

Old Spring Branch Bugler

November 2022 * noviembre 2022

Heavy Trash Pick-Up

Fourth Thursday of the month (unless falls on holiday)

Thursday, November 25: <u>TREE WASTE</u>

Thursday, December 22: <u>JUNK WASTE</u>

Recolección de Basura Pesada

Cuarto jueves del mes (menos en días feriados)

jueves, 25 de noviembre: <u>Desechos Verdes</u>

jueves, 22 de diciembre: Basura Chatarra

PLEASE REMEMBER:

OLD SPRING BRANCH IS A DEED-RESTRICTED COMMUNITY.

RECUERDE OUE OLD SPRING BRANCH ES UNA COMUNIDAD BAJO RESTRICCIONES.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jo Lightsey

VOTE, VOTE, VOTE...TUES., NOV. 8, 2022

OSBCA had its third quarterly meeting on October 11, 2022. I had issued a "special" invitation to residents, members and non-members, to attend and to take advantage of the "gathering" as a replacement of OSB's Neighbors Night Out Event. I event offered a \$10.00 Wal-Mart gift card as an incentive to meet your neighbors.

We did the drawing and a longtime member who has lived in OSB, Long Point Oaks, since the 60's and was very active in our Association, won. The OSB Board of Directors were present. Thank you.

We were excited to have a visitor from Council member Amy Peck's office, Sarah Singleton, Director of Constituents Services. She shared the news that a meeting had been held addressing the burnt house at 2139 Counter Point in November. I hope it is an order for demolition. For which brings me to remind those who have vacant houses in OSB. **The Owner is responsible for having a house locked and secure.** It is against the law to have a property left open attracting vagrants.

Continued page 2...

OLD SPRING BRANCH CIVIC ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING

December 13, 2022 Tuesday, 7 p.m. Trini Mendenhall Civic Center,1414 Wirt Rd

Mask required





From the President, continued...

I was disappointed to not be able to pass out more gift cards. Just goes to show that I can't even "pay" folks to come to a meeting... much less, come to meetings, become an OSBCA member and get involved. We do so need your interest and willingness to get involved.

Our next OSBCA meeting and the last meeting of 2022, will be Tues., Dec.13. No scheduled holiday party again this year. However, if the Association, decides differently about some sort of social for the holidays, the details will be in the December Bugler. You can find the newsletter on our website: OldSpringBranch.org. Members will receive information on email blast.

Have a great Thanksgiving. Count your blessings. Be thankful and kind.

OSBCA AND THE HOLIDAY SEASON

The **OSBCA Holiday Party** has been canceled again this year, 2022. We hope to be able to host the party in 2023. However, OSBCA always enjoys having the neighborhood participate in the following activity.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING CONTEST

OSBCA members will be judging the decorated homes in the neighborhood during the week of December 17-23. This year, the top six (6) homes, overall, will be listed. It is important that you have your lights on every night of the judging week and that your house address number is visible from the street. If your address cannot be read, your home cannot be listed in the judging.

There is no right or wrong. However, there must be a house number visible from the street. Otherwise, there are no set guidelines.

Judging is done on personal preference. Anyone can be a judge. Contact secretary, Linda Whatley, 713-681-0560, if you intend to judge. When you have made your six top selections, turn your vote in to Linda Whatley, in some form: phone, paper, e-mail: whatleylm@gmail.com.

Deadline for turning in your judging list is Friday, December 23, 2022.





DEED RESTRICTIONS

Committee of Five

We want to inform all our Old Spring Branch residents that the "Deed Restriction Committee" will be touring the neighborhoods looking for violations of deed restrictions.

Some of our neighbors already have knowledge of this because they have received violation notices in the past. As is customary, pictures are taken with a time and date stamp and violation notice letters are delivered to addresses that were observed in violation of the deed restrictions during these tours.

Most violations are promptly corrected after residence receive a warning letter and we want to say a BIG THANK YOU to those who have come into compliance.

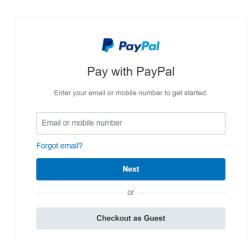
We are still dealing with some OSB residents within our area that quite openly and candidly refuse to comply with the Deed Restrictions we are all supposed to adhere to.

Please be forewarned: The Deed Restriction Committee and Old Spring Branch Civic Association continues collecting evidence such as pictures and activity logs containing information that can and will be used against any violators. This information is filed and after sufficient evidence is obtained may be turned over to the City of Houston for further investigation.

If you have any questions regarding your Deed Restrictions feel free to attend any of the Old Spring Branch Civic Association monthly meetings for clarification.

WE ASK ALL RESIDENCE TO PLEASE FOLLOW OUR DEED RESTRICTIONS.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR OSBCA MEMBERSHIP? IF YOU HAVEN'T, PAY ONLINE!



Step one:

Visit OldSpringBranch.org and click on "Membership" on the main menu.

Step two:

Select the type of membership you fall under and then click the button under it that says "Pay with PayPal".

Step three:

If you don't currently have a PayPal account, you can log on using "Checkout as Guest"

Step four:

Fill out the information so you can make the payment.

CITIZENS ON PATROL (COP)—SEPTEMBER 2022

Virginia Lehman

Our patrol hours for September were 30 hours. As always, I want to thank our COP volunteers for patrolling our area whenever possible. I do believe that we make a difference! It has been quite enjoyable patrolling our area in October. The change in the weather makes a difference and residents have been busy decorating for Halloween. Counter Point has a few houses that have really gotten into the spirit, Woodvine and Harland also have a couple. A few residents on Woodvine will be setting out carved pumpkins for Halloween night.

We still have a few vacant homes in the area, and we also have several homeless people through our area. Please keep your eyes open.

I have received a text from concerned resident about person/persons ringing doorbells late in evening or early morning hours. My advice would be if you don't know the individual, I would not open the door to them. If they seem hesitant to move on or seem threatening to you, I would call 911. If they just move on, I would call the HPD non-emergency number. This is what I would do, but it is up to you to use your best judgement.

The holiday season is fast approaching. Remember to keep your cars locked and if you can't remove valuable items from your car keep them out of sight. Don't become a victim of a 'crime of opportunity!

Please stay alert, be diligent and report any incidents that you see or hear. If the police department is not aware of anything going on in our neighborhood, they will not patrol our area. You can call the non-emergency number at 713-884-3131. If it is life-threatening situation, please call 911!

We are always looking for volunteers to join our CP group. If you are interested, feel free to contact Virginia at 832-748-8088, please leave a message. We would love to have you.

CRIME REPORTS – OCTOBER 2022

Virginia Lehman

Listed below are the incidents reported in our area for September 29 – October 26, 2022. I have officially given up trying to pull up incidents for July and August.

- Two reports of Aggravated Assault: September 29, 11PM, 7500 Block of Long Point and October 8, 6AM, 2000 Block of Antoine.
- Three reports of Breaking & Entering (Commercial): September 28, 4AM, 2000 Block of Antoine, October 1, 5PM, 7700 Block of Long Point and October 2, 10AM, 2000 Block of Antoine.
- Four reports of Robbery: September 30, 11PM, 7800 Block of Long Point; October 1, 1AM, 1900 Block of Counter Point; October 2, 11PM, 2000 Block of Antoine and October 11, 10PM, 7300 Block of Long Point.

Please note that the above information was gathered from the <u>LexisNexis Community Crime on the</u> Houston Police Department website.

You can file a police report online if you have access to a valid, functioning e-mail address and you are the actual victim of the theft, loss or criminal mischief (not a witness, relative, friend, etc.) Website is: houstontx.gov/police/online_report.htm

YARDS OF THE MONTH – OCTOBER 2022

Again, mowing has been slow due to no rain before last weekend and the yards are starting to go dormant. It was a bit difficult to make the yard list. This will be the last "Yards of the Month" for 2022.

| Amelia | 7609, *7630, *7635 |
|---------------|--|
| Antoine | *2056 |
| Cedel | 7708, 7610 |
| Counter Point | 2011, 2015, 2018, 2035, 2107, 2110, 2114, 2126, 2130, 2203 |
| Hammerly | 7603, 7607, 7610, 7625, *7706, *7626 |
| Harland | 2015, 2011, 2081 |
| Inch | None |
| Jacquelyn | 2050, *1839, *1905, *2067 |
| Johanna | *2069, *2048, *2031, *2020, *2002, *1928 *1838, *1833, *1840, *1905, *1906 |
| Silverbonnet | None |
| Thonig | 1942, 2107 |
| Todd | None |
| Turquoise | 7711, 7614, 7615,7718 |
| Woodwine | 1914, 1919, 1954, 2006, 2007, 2010, 2011, 2014, 2022, 2038, 2103, 2106, 2131, 2134 |

^{*}Businesses who have litter free and mowed front ditches, apts that have required landscaping.

HEAVY TRASH & RECYCLING

2022 Schedule

| MONTH | RECYCLING (Every other Friday) | HEAVY TRASH (Fourth Thursday of the Month) |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| November 2022 | Nov 4 & 18 | TREE Nov 25 |
| December 2022 | Dec 2, 16 & 30 | JUNK Dec 22 |

YES! Put these in your recycling bin:

- Metal and Cans: Aluminum and Tin Cans. Examples include soup cans, vegetable cans, fruit cans, coffee cans (emptied and rinsed)
- Cartons: Both gable top and shelf-stable food and beverage cartons. Examples include milk cartons, juice cartons, soup cartons, soy milk/alternative milk cartons (emptied and rinsed)
- Glass: Bottles, jugs and jars only (emptied and rinsed)
- Paper: Newspaper, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, office paper
- Cardboard: Cardboard and cereal boxes (emptied of packing materials and flattened)
- **Plastic:** Bottles, tubs and jugs #1 5 and 7. Examples include water and soda bottles, milk jugs, yogurt cups, margarine tubs, detergent bottles, shampoo bottles. (emptied and rinsed)

NO! Do NOT put these in your recycling bin:

- Batteries/Electronics
- Shredded Paper
- Tanglers (cords, hoses, wires, clothing)
- Food/Liquids

- Trash and Bagged Recycling
- Furniture and Household Goods
- Scrap Wood and Scrap Metal (NO Helium Tanks)
- Yard Waste

BEAUTIFICATION - TRASH PICK UP

Jo Lightsey

The Solid Waste Department has been consistent in picking up the garbage and the recycle. Garbage collection has been mostly on time. Recycle collection fell off Fridays and has been collected on Saturdays. Don't try to outguess the recycle collection because sometimes it is picked up on Friday. Therefore, it is wise to put both containers out for Friday collection.

Now, Heavy Trash is still a little iffy. Be sure you are following the Tree/Junk schedule. Remember Tree Only month means Tree only and no pick up will happen if you have Junk mixed in the Tree Waste. However, Junk Heavy trash may have Tree waste in it. In other words, Tree Only means just that. The junk month includes everything. Litter and trash/junk on our properties is up to us to pick up and throw into proper containers.

Rumor is that "tied bundled" tree limbs will no longer be collected on Fridays but must be put with Heavy Trash. In addition, it is rumored that one may place yard clippings/leaves in garbage bins. It will be best, if clippings and leaves are bagged, to use the decomposable bags. NO black bags.

We are at a time when Solid Waste is having difficulty hiring enough drivers to drive the collection trucks for the different collections on the scheduled days. Be patient, and hopefully we will get back on our needed scheduled.

Residents, it is up to us to keep our neighborhood clean and attractive. Be proud to live in OSB.

LANDSCAPING

Nino Roman

With fall's arrival, here are a couple of things we can do to protect our landscapes.

- 1) Apply fall fertilizers on lawns/flower beds i.e. Micro Life fertilizers 8-12-16.
- 2) Apply mulch to keep moisture and protect the root ball from freezing. You can also use pine needles and dry leaves.
- 3) Cut back on watering and change to start time to late morning i.e. 8-9 a.m.
- 4) Apply a fungicide to keep brown patch in check. Brown patch will come back in the same spot and reappear every year.
- 5) The ideal mowing height for St. Augustine is between 3" to 4" (inches).

Thank you, LMC, for continuing to maintain our two (2) esplanades: Hammerly/Wirt, Antoine/Long Point. OSB appreciates your support.

A SPECIAL REMINDER!

GARAGE/YARD SALES - ONLY TWO (2) A YEAR

Below is useful information to provide those abusing yard and garage sales in our neighborhood.

Ordinance Highlight regarding Texas Tax Code

As we begin the spring/summer months, garage/yard sales will become a focus. We would like to remind residents of the rules and regulations behind these kinds of sales.

Garage/yard sales are not regulated by the City of Houston. The <u>Office of the State Comptroller</u> regulates these types of sales. RESIDENTS ARE ALLOWED TO HAVE ONLY TWO (2) SUCH SALES WITHIN A TWELVE (12) MONTH PERIOD.

Any more than two, the resident is recognized as having a business and must obtain a **tax permit from the State.** Since many subdivisions prohibit solicitation and commercial businesses within residential areas of a neighborhood, such activity is restricted.

For residents who try to operate a business in their homes, there are other city requirements that must be met. Specifically, at a minimum, the resident must obtain a Certificate of Occupancy. **There is NO PERMIT known as a "Garage sale permit".**

The Texas tax code, Title 2, Chapter 151, Section 304 underlines the use of sales tax in occasional sales (too much information for most folks that have only two garage/yard sales a year).

For more information on the regulation of garage/yard sales or on the state taxation, please visit the Office of the State Comptroller at 1-800-252-5555 of 713-462-8200.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS Deadline: Tuesday, November 29, 2022

Got ideas or suggestions? Send them to sybilsanchez@yahoo.com, Subject line: OSBCA

The Old Spring Branch Civic Association publishes the Old Spring Branch Bugler monthly. OSB serves the area between Wirt & Antoine, north of Long Point and southwest of Todd. Material in this publication may not be reproduced without permission from the OSBCA communications committee. Due to time and space not all letters or articles may appear. Any correspondence must include your name and address (which may be withheld upon request). Please print or type any submissions. For advertising information or to submit articles, mail to: OSBCA Bugler; P. O. Box 55172, Houston Texas 77255-5172



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Old Spring Branch Civic Association 2022 – 2023 Membership Form Name: Address: E-mail Phone: Cell: Mailing Address: I am interested in the following committee(s): □ Beautification □ Citizens on Patrol □ Communications □ Deed Restrictions □ Landscaping □ Membership □ Social □ Special Events **Annual Dues/Membership Types:** □ \$25.00 Property Represented □ \$12.50 Senior Citizens (62+) /Fixed Income □ \$25.00 Business/Non-resident □ *New Application* □ Renewal Membership Due Amount: Committee **Donation Amount: Total Payment:** In applying for renewal or new membership, I agree to pay dues and to support my civic association to achieve a better neighborhood. Signature: **Date:** _____ *Membership dues are good for 5-1-22 through 4-30-23.* Bring form and payment to the next meeting or mail to:

Bring form and payment to the next meeting or mail to
Old Spring Branch Civic Association
P. O. Box 55172
Houston, TX 77255-5172

Checks payable to Old Spring Branch Civic Association or OSBCA.

| | ca de Old Spring Branch e Membrecía 2022 – 2023 |
|-------------------------------|---|
| | |
| Nombre: | |
| Dirección: | |
| | |
| Correo Electrónico: | |
| Dirección de correspondencia: | |
| | |
| | |
| | 1 |
| • | los siguientes comités: |
| □ Embellecimiento | □ Vigilancia de la Vecindad |
| □ Comunicaciones | 1 |
| □ Jardinería | □ Membrecía |
| □ Social | □ Eventos Especiales |
| | |
| Cuota Anual/Tipo d | le Membrecía: |
| □ \$25.00 Propie | edad Representada |
| □ \$12.50 Tercer | ra Edad (62+) /Bajos Ingresos |
| □ \$25.00 Negoc | rio/No resident |
| □ Nuevo Miembro | □ Renovando |
| Cantidad de la | Cuota Anual: |
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| Firma: | |
| Fecha: | |
| Cuota de membrecí | a válida del 1-5-22 hasta 30-4-23. |
| Traiga el formulario y | pago a la siguiente reunión o puede |
| man | darlo por correo a: |
| | Branch Civic Association C.O. Box 55172 |
| | con, TX 77255-5172 |

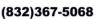
Cheque a nombre de Old Spring Branch Civic Association o OSBCA.



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Old Spring Branch Civic Association

| NOVEMBER 2022 NOVIEMBRE 2022 | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|-----------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| domingo | lunes | martes | miércoles | jueves | viernes | sábado |
| 30 | 31 Halloween | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| | | Election Day | | | | |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 May put out Heavy Trash * Puede sacar basura pesada |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 Thanksgiving | 25 HEAVY TRASH: TREE WASTE | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 Bugler deadline | 30 | 1 | Early voting ends | 3 |

Positive Interaction Program (PIP) meetings – Third Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m. at the Faith Center Chapel, 8009 Long Point

| OLD SPRING BRANCH CIVIC ASSOCIATION |
|--|
| ROARD OF DIRECTORS |

OFFICERS

President: Jo Lightsey 713-681-0560

Vice President: *Gerry Thielemann*

Secretary: Linda Whatley 713-681-0560

Treasurer: Virginia Lehman 832-748-8088

STREET REPRESENTATIVES

Antoine: ---Vacant ---

Counter Point

& Turquoise: Anonymous

Harland & Todd:

Jacquelvn/ Mike McGeehon 713-956-8446

E. Hammerly:

Johanna: Florence Armbruster 713-688-7546

Silverbonnet, Cedel ---Vacant ---

& W. Hammerly:

Thonig: ---Vacant---

Woodvine: Rosario Machorro 713-391-6355

OSBCA COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Advertising:

Gerry Thielemann, 713-682-9634

Beautification:

Jo Lightsey, 713-681-0560

Citizens on Patrol (COP):

Loretta Nalley, 832-868-8751 Virginia Lehman, 832-748-8088

Communications:

Sybil Sánchez, 832-722-2331 Lorna Gast, Bugler Mail Out

Deed Restrictions:

Committee of Five

In-Touch:

Gerry Thielemann, 713-682-9634

Landscaping:

Nino Roman, 832-877-4701

Membership:

Loretta Nalley, 832-868-8751

Social: ---Vacant---

Facebook & Website:

Sybil Sánchez, 832-722-2331