

Sherwood Forest News



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Fall 2004

Back to Basics: The ABC's of Sherwood Forest

A Message from Citizens Association President, Karen Futrell

Ask not what your citizens association can do for you, but what you can do to serve your neighbors and make our neighborhood a better place! Fall is always an exciting time of year with the kids back in school and the tiger fight song playing alot more often. It is also a great time to "turn over a new leaf" and take responsibility for the future of your neighborhood. Your citizens association needs you!

A: **Ask yourself: Am I being a model resident?** The kind that I expect my neighbors to be? Do I keep a tidy yard and house from outward appearance (at least)? Have I met my neighbors? Do I edge the yard and keep my trees trimmed from the property lines? Am I respectful in terms of how loud I play my music and how late I entertain? Do I take responsibility for my pet and make sure it is properly contained and does not bark incessantly? When it comes to larger neighborhood issues (litter, traffic, etc.) do I seek ways to get involved to make Sherwood Forest a better place for all of us to live and preserve our good property values?

B: **Be involved.** How many times have you called to issue a complaint to SFCA in the last two years? Are you a dues paying member? Do you believe that it is the citizens association's DUTY to serve you and answer your questions and solve your problems? Well, you are right, but be reminded

that the collective group of NINE volunteers that comprise the citizens association board are residents just like you. They don't get paid to do "their job", they care about you and our neighborhood enough to volunteer to do more. How about joining them? We desperately need willing and able volunteers to help with the caseload of complaints and staying on top of neighborhood issues. The meetings are every third Thursday, 7:00 p.m. at Flannery Road BREC Park.

C: **Create the change you want to see in our neighborhood.** Would you like to see some social events? A more systematic way to addressing problems? Do you see one recurrent problem that really bugs you and you have an idea on how it could be solved? Come to the meetings, talk with your neighbors—those around you and those that serve on the board— and let's work together to create the environment we want for Sherwood Forest.

If everyone of us performed one task under "A", "B" and "C" what energy we could harness to do positive things for our neighborhood! I encourage you to come to a meeting. If you've been once and "weren't impressed", come back and give it another try. We all want the same thing: a safe neighborhood with good responsible residents and rising property values.

Please pay close attention to the meeting notices in this newsletter,

we are eager to gain your attendance, attention and involvement and are making special strides to do that. Better yet, attend and bring your good ideas with you—let's all turn over a fresh new leaf this fall and take pride in the fact that we are residents of Baton Rouge's largest neighborhood!

SCHOOL IS IN . . . WATCH OUT FOR OUR CHILDREN!

Although we should observe all speeding regulations EVERY day, take special care to observe school zones between 7:00 and 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 and 4:00 p.m. every week-day. We are so fortunate to have 5 schools within our neighborhood borders. Let's be responsible in our driving habits . . . remember we are examples to the future generations in those schools!



Please attend the Monthly Meeting • Third Thursday Every Month • Flannery Road Brec Park • 7:00 p.m.

GIVE US A PIECE OF YOUR MIND SHERWOOD FOREST!

Neighborhood SOUND OFF Meetings

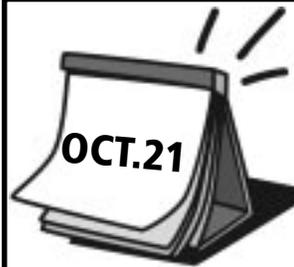
Scheduled to give every resident of Sherwood Forest the opportunity to tell the association board and local elected officials their concerns and their ideas and learn more about what's happening in our area. We have scheduled 2 meeting nights on either side of the boulevard, to give everyone ample opportunity to attend and be heard!

Wednesday, September 22, 7:00 p.m. at Sherwood Forest Country Club
Monday, September 27, LOCATION TBA – CHECK THE ENTRANCE SIGNS!

State Representative Mike Futrell, Metro Councilman Mike Walker, DPW Director Fred Raiford and the Baton Rouge Police Department have all been invited to attend and hear your comments and concerns!

? Did You Know?

- • Did you know that our security patrol is happy to check on your home when you're away on vacation? It just takes one call to 273-1353 to let them know your address and the dates you'll be away.
- Did you know that our security patrol rides in unmarked cars so that they can preserve your security when checking your residence and possibly find crime in action as they are less noticeable that way?
- ALWAYS CALL BATON ROUGE POLICE FIRST! Our security patrol serves as a deterrent, follow up and as your conduit to law enforcement agencies. If you've been a victim of crime or have an emergency, please call 911 FIRST, and then report the incident to our security patrol!



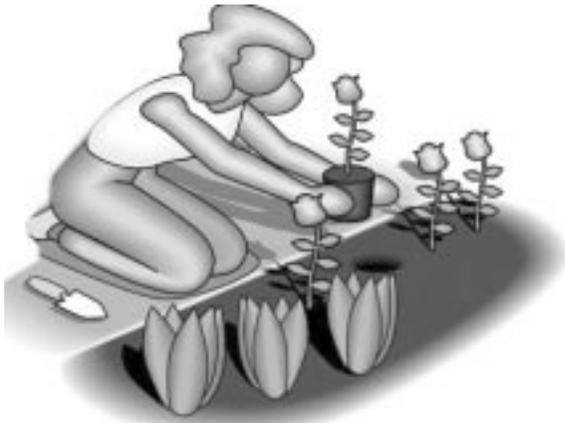
**MARK YOUR
CALENDARS
NOW FOR OUR
ANNUAL
MEETING**

**THIS IS THE MEETING WHERE
A NEW BOARD IS ELECTED.**

**Our special guest speaker
this year is
Mayor President Bobby Simpson!**

**Thursday, October 21,
Flannery Road BRECK Park
7:00 P.M.**

YARD OF THE MONTH DUTIES ASSUMED BY SHERWOOD FOREST GARDEN CLUB



Have you seen the beautiful signs used to mark those special yards that make our neighborhood a garden showplace? Special thanks to the Sherwood Forest Garden Club for taking over the duty of awarding "YARD OF THE MONTH" in our neighborhood. With their expertise and keen eye—you never know when they'll be looking at your place . . . are you "their kind" of material? Get digging and you never know—one of those signs might pop up in your yard in months to come!

ELECTION SEASON IS UP ON US! EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT:

Absentee Voting for the September 18 mayoral and council elections is September 7-11.

Absentee Voting for the November 2 national elections is October 21-28.

Many have fought for your right to cast a ballot—be sure to make it to the polls on election day, or absentee vote ahead of time if you'll be out of town!

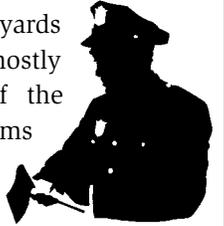
**LIVE FROM THE INTERNET:
YOUR ASSOCIATION IS ONLINE!
LOG ON TO SFCABR.ORG**

**Email us:
sherwoodforestcitizens@cox.net**

Security Report

By Beverly Oglesby

In the last few months, our residents have experienced an increase in thefts from yards and carports. The items stolen were mostly bikes and yard equipment. Most of the crimes were crimes of opportunity: items left in plain view from the street and not locked. Homeowners can control this type of crime by securing the property with locks or placing valuables inside storage rooms. The longer it takes a criminal to commit the crime, the less likely the crime will be attempted and more likely the criminal will be apprehended. Be sure to mark your possessions. This will discourage theft and increase the chance of recovery of stolen items.



The police were able to recover several bikes due to alert homeowners calling the police as soon as they saw suspicious activity. (An alert neighborhood is our very best defense against crime.)

Another frequently reported crime is theft of items left in view inside of vehicles. Please, please do not do this. It's almost to the point that we would recommend that, if you are going to leave attractive items in your vehicle, just leave it unlocked. That way you will not have the expense and aggravation of replacing the broken glass.

This year the Sherwood Forest Citizens Board has asked the Security Patrol to pay special attention to illegal parking and to vehicles that are not drivable. If you have this problem on your street, please call 273-1353, and leave a message for Beverly Oglesby or Hugh Cummins, giving the location and description of the vehicle. We ask that you park your vehicles in your driveway as far from the street as possible. This makes for a much safer and desirable neighborhood.

During the past year, we attempted emailing all our members with security alerts. So many messages bounced, presumably because of spam protection, that we have given up for the time being. Very soon, we hope to be getting more security information on the SFCFA web site. Please check towards the last of August.

The Security Patrol has been checking many vacation homes this summer. This service is available free for members and for non-members for \$25. When you are leaving town, please call Beverly Oglesby at 275-0973 or 273-1353, AT LEAST two or three days in advance of your departure.

2004 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Annual Membership dues Cover Period from January 1, 2004 thru December 31, 2004.

Name _____ Address _____ Phone _____
 Please Print (Last) (First) (Number and Street)

I would like to volunteer for (Please select one): **Comments:**

1. Crime Prevention _____

2. Other (Specify) _____

E-Mail Address _____

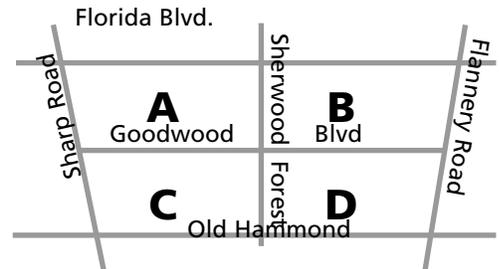
2004 Annual Membership Dues (Jan. 1 - Dec. 31) \$20.00

Crime Prevention Donation \$ _____ > Total Check Amount \$ _____

This is not a bill. If you have already paid dues for 2004, you are not obligated to return this form or a check. This form is only for those residents who have not paid their 2004 dues or for new residents who have moved into Sherwood Forest since the last newsletter.

Make check payable to **SFCA, Inc.** and mail to:
 Sherwood Forest Citizens Association, Inc.
 P. O. Box 45142
 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70895

Please mark the quadrant in which you live with an **X.**



Sherwood Forest Citizens Association, Inc.
 P.O. Box 45142
 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70895

Phone Number 273-1353

SFCA 2004 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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