65.05	100.00	67.08
Postage - Bulk Mail Permit	200.00	190.00	190.00
Postage - Member Directories	0.00	137.00	0.00
Postage - Member Invoices	320.03	530.46	592.66
Postage - Newsletter	1,039.74	1,121.28	993.07
Postage - Other	46.00	92.00	111.60
Printing - Member Directories	0.00	0.00	0.00
Printing - Member Invoices	200.00	500.00	350.00
Printing - Newsletter	2,211.20	2,100.00	3,239.98
Printing - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rental - Meeting Site	21.90	0.00	0.00
Rental - Post Office Box	118.00	118.00	114.00
Repairs	178.00	1,800.00	2,953.20
Utilities - Electric	451.78	489.25	493.18
Utilities - Water	3,225.03	4,100.90	3,257.16
Utilities - Sewer	37.03	37.03	37.03
Welcome Wagon	45.15	225.00	198.14
Other Expense	29.90	29.90	0.00
Total Expenses	15,453.60	22,671.41	20,611.23
Net Income (Loss)	11,471.00	17,861.84	10,847.78

Membership by District as of 1/ 9/14 by Angela Greenwald

District	Total Homes	Non Members	Members	%
1	185	121	64	35%
2	154	88	66	43%
3	140	112	28	20%
4	151	75	76	50%
5	190	149	41	22%
6	123	101	22	18%
7	220	156	64	29%
Total	1163	802	361	31%

Crime Prevention & Safety by Bill Olive

Crime/Safety-by Bill Olive Recently several residents have had some young folks (20s-30s) knocking on doors asking for money so they might be able to "get ahead". In one case the subject asked to use the homeowner's bathroom. Our NPO has requested that instances like this be reported to police via a 911 call. The responding officer will not contact you if you request. If possible send officer Barnes and the COP an email with details.

Barnest@garlandtx.gov , indexva@verizon.net

Also a group is calling seniors telling them of their winning "Publisher's Clearing House contest. They will ask you to go to a nearby CVS store to get two \$500 money "green dot" cards which they will collect later. Also, they want your bank account #.

These guys are very convincing salespeople. The best thing to do in this case is to call the police 972-485-4840 and ask for a CID fraud investigator. You may wish to contact credit reporting agencies and your bank. The most recent incident occurred on about Jan 18, 2014.

Oakridge has had a decrease in crime with around 45 incidents for the 2013 year compared to over 75 for 2012. A great majority of these 2014 reported crimes are minor in nature. No crime involved violence toward any resident. This drop can be attributed to neighbors being more watchful, growth of the NPO unit, and better communication between our COP group, police, and homeowners. Oakridge-ites keep up the good work!!!!!!

At the February general membership meeting GPD officer Mike Hatfield will discuss his role as "community relations" officer. You will find Mike wears many hats in this job.

Daytimers by Diane Winter

If you can imagine thirty Daytimers exercising in your living room, you will understand what Linda Tucker experienced when she hosted the Daytimers January meeting. Christina Davis led exercises to motivate the women to exercise to improve their health. The exercises, the juices and food that the hostesses prepared were all related to the better health theme that Ann Conrath and Sharon Carlton had created. Chris Beyers led a short business meeting and each one left the meeting with a smile on her face and an increased heart rate. Thanks to Linda and her mom, Heidi, for the warm welcome and to Christina for her excellent presentation.

New members and a guest were welcomed as you will be if you visit the Daytimers at the February meeting. Daytimers will be wearing red and trading fun valentine cards along with other events.

The **next meeting** will be **February 11th**, at the home of Betty Cosgray - **2905 Oak Point at 10 am.**

Daytimers is a social organization that requires residence in Oakridge and \$15.00 annual dues. Daytimers promote the Oakridge community and the Oakridge Neighborhood Association. Any questions should be directed to president, Chris Beyers – 972 530 8292.

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Important Dates:
Membership Meetings
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Meeting Time & Location:
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Duck Creek Golf Continues Progress by Mike Ussery

The number of decent golf weather days have been few over the past couple of months, but hopefully Spring will arrive early in 2014. The golf course playing conditions ended up pretty good in late October and an increasing number of folks are playing golf again in the Oakridge.

As we move through the winter, we will be very cautiously protective of the greens and continue with projects such as tree trimming and general cleanup and improvements. We have received a steady stream of positive comments about course conditions and improvements.

In the next few weeks we will have some additional menu

items available in the clubhouse and expect to have our beer and wine permit soon. As the daylight hours grow longer, there will be increasing opportunities to get in a late afternoon round of golf along with some food and drink.

We appreciate the cooperation of the community staying off of the course now that it is again open for play. As our level of play increases it is more important for non golfers to stay off of the course primarily for safety reasons.

If you have not yet had a chance to stop by the clubhouse or played a round of golf, we look forward to seeing you.

Letter From the Editor by Keith Engler

I will not be the newsletter editor once this ONA term is up in May. I am making this known now in order to give enough time to find somebody to replace me. I will continue to maintain OakridgeNA.org unless somebody else wants to take that over. This newsletter format is much easier so anybody with MS Publisher can do it.

Sir Fixalot LLC will no longer be advertising in the newsletter this year. I will keep the business active maintaining

regular customers along with their referrals. I am currently busy taking accounting classes along with tutoring accounting two days per week. I have some other things going which I will discuss with you individually if we get a chance to talk.


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