



Oakridge News

oakridgena.org

March 2020, Vol. 28, No. 03

Join the ONA Board

by Scott Barnes, ONA President

Hello Oakridge.

I hope you've been pleased with what the ONA Board has been doing during the 2019-2020 membership year. We have certainly enjoyed serving the Oakridge community.

As we enter the second half of our membership year, it is time to start thinking about the ONA Board elections for the 2020-2021 membership year (which begins June 1st). I strongly encourage you to participate! Here are some ways to do that.

Participate in Electing. The General Membership meeting at the end of May is when Board Officers and District Directors are elected. This year, the General Membership meeting for elections falls on **Thursday, May 28th**. I strongly encourage you to come to that meeting and be an active participant in choosing your ONA Board Officers and District Directors.

Participate as a Volunteer. I hope to have the opportunity to work on the Board next year and I would love to see a bunch of new faces there! I ask you to seriously consider volunteering on the Board for the the 2020-2021 membership year. *What positions will be available?* Half of the District Director positions and all of the Officer seats will be up for election this year. Consider volunteering for one of these positions!

What is the process for nominating and electing ONA Board members? A Nominating Committee was voted in by the General Membership at the February meeting (February 27th). The Nominating Committee will be talking to everyone interested in volunteering for positions on the ONA Board. If you would like to volunteer for a position on the ONA Board, you will want to contact the Nominating Committee Chair, Cheryl Jones (jonesclj@verizon.net or 214-437-9132). After the Nominating Committee speaks with all residents interested in volunteering on the ONA Board, they will make and present recommendations to the ONA General Membership at the May meeting.

This is the time to come join us and help make Oakridge better!

We worked hard all year to get some key projects in place and I believe the ONA needs to continue to work hard to keep in step with our changing neighborhood. The upcoming membership year is a perfect opportunity for first-time volunteers to come forward and get involved.

If you have energy and want to help, join us. If there are some changes you think need to happen, join us. If you think the ONA needs to be a better reflection of the current residents of Oakridge, join us!

As I've said in this newsletter, I think we need to keep pushing the ONA to be a more accurate reflection of the neighborhood. Rather than relying on the way things have always been done in the past, we need to discover the current needs of our neighborhood and how the ONA can best serve the residents. Join us and help us find new service opportunities. We need your input and ideas.

I can't stress enough how much I would like to see a bunch of volunteers reach out to the Nominating Committee and raise their hands to help this coming year.

Raise your hand and come join us!

The ONA Board (info@oakridgena.org)

President, Scott Barnes	602-791-2492
Vice President, Mark Edwards.....	972-414-8525
Secretary, Sharon Parrish	469-939-2270
Treasurer, Keith Engler	972-834-0096
District 1 Director, Mary VanPelt	972-496-1744
District 2 Director, Paula Griffin	214-403-6300
District 3 Directors, Dotty Moseley	214-703-3532
and Lila La Grassa	972-530-8618
District 4 Director, Keta Woods	469-877-7009
District 5 Director, Michelle Mizerak	214-962-7795
District 6 Director, vacant	
District 7 Director, Sharon Carlton.....	972-345-9741
Communications, Heather Englebretson	214-562-7857
Crime & Safety Committee, Joan Nichols	214-543-2546
Environmental Committee, David Parrish	469-733-6089
Events Committee, Sherri Rutherford	972-496-5454
Membership Committee, Jane Mayers	972-365-0427

ONA Beautification

by Scott Barnes, ONA President

Over the years, the Environmental Committee of the ONA has tended to a couple of duties on behalf of the General Membership for the entire neighborhood:

- Mowing the grass along the outside perimeter of the neighborhood
- Maintaining the entrances

These duties require time, effort, and financial support to complete properly. We'd like to update the General Membership on some key points about our work this past year and the future path we see.

Grass Mowing

Over the past year or so we have found it necessary to rework our service contract for the mowing of grass around the outside perimeter of the neighborhood. There have been significant changes in the cost structure of these services and striking the right balance of cost to value was challenging. We believe the ONA is now doing well in that regard.

Entrances - The Issues

A little over a year ago, we were in a position where the lights around the neighborhood entrances were not in

good working order. Additionally, the irrigation system needed quite a bit of work, and the general hardscape structure of the entrances needed to be updated. No doubt many of our residents have noticed these issues and it has prompted a generous response of donations to the Beautification Fund.

We are pleased to highlight that the lighting and irrigation systems have been brought back to properly maintained status. The next item for us to tackle will be our neighborhood entrances.

Entrances - The Goal

Our goal is to have a tangible plan that allows for good continuity of appearance while also coordinating volunteer effort that is focused on achievable, high-value work. Said differently—we'd like entrances to be a place where residents can gather for a couple hours on a Saturday, do some planting, and visit with each other. We would like to see our entrances be a source of pride and neighborhood distinction.

Entrances - The Path Forward

We are currently gathering information on what it will cost to upgrade (replacing trees/shrubs, turning earth to make it easier to plant) and do regular maintenance (removing trash, trimming, planting seasonal flowers). Once we have gathered the necessary information, we will generate a plan and provide details to residents in next month's newsletter. We look forward to following this path forward.

Environmental Funding

Our membership drive goes from June 1st to May 31st—though we find that we generally have a good picture of the year's financial possibilities in the month of August. This year we have had strong contributions to the Beautification Fund. We hope that our report and the visible results will inspire similar generosity in the coming year.

Thank You!!

We thank those that contributed to this year's Beautification Fund. We want you to know we're taking the job of using those contributions very seriously and you'll see more results soon. Our plan is to inspire more contributions in the 2020-2021 membership year.



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oakridgena.org/join

Oakridge Events

by Sherri Rutherford, ONA Events Committee Director

Please be sure to mark your calendars for the upcoming Spring Events. There will be something for everyone!

Spring Fling Picnic (Sunday, May 17th, 4-7 p.m.)

Duck Creek Golf Club parking lot

This Oakridge event is for the whole community! Come enjoy free food and take time to visit with our first responders. This is also a great opportunity to catch up with familiar neighborhood faces and make some new neighborhood friends. If you are new to the community, please be sure to be at this event!

Block Parties (4-7 p.m. on dates listed below)

Locations to be announced

Our Block Party plans are underway! Party locations will be announced in the coming weeks. Attending the block party in your district is a wonderful way to meet your immediate neighbors. Members of the ONA Citizens On Patrol group and the ONA Board will also be at the block parties for a chance to visit with you, hear your thoughts for the neighborhood, and share their visions for our community.

Games will also be available, so bring the kids and let's have some fun! Watch for announcements on the ONA website and NextDoor.

District 1 & 3 Block Party: Saturday, April 25th, 4-7 p.m.

District 2 & 4 Block Party: Saturday, May 2nd, 4-7 p.m.

District 5, 6, & 7 Block Party: Saturday, May 30th, 4-7 p.m.

Don't know which Oakridge district you are in? Take a look at the list below or visit <https://www.oakridgena.org/seven-districts-of-oakridge/>.

Your Oakridge District

- Beaver RunDistrict 1
- Bending Oaks TrailDistrict 1
- Big Oaks Drive (2501-2606)District 7
- Big Oaks Drive (2609-2847)District 6
- Big Oaks Drive (2901-3221)District 5
- Creighton Drive.....District 6
- Crestedge DriveDistrict 6
- Diamond Oaks Drive (2001-2322)District 2
- Diamond Oaks Drive (2325-2521)District 1
- Fulton DriveDistrict 7
- Golden Oaks Drive.....District 1
- Grand Oak DriveDistrict 4
- Greenview Circle & Greenview DriveDistrict 1

- Hearthside LaneDistrict 3
- Hickory Bend DriveDistrict 7
- Laurel Oaks Court & Laurel Oaks Drive.....District 5
- Lone Oak Trail.....District 2
- Meadowridge DriveDistrict 6
- Moss TrailDistrict 2
- Oak Point Drive (2601-2937)District 4
- Oak Point Drive (3001-3126)District 2
- Oak Springs Drive (2701-2817).....District 4
- Oak Springs Drive (2901-3017).....District 2
- Overview Lane.....District 3
- Peakwood Drive.....District 3
- Pebblestone DriveDistrict 7
- Pepperidge DriveDistrict 7
- Richoak Drive.....District 7
- Ridge Oak Court, Drive, & PlaceDistrict 1
- Ridge View LaneDistrict 1
- Rocky Trail.....District 2
- Rolling Oak Lane (2001-2013)District 4
- Rolling Oak Lane (2101-2222)District 2
- Shady Oaks CourtDistrict 2
- Stoneridge Drive (2610-2742)District 6
- Stoneridge Drive (2801-2882)District 5
- Suncrest DriveDistrict 6
- Willow Ridge DriveDistrict 4
- Winding Oak TrailDistrict 4
- Windy Ridge Lane.....District 4

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Oakridge Daytimers

by Jan Reed, Oakridge Daytimers

The February meeting of the Oakridge Daytimers was held in the home of Suzanne Snow. Food Hostesses Betty Sue Sidener, Ann Williams, Miriam Forster, and Sandra Stevens provided a delicious breakfast.

The guest speaker for February was local Dallas historian, professor, and author, Jim Gatewood, discussing some of the notorious people who influenced DFW history.

Daytimers meets the second Tuesday morning of the month at 10:00 for coffee and brunch followed by special guest speakers. Join us for the next Daytimers meeting on March 10th at the home of former neighbor Dana Hopkins who resides at 1000 Lookout Drive in Canyon Creek.

2020 Census

Invitations to respond to the 2020 Census will be delivered March 12-20. Census data is used to inform a lot of decisions about funding and representation for each State. Let's make sure our corner of North Texas is counted! Visit <https://2020census.gov/en.html> to find out more about the 2020 Census.

Garland Parking Violations

(Source: GarlandTX.gov/Parking)

The City of Garland is now issuing citations for parking violations. Here are a few of the most common violations:

- Parking on a sidewalk
- Parking within 20 feet of a crosswalk or intersection
- Parking within 15 feet of a fire hydrant
- Blocking a driveway or traffic in an alley

Visit GarlandTX.gov/Parking for a more complete list of violations and what to do if you receive a parking ticket.

Sidewalk Repair Cost Share

(Source: GarlandTX.gov/384/Hazardous-Curbs-Gutters-Sidewalks)

Does the sidewalk in front of your house need repairing?

In the City of Garland, homeowners are responsible for making sure the sidewalk in front of their home is in a good and safe condition. Sidewalk repairs can be costly, but the City of Garland does offer a cost sharing program where residents are eligible to receive assistance for up to 50% of the cost of repairs. For more information, contact the City of Garland Engineering Department at 972-205-2930.

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