

President's Note

Here we are finally at the end of February and hopefully soon at the end of our long winter season. We have lost several good friends (Iris Blodgett on East Meadows and Bill Anderson on Briarcrest) this winter and our economy is in bad shape. But we each can elect to have good memories, to count our blessings and be thankful for good families, neighbors and friends. We also can look for ways to help our city, county and state with budget items that we can do ourselves or get along without. It must be tempting to go after the new federal funds but why not accomplish much without added spending?

Our January **Neighborhood improvement projects** meeting yielded the following priorities: 1) work with the city to improve appearance and function of the retention pond at Gateway & Glenbrooke; 2) add playlots in our neighborhood at three possible locations; 3) lobby for improved non-motorized access to major malls; 4) push for connecting our neighborhood to area river trail and to future community park south of Prill; 5) add flower beds and benches for walkers in neighborhood; 6) lobby for improved traffic controls on Gateway/Golf, Gateway/Hamilton and Golf/I-53.

All neighbors are encouraged to **volunteer** with these projects AND also to work on the city's announced flower bed, trail & park adoption program. Call me or look on the city web site for more details.

There is a renewed push to restore passenger railroad service to Menomonic and Eau Claire; this could mean that the passenger train from the Twin Cities to Milwaukee & Chicago would service the Chippewa Valley again. Our governor is actually attempting to obtain some of the federal funds for a high speed train on this route.

There are four homes on East Meadows Place, two homes on Briarcrest Drive and two lots on Ridgeway Drive currently for sale in our neighborhood. Details are on the opposite side of this page and on a Google map on www.otter-creek.org.

The **neighborhood Spring Thrift Sale** is set for May 15th & 16th. The price for participating neighbors will remain at \$5 to cover the advertising costs. If you are planning a thrift sale, please fill in the promo and signup form in this newsletter and return it with \$5 to our treasurer Dan Degeneffe.

We need volunteers at the food tent and to make goodies to sell; please disclose that on the signup form. We will also need help with the food tent setup/take down.

Don't forget the Spring Election on Tuesday April 7th. There is some information about who is running on the city web site. Check the calendar for other key dates and the brunch dates & locations

A block captain for S East Meadows is still needed; call or email if you are interested. Block captains distribute newsletters three times each year and keep us posted on any changes in their neighborhood.

May God bless your families and our neighborhood.

Duane Berglund – President and Editor - 839-8599 dberg581@aol.com



Annual OCNA Neighborhood Thrift Sale

Scheduled for May 15 -16

This is one of the most popular neighborhood thrift sales in Eau Claire. Last year we had 36 separate thrift sale signups

Participating neighbors will pay \$5 and will receive **seller packets** including mailbox flags, locations/items, Q/As, and contact numbers.

Newspaper ads will be placed in the Leader Telegram and Tradin' Post. **Promotional flyers** with tear-off reminders will be printed that you can take to work, your doctor, your church, or retailers with bulletin boards.

A **Google map** on our www.otter-creek.org will locate the homes that are participating and what is being sold at each site. A viral email with the Google map link will be sent to each neighbor so all can promote the sale aggressively to friends and families.

Large signs will be placed again at the entrances to our neighborhood and at the major intersections on Golf/Gateway & Hamilton & Prill.

The very popular **food tent** will have a simpler menu this year featuring hot coffee and home-made bakeries in the AM and hot dogs, chips and soda/water starting at 10:30am. It will be located at a central location on Briarcrest Drive.

A neighborhood-only preview is scheduled for Thursday May 14th 5-7pm.

Please deliver the enclosed form to Treasurer Dan Degeneffe at 3402 Briarcrest Drive. Please volunteer to help us with the food tent and home-made bakery.

OCNA Executive Notes

Financial Report - Treasurer Dan Degeneffe reports the OCNA bank balance is \$1,401 as of February 28th. Expenses paid this winter included ink & paper for the Winter newsletter AND web site hosting renewal fees. We keep our operating funds in the United Bank which also is a newsletter advertiser.

OCNA Officers-2008-9

President - Duane Berglund	839-8599	dberg581@aol.com
Vice President - Cheryl Meyer	832-4644	cherylm61@charter.net
Treasurer - Dan Degeneffe	839-8805	rddegen@yahoo.com
Secretary - Karol Machmeier	835-6290	dkmachx2@charter.net

Tent for Rent – the association has a 10x20 foot tent that neighbors can rent for \$25 per event use. Call Duane at 839-8599 if you are interested. A huge thanks to Linda Nortman for storing the tent and the thrift sale signage.

Website and Email - the website content is updated by Duane B and periodic email broadcasts are used to communicate. Postcards are used in lieu of email.

The current project is to provide OCNA photos in a new and innovative approach. Check out the OCNA photo albums on www.otter-creek.org.

Email Addresses - If we don't have your email address, please email dberg581@aol.com; this will help reduce the cost of OCNA communications.

Neighborhood Business Directory - We have published a listing of all businesses owned by our OCNA neighbors. If you have a business or know of one in the neighborhood that is not in this listing or want a copy, please call or email Duane.

Neighborhood Lots and homes for Sale

Homes for Sale – four on East Meadows Place and two on Briarcrest Drive.

3404 East Meadows Place - \$149,900 - 1,252 sqft, single family, 1 story, 2 bedrooms, 2 bath, 2 car attached garage, gas fireplace in living room, natural gas water heater and forced air heating, dish washer. Includes shared snow removal/lawn maintenance (\$65 per mo), master bedroom with walk-in closet & private bath; room for expansion in lower level. Lot size: 82x134 with in-ground sprinkler system. Built in 2000. Concrete patio. 2008 taxes \$3,046. Immediate availability. Call Dave Fitzgerald - Kleven Real Estate 577-6444.

3420 East Meadows Place - \$185,000 - 1,270 sqft, single family, 2 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bath, attached 2 car garage, gas fireplace, master bedroom with private bath & walk-in closet, laundry hookups on 1st floor, finished basement (with added laundry hookups, 1/2 bath, family/sitting room), central A/C, gas water heater & heating, 12x12 cement patio, in-ground lawn sprinkler system, built in 1999; lot size: 62x134; taxes: \$2,798, lawn care & snow removal \$65/mo. Call Carol Ceraso (715) 723-9205.

3421 East Meadows Place - \$157,900 - 1,270 sqft, single-family, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, in-ground sprinklers, gas fireplace, 1st floor laundry, full basement, 2 car garage, 2007 taxes \$3,100, built in 1998. Call Scott Milne at Donnellan Real Estate at (715) 836-8080. MLS# 806810

3430 East Meadows Place - \$169,900 - living area 2,112 sqft, 3 bedrms, 3 baths, 2 car garage (attached), built 2002. Open concept home with a main floor featuring vaulted ceilings in the kitchen/dining area & living room, a master suite with private bath & walk-in closet, laundry off of kitchen, & a large living room w/ a cozy natural gas fireplace. The lower level features large family room with a 3rd full bath, large bedroom with walk-in closet & egress window, & a shop/storage area. This home is like new & in a great south side neighborhood close to shopping, schools, I-94 & Hwy 53. MLS#:809889. Call Eric Borst (715) 552-1818 or email eric@eauclairerealty.com.

3429 Briarcrest Drive - \$189,900 - Single Family, b-level, 1170 sqft upper, 1170 sqft finished LL w/family room & stone fireplace; 2 bedrooms, bath & finished laundry/workout room; wood deck; meticulously maintained home w/vaulted ceilings, many updated light fixtures, spacious master BR w/large walk-in closet, open kitchen/dining area w/many cabinets & above cabinet lighting, finished heated garage w/cabinets & finished floor has access to basement, storage room underneath 2 tiered 12 X 20 deck w/cable TV box. Beautiful yard w/sprinkler system. Taxes \$3,151. Call Dave Fitzgerald-Kleven at 577-6444. MLS# 808830.

3509 Briarcrest Drive - \$169,900 - 1 story 1,418 sqft upper, 880 sqft lower, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, wood deck, newer ranch home with vaulted ceilings, master suite with bath & walk-in closet, energy efficient construction for maximum comfort, this is a bright,cheery home! Lower level partially finished(needs ceiling,trim,etc). 1st floor laundry. Built in 2000; taxes - \$3,133. Call Mike Tainter-Century 21 Metro Realty 828-333. MLS#808604.

Lots for Sale - call Dave Suchla 552-1818.

3619 Ridgeway Drive - \$55,000 - size: 84x212+70x227

3541 Ridgeway Drive - \$68,000 - size:139x190

You can help by sharing this information with your friends and families in the area.

Calendar

March 2009

- 8th Sun – Daylight Savings Starts
- 17th Tue 11am – Ladies Brunch at 3433 Briarcrest Drive
Call hostess Vi Pederson at 832-0418
- 17th Tue – St. Patrick's Day

April

- 6th Mon 7pm – Sustainability Public Hearing – EC City Planning Com
- 7th Tue – Spring Election
- 12th Sun – Easter Sunday
- 21st Tue 11am – Ladies Brunch at 3344 East Meadows Place
Call Linda Nortman 830-9921 or Clayona Walter 835-8059
- 25th Sat 11am-6pm – Earth Day Celebration – Owen Park
www.earthday.net/node/13617

May

- 10th Sun – Mothers' Day
- 14th Thu – Neighborhood Thrift Sale Preview – neighbors only
- 15-16 Fri/Sat – Neighborhood Thrift Sale
- 20th Wed 11am – Ladies Brunch at 3502 Briarcrest Drive
Call Joyce Faaren 832-1925 & Bev Spalles 832-0482
- 25th Mon – Memorial Day

June

- 10th Wed 11am – Ladies Brunch at 5551 E. Hamilton Ave
Call hostess Karol Machmeier 835-6290
- 21st Sun – Fathers' Day

Future Date

Neighborhood Fall Picnic – tentative date of Sat Sept 12th at 5pm

Ladies Brunches includes sharing of recipes and friendly conversation with neighbors. Call the hostess for the month and indicate attendance & what you will bring to share.



The January 14th brunch at Eileen Berglund's home.

New to the Neighborhood

Linda Bollinger at 3611 Briarcrest Drive 835-0187

Special Recognition

Prestigious Award – our neighbors Rick & Sherry Mohr of Eau Claire Ford Lincoln Mercury dealer are one of six N. American dealers to receive the prestigious Salute to Dealers community service award from the Ford Motor Company. They were selected from among the nearly 6,000 Ford Motor Company dealers across the United States and Canada for exhibiting unparalleled dedication to their communities. See the full announcement on our web site at <http://otter-creek.org/EC%20Ford%20Award%202009.pdf>.

Eau Claire Noon Rotary Club has honored **Laura Fleming** as an outstanding high school senior. Laura is the daughter of neighbor Lisa Fleming. She is president of the Art Club at Memorial High School and is a National Honor Society member. She has volunteered with the blood drive at her school and Feed My People Food Bank, and was captain of the Art Club's Relay for Life team. She works at Gordy's County Market. Laura plans to major in physics but has not yet chosen a university.

Our District 2 City Council Rep	David Klinkhammer	833-8954
Our District 20 County Supervisor	Ardyth Krause	713-0038

Block Captains

Call or email your block captain with any updates– new babies, moves:

South Briarcrest Drive	Lalaine Gunem	831-0034
North Briarcrest Drive	Catherine Keys	831-9079
East Hamilton Ave	Jim Dickerson	834-1789
North East Meadows Pl	Linda Nortman	830-9921
South East Meadows Pl	Open	
North Ridgeway Drive	Mandi Yeast	514-0349
South Ridgeway Drive	Cheryl Meyers	832-4644
Prill Road Sub-Division	Carol Blades	855-9031

NEIGHBORHOOD ANNOUNCEMENTS

Baby Sitter Services - Attention Parents: My name is Melanie Meyers at 3611 Ridgeway Drive. I am 12 years old and have completed the American Red Cross training course. I've helped in my church nursery caring for babies and toddlers and have babysat for a 2 year old. Call me on my cell 563-2022.

Gooden Family on 3503 Briarcrest – daughters will babysit and dog sit. Call 858-0825

Sherrie Mohr is a certified car seat consultant. Call her at 271-9370 for free service.

Julie Hagen at 3429 Briarcrest Drive is looking for someone to provide **before-school daycare** for their daughter (Shaelyn, age 5, kindergartener at Robbins). This is about an hour each school day morning – from 7:30-8:30 – and to get her on the bus. She would pay the going rate, whatever that is. Please contact Julie at 835-9547 or jhagen@ecasd.k12.wi.us –DONE-THANKS

ECR Eau Claire REALTY INC

4235 Southtowne Drive
Eau Claire, WI 54701
Office 715-552-1818
Home 715-839-0241
Fax 715-552-1919
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Please support these local retailers for supporting our association.

To place an ad call Duane at 539-8599 or dberg581@aol.com
Cost for a business card ad is \$75/year or \$35/issue.

This newsletter is edited by Duane Berglund and printed in-house on OCNA's HP tabloid printer using Cartridge World ink.

emShear

Emily Grabarczyk
Owner/Cosmetologist

Mon. - Fri. • 8am - 6pm & Sat. by appointment
3428 Ridgeway Drive • Eau Claire, WI 54701
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Check out our OCNA web site www.otter-creek.org for OCNA news Photos Useful Links Newsletters Google maps

Reuse & Recycle
Eileen Berglund is accepting donated fabric to make woven rugs. Blue jeans, cotton/flannel sheets, nylon hosiery, and more.

Earn Big In Your Own Backyard!

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Restrictive Covenants for each neighborhood are available on our web site. These are the rules by which we protect our home values.