



# Oaktree Shade

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

MARCH 2010

## Annual Meeting Coming Up!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR APRIL 27TH

### SPECIAL INTEREST ARTICLES:

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### BOARD MEMBERS:

President—  
Marlin Roberts  
[marlinroberts@yahoo.com](mailto:marlinroberts@yahoo.com)

Vice-President—  
Shirley Shepherd  
[shirleycshepherd@yahoo.com](mailto:shirleycshepherd@yahoo.com)

Secretary—  
Joe Cornett  
[jcornett214@earthlink.net](mailto:jcornett214@earthlink.net)

Treasurer—  
Drew Kaplan  
[dkre@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dkre@sbcglobal.net)

Member-at-Large—  
Mike Mason  
[mmason@weathermatic.com](mailto:mmason@weathermatic.com)

The annual membership meeting of the Oaktree Homeowners Association, will be held at the Gleneagles Country Club, 5401 W. Park Blvd. Plano, TX 75093, April 27, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. You will be receiving a notice and proxy forms in the mail shortly.

At the meeting there will be three board positions on which to vote. If you are unable to attend the meeting, you may either sign a proxy over to a neighbor, the Secretary of the Association, or vote by checking the box beside the name(s) or writing in another name or names in the spaces provided on the proxy form. Any owner, who is not a member in good standing, will be ineligible to vote.

The nominating committee slate of board candidates is as follows:

#### **Patrick Custer**

Mr. Custer is an Executive Coach who works with senior executives involved in China and other parts of Asia as one of his specialties. He has made extensive travels to China and all of Asia over the past 25 years.



He is also the Chief Technical Advisor and a board member for the Pacific Rim Biotech Forum, which has been the premier venue for world business leaders as well as governmental leaders to meet and exchange experiences.

He contributes time as a guest speaker for SMU's EMBA and Global MBA program, University of Texas at Dallas School of Business, Texas Tech University, Peking University and other educational venues. Patrick is a requested speaker for many other functions and events throughout the world.

#### **Catherine Gould**



For the last 16 years I have worked as an attorney for a local county

government. Before then, I ran a successful solo legal practice in Dallas, Texas. Before moving to Dallas, I lived in Houston, Texas and was a media buyer for major advertising agencies. I worked for the world's largest advertising agency, McCann-Erickson, where I was responsible for the multimillion dollar Coca-Cola beverage account for the

Houston, Texas market.

I have been a resident in the Estates of Oaktree for 10 1/2 years. I have attended every annual Oaktree board meeting since I moved into the Estates of Oaktree. I am currently an Oaktree Neighborhood Representative and am serving as a member on the following Oaktree committees: Common Area Maintenance Committee, Safety and Security Committee, Communications Committee, Document Revision Committee.

My number one concern for the Estates of Oaktree is that any person who does harm to the Estates of Oaktree or its residents should be brought to justice with required restitution to the victims in the Collin County or District Courts.

#### **Charles J. Keszler**

Chuck has over 20 years of experience in Finance and Accounting. He was most recently



Chief Financial Officer of Lone Star Technologies, a \$1.4 billion public company in the oil-field tubular products business based in Dallas. In that

Cont'd on Page 2 ->

# Board Candidates (cont'd from Page 1)



Spring is here!

role he led all the financial related activities including accounting, tax and finance as well as mergers & acquisitions. He ultimately helped sell the company to US Steel in 2007 and has been semi-retired and working in private investments since then. Chuck still maintains his CPA license.

Chuck has a Bachelor of Science and a Masters of

Science in Accounting from the University of North Texas.

Chuck is a member of Financial Executives International and is active in his church, the Church of the Holy Communion, and has served as a member of the vestry, the governing body of the church, and is an usher.

Chuck and his wife Ellen moved into Oaktree in 1997 and live at 5116 Ambergate Lane. They have two boys,

Danny and Andrew, ages 11 and 10 respectively.

Chuck is interested in serving on the Oaktree Estates HOA board to improve governance practices for the benefit of our community.

**Don't forget the Annual Meeting on April 27th, 7 pm at Gleneagles Country Club. Or fill out the proxy form you received from Premier. We need your vote!**

## Safety & Security Committee

Securitas Security Services began operating as our Gate Security vendor on February 1, 2010. The Safety and Security Committee met with Securitas on February 10 to review procedures and to solicit ideas on how Oaktree residents could assist with the transition. Please be aware of the following procedures and upgrades included in the new contract:

1. Securitas will record all visitors entering Oaktree. To assist the guard with admitting frequent visitors, please update your Frequent Visitor List.

2. If you are planning a group of visitors for an event at your home, please provide a list of these visitors to the guard. Please be aware that the guard will call you for permission before admitting any unexpected visitors, unless you advise otherwise. Until the

new computer and email are setup for the Guard House, please drop off any updates at the Guard House in person.

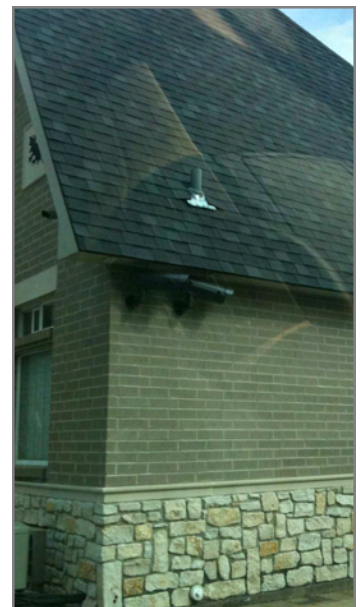
3. Cameras and a recorder have been installed to capture Entry and Exit lanes and license plates. This provides the tool to identify any gate incursions with images to prosecute, if necessary.

4. Review of the needs at the back gate is in process and should be completed in the near future. The cameras will be linked to a recorder and the guard will be able to monitor the back gate from the Guard House.

5. Upgrades to the computer system at the Guard House are in process. The computer will house the TollTag access codes, Oaktree resident directory, Frequent Visitor Lists, and any information provided by the residents. This should enhance security operations and service to the Community.

Securitas has agreed to share procedures being used in other communities they service. The Committee will review these procedures for improvements that can be presented to the Membership for adoption by Oaktree.

New cameras at front entrance



**COMMITTEE  
UPDATES**

## Common Area Maintenance Committee

The Common Area Maintenance Committee has been very busy with new projects this year. First, we contracted with Texas Premier Landscaping to trim the overgrown trees at the front entry and along Stonehollow. The larger trees were trimmed and lifted first to reveal more light to the many planted areas below.

Next, the crepe myrtles trees were trimmed to help reshape and get them back under control. Some crepe myrtles were removed because of overcrowding and some were replanted in more conducive growing areas, not under the larger trees.

Some trimming and clearing of old growth was also done in the west creek area behind Tennington. Hopefully these changes will allow better growing spaces for the trees and an overall more beautiful look to our entry and common grounds.

New stone was added at each of the front corners to ready those beds for new plantings to be done in the next few weeks. This is all being done in accordance with the new master plan presented and approved last fall.

Oaktree's landscape maintenance contract, currently with Eagle Landscaping, expires May 1, 2010. The CAM Committee received bids from 4 companies for the May 1 – December 31 period. For ease of handling, subsequent contracts will cover 12-month periods.

The committee interviewed each company and recommended Lindsey's Lawn & Landscape at the March 24<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. Lindsey's also contracts with Oakdale, our neighbors across Frankford, and brings many years of experience and expertise. The CAM Committee is excited to have them working with us.

We have a great committee working on our new master plan for Oaktree's landscaping. If you're interested, we invite you to join the CAM committee to help achieve this goal. Contact Charlotte Cornett, Chairman CAM committee – [cornett214@earthlink.net](mailto:cornett214@earthlink.net)



New stone walls at front entrance

## Communications Committee

Some exciting new changes are underway to make our website more functional and useful to our Oaktree residents.

As we continue to move towards digital methods of communicating and interacting, the emails you will be receiving from our administrators will be more attractive with better text and graphics, and will allow file attachments.

This is done through an enhanced capability within the website to allow the admins to select recipients, format, write and attach to emails through a special admin interface screen that will soon be part of the website functionality.

The website changes will also allow residents, once logged in, online access to part of the in-

formational database. This means that residents will be able to look up other residents by last name, by street, by phone number, etc. and print a neighborhood directory by street or by name, if they wish.

Residents will also be able to log in and update their own information, including their preference for what types of information they choose to have be made public, such as email addresses, home and cell phone numbers, etc.

The Message Board is available as always for residents to log in and post messages and discuss topics of interest to others in the neighborhood, such as news, changes, and social activities.

We are also adding a new section to the Message Board

called "References" where residents can offer or request referrals on service providers such as handyman, pool maintenance, dog walkers, baby sitters, painters, etc.

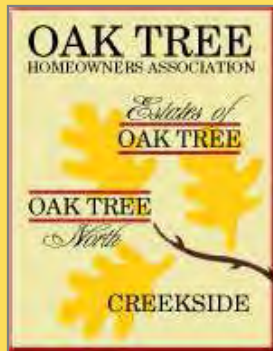
Let us know if there are other general topic areas you would like to see added to this section. The message board is an efficient way to find out what is going on in your neighborhood and solicit feedback and interest on subjects you may like to know more about.

And as we indicated earlier, the newsletter will now be published digitally, so let your neighbors know if they have missed their hardcopy where they can find it now!

[www.oaktreehomeowners.com](http://www.oaktreehomeowners.com)

Interested in Gardening?  
Checkout the Oaktree website Message Board under Sponsors: Calloway's "Good Neighbor" Program. Post your ideas and suggestions there for a more beautiful neighborhood.





## **Oaktree Homeowners Association**

### **Management Company:**

Premier Communities  
3102 Oak Lawn Avenue, Suite 202  
Dallas, TX 75219  
Office: 214-871-9700  
Fax: 214-889-9980

### **Association Manager:**

Ashley Maines  
214-451-5443 Direct Line  
[ashley.maines@premiercommunities.net](mailto:ashley.maines@premiercommunities.net)

Oaktree is a friendly, safe, family-oriented community with a gatehouse entrance, staffed at all times. There are 306 homes in the three communities that make up Oaktree: The Estates of Oaktree, Oaktree North and Creekside.

The Oaktree Residential Association Board of Directors governs and maintains the business affairs and common property that contribute to the overall ambience and property values in Oaktree. They are assisted by a professional association management company.

In addition, we have several neighborhood committees in which residents are encouraged to participate to further enhance the neighborhood and foster a sense of community. We hope you will consider getting involved and becoming a member of a committee.

[www.oaktreehomeowners.com](http://www.oaktreehomeowners.com)

## **Important Notices**

### ► **TOLL TAG SYSTEM**

We have been working with our Gate Maintenance vendor to identify solutions to the known Toll Tag problems. It would be helpful if you notify Oaktree of any problems you are having with access using your Toll Tag by posting on the Oaktree website. Go to the "Message Board, Oaktree Safety and Security Committee" and post a message under "Toll Tag Access Issues". Remember, the guard does not have the ability to correct Tag issues. You will receive a new Toll Tag registration form in the mailing announcing the Annual Meeting.

► Steve and Shirley Shepherd are planning another food collection drive beginning on April 12<sup>th</sup>. This will be their third effort collecting food for Collin County's Food Banks. Please donate non-perishable food items to the bin outside the Shepherd's home at 5212 Scarborough. The County's Food Banks are reportedly running low and your contributions are very much appreciated. Thank you Oaktree residents for supporting those in need in our community!

► Bulk trash pick up is the first **full** week of each month. Watch for reminder signs near the front entry gate.

► For all Police, Fire & Medical emergencies, **phone 9-1-1**.

► Submit neighborhood news for the next issue of the online Oaktree Shade newsletter to: [info@oaktreehomeowners.com](mailto:info@oaktreehomeowners.com).



**Food Drive Starts April 12th**