

UPCOMING
EVENTS:

- **Halloween Party 10/31 @ 5:00**
- **Annual Meeting 11/12 @ 3:00**
- **Santa's Fire Truck Ride, TBA**

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LAKE NEWS

FALL 2006



RBLHA Association Updates

Greetings to our new neighbors! We would like to welcome you to our neighborhood. This newsletter is published several times a year to keep you up-to-date on neighborhood events and announcements. If you have received any past due notices regarding Association dues, we apologize. There are 240+ homes in our neighborhood and it is difficult to keep up with some of the turnover. There are many benefits of our association. We will make every effort to personally contact you about the association and some of the many benefits of living in our

area. Please contact Patty Glenn at 763.9291 if you have not yet received a welcome package.

Security Meeting

A security meeting was held September 20th for residents of Riverbend and Riverbend Lakes. Several representatives from local law enforcement agencies were on hand to address concerns and answer questions. Several members of the Riverbend Lakes Homeowners Association board were also in attendance. All of the officers present emphasized that we live in a very safe and quiet neighborhood. There have been a few incidents such as car break-ins (though all of the cars

were left unlocked), a home burglary and some incidents of a strange woman "wandering" around. Emails are quick to be circulated and it is easy to get in a panic mode about safety. If you hear of something that has occurred, either through email or word of mouth, please contact the board so we can look into it. We will then either send out an email or update the website with any necessary information.

Use common sense and lock doors to your cars and houses, keep your house well-lit, and get to know your neighbors. If you have an emergency, call **911**. For non-emergencies (noise complaint, etc.) call **389.2000**.

Message from the President-David Heroman

I would like to notify all residents that Riverbend Lakes is a deed-restricted community. As such, we are bound to enforce the by-laws of the neighborhood for the protection of property values and the beauty of the neighborhood.

*In the past, the board has been hesitant to enforce certain aspects of the bylaws. **Please realize that we have the full authority and means to enforce them, and will now be doing so.** The board is comprised of people who have busy*

schedules, full-time jobs and families. These are voluntary positions and the members serve because we care about our neighborhood and want it to remain the nicest place to live in Baton Rouge.

Many residents have complained of having ant problems which is a neighborhood-wide issue. We will be starting an ant eradication program which is voluntary though your dues will pay for the treatment. If you choose not to apply the treatment, you may be forced to by the ant

*population that will move to untreated homes. The board will provide spreaders and also instructions on the application. We will be covering this in more detail at the annual meeting. If you have any questions about this before the November 12th meeting, please feel free to contact me or another board member. ***If you are not current on dues, you WILL NOT BE ABLE to participate in the treatment program at the expense of the association.***

Neighborhood Events



The annual Halloween weenie roast and party will be held at the home of Lori & David Heroman, **6302 Riverbend Lakes Drive starting at 5:00 p.m.** on Halloween and lasting through

trick-or-treat time. Hot dogs, jambalaya and drinks for adults and kids will be provided. The train will also be making stops by the party. Come by on your way around the neighborhood

to catch up with friends, eat some delicious food and meet your neighbors.



Annual Mtg— Sun. Nov. 12th 3-6 p.m.

You and your family are invited to attend our **Annual Meeting and Block party Sunday, November 12th from 3 - 6 p.m. at the Riverbend Park.** Jambalaya, hot dogs, drinks and other munchies will be provided. We will also

have spacewalks for the kids to enjoy. Business meeting will begin at 3:30. We will discuss and vote on several issues such as dues amount, the ant eradication program, a restriction on grass height, and the 2007 budget. Please plan to attend so

that you can hear about all the wonderful things going on in our neighborhood. This is a great opportunity to meet the members of the board and let us know what is on your mind. We will send out a reminder email before the meeting, hope to see you there!

Where do my dues go?

The annual dues cover a variety of costs that benefit of neighborhood. This money goes towards landscap-

ing, signage, security patrols, newsletter printing and distribution, Annual meeting, Halloween party, Easter Egg hunt and

Santa's Fire truck ride. A copy of the budget will be available at the Annual Meeting.

Signs on the columns at the Twelve Oaks entrance.



MAKS Corner— Mother and Kids Social Group

MAKS is a group that offers a social atmosphere for families in the Riverbend area (including Riverbend, Riverbend Lakes, Laurel Lakes and Laurel Estates). It's a way for moms to get to know each other, exercise and keep the neighborhood community alive and well. Meetings are on the second Tuesday of each month during the school-year for moms and children to socialize. There is a Mom's Night Out once a month and field trips for the kids throughout the year. The group supports several charities throughout town

through the Charity corner. Moms are encouraged to get involved as much or as little as you would like; no commitment necessary. Dues are \$7 per family though there is not a financial obligation. This amount covers several special events a year for children and also includes the annual Christmas brunch. A monthly newsletter is sent to MAKS members. Please contact Andrea Ruckman at 757.8923 or anjey-oung@yahoo.com if you would like to get on the email list

(put MAKS in the subject line of emails). Working moms, we would love for you to join us too! Get on the email list to find out about coffee and dessert night, Mom's Night Out dinners, etc. Sign up for our monthly calendars.

The MAKS officers are:

- Tanya Bourgoyne-Meeting Coordinator**
- Michelle Lofland-Secretary**
- Andrea Ruckman-Social Coordinator**
- Leslie Smith-Treasurer**
- Elizabeth Johnson-Charity Coordinator**

Have you noticed a street light that is out? Call the Public Works Department, City South at 389.3246 or 311 from your home phone.

Neighborhood Safety

Please observe the speed limit of 30 mph in our neighborhood. Many people are speeding and are also running through stop signs. Take a moment to slow down so we can ensure the safety of our children and pets. Many children are also driving go-carts through the neighborhood at higher

speeds and several have run into drainage ditches and lawns. Parents, please talk to your children about being courteous neighbors and being safe drivers and passengers. Go-cart and bicycle riders should also follow traffic laws and regulations. Due to the lack of sidewalks in our neighborhood, many children

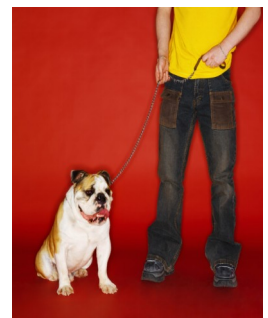
play basketball and other games in driveways near streets. Please talk to your child about common sense safety precautions such as not running into streets after balls, moving out of the way when a car comes, etc. We are lucky to have so many wonderful neighbors to visit and play with, let's help keep one another safe!

Pet Corner

The board has recently received several complaints about dogs that are roaming freely . All dogs should be **secured in your home or yard** while you are away from your home. There have been several instances of unleashed dogs chasing people on bikes, leashed animals, children and even cars.

For your pet's safety and your neighbor's, please ensure that your pet is safely secured while you are gone. If you are concerned for your or your child's safety by an unidentified or loose pet, call the **Animal Control Center at 774.7700**. The board has also received several complaints

about dog feces on their lawn. As a courtesy to your neighbors, please dispose of pet waste. Thanks go out to the many pet owners who carry plastic bags on their walks for this purpose.



Don't forget your leash!

BREC Happenings & Updates

BREC has many exciting activities that take place during October. **Boo at the Zoo** takes place Oct. 21, 22, 28 and 29th from 9:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. There are decorated treat stations and a hay maze for the kids to enjoy. The Bluebonnet Swamp offers **Haunted Hikes** Oct. 13, 20 and 27th. BREC's Forest Park location offers Haunted Hayrides, arts and crafts, live entertainment, inflatables, and other activi-

ties on Oct. 27th and 28th. Check the following websites for more details on these fun family events!



www.brec.org
www.brzoo.org

There have been several complaints about the condition of Riverbend Park. Bob Epperson from BREC has said that the playground sand has been tilled and crews have been sent out to clean out some underbrush, prune trees and bushes and clean the playground equipment. Contact Bob Epperson at bepperson@brec.org with any questions, concerns or kudos.

HELP NEEDED! Please consider volunteering your time to help distribute newsletters. This only occurs 2-3 times a year. If you are willing and able to distribute on a few streets, please contact Lauren at laurenserpas@cox.net. Thanks to Marcia & David Vice and Kay Callander for your continued help in newsletter distribution. We are also looking for a volunteer to keep our stork and deliver it to new parents' homes. Please contact Lauren if you are interested in this great neighborhood service.

Architectural Board Reminders

Rick Bowles heads up the Architectural Board. For a complete list of regulations, visit the Acts of Restrictions listed on the website, www.riverbendlakes.org. We realize that many people are new to our neighborhood and may not be aware of certain restrictions. If you are found to be in violation of a restriction, you will first receive a friendly letter of notification. If the problem remains uncorrected after this notice, further action will be taken by the board. **The following violations are some of the most common: Boats should not be visible from the street; fences are to be constructed of specified materials; mailboxes should be of the same design, all lots must have sod within 30 days of move-in; satellites should not be placed in front of houses or where visible from street; real estate signs are the only signs permitted in yards.**

Who's Who on the board

President	David Heroman	heromans@bellsouth.net
Vice-President	Robert Bond	rbond@bellsouth.net
Treasurer	Michael Blue	mbluecpa@cox.net
Secretary	Kay Callander	kcallander@yahoo.net
Board Member	Rick Bowles	theoldcoach@cox.net
Board Member	Betina Slataper	betinaslataper@yahoo.com
Board Member	Todd Scioneaux	cnobmt@aol.com

Do you have a new bundle of joy? Spread the news! Call Lauren, 757.8594 for a stork. Our stork has a "boy" and "girl" sign and will be delivered to your yard then picked up in a couple of weeks.

Committees

- Arch. Control- **Rick Bowles**, 757.9369
- Security- **Todd Scioneaux**, 761.1641
- Security Backup- **Joey Nolan**, 769.2640
- Website- **webmaster listed on site**
- Newsletter- **Lauren Serpas**, 757.8594
- MAKS- **Andrea Ruckman**, 757.8923
- Need-a-stork- **Lauren Serpas**, 757.8594

2006 Riverbend Lakes Homeowners Dues Invoice

Annual dues for 2006 assessments and operating budget **requires all lot owners** per the Acts of Restrictions of Riverbend Lakes section 6.1 **to pay \$65. All payments were due January 1st, 2006.** If you have not yet paid your dues, please do so as soon as possible.

Please make checks payable to: **Riverbend Lakes Home Owners Association**

Name _____ Phone Number _____

Address _____ Lot Number _____

Email address _____

Mail or drop payment to Michael Blue, 6374 Morgan Bend, Baton Rouge, LA 70820. Email mbluecpa@cox.net if you have any questions.





Web Site News and Updates

Please update your contact information online at www.riverbendlakes.org

Riverbend Lakes has its own website with much information...visit www.riverbendlakes.org. We are in the process of upgrading the site and making many additions and changes that should benefit our residents. In order to access certain sections of the site such as the Resident Directory and Dues status pages, you **must sign up for a user id and password**. This is something that is new and is designed to give residents a more secure connection and protect information such as phone numbers, email addresses, etc. The old username and password that was set up for the entire neighborhood will **no longer work**. Every resident must create a new account which should only take a couple of minutes. To set up your account, visit the website and click the option "To create a new user account click here" which is on the homepage. Your password must contain at least seven characters (the password requirements have been changed, you no longer need to include a non-alphanumeric key). After you have set up your new username and password, you will receive a confirmation email letting you know that your username and password have been accepted. **You will not be able to access the site until you receive this email notification**. This extra step should help ensure that our website remains as secure as possible. For these reasons, we would like everyone to update their information on the site in order for the board to send out notices about meetings, upcoming events, etc.

This should help us keep printing and mailing costs to a minimum as well as give information in a more timely manner. Your email address will **ONLY** be used for these purposes and cannot be accessed by non-residents. You will also be able to access the "dues paid" section to check on the status of your yearly dues and payments. The website is an invaluable resource as it contains things such as Acts of Restrictions, filing maps, dues status, past newsletters, the resident directory, etc.

We will be relying on email to communicate reminder notices about dues, upcoming events and meetings, etc. Please register your email address today so that you won't miss out on information!

Community Corner

An update on our neighbor Grace Dirks...she is back at home and going to school again, doing much better. The spaghetti dinner was a huge success, thanks to everyone who helped contribute!

Important Phone Numbers

Emergency, Fire, Rescue	911	Integrity Mailboxes	763.9400
Police	389.3831	Allied Waste (formerly BFI)	778.3800
Poison Control	1.800.256.9822	The Advocate	383.1111
Animal Control	774.7700	Streetlight Repairs	389.3246
Entergy	1.800.368.3749	Call before you dig	1.800.272.3020
Bell South	577.6111	_____	
Parish Water	925.2011	_____	
Cox Cable	615.1000	_____	
Citizen Services	389.3090	_____	

Proposed 2007 Budget

Budget for year ended December 31, 2007

Dues collected (241 lots @ \$75 each)

Projected Total

\$18,075.00

Expenditures:

Security

6,000.00

Ant Eradication program

1,200.00

Landscape and Signage

3,264.00

Newsletter and Website

500.00

Service Charges

50.00

Meetings

1,500.00

Legal

1,000.00

Lake

1,000.00

Other

250.00

Total

14,764.00

Excess of dues over expenditures

3,311.00

Notes: _____
