

The Sherwood Forest News

Spring 2015

Attention All Residents of Sherwood Forest Subdivision

Richard Empson

The Sherwood Forest Citizens' Association is in the process of establishing guidelines that will help residents when it comes to specific issues such as, the construction/purchase of out structures, addressing carport clutter, annoying dogs, installation of solar panels, the renting of temporary storage units (PODS), garage sales and illegal signage. These guidelines can be found on the Sherwood Forest web site (sfcabr.org) on the main page under the banner "Homeowner Guidelines". Please refer to this site for help on the above mentioned issues. If you have a topic that you feel needs to be addressed, please contact the SFCA Board.

Remember this is your subdivision. Working together to address issues can be productive. Use the City Parish 311 line to report carport clutter, litter, high grass, downed street signs, pot holes, etc. You do not have to identify yourself. With everyone addressing these types of problems we can help to keep our subdivision a desirable place to live.

From the President's Desk

Richard Empson, President, Sherwood Forest Citizen's Association

Many thanks to outgoing SFCA President, Ricky Shaffer, for the endless amount of time he devoted to the Sherwood Forest Citizens' Association. Through his efforts, he helped to keep our subdivision a desirable place to live and raise a family.

We are now beginning a new year for Sherwood Forest residents, which mean the payment of 2015 dues, new officers, and new beginnings. This year marks the start of the newly established Crime District Board, increased security patrols by the Baton Rouge City Police, and hopefully a greater participation by all residents. In keeping our subdivision safe and attractive for individuals looking to reside within our boundaries, it will take an effort on everyone's part to take the initiative to not only address your immediate property but to monitor your surrounding area for any discrepancies that may affect the value of our properties.

Please visit the Sherwood Forest Citizens' Association web site (www.sfcabr.org), to obtain needed information about your individual deed restrictions, SFCA guidelines relating to specific activities, and useful phone numbers that will guide you to the proper parties to obtain valuable information.

The new SFCA Board of Directors, along with all committee members, is eager to assist residents in any and all matters pertaining to our beautiful neighborhood. See our e-mail contact information on the website.

House Number Need to be Visible - It's the Law

Sherwood Forest residents are reminded that the EBR Parish Municipal Ordinance, in Sec. 7:26; "Uniform Grid System," requires all home addresses be displayed in Arabic numerals no less than three inches high.

Although the ordinance does not specify where the numbers must be displayed, we recommend placing them either above your front door on the eaves or to the right or left of your door. Most importantly, be sure no bushes, trees, or other obstructions block either the doorway or the house numbers.

Always be sure there is enough exterior lighting on the premises to assure the numbers are visible from the street. In an emergency every second counts leaving no time for guesswork!

Weeds!

A pre-emergent called Hi-Yield Ornamental Weed Preventer containing dimension is an excellent product for weed control in flowerbeds, vegetable gardens and lawns. Once applied, it will prevent a wide range of grassy and broadleaf weeds up to four months. It's recommended use is three times a year, Feb., early summer and late summer for year round weed control. Simply broadcast the granules on top of an area and deeply water it in. DO NOT plant flower or vegetable seeds in an area this product has been applied because it will prevent the seeds from germinating.

Citrus trees should be fertilized three times a year.

1st – Before blooming (about now!)

2nd – Just after they set fruit

3rd – June to help set blooms for next year's fruit

SFCA Spring Clean-Up Day

Everyone is invited to join SFCA Saturday, April 18th to help pick up trash in the neighborhood. Our meeting place will be in the parking lot of St. Thomas More's office building located at the corner of Goodwood and Dartmoor at 9:00am.

Plastic bags and water will be furnished. Please bring your own gloves and "grabbers" to pick up the trash. This is your chance to meet your neighbors and do something worthwhile for the betterment of our neighborhood. We are usually finished by 10:30 or 11:00. It is a fun filled couple of hours!

Mark your calendars now ** July 18th and Oct. 17th **for our summer and Fall trash pick-up dates.

WE NEED YOU!

Marcia Empson, Eyewatch Committee

Block captain participation continues to be an area that needs a lot more volunteers. We currently have approximately 75 block captain commitments. With over 3000 residences comprising Sherwood Forest Subdivision, there are a lot of areas that still have no coverage.

Block captains are the eyes and ears for their neighbors. If you see or hear something that doesn't seem right, look outside and see if it is something that is questionable. **DO NOT APPROACH ANYONE SUSPICIOUS.** Call the Baton Rouge Police Department at 389-2000.

Block captains are encouraged to visit your neighbors and collect simple informational facts (emergency telephone number, vehicle identification, etc.) to be recorded on cards that are provided by the association. This information is for the block captain's use only.

Attempt to create a partnership, where you all work together for the betterment of your neighborhood. Plan a trash pickup day for your street.

The Sherwood Forest Subdivision needs your help to keep our neighborhood safe and secure.

Contact Marcia Empson at msempson@bellsouth.net or telephone 272-2372 to volunteer.



THE LEGACY *at Bonne Esperance*

1655 SHERWOOD FOREST BLVD. BATON ROUGE, LA 70815
PHONE: (225) 246 - 2917

The Legacy at Bonne Esperance is proud to announce the offering of tennis memberships and fitness/social memberships. As part of your community, our tennis memberships include tennis courts, fitness gym, and unlimited buckets on the driving range. Fitness/social memberships include the fitness gym and social activities.

The Legacy will be offering summer camps starting June 1, 2015 for both members and non-members.

An effort is underway to be able to reopen the golf course with the help of the community.

Please call us at 225-246-2917 for more information.

For the latest updates and events at The Legacy at Bonne Esperance, please visit our page www.facebook.com/thelegacyatbonneesperance.

Sherwood Forest Architectural Control Board

Enforcement of Sherwood Forest deed restrictions is a top priority of the SFCA. The Association enforces deed restrictions through the Architectural Control Committee (ACC) , which is made up of the SFCA Board of Directors. Every property owner is bound by the deed restrictions of the filing they live in, without exception. When you purchase your home, you legally agree to abide by those deed restrictions. Any construction or accessory building has to be approved by the ACC. We have many filings in Sherwood Forest and the common controlling language in each filing states **“No construction or building shall be erected, placed or altered on any lot until the construction plans and specifications showing the location of the structure has been approved by the Sherwood Forest Citizens’ Association ACC as to the quality of workmanship and materials, harmony of external design with existing structures, and as to the location with respect to topography and finish grade elevation”**.

A permit issued by the city parish for construction does not supersede deed restrictions. The direct language on the permit card that has to be posted onsite states - **“The permit issued for subject structure conveys no right to occupy any street, alley or sidewalk, or any part thereof, either temporary or permanently except that specifically provided for in the building code. The issuance of the permit does not release the applicant from the conditions of any applicable subdivision restriction”**. Clearly the founders of Sherwood Forest sought to control what type of activity, construction and construction materials were to be allowed with the goal of maintaining reasonable “harmony” of design within the subdivision. Architectural control and deed restriction enforcement has one purpose and that is to protect your property value.

Contact the ACC to schedule a review of construction plans or alert us of any possible violations. Please call Richard Empson, President at 272-2372 or James Gray, Vice President at 273-2930 to set up an appointment. Our property values are linked together and depend upon each property owner maintaining their property. Help us keep Sherwood Forest a strong neighborhood by being vigilant in what is taking place around each of your residences. You can review a copy of your deed restrictions at www.sfcabr.org.

Richard Empson

Welcome New Neighbor

Thank you for choosing Sherwood Forest Subdivision for your new home. There are many lovely areas in which to buy in the Baton Rouge area, so we are excited that you have chosen us! We encourage you to join the Sherwood Forest Citizens’ Association to support your new neighborhood. The \$15.00 annual donation is used to print and deliver our newsletter, pay for postage for mail outs, printing of flyers, and attorney fees which may be necessary to enforce deed restrictions. Mary Heuchert is head of our Welcoming Committee.

If you feel that you may be able to volunteer as a committee member on the SFCA Board, please contact Richard Empson, President (225-272-2372) rlempson@bellsouth.net or James Gray,

Vice President (225-273-2930) jrjhgray@cox.net. Both of these gentlemen will be happy to discuss your involvement with the board's activities.

Richard Empson

Membership Spring 2015

James Gray, Membership Chairman

Welcome New Members! SFCA is glad you chose Sherwood Forest to live and raise your family.

Significant, positive changes have begun this year. The Sherwood Forest Crime Prevention and Improvement District is now providing security patrols which far exceeds the number of hours patrolled last year. Also, SFPCPD has taken over funding of beautification, another positive benefit.

Sherwood Forest Citizens Association has reduced the dues from \$25 a year to only \$15 a year. As of (3/9/15) SFCA has 561 paid members compared to 645 same time a year ago so we are on pace compared to last year. Dues in SFCA are still needed to support our mission – keeping Sherwood Forest a great and desirable place to live. Your \$15.00 dues helps pay for the printing of dues notices, 2 newsletters, postage, mail box, legal fees, phone line, website and other office related expenses.

We encourage you to volunteer in your neighborhood whether it's picking up litter on your street or the main boulevards or serving on a committee.

PROPERTY TRANSFERS 2015 vs. 2014

As of 3/8/15 a total of 28 homes have sold vs. 10 homes sold same time last year. The 2015 average sale is \$164,346.00 vs. 2014 of \$ 152,410.00.

To join SFCA, complete the form below and mail your 2015 dues in the enclosed envelope to:
Sherwood Forest Citizens' Association
P.O. Box 45142
Baton Rouge, LA 70895-4142

SHERWOOD FOREST CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION 2015 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name(s): _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Comments: _____

_____ I would like to be an EyeWatch block captain.

----- I would like to volunteer for the following committee(s):

Volunteering for a committee is open to all Sherwood Forest residents. Please consider giving of your time and talent for the betterment of our neighborhood!

2015 Annual Membership Dues (Jan. 1- Dec. 31): \$15 + Security Donation: \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Spring Gardening

Louisiana Nursery continues to support our neighborhood by donating \$400 per year in gift certificates for yards of the month and the winner of our Christmas decorating contest. We are very grateful and appreciative of their generosity.

Good Luck & Happy Gardening!



May – Tom & Sharon Mann – 12748 Goodwood Blvd



June- Lyn Rayburn – 1737 Belfort



July – Rosemary Smith – 1863 N. Bellrose Dr.



August – Beverly Rabalais – 11735 Archery Dr.



November – James & Lois Oregeron – 875 Sher.



Yards of the month winners of the \$50 gift certificates. May, June, July, August, and November.
No yards were selected in Sept. or October.

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"Neighbors do business with people they know."
- Est. 1965



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See the New and improved SFCA Web Page
Be sure to check it out at
<http://www.sfcabr.org>

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A publication of Sherwood Forest Citizens' Association
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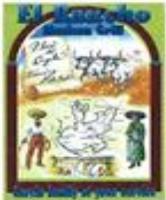
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mindy.thelegacy@gmail.com

Call the right number for assistance

Virtually everyone knows to phone **911** in an emergency. However, there are other numbers you can use to register complaints or seek action to solve a vexing problem.

Use the City-Parish Call Center (311) to report suspected zoning violations (deviations from A-1 code), public safety hazards like potholes and fallen tree limbs, nuisances such as stray pets or barking dogs, egregious or repetitive parking violations, junked cars, unsightly carports and many more. **REMEMBER: YOU MAY REMAIN ANONYMOUS WHEN USING THIS SERVICE!**

The number for Baton Rouge City Police is **389-2000**. To report suspicious situations that are not time-sensitive call the Sherwood Forest Citizens' Association Security Line, **273-1353**. Leave a call-back message, and include your email for online communication.

Specific questions about streets, drainage and sewerage, construction and building codes or the environment should be directed to the EBR Department of Public Works (DPW) at **389-3090, 380-2070**, or online at <http://brgov.com/DEPT/dpw/>.

To receive up-to-date information about your subdivision, **PROVIDE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS** on your membership form, or call a member of the board of directors. Names and contact numbers are listed below.

2015 SFCA Board of Directors and Committees

Sherwood Forest Citizens' Association Security Number — 273-1353

(Note: All officers, directors and committee members are volunteers.)

OFFICERS:

President: Ricky Empson, rlempson@bellsouth.net
Vice President: James Gray, jrjgray@cox.net
Treasurer: Ralph Dupuy, ralphdupuy@gmail.com
Secretary: Jackie Gray, jrjgray@cox.net

DIRECTORS:

Marcia Empson, Richard Empson, Jackie Gray, James Gray, Mary Heuchert, Gary Patureau, Gary Smith, Emmeline Ross and Ralph Dupuy

COMMITTEES:

SFCA Board of Directors: board@sfcabr.org
Beautification: Jackie Gray, jrjgray@cox.net
Emmeline Ross, eross55@cox.net
EyeWatch: Marcia and Richard Empson, msempson@bellsouth.net
Federation: Gary Patureau, zoning@lasie.org;
Hospitality: Mary Heuchert, lmh2010@bellsouth.net
Membership: James Gray, jrjgray@cox.net;
Newsletter: Gary Patureau, zoning@sfcabr.org
Public Works: Jackie Gray, Gary Smith, Emmeline Ross
Security: Gary Smith, security@sfcabr.org
Zoning: Gary Patureau, zoning@lasie.org
Webmaster: Gary Patureau, zoning@lasie.org

SFCA board of directors meetings are at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month, except October and December, in Room 5 of the St. Thomas More Activity Center. Get in touch with Ricky Shaffer at least four days in advance of the meeting if you would like to present an item to the board.