

SPNA
SUGGS PARK
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

December 2005 Newsletter



May your home be filled with the warmth
and spirit of this special Holiday Season ~

From SPNA

Mike Truel, Acting President Contact:
mjtruel@sbcglobal.net or call 840-2840.

Pat Miller, Vice President 842-6727

Shirley Bray, Contributor/Website

K. Van Buren, Production – 463-0405

And all our wonderful SPNA BLOCK CAPTAINS!

DECEMBER HOLIDAY GATHERING

~ in lieu of December monthly meeting ~

Everyone welcome. Bring your favorite "Yummo"
Treats and meet your neighbors at our annual quick
and casual get together. Hot water will be provided
for coffee and tea, etc.

If you would like to announce or talk about a
service or product you represent, just let us know
and bring your materials so we can announce you
at our monthly meetings.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

~ **New Neighbors!** A warm welcome to our
wonderful neighborhood ~ Block captains are
asked and encouraged to knock on your
door if you are new to the neighborhood
and introduce our association. We would
love to have your names and telephone
numbers to add to our telephone list so that
we can be of service and support.

~ **Volunteers** are welcome for all sorts of
spots. Interested in learning more about
the workings of associations? Just give me
a call.

~ We extend our sincerest condolences to
our neighbor, Mrs. Billie Doling, for the loss
of her grandson - Corporal Jeffry Alan
Rogers, USMC, 21, of Yukon, Oklahoma
who died Nov. 16, 2005 while conducting
combat operations against enemy forces
during Operation Steel Curtain in Ubaydi,
Iraq. We are grateful for this young man's
service to our nation. A wonderful
memoriam was written and published in the
Oklahoman on Nov. 22, for more
information.

~ **Meeting Minutes:**

Date: November 14, 2005

Location: James Monroe Elementary School
Acting President, Mike Truel, called the meeting
to order at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was opened
with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Minutes were published in the newsletter
and were not read. The minutes were accepted
as published in the newsletter.

The Treasurer's report was not read.

Vickie Sheen, PTA President, thanked the

Neighborhood Association for our financial contributions and reported they were trying to raise money to put new asphalt under the basketball goals on the playground.

Our December meeting will be an informal party. Bring your favorite snacks!!

35 members were in attendance. Door prizes were given and the meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Wendy Fox
SPNA Secretary

SPNA WEBSITE NEWS:

By Shirley Bray[sbrayokc1@netzero.com]
SPNA Web News

Welcome to the online world of SPNA! Have you visited the web site yet? It's jam packed full of special links, community and security information, a great message board, photos and best of all.....FREE web space for your very own web page!

December's the month for great fun in the Metro.....check out the Happy Holiday link to see what's happening around town. Did you hear about the FREE boat rides in Bricktown? We'll tell you when and where! And.....how about telling all your friends to look at your home online! The Holiday Homes photo album link will showcase only homes in Suggs Park. Come join the online fun! Visit us at:

<http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/okc/suggspark/>.

Happy Holidays from SPNA
Web Coordinators & Reporters

GENERAL INFORMATION:

~ SMITTY PARK – Bronnel “Smitty” C. Smith was a good neighbor and his teachings, love and

understanding and the need for helping others will live forever among us through this beautiful park that is continuing to grow and evolve through the volunteer efforts of many neighbors. On June 7, 1964, this park was dedicated and gifted to our neighborhood. How fitting that we should remember, use and enjoy this park that represents a living reminder to all of us to give a helping hand when needed. A small watercolor of a part of the park will be donated as a door prize at the December meeting.

~ PAWS FOR THOUGHT K9 OBEDIENCE TRAINING: By Laura Knight

Important Community Dog Tips:

Dogs are a valuable part of our lives. They protect us, guide the blind, search for missing, hear for the deaf, comfort the sick. Most of all they provide companionship. So don't forget Fido as the weather gets cold! If your dog spends lots of time outside during the winter months remember to provide some doggy essentials. A warm, weather proof shelter out of the wind, rain and sun. Fresh water protected from freezing – check the bowl hasn't been knocked over - daily. Enough food to provide energy to cope with the cold is essential too. Don't forget, your social creature needs companionship, so make time to play and exercise for happy, healthy dog. Lots of dogs seem to disappear when the meter readers are about, so take the time to make sure your dog is secure behind a locked fence and always have your dog sport a collar and tags just in case. To be extra safe, get your dogs, and cats, microchipped. It's cheap and quick, but invaluable. *The best dog is the dog you already have. Don't let them become forgotten sitting in your back yard.*

.....

~ “PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE BY RED SKELTON”

Red Skelton tells the story of his teacher, Mr. Laswell, who explained the meaning of the Pledge of Allegiance, word by word:

“I’ve been listening to you boys and girls recite the Pledge of Allegiance all semester and it seems as though it is becoming monotonous to you. If I may, may I recite it and try to explain to you the meaning of each word?”

I— me, an individual, a committee of one...

Pledge – dedicate all of my worldly goods to give without self pity...

Allegiance – my love and my devotion...

To the flag – our standard, Old Glory, a symbol of freedom. Wherever she waves, there’s respect because your loyalty has given her a dignity that shouts freedom is everybody’s job!...

Of the United – that means that we have all come together...

States of America – individual communities that have united into 48 great states. Forty-eight individual communities with pride and dignity and purpose; all divided with imaginary boundaries, yet united to a common purpose, and that’s love for country...

And to the republic – a state in which sovereign power is invested in representatives chosen by the people to govern. And government is the people and it’s from the people to the leaders, not from the leaders to the people...

For which it stands - one nation – one nation, meaning “so blessed by God”...

Indivisible – incapable of being divided...

With liberty – which is freedom; the right of power to live one’s own life without threats, fear or some sort of retaliation...

And Justice – the principle or quality of dealing fairly with others...

For all – which means, boys and girls, it’s as much your country as it is mine.

*Since I (Red Skelton) was a small boy, two states have been added to our country and two words have been added to the Pledge of Allegiance
...UNDER GOD.*

Wouldn’t it be a pity if someone said that is a prayer and that would be eliminated from schools too?”

- Red Skelton, Actor, Painter, Clown, U.S. Citizen and Humanitarian

The SPNA Newsletter is published from September to May by the association with the help of volunteers.

Please let us know if you have any questions or contributions to make to the newsletter by contacting us at: 405.463-0405, krisvb@cox.net

RECIPE OF THE MONTH: “TACO SOUP”

Ingredients:

2 pounds low fat ground beef

1 med/large onion, chopped

1 teaspoon salt

1/2 teaspoon black pepper

3 Medium sized cans Mexican style stewed tomatoes

2 Med. can pinto beans

1 Med. can of red kidney beans

1 Med. can whole kernel corn

2 Med. cans of white hominy

1 can of black beans

1 envelope taco seasoning mix

1 envelope Ranch dressing mix

2 cups water (more for more juice)

Directions:

Brown beef with onions, Ranch dressing and taco seasoning powder . Place meat and onions in large soup pot, add tomatoes, beans plus liquid, corn, and water. Bring to a boil, then simmer about 45 minutes.

Also delicious served over steamed rice and can be used as a leftover filler for Burritos!

GARDENING: Pat Miller can use some help planting bulbs around the Smitty Park sign. Just give her a call if you would enjoy helping out.

BE-AWARE: Recently there have been some home burglaries in our neighborhood. The police remind us to tell you that leaving your front door and garage doors unlocked or open is an open invitation to be robbed! Please be on watch and notice if your neighbor has forgotten to lower their garage door.

America's most dangerous drug, "METH", is one of the chief motivations for burglaries. It creates a potent, long lasting high – until the user crashes. It has quietly marched across neighborhoods in our country and up the socioeconomic ladder, leaving a wreckage in its wake. The crystalline white drug quickly seduces those who snort, smoke or inject it with a euphoric rush of confidence, hyperalertness that lasts for hours on end. And then it starts destroying lives.

Here's where it is important to realize what's going on around you. (Look in your medicine cabinets and notice if you have any over-the-counter cold pills or medication containing "PSEUDOEPHEDRINE" which is the key ingredient used in making Meth.) Nicknames reflect the demographics of its users: Biker's coffee, Chicken Feed, Crystal, Ice, Stovetop, Tina and more to be thought of.

"Smurfing" - cooks of METH call it - is when they go from store to store buying and stealing Sudafed and other pseudoephedrine-based drugs. Well guess what – because of new laws in our state they can't get these drugs so easily and have been forced to looking in YOUR medicine cabinets – literally!

The police will tell you that 58% of police cite Meth as their biggest drug problem. Domestic violence – 62%, simple assault- 52%, Robbery/burglary – 70% and Identity theft – 27% are some of the numbers of given by county law enforcement officials that show key reasons for Meth related crime.

Being alert and aware of your surroundings and what is going on in your neighborhood is the key element mentioned by the police toward helping stop this enemy from invading our lives.

Please contact us if you would like to submit an article for the newsletter or if you have questions about any of the newsletter articles.

SPNA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION:

DATE: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

ANNUAL "SPNA" MEMBERSHIP: \$10.00

You may give your check to an officer at the monthly association meeting or,

MAIL CHECKS TO:
BARRY WATSON, SPNA TREASURER
2522 N.W. 46TH Street
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112