

News & Views

OAR LEAVES

of River Oaks

Volume V

August, 1993

Number 6

EAT YOUR NEIGHBORS'

FOOD, THAT IS.

THAT UNPARALLELED FESTIVAL OF SUMMER IS ALMOST HERE!

THE TASTE OF RIVER OAKS WILL BE HELD SATURDAY, AUGUST 28TH COMMENCING AT 4:00PM IN THE UPPER COMMON AREA.

Great food, begining with choice appetizers, will be followed by family-favorite main dishes and capped off with <u>Murphy's Famous ice cream!</u>

Refreshments for the young and the not-so-young will be provided.

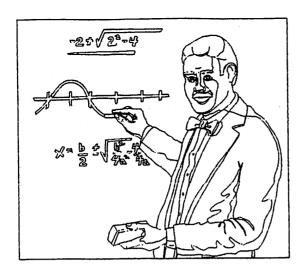
There will be games for children of all ages, and the renowned RIVER OAKS FOOTBALL & ASPRIN CHUGGING CONTEST, an event which tests the mettle of River Oaks men and patience of River Oaks women. Questions? Look for more information inside the Newsletter!

The TASTE OF RIVER OAKS is a great way to enjoy some summer hospitality with your neighbors.

We'll be looking for YOU!!!

Calendar of Events

- Newsletter
 7:30PM
 at the Sinnotts'
- Wednesday, Aug. 25
 Entertainment
 7:30 PM
 at the Costlows'
- ✓ Saturday, August 28 A TASTE OF RIVER OAKS
- Landscaping
 7:30 PM
 at the Moores'
- Board of Directors
 7:30 PM
 at the Costlows'



THORIUM UPDATE

As was reported in the last issue of OAK LEAVES, the ROIA Board of Directors asked the Illinois Department Of Nuclear Safety (IDNS) to conduct tests in the Common Area along the West Branch of the DuPage River for thorium contamination resulting from the decommissioned Kerr-McGee facility in West Chicago.

The IDNS reports that tests in what they identify as the "Southern common area" indicated that gamma radiation levels are within the accepted range for normal background radiation.

The Board is contacting the IDNS to be sure we are talking about the same area, after all the common areas adjacent to the river are on the North side of River Oaks.

We are also informed by the IDNS that the US EPA may require additional testing at some time in the future.

The Newsletter will report on any further developments.

If you have any questions, please contact a Board member.

PLEASE DON'T KILL A TREE WITH KINDNESS!

WEED & FEED chemicals cannot tell the difference between an young tree and a weed. If you are going to apply (or have someone else apply) a "weed and feed" chemical treatment to your lawn, keep the chemicals away from young trees!

"Weed and Feed" compounds are made to attack broad-leafed vegetation. Trees have broad leaves. Young trees are trying to grow rapidly, and absorb these chemicals quickly.

Even a "recommended" dose on the grass can kill or gravely injure a young tree if the compound is applied around the trunk or at the drip line. (The drip line is the outer boundary of the branches.)



If you have applied a chemical of this sort, try to physically remove it if possible. If you can't remove it, try to dilute it with lots of water. A hose adjusted to "trickle" and let run for several hours will saturate the ground and help dilute the poisons. Spraying the leaves with water will also help.

Your new ornametal shrubs can fall prey to the "weed and feed" compounds as easily as a young tree, or a vegetable plant - so use these products with caution and common sense.



We are approximately half way through the fiscal year. Joe Lanute reports that many River Oakers availed themselves of the opportunity to write only one check to take care of their dues for the balance of the year. Saving paper and postage makes good environmental and financial sense, and helps ROIA besides! To date (8/19/93), here are the expenses of our various budget categories:

Landscaping\$2	,257.03
Parkway Trees +5	5140.95
Financial Review	
News Letter	\$266.60
Insurance	\$207.00
Entertainment	\$118.54
Property Tax	
Treasurer	-\$44.88
P.O. Box	

All committees are operating well within budget. The income from the Parkway Tree program is the result of several transactions involving replacement trees.

TREASURER'S REPORT - ROIA CHECKING - 8/14/93

Bank Statement - Cleared Transactions:	
Previous Balance	\$7,510.37
checks & disbursements	68.53
deposits & other credits	
Ending Balance	
Uncleared Transactions:	
checks & disbursements	1,250.00
deposits & other credits	
Ending Register Balance	\$7,951.08



YOU'RE INVITED to attend THE SIXTH ANNUAL TASTE OF RIVER OAKS

4:00PM Saturday the 28th marks the start of the 6th annual TASTE of RIVER OAKS which will be held in the Upper Common Area - just look for the colorful canopies!

All you need to bring is your appetite and a chair to sit on! Non-alcoholic drinks will be provided, but feel free to bring a beverage of your choice. Plates, utensils and napkins will also be provided.

Did you forget to return your confirmation stub? NOT TO WORRY !! Come anyway!! But bring something for your neighbors to eat!!

Remember to use one of the entryways to the Common Area. Especially recommended for a pleasant walk is our newly landscaped entryway on the southwest side of the Common Area. {Enjoy the trees, potentilla and alpine currants as you stroll in!}

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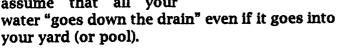
AUGUST: Keegan Soelke, Mark Nagode, Meghan McKinley & Raphael Recometa

SEPTEMBER: Remic Ensweiler, Helen Andrejevich, Sebastian White, JJ Highland, Christina Hulse, Julie Berland, Brandon Carlson, Russel Christiansen, Candiae Lanute & Angela Vainisi

WATER & SEWER BILLING UPDATE

River Oaks resident and City Councilman Bill Murphy has taken up the situation relating to the City's "double dipping" on water/sewage bills.

We are charged twice for water, once on the way in and again on the way out. The sewage bills assume that all your



As a result of Bill's efforts, the City is investigating several alternate and more equitable billing arrangements

We'll report on any future developments.

The night has a 1,000 eyes and a 1,000 eyes can't help but see...

A safe neighborhood is everyone's concern, and the more "eyes and ears" the police have, the more effective they can be. Many neighborhoods have formed Neighborhood Watch groups. A Neighborhood Watch group is designed for neighbors to watch out for each other and to be a communications link between the neighborhood and the police.

If a Neighborhood Watch group is effectively organized and remains active, it has a definite impact on local crime. The Neighborhood Watch identification signs themselves have been shown to have a deterrent effect.

This type of activity can promote a more vigorous sense of community. *Neighborhood Watch* groups in Springfield have lead to a steady and measurable decline in burglary.

The Warrenville Police Department is actively promoting the formation of Neighborhood Watch groups.

If you are interested in learning more about the *Neighborhood Watch* program, or would like to participate, please contact Becky Christiansen or any (other) Board member.

This edition of the NEW SLETTER is brought to you by: Tom Sinnott, Becky Christiansen, Marnee Sinnott & Mary Moore.

We're ALWAYS booking for additional articles and neighborhood notices. If you would like to submit something, please feel free to contact any of us.

Well appreciate it!

Minutes Board of Directors Meeting August 19, 1993

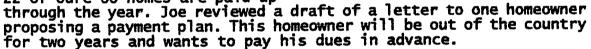
PRESENT: Phil Brackmann, Mark Moore, Tom Sinnott, Joe Lanute, Kathryn Costlow and Becky Christ-iansen.

ABSENT: Paul Koenig

Phil called the meeting to order at 7:40 P.M.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the June 3, 1993 Board Meeting as written. Motion made by Tom, seconded by Mark. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Joe reported that the current ROIA account balance is \$7,951.08. 22 of oure 66 homes are paid up



MOTION: By Tom to pay all outstanding bills, seconded by Kathryn. Motion passed.

MOTION: By Mark to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded by Phil. Motion passed.

LANDSCAPING: Mark reported that many of the tasks mentioned at the June 3 meeting have been completed. The Common Area entrance is planted and doing well, as is the entrance island. The tree wrap was removed from the parkway trees, and the tree nursery is doing well. Preliminary plans for future plantings in the Common Areas have been proposed.

ACTION ITEM: To move the shrubs in the lower cul-de-sac this fall.

ACTION ITEM: Becky asked that an estimate for top dressing (dirt and seed) of the upper plateau of the Common Area, behind Lots 32 and 23, be obtained from Davey, to see if it would be feasible to include this in next year's budget. Mark said he would request this estimate.

NEWSLETTER: Tom reported that the Newsletter Committee produced the new River Oaks Directory in July. The next issue of Oak Leaves should be out before the picnic on August 28th.



August 19, 1993 ROIA Board Meeting Minutes

- continued -

ANDEN: Tom reported that the case seems to be stagnant. He will once again contact the City of Warrenville for the latest details.

ENTERTAINMENT: Kathryn reported that plans are underway for the annual Taste of River Oaks picnic which will be held on Saturday, August 28th in the Upper Common Area. A committee sign-up sheet will be available at the picnic. Board members will donate tarps for the food area.

ACTION ITEM: Mark indicated that there have been requests for impartial referees for the football "game".

OLD BUSINESS:

EPA STUDY: The Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety (IDNS) checked the River Oaks Common Areas for possible radiation contamination. In a phone call from the IDNS, a Board member was told to expect two letters, one for each of the two Common Areas. So far, the Board has received one letter stating that one Common Area has no elevated level of radiation, and is waiting for information on the other one.

NEW BUSINESS:

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH: Becky reported on the information she received regarding the establishment of a Neighborhood Watch in River Oaks. The Police need two months of notices of this program in the Newsletter. They will then set up organizational meetings for the Watch. The program is established in many areas in Warrenville and has been shown to be effective against crime.

SEWER CHARGES: In reaction to the article in the last Newsletter, Alderman Bill Murphy has presented the issue of how summer sewer charges are calculated to the City Council. The Council is considering three possible plans that would better account for the real sewer usage in the summer months, when some water is used outdoors and doesn't go into the sewer.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting. Motion made by Mark, seconded by Joe. The meeting was adjourned at 8:51 P.M.

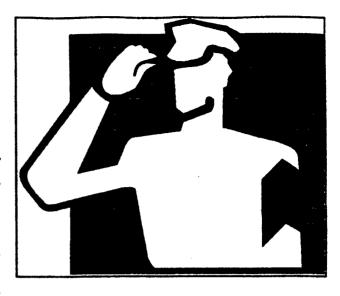
Next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 16, 1993 at the Costlows' house, 2 S. 601 River Oaks Dr., at 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Becky Christiansen, Secretary

SLUG WARS

The recent humid weather has brought a bumper crop of slugs to River Oaks' gardens. If you see small holes in the leaves of your hostas, hibiscus or other leafy plants, you have slugs!

What to do? Chemical baits and poisons are available at the local hardware store. One "home



brew" approach is to put out saucers of beer. A more personal approach is to hunt the critters at night with a flashlight a salt shaker. A dose of salt will kill a slug.

The Newsletter heard of one River Oaker who put out saucers of beer one night and claims to have discovered no slugs, but recovered several small paper party hats scattered about an empty saucer.

...FROM MR. HUMOR'S GARDEN OF JOKES ...

THERE WAS A SLUG WHO HAD BEEN MUGGED BY SEVERAL TURTLES. WHEN THE POLICE ARRIVED, THEY ASKED THE SLUG IF HE COULD IDENTIFY THE TURTLES. "I'M SORRY, I CAN'T" REPLIED THE SLUG, "IT ALL HAPPENED TOO FAST."