

Neighborhood News



Sept 21, 2025

Welcome to Fall, Y'all!

The year is flying by, and I hope life is good for all of you!

We recently had a board meeting so thought it was a good time to catch everyone up on what's happening around the table!

At the park and lake:

- We have added two large fans under the pavilion which are working out great for airflow and bug control! Huge thanks to volunteers: Bill, Kathy, Tim, and Guy; that installed them for us!
- A barrier wall was put up to attempt to hide the porta potty a bit, looks much better-again, volunteer at work- we have such great folks here that jump in and do these things! (I had a dream someone left us an endowment, and we were able to put water, plumbing and power all thru the park...then I woke up! LOL!)
- Lake key cards are now managed by Ray Rode. Please review the new policy on them if you haven't yet. Policies can be found on our website at olehoa.com. We would like to remind anyone selling their homes, the key cards are to be returned to the HOA, not left behind for the new owners. This way we can re-issue the card under their name.
- We are reconsidering the dredging of launch area as we cannot find anyone with experience to do it. Another thought is to build up the drive section with rock or concrete so trucks don't have to sink into water so far. With this option, we would need to extend dock into water more, which would be a win /win as it would give more dock space for fishing too! In the discussion/planning stages!

Front Median:

- As was mentioned a while back, we are looking at having the trees in the center median removed as they are dying off one by one. This is actually county property (we found out recently) so the county will cut them down, and we will get right on re-landscaping the median. The money for this was put aside in reserve account already, but we've been held up with the county technicalities.
- They now have us in the books to remove trees *on the week prior to Thanksgiving*. So when you see the median barren, rest assured, we have a plan! It may look scrappy for a period while we get someone to excavate and prep for re-planting. Will be taking bids for the re-planting part, or volunteer help if anyone has that skill set and wants to put it to use!!

Highway Dept meeting:

- Many of you have had concerns about the speeding on the streets. We have been in touch several times with Ken McGee, the Highway Dept Supervisor. He met with us last week on Red Oak and will be placing a Speed alert sign with recordings to show "Your Speed" and record it. They will give us a report after 90 days. Hoping to move it to

another area after that. The report will be interesting. From what we see and hear, most of the speeding cars here, I hate to point out, are people who live here...

- They also will look at replacing some of our older Speed Limit Signs in the neighborhood.
- While we had him here, we requested he consider re-paving and re-lining Oak Valley Dr. I mentioned they keep patching it only to have it break down somewhere else...He seemed to be open to looking at it, was "going to drive it and see what he could do" Fingers crossed!

Curb Appeal

- It was brought up to please remind neighbors that your pride of ownership shows in your curb appeal. While the lawns may be mowed, we often see the curb line at the street looking very ragged with weeds growing over onto the road. Please try to address this as you can. We do have a couple folks here in the neighborhood that could help you with it if you don't have the tools or need help... let us know!
- And on the lawn note...could we please ask the mower person to 'spit' the grass back onto the lawn rather than into the street! It is simply mowing in the opposite direction...All of your neighbors would appreciate it, especially those who walk, ride bicycles or motorcycles! Thank you in advance 😊

Real Estate/Rentals

- There are several homes currently on the market for sale in the neighborhood. One listing on the lake, unfortunately, may end up being a VRBO. As we do not have specific wording in the CCR's or Bylaws to prevent this, we have to see how it goes. It was decided at last annual meeting to not allow common area access to short-term renters. Adding in *no* short-term rentals was tabled at that time.
- While we have no problem with long-term rental properties, we feel it would be in our communities' best interest for the future to put verbiage in the bylaws restricting the use of single-family dwellings as short-term rentals (less than 3 months)
- There will be a vote of membership on this specifically, as we need a majority to vote to change bylaws. Please when you see this come around, do your part and vote for or against it, just vote so we have a quorum!

CCR's:

- Speaking of CCRs, as some of you are aware, our neighborhood was built out in many sections, all having their own CCR's- 17 different sections of CCR's to be exact! And they were written as far back as 1996. So, your CCR's may be different from your neighbors or the ones around the corner...makes things very confusing.
- We are looking at updating these into one batch that condenses a simplified version of all sections and allows a little more leeway on certain things (poultry, outbuildings material and size, etc).
- This new version would need a vote of the majority of the homeowners in Oak Lake Estates, *not just HOA members*, as CCR's apply to all homes. It's a work in progress and will come out for comment and voting before the next annual meeting. Again, if you see this come around, please do your part and put in your vote, a yeah or a nay...your input matters!

Dues:

- So far, we are on track to NOT have to raise dues again for 2026. As we've said before, we are not in this to make money, as long as we can continue to keep making some improvements and the expenses stay reasonable we should be good. (THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!!!)
- When that inevitable time comes, the good news is, according to our bylaws, we can only raise the dues by 10% - a whopping \$14 a year!

So, they say always open and close with happy stuff!

Events:

- **Maker's Market was Sept 13th**- a big hit, we will likely do a spring repeat!
- **White Elephant Bingo** is this Thursday, Sept 25th! Bring a \$5ish gizmo that fits in a brown lunch sack to add to the prize pile!
- Our **5th Annual Chili Cookoff, Cornhole Tournament and Car Show** October 4th from 1-5pm! The trophies are here!
Sign up for Chili competition as soon as you can, send us a catchy name for your entry! Car show and Cornhole are on-site sign ups
- **Tuesday Trivia**- will be *October 14th* this month, depending on November weather, this could be the last of them for the season!
- The **Community Yard Sales** are October 17th and 18th- By popular demand, we are now doing 2 days, Friday and Saturday for those who want to do so. It's a lot of work for just one day!
- **White Elephant Bingo** will be October 23rd- the last of the season! Bring good prizes!! LOL!
- **Trunk or Treat** is going to be Saturday October 25th from 1pm to 3pm. Participate by coming out with your "trunks" decorated for Halloween to hand out candy and/or bring the kiddos out to try out their costumes!
- The **Annual Veterans Day 1mi Walk/ 5K Run!** Join us for a Salute to Veterans – Sunday, November 9th – Celebrate all 6 branches of our military, Commemorative board to post your veterans photos. Time TBA
- **Santa in the Park** – Sunday Dec 7 – 1pm to 3pm Santa is coming to town...and landing right on our dock at the lake! Great photo op early enough for those Christmas cards...Pets are welcome from 2p-3pm!

As you can see, we're a pretty active Board, working to get things done for the community. I personally want to thank all the board members, committees and volunteers who are always there to pitch in...it takes a village, and I think we have a great one!

Peace to all,
Sandy

Oak Lake HOA