



Otter Creek

Neighborhood Association

NEWSLETTER • ISSUE 5 • WINTER 2004

The Otter Creek

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

As I sat down to write this message today I spent time reviewing our mission statement and purpose, I am so pleased with how well we as a neighborhood are doing in making this a safe, clean and friendly place to live and raise our families. I see children safely riding their bikes, playing ball and traveling between their friends homes under the watchful eye of not only their parents but the neighbors as well everyone caring and concerned. Adults stroll together greeting each person they meet with a smile or conversation, neighborhood gatherings are common, offers of help by neighbors if the need arises are given freely and people feel comfortable dealing with each other when issues arise, it is a great environment. This happens because of each and every one of you. It has made our neighborhood very well known and even used as a model for other neighborhoods when they are establishing their own neighborhood groups. Thank You All!

This neighborhood association is strictly voluntary, it was created to give a forum to our residents, create a sense of community, to communicate our needs as a neighborhood to city officials and help us to work together to keep our environment an attractive and safe place to live. We need to continue to work together to maintain this great environment. Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 17th at 7:30 PM at the Festival Foods in their conference room on Prill Road, please mark your calendar and plan to attend.

If you are unable to be there but have issues that need to be discussed please give me a call at 839-9507. I have included a draft agenda in this newsletter so that you can see some of what will be discussed. Another medium available to keep posted on what is happening in our neighborhood is our website, this will keep you updated on neighborhood happenings, meetings and social events, please remember to periodically "check it out" at www.ottercreek.org.

As the incoming association president I am looking at how I will focus my time and attention, I invite all of you to feel free to talk to me and provide your ideas for areas in which we should try to focus our energy. I am open to hearing your ideas and solutions to issues and concerns. I encourage you to get involved.

As I stated before this is strictly a volunteer organization, we have several volunteers who work very hard, to write newsletter articles, update the web page, plan and implement social activities and to deal with business issues that accompany running an association. We would like to ask you all to consider joining or even assisting in developing a committee you feel would be a benefit. At this time we are also looking for a secretary for our board, duties are to record meetings and keep records of both monthly board meetings and the 4 quarterly neighborhood meetings of the year, if you have the desire to participate in this way we would be happy to have you. Also, please check out the different committees explained in this newsletter as they are also looking for more volunteers.

In closing I want to thank you all for your participation over the last two years and ask for your continued support and involvement. One last way I would ask for your assistance is to request an updated e-mail address from each of you, so that we can maintain an open communication. If you would prefer not to have your address printed in the neighborhood list, just let me know and I will keep it unpublished.

Send any correspondence to me at peggy71554@yahoo.com or call 839-9507. You are also welcome to just drop by, my address is 3508 Briarcrest Drive.

Sincerely,

Peggy Hakala

DO YOU KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR?

We are planning several social opportunities for you to get to know your neighbors. If you are interested in forming a group or hosting an event or get together...call the social committee chair. Your comments are most welcome.

2003-2004 Board of Directors

President
Peggy Hakala

Vice President
Paula Gonzer

Secretary
Russ Sommer

Treasurer
Russ Sommer



Current Issues

OCNA Board

President
preside at all meetings

Vice President
same power as president
in event of absent

Treasurer
takes care of all financial
transactions

Secretary
records meetings & keep
records

Block Captains
attend meetings to
represent block opinions

If you have welcome
news please contact

Paula Gozner
552-8363 or
pgozner@yahoo.com

Treasury Report

As of July 13th 2004 we have \$607.37 in the Otter Creek Neighborhood Association Checking account and a balance of \$5.00 in our savings account.

The Neighborhood Garage Sale Food Stand made \$221.51. The 1st annual Festival Foods Brat Stands made the association \$186.59.

The Association purchased a 10x20 foot tent that will be used for the Annual Picnic.

We will be placing detailed financial information on the web page www.otter-creek.org or you can contact me Bill Hoepner at Hoepner@charter.net for more information.

REMINDER TO ALL EAU CLAIRE RESIDENTS

Alternate Side or Odd-Even night parking restrictions are in effect on all city streets between November 1, 2004 and May 1, 2005. The restrictions apply from midnight to 7 a.m. everynight. When parking a vehicle on the street, the date after midnight is used in determining the correct side:

- * On odd-numbered dates, vehicles must be parked on the side of the street having odd-numbered addresses.
- * On even-numbered dates, vehicles must be parked on the side of the street having even numbered addresses.
- * Any posted "No Parking" signs must also be observed, such as "No Parking 2 a.m. to 6 a.m.," "No Parking Anytime" or "No Parking This Side Of Street".

The Eau Claire Police Department will be issuing citations for vehicles not parked on the proper side of the street between midnight and 7 a.m. The cost of the citation is \$30.

Please keep in mind that the calendar parking regulations will be enforced in all areas of the city, regardless of weather conditions. In addition to snow removal, these regulations make it possible for the City to do street sweeping and other routine maintenance during low traffic early morning hours.

For further information, please call Eau Claire Police Department at 839-4993.



PARTY TENT

10x 20 PARTY TENT for use at the Neighborhood Party and the Garages Sale bake sale. It is available to check out for your personal family gatherings and parties, as long as it stays in the neighborhood. There is a suggested donation of \$25 per day.

Contact the vice president to reserve it.

Details on procedures and rules are in the works.

WELCOME COMMITTEE

Brian and Erica Zank gave birth to beautiful little girl Rachel Abby Sank. She was born 7/28/04 at 8:15 was 8 lbs 20.5 The Zank family attended the picnic this year and hopefully you were able to meet our youngest neighbor on the Briarcrest block.



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In the Spotlight

NEW BLOCK CAPTAIN INTRODUCTIONS!!

BRIARCREST DRIVE

Hi neighbors!

My name is Monte Lokken and I am the block captain for Briarcrest Dr. I have lived at 3509 Briarcrest Dr. Since November 2000. If you have

Comments or concerns regarding the OCNA please contact me.

Thanks,

Monte Lokken

3509 Briarcrest Dr

(715)834-5436

montel@rcu.org

EAST HAMILTON AVE

Hi! I'm Rhonda Wolk, East Hamilton Avenue Block Captain. My husband David and I live at 5319 E. Hamilton Avenue with our dog, Tanya. You may have seen Tanya and I out walking on occasion. Please call me at 834-0577 if you have anything that you feel the OCNA Board should discuss.

Thanks,

Rhonda Wolk

5319 E. Briarcrest Dr

(715)834-0577

EAST MEADOWS PLACE

Hi neighbors!

At the annual meeting on September 11th, I was elected as block captain for East Meadows Place. Many of you already know me, but for those of you who do not, let me introduce myself. My husband Marvin and I were the second family to purchase a home in this new development. It has been very interesting to see such rapid growth in just 5 1/2 years. This has truly grown into a great neighborhood.

If you have any concerns or suggestions which you would like to have presented to the OCNA, please give me a call at 835-8059 or just drop in at 3417 East Meadows Place and get acquainted.

I encourage everyone to attend our meetings which are listed in your newsletter.

I look forward to meeting all of you. Together we can keep this a safe and beautiful place to live.

Thanks,

Clayona Walter

3417 East Meadows

(715)835-8059

PRILL ROAD

Hi my name is Cherie Miller and I am the new block Captain for Prill Road. We have just moved here from Kansas about a year ago. Please feel free to ask me any question I'm here for you all.

Thanks,

Cherie Miller

Friendly Reminder

PICK UP AFTER YOUR PETS

It is the **LAW**
and the **RIGHT**
THING TO DO.



LADIES BIBLE STUDY

We are going to begin another opportunity for the women of the neighborhood to get together, this one will be in the form of a non-denominational women's life Bible Study.

We would like to invite any and all interested women to attend, develop and strengthen our Christian relationships as well as sharing and supporting one another.

We are planning to meet every other Thursday afternoon beginning on November 18th at Theresa Anderson's, 3408 Briarcrest Drive.

For more information please give Theresa a call at 833-2080.

NEIBORHOOD BRUNCH SCHEDULE

Once a month the neighborhood ladies (and kids) are invited to a get together to visit and enjoy some great food! If you are interested in hosting please contact Teresa Anderson at 833-2080 or Tabith Behling at 838-0965.

Date: Monday, November 22nd

Time: 11:00 to 1:00

Place: 3508 Briarcrest Drive

RSVP to Peggy Hakala 839-9507

Date: Wednesday, December 15th

Time: 11:00 to 1:00

Place: 3409 Briarcrest Drive

RSVP to Catherine Keyes 831-9079

Date: Thursday, January 20th

Time: 10:00 to 12:00

Place: 3408 Briarcrest Drive

RSVP to Theresa Anderson 833-2080

Date: Tuesday, February 22nd

Time: 11:00 to 1:00

Place: 3546 Briarcrest Drive4

RSVP to Lalaine Gunem 831-0034



CABIN FEVER WINTER PARTY

Have you ever thought about making the perfect Snowman. Well here is your chance and you could be the family that is recognized as the "Best Snowman Makers in the Neighborhood"

On Saturday, January 22, 2005, (day will be changed to later if we do not have enough snow) we will enjoy a Winter Party. Plan for games of Broom Ball, Homemade Ice Cream Contest, Sled Races and lots of Food and Warm Drinks for fuel to stay warm.

So pencil in the day, think good thoughts for snow and be waiting for more information to be delivered to your houses in early January.. And start planning the family snowman!

Anyone with ideas or wanting to volunteer to help plan this party contact Peggy 839-9507.

CHRISTMAS CREATIONS WORKSHOP

Peggy will again this year hold a Christmas Creations Workshop for the neighborhood children.

They will decorate cookies, make Christmas gifts and decorations. The fun will begin at 10:00 AM and finish up about 2:00 PM in hopes that this gives Mom's and Dad's a little time to use for holiday preparation or just to go out and have a quiet lunch together.

If you would like your child to participate please call ahead of time so we can have enough materials available for every child. There will be a charge of \$5 per child for materials for this workshop.

Parent's, neighbors and older children are invited to join in the fun if they are interested in helping.

Date: Saturday, December 18th

Time: 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

Place: 3508 Briarcrest Drive

RSVP to Peggy at 839-9507

OCNA NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

A tentative agenda is listed below however if you have anything you wish to add please call one of the board and we will be happy to do so. Our meetings function on an open forum, if you have an issue that is not on the agenda we will make every effort to give time to cover your concerns.

Agenda:

Call to Order

Previous Minutes read and approved

Treasurer's report read and approved

Committee Reports

Old Business

Wrap up of meetings w/Krispy Kreme

New Business

Development of a combined Social/Welcome Committee mission statement for approval.



SCRAPBOOKING WORKSHOP

Here is another new activity for the women of the neighborhood. We will be getting together on November 20th with those pictures we all have and want to organize into a scrapbook. This workshop will be a boost in the right direction, bring whatever supplies you have, come and join us. It does not matter if you have never done a page or if you are a master, we will be able to learn from each other as well as share ideas, fun and conversation. For this first meeting we will have Rebecca Zimmerman, who is a consultant from Remember When join us with her sample scrapbook, some supplies and even a make and take project for each of us to do. There will be a \$5.00 charge for the workshop to cover Rebecca's costs.

Date: Saturday, November 20th

Time: 11:00 AM

Place 3508 Briarcrest Drive

RSVP to Peggy at 839 - 9507

Child Care will be provided.



4235 Southtowne Drive
Eau Claire, WI 54701
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Home 715-839-0241
Fax 715 552-1919
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Neighborhood Picnic

Plenty of food, fun and friends were had at this year's Annual Otter Creek Neighborhood Picnic.

September 11, 2004 turned out to be a sunny day with our Neighborhood Picnic being a big SUCCESS. The tent & tables were set up with the help of some young, strong neighbors. The tables were decorated by several of the new board members and families. The raffle prizes & election ballots were ready to go and by 4:00 the neighbors began to arrive. At 5:00 we had a good crowd of neighbors setting up their folding chairs and beginning to mingle with all the faces. As I walked the crowd it was so nice to see young faces, new faces and familiar faces. I have been told by other in town that they wish they had a neighborhood such as our!

When the Eau Claire fire trucks pulled up and the Rock n- Roll inflatable bouncy toy was all set up, the children came running from all directions of the neighborhood. Besides the kids running around they also had a great time tossing their water balloon across to their partner without getting wet or maybe they were trying to get wet, Who know?! By 6:00 the grills were smoking and the crowd dug into the salads, beans, potatoes, and sweet tasting desserts. It was a nice array of picnic foods; thanks to all that brought a dish to pass everything was delicious.

Throughout the day raffle tickets were being sold left and right for 25 cents apiece. A luck raffle winner won a prize every 15 minutes or so. As the final raffle prize was yelled out it was great to see the surprising look on Parkers and Gaby's face when their family (Dave and Julie Hagen's) won the Grand Prize Raffle with a nights stay at the new Grandstay. I am sure the Hagen's will take advantage of this wonder night out.

With the evening winding down and the sun setting over our houses the fire ring was started. Several neighbors than enjoyed the rest of the evening sitting around that crackling fire pit enjoyed the bright shining moon, telling stories and telling many jokes until the wee hours of the night.

So as I started out saying our Picnic was a big success full of laughter, games, prizes, great food, and most of all it was with all of you, our NEIGHBORS. If you missed our gathering this year you will have to try to make a point to make it next year, it's a great opportunity to meet the others in your OTTER CREEK NEIGHBOR HOOD.

I would like to thank all that were involved in making this event happen; from letting us use your electricity, setting up tents/tables, taking pictures, setting up/cleaning up, calling/picking up the raffle prizes, donating raffle prizes, selling tickets, keeping track of the election ballots, purchasing supplies, and the overall organizing and coordinating the details for this picnic. With out YOU this event would not of been an SUCCESS. We are all very blessed to have such a great Neighborhood!

THANK YOU

Paula Gozner, Vice President of OCNA



GRAND STAY RESIDENTIAL SUITES

GrandStay Hospitality of Augusta, Minnesota has now opened a new facility located at 5310 Prill Road, Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

GrandStay offers an excellent price value, service and amenities to our area. It is a charming, residential-style atmosphere that provides nightly, weekly and monthly lodging in studio, one bedroom or two bedroom suites, all of which include full kitchens with dishes and cookware. The GrandStay is a lovely facility with an indoor pool, fitness area, convenience grocery center and an outdoor sport court with a cooking patio, basketball court, swing set and putting green. Gourmet Express Breakfast is provided each day as well as DSL internet access and direct dial phones in the rooms.

If you are looking for extra space for out of town guests over the holidays take a look at the GrandStay, it is warm and comfortable at a great price and close enough to the neighborhood to travel back and forth without frustration.

Reservations for any GrandStay Residential Suites property can be made by calling toll free as (877) 388-STAY or online at www.grandstay.net

Friendly Reminder

PICK UP AFTER
YOUR PETS

It is the LAW
and the RIGHT
THING TO DO.





Rick Mohr

Owner

Highway 93 and Interstate 94

2909 Lorch Ave.

Eau Claire, WI 54701

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FAX (715) 852-1072

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ADVERTISE IN THE OCNA NEWSLETTER!!

If you are interested in ADVERTISING in our next issue of the OCNA Newsletter contact Paula Gozner at 552-8363 or pgozner@charter.net. Next issue is due out in March. Very cheap to get your business promoted-Business card size -\$30.00 per issue or \$75.00 for 3 issues. Don't miss out call NOW!



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YARD SIGNS

The truth is some of us just need to SLOW DOWN on the street! Hopefully that will remind us all there are lots of kids in the neighborhood to watch out for. If you are interested in having a sign in your yard contact Peggy at 839-9507.



www.otter-creek.org



Calendar

November

2004

- 17 Wednesday OCNA Meeting Festival Foods 7:30PM
- 22 Monday Brunch at Peggy Hakala's 11:00am - 1:00pm • 3508 Briarcrest Dr. • Join us for brunch! If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Peggy at 839-9507



December

- 14 Tuesday Cookie Exchange at Paula Gonzer's • 7:00 pm • 3534 Briarcrest Drive • RSVP Paula Gonzer at 552 - 8363
- Bring 4 dozen cookies or pieces of candy and a copy of your favorite recipe. We will exchange cookies and go home with an assortment of home made holiday treasures!
- 15 Wednesday Brunch at Catherine Keyes' 11:00am - 1:00pm • 3409 Briarcrest Dr. • Join us for brunch! If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Catherine at 831-9079.
- 19 Sunday Caroling • 4:00 pm • 3508 Briarcrest Drive • RSVP Peggy Hakala at 839 - 9507
- Joy to the Neighborhood the carolers will come!
- All ages and voice abilities are welcome. Song sheets and a wagon of warm drinks will be provided/ If you can't join us but would like the carolers to stop by your house, just leave them the glow of a welcoming lamp. Following the fun we will have a hot kettle of chili ready to go at Peggy's.

January

- 22 Monday Brunch at Theresa Anderson's 10:00am - 12:00pm • 3408 Briarcrest Dr. • Join us for brunch! If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Theresa at 833 - 2080

February

- 9 Saturday  BUNKO at Peggy Hakala's 7pm • 3508 Briarcrest Dr. RSVP to Peggy at 839-9507
- 17 Thursday OCNA Meeting Festival Foods 7:30PM
- 22 Tuesday  Brunch at Lalaine Gunem's 11:00am - 1:00pm • 3546 Briarcrest Dr. • Join us for brunch! If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Lalaine at 831-0034 by Feb 15th.



If you are interested in joining the neighborhood play group, we would love to have you!

Contact Paula Gozner at 552-8363 or pgozner@yahoo.com for additional information.



Ladies Brunch

Once a month the neighborhood ladies (and kids) are invited to get together to visit and enjoy some great food!! If you are interested in hosting please contact Teresa Anderson at 833-2080.



BUNKO

Don't miss out on the newest hottest dice game around. It's fun, easy and great excuse to for a night out. Please bring \$5 to add to the winning pot.