

The Meadow Buzz

The Meadows Neighborhood Association Newsletter

Letter from the President - John Baker

I hope this finds you enjoying spring weather and the freshness that this season brings to us. We have several activities & opportunities this year, please review, The Meadow Buzz and visit us at www.themeadowsna.org. Click on "Contact Us if you have a topic or have interest you'd like to see or call any Board Member for assistance.

Our Annual General Meeting will be on Sunday May 2, 2004. This is a great opportunity to socialize and meet your neighbors. Activities will be planned for the kids. Following our social, we will have our Business meeting and election of officers and committee members.

Wishing you a most pleasant spring season,

John Baker

Sign Toppers – Keith Kinney

When the sign topper project was introduced at last September's neighborhood meeting, some of you expressed an interest to purchase a topper for your street. The signs should cost about \$100 each to fabricate and install and you will get your chance to sign up to sponsor your sign at the next meeting. We have not received any designs for signs yet - so if you want to submit one, now is the time. Sign dimensions cannot be larger than 24" x 9". Send your designs to: Keith Kinney, 7116 Blairview Dr., Dallas 75230 or kkinney1@oncorgroup.com

Spring Plant Sale

Get your beds ready and plan to order your spring/summer annuals from The Meadows 2nd annual spring plant sale. Order forms will be distributed on or about April 3. Bedding plants will be delivered to your door on April 24. If you would like to order plants and can't or don't want to plant them yourself, let us know and we will put you in contact with a local landscaper to do the job for you.

Volunteers are welcome to join the sorting and delivery of flats of annuals on the 24th between 10 and noon. It's not a hard job and you will get to know some of your neighbors. Let us know if you are willing to assist. 214-987-3748 or kkinney1@oncorgroup.com

Spring Plant Sale

The City of Dallas mows the strip of land between the wall and sidewalk on Walnut Hill but little else is done to make it more presentable. The Meadows Beautification Committee has a spring project to pick up the trash and clean up the edge next to the wall. But we need your help, please. On Saturday, April 24 at 2 pm (note that this is the same day as the Plant Sale) we need willing bodies with ordinary tools (hoes, brooms, flat blade shovels, etc., & trash bags) to join in the effort to clean this area. In the event of rain, we will reschedule for Saturday, May 1. If you would like to help, please contact Mark Backofen @ 214-360-0812, mbackofen@lockeliddell.com, or Keith Kinney @ 214-987-3748, kkinney1@oncorgroup.com

**THE MEADOWS
ANNUAL
MEETING**

Mark the date!!

The Meadows Neighborhood Association will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 2 at the ball field at the corner of Airline and Aberdeen. All neighbors are welcome. This is a great opportunity to socialize and meet your neighbors.

Children are definitely welcome. We'll have some activities planned for them. Following our socializing, we will have our business meeting to elect Board Members (see the related article in this edition of the Buzz to learn how to nominate a prospective Board member). We'll also be welcoming neighbors who would like to volunteer to serve on a committee.

Plan to come out and join the fun!

Real Estate Report - Bobbie Horwitz

Interest rates have returned to the low levels that made mortgage brokers and buyers smile, and buyers are beginning to take advantage of their good luck. In The Meadows, we have seen two homes sell this month with an average sales price of \$92.49 per square foot, one go under option and one expire. There are currently nine for sale with at least three more about to go on the market. Resistance to purchase in our neighborhood still exists. I had an opportunity to experience this week continuing concern by buyers about the financial and safety effects of being sandwiched between the schools and the apartments and the uncertainty of what will happen to the large tract of land at Walnut Hill Lane and Central Expressway. A quick and positive resolution of the latter should remove the latter as an issue. That remains to be seen.

Dallas Homeowners Association Meeting – Judy Evans

"The Dallas Homeowner's League is the oldest citywide neighborhood network in Texas. Since 1968, it has provided a means for groups to work together to develop positions, proposals, processes and projects that improve the integrity, the strength and the voice of neighborhoods citywide". –Dallas Homeowner's Association Website

Five members of TMNA - John Baker, Mark Backofen, Judy Evans, Charles McFarland, and Joe Williams - attended the 2/25/04 meeting of the DHL. The topic was "Land Use in Dallas Neighborhoods". This was superb timing for our Meadows neighborhood, considering the 2/18/04 article in the Dallas Morning News regarding possible redevelopment of the NW corner of Walnut Hill and Central Expressway. This 42-acre site is currently occupied by an 866 unit apartment complex and a small retail area.

The scheduled speaker was Theresa O'Donnell, Director of City of Dallas Department of Development Services who was to provide an overview of her how her department can serve neighborhood needs in the following areas: zoning or platting requests, building permits, creating a planned development district, understanding the Development Code.

Although Ms. O'Donnell was unable to attend due to the fact that the City Council was still in session into the evening, quick thinking and action on the part of the Board of Directors of DHL provided an informed and lively panel for the audience. The last minute panel consisted of a Plan Commissioner, a member of the Board of Adjustments, a ZOAC committee member, and a very active member in a Neighborhood Association that has faced many development challenges. They provided a great deal help in understanding how to effectively use the resources available to city residents faced with possible change in their neighborhood.

Contributions for the Brick Border Wall – Joe Williams

As you know (or if you're new to the neighborhood you don't know), in 2001 the brick wall separating The Meadows from Walnut Hill Lane was in very bad shape. With the help of neighborhood volunteers and donations, the wall was successfully repaired. A resident fronted the money for the cost of repairs in the amount of \$10,016. So far, neighborhood donations have reimbursed that resident \$6,160 of that amount. We're hoping, with your help, that three years later we can finally reimburse this resident in full.

If you would like to make a special contribution covering the costs of the brick wall repairs, please send your donation to the address below and designate such on the memo portion of your check.

Dues to The Meadows are strictly voluntary but are necessary for the association to function. An annual donation of \$25 or some other amount can be sent to the PO Box, 12858 Dallas, TX 75225-0858 or given to a Board Member.

Two Thumbs Up! Beautification Awards – Keith Kinney

You may have seen the new Meadows *Two Thumbs Up* signs in the neighborhood in the past few months. We began a program in December to recognize a home in the neighborhood each month that exemplifies excellence in landscape plantings and grooming and an overall appearance pleasing to those who pass by. Most of us try to maintain our properties so that both neighbors and visitors enjoy seeing the efforts that are spent on them. Maybe, just maybe, this will encourage others to do the same.

Since December, the Beautification Committee has selected the following homes for the Two Thumbs Up! honor.



The home of Carlos & Luz Navarro
7207 Lakehurst.



The home of Jane Wasoff and Don Kennedy
7237 Blairview



The home of Keith & Catherine Edmond
9710 Boedecker

Two Thumbs Up to the inaugural winners.
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Election Process – Cyndy Haynes

Interested in getting more involved in your neighborhood or know someone who would make a great board member or committee member? The Meadows Neighborhood Association will be holding elections in May. Consider becoming an active participant. Here's how:

1. If you'd like to become a Board member, please submit your name to one of our Block Captains or one of the current Board members, and include in that submission the office you'd like to hold, a short statement as to why you'd like to serve, and any other information you think might be of interest, such as relevant experience, skills or talents (as you can tell from the current Board members, no special skills are required!). We'd like to have these self-nominations as soon as possible, so we can prepare a ballot for the annual meeting on May 2.
2. If you want to nominate someone else to serve as a Board member, please check first with that person to make sure he or she is willing to serve. If you can coax them into it, just have them submit the same information listed in the section above.
3. If you're interested in serving on a committee, just stop by the registration desk that will be set up at the annual meeting. We have a Beautification Committee, a Social Committee, a Civic Affairs Committee, a Membership Committee, a Crime Prevention Committee and a Communications Committee. Some of the committees are more organized and active than others, but we'd love your help with any of them.

Catch up on all of the latest Meadow's news by logging onto TMNA Website. Don't forget to add your name to the email distribution list for even faster news.

www.themeadowsna.org

Welcome to The Meadows Neighborhood Association

The Meadows Neighborhood Association (TMNA) Board of Directors welcomes you to your new home and The Meadows. We hope that you will have a successful move.

While membership in our Homeowner's Association is voluntary, suggested dues are \$25. We invite you to join the association (TMNA) to support your new community; you are invited to attend our general meetings and will receive the quarterly TMNA newsletter, The Meadow Buzz. Please visit our website www.themeadowsna.org for an application. You can also click on [Membership](#) for information on the Membership, you can print out and mail it us.

Again, welcome to The Meadows. Please email us or call with any questions about your new community. Because TMNA is a voluntary organization, we need the support of every resident to preserve and protect the amenities of this beautiful and unique development. We sincerely hope you will support these efforts with your membership.

The Meadows Board

President :: John Baker :: 214.549.0622 :: johnbaker@swbell.net

Vice President :: Cindy Haynes :: 214.373.0707 :: chaynes2@swbellnet

Treasurer :: Joe Williams :: 214.369.2306 :: joewilly1@msn.com

Secretary :: Sandy Cohen :: 214.363.6873 :: sandycohen@swbell.net

Member at Large :: Judy Evans :: 214.739.9016 :: Jbevans0808@aol.com

Member at Large :: Barbara Horwitz :: 214.696.4316 :: bhorwitz@airmail.net

Committee Contacts

Beautification Committee :: Keith Kinney :: 214.987.3748 :: kkinney1@oncorgroup.com

Event Committee :: Doris Tomlin :: 214.987.1828 :: dtomlin@peoplepc.com

Membership Committee :: Cyndy Haynes :: 214.373.0707 :: chaynes2@swbell.net

Crime Watch Committee :: Barbara Horwitz :: 214.696.4316 :: bhorwitz@airmail.net

Webmaster :: Mark Backofen :: 214.360.0812 :: mbackofen@lockeliddell.com

Civic Affairs Committee :: Judy Evans :: 214.739.9016 :: Jbevans0808@aol.com

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