

Old Spring Branch Bugler

March 2024 * marzo 2024

Heavy Trash Pick-Up

Fourth Thursday of the month (unless falls on holiday)

Thursday, March 28: TREE WASTE

Thursday, April 25: <u>JUNK WASTE</u>

Recolección de Basura Pesada

Cuarto jueves del mes (menos en días feriados)

jueves, 28 de marzo: <u>Desechos Verdes</u>

jueves, 25 de abril: 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

Well, I believe that all the freezing weather is over. We may have some cold fronts, but no below 32 degree weather. Now, all the advice given to you about what to do about your plants and landscaping can be found in this Bugler edition. Spring is around the corner and daylight savings starts March 10. "Spring Forward" to making 2024, the best year yet. I am hoping that our OSB residents will choose to be more supportive to the Civic Association, financially and physically. Become an OSB Association member and attend the Quarterly meetings to keep abreast of our intentions to keep the neighborhood moving forward.

Please continue to uphold the Deed Restrictions (laws of the land) and the City of Houston Ordinances (Codes). If your property is not in compliance, please do so as soon as possible. All of us are responsible for keeping our property values up. We should take pride in our area. All construction and upgrade of our homes should have a "Building Permit" posted on the front of the project. Obtaining a building permit is less expensive than paying a FINE for not have a permit.

The House Number Drawings are coming up soon! Good luck to all of you. Your chances of winning are 1 in 300. Read the rules included in this March Bugler edition. OSBCA has a Quarterly meeting, March 12, 7 - 8 p.m., at the Mendenhall Civic Center. Come join us.

OSBCA Quarterly Meeting

Tuesday, March 12, 2024 7 – 8 p.m. Mendenhall Civic Center 1414 Wirt Rd.

Election Day

Tuesday, March 5, 2024 7 a.m. – 7 p.m. Harris Votes.com





THE IMPORTANCE OF CLEARLY MARKED HOUSE NUMBERS IN AN EMERGENCY FOR PUBLIC SAFETY

Wendy Mills, New York State - Nov. 06, 2023

<u>"Time is critical for first responders.</u> Even with the use of GPS and turn-by-turn directions, locating a home quickly and easily in an emergency can save lives. <u>If firefighters cannot see your house numbers, it will slow them down.</u> Fire departments urge you to look at your house numbers and if you can't see them from the street, DO SOMETHING about it before and emergency. **BE SURE YOUR HOUSE NUMBERS ARE EASILY VISIBLE TO FIRST RESPONDERS!**"

The above article is another **important reason** that Old Spring Branch Civic Association decided to do a "two (2) \$100 drawing" for residents that live in the OSB area. In addition to this, it is a City of Houston Ordinance/Code that is required for each and every citizen in the City of Houston. The "drawing" that the OSB Board of Directors has launched is an encouragement to get our residents in compliance with the law and into a "more safe" environment.

Members of the OSBCA Board of Directors have and are taking the time to enter each of the residents that ARE ALREADY in compliance in the "Drawing". We have observed the following reasons that some of you cannot be entered in the "drawing": 1) Numbers on plaques are too small to see 2) Missing one or two numbers or no numbers posted 3) Numbers cannot be seen a night (porch lights should be lit every night for safety) 4) Shrubs and/or tree limbs blocking view of house numbers on house 5) House numbers on curbs, not on house. (The City of Houston Ordinance requires that the numbers be 3" tall, be of contrasting color, and posted on front of house).

By the end of April, we, the Board of Directors will check the neighborhood residences to see if, "out of compliance" house numbers residences have gotten into compliance. Then, those residents will be put into the "drawing".

The two (2) "drawings" will be the last week of April and the winners notified by the OSBCA Board of Directors.

RESIDENT HOUSE NUMBER - OSB "ENTRY TO WIN" DRAWING

TWO (2) \$100 DRAWINGS to be held in April 2024.

RULES OF THE OSB DRAWING: (We, OSBCA may have modified the Ordinance somewhat).

- 1. Numbers must be at least 3" tall.
- 2. Numbers must be in contrasting color.
- 3. Numbers must be posted to be seen from the street (day or night).
- 4. Numbers may/can be posted on front (fascia of house), carport, or garage.
- 5. Painted curb numbers are NOT eligible.
- 6. Board Members are NOT eligible for drawing but must be in code compliance.
- 7. Properties in Deed Restriction violation do NOT qualify until property is in compliance.
- 8. Any objects obstructing the address numbers should be removed so address numbers can be seen from the street.
- 9. Drawings will be made in April 2024. Winners will be contacted in April.

Every resident house number that meets the Criteria (1-9) has been and is being entered in the drawing.

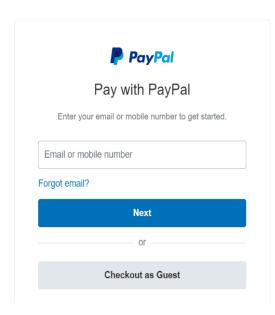
MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Loretta Nalley

Hello everyone! We do not have any new members. If you haven't done so, make sure to renew your membership.

	2023-2024 Membership (50 total)											
Amelia	Amelia Antoine Cedel Counter Hammerly Harland Jacquelyn Johanna Silverbonnet Thonig Todd Turquoise Woodvine											
1	2	3	12	2	3	1	3	0	3	1	3	14
2022-2023 Membership (45 total)												
0	3	2	7	2	4	1	1	1	5	2	2	15

PAY YOUR OSBCA MEMBERSHIP 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.

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 kind of sales. Garage/yard sales are not regulated by the City of Houston. The Office of the State Comptroller 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 or 713-462-8200.

CRIME REPORTS – FEBRUARY 2024

Virginia Lehman

Listed below are the incidents reported in our area for February 1- 27, 2024:

- Three (3) reports of Simple Assault: February 4, 2AM, 7700 Block of Long Point; February 18, 6PM, 7500 Block of Long Point; and February 19, 1AM, 1900 Block of Counter Point.
- One (1) report of Vandalism, Destruction, Damage: February 23, 9PM, 2000 Block of Johanna.
- One (1) report of Breaking & Entering: February 23, 10PM, 7500 Block of Long Point.
- Two (2) report of All Other Crimes: February 1, 11PM, 7500 Block of Long Point (Trespass of Real Property) and February 3, 6PM, 7500 Block of Highcrest Drive.
- Three (3) reports of Robbery: February 3, 6PM, 7400 Block of Long Point; February 11, 8PM, 7400 Block of Long Point; and February 15, 3PM, 2000 Block of Antoine Dr.
- One (1) report of Theft: February 21, 7PM, 2000 Block of Jacquelyn Drive.

Please note that the above information was gathered from the <u>Spot Crime on the Houston Police Dept</u> 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

CITIZENS ON PATROL – FEBRUARY 2024

Virginia Lehman

Happy St. Patrick's Day! Due to an out-of-town trip and the newsletter deadline, I will have to report our patrol hours for February in our April newsletter. As always, I want to thank our CP volunteers for patrolling our area whenever possible. I do believe we make a difference. 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!

I am very excited about our 'Resident House Number' drawing. I am hoping that everyone will go out and check to see how their house numbers look during the day but also check to see how they look at night and update/upgrade if necessary and/or possible. I have been amazed how some house numbers show up very well during the day but at night it is virtually impossible to see them, especially if there is no lighting. I have checked mine and I fall into this category so I will be checking into some solar lighting or additional landscape lighting to see if that helps. I hope we all try to turn our porch lights on at night! It alerts burglars to your presence, particularly if indoor lights are on too. It acts as a spotlight on the front door, you can easily see who's approaching through either a window or peephole. It's also nice if you have kids staying out after dark or guests coming to visit and/or food being delivered.

Update on my latest pet peeve about the gated community on Jacquelyn (across from Treasure Forest Elementary) ... maybe all the 3-1-1 reports are helping! There were only 13 trash cans left out on the street this week. I will keep trying to make 3-1-1 reports and maybe one day, the occupants of this gated community will place their garbage cans where they belong and not out on the street 24/7.

As always, be aware of your surroundings! 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 9-1-1!

LANDSCAPING

Nino Roman

Well, with spring around the corner, I know everybody is ready to do some gardening. These are a couple of things you can do to get ready for the spring and summer.

Getting your Garden ready for Spring/Summer:

- Fertilize turf/beds with an organic fertilizer
- Trim back freeze-damaged plants
- Remove weeds from beds
- Mulch beds with about 1 ½ 2 " of mulch
- Replace / relocate plants
- Check sprinklers
- Plant seasonal color
- Remove weeds from landscapes
- Trim trees
- Enjoy

Everybody has their favorite place to shop for yard improvement, so pick up some organic fertilizer, mulch, and your choice of trees, shrubs and seasonal color.

OSB, thanks LMC for their continuing service to our two esplanades.

BEAUTIFICATION

Jo Lightsey

Surprise, surprise! Well, OSB did not see this coming!! RECYCLE CAME ON FRIDAY LAST WEEK! So many of us were thinking that, as usual, the Recycle truck was coming on Saturday. That's what we get for thinking. **As, I have said before, put that RECYCLE out on the recycle Friday, scheduled date.** We never know if and when it will be picked up. It will be next time for a lot of us, who failed to put our recycle out. ②

Heavy Trash came as scheduled, thank goodness! Please continue to follow the Heavy Trash schedule. It can be found in the "Bugler". The Bugler can be found on the OSB **Website: OldSpringBranch.org**

Yard clippings and "tied bundled" tree limbs and bushes should be collected on Fridays. If not collected, call 3-1-1. Whatever they tell you to do, do it. If you choose to put yard clippings into the garbage bin, please use the EcoGuard Brand disposal bags, City Approved Bags (found at Home Depot). Please do not black bags.

Thank you, residents, for picking up litter in your yard, ditches and streets. We are all responsible for keeping our neighborhood clean and attractive.

CITY OF HOUSTON – IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

-Updated February 5, 2024-

City Hall/City Hal	ll Annex	City Dept.			
District A – Amy Peck	832-393-3010	3-1-1 (City Ordinance Violations)	713-837-0311		
Liz Miranda (Chief of Staff)	832-393-3379	Citizen's Assistance Office	832-393-0955		
At-large 1 – Julian Rameriz	832-393-3014	Convention & Entertainment	713-853-8000		
At-large 2 – Willie Davis	832-393-3013	Fire	713-247-5000		
At-large 3 – Twilla Carter	832-393-3005	Health & Human Services	713-794-9320		
At-large 4 – Letitia Plummer DDS	832-393-3012	Houston Emergency Center	713-884-3911		
At-large 5 – Sallie Alcorn	832-393-3006	Municipal Courts	713-247-5680		
City Attorney's Office	832-393-3440	Parks & Recreation	713-865-4500		
Asst. City Attorney, Dist A	832-393-6250	Planning & Development	713-837-7719		
Alexandria Tolbert		Building Permits	832-394-8852		
Houston Mayor John Whitmire	713-837-0311	Center Point Energy	713-207-2222		
City Secretary	832-393-1100	BARC (loose dogs)	713-229-7342		
Legal	832-393-1029	-			
Police		Other numbers			
Police Dispatch Non-Emergency	713-884-3131	Harris County Clerk			
Police (HPD storefront – 8am-4pm)	832-394-0102	Filed Deed Restrictions	713-755-6411		
(Temporally closed)		Public Works and Engineering	(Call 3-1-1)		
Police (NW sub-station)	832-394-5500	Solid Waste Management	832-393-0430		
(ask for Sgt. Timmy Herrmann)			713-699-8924		
Police (SBISD) ***		Animal Cruelty Hotline	713-869-7722		
Kids on street, 8am-4pm, M-F	713-984-9805	Illegal Dumping Hotline	832-927-1567		
Harris County Precinct One	713-755-5200				
Constable Alan Rosen					

9-1-1 EMERGENCY ONLY

IF ANY OF THE ABOVE NUMBERS ARE INCORRECT, CALL 3-1-1.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS Deadline: Thursday, March 28, 2024

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



Address: 1911 Antoine Dr Houston. Texas 77055 Tel: (713) 683-3817 Fax: (713) 683-7077

E-mail: admissions@samtech.edu





Mike Brubaker, SRA President

7626 Hammerly Houston, Texas 77055

713-464-4666 | 713-464-4669 fax brubakerandassociates.com

Reyna Auto Body Clinic, Inc.

Foreign • Domestic • Guaranteed Paint & Body Work



Family Owned Since 1967

7805 Hammerly Blvd. Houston, Texas 77055 Email: reynaauto@comcast.net

Now is the best time to get your AC system checked for efficiency to ensure maximum performance!



Call New Balance AC to schedule your annual Safety & Efficiency check.

713-683-9677



Old Spring Branch Civic Association 2023 – 2024 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 Business/Non-resident □ \$25.00 □ New Application \square 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 5-1-23 through 4-30-24.

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.

Formulario de Membrecía 2023 – 2024 Nombre: Dirección: Correo Electrónico: Dirección de correspondencia: Estoy interesado en los siguientes comités: □ Embellecimiento □ Vigilancia de la Vecindad □ Comunicaciones ☐ Restricciones de las Propiedades □ Jardinería □ Membrecía □ Social □ Eventos Especiales Cuota Anual/Tipo de Membrecía: □ \$25.00 Propiedad Representada □ \$12.50 Tercera Edad (62+) /Bajos Ingresos □ \$25.00 Negocio/No resident □ Nuevo Miembro □ Renovando Cantidad de la Cuota Anual: Comité Cantidad de la Donación: Pago Total: Al solicitar membrecía nueva o al renovar, está de acuerdo a pagar su cuota y apoyar a su asociación cívica a obtener una vecindad mejor. Firma: Fecha: Cuota de membrecía válida del 1-5-23 hasta 30-4-24. Traiga el formulario y pago a la siguiente reunión o puede mandarlo por correo a: Old Spring Branch Civic Association P. O. Box 55172

Houston, TX 77255-5172

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

Asociación Cívica de Old Spring Branch



SALES SERVICE INSTALLATION

In Business since 1998 TACLA49548E



(832)367-5068





6010 W 34th St D, Houston, TX 77092 www.primoairmasters.com



Happy to assist you when:

- -Selling / Venta -Buying / Compra
- -Leasing /Renta
- -Home Value

Rosario Machorro. Realtor (R) MCNE, VA Certified

> Ros@RosMachorro.com @RosMachorro www.RosMachorro.com

Mobile: (713) 391-6355

Real Estate, Tailored to your Needs.

Se habla espanol!



Proud to be your neighbor since 2011.

Mabee WholeLife® Service Center

1905 Jacquelyn Dr. Houston, TX 77055

Offering community based care to Spring Branch East residents that includes:

- CASE MANAGEMENT
- YOUTH PROGRAMS
- COUNSELING SERVICES FEDERALLY-QUALIFIED
- RECOVERY SERVICES
- HEALTH CLINIC
- FOOD ASSISTANCE
- SE HABLA ESPAÑOL

For more information call 713-328-1963 WWW.THEWOMENSHOME.ORG

RECYCLING AND HEAVY TRASH PICK UP -2024 SCHEDULE-

MONTH		C LING er Friday)	HEAVY TRASH (Last Thursday of the month)			
January	□ 1/12	□ 1/26	TREE	Thurs., 1/25		
February	□ 2/9	□ 2/23	□ JUNK	Thurs., 2/22		
March	□ 3/8	□ 3/22	□ TREE	Thurs., 3/28		
April	□ 4/5	□ 4/19	□ JUNK	Thurs., 4/25		
May	□ 5/3 □ 5/	17 □ 5/31	□ TREE	Thurs., 5/23		
June	□ 6/14	□ 6/28	□ JUNK	Thurs., 6/27		
July	□ 7/12	□ 7/26	□ TREE	Thurs., 7/25		
August	□ 8/9	□ 8/23	□ JUNK	Thurs., 8/22		
September	□ 9/6	□ 9/20	□ TREE	Thurs., 9/26		
October	□ 10/4	□ 10/18	□ JUNK	Thurs., 10/24		
November	□ 11/1	□ 11/15	□ TREE	Thurs., 11/28		
December	□ 12/13	□ 12/27	□ JUNK	Thurs., 12/26		

YES! Put these in your GREEN 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 GREEN 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

BUILDING PERMITS – CITY OF HOUSTON & DEED RESTRICTIONS

IMPORTANT! Building permits must be in compliance with Deed Restrictions!

To protect the neighborhood character and property values, the City of Houston is cooperating with citizens to ensure building permits **are not issued** in violation of deed restrictions.

Before you begin new construction or home improvement project, please consult your civic association regarding possible deed restrictions. You may not purchase a building permit without signing a sworn deed restriction affidavit stating that you are aware of and agree to abide by deed restrictions pertaining to your project.

The building permit application needs to have the correct legal description, including the subdivision name and the Deed Restrictions Affidavit on the back of the Permit, must be filled out. (a legal description can be found on the title to your property) Customer Service Representatives will check the subdivision listed on your permit application against a database index of restrictions. All construction projects MUST be in compliance with a community's deed restrictions. If you knowingly, or unknowingly, sign the deed restriction affidavit under false pretenses, you could be subject to municipal court citations, fines, and the removal of the structure or violating portion thereof.

To research restrictions, you can:

- Check to see a Notice of Restrictions was provided at closing (required by title insurance in recent years).
- Obtain a copy of the restrictions from either Harris County Clerk's office (713-755-6411), or through the appropriate homeowners association or civic club.
- Contact a title abstract company to obtain a copy of the restrictions or a letter stating that there are no restrictions.

Projects that require a permit include:

- New construction of building or structures
- Alterations, repairs or additions to existing buildings or structures.
- Changes in the use or occupancy of an existing building or structure.
- Interior tenant lease build-outs, remodeling and repairs.
- Exterior remodels, alterations or repairs.
- Moving/relocation existing buildings.
- Demolition (interior and complete buildings).
- Fences over 8' high.
- Driveways and sidewalks (in city R.O.W.)
- Parking lot paving

If you need clarification concerning fees or have questions concerning building permits, please call 832-394-8820, before beginning any project. Also, e-mail Houston.permittingcenter@houstontx.gov

Old Spring Branch Civic Association

MARCH 2024 MARZO 2024

112121212121								
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
domingo	lunes	martes	miércoles	jueves	viernes	sábado		
3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
		Election Day, 7a-7p			Int'l Women's Day			
10 Daylight Saving begins	11	12 OSBCA Quarterly	13	14	15	16		
		Meeting, 7p	Spring Bi	reak – No school				
17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19 PIP, 7p	20	21 HEAVY TRASH: TREE	22	23 May put out Heavy Trash * Puede sacar basura pesada		
24	25	26	27	28 Bugler deadline	29	30		
31 Easter	1 April Fool's Day	2	3	4	5	6		

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

OFFICERS

President:Jo Lightsey713-681-0560Vice President:Loretta Nalley832-868-8751Secretary:Linda Whatley713-681-0560Treasurer:Virginia Lehman832-748-8088

STREET REPRESENTATIVES

Antoine: ---Vacant ---

Counter Point

& Turquoise: Anonymous

Harland & Todd:

Jacquelyn/Mike McGeehon713-922-0116

E. Hammerly:

Johanna: Roman Nunez

Silverbonnet, Cedel Eric Schmidt 281-840-1521

& W. Hammerly:

Thonig: Sybil Sanchez 832-722-2331

Woodvine: Rosario Machorro 713-391-6355

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Advertising:

Gerry Thielemann, 713-682-9634

Beautification:

Jo Lightsey, 713-681-0560

Citizens on Patrol (COP):

Virginia Lehman, 832-748-8088

Communications:

Sybil Sánchez, 832-722-2331 Lorna Gast, Newsletter mail out

Deed Restrictions:

Committee of Five Contact: 713-681-0560

In Touch:

Gerry Thielemann, 713-682-9634

Landscaping:

Nino Roman, 832-877-4701

Membership:

Loretta Nalley, 832-868-8751

Social: ---Vacant---