



Mesta Park Neighborhood Association

Newsletter

News and information for ALL residents of the Mesta Park Historic Preservation District

Volume 2011, Issue 7

September 2011

Get Involved!

www.mestapark.org

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Contact: Chairs@mestapark.org
OfficersandBoard@mestapark.org

Visit www.mestapark.org/association-leaders for additional contact info.

The Mesta Park Neighborhood Association Newsletter

is published ten times per year (monthly except January & July) by the Mesta Park Neighborhood Association.

Meetings occur on the first Tuesday of the month at Sunbeam Family Home at NW 21st and Lee.

DATES TO REMEMBER

September 23: Overholser Mansion Concert on the Lawn, 6:00-8:30pm

October 15: Mesta Festa, 12:00-6:00pm at Perle Mesta Park

MESTA FESTA by Dana Meister

Planning for the 2011 Mesta Festa is in full swing! **Mesta Festa will be Saturday, October 15, from noon to 6:00pm in Perle Mesta Park.** The committee has been meeting since March, and we are well on our way to the best Mesta Festa ever!

If you are new to the neighborhood, let me fill you in on just what Mesta Festa is all about. Mesta Festa was started 17 years ago by several neighbors who decided that it would be fun to get together and share their love of micro-brewing and, in so doing, raise some funds for the neighborhood. Mesta Festa has been described as a block party at the national level.

As always, this year there will be beer provided by local breweries: Mustang, Choc, Coop Ale, Belle Isle, Blue Note, Coaches, Bricktown Brewery, Battered Boar, McNellie's and, new this year, Louie's. Big Truck Tacos will be there along with everyone's favorite, Bella Crema Gelato. Music will be provided by Local Honey, Brent Blount, The Dam Quails, and Amanda Cunningham. Children's activities will be coordinated by the Wilson PTA. Year-long bragging rights are up again for the Michael Persons Memorial Chili Cook Off.

We have several opportunities for participation from the neighborhood this year. First, we are changing the art portion of the day to a more informal "art and crafts" display. We specifically are looking for home made items such as jewelry. A registration fee is required. Secondly, you can be an official sponsor and have your business listed in all publicity as well as on the official t-shirt. And lastly, it's not too late to attend the September meetings and get involved directly in the plan-making! For more information on registration fees, sponsorship levels and meeting dates, **call Dana Meister at 550-8974 or email meisterdana72@yahoo.com!**

CONCERT ON THE LAWN by Lisa Escalon

SAVE THE DATE! The 4th Annual **Overholser Mansion Concert on the Lawn will be Friday, September 23, 2011, from 6:00 to 8:30pm at 405 NW 15th St.** Bring a blanket or chair and come listen to the sound of blues, country folk music and more with Oklahoma's own Kyle Dillingham and Horseshoe Road while enjoying samples from the menus of our many Midtown area restaurants

Donations are greatly appreciated! Proceeds will benefit the Overholser Mansion. Call (405) 525-5325 for information.

Get Involved! (cont'd)

PERLE MESTA PARK UPDATE: MORE IMPROVEMENTS PLANNED! by JB Schuelein

With completion of the new southeast entrance to the park in July, the Parks Committee has turned it's attention to future capital improvements. The new entrance welcomes visitors to the park and includes upgraded electric service for Mesta Festa and other activities in the park. The benches from the old wall were saved and will be repurposed in other areas of the park to provide additional seating. Rich Edmonds, our contractor on the entrance project, will set the benches on flagstone pads with red sandstone bases. Landscaping will be installed around the new entrance when the heat breaks this Fall.

The OKC Parks and Recreation Department has approved installation of a drinking water fountain! We have selected a fountain design and location that is handicap-accessible and includes a pet fountain so our neighborhood pets can get a drink on their walks through the park, too! The new fountain will be installed on a flagstone pad near the playground equipment and gazebo, and will only be operational when our irrigation system is running during the warm months of the year. While we have funding for the plumbing and pad for the fountain, **we still need to raise funds (approximately \$3,500) for the fountain itself.** If you are interested in donating, please make your checks payable to MPNA, and designate 'Perle Mesta Park' or 'Park Drinking Fountain' in the memo on your check. Donations will be gladly accepted in the names of Shaney, Dot, Katie, Sheriff, Higgins, Maurice, BJ and any of the other beloved neighborhood dogs who enjoy (or have enjoyed) their walks through the park. Of course, neighborhood felines are welcome to use the pet fountain, too!

The most recent improvements to the Park were made possible by contributions we received in response to a fundraising letter last December. Historic Preservation Inc. and the Heritage Hills Associates Board donated \$10,000. More than three dozen neighbors and friends from Mesta Park and Heritage Hills responded with donations of all sizes, led by challenge grants from Dr. Stan and Raina Pelofsky and the Sees Family. Hans and Torrey Butzer donated the design for the entrance which was approved by the OKC Parks and Recreation Commission in February.

In addition to the drinking water fountain, more improvements are planned for the park over the next 12-24 months. Lighting will be our biggest expense. OG&E has developed a lighting plan that will replace the existing concrete poles with more appropriate decorative poles that are consistent with our neighborhood street lights. The Parks Department is also developing a landscaping plan for the northwest corner of the park; we hope to add more seating and picnic tables and to plant more trees to replace those we have lost to the pine wilt and the 2009 ice storm. All these projects will be funded by donations.

Thanks to all who have contributed to the park, either financially or with your time and energy. Please express your thanks to our friends and neighbors in Heritage Hills, the Pelofskys, Sees and Butzers when you see them. Through their generosity, we will all enjoy the enhancements to our park for generations to come.

Volunteers to serve on the Parks Committee are always welcome and appreciated. We typically spend no more than a couple hours per week in watering, pulling weeds, trimming and pruning. Several neighborhood master gardeners earn service hours to keep their certification by volunteering in the park. It is critical that we keep our new trees in the park watered for their first year.

Neighborhood volunteers will be watering the trees by hand with hoses that are stored near the park. If you would like to volunteer in the park or assist with tree watering, please contact JB at 525-2059.

Get Secure!

SECURITY UPDATE by Ann Dell

Historic Neighborhoods Security Association (HNSA) was organized several years ago when the three neighborhoods, Heritage Hills, Heritage Hills East, and Mesta Park, realized the necessity of combining forces and funds to provide a workable security patrol for our area. As a result, HNSA collects membership funds that have allowed the security organization to buy a vehicle and provide for its upkeep, as well as to pay for patrol hours by uniformed, armed, off-duty police officers. All of the organizing and maintenance work is done by a few volunteers from the three neighborhoods.

We need your help to keep our target of 18 hours/day of patrol time. Mesta Park has an embarrassingly small percentage of members, compared to Heritage Hills (only 85 MP households versus 200 from HH). Your Mesta Park Neighborhood Association dues do not include HNSA membership. Mesta Park residents who are not HNSA members do not hesitate to ask our patrol officer for help when they report an incident or see the officers driving by. Those residents who pay dues are essentially subsidizing those of you who do not join. So please consider working with us to keep our neighborhood safe. Living in the inner-city takes effort and work, as those of us who have been here a long time well know. **Please help our efforts by joining HNSA.**

Application forms are below and on page 4 of this newsletter, or for more information, call Neighborhood Services at 348-1436, or email security@mestapark.org.

Part 1 of Historic Neighborhoods Security Association Application

ACH ORIGATION FORM / EFT FORM

YOU MUST ATTACH A VOIDED CHECK OR A COPY OF A CHECK

I authorize Neighborhood Services Corporation to initiate entries to my checking/savings account as directed below. This authority will remain in effect until I notify NSC in writing to cancel it in such time as to afford NSC a reasonable opportunity to act on it. I can stop payment of any entry by notifying my financial institution 3 days before my account(s) is charged for a normal stop payment fee. I can have the amount of an erroneous charge immediately credited to my account up to 15 days following issuance of my bank statement or 60 days after posting.

ACCOUNT TO BE CREDITED *ALL ACCOUNTS WILL BE DRAFTED ON THE 10TH OF THE MONTH*

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

NAME OF ASSOCIATION: Historic Neighborhoods Security Association (HNSA)

ACCOUNT NO: _____ CHECKING _____ SAVINGS _____

ROUTING NUMBER: _____

FINANCIAL INSTITUTION NAME: _____

AMOUNT: _____ DESCRIPTION OF ENTRY _____

MONTH DRAFTS COMMENCE: _____
(NSC must receive this form at least 10 days prior to the date of first draft)

FREQUENCY: monthly (all accounts are drafted on the 10th day of the month)

CUSTOMER SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

For company Use: Processed: _____ Date: _____

Part 2 of Historic Neighborhoods Security Association Application



REGISTRATION AND MEMBER PROFILE FORM (Keep a copy for your records)

Historic Neighborhoods Security Association (HNSA): Serving Heritage Hills, Mesta Park, and Heritage Hills East

HNSA Membership Registration Form	(Complete Fields Below)
Name(s)	
Neighborhood	Mesta Park
Billing Address 1	
City, State, Zip Code	
Property Address 1:	
City, State, Zip Code	
Home Phone:	
Work Phone:	
Email Address:	
Interested in HNSA Service	Volunteer - Please circle: Yes or No Serve on HNSA Board - Please circle: Yes or No
Need any Special Items Delivered by an HNSA Patrol Officer	HNSA Car Decal # _____ Hotline (phone) Stickers # _____ HNSA Yard Sign # _____ HNSA Security Patrol Fact Sheet

Billing Information:

Dues are prepaid so that the number of patrol hours can be determined each month. There are two options to pay your dues; please choose one of the options below:

* Check or Money Order (one-time annual fee for remainder of the calendar year-\$35. X number of remaining mos, payable to HNSA)

* Monthly EFT (a monthly electronic fund transfer of \$35.00 from a checking or savings account).

If you are choosing to pay monthly by electronic bank draft, please complete the EFT form on page 3 and **attach a canceled check.

Remit: Neighborhood Services Corporation
Attn: HNSA New Member
1322 S. Fretz Drive
Edmond, OK 73003
 405.348.1436 (office@neighborhoodsplus.com)

HNSA Member Profile Information	(Complete Fields Below - WRITE CLEARLY USING DARK INK this form may be transmitted electronically to the Patrol Officers)
Emergency Phone Contact Number (fastest contact):	Name _____ Phone Number _____
Description of Cars at Home Regularly (Model/Color/tag #)	Car 1: _____ Car 2: _____ Car 3: _____ Car 4: _____
Names of Other Individuals Living at Residence or Regular and Authorized Visitors	Person 1: _____ Person 5: _____ Person 2: _____ Person 6: _____ Person 3: _____ Person 7: _____ Person 4: _____ Person 8: _____
Pets	In House In Yard No Pets
Alarm Company	Name: _____ Phone: _____
Handling Instructions for House Checks	Mail: Pickup Leave in mailbox Newspapers: Pickup Leave on/in (location) _____
Miscellaneous	Fence Gates Locked: Yes No Lights left on: Porch Upstairs Downstairs Other (_____)

MESTA PARK BUSINESS PAGE



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WISHING FOR A MESTA PARK PLAQUE FOR YOUR HOME?

The original plaques were done at Midwest Trophy. You can contact them directly at (405) 670-4545 to get information about a plaque for your home!



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 LANDSCAPE GROUP
Specializing in Landscape Maintenance and Installation
520-6269
 BRIAN COURTNEY, Owner/Manager
 Fax: 340.4011



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eyecare & eyewear



Kristin wears Anisette by Oliver Peoples **Stephen wears the Riley 48 by Oliver Peoples**
405 604 0987 **1106 CLASSEN DR**

SMILE



Lori M. LoVette, D.D.S.
 1211 N. Shartel Ave., Ste. 1002
 Oklahoma City, OK 73103
 (405) 525-5555

Get Involved! (cont'd)

WE NEED YOUR BEAUTIFUL MESTA PARK HOME by Todd Davis

Even though it is only Summertime, we are hard at work and looking to recruit some homes for our annual Mesta Park Holiday Home Tour in December of 2011. As most of you are aware, our annual Holiday Home Tour provides a significant amount of revenue to keep our neighborhood running, and it is vital to the continued growth and beautification that we all enjoy. If you or someone you know is ready to showcase their home, please contact me at 405-834-3347, and we will be glad to get you introduced to our Home Tour Committee.

We are also in great need of volunteers to help with the Holiday Home Tour, so if you are unable to volunteer your home, please consider volunteering your time and ideas for our great neighborhood!

Get Proud!

MEMBERSHIPS DUE! by JB Schuelein

Many thanks to the dozens of friends and neighbors who have responded to the membership letter in July. If you have not renewed your membership in (or joined) the Mesta Park Neighborhood Association, please consider doing so today! Membership dues comprise approximately 15% of the MPNA annual budget and support many of the programs that distinguish our neighborhood from so many others.

Did you realize your membership dues support our newsletter that has been published on a monthly basis for more than 30 years? Dues support the maintenance of our neighborhood website, which is truly among the best in central Oklahoma. Dues support social functions that bring our neighborhood together, including the Easter Egg Hunt, the Potluck Supper in January, the Annual Picnic and the Ice Cream Social. They also support neighborhood beautification projects that include: continued improvements to and maintenance of Perle Mesta Park, our neighborhood street lights and sign markers, and Shartel Boulevard!

Please support your neighborhood and renew your membership promptly, or join if you are new to the neighborhood or have let your membership lapse. Thanks to the following “early birds,” who have already mailed in their dues for FY 2011-12 at press time. Remember you don’t even have to write a check if you pay with PayPal at our website, www.mestapark.org.

Steve & Cathy Chernausek
J. Grant Schofield
Tim Wall
Brie Ann Johnson
John Heisch
Shelly Pons & Matt Glazner
Darcy Schein
Jeremy Gardner
Larissa Madore
Al McAffrey
Hayette Porter
Raymond & Yvonne York
Carson & Marsha See
Bonnie Goodrich
Kenny & Cynde Holloway
Rachel Barber
Luther & Ellen Baker
Ed Hendrix
Suan Grant
Ed Oakley
Jan & Cary Adams
Eric & Laura Jergensen

Pat & Wyndall Loyd
Phillip Reid
Jacob & Michelle Magan
Tim & Bridgid Cook
Alisa Thornhill
Cimarron Alliance
Michael Schmidt & Jan Dodson
Jane Edmonds
Elyssa Faison & Zoe Sherinian
Terry Dennison & John Doneti
Scott & Lynn Guilliam
Amanda & Nathaniel Harding
Jane & Pete Holcombe
Chris Carney & Alan Holmes
Fred & Nancy Thompson
Vinay Patel & Mesta Park Apts
Glenna Thomas
Betty Martin & Mike Boley
Dan & Linda Connally
Michael A. Grim
Lea & Kent Eldridge
Jeremy & Crystal Johnson

Wayne Fawcett
Kathryn Dean
Matthew & Melissa Gibson
Carol Marshall
Mary Jan Southwick
Lori M. LoVette, DDS
Suzette & Kim Hatfield
Don Hawkins & Mick Shirron
Jim & Tami Gaston
Afton & Tina Gille
Terry Taylor & Mitch Ruzzoli
Patrick & Shonna Hanscom
Ryan & Jenn Tupps
William & Janet Young
Rajeana Roof & David Garrett
Paul & Linda Smith
Raina & Stan Pelofsky
Jessie Loeffler
Annie Bohanon
Michael Davis
Lou Ann Davis

OKC SMOKE-FREE PARKS INITIATIVE by JB Schuelein

A group of Oklahoma City neighborhoods and residents has presented a petition to the OKC Parks and Recreation Commission to designate Oklahoma City Parks, including Perle Mesta Park, as tobacco free zones. The Mesta Park NA board of directors has submitted a letter to support the initiative, which includes:

- Parks are about clean air, natural beauty, healthy activities, and community wellness. Having a tobacco-free park policy helps promote that healthy environment.
- Secondhand smoke is a human carcinogen for which there is no safe level of exposure. Exposure to secondhand smoke has immediate health consequences such as asthma attacks and other respiratory diseases.
- Discarded cigarettes pollute the land and water, and they may be ingested by toddlers, pets, birds or fish. They are not biodegradable as many people think.
- Tobacco-free policies establish the community norm that tobacco use is not an acceptable behavior for young people or adults within the entire community.

We hope you will support our neighborhood’s initiative in making Perle Mesta Park a healthier, safer and more beautiful place for us all to enjoy.

Get Involved! (cont'd)

WILSON ELEMENTARY by Trina Morrison

School has started, and our neighborhood elementary school, Wilson Elementary, would love to have your help! Even if you don't have children attending Wilson, there are multiple ways to contribute:

- Join Wilson PTA. It's only \$5.00 per person. Call the school to join at 587-7100.
- Volunteer your time. Tutors are always appreciated.
- Donate to the PTA. Or help out by:
 - Collecting Box Tops: These little labels come on many items you may already purchase regularly at the store. When you are done with a package simply cut out the Box Top and send it to the school or bring it to a Mesta Park meeting. Each Box Top is worth 10 cents. It doesn't sound like much, but it adds up quickly.
 - Recycle Paper at Wilson: A paper retriever bin is now available at Wilson. Save your magazines, newspapers and more and bring them to the bin. Wilson will make money based on how much is in the bin.
 - Homeland Dollars for Schools: If you shop at Homeland, even occasionally, please get a Homeland Card and register it to Wilson. This is as easy as taking your card to the Customer Service desk. Our rewards number is 61114. A portion of every purchase will be sent to Wilson PTA.
 - Going out for dinner? Consider going to one of these locations. Each of these area establishments will give 10% of your purchase to Wilson PTA. Be sure to tell them you are there supporting Wilson Elementary.
 - ◆ Every Wednesday: Elemental Coffee
 - ◆ 1st Saturday: Prairie Thunder Bakery. Breakfast or Lunch
 - ◆ 2nd Sunday: The Wedge in Deep Deuce. Dinner hours only
 - ◆ 3rd Monday: Irma's Burger Shack at the Plaza Court. After 4:00 pm
 - ◆ 4th Thursday: Sonic in Bricktown. 5pm – 8pm

Wilson PTA funds many activities at school; including paying for buses to go on class field trips, \$200 annual grants for every teacher, teacher training at the Kennedy Arts Center in Washington D.C., after school clubs and many others. Thank you for supporting Wilson!

NEWCOMERS COMMITTEE by Trina Morrison

A *new Newcomers Committee* is being formed. Please contact Trina Morrison if you are interested in welcoming new families to our beautiful neighborhood. We would also love to have anyone who has served on this committee before give us some pointers of what has happened in the past.

If you are new or know of any new neighbors that have moved into the neighborhood in the past few months, please let Trina know. We want to share all our great information about Mesta Park, ways to get involved, our fabulous holiday home tour, security patrol and Historical Preservation with all of our Newcomers!



Mesta Park Neighborhood Association
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Oklahoma City, OK 73146-1095
www.mestapark.org

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Monthly Neighborhood Newsletter

Your neighborhood needs you!

Join the Mesta Park Neighborhood Association today.

MPNA MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS/ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____ WORK/CELL PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

Yes, I want to become a member of MPNA! Annual dues of \$30 are enclosed.

Mail to: **MPNA**, P.O. Box 61095, OKC, OK 73146

Or join online at www.mestapark.org/membership!