

Oakridge News

October 2015 Vol. 23, No. 10



ONA Membership Status – ONA Still Needs Others to Join - Dwight Davis - ONA President

We now have **311 ONA members** for 2015-2016 which is about **91 ONA members short** of last year, which at a **402 Member level** prevented us from funding the printing and distributing of some of the monthly newsletters, the annual membership directory or even having any social events.

It takes **342 ONA Members** to support the beautification of our nine Oakridge entrances and the mowing and maintenance of 6,000 linear feet or 35,000 square feet of perimeter grass. The city **WILL NOT** do this for us. We need additional membership participation to complete our annual maintenance requirements and to produce and mail the ONA newsletter and directory.

It takes **113 ONA Members** for 2015-2016 to keep the Monthly Newsletters going to you to keep you informed.

It takes **40 ONA Members** for 2015-2016 to print and distribute the Annual Membership Directory

It takes **20 ONA Members** for any ONA social activities. That is a **total of 515 ONA members** needed.

See: <http://www.oakridgena.org/join.htm> for the ONA Membership invoice form.

SPECIAL EVENT Down various Oakridge streets
Caravan of Vehicles Saturday, October 24, 2015
Police Cars - Fire Trucks Starts at
- Ambulance 6:00 P.M.
Listen for the horns



September 24th ONA Membership Meeting Summary - Dwight Davis, ONA President

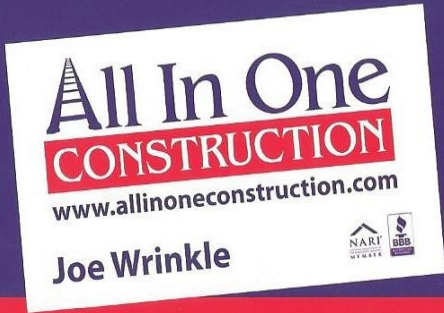
Our September 24th ONA meeting was filled with a lot of information for ONA homeowners. The ONA membership meetings always provide two way communications with our city and region leaders and our community. Plenty of time was allowed for members to ask questions with our planned leaders at the meeting, who provided some clear answers for us.

Tommy Barnes, our assigned neighborhood police officer (NPO) shared with us some crime instances in our neighborhood, how they were handled, and some positive suggestions to warn us how to guard ourselves and prepare to prevent or thwart future similar activities.

Jason Mashell, an area professional engineer (PE) with the Texas Department of Transportation (TX DOT), out of the East Dallas Area Office – Dallas District, provided detailed information on four (4) transportation projects in progress in the NE Dallas area. The LBJ Express with managed lanes for 13.3 miles is nearly completed between US-75 and I-35E on LBJ Freeway. The I-635 Express Lanes and noise walls project has just started between I-30 and US 75 on LBJ Freeway for 10.5 miles for the express lanes with the Noise Wall between LaPrada Drive and E Centerville Road on the North side of LBJ. SH 78 has two (2) road widening projects to 6 lanes from Spring Creek to SH 205 in Sachse and Wylie and from SH 205 to FM6 in Lavon.

Rio Orticio, Housing Standards Manager with the City of Garland - Code Compliance office discussed some of the standards and processes of the code compliance. Rio intently listened to the neighborhood issues and questions and took pages of notes. Rio works for **Steve Killen**, the Director of Code Compliance and plans to carry our issues back to ensure that appropriate corrective action will be taken to resolve the specific issues.

Scott LeMay, Garland City Council, District 7, shared with us the City of Garland decisions and changes. The Garland water rate of **\$6.98** average per month **increase** is being passed on from the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) increase that affects all North Texas member cites. However, GP&L has provided a residential rate **decrease** of **\$9.75** per month for the average user. This provides a net **decrease** of **\$2.77** for the average user. Contact Scot LeMay directly at his cell phone number is (214) 794-8904 and his direct email is scottlemayd7@gmail.com.



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Daytimers Update - Dianne Winter

FALL FUN!

Join the Daytimers at the home of Sally Weiss at 2733 Big Oaks Drive (972-202-1140) on Tuesday, November 10th at 10:00 A.M., for fun, food and information about the community.

Our October meeting was at Lila LaGrassa's home where Scott LeMay spoke on the City of Garland, and with some wonderful discussions that Sandra Stevens led on "Stories of Survival". We will continue these led discussions this month.

Daytimers is a social organization that requires residence in Oakridge and \$20.00 annual dues. Daytimers promotes the Oakridge community and the Oakridge Neighborhood Association. Any questions should be directed Ann Conrath, 972 346 8167.

Annual 2015 ACTION Walk – David Parrish, Director 7

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Saturday, October 31, 2015
12:00 Noon to 5:00 P.M.
2921 Oak Springs Drive
Garland, Texas
214-784-8664

Private showings welcome at other dates

Special Event - Caravan of Vehicles - Bill Olive, Safety

SPECIAL EVENT
Caravan of Vehicles
Police Cars - Fire Trucks – Ambulance
down various Oakridge streets
Saturday, October 24, 2015
Starts at 6:00 P.M.
Listen for the horns

Get ready for another "caravan" of vehicles including police cars, fire trucks/engines, ambulance, ONA board members, etc. The caravan will start at about 6:00 P.M. on Saturday, October 24, 2015.

Come out to wave and show your appreciation for Garland's first responders, meet neighbors, greet ONA board of directors, and enjoy the first days of cool Fall weather. There are some streets we will not be able to drive on because of the difficulty for the fire trucks, but you will hear us coming, so please, walk around to the nearest corner if you live on a narrow or congested street!!!!

ONA Safety Updates – Bill Olive, Crime Watch & Safety

UPDATE - CARJACKING: The youths who were responsible for the car-jacking incidents up at Shiloh and Beltline have been arrested and are out of circulation. Our NPO's and Garland forensics worked tirelessly to get evidence that would make certain these youths wouldn't "get off."

UPDATE - BOBCATS: The bobcat(s) that were roaming our neighborhood seem to have vanished or better yet, moved to another area. Animal control put out several traps along with cameras to spot the bobcats but got nothing. If you should see one of these "critters," call animal control at 972-205-3570 right away and try to give the direction the animal was traveling to the person who takes the call. This will help Animal Control to know where traps can be set since bobcats seem to travel along or near the same route frequently going to and from their den.

UPDATE - BURGLARY: We have received several questions regarding the recent shooting of a burglar by one of our residents. Some were concerned that the burglar lived in or near Oakridge, had friends here, or knew the resident. After conferring with our NPO and a police captain at CID (criminal investigation division) we were assured the burglary attempt was strictly "random" and the burglar and his accomplice lived in western Dallas. The homeowner was not charged.

(Continued on top of Page 4)



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Send \$60.00 for June 1, 2015 to May 31, 2016

by Check with Invoice Application to:

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 PO Box 450145
 Garland, TX 75045-0145**

Invoice on our website at www.OakridgeNA.org

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ONA Safety Updates – Bill Olive, Crime Watch and Safety (Continued from page 3)

UPDATE GRAFFITI: One of our "citizen patrollers" spotted graffiti on the bridge. Our NPO was informed, checked out the graffiti and assured us that it was not gang related. Later code was contacted and removed the writing.

UPDATE LATE WALKING: Last month (Sept.) we had a situation where a female resident, walking home around 10 P.M. was startled by a stranger near the club parking lot. Unfortunately, there weren't any lights on in the parking lot at the time. Citizens on Patrol (COP) looked for the stranger but was unable to locate anyone matching the description. Upon speaking with the club manager we learned they were experiencing an electrical problem and they had already made arrangements for an electrician to make necessary repairs. The employees of the club were concerned also that lighting was out in the parking lot since they leave work well after dark. At last check, the lights are back on and brighter than ever! As a reminder, both to men and women, If you are walking by yourself bring a cell phone, flashlight, a whistle, pepper spray, or any other items that can enhance your safety. BE ALERT!!!!!!!

UPDATE STRAY DOGS: COP has been contacted several times recently regarding stray dogs. PLEASE, call animal control immediately if you see a dog that is apparently lost or has gotten out of its fence/yard. Sometimes a stray dog may be a threat, but other times it is simply a dog that has gotten loose and can't find its way back home. For those of you who do not know, the Animal Control Officers have the ability to check for a chip in an animal, but more important, when they catch a dog or cat they immediately take a photo of the animal and it goes into their online data bank and the Garland Animal Control Website. Someone who is missing a pet can check the website and see if their dog or cat is on there and it enables the owner to contact animal control and retrieve their pet. Unfortunately, many dogs are wearing collars, but do not have a rabies tag, any ID at all, or the animal may have an ID tag that is not valid with outdated information or it is unreadable.

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SPECIAL EVENT

Caravan of
Vehicles
Police Cars -
Fire Trucks –
Ambulance
down various
Oakridge
streets
Saturday,
October 24,
2015
Starts at
6:15 P.M.
Listen for
the horns

ONA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE



Send \$60.00 for June 1, 2015 to May 31, 2016

by Check with Invoice Application to:

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