

Spring, 2023



FOREST OAKS HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION

Newsletter



Your dues maintain this beautiful entry area, as well as mowing, salting & sanding.

Thank You!

President's Message Spring 2023

Dear Neighbors,

Great News! We have reached out to the Mayor of Edmond to join us at our Spring Forest Oaks Homeowners' Association meeting, and he has accepted our invitation to attend. We hope you can plan to be present at the meeting and listen to our city leadership discuss the future of our city and also ask questions you may have.

Change is good! As with the sea-

sons changing from one to another restoring and refreshing life, organizational change is a good thing, too. Turnover of officer positions brings new ideas, fresh perspective, and a new energy. As we move on in this new year, your HOA Board finds itself in the midst of change. We have two positions that will be open for election in October this year and we would like to invite you, our neighbors, to consider filling one of those positions. Other positions available are individual committee chairs, which operate as needed during the year. If you have questions or are interested in

one of the positions below, feel free to reach out to the current board and we will answer any inquiries you have.

President

Treasurer

Yard of the Month

Sincerely,

Stephen Schexnayder

President, Forest Oaks HOA

Homeowners' Meeting on February 27th at 6:30 p.m.

Mark your calendars for Monday, February 27th, at 6:30 PM. The meeting will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Miles Hall at 1812 Rosedale Dr. **Please plan to come around 6:15** to be able to start the meeting on time.

We have invited our Mayor, Darrell Davis, to attend this meeting and give us an update on the goings on in the city of Edmond. He has a prior engagement, so he will join us toward the end of our meeting.

All residents are encouraged to attend, whether you have paid FOHOA dues or not. Members are those who have paid 2023 dues and are entitled to vote on agenda items. This is a great chance to meet neighbors and hear about neighborhood issues.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss updates on projects such as street lighting, and the entry area maintenance, and discuss vacancies on the board. The agenda is on the following

page. We look forward to your input.

Minutes from the previous meeting on October 20, 2022 are on the website for your review: fohoa.com

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Your Vote Matters!

Vote on April 8th

You can make a difference.

Forest Oaks Homeowners' Association

February 27, 2023

Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of Minutes
- III. Treasurer's Report
 - A. Audit & Report of 2022 Finances
 - B. 2023 Expense Summary
- IV. Special Committee Reports
 - A. Officer-at-Large
 - B. Streetlights
 - C.. Landscape
 - E. Volunteers Needed
- V. Unfinished Business
 - A. Follow-up to Previous Meeting Questions
 - B. Improvements made in 2022
- VI. New Business
 - A. Concerns
- VII. Invited Guest-Darrell Davis, Mayor, Edmond
- VIII. Adjourn

fohoa.com

fohoa.com is a great resource to find copies of minutes, back issues of newsletters, contact information for officers, and a great deal of information about the city of Edmond. Check it out when you have an opportunity.

It is an easy way to pay dues and/or make a contribution, too.

HOA Officers

Pres. - Stephen Schexnayder

719-351-6781

V. P.—Warren Stickrod

405-330-2888

Treasurer—Shelia Brown

405-550-9885

Secretary—Elaine Weinmeister

405-340-6242

Officer-at-Large—Miles Hall

405-850-0334

Wastewater Rates & Info

Recently, I had experience with water leaks at my house and at the Forest Oaks entry. In calling the city, I learned some facts we all need to know:

The wastewater (or sewer) charge for your property will be calculated from “the average metered water use billed in December, January and February.”

If you find a water leak, call the city and submit any repair bills you have incurred within 2 weeks of the repair. The utilities department will calculate an adjustment to your bill. You can email a copy of your bills to customerservice@edmondok.gov.

The new average calculation is charged on the April-May statements.

Call the city as soon as possible when you discover a water leak.

(This information is available on the city website: edmondok.com.)

Elaine Weinmeister

Landscape Chairman, Forest Oaks HOA

Hope Center

THANK YOU for being who you all are! It is such a privilege to meet each of you when you deliver your gifts for the Hope Center family. Kind hearts make a kind neighborhood. The mother and the newborn baby boy, are both healthy and well. The children were so excited when we dropped off the gifts, tree, ornaments, and pizza for their dinner. You, caring neighbors covered all their wishes and needs.

For 2023, please remember it only takes a moment of time to make a lasting memory in others around you!

LaVonne Stickrod

Treasurer Position Open

I have had the opportunity to be the Forest Oaks Treasurer since 2016. I began attending HOA meetings when I moved here in 2004. I was impressed at how well a "voluntary" HOA was managed and the accountability the Board provided to the members on how the dues were allocated and spent. Every dollar was accounted for and used in preserving the Forest Oaks neighborhood.

I have met so many wonderful people and made many friends. In 2016, Mary Berryman requested that someone take her place as Treasurer, having held that position for (4) years. I felt it was time for me to participate in the HOA in a more meaningful way, so I volunteered to become the Treasurer and was elected to that position.

I have plans to sell my home and downsize in two years. Now is the time for me to step down and train the next Treasurer. It's not complicated, nor time consuming except during the collection of yearly dues at the beginning of each year. It's manageable if you work or have a young family.

Take some time and consider giving your talents to a wonderful organization where you will meet many new friends and be an integral part of a thriving neighborhood.

Make plans to attend the February 27th meeting.

Shelia Brown

Please Share Your E-mail Address

Our newsletter only comes out twice a year, but our neighborhood is really very active. If you are not on our e-mail list, you are missing out on messages regarding events, pets, neighborhood crime, lost or found property, food trucks and neighborhood events.

We do NOT spam or share your address. Messages come through one officer, Elaine Weinmeister and her email address is eweinmeister@gmail.com.

This is a service to you as a resident of this neighborhood, **whether or not** you are a paid member of the FOHOA (as are many of the benefits that residents enjoy from the association.)

FOHOA DUES

As you will see from the Treasurer's Report, we have received dues from 88 of 224 residents of Forest Oaks. That is about 39%. **39% of the residents are covering the expenses of this neighborhood.** (emphasis by editor—Kristi Strubhart)

For new neighbors and those who do not understand how important this small contribution is to our neighborhood, following are a few of the services these dues provide:

- 1) All of the plants, water, electricity and maintenance costs of the entry;
- 2) Mowing and maintenance of the north side of the entry area;
- 3) De-icing treatment of the entry area before inclement weather—**our**

entry area is not maintained by the city of Edmond; This makes the entry available for entrance and exit of **emergency vehicles** to and from our neighborhood as well as allowing residents to exit and enter as needed from school or work;

4) The electricity to power our street-lights in Forest Oaks—**without these lights, our neighborhood would be dark and a great target for burglars and car thieves;**

5) All mailing costs of dues reminders and newsletters to homes without e-mail capabilities;

6) Gift cards for winners of Yards of the Month;

7) The FOHOA.com website and PayPal account;

8) Hanging/Removal of entry Christmas Lights—we own the lights;

9) Replacement of old street lights with decorative lights, as possible;

10) Repairs, vandalism cleanup at entry, as needed;

11) Annual neighborhood garage sale and metro-wide advertising for it, including arranging for pickup of leftover items;

12) Updated directories produced in even years **for dues-paying members only.**

You may not be aware, but you have benefited from this homeowners' association, **whether or not you have paid dues.** Our dues are minimal compared to other associations in the area. Please send your share to Shelia Brown at 1901 Ridgecrest or put in the metal box on her porch. You can also pay on **FOHOA.com/pay-dues.**



Please Welcome These New Neighbors

Bent Twig Circle
Christopher Roush

Chaparral Lane
David Robinson

Running Branch
David and Candace Goodwin

WHY YOU SHOULD NOT-BLOW LEAVES AND GRASS



Here are some reasons why this is not the best practice for dealing with yard wastes.

The leaves or grass clippings are a **safety hazard**. Because there is no way of knowing the road conditions under the leaves, bicyclists that use this route are forced to go out into the driving lanes to pass this obstacle.

Again, **I want to be clear about the real dangers of this issue**. An act as simple as blowing grass or leaves into the roadway can have a huge impact on you, your lawn care company, and any motorcyclist who may slip on grass or leaves you sent into the road. **You could be sued for negli-**

gence if an accident occurs!

The waste can **block storm drains**. Try watching a storm drain inlet covered in leaves in a rainstorm. It only takes a few leaves to back up the water into a large puddle. This **creates nuisance flooding** and can potentially cause an additional safety hazard. It can even lead to **property damage**.

Water quality can also be affected by the accumulation of decayed leaves in storm drains. Storm water is not treated before it is discharged into Lake Arcadia or our groundwater, so the concentration of nutrients in the leaves have the potential to **contribute to algae blooms** in the summer.

It is illegal! Fines for this type of offense for a first violation begin at **\$200.00 plus court costs**.

According to Code Enforcement, it is also against city codes to blow grass clippings into the street. Citizens who notice yard crews blowing grass into the street can turn them in and the property owners will be notified. This offense does incur a fine.

Treasurer's Report

If you haven't yet paid your 2023 dues you may do so with PayPal located on our website at fohoa.com, click on the "Pay Dues" tab. As always, if you prefer to pay by check, just drop it in the mail to Shelia Brown, Treasurer, 1901 Ridgecrest. Rd., Edmond, OK 73013. Make your check payable to Forest Oaks HOA. I also have a small metal drop box by my front door if you would like to hand deliver.

Remember the ice storm on January 30th and 31st? It would have been VERY difficult to exit or enter the Forest Oaks neighborhood without the salting that was provided by **YOUR HOA!** The officers assume the responsibility of deciding when to salt. This is Oklahoma...so it might ice, or it might not. We mostly try to err on the side of caution and safety for our homeowners. Salting for those two days cost \$545.00. That was (11) dues payments that were used in those two days.

Do you enjoy the entry with the perennial plants, along with the beautiful color that Elaine Weinmeister, our Secretary and Landscape Chairman plans and plants (along with help from a few others) each Spring and Fall? In 2022 the cost was \$466.00. That's (9) dues payments. This year (2023) she will need to remove the old mulch and reapply. This will cost an extra \$250.00, (5) dues payments.

Other expenses we incurred in 2022 were:

Mowing & Maintenance (47) dues payments
Snow/Ice Removal (19) dues payments
Utilities (including streetlights) (56) dues payments
Newsletter/Dues/Postage (5) dues payments
Edmond Neighborhood Alliance Dues (2) dues payments
Misc. Repairs (4) dues payments
Holiday Tree Lighting (25) dues payments
New Resident Packets (1) dues payment
Yard of the Month (3) dues payments
Website (2) dues payments

This list totals (173). We only had (142) homeowners pay for 2022! The math only works because we have generous residents who pay more than their \$50.00.

The Executive Board and I ask that if you have not paid your \$50.00 dues for 2023, or maybe haven't participated in the HOA at all, you will consider becoming a member. The more attractive we make and maintain Forest Oaks, the more our property values will increase.

We have plans to continue to beautify the entrance in 2023, and possibly add more street lights if the budget allows.

As of this mailing we have collected (88) out of 224 homes.

Our spring meeting is scheduled for February 27th at 6:30pm at Miles & Jayne Hall's home, 1812 Rosedale. The 2022 and 2023 budgets will be presented along with a special guest. I hope to see you there.

Shelia Brown



Yard of the Month Recipients

December

Davis & Lisa Hudson

2024 Woodland

Thank you all for your hard work! Your yard was lovely and inspiring! It was a hard choice, since there were many lovely yards in our neighborhood and we appreciated them each for their individual attributes. Your yard makes a difference for us all. Curb appeal, as they say on HGTV, matters to the overall presentation of the neighborhood. An extra special thank you to all!

YOM Committee

FOREST OAKS HOA

1913 Chaparral Ln.
Edmond, OK 73013

We're on the Web!

FOHOA.com

Nextdoor.com

Nextdoor.com is a great resource for finding out what is going on in your neighborhood, getting updates from the city, looking for referrals and much more. It is easy to set boundaries so that you are receiving notifications from the area that you are interested in and can receive the notifications as often as you choose.

Volunteers are the Heartbeat of Forest Oaks

All positions in our HOA are volunteer. Get in the spirit of sharing your time and talents with your neighbors. What interests you?

- ~ Gardening
- ~ Picking up Trash
- ~ Government
- ~ Social Events
- ~ Projects

THANK
YOU

Purpose of the Association

- To provide a central organization for the purpose of exchanging information and ideas for the common good of the membership.
- To monitor, participate with and advise governmental, civic and business organizations on issues impacting the membership.
- To encourage and promote safety and property protection of the membership.
- To manage and maintain any present or future commonly owned property.