

# Message from the President



BRIARCREEK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

BRIARCREEK BANTER



*By Dan Orza •  
BNA President*

On September 15th, our neighborhood joined with communities around the country for **National Night Out: America's Night Out Against Crime**.

The event has been held every year since 1984 and is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch in the United States and Canada.

The event is meant to increase awareness about police programs in communities, such as drug prevention, town watch, Neighborhood Watch, and other anti-crime efforts.

Many communities hold block parties, festivals, and other events to help bring neighbors together. This year we participated and had a fantastic ICE CREAM PARTY. Many Briarcreek residents came out that evening and enjoyed banana splits. *\*Note: A big thank you to our great friends at CREST FOODS who pro-*

*vided all the ice cream and fixings.*

Not only did we have Briarcreek residents attend our Ice Cream Party, but we were excited to have Oklahoma City Councilman Gary Marrs, Senate candidate, David Holt, and the dedicated firefighters from our two local fire departments. David Bishop from the Neighborhood Alliance also dropped by and awarded Briarcreek with a certificate of appreciation for participating in National Night Out. It was a fun evening full of friendly neighbors, music, banana splits and three enormous fire engines! Everyone had a great time. If you missed it, we have pictures on the Briarcreek website at [www.neighborhoodlink.com/okc/briarcreek](http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/okc/briarcreek).

On Monday, September 14th, we held our annual Briarcreek Neighborhood Association meeting at Wiley Post Elementary. The annual meeting is when we elect BNA Board members. According to your votes, the present officers will remain

in position for another term. They are Dan Orza President, Susie Brown Vice-President, Jana Ross Secretary and Robert Ross Treasurer.

Committee Chairs are: Joyce Heidelberger - Compliance Committee, Kelli Moore - Welcome Committee, and Susie Brown will lead the Landscape Committee while looking for a Chairperson.

Our current project is lighting the Briarcreek entrances along with the ongoing task of entrance plantings and maintaining the new plants along the Rockwell wall.

We are exploring a Special Fall / Halloween Yard-of-the-Month and maybe a neighborhood Halloween Party at the end of October. We'll keep you posted.

We are also discussing a Holiday charity event and a special Christmas decoration Yard-of-the-Month in December.

So, watch for future announcements.



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# The Treasurer's Report

By Robert Ross • Treasurer

## Happy Halloween and Happy Fall!

The 2009-2010 Briarcreek neighborhood dues statements were mailed in September for the fiscal year that runs from September 2009 to August 31, 2010.

Everyone should have received a Statement in your mailbox last month. So, if you did not receive yours, please contact Susie Brown (susanbrown@sbcglobal.net or 728-1084) and she will print one off for you.

We've had a great response so far

and several people have made additional contributions above the \$50.00. Thank you!!

We used the US Post Office's bulk mail rates so the mailing only cost the neighbor association about \$50.00. The intent in mailing out your dues statement was to reach every home in the neighborhood and make it easier for everyone to pay their dues. We included a return-addressed envelope, a personal information questionnaire and a flyer about the National Night Out Ice Cream Party (*that was held on September 15th*).

If you have already mailed in or dropped off your questionnaire and annual dues - THANK YOU!

If you didn't receive a 2009/2010 Annual Dues Statement, have misplaced it, or the dog ate it let us know. It is no problem to print you a new one. Of course, you can always drop off your dues (*make check out the Briarcreek Neighborhood Association*) with me. My address is: 6604 NW 94th Street, but if you didn't receive a statement in the mail it means that our database information is outdated. If you let us know it will help us keep our information current.

# News From The Landscape Committee

By Susan Brown

If you haven't driven Rockwell lately, you should. The Pampas Grasses are blooming beautiful fluffy plumes! We enjoyed the beautiful blooms of the Crepe Myrtles all summer, but I didn't know if the grasses would produce blooms this first year, so what a treat.

When making our plant choices for the Rockwell perimeter, we tried to use plants that bloomed and pro-

vided interest for each season of the year. The Crepes Myrtles will bloom all summer, the Pampas Grasses in the fall and the Nellie Stevens Hollies will have dark green foliage with bright red berries throughout the winter. The Gray Owl Junipers will also stay green during the winter.

Some of the plants in the entrance beds need some time to grow and fill in, but they also need some work and additional plants to look their best.

That is why we still need someone to chair the landscape committee.

Many of us on the BNA Board wear multiple hats, but we can only do so much. Please think about volunteering. We are working on proposals for lighting the entrance signs and have plenty of fun landscape projects that need someone to coordinate them. **So please let us know if you can help with this committee.**

## 2009-2010 BNA BOARD & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### PRESIDENT

Dan Orza - 326-1124  
dano9731@att.net

### VICE-PRESIDENT

Susan Brown - 728-1084  
susanbrown@sbcglobal.net

### SECRETARY

Jana Ross - 470-1120  
jr4boys@cox.net

### TREASURER

Robert Ross - 470-1120  
jr4boys@cox.net

### LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE

V A C A N T  
need volunteer

### WELCOMING COMMITTEE

Kelli Moore - 728-2829  
envoyxl@sbcglobal.net

### COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

Joyce Heidelberger - 603-4349  
joyce.heidelberger@att.net

### NEWSLETTER

Susie Brown - 728-1084  
susanbrown@sbcglobal.net

## News From The Neighborhood

*By Kelli Moore •  
Welcoming Committee Chair*

Welcome to our new Briarcreek neighbors Jon and Andrea Brightbill (9713 Lakeland Road). According to block captain, Susan Grandle, "they are a wonderful couple!" Their house hunting story is interesting and worth sharing. Apparently, Jon and Andrea, while serving in Iraq and Afghanistan researched the neighborhood and bought the house online! We are certainly glad they did and we welcome them to our wonderful community.

We also welcome the Needham family who bought the house at 9708 Lakeland Terrace. They are Tisha

Tate, her husband John Needham their son Ian Needham, who is 14 years old. They have two dogs: Houdini and Rudy, and a cat named Ozzy.

"We are thrilled to have found Briarcreek," Tish said. "We moved from Edgewater Park (*just a few miles away*). I work at St. Luke's United Methodist Church and John works at Integris Baptist Medical Center. We love Briarcreek, I have been walking some early mornings and it is just so pleasant here."

If you attended the BNA Annual Meeting or the BNA Ice Cream party, then you met another of our new families - Emily and Kent Hathaway and their adorable baby,

Anya. Emily and Kent bought the house at 6900 Briarcreek Drive. Emily is a Speech-Language Pathologist and Kent is an Art Teacher.

If you recognize the name, Anya, it is because she is named after a famous gymnast. "I was a gymnast and still stay current with the sport," Emily explained.

We will all have to watch little Anya to see if we have a future Olympic champion in the neighborhood.

*If you are new to the neighborhood and have not received your Welcome Basket, please let me know. Also, if anyone has articles or local news for the neighborhood news section, please call or email me.*

## Get Together - Get Connected in Briarcreek

Briarcreek has two new neighborhood groups starting up. The **MOMs Club** and **Briarcreek Bunco**.

The mission of the MOMS Club, which stands for *Moms Offering Moms*, is to provide:

- Support
- Playgroups
- Fun Weekly Activities
- Moms Night Out

If you are interested in joining the **MOMs Club**, contact Heather Whiteman at [htdwhitman@cox.net](mailto:htdwhitman@cox.net) or 651-1166.

**Briarcreek Bunco** is looking for ladies who want to join in a Neighborhood Bunco Night Out. We need at least twelve ladies to play

Bunco once a month. It is easy to play and is a great opportunity to meet people in the neighborhood, win prizes and have a great time. Each participant will take turns hosting once a year. If interested, contact Heather at [htdwhitman@cox.net](mailto:htdwhitman@cox.net) or 651-1166.

**What is Bunco?** It is a game played with dice, but really Bunco is a social event. It's a party. It's a blast!

Twelve ladies get together once a month, leaving the cares and worries behind. We are allowed to fall off our diets, snacking on M&Ms, Chex-Mix, or anything else that the hostess decides. Each hostess can have munchies, appetizers, a delicious dinner, or wonderful desserts. We will drink our favorite spritzer, Chardonnay, or Drink-of-the-night, and we talk. We talk about our kids,

about the neighbors, about anyone who didn't show up - about our husbands, our jobs, their jobs, the builder in our community, TV shows, current events, and anything else that might tickle our fancy. We take turns as the Bunco hostess, providing snacks, refreshments and the tables to set up the games.

The object of the game is to roll the dice and accumulate points. The winners get prizes (provided by the hostess or pooled from the club resources) for accomplishments such as the highest score, the lowest score, or the most buncos.

Don't worry, if you don't know how to play, it's easy and I can teach you. If you are interested, please contact me. It will be fun!

# Briarcreek Resident Writes a Book

We have a published author in the neighborhood! If you live on Newman Drive, you may already know Carolyn Leonard - your block captain. Carolyn and her husband, Jon Heavener, live at 6812 Newman Drive and are active in neighborhood committees and activities.

Carolyn's new book is titled **Who's Your Daddy? A Guide to Genealogy from Start to Finish**.

When asked why she wrote the book,

Carolyn said, "The book is a result of thirty years of adventure; tiptoeing through tombstones with a camera, a notebook and a pencil. I learned

about how to do this the hard way so I wanted to help other people find the easy road to discovering their family's place in history."

Jon and Carolyn both enjoy the genealogy and volunteer their time as board members of the Oklahoma Genealogical Society where Jon is sales manager and Carolyn serves as publicity director.

"Our group meets at the Oklahoma History Center (across from the state capitol) the first Monday of

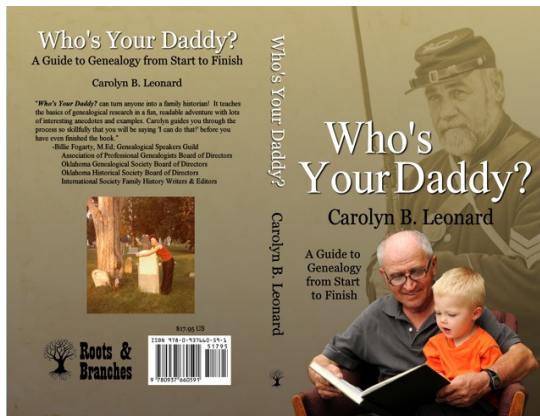
the month. Visitors are always welcome," she said.

She and Jon are active in writers associations. Carolyn serves on the

Writers Federation board and is an officer in Daughters of American Revolution.

With this book, Carolyn has combined her two great loves. She researched genealogy long before it became popular, and has loved writing all of her adult life. She has worked as editor of a rural newspaper and is currently a commissioned writer for "Persimmon Hill," the magazine of the National Cowboy and Western Heritage center.

The book includes information on identifying gravestone icons, appreciating cemetery art, keeping track of your ancestors and descendants, visiting ancestral locations, travel, courthouse research, Internet assistance, organizing your stuff and how to publish. The book is available from [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com), [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com), or [www.whosyourdaddybook.com](http://www.whosyourdaddybook.com).



# Yard of the Month Winners

These are the Yard of the Month winners for July and August. Runner-up photos are on the Briarcreek website.

If you would like to submit a yard for this award, call or email Dan Orza.



**JULY WINNER**

*Jeff & Marsha Napoliello - 6515 NW 97th*



**AUGUST WINNER**

*9721 Lakeland Rd - Susan & Gary Grandle*

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