

## COUNCIL OAKS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

NW 10h 50

Logo created by James Greiner

Website: www.neighborhoodlink.com/Council\_Oaks. Facebook: log in; search for Council Oaks Neighborhood Association, Oklahoma City. Wyn-Erin Self is our new web person – welcome aboard!

#### President

Dianna Ewing 789-3963, 919-5073

#### Vice President

Katie Greiner 570-3738

#### Secretary

Wendy Wilkinson 641-6969

#### Treasurer

Kathey Rauh 787-3689, 990-5305

#### Newsletter

Kathy Anderson 203-7060 Kathey Rauh 787-3689, 990-5305

#### Web & Facebook

Wyn-Erin Self 503-0071

#### **OKC Code Enforcement**

Elaine Nelson-Lewis 297-3129

Comm. Action Center

297-2535

Pothole Hotline

631-1111

Animal Control (pickup)

297-2255

Councilman, Ward 1

Gary Marrs, 297-2404 ward1@okc.gov

#### Police Liaison

Charles Epperly, Hefner Division 316-4416

## Next CONA Neighborhood Association Meeting: Thursday June 14, 2012, 6:30-8 pm Reaching Our City (ROC), 7710 NW 10<sup>th</sup>

Our speaker will be from the American Red Cross, and will talk about emergency preparedness. There will be Q&A time.

Meeting dates for the rest of the year: Aug 9th, Oct 11<sup>th</sup>, and Dec 6th

We are going to hold a **neighborhood/fundraiser garage sale** on **Saturday June 16**, from 8:00 am to whenever things wind down. If enough people participate we will do this again next year earlier in the season. Anyone who wants to have their own garage sale will be responsible for obtaining a permit (see inside the newsletter for more info on that). If you would rather donate to the CONA garage sale rather than hold your own, you may contact Justin Gant at 440-1096.

CONA garage sale proceeds, less expenses, will go into the general fund. We will put an ad on Craig's List and in the paper. We are hoping this is successful for all involved. There is only one other person helping our president with this, so any volunteers would be greatly appreciated! Please do not donate anything to CONA that you want returned.

In case of rain, the garage sale will be held the following weekend.

All leftover items will be placed at the curb for trash pickup. We will not accept the following items:

- Used hygiene products
- Adult clothing or shoes
- Torn or broken items (all items must be in working condition)
- Stuffed animals or toys from meals.

This is YOUR neighborhood, and **YOUR neighborhood association**. Please consider joining. Annual dues are just \$10.00. If you cannot make it to a meeting, call our President or Treasurer. They will make sure your money is picked up and a receipt is issued to you.

We still need **Block Captains** and **Neighborhood Patrol Volunteers**! If you are interested, please contact our President or Vice President.



# A Visit with Ray, OSU Cooperative Extension Service

At our April 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, Ray (no last name provided) from OSU Cooperative Extension Service

addressed a number of questions/problems we all face with our lawns in this area. He also handed out two informational pamphlets — one on landscape maintenance schedule (HLA-6408), the other on lawn management in Oklahoma (HLA6420). One can also go to <a href="http://osufacts.okstate.edu">http://osufacts.okstate.edu</a> for these and other fact sheets.

Ray had a lot of facts and tips to share; it is impossible to review them all here. Here is a random sampling, though:

Apply fall pre-emergent the first week in August. The first week in February where there is a 50° day, use Roundup and a liquid pre-emergent on your bermuda grass. This will kill anything that is green still growing in the yard and help suppress new weed growth. There are three kinds of basic weeds: broadleaf, grassy, and sedges. Broadleaf is like dandelions where the leaves have veins. Grassy is like crabgrass. Sedges are three-sided grasses. Each kind requires a special postemergent chemical. Read the directions carefully as to when to apply and whether it will damage ornamentals. Grass height — start at one inch, then gradually move up to two to three inches by August or the fall. This helps conserve water and provide more weed control. If you plant fescue, do so in mid Sept/October. This will allow the roots to take hold. Don't plant it in March. Ideal fescue height is three inches. How to tell the difference between a mole and a pocket gopher: moles travel through the soil and put their runs parallel to structures. Gopher mounds just pop up wherever. There is finally a poison that works on moles, if you are not into using a harpoon trap: Talpirid or Tomcat poison worms, but they need to be put into an active run and gloves must be used so there is no human smell associated with them. Killing the grubs the moles feed on simply moves them next door. Pocket gophers can be gotten rid of via poison grain, smoke bombs, traps. Short-tailed cricket — they are not a home

invader and are not very damaging, they just do mounds in the spring and September-November. You can use lemon dish soap and water on them. Sandburs: They are a grassy weed, so use the appropriate chemical. Treat before it gets too hot. The burrs can be latent for years, so it can be hard to get rid of them. Ray recommends cypress mulch for flower beds, not the rubber stuff made from tires. Plants he likes that he feels are underutilized: hardy hibiscus, ornamental grasses, crape myrtles. Don't forget the Extension Service at 930 N. Portland handles testing of soil. Contact them at 713-1125 between 8 and 4:30 M-F for more information.

## **Garage Sale Permit info**

Here is the web link to OKC's site: http://www.okc.gov/services/garage\_sale/index.html

Each household can have two garage sales a year with proper permits. Previously, garage sales had to be spaced at least six months apart, but you may now hold them on consecutive weekends.

Garage sale permits are \$7 and can be purchased through the following ways: Purchase a permit through the city's web link or call the License Division at 297-2606 for a "paperless permit." Instead of a paper form, you get a permit number over the phone to post at your sale. You can also get a permit by mail. Request an application at least two weeks before your sale. They'll mail you an application to fill out. Return it with a check or money order for \$7.

Garage sale signs and other service signs are not allowed on utility poles, traffic sign poles, medians or any public right-of-way. You can put one sign in front of your house. The sign itself can't be larger than 12 square feet.

You can sell any personal property, but not motor vehicles. You cannot sell new merchandise, consignment items, or resale items.

A single permit is good for three consecutive days. The sale must be held at the address listed on it, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.

The maximum fine for conducting a sale without a license is \$200 plus costs.

The City of Oklahoma City License Division 420 W Main, Suite 130 Oklahoma City, OK 73102 Phone: 405-297-2606

Office hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mon-Fri.

### Litter Blitz a success!

Our April 14 litter blitz was moved to April 21<sup>st</sup>, after the OU Big Event volunteers were unable to come on the 14<sup>th</sup> due to bad weather. Because of the change, fewer OU students were able to participate and so we got less done, but those who did worked very hard to shovel up dirt, grass, and weeds along the gutters, pick up trash, clear limbs, etc.

Thank you to everyone who turned out to help — including those folks who provided a wonderful array of cookies and brownies for everyone to enjoy!





# And now, a few words from our President!

Just wanted to say thank you to everyone that helped out on Litter Blitz Day! It was a success. Hoping next year to go bigger and better!

If you have not checked out our Facebook or website pages lately, please do. Wyn-Erin has taken over that area and she has done an awesome job! Thank you, Wyn-Erin, for all your hard work.

Our neighborhood is improving and will continue to improve with your diligence in keeping an eye out for each other. I have had quite a few people calling and asking me to call code enforcement or the police for them. Please remember that if you see something that needs attention you will need to make that call. You can do this anonymously but it is YOUR responsibility. Always try to work it out with the other individual first! The more documentation on file, the better chance we have at getting something done!

Oh — we still need about six more volunteers in order to launch our Neighborhood Patrol. KOCO Channel 5 recently aired a special news segment called Oklahoma City's Most Dangerous Zip Codes. Ours — 73127 — was ranked second-most dangerous, I'm sure in part, due to the ongoing problems at some of the apartment complexes south of 10<sup>th</sup>. They also featured a neighborhood that had a patrol and showcased how successful the program was as a deterrent to crime. So please, volunteer! We have a wonderful neighborhood and we need to make sure we keep it that way.

Have a safe and wonderful summer, and see you at the June meeting.

And if you can, please participate in our neighborhood garage sale by having one yourself, or by donating items to CONA to sell.

Dianna Ewing, President



### TOMMY'S TREE SERVICE

We specialize in tree removal, tree trimming, and lot clean-ups. Free estimates. Insured. Call Tommy at 301-2370.



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"Thank you so much!"

"Thank you so much!"



If you live, work, or do business in our neighborhood, place your ad here!

A business-card size ad only costs 10.00 an issue.

We do four issues a year: March, June, September, and December.

Deadlines are the 15<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month.

Contact either of the newsletter coordinators Kathy or Kathey.



## NEICHBORHOOD CARACE SALE!

Saturday, June 16
Donate items to CONA
or hold your own sale.
Let's make this an annual event!