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## Laurel Oaks Neighborhood Association

**Newsletter - Spring 1996  
(Premier Issue)**

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### **To My Neighbors:**

The Laurel Oaks Neighborhood Association was born on February 20, 1996. More than 100 residents came to North Oaks Elementary School to decide if a more focused neighborhood association should be formed encompassing the area served by North Oaks Elementary School and those portions of Laurel Mountain Elementary south of Spicewood Springs and east of Texas Plume. Not only was the vote overwhelming for the formation, but the positive comments from the residents wanting such an association was continually heard.

The North Oaks Neighborhood Association (NONA), extending from Loop 360 to Spicewood Springs and from Highway 183 to Spicewood Springs was simply too large. Within these boundaries, more than ten smaller neighborhood associations have been formed. NONA has served this area well, and President Aaron Cleaver and the Board of officers are to be commended. We hope that NONA will continue to pursue issues affecting this broad area.

LONA will work closely with other neighborhood associations in the area -- particularly with NONA -- on issues that affect our community. The boundaries of LONA more accurately define the reaches of our neighborhood, and I look forward to many opportunities to build a greater sense of community with area residents.

I encourage you to participate in LONA. The direction of this organization will come from the community level; it's vital to have residents from throughout the area involved.

I look forward to joining you in this community-wide effort. Here's to a great beginning....

David Ronquillo  
LONA Interim President

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### **Neighborhood Watch Report Awareness Key to Preventing More Burglaries**

A rash of mostly daytime burglaries has increased resident's awareness of the need for a strong Neighborhood Watch Program.

From mid-December through the end of January, 20 burglaries were reported in the LONA area. Most appeared to be on busier streets that provide easy escape routes, according to

Neighborhood Watch committee leader Linda Cruikshanks, who has spoken extensively with the Austin Police Department about the incidents.

In addition, a number of mailboxes in the neighborhood have been damaged by vandals recently, she adds.

All residents are encouraged to report suspicious activities, cars or people immediately. For tips on how to secure your home and belongings against crime, be sure to attend the next Neighborhood Watch meeting (date and time will be announced soon).

If you are interested in participating in Neighborhood Watch, please contact Linda Cruikshanks to find out how you can get your block organized.

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### **What are the Boundaries of the Laurel Oaks Neighborhood Association?**

- Oak Knoll from Jollyville to Raincreek Parkway;
- Raincreek Parkway over to Texas Plume;
- Spicewood Springs from Texas Plume to Jollyville;
- Jollyville from Spicewood Springs to Oak Knoll

LONA includes all residents in the North Oaks Elementary area and some residents of the Laurel Mountain Elementary area.

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### **Association Needs Contributions**

One of the most important responsibilities of a neighborhood association is communication. That takes money.

LONA would appreciate any donations to help fund the printing and distribution of newsletters. With more than 2,000 homes in our area, costs add up quickly. But it's vital that area residents be informed of important neighborhood issues.

Please help if you can! Any contributions may be mailed to:

LONA  
Suite 423, PO Box 10998  
Austin, Texas 78766-1998

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### **1996 LONA Interim Officers**

Feel free to contact the LONA **Interim** Board about issues that are important to you:

<b>Title</b>	<b>Name</b>
President	David Ronquillo
1st Vice President	Vic Hariton
2nd Vice President	Jeff Walsh
3rd Vice President	Sue Beck
Treasurer	Ralph Bonnell
Secretary	Margaret Harrist

LONA will hold its first officer elections in September 1996. It is extremely important that residents from throughout our area participate in the process by joining one of the following committees:

- Bylaws
- Nominations
- Elections

Please fill out the committee sign-up form and encourage your neighbors to participate as well!

### **LONA Easter Egg Hunt Planned in April**

Meet your neighbors and your neighborhood association in the first (and hopefully annual) LONA Easter Egg Hunt. Currently, we're recruiting volunteers and asking for contributions of plastic eggs and candy to make this a real treasure hunt for the kids.

Details on the date and time of LONA's Easter Egg Hunt are pending, but we hope to use Oak View Park. If you would like to get involved in our first Neighborhood Event, please call Cheryl Frink.

### **Survey of Interest and LONA Committee Sign-Up**

For us to have a truly effective neighborhood association, LONA needs your input and participation. Please take a few minutes to fill out this brief survey to let us know about your biggest neighborhood concerns.

Remember that neighborhood associations are completely volunteer efforts. We need active participants on LONA committees. Please check the following list and let us know how you would like to be involved.

When you have completed the survey, you may either:

- drop it off at North Oaks Elementary, care of the PTA or

- mail it to:  
LONA  
Suite 423, PO Box 10998  
Austin, Texas 78766-1998

What is your #1 neighborhood issue?

I would like to participate in the following:

- Bylaws Committee
- Nominations Committee
- Election Committee
- Neighborhood Watch
- Safety/Education Committee
- Communications Committee
- Attending City Meetings on Developments Issues
- Parks/Environment Committee
- I would be glad to distribute newsletters on my block
- I would like to be a candidate for a LONA office
- I would like to be a member of LONA
- Other:

Your Name:

Your Address:

Phone #:

E-mail:

Last Updated September 13, 1996