

W I N T E R 2 0 1 1

the

Briarwood Home Page

Happy New Year

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Please contact Carolyn Gish at
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for any news or input into the
newsletter.

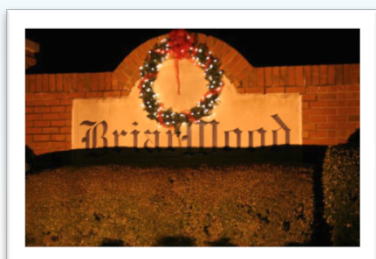


Briarwood Yard of the Month

Congratulations to Mrs. Hazel Hall, her son Rich Hall and her grandson Jay, 6811 Briarfield Lane, for winning the December Briarwood Yard of the Month for their marvelous display of lights and decorations. Thanks for all your hard work!

Our Beautification Committee had many decorated lawns and houses to choose from in their search for a December Yard of the Month.

Thank you



Thank you to John and Missy Street for creating and hanging our attractive lighted wreaths for Briarwood! We all very much enjoyed the inviting decorations at the Briarwood entrance.

A Word From the President ...

"It's a beautiful day in this neighborhood, a beautiful day for a neighbor. Would you be mine? Could you be mine? Won't you be my neighbor?"

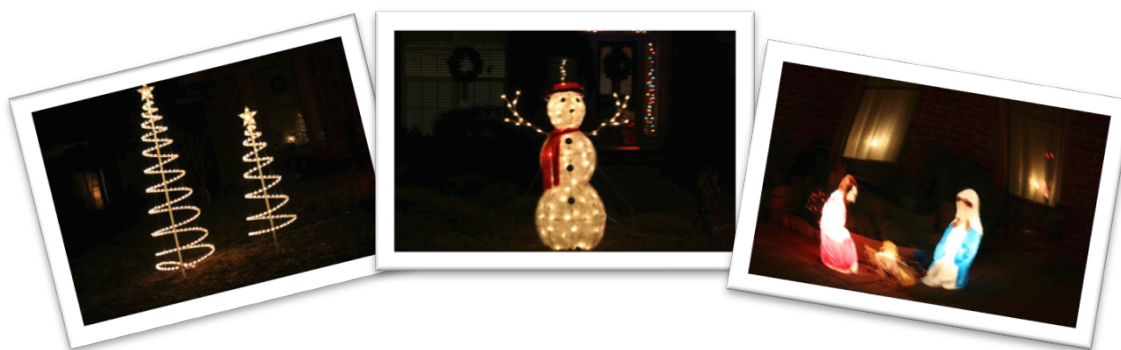
Mr. Rogers

Sounds a little hokey, doesn't it? But how many times have you or your children heard and recited Mr. Rogers, "It's a beautiful day in the neighborhood...won't you be my neighbor?"? Marti and I have always tried to make new neighbors around us feel welcome. She usually bakes a batch of chocolate brownies and we take them over and introduce ourselves. We don't have a lot of turnover on our street so the occasion doesn't come up very often. But, it's just as much a treat for us to deliver them, especially when they have little children around, as it is for the folks receiving them. Not long ago one of our homeowners went the extra mile in welcoming their new neighbor by inviting them to dinner! I thought this was the neatest thing a new neighbor could have happen to them and applaud this Briarwood couple for being such nice neighbors. Talk about feeling welcome!

Briarwood received the nicest compliment during Charlene Kraft's open house last month when a couple and their teenage daughter commented to me how much they wished their neighborhood in Lakeland could be like ours. Where they lived they did not have a homeowners association, they did not know their neighbors and they very seldom even waved to each other.

I've heard many stories of neighborhoods where the extent of knowing who lives next door doesn't amount to much more than an occasional wave to each other every once in a while. And this goes on for years. We've had instances where people have had serious injury or illness, have died, children graduated, gotten married, etc., and in many cases it all goes unnoticed. "If I only knew", or "I wish I had known" is what you hear a lot. Let's not let that be the case in Briarwood. Marti and I have met some really nice people since we moved to Briarwood and some have become our best friends over the years. Get to know your neighbors, be a friend, and make this and everyday a beautiful day in this neighborhood.

Vernon Tabor
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Get to Know Your Neighbors...

Meet ... Charlene Kraft.

Charlene is a delightful lady who lives at 3200 Briarfield Cove. She works at GTx (a medical research company) as Administrative Services Manager. Charlene loves her job and all the people she interacts with in her position. She has a son who lives in Nashville, TN and works as a Journeyman Carpenter. She has a daughter who is a nurse and lives in Memphis.

Charlene has a spirited imagination, which comes alive as she decorates her house and invites guests – especially at

Christmas time! If you missed her open house on December 19th then you missed great food, wonderful decorations, **and stories of fairies that come alive and play... (shhhh)....**



December Briarwood Dining Out



Everyone who attended our Briarwood Dining Out December 14th at Fox Ridge Pizza had a great time and enjoyed the food! We had some neighbors who are longtime residents of Briarwood and some new neighbors but good fun was had by all! Don't miss out on the next Briarwood Dining Out to meet neighbors and make friends in your neighborhood.



Cheese Fondue

(Recipe donated by Beth Brenton)

1 can Cheddar Cheese Soup
1 cup French Onion Dip
1 cup shredded Sharp Cheddar Cheese
½ tsp. Dry mustard
2 dashes cayenne pepper
(Double if needed)

Put all ingredients in small Crockpot or pot on stove. Heat on low to medium until warm. Serve with cubes of French bread.

Briarwood News

Do we have any Babysitters?

Please contact Beth Brenton at 937-1929 if you are interested in babysitting. She has a 5 year old and a 9 year old and would like to have a neighborhood babysitter she can call on to keep her children.

Roof Rats Anyone?

By Colette Stobbe

Several neighbors have been bothered with these pests. There are apparently 2 different kinds of these animals – Norway rats and Roof rats. Roof rats, just like squirrels and raccoons, can scale most surfaces and may gain access by climbing up brick, stucco or wood siding. Roof Rats may also enter a home by finding an entry closer to the ground level. If a homeowner does not find an opening in the attic/roof area start checking lower to the ground level of your home. Recommended solutions for do-it-yourselfers:

- 1.) Tomcat's Block Baits (<http://tomcatbrand.com/product/6-ultra-1-oz-block-bait>)
- 2.) Tomcat's brand rat glue traps (<http://tomcatbrand.com/product/15-rat-glue-traps>)

Tip: Wal-Mart prices are cheaper than Lowes for these Rodent products.

Here is a site with good common sense about how to deal with roof rats:

<http://www.roof-rat-control.com/rat-control>

Budget News

JANUARY 7, 2011 BRIARWOOD HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL REPORT
SUBMITTED BY GLORIA OWENS, TREASURER

BALANCE ON 10/01/10-----	\$ 3,876.14
DEPOSITS (10/01/10 THRU 12/31/10) -----	1,277.00
TOTAL -----	5,153.14
EXPENSES PAID 10/01/10 THRU 12/31/10	
RELIABLE LAWN SERVICE-----	600.00
PRINTING (NEWSLETTERS) -----	58.78
MLG&W (ESTIMATED PAYMENTS FOR ONE YEAR) -----	713.01
CITY OF BARTLETT (WATER) -----	41.64
RONNIE COOK (FRONT ENTRY ELECTRICAL WORK) -----	1300.00
RETURNED DUES CHECK PLUS \$7.00 (MADE GOOD) -----	47.00
TOTAL EXPENSES 10/01/10 THRU 12/31/10-----	(\$ 2,760.43)
BALANCE 12/31/10-----	\$ 2,392.71

Estimated EXPENDITURES THROUGH 9/30/11

RELIABLE LAWN SVC-----	\$ 1800.00
SPRINKLER SYSTEM-----	400.00
PLANTS FOR ENTRY -----	150.00
CITY OF BARTLETT (WATER) -----	200.00
PRINTING & SUPPLIES -----	60.00
TOTAL Estimated Expenditures -----	(\$ 2610.00)
Estimated Total BALANCE -----	(\$ 217.29)

NOTE: IF ALL ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES ARE UTILIZED, THERE WILL BE A SHORTAGE OF \$ 217.29. ALSO, DUES COLLECTED IN SEPTEMBER 2010 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3090.00 ARE INCLUDED IN THE ACTUAL BALANCE ON HAND 10/01/10.

96 FAMILIES HAVE PAID THEIR DUES FOR 10/01/10 THROUGH 9/30/11.