



# RFHA Newsletter

Issue 10

June 2008

Online @ [www.RFHOnline.com](http://www.RFHOnline.com)

## President's Letter

## RFHA FYI

## Neighborhood Reminders

### A Letter from the RFHA President

Our recent general meeting with President Bill Hubbard and Councilperson Darnel Usry had a decent turnout but not as much as anticipated. Included in the items discussed was the "Ponding" problem in the back, broken streets throughout the neighborhood, catch basins and possible improvements to our park.

**Ponding Problem** - We were promised some help on the "Ponding" problem and thankfully, some repairs have been made with some broken areas in the streets were fixed. I toured the subdivision after a good hard rain and e-mailed Bill Hubbard with some additional areas that still need to be addressed.

**Catch Basins** - We asked that the ends of the streets that empty into the canals or swamp be cleaned out. One of the major problems with drainage of the streets is *our own fault and our responsibility*. We can improve the drainage by keeping the catch basins clean. All your grass clippings should be swept up rather than being blown into the streets. During and after heavy rainfall events, excess grass clippings collect and lead to clogged basins. Finally, please try to pickup those newspaper throws that fill the yards and the streets.

**RFHA Park** - The parish has offered to put a lighted walking path in the park. Based on the potential amount of money the available from the parish, a shorter walking path may be suggested with the remainder being dedicated to the improvement of the park playground equipment.

**Utility Poles** - The utility company was asked to address some of the leaning and weak wooden poles coming into River Forest as well as clearing up some of the tree branches around the power lines. Thankfully, this appears to have been done.

There were other programs that were discussed which will be mentioned in this newsletter. If you have any items that are a concern to you – please come to the next open meeting and express your concerns.

### RFHA Quarterly Meeting (February, 2008)

Despite the presence of the new parish president (a River Forest resident) and our new representative, turnout for the last meeting in February was fairly low. We are not always fortunate to have members of our local government available to answer questions about our neighborhood concerns. General membership meetings allow you to voice your concerns. We will be announcing the date for our next general meeting. We hope that more of you will join us to discuss what is going on in our neighborhood



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President's Letter

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## For Your Information

**Mosquito Season** Here in South Louisiana every summer we deal with an increase in mosquitoes. With the reported emergence of the West Nile Virus, it is important that we do what we can to reduce the mosquito population. Mosquito Control will conduct regular passes in the neighborhood during the summer. Please do whatever you can to reduce the amount of standing water on or around your property. The best way to reduce the mosquito population is to reduce the number of breeding grounds for them. If for some reason you don't see Mosquito control spraying in your area, please give them a call @ 536-6530.

**New Stop Signs** We were fortunate enough to be able to get a few new stop signs to replace some of the more faded signs in the neighborhood. With more kids at play during the summer, please make sure that you obey ALL the stop signs and the posted speed limit in the neighborhood.

### Why Join the Homeowners Association?

Joining the Homeowners Association is a simple process and our dues are only \$40.00/ year. The renewal of your membership is very important. What do we do for you?

1. The new entrance sign is a major expense but worth it. \$5500.00
2. The RFHA is paying for the up keep of the front area by the sign. \$650.00 during the hot growing season
3. The bulletin board on Windsor is the next project and the RFHA will pay the cost.
4. The insurance on the park is paid from the dues we receive and it is now over \$1100.00/year.
5. We pay 35.00/mo. For the lighting in the park
6. We pay to have the grass in the park cut. There is 3.75 acres to cut.
7. The park sign was recently replaced and it was not free!!!!
8. The RFHA has in the past paid for a Deputy to patrol the S/D Halloween night. Sheriff Wayne Jones donated the service this year. Some one from the RFHA asked for the service.
9. We keep in touch with the Parish Departments for the benefit of all the residents.

The total amount we pay out in a years time is over \$4000.00 and this year it will be over \$10,000.00. Your Homeowners Association does not sit on the dues but we use the money for the betterment of everyone. I feel everyone should pay \$40.00 per year for everyone benefits.

*"Get involved with your community. There is no excuse for not getting involved. Excuses are tools and mechanisms that build monuments of nothing."  
"It's your neighborhood; Act like it!"*

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### New Sign Almost Ready

The new sign is in the last stages of preparation and almost completed. We hope to have the new sign in place in the next few weeks. Additionally, we would like to get some spot lights installed for the sign. If anyone has any connections with the Entergy to facilitate the installation of spot lights, please contact any member of the RFHA Board.

### Important Phone Numbers

- Tree Limb Removal  
**652-4815**
- Washers, Sofas, Etc  
**536-2750**
- Tall Weeds & Grass  
**652-4815**
- Planning & Zoning  
**651-5565**
- Sewage  
**652-9569**
- Water Outage  
**652-3131**
- Mosquito Control  
**536-6530**

We're on the web!  
RFHAOnline.com.  
Check us out.

*Crime is everyone's problem. If you see something suspicious, call the St. John's Parish Sheriff's Office.*

### 2008-2009 Board of Directors

Leonhard McGinn, President 359-2505  
Gwen Darensburg Treasurer 653-9705  
Robert Arcuri Ex-Officio 652-6450  
Morra Howard 651-5495  
Brett Maurin 652-7780  
Dwayne Templet 652-4544

Roderic Bergeron, Vice-President 651-2209  
Sheryl Anderson Secretary 651-7722  
Reynold Hernandez 651-9235  
Gilbert Luke 703-0409  
Tom McCullough 653-8392  
Leonard White 653-8100

Join the River Forest  
Homeowners Association



Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouses Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you available as a volunteer? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Enclose your check for \$40 for annual  
membership and mail your application to:

**RFHA**  
**P.O. BOX 85**  
**LAPLACE, LA 70069**

We're on the web!  
[RFHAOnline.com](http://RFHAOnline.com).  
Check us out.

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