

# The Old Orchard

## Outlook



NOVEMBER 2012

The Official Newsletter Of The Old Orchard Homeowners Association.

## Update from the Board

### HOA ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting and election was held on Thursday October 25th 6:30pm at the Clubhouse. All homeowners should have received, in the mail from PMG, a packet of information, including a proxy form. The position of one Director of the association was up for re-election for a three-year term, and by now that election has been decided.

### FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

Regular (not "annual") HOA Board Meetings are usually held on the Last Thursday of most months, 6:30pm at the Clubhouse. We say "usually" because Date/Time/Place may change from time to time due to holiday seasons and other reasons. Check the OOT website for current information. All residents are welcome to attend.

### VIOLATIONS

The Board has agreed to begin assessing fines, as provided in the by-laws, for repeated covenant violations. Special attention shall be given to properties in need of lawn and landscape compliance, and the public display of trash/recycle bins on non-collection days.

### DAMAGED/MISSING STREET SIGNS

If you see any damaged or missing street signs within our community, please report immediately to Marci at PMG, and if signs have actually fallen off poles, please retrieve and

hold the signs so we may simply "repair" them, rather than having to pay for new ones. Street signs were purchased and replaced recently at three intersections in the community where they had been missing. (To the residents who have waited so patiently for the replacements, we apologize for the unduly long delay.) Please report any street-sign problems, including loose or floppy signs, so we can have them addressed.



### TRASH AND RECYCLE BINS – PLEASE PUT AWAY

Trash and Recycle bins need to be kept out of sight from the street on all days other than trash days and the night before.

### ENTRANCE / EXIT GATES ARE OPERATIONAL DURING NIGHTTIME HOURS

We encourage you to please check the operability of your remotes and contact PMG should you have a need to purchase new ones, and be sure that you know your family's personal gate code number in the event you don't have your remote with you. Also, the camera system is in place and working – recording from six cameras 24/7/365. **Please Drive Carefully!**

Thanks,

Old Orchard Board of Directors

### Community Website

**WWW.  
OldOrchardTexas  
.com**

For All of Your Neighborhood Information

### Important Contacts

Have a question? Please refer to our website at: **www.OldOrchardTexas.com (OOT)** for answers to your questions and important community updates.

**Marci Birthisel, Community Manager (PMG).**  
Tel Direct: (713) 329-7100.  
M.Birthisel@pmghouston.com

**Old Orchard Board of Directors**  
OldOrchardBoard@yahoo.com

**Architectural Review Committee**  
oo\_arc\_chair@yahoo.com

**Common Area Landscaping Committee**  
faizx79@yahoo.com

**Compliance Committee**  
TBA

**Social Committee**  
oldorchardsocialcommittee@yahoo.com

Newsletter suggestions, comments, and questions can be sent to:  
dgrigassy@gmail.com.

## ACTIVITIES/SOCIAL

**Wednesday, October 31st - the October Fall Festival and Trick n' Treat Bash** mentioned in the last newsletter was combined into one event on Halloween Evening, from 6 - 7:30pm, at the Old Orchard clubhouse. We had the Children's Costume Contest & parade activities, candy and door prizes geared for children 12 years of age and under. *(this event has already happened – but we wanted you to know about it.)*



**Saturday, November 17th - is our Neighborhood Potluck Party**, from 5:30 - 7:30pm, at the clubhouse. Please come and relax, meet the Board and Committee chairs who work hard for you all year to keep this community a great place to live. We look forward to lots of various dishes from around the world! Please contact Andrea and Alisha at [oldorchardsocialcommittee@yahoo.com](mailto:oldorchardsocialcommittee@yahoo.com) to confirm your potluck attendance and menu items.

**Saturday, December 22nd - is our Cookies n' Cocoa with Santa.** Santa will be back to pick up Toys-for-Tots, from 9am to 12pm, at the clubhouse. Kids can bring their letters for Santa, create crafts, coloring pages or their list of presents. We all had such a great time last year. You don't want to miss all the fun!

**Keep checking our community website [www.OldOrchardTexas.com](http://www.OldOrchardTexas.com) (OOT) for more information.**

## STREET PARKING

1. Parking on the streets and in cul-de-sacs is not permitted provided there is space in the resident's driveway. Any residents street-parked while the driveway is empty are subject to being towed. Street parking at any time, day or night, hinders access by other residents and by emergency (ambulance/fire/police) and service (trash/recycle/etc) vehicles, and increases the risk of blocking drivers' view of playing children etc.



2. No vehicles may be parked on a resident's lawn at any time, nor street-parked further than 18 inches parallel to the curb.
3. Vehicles, if parked in cul-de-sacs, must be parked parallel to the curb and not nosed-in. Also see item "1" above.
4. Overnight parking is not permitted in the Clubhouse/Pool parking lot.

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

The OO Social Committee needs several volunteers to help us plan the various events for our community. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact us at the following email address: [Oldorchardsocialcommittee@yahoo.com](mailto:Oldorchardsocialcommittee@yahoo.com).

## ASTRONOMY CORNER - THE LEONID METEOR SHOWER

Mid-November brings us what is probably the most famous of the meteor showers, the Leonids. The source of the shower is a comet we know as 55P/Tempel-Tuttle, which passes this way every 33 years and its orbit just happens to intersect that of Earth's. The comet is best described as a "dirty snowball" – composed mostly of ice, with dust and dirt and small bits of rock mixed in. As the comet approaches the inner solar system and is heated by the Sun, its outer layer of ice starts to evaporate, and those particles are freed and left floating in space in a trail behind the comet. Every November, our Earth passes through this trail and like raindrops hitting a windshield, the particles collide with Earth at high speed. They are traveling at tens of thousands of miles per hour and are instantly vaporized as they enter our atmosphere. The long beautiful trail you see as a meteor or "falling star" is in reality, a trail of superheated gas left behind as the

particle is incinerated. The best viewing time for the Leonids this year is expected to be before dawn on November 17. Don't be discouraged, though, if you can't make that – observing will still be good the evening before. Remember, this is a large cloud of particles out in space and it takes Earth a while to move through it, so you don't have to be there at the actual 'peak time' in order to see the shower. The Leonids are known for producing some of the most spectacular meteor storms in history, but don't expect that kind of a show this year. Activity is predicted to be merely average, but you can expect to see a bright meteor every couple of minutes. Regardless of the number, they're always beautiful and fascinating to watch. **Wishing you Clear Skys!**

Leonard Ferguson - [brazosnightsky@gmail.com](mailto:brazosnightsky@gmail.com)

## Attention Ladies:

If you are interested in joining a Ladies Evening Bunco group and/or Bridge, please call or email Nancy Grigassy at 281-277-2144 or at the following email address: nancygrigassy@hotmail.com.

## 2013 POOL SCHEDULE:

The pool schedule for 2013 is in the planning stages. This past season ran daily, except Monday, from June through August, and weekends only in September. Some residents had requested that we consider weekends only in May also for 2013. Since we must have life-guards on site whenever the pool is open, every extension of dates costs us money. We will be analyzing the attendance sheets that the lifeguards kept for this past season to evaluate actual pool usage. Please let us know your preferences for 2013.



## NEWS YOU CAN USE

### NEWSLETTER

This Quarterly Newsletter has been mailed to all residents. If we have anyone's address incorrect, please notify us promptly.

### FINANCE DOCUMENTS

These can be found on the PMG website. There is a link on OOT in the Finance section.

### STREET MAP

A map of Old Orchard, complete with all street names has been added to the OOT website. It will be found in the Grounds/Landscaping section.

### KEEP STORM SEWERS CLEAN

It has been reported that residents have been seen dumping motor oil, grass clippings, and other debris down our storm sewers. Stop it! Please observe the little stickers that the MUD district has attached to most of the storm sewers reminding folks that the sewers drain into the waterways of Texas. Don't Mess With Texas!

**Community Website**

**www.  
OldOrchardTexas  
.com**

**For All of Your Neighborhood Information**

# Children's Haven

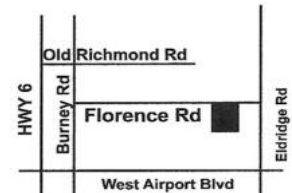
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# PLAYGROUND

We met with representatives of the company that built and installed the playground at Oakland Elementary School to get some ideas for expanding the size and scope of our own playground. If you get a chance, please go to Oakland and inspect their play facilities. Playground structures are not cheap. Costs range from manageable to incredible, so it will require careful consideration when planning. Separately, what would you think of additional small playgrounds being built in the circle at the back of the Manor and/or on the lot at the entrance to the Glen?



*Old Orchard Homeowners Association assumes no responsibility for the choice of advertisements within this publication.*

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