



# WHAT'S NEW?

This is a publication for residents of Red Oak Hills to keep us up to date on our community and to provide a forum for sharing information.

SEPTEMBER 2011 ISSUE

## BOARD RECOGNIZES VOLUNTEER



The members of the Board recognize that many people are needed to support the initiatives and activities of the HOA. Consequently, the Board instituted a new annual tradition to recognize the efforts of a non Board member who volunteers time and energy to assist the Board and ROH residents. For her efforts during the past year, Nancee Koporc was the recipient of a plaque and a \$50 gift certificate. Nancee's efforts to increase communication by

publishing the newsletter are greatly appreciated. The HOA can always use help and volunteers are always welcome. Often things that need to be done do not require a lot of anyone's time.

## NEW BOARD MEMBERS

John Way (former General Motors management) has volunteered to complete the term of Jane Ford who resigned due to the demands of her new job. Glen Robison (retired Baptist pastor) has agreed to complete the term of Jack Kirkham who recently moved to South Carolina.

Gary Turner was re-elected to the position of president and will also serve as secretary. Dick Ralston was re-elected to the board with the understanding that he would retire on Jan 1, 2012.

## WOULD YOU BE A GOOD SOCIAL CHAIRMAN?

Dick Ralston is retiring from the board at the end of the year. He has been responsible for organizing our two social events - the Annual Picnic and Meeting and the Holiday Party. If you would be interested in taking Dick's place, please contact Gary Turner at 268-4513. This does not have to be a board position and requires a little time only twice a year.

## ROH SIGNS

Thanks to Jana Bonham and Candice Waers for volunteering to place signs at the entrances prior to an event.

## ROH HOA MEETING MINUTES

We will begin posting the HOA Board Meeting minutes on the Red Oak Hills website. May and August minutes are not available on line. As you read your newsletter, please also read the minutes for further information on Board activity.

## ANIMAL LICENSES



Dog and cat licenses are no longer required in Shawnee. Only a fraction of the dogs and cats in Shawnee were licensed, and the majority of the problems that officers had to deal with involved unlicensed animals. Officers will continue to have equipment to protect public health and to respond to animal behavioral issues.

Pet owners still have an obligation to vaccinate their animals against rabies and to make sure their animal wears an identification tag attached to their collar when they are outdoors or in a vehicle. The tag must contain a telephone number so the animal can be returned if separated from its owner.

Pet owners are responsible for picking up after their pet and disposing of waste in the sanitary sewer or trash to minimize the risk of spreading illness. This practice also protects our watersheds from these undesirable germs, as well as excess nutrients, which harm the quality of water in our lakes and streams.

## TRAP-NEUTER-RETURN

Red Oak Hills has stray cats in the neighborhood. A program will be presented at City Hall on October 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> about the only proven population control strategy for free roaming cats in our community. Hear from experts, including Bryan Kortis from PetSmart Charities, Inc. about the successful Trap-Neuter-Return efforts in our community. Learn why humanely trapping stray and feral cats, sterilizing and vaccinating them, and returning them to their home territory reduces the population of cats and kittens euthanized in our area shelters. For registration information, visit [www.nmhpkc.org](http://www.nmhpkc.org).

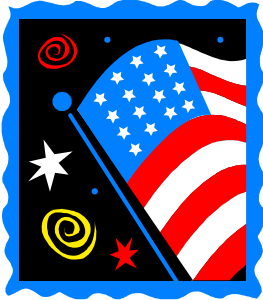
## FOX MEETING

On July 26, 15 residents met with the Animal Control Police Officer, Phil Smith, at the Shawnee Christian Church. Concerns were expressed that the foxes were eating the feral kittens, the foxes presented a potential health hazard, and that the foxes could come after other small animals like dogs. Some residents expressed concern that the cats were eating birds which used to be enjoyed and the cats were a general nuisance.

Officer Smith said that the foxes and coyotes were here long before us and that as long as they do not attack humans or pose a health hazard, they are to be left alone. They will eventually move on as their food supply is depleted. As long as the feral cats are fed, they too will stay. (See article above.) Nobody wants the cats to starve or be mistreated so the meeting was adjourned with no real answers that will satisfy everyone. Tolerance, in all things, is the operative word.

## COUPON UPDATE

Laura Shamhart



Thank you to those who have come by my house and dropped off unwanted and expired coupons to be mailed to military family members. I have been temporarily working in North Carolina for about a month and a half now. Thanks to my husband, Craig, who has been forwarding me your coupons. In May, we sent a total of \$5,787.83 in coupons to those families and for June/July \$8,750.16!! I miss our wonderful neighbors and neighborhood already and can't wait to get back!

If you would like to contribute to this effort, I have a plastic tub on my front porch at 17233 W 70th Street where you can drop off coupon circulars any time/day. I will also be happy to stop by and pick up what anyone may have. Please just drop me an email at [laura.shamhart@att.net](mailto:laura.shamhart@att.net). You may view additional information about this program at [www.ocpnet.org](http://www.ocpnet.org).

Thank you again!

## SURVEY COMING

The Board is looking for homeowner direction on a couple of matters and will be publishing a survey on the internet soon. You may want to think about some of these issues in advance of the survey. If you have topics you would like included in the survey, please contact Gary Turner. Here are some of the topics that are already on the agenda.

1. Does our main entrance need to be updated? It is 25-30 years old. We have no specifics at this date but recognize that in order to remain competitive and project an up to date image, we should look at this option. Our homes are getting older and the subdivision may not be as attractive as it was years ago
2. Annual Picnic and Meeting. Our bylaws require an annual meeting. Years ago, a decision was made to make a social event out of the annual meeting in order to attract residents. Despite the wonderful venue at Knights of Columbus Park, the picnic was not well attended. Should we continue with the picnic or should we roll the annual meeting into the Holiday Dinner?
3. Would you mind telling us who your internet provider is?

Please give us your comments on these three issues and any others.

## MAIL CLUSTER BOX REPAIR

The post office owns the cluster boxes and will repair or replace unsightly boxes. I reported four in need of repair: 6930 Red Oak Dr., 6713 Red Oak Drive, 17211 67<sup>th</sup>, and 17810 69<sup>th</sup> Terr. Homeowners may call the Monticello Post Office at 422-3927 to report mail box problems.

## RACCOON AND OPOSSUM TRAP

Chuck Bailey has trapped fourteen raccoons that have been a pest. He then takes the raccoons to the wilds and releases them. You may contact him at 962-1989 if you have a need.

## CLASSIFIEDS

If you are a resident and have something to sell or you have a service like babysitting or lawn mowing, you can send an e mail to Gary Turner for possible inclusion in the next newsletter.

**Dog Kennel:** Chain link approx 6' or 7' wide x 9' deep x 6' high, with a gate, and in very good shape. Free if someone in the neighborhood will come take it down or help take it down, and haul it away. Contact Susan Battenberg at 913-631-8797 (home) or at 816-274-8505 (office) or at [sbatte1@hallmark.com](mailto:sbatte1@hallmark.com).

## ROH RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Have a favorite recipe you want to share? Email [nkoporc@att.net](mailto:nkoporc@att.net) and you may be published. This recipe was contributed by one of our ROH dog lovers for our canine friends. .

### DOGGIE CHICKEN AND HERB BISCUITS

2 ½ tsp dry yeast  
¼ cup lukewarm water  
1 egg  
¾ cup chicken broth  
¼ cup honey  
3 cups whole wheat flour  
1 cup cracked wheat  
2 tbsp dried parsley  
1 tsp oregano

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. In a large bowl, dissolve yeast in water. Add egg, broth, and honey.

Gradually blend in the flour and cracked wheat. Add enough wheat flour to form a stiff dough.

Transfer to a floured surface and knead until smooth (about 3-5 minutes). Shape the dough into a ball and roll to ¼ inch thick.

Using bone shaped cookie cutters, cut out biscuits. Place on an ungreased baking sheet, spacing them about ¼ inch apart. Gather up the scraps, roll out again, and cut additional biscuits. Bake for 45 minutes. Let cool overnight.

The biscuits freeze well. The quantity depends on the size of the cookie cutters.