



# River Oaks Newsletter

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 8

DECEMBER 1989

*"There's a tree ... in the park as well,  
The sturdy kind that doesn't mind the snow."*

The River Oaks Beautification Committee invites all families to bring personal Christmas ornaments to decorate the tree in the lower cul-de-sac on Sunday, December 10th from 2 PM to 4 PM. Please remember that the ornaments should be suitable for outdoor display.

*...Submitted by the Beautification Committee*



*"City sidewalks...  
In the air there's a feeling of Christmas."  
by Leona Gervase*

Have you ever driven up and down side streets during the holiday season to delight in the original decorations on display? These are some of the special memories we enjoy collecting as families. Particularly impressive are neighborhoods that coordinate their efforts to light an entire street or neighborhood. Aurora has such a neighborhood in its northeast section on Lehnertz Avenue. Directions: Take Rt. 59 to Butterfield, then west on Butterfield to Farnsworth Ave. Turn left on Farnsworth to Scheffer Rd, then right on Scheffer a few short blocks to Ohio St. Turn left on Ohio and continue to Lehnertz. You can't miss the display.



A little closer to home... There is one spectacularly decorated house on Williamsburg at Hobson West in Naperville. If you cannot find the street on a Naperville map, the Chamber of Commerce will direct you to this very special display, or you can call me at 393-4045 for directions.

A lot of River Oaks folks have already put up lights and decorations of their own this year, and the Christmas spirit is really beginning to come alive here. Wouldn't it be fun to combine our spirits in such a neighborhood effort? Some homeowners are putting white Italian lights on their front yard trees. Why not join in and help make River Oaks de-light-ful this year?

LUMINARIAS are another way of adding special light to the season. In fact, this year residents not only have the opportunity to purchase luminaria as kits, but can also do Cerny and Sesqui parks a favor as well. The Warrenville Women's Connection is selling kits containing 6 bags, candles, and sand for \$3.50 a kit, the proceeds of which go toward upgrading our Warrenville parks. If you prefer to do it yourself, hardware and craft stores carry the components for luminarias. For you pop-drinkers, here is a clever way for your to recycle your plastic 2-litre pop bottles. Remove the top one-third of each bottle and put in sand and a plumber's candle to create high-tech luminarias that can be used again next year.

*"Giddy-yap, giddy-yap, giddy-yap,  
Let's go!"*

Nominating petitions are now being accepted for vacancies on the Board of Directors. Three positions will be filled at the Annual Meeting scheduled for February 1, 1990. Newly elected Directors will serve a three year term.

The Board of Directors meets monthly and is empowered by the Association's By-Laws to, among other things:

- (a) adopt and publish rules and regulations governing the use of the Common Area and facilities;
- (b) exercise for the Association all powers, duties and authority vested in or delegated to the Association and not reserved to the members.

A full description of the powers and duties of the Board may be found in your By-Laws and Declarations of Easements, Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions.

A nominating petition is attached to the Newsletter. It must be received by a member of the Nominating Committee by 6 PM on Wednesday, December 20, 1989. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the annual meeting. You may nominate yourself or another homeowner. You may nominate more than one person.

Members of the Nominating Committee are: Chris Carlson (Lot 8), Veronica Williams (lot 55) and Tim Phillips (Lot 47).

*... From the Nominating Committee*

*" ... right to the traffic cop,  
And he only paused a moment  
When he heard him holler 'Stop!'"  
by Becky Christiansen*



Every school day, the elementary school bus stops at the intersection of Ridge and River Oaks for the children to get on and off. And every day, cars pull around behind the stopped bus to get to Rt. 59. A group of concerned parents ask **PLEASE WAIT FOR THE BUS!** You are putting in jeopardy any children who might be crossing behind the bus.

## KIDS' CORNER

*"We are neighbor's children.  
Whom you have seen before."*

Eric Ray and Hillary Saxton will be chorus members in the upcoming presentation of the musical, "Free to be You and Me," at the Warrenville Community Club. Show dates and times are: December 15 and 16, 7:30 PM, and December 17, 3:00 PM. Tickets are \$4 for adults and \$2 for children. As the gym holds only 200 people per show, those interested in purchasing tickets are urged to call 393-4499 now. Break a leg, kids!

Another Holiday presentation that might interest some families is the Children's Theatre presentation of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* at the Drury Lane Theatre. Call 530-8300 for details.



## BIRTHDAY KIDS!

Happy Birthday, River Oaks December Kids!:

Laura Brocker  
Elaine Brocker  
Tenille English  
Victor Ng

Robert Emerson  
Kristine Recometa  
Brittani Highland

## COMMITTEE NEWS

### *Beautification:*

Beautification committee meeting. 11/7/89 at Linda Saxton's house. Present were Linda Saxton, Susan Ray, Jody Bradley, Fred Gervase, Judy Molina. Dorothy Nesbit did not attend. 7:45 PM.

Review of last meeting. Top soil has been spread along the sidewalk. If we don't get a freeze soon we will need something to protect the soil. Burlap and stakes were suggested.

Front entry. We will be adding compost to the dirt in front entry to help with spring planting. It has been suggested that the bushes on the southeast side of entry should be removed. Nothing will

help their appearance. It may be decided to ask homeowners to dig one up for spring planting in their own yards. No digging will be done until we contact J.U.L.I.E. We are still working on estimates on landscaping front entry. We want to be sure to have them soon so it can be budgeted for 1990. Planting will hopefully be done in early spring.

Christmas Decorations. We will be checking with Sonny Acres and several others for Christmas trees to decorate front entry. We're checking the best prices. Fred suggested we encourage homeowners to decorate their yards with white lights. It would really be beautiful. It was also suggested that we all do luminaria lights in our front yard. Plastic pop bottles cut in half and filled with sand and a candle. It was also suggested that we have a tree ceremony for the children (the tree in the lower circle). Each child would bring one homemade ornament.

It was noted that a homeowner planted a tree in the upper circle.

We're considering another survey with the four items people showed the most interest in and a fifth added (grass seed). We may contact Anden to see if they are responsible for planting grass. We ask homeowners to please answer yes or no because we had difficulty figuring out what they liked and didn't like. We strongly urge homeowners to attend the annual meetings and regular meetings to let us know how they feel about these issues.

Discussion on who to contact about the cracks in the sidewalks. They really need repair. We think the city is responsible.

All other subjects discussed were already covered in report in Newsletter last month.

Meeting adjourned 10:05.

*...Submitted by Jody Bradley*

#### Nominating Committee:

The first meeting of the Nominating Committee, for the 1989 term, was held on Wednesday, November 8, 1989 at the home of Veronica Williams. Present were:

Veronica Williams, chair  
Chris Carlson  
Tim Phillips

The committee agreed that a nominating petition, distributed via the Association newsletter, would be used for obtaining potential candidates. Last year the committee called each homeowner directly. With the well-read and regularly published newsletter, the committee agreed that direct calling would probably not be needed.

The contents of the nominating petition were discussed. In addition to name, address and occupation, it was agreed that two questions would be asked:

1. Why the nominee wished to serve on the Board.
2. The three most important things to the nominee.

The committee also designated Chris Carlson to contact the Summerlakes manager, Board members, etc., to obtain a copy of their proxy statements for modification and use by River Oaks.

The next meeting of the committee will be on Wednesday, December 20, 1989 at 7:30 PM. At that time nominating petitions will be reviewed and additional nominees will be solicited, if necessary, and the proxy statement for the annual meeting will be designed.

Accordingly, the published petitions would be due by 6 PM on December 20, 1989.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 PM.

*...Submitted by Veronica Williams, Chair.*

#### Newsletter Committee:

The newsletter committee met on November 27, at 7:30 PM at the Christiansen's. Present were Tony Oster, Judy Molina, Leona Gervase, Becky Christiansen, and chairman John Christiansen, for the purpose of discussing the December newsletter. A good time was had by all and we got a little work done, too. A little wordplay, but play nonetheless. Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 28, at 7:30 PM.

*... Submitted by the fun-loving Newsletter Committee.*

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MERRY MEETING! The next meeting of the River Oaks Board of Directors will be held on December 14, 1989 at John Christiansen's, 28600 River Oaks Dr, at 7:30 PM.

For Sale: 1947 Army Jeep. Runs good. 393-1046.

RIVER OAKS BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
11/16/89 MEETING MINUTES



"Do you hear what I hear?"

Winter is coming and snow will soon be falling. Call on Jamie and Jacquie for snow removal. Gas powered snow blower. Experienced, references available, dependable, reasonable, reliable and responsible. *Jamie and Jacquie Salyer, 393-7645.*

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Need a babysitter?? Jacquie Salyer - experienced, references available. Infants and toddlers experience also. 393-7645.

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Becky Christiansen has a great lead on someone who installs phone lines and TV cables. Call her at 393-4946 for more information.

\*\*\*\*\*

Need a babysitter? Jessie & Stephanie Carlson - experienced with any age child. Jess - 12 years old. Steph - 14 years old. 393-3502. References available.

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**CALLING ALL CAROLERS!** The Gervase Family is hosting a caroling get-together on Friday, December 22nd, from 7:00 PM until we're

all sung out. All River Oaks residents, children with their parents, are invited to join us for an evening of outdoor and indoor singing and refreshment. If you are interested in participating in this enjoyable family time, call Leona or Fred at 393-4045 by December 19th for more information. If not, be on the lookout for a band of merry musicians strolling the streets of River Oaks that evening.

**In Attendance:** John Christiansen, Joe English, Lois Hitchcock, Bob Modene, Pete Molina, Linda Saxton

**Absent:** Mike Holmes, Gloria Langston, Veronica Williams

**Guests:** Jody Bradley, Fred and Leona Gervase, Mike Hitchcock, Tom Saxton, Becky Christiansen, Susan Ray, Elaine Modene

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, December 14, 1989 at 7:30pm at John Christiansen's

**Meeting Called to Order:** 7:40pm  
by Bob Modene

OPEN FORUM

Ideas presented during open forum included:

-increase the responsibility of the grounds keeper position to include a compost heap.

-create a neighborhood committee to handle neighborhood concerns such as safety and community service.

-Bob announced that all homes are being re-assessed. Homeowners may wish to call Charlie Kalind at the Winfield Township Assessor's Office to inquire about their property.

-It was reported that currently a safety study is being completed on the use of school buses to take children from River Oaks to the new Johnson school. Parents may wish to call the school system.

**Minutes:**

The minutes were amended on page three to read that the annual meeting is on Thursday February 1, not February 2.

**Treasurer's Report:** Attached.

No audit of the books was completed last year. Joe is contacting accountants now to complete this years' audit.

#### **Entertainment Committee: No Report**

#### **Newsletter Committee:**

The December issue will be a big Christmas issue. John is soliciting all ideas. The committee is working on different ways to present the newsletter and not take up as much paper.

#### **Beautification Committee:**

Linda reviewed the minutes from the last committee meeting. A budget for the front entrance was presented. \$100 was approved for use in decorating the front entrance for Christmas. A new survey will be given out to rank the top 4 common area items by priority and to include grass in the common area as one of the choices.

#### **Groundskeeper:**

There was discussion of completing weed and feed next spring in the common area. New bids will be needed in the spring for the lawn mowing. Additional items will be added to what we require from the people who mow the lawn. They will be asked to pick up any garbage found in the common area and to re-stake the trees after mowing.

#### **Nominating Committee:**

The next newsletter will contain requests for nominations. They will need to be returned to the committee by 12/20/89. The committee consists of Chris Carlson and Tim Phillips with the chairman - Veronica Williams. Chris is checking with Summerlakes on how proxy ballots are handled.

#### **Annual Meeting Preparation:**

Joe presented the proposed budget. Figures for the beautification committee still need to be added.

There was a discussion on the need to budget for legal fees based on the retaining wall. It is rather hard to budget for at this time.

At the December meeting each committee chairman is to have a brief statement explaining how their budgetary figure was derived.

At the annual meeting we will try to have the bylaws changed from a financial audit to a financial review with a confirmed bank statement.

There was also discussion on changing the bylaws to bring the fiscal year and year-end reports into sync with the annual meeting which is the first Thursday of February.

#### **Other:**

No additional information has been received pertaining to the retaining wall. Our attorney is waiting to receive a copy of the plans from the city for the wall. We have not received any correspondence from the opposing attorney.

Linda contacted other associations and found that they conduct their meetings similar to ours:

Summerlakes - prints the agenda in the newsletter and allows open forum after the business meeting, they hold special meetings on big topics, and have some closed door executive meetings.

Emerald Green - hands out agendas as you arrive at the meeting, allots only 5 minutes per speaker, the board and the treasurer is insured.

Linda met with Dennis Posluszny, Director of Public Works for Warrenville to discuss the Anden bond money which the city still holds. There is approximately \$47,000 which we may be able to use to improve River Oaks prior to it reverting back to Anden in December of 1990. The board will send a letter to him requesting that he check all sidewalks, the retention ponds and manhole covers. He also stated that we need to be maintaining the retaining wall. It was suggested that we video tape the wall every year. We need more information on what type of maintenance is needed.

The next meeting will be held on the second Thursday, December 14, 1989 at John Christiansen's at 7:30pm.

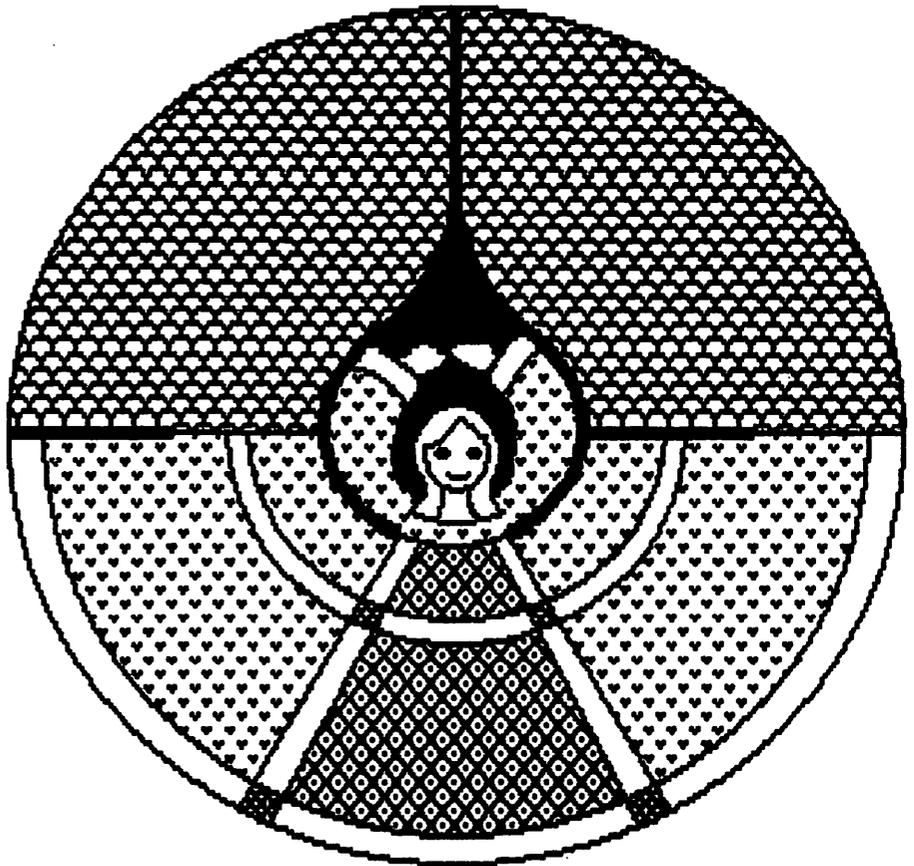
Meeting adjourned at 11:00p.m.  
... Submitted by Lois Hitchcock, Secretary

## Christmas Angel

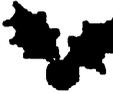
Here's a little Christmas angel you can cut out and put together. You can color her either before or after you cut her out. We're sure she would enjoy a perch in your Christmas tree!

### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Cut out the whole big circle with the angel inside.
2. Cut along the heavy black lines, and cut away all the black parts in the middle, so that the angel's head and arms are free and the wings are separated.
3. Slip the slots on either side of the angel's dress into each other, and the angel will stand right up for you!



*"Now bring us some figgy pudding,  
Now bring us some figgy pudding,  
Now bring us some figgy pudding,  
And bring some out here!"*

 **Holly Berry Clumps** 

... from Judy Molina

**3 cups corn flakes  
1 stick butter  
30 marshmallows  
1 tsp green food coloring  
red cinnamon candy**

**Melt butter and marshmallows together and add food coloring. Mix in corn flakes. Drop on a cookie sheet or waxed paper. Decorate with red cinnamon candy to resemble a holly berry clump.**

## Rocky Road Candy

. . . from Elaine Modano

1 12-oz package semi-sweet chocolate pieces  
1 12-oz package butterscotch pieces  
1 cup peanut butter  
1 18-1/2 oz package miniature marshmallows  
1 cup salted peanuts

1. Combine chocolate and butterscotch pieces with peanut butter in a 2 quart glass measure. Microwave on 70% power 4 to 5 minutes. Stir until melted.
2. Add marshmallows and peanuts. Stir until marshmallows and peanuts are well-coated.
3. Spread in a buttered 13 by 9 inch pan.
4. Refrigerate; cut into squares.

(For a smaller amount, make half the recipe. Reduce microwave time by half and use an 8 inch square pan.)

*"...And we won't go till we've got some,  
We won't go till we've got some,  
And we won't go till we've got some,  
So bring some out here!"*

## Cinnamon Coffee

. . . from Leona Garvase

6 Tbsp instant nonfat dry milk  
3 Tbsp freeze-dried coffee  
1/4 cup sugar  
1/2 tsp cinnamon  
1/8 tsp cloves



Combine ingredients. Store in a covered container in refrigerator. Use 2 tsp per 6 oz boiling water for each serving.

## Russian Tea Mix

... from Leona Bervase

1-3/4 cup orange flavored drink mix (Tang)  
1 cup instant tea  
2 tsp cinnamon  
2 tsp ground cloves  
2 3-oz packages instant lemonade mix  
1-1/2 to 2 cups sugar (can be added now  
or later to suit individual taste)

Mix all ingredients together.  
Dissolve 1 to 2 tsp per cup  
of hot water. (This can also  
be attractively packaged for  
gift-giving.)



## Cranberry Tea

(serves 4)

... from Leona Bervase



1-1/2 cups strongly brewed tea  
1 cinnamon stick  
4-5 each: cardamon seeds,  
whole cloves  
3 Tbsp sugar  
2 cups cranberry juice  
1/2 cup orange juice

1. Make tea as directed on package. While tea is hot, add cinnamon stick, cardamon, cloves, and sugar. Stir until sugar is dissolved, about 1 to 2 minutes. Allow to cool at room temperature.
2. Strain over bowl to remove spices. Add cranberry and orange juices; stir to mix. This may be reheated over low heat, but do not boil. Or serve chilled.

"Good Tidings we bring  
To you and your kin  
We wish you a Merry Christmas  
And a Happy New Year!"

RIVER OAKS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION  
FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF  
NOVEMBER 16, 1989

Balance as of October 20, 1989	\$5,501.63
Moneys Collected	\$ 814.00
Interest (October)	\$ 18.92
Expenditures	\$ 259.12
Total Cash on Hand	\$6,080.43
Accounts Receivable	\$ 342.00
9 @ \$36.00	
1 @ \$18.00	
Total Net Worth	\$6,422.43

EXPENDITURES

Halloween Party	\$250.00
Bank Service Charge (Oct)	\$ 4.12
Total	\$259.12

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
11/16/89

Nominating petition  
Board of Directors  
River Oaks Home Owners Association

By this petition I nominate \_\_\_\_\_,  
lot \_\_\_\_\_, for the position of Director, River Oaks Homeowners  
Association, to serve a term of three years.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lot number

Additional Information:

(Note: This information will be distributed to all  
homeowners.)

Name of Nominee:

Address:

Occupation:

Why I would like (would like the nominee) to serve as a member of  
the Board of Directors:

Three of the most important things to me (the nominee) are:

1.

2.

3.

Please return this petition to :

Chris Carlson (Lot 8)

Tim Phillips (Lot 47)

Veronica Williams (Lot 55)