

River Bend *The Link*

Riverbend Homeowners' Association
of Baton Rouge, Inc.

Spring 2013

Board of Directors

Robert Schneckenburger, President
Adrienne Bowser, Vice President
The Link
Web Site
Barbara Goodson, Treasurer
Pam Laramore, Social Events
Stork Contact
Phil Jones, Special Projects
TBA, Security
Open, Zoning Representative
Andrea Ruckman, Block Chairperson
Malcolm Myer, Chair ACC

NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

2012 was a very successful year for your Riverbend Homeowners' Association and it appears that 2013 will be just as successful. While membership in the Homeowner's Association has declined slightly from its peak in 2006, we still have a very good core of members who care enough about our neighborhood to contribute to its success. Thanks to all of those residents who care enough about our neighborhood to join the Association and make sure that the grass gets cut, the shrubs maintained and security is provided.

While we are blessed with a very quiet and family friendly neighborhood, there are a few items that I would like to mention that will make Riverbend a better place for all of its residents. There have been several complaints of pets that are running around the neighborhood. For the safety of other pets and children, we ask that everyone make sure that their pet is on a leash or kept in a fenced yard. Animal Control will be contacted about any pet roaming the neighborhood and they will be picked up.

The Homeowners' Association would also like to take this opportunity to remind every resident that as per our subdivision restrictions repeatedly parking vehicles on the street or leaving vehicles parked on the street for an extended period of time is not allowed. This is a rare occurrence, but when it does occur it detracts from the appearance of the entire street. We would also like the residents to know that our subdivision restrictions and City/Parish ordinances require that lawns be cut on a regular basis. We have notified the very few homeowners that have not been adhering to this requirement and hopefully this will resolve any such situations.

The annual subdivision Christmas Party this past year was held at the home of Marilyn and Judd Hammond. Thank you Marilyn and Judd for graciously agreeing to host the party; it was a wonderful event with live music provided by our neighbor, Nicky Abraham and his band. For those that were not able to make it, you missed a great time and we hope that all can attend next year.

We are finally working on an updated neighborhood directory. It has been too long since it was last updated and we know that there have many changes. We would ask that every resident that has moved into the subdivision or has had any change in their family status since the publication of the last Directory to notify us via e-mail at thelink@riverbendsub.org or through your block chairperson. A listing of your block chairperson can be found at riverbendsub.org. The Directory has proven to be an invaluable tool for keeping in touch with our neighbors and we would like to make it as complete and accurate as possible. Another change that has occurred since the last issue of *The Link* is the advent of our e-mail communication service. This has been a very effective tool at finding lost pets or noting the rare suspicious activity in the neighborhood. This tool can be even more effective if we can get the e-mail addresses of as many residents as possible. If you have not done so already, please e-mail your address to thelink@riverbendsub.org.

Finally, it is with very mixed emotions that I must let everyone know that my family and I will be moving from this wonderful neighborhood within the next several weeks. While we are excited about the move, it is very hard to leave Riverbend. The friends we have made over the last 18 years will last a lifetime and we will be in constant touch (because we are only moving a couple of miles away).

WHAT'S NEW @ RIVERBENDSUB.ORG

<http://www.riverbendsub.org>

The Riverbend directory is updated regularly on-line. Please e-mail the webmaster for a user name and password.

Sign up to receive notifications of things happening in Riverbend or surrounding areas via e-mail.

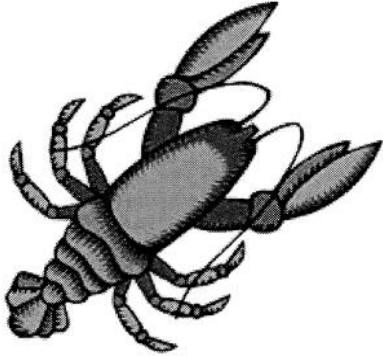
Remember this is your website, so suggestions are always welcome.

The Riverbend Directory

The Riverbend Directory is in the process of being updated for printing. If you are a new resident, please contact Adrienne Bowser at 769-9562 or thelink@riverbendsub.org with your updated information. If you are uncertain if you have been added to directory, please go to <http://www.riverbendsub.org> and find your name. You must have a user name and password for access. If you are in need of a user name and password, please e-mail the webmaster at thelink@riverbendsub.org.

Also, if you are interested in or know of someone who is interested in advertising in *The Link* or the Riverbend Directory, please contact Adrienne Bowser at 769-9562 or e-mail thelink@riverbendsub.org. Advertisements are a way to cut the cost of printing the Directory and *The Link*.

Social Events



The Semi-Annual Spring Meeting of the Riverbend Homeowners' Association will be held on Sunday, May 5th at Farr Park off of River Road (signs will be placed to guide you to the actual location in the park). The Business Meeting will began at 2:00 p.m. and the food will be served at 3:00 p.m. The menu will consist of Crawfish, potatoes, corn, hot dogs, chips and dessert. A Spacewalk will be provided for the children. In order to ensure that all who attend the Event are served, **no takeouts will be allowed**. If you are planning to attend, please RSVP to Pam Laramore at 761-8096 or email her at socialevents@riverbendsub.org. **You must be current on your dues or plan to pay them at the Semi-Annual Spring Meeting in order to participate.** Guests are welcome at a of cost is \$10.00 per adult and \$5.00 per child. Please respond no later than **Wednesday, May 1st**.

We hope that many residents attend the Business Meeting. This is the forum where residents can discuss their issues and concerns regarding Riverbend and issues regarding the surrounding areas such as zoning & traffic congestion. If there is something you would like more information about at the meeting, please email thelink@riverbendsub.org.

Vacation Form

If you know that you are going to be out of town for more than a few days, you may turn in this vacation form or the handwritten information below or e-mail security@riverbendsub.org with the information. To _____ (_____) in advance. The information will be passed along to our security patrols. The patrols (off duty deputies) will keep the form and make specific checks (i.e. pull into your driveway) while you are gone. At a minimum, this information needs to be furnished to make the security checks feasible for the patrols.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Emergency Phone number (ie. cell phone) _____

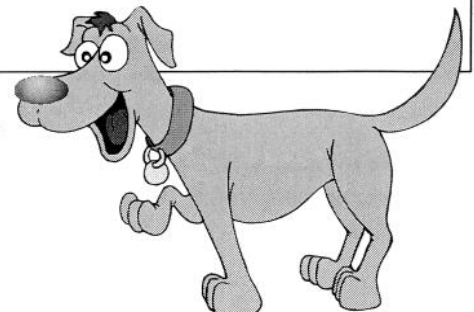
Dates you will be gone: _____

Make, Model and License Plates of Vehicles that should be there: _____

Pet Courtesy

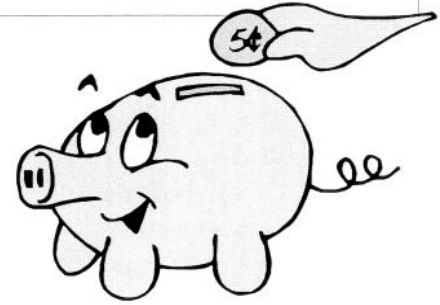
The Board has recently received several complaints about dogs roaming freely around the neighborhood. All dogs should be secured in your home or yard while you are away from home. There have been several instances of unleashed dogs chasing leashed animals, children and even cars. For your pet's safety and our neighborhood, please ensure that your pet is safely secured while you are gone. If you are concerned about your child's safety by an unidentified/loose dog, please contact the Animal Control Center 774-7700.

As a matter of safety to both homeowners and their pets, please abide by the leash law and use courtesies when walking your animals. Please do not allow your dog to discard his/herself on your neighbors' yard — bring a scooper with you for such times. Thank you for helping keep our neighborhood a safe and friendly residential community.



Notes from the Treasurer

Your dues allow us to keep the neighborhood secure and well maintained! The Riverbend Homeowners' Association Financial Statement for 2012 is provided below for your information.



**Riverbend Homeowners' Association
2012 Income Statement
Fiscal Year is 2012**

Maintenance Dues Income: \$ 19,376.00
Interest Income: 28.70
Expenses: \$ 23,077.52

Water	\$	526.12
Printing		473.63
Maintenance (General)		145.00
Utilities		479.70
Lawn Service.		13,687.87
Patrols/Security		1,875.00
Computer/Website	\$	427.50
TOTAL WITHDRAWAL		<u>\$23,077.52</u>

Spring Meeting	\$ 2,664.80
Christmas Party	<u>2,797.90</u>

TOTAL SOCIAL CLUB \$ 5,462.70

As of 3/23/2013

Deposits	\$3,280.00
Interest	.87

Entergy	\$	83.70
Water		121.78
Security		550.00
Lawn Service	\$	3,144.88

TOTAL WITHDRAWAL \$3,900.36

Bank Balance 3/23/2013 \$17,059.41

2013 Dues are currently due — please forward payment to:

Barbara Goodson
2941 Rene Beaugard Ave
Baton Rouge, LA 70820

2013 Riverbend Homeowners Association

Dues Notice

Maintenance - \$70.00 Social - \$50.00 Total = \$120.00

Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone#: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Names and Birth Year of Minor Children Needed To Be Added to Directory:

Please help your neighborhood to be the best it can be by paying your dues!

Block Chairperson

We need a Block Chairperson for the following Blocks.

Block 3, Dakin Avenue

Block 4, 5722 - 5989 Belle Grove Avenue.

The Block Chairpersons will be assisting with updating the directory. Our deadline for having the information is end of May and our printing goal this July 2013. Remember the information is only as good as what is given to us.

If you know anyone wanting to advertise, please have them email the thelink@riverbendsub.org.

The Link

If you would like to try your hand at developing or helping to develop this newsletter, please call Adrienne Bowser at 769-9562 or e-mail her at thelink@riverbendsub.org. This newsletter is intended to inform Riverbend residents of what is going on in and around our neighborhood. Please let us know if there is something you would like to see included in the *The Link*.



Maintenance Update

1. A reminder that if a professional cuts down a tree, they must haul it off. The city will only haul the debris if the homeowner cuts it down themselves. Call 311 or Waste Management at [225 778-3800](tel:225-778-3800) for any "special" pickups of debris, bulk items, etc.
2. If a street light is out you have to call Entergy to have it fixed – [1-800-368-3749](tel:1-800-368-3749) or emergency number 968-3243. The City's 311 does not handle River Bend street lights.
3. Pot holes and other BR DPW request can be called into 311 or 389-3090 or after hours to 389-2070 or web request at <http://brgov.com/apps/crs/submit.asp>
4. If you see someone parking their car at the entry way to the subdivision because they are going jogging, etc., ask them to move their car to a safer location as parking on the boulevard at the entry creates a serious hazard for drivers trying to turn into the neighborhood.
5. Please do not post signs on the island of the Blvd. at the entry to the neighborhood. They should be posted to the side. Also, if signs are posted too close to Brightside in the right of way, the city area supervisor will remove them.
6. Please do not walk, jog, or ride bikes on the boulevard at night without bright clothing and if possible a flashing light. Remember it is very hard for drivers to see you when an on-coming car has their lights on.
7. There are many new families in the neighborhood who do not seem to know about the Home Owners Association or the annual events. Please make an effort to reach out to them with contact information, Directories, etc.
8. If you have a function at your house, though difficult try to get your visitors to park on only one side of the street, which will help traffic flow and safety. If need, please put up a sign saying where to park.
9. When leaving the neighborhood and if in a taller truck or SUV, try to help the driver in the lane next to you see in both directions on Brightside by stopping back a few feet.
10. When turning into the neighborhood, be aware that cars behind you may already be in the turn lane intending to turn and attempting to pass you.

Board Members wanted

Board members are wanted to serve on the Riverbend Homeowners' Association Board. If you are interested, please email thelink@riverbendsub.org.



Architectural Control Committee

Residents, before doing any major work around your home, please contact thelink@riverbendsub.org. We do have regulations governing certain items (ie height of fences, materials on houses, storage devices) in Riverbend Subdivision according to the filings. You can always visit www.riverbendsub.org for all current filing restrictions

We are auditing every Lot in Riverbend to assure everyone is following the guidelines according to their filing. If you notice something or someone not in compliance, please email thelink@riverbendsub.org.

If a homeowner does not receive prior approval or does not follow the guidelines for their filings, they may be required to fix the modifications or be subject to a lien being placed on their home until the modifications are corrected.

We are currently looking for someone who has the knowledge or time to research how and if we can incorporate all the filing into one convent document. Meaning that all filings will have the same restrictions.

We are also currently looking for a volunteer to take over the duties as ACC Chair.

Garbage & Recycling Tidbits

A few helpful tidbits from BFI:

- Weigh down the papers in your recycling bin with something heavy such as bottles or cans so that the papers don't blow away
- Reminder- trash pickup for items such as large piles of brush are only **once a week**, not twice a week as the garbage pick-ups.
- There is a substantial increase in the volume of residential garbage during the summer months when children are home from school. Please keep in mind that many times garbage trucks must make more trips to pick up these extra loads which sometimes lead to later pick-ups. Your understanding and patience are appreciated.



Helpful Contact Numbers

Fire, Rescue	911
Police	389-3831
Poison Control	800-256-9822
Animal Control	774-7700
Entergy	800-368-3749
BellSouth	577-6111
Waste Management	389-3254
Parish Water	925-2011
Cox Cable	615-1000
Waste Management	389-3254
Citizen Services	389-3090
BFI (Garbage pickup)	778-3800

Streetlight repairs

Have you noticed a street light that is out or that is not working properly? Please call Entergy to have it fixed – [1-800-368-3749](tel:1-800-368-3749) or emergency number [225-968-3243](tel:225-968-3243). The City's 311 does not handle River Bend street lights



Riverbend Homeowners Association
2941 Rene Beauregard
Baton Rouge, LA 70820

Riverbendsub.org E-mail addresses

Adrienne Bowser	President	president@riverbendsub.org
	The Link (Riverbend Homeowners' newsletter)	thelink@riverbendsub.org
	Webmaster	webmaster@riverbendsub.org
Pam Laramore	Social Events	socialevents@riverbendsub.org
Barbara Goodson	Treasurer	treasurer@riverbendsub.org
	Security	security@riverbendsub.org
Phil Jones	Special Projects	specialprojects@riverbendsub.org
Malcolm Myer	Architectural Control	thelink@riverbendsub.org

Item of Interest



Do you have a new bundle of joy? Call **Pam Laramore, 761-8096** for the Riverbend Stork. The "boy" and "girl" stork will be delivered to your yard and picked up in a couple of weeks.