

## OFFICERS FOR 2007

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Social: **Laura Dorenbecker**

Old Oak Cliff Conservation League: **Bonnie Roberds & Blake Chandler**

Beautification: **Ron Forwark**

Web Design: **Missy Carr & Blake Chandler**

Newsletter Design: **Tray LaCaze**

## PROBLEM OF EMPTY , FOR SALE HOMES

Recently three homes in our area have caused problems for their neighbors. The houses have "for sale" signs out front, but sit empty and unkempt for months (one at 615 N. Hampton has been on the market for more than 147 days.) The houses don't sell because in the words of a local banker, "they are ridiculously overpriced." The yards sit unmowed, and trash thrown from passing motorists accumulates.

So what can you do? First, go on the Dallas County Appraisal District's Web site and see who the owner is. Contact the owner and politely ask him/her to look at the situation. If you don't get any action, contact Code Enforcement for our area, Anthony Ware. [anthony.ware@dallascityhall.com](mailto:anthony.ware@dallascityhall.com) File a complaint, and follow up. They will come inspect the property and issue a violation ONLY if you speak up. Many bankers and realty people we spoke with say that these empty homes are part of a "mortgage fraud" scheme, where a buyer pays far more than the list price, takes out a mortgage, pays the seller and takes his cut of the deal, then defaults. It is very difficult to prove, because all the buyer has to do is insist that he had trouble making his payments. More on this in a later article. --- Kirby Warnock

## OAK CLIFF CONSERVATION LEAGUE

I am a month late in extending a HUGE thanks to **Jason Lenox and Matt Taylor of Bison Trail and Matt Holly of Kessler Woods** for opening their homes for the Oak Cliff Conservation League's 2006 Tour of Homes. Also HUGE thanks go to **David Cooper and the Lindbloms - Andy and Vicki** - for porch sitting. This event is the primary fund raiser for the League and provides money for beautification grants to neighborhood associations. The final tally is not in as yet but due to the work of about 200 volunteers, the Tour was a grand success despite the rain on Sunday. Be prepared to be contacted next year to help with this event. --- Bonnie Roberds

## A THANK YOU

Our neighbor, Alice Hobratsch, sent a Thank You card to the WKNA thanking us for giving to the organ fund on behalf of her daughter, Janet who passed away in October. The card read: Dear Neighbors, I am grateful for your generosity in contributing to the Organ Fund at Zion Lutheran Church and School. I'm sure the maintenance will contribute to the beauty of the services. Thank you for honoring my daughter, Janet Hobratsch.

Sincerely, Alice Hobratsch

## INJURED POLICE OFFICER

A plea has gone out to help support a young Dallas police officer, Keith Ashley, who was injured in the line of duty. His injuries were misdiagnosed causing him to exhaust his benefits before the correct one was made. In the meantime, his family has lost their home and personal vehicle. A contribution fund has been established at Grand Bank, 1322 N. Beckley Ave., 75203. For more information, contact Liz Smith (East Kessler Crime Watch) at 214-941-1577.

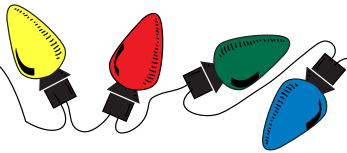
### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

12/4	Matt Taylor	Bison Trail
12/5	Jeremy Whiteker	Tenna Loma
12/5	Michael Braddick	Tenna Loma
12/8	Diane Vernol	Tenna Loma
12/10	Scogin Mayo	Stevens Wood Ct
12/11	Ron Wills	Tenna Loma
12/11	Kipton Litz	N. Oak Cliff
12/17	Kent Sifferlen	N. Oak Cliff
12/27	Tim Parker	Stevens Woods Ct
12/28	Blake Chandler	N. Oak Cliff
12/29	Catherine Shultz	Stevens Woods Ct
12/31	Missy Carr	N. Oak Cliff

### JANURARY BIRTHDAYS:

1/19	Susan Whittiker	Bison Trail
1/20	Steve Kemble	N. Oak Cliff
1/22	Chuck Edwards	

## HOLIDAY EVENTS



### HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, December 10th from 2 - 5 pm.

**2 - 3 pm Bonnie Roberds' - 629 Tenna Loma Court**

**3 - 4 pm Leah & Blake Chandler's - 609 N. Oak Cliff Blvd.**

**4 - 5 pm Lynn & Tray LaCaze's - 2221 Stevens Wood Ln.**

Light snacks and refreshments at each home.

### HOLIDAY WALK-A-BOUT

Friday, December 15th starting at 7pm.

Start at **Kirby Warnock's, 711 North Hampton Road**

Skip over to **Stephanie Meadows', 700 N. Oak Cliff Blvd.**

Stop by **David Cooper & Allen Haskell's, 819 N. Oak Cliff Blvd.**

Trot down to **Ashley and Chris Shultz's, 914 Stevens Wood Ct.**

Finish at **Ron and Richard's 714 Tenna Loma Ct** around 8 pm.

Neighbors mingle as they make their way from house to house.

### CANDY CANES

Block captains and other volunteers are needed to help distribute this year's neighborhood yard decoration, candy canes.

**Saturday, Dec 9th at 11 am at David & Allen's,**

**819 North Oak Cliff Blvd.** Note: bring screwdriver and hammer.

## Neighborhood Night Out

Café Madrid

408 N. Bishop, Ste 109 at 8th St. • Tuesday, January 9 at 7 pm

RSVP to Laura Dorenbecker at [ldorenbecker@crai.com](mailto:ldorenbecker@crai.com)

