

# Oakridge News

[oakridgena.org](http://oakridgena.org)

March 2018, Vol. 26, No. 3



## Neighborhood Update with ONA President Cheryl Jones

by Cheryl Jones  
ONA President

Greetings Oakridge Family! Happy March 2018!

After all the rain, the sun is shining. Oh, how beautiful our neighborhood will be! I hope you and yours are well and looking forward to spring. I am super excited to "spring forward" March 13th, so don't forget to set your clocks. NCAA basketball enthusiasts, March Madness kicks off March 13th. For you partakers of all things green, Saint Patrick's Day is March 17th so enjoy the festivities. March closes out with the Holiday of Pesach, or Passover beginning at sundown March 30th. Oakridge is diverse with many cultures, and we would love to share something about every culture represented. However you spend your March, we wish you all the best!

The February General Meeting was a success in spite of the cold and rain.

Thanks to all who weathered the elements to attend. A special thanks to Duck Creek Golf Club and their phenomenal staff; who opened their doors, lit a warm and cozy fire and served up some great chili and warm smiles. We couldn't be more thankful to have our meetings right here in our neighborhood.

Thanks to Adrian Olivarez with City of Garland Animal Control and Marcus Stevens with 911 Wildlife, who addressed the bobcats and coyotes. Who knew that harassing them was as or more effective than traps and snares. So the next time you see one, from a distance of course, "yell at it, throw something" as it sends the message they are not welcome. Marcus warned that hawks were more of a threat to small pets 20 lbs. or less, so please watch out and look up. And by the way, rodent activity is up, so remember to seal any entry points and close your garage doors, as they are threats to your vehicle's electrical system.

Officer Tommy Barnes updated us on crime in our neighborhood and said all things considered, "Oakridge is one of the safest neighborhoods." Don't forget to sign up for Siren to get alerts through our Safety Director. Thanks to Councilman Scott Lemay for our city updates. Our next general meeting is in May. Stay tuned.

The ONA is committed to our mission to assure the beauty, safety and stability of Oakridge, and together, 2018 will be the best year ever. We hope you see value in our efforts. To build, we need you!

We have several openings. If you would like to get involved at any level, please email us at [onamembership@gmail.com](mailto:onamembership@gmail.com) with "Volunteer" in the subject line.

Have a great month, and see you around the neighborhood. Remember, life is fragile—live life to the full, laugh often and love your neighbor as yourself.



# Calling all Classic Car Owners

Spring is approaching fast, and it's time to start warming up those classic cars and motorcycles that have been hibernating the winter months. Year 2018 car show schedules should be flooding your mailbox and inboxes, but you can showcase your Camaros, Mustangs, Chevilles, Corvettes, old pickup trucks, bikes and trikes in your own back yard at the ONA picnic Saturday, May 19, 2018.

If you would like to participate, please contact us no later than May 1, 2018, so we can reserve a spot for you. Please email [onamembership@gmail.com](mailto:onamembership@gmail.com) with Classic Car in the subject line. Provide your contact information, your vehicles year, make and model. Your vehicle could be featured in the June Oakridge newsletter.



## Putting an End to Robo-Calls

by Mark Edwards  
ONA Vice-President

As I started writing an article for the ONA Newsletter, my phone rang. I didn't recognize the number, didn't answer it and it stopped ringing. Then there was another call—same thing.

I'm sure you get robocalls and calls from real people who either want to sell you something or just plain "scam" you out of your cash. You can put a stop to these calls.

Most importantly, you have got to sign up for the National Do Not Call Registry. It's free, your number is never taken off the list, and it will at least stop law-abiding solicitors. It's for both cell phones and landlines.

If you've been on the Do Not Call Registry for a month or longer and still get

calls, file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). This may seem like a waste of time, but it doesn't take long, and sometimes enough complaints can get policy changed. If the call comes from a known business, you should also report it to the Better Business Bureau.

Another tip is to keep your number to yourself. Businesses always ask for your number. If you don't have to give it, don't. Sometimes they sell it to a third party. If they continue to pester you with sales pitches, give them a call and ask them to stop. If it doesn't work, call the Better Business Bureau and file a complaint.

If you pick up the phone and there is silence for a few seconds, hang up right away. There is nothing to gain from attempting to reason with the people behind the calls.

It's an election year. The political calls are coming. Since politicians aren't trying to sell you anything, their calls are excluded from the do-not-call rules. That means these folks can call your landline and don't have to stop even if you ask. You'll have to make a judgment call on that.

My telephone numbers are registered with the National Do Not Call Registry. I successfully registered mine on March 8, 2007. Most telemarketers will be required to stop calling within days of your registration date.

Visit <https://www.donotcall.gov> to register your numbers or to file a complaint against callers violating the Registry.

Have a look at the site so you'll be able to follow through on the complaint... note the phone number, date and time and subject of call.

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# “Love and Laughter” with the Daytimers

by Dianne Winter  
ONA Daytimers

Cupid's arrow hit the mark on February 13th at the home of Betty Cosgray, where thirty Daytimers were greeted by hostesses and others in a sea of red to celebrate Valentine's Day.

After a time of mingling and gathering a plate of scrumptious goodies, president Shirley Heald began the meeting with a time of silence in memory of two deceased members, Jackie Griffin and Janice Schadegg. They will be greatly missed.

Two visitors were introduced and other announcements included the book club and treasury reports by Peggy Cren-

shaw, birthdays by Margaret Fowler, and security and safety notices by Shirley Heald.

If you opened a box of Valentine assorted candies you would find Jill Beam. Jill displayed many talents while giving the Daytimers several gems to navigate life. “Love and Laughter” was the theme of the advice and included singing along with Jill's piccolo rendition of “Let Me Call You Sweetheart.” She was involved with the Miss Senior America Pageant as a director and then later as a contestant.

She entertained the audience with many excerpts from musical plays and played “Can you Feel the Love Tonight” on the piccolo. Along with many uplifting

vignettes of life, Jill's best was her closing philosophy: “There is no remote for life. You have to get up to change it!”

Coming to Daytimers and meeting new people can be life changing. The next opportunity is Tuesday, March 13th. We invite you to come to the home of Jan Perry Loyd, 2929 Oak Point, at 10 AM.

Daytimers is a social organization for women 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 to president, Shirley Heald, shirleyheald@verizon.net or 469-387-5641



The **Oakridge Women's Club** is open to all women of Oakridge. We all share a strong and common bond in the love of our children, families, and community. We welcome prospective members to join us at all meetings. We meet the first Thursday of the month at 7pm.

Join for pot luck or dine out dinners, hot tub side chats, water aerobics, holiday parties, progressive dinners and support sessions—all to get to know each other and unwind. We share hosting, snacks, beverages, and always a few laughs! The Oakridge Women's Club is open to all women of Oakridge. Email Libby Morse at [TOMLIB@tx.rr.com](mailto:TOMLIB@tx.rr.com) for information and the next meeting location. OWC is on Facebook and Nextdoor.

For **Safety Concerns** in the neighborhood, please contact our Neighborhood Patrol Officer Tommy Barnes with the Garland Police Department at [barnest@garlandtx.gov](mailto:barnest@garlandtx.gov) or 972-205-2042. Email is best for faster response. For emergencies, always call 911 first.

If you have a **Community Event** you would like your Oakridge neighbors to know about or would like to be featured in the Meet Your ONA Neighbors section, please contact the ONA Communications Director Dylan Hedrick at [dylan.hedrick@gmail.com](mailto:dylan.hedrick@gmail.com).

## ONA Crime Watch

Debra Pandak—ONA Safety Director

Emergency: Please Call 911

Non-Emergencies : 972-485-4840 Garland Police

To help keep the neighborhood safe, report any concerns you think the neighborhood should be aware of to [ONACrimewatch@gmail.com](mailto:ONACrimewatch@gmail.com).



If you would like to receive the monthly Siren Report that provides a summary of all events in and around Oakridge, please email the address above and say that you wish to be added to the Siren Report distribution list.

## ONA Leadership Contact Information

### ONA Officers

President - Cheryl Jones - 214-437-9132  
VP - Mark Edwards - 972-414-8525  
Secretary - Sharon Parrish - 278-530-3351  
Treasurer - Meg Green - 903-288-6573

### ONA District Directors

District 1 - Open  
District 2&3 - Dwight Davis - 972-675-9195  
District 4 - Keta Woods - 469-877-7099  
District 5 - Scott Barnes - 602-791-2492  
District 6 - James Aaron - 972-530-8148  
District 7 - Barbara Mairs - 972-414-2623

### ONA Committee Chairs

Membership - Open  
Commun. - Dylan Hedrick - 713-677-4999  
Marketing - Shine Macy - 469-231-8534  
Environ. - David Parrish - 972-530-3351  
Safety - Debra Pandak - 214-535-7923

# No Place Like Home in Oakridge

by Shine Macy  
Oakridge Marketing Director

Hello my fellow Oakridge neighbors. I would like to introduce myself. My name is Shine Macy, and I have volunteered to serve you all as the Marketing Director for the Oakridge Neighborhood Association. I would like to share our personal story with you that is an American Dream come true centering around this lovely neighborhood we all call home.

The story begins in India in 1976 when my father moved to the United States. The entire family which included my dad, mom, and younger brother all lived in Oklahoma City for about the first 10 years in a small home. It was in October of 1985 that my parents made a decision to move to this neighborhood that would help define my life through today. When we moved I was just in the 5th grade, and I had to leave everything I had previously known including friends and familiar surroundings. What I did not realize is how much I would love my new home, neighborhood, and city. For my parents, there were many reasons to move to this area including both of their jobs in local DFW area hospitals, and the many other friends they had from the old country (Punjab, India) that were already living in Garland. In fact, some of their friends had moved to this very neighborhood, and remain so through today.

At that time, Oakridge had one main home builder called Greenbriar, and there were so many empty lots. We moved to this wonderful Greenbriar home on Pepperidge Drive which is near the Big Oaks Drive and Shiloh Road entrance. The home was very close by the same family friends who gave us our first experience of hospitality in the area.

It was from this home on Pepperidge we would attend the local elementary school down the road – Ethridge. In those days, Shiloh Road was a much simpler road, and kids would always be walking about. It was in this neighborhood that we would be fascinated with the rush of new home construction.

We would ride our bikes all through the neighborhood, and in the summers,

some of the older kids were lifeguards at the Oakridge Country Club pool. The neighborhood was full of children playing basketball in the driveways, and constantly begging their parents to play at Holford Park across Shiloh Road.

travel all over the world. This was certainly the case for me as the majority of my life was spent in high education and consulting living in different cities.

In a decision that would prove pre-eminent, my parents decided to stay in



Shine with his wife Mary-Anne and son Emmanuel.

It was through this neighborhood that many of us then went on to attend the local middle schools and high schools within the Garland Independent School District. There seemed to be a constant flow of yellow-orange school busses from 6 AM till 4 PM for all the different age groups. There was a bond built among those of us from this neighborhood who went to the local schools here. There were many of us who attended the Gifted and Talented school options in the area which helped us go on to college.

In the end, it was Southern Methodist University where I finally donned my cap and gown. At this point, everyone seemed to scatter with different jobs, graduate schools, military service, and aspirations of travel. These decisions caused many young people from this neighborhood to

the same home at a time when many of the other neighbors including some of their old friends had left for other areas nearby. For my parents, it was our local church—United Christian Church right on Beltline and Shiloh Road—which kept them rooted here. This is the church we attended as a family and still attend today.

In the end, my parents made a decision to move to another neighborhood in the Garland area (Firewheel). Instead of selling our home they rented it to a lovely family for several years. It was during these years that I had eventually found my lovely wife who is from the U.K., and we thought about all the possibilities of where we should live. It had to be a divine plan that my childhood home was still available, and still in incredible condition. According to my parents, the fact I had

finally got married was a divine plan in itself which led to a father and son home buying negotiation.

It was in 2015, after I had spent a great deal of my time in wonderful places across the country, and even outside of it that we decided to make my old home – our new home.

The first thing we did was remodel, remodel, and remodel. All of those ideas that I had growing up in this house came up, "... if this was my home I would change this ..."

We also tried to introduce ourselves to some of our neighbors which I am embarrassed to say I did a poor job of in my younger days. It was not too much longer in our new home that I was able to decorate the outside home with giant bright blue banner "It's a Boy" in 2016.

We have wonderful people in this neighborhood, and it is only by grace that we are blessed to allow the third generation of my family to grow up here. I hope that one day some of you will have a chance to see my son riding his bike proudly through his neighborhood, or maybe you will purchase candy from his school fundraiser, like I did when I was his age. It is so wonderful to come back home, and I don't know how many people have this opportunity to literally walk in the footsteps of their grandparents, but I am grateful for this chance that I have been given. I look forward to tell my family stories of this place, and how wonderful it can be.

I know that people have different feelings about this neighborhood, and there are valid points to be made. I do know one thing that my heart is committed to try and help where possible. This is part of the reason I volunteered to be part of ONA. I hope these words will touch the heart of others; it only requires a few people to start a change. I look forward to serving you all, and I do hope to meet more of you here because truly, "There's no place like home."

Join the ONA today!  
Visit [oakridgena.org](http://oakridgena.org) for information!



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Ron Thomas, Senior Pastor

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# Oakridge News

Oakridge Neighborhood Association  
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## Oakridge's Wintertime Beauty

Photos by Mark Edwards  
ONA Vice-President



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**NO MATTER WHAT**



*"Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." Proverbs 3:5-6*

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