

Brook Meadows Messenger

The Official Publication of the Brook Meadows Homeowner's Association

Volume 2, Number 2

www.brookmeadows.org

February 2007

An Open Letter to My Neighbors

It's such a shame...

Recently we all received an anonymous letter from "concerned Homeowner's from Brook Meadows". The senders did their best to make the envelope and letter look as if it came from your Homeowner's Association. I assure you that it did not. Since the senders did not indicate "who" they are that made these slanderous allegations, I cannot respond to them directly. I will however, in this open letter to you, share with you that it's such a shame that these few sad hurtful people have stooped so low as to make this feeble attempt to dissuade you from the truth. These people are truly desperate.

Frankly I won't dignify their abusive attempt to spread lies about me or the Board with a qualified response, except to say that I, nor anyone on the Board or Landscape committee, have ever had any "interest" in Cody Landscaping Company.

Any action or decision, for which I have been a part, for your Board, or the Homeowner's Association, was done with complete integrity and honor. Your BMHA Board members always vote on all actions taken by the Board, and all decisions are made only after careful and diligent examination. The record is clear on this issue. I welcome an open exam of all records and/or an audit of all disbursements. The true facts are in the BMHA meeting minutes, and the BMHA Treasury Reports (all openly published on the website), support the truth, not some document that was sent unsigned for fear of being sued for slander and defamation of character.

I welcome any comments or discussions on this or any other matter concerning our Association.

Your neighbor,
Jim Tressler, Director at Large
jetressler@jetdirect.us
(817) 283-2286

Service Volunteers Don't Work for Free

Pay and Benefits

Do the volunteers in your church, your city or your neighborhood association get paid for all that they do? YES!! They most certainly do! How? Just knowing that others appreciate their work is the pay and feeling good about their contribution and accomplishments are the benefits. Volunteer work is so rewarding that some volunteers work for more than one group. Folks that volunteer at church may also work at the Salvation Army at Christmas or handle calls for Muscular Dystrophy at Labor Day and are active in their homeowner's association too.

Neighborhood associations like ours are managed by volunteer neighbors who are willing to work with others for the betterment of their neighborhood. They serve unselfishly; giving up their time to accomplish the common goal of improving the neighborhood quality of life, maintaining the standards set forth in the governing documents, and protecting neighborhood home values. When these goals are accomplished and when they see their neighbors appreciate their contributions, they "collect their pay and benefits".

(Continued on Page 5)

Don't want to wait for the mail?

**View the current issue of the
Brook Meadows
Homeowner's Association
Newsletter on the 1st day
of each month at
www.PEELinc.com**

Brook Meadows

Brook Meadows Homeowners Association, Inc.

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hwixson@tx.rr.com

If you have any ideas to make our newsletter better, please contact the editor. We want your input, ideas, and even your articles.

NOTICE TO OUR NEIGHBORS

"The board received notification of a law suit against your Association on December 19, 2006. We are working with legal counsel in fully preparing a proper response. We will provide timely progress updates on our BMHA website as more information becomes available. Your Board is committed to representing the overwhelming majority of Brook Meadows homeowners who have voted for, and supported our neighborhood."

To view the legal document, or to contact Board members, go to:

www.brookmeadows.org

Advertise to Brook Meadows

You can get information about your service or products to every home in Brook Meadows, by running a business classified in the Brook Meadows Community Newsletter. It is a great way to get your name and contact information to many potential customers in your neighborhood. The cost is \$45 for up to 40 words. Display ads are also available. For more information, please contact Peel, Inc. at 888-687-6444 or advertising@PEELinc.com. The deadline is the 20th of each month for the upcoming month's newsletter.

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Classified Ads

Personal classifieds (one time sell items, such as a used bike...) run at no charge to Brook Meadows residents, limit 30 words, please e-mail hwixson@tx.rr.com

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YARD OF THE MONTH

January 2007

John & Melissa Mieyr
4405 Shadywood Lane

John & Melissa moved here 'all the way from Bedford' three years ago. In 2004, we took the blank slate that the previous owners left us and spent seven months building a cabana with a complete outdoor



kitchen, dining and living area including a fireplace. We then terraced the yard and added beautiful beds for shrubs and flowers. We love spending our evenings and weekend mornings out back.

Melissa is an educator for the HEB ISD and works at Trinity High School. John is an independent sales rep for spinal products. His company name is Trinity Spine. They do not have any children, but we have hosted 6 teenage foreign exchange students that are very much like our own children. We have had three from Germany, one from Sweden, one from Italy and our current one is from Moldova.

Melissa definitely is the one with the green thumb and prefers a more formal style landscape. Her backyard is their little piece of tranquility. The biggest dilemma with their yard was what type of grass to use. Because of the large size and varying levels of sun and shade, they have several types of grass in the yard. In the front is Bermuda grass in the summer and winter rye in the winter. The fenced in area of the back yard is St. Augustine grass, and the yard running along the creek, due to the very low levels of sun, they planted fescue grass. Melissa learned that they can make it all work as long as there were other elements in the yard that were consistent and made all parts of the yard look cohesive.

The yard is unique, because it is a traditional cityscape yard, but when you reach the middle of the property it changes into a more country like setting. Little Bear Creek runs through the property, and behind the creek is forest like. Melissa states that "I do not necessarily focus on any one area. It is all important to me, although when planning our landscape it was important to have lots of variety in color. I really enjoy planning the seasonal color each season. Keeping our yard beautiful is a constant project. Even though we have a gardener doing much of the weekly maintenance, I am very hands on. I would love to have a water feature in our yard, but I do not think that I am ever going to convince John of that one, so at the moment we do not have any major projects planned."



Melissa suggests "that we take the time to make our surroundings beautiful and then sit back, relax and enjoy. A little nature and relaxation will help relieve the stress of our hectic lives."

Brook Meadows

Volunteers - (Continued from Cover Page)

Who? ME?

Who are these unselfish folks we call volunteers, who freely give their time for worthy causes? They are your neighbors. Just like you, they too have jobs, families, issues and challenges, but they really do care about their neighborhood. They want to unselfishly contribute to the betterment of your neighborhood anyway they can. The folks that serve on the BMHA board and the various committees would like to "collect their pay and benefits" in the form of your recognition and appreciation for the time they've given freely to make Brook Meadows a better place to live. Here's the best part, you easily thank them! If you want to really show your appreciation, join them. That's right; YES YOU... become a volunteer yourself. Honestly, that's the best way to thank them. Become involved in your neighborhood and you will receive the same "great pay and benefits".

How do I do it?

We're sure glad that you asked (even if you were just thinking about it). Our annual Homeowner Association elections are held each April and we need more and different neighbors to run for Board member office. Don't worry that you don't have the experience or that you don't know enough about the job, good common sense and a care for your neighbors are the only requirements, besides the tenured Board members will gladly show you the ropes and "the pay and benefits" are just great.

If you'd like to know more about the upcoming election go to directors@brookmeadows.org.

P.S. If you'd like to start out a little slower, how about volunteering to join one of our great neighborhood service committees. The opportunities range from Seasonal Decorating to the Architectural Review Committees. You can find out about all six of them at <http://brookmeadows.org/>. Check it out now, because as an added benefit you get to meet some great neighbors and make some new friends.

It's GREAT to be YOUR NEIGHBOR!
Your BMHA Board

OFFICIAL BROOK MEADOWS MOVIE REVIEW & GAME

by Brett Flournoy (the movie dude)

OK Brook Meadows, time for the "Movie Review Game" Let's have some fun, shall we? What follows are THREE movie reviews, TWO of which are authentic, and one of which is totally fabricated. You have to guess which is fake. NO CHEATING, which means no getting on the web to find out the right answers. Just pure hunches people, and send your votes to ... social@brookmeadows.org. Answers next month!

Here we go:

"OFF THE MAP": Story of a family living off the land in New Mexico, Earth Mother Mom, chemically depressed Dad, and 'I-want-out-of-here' daughter. Visited by an IRS Agent, who is bitten by a spider, is transformed and becomes a famous painter. Bizarre, but in a good way, this one gets the BMHA Score -- 🍌🍌🍌🍌.

"SCHULTZE GETS THE BLUES": Story of a German mine worker who retires, and with two buddies, finds he has nothing to do (that sounds familiar). Plays accordion, one night he hears zydeco music, decides he likes that better than polka, wins a trip to WursthFest in New Braunfels. Doesn't like the music so he steals a boat, heads down river to Louisiana, and finds Cajun music. Learns to Cajun dance. Dies in his sleep in the swamp. Quirky but powerful, this one gets the BMHA Score -- 🍌🍌🍌🍌.

"TWO BY TWO": Story of a suburban insurance broker who finds out, hilariously, that his real estate agent wife has put together the world's zaniest business deal with the mayor in this small bedroom community. Problem is, he has invested a large sum of money in an equally crazy, and competitive project through the mayor's wife's commercial brokerage. Unbeknownst to the four of them, but 'knownst' to us the audience, there is an insider making money at every turn. Hilarious final scene and conclusion, very Doris Day, when all is set right with the world. Solid comedy, but not without real moments. This one gets the BMHA Score -- 🍌🍌🍌.

Get 'em neighbors, get those votes in...

social@brookmeadows.org

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Neighborhood Realtors reach milestone:

The Moberly Team, Laurie and Joel with Coldwell Banker, recently received the prestigious "Presidents Elite" award for the 10th consecutive year at the recent awards ceremony held at the Arlington Convention center. Julie Choate, office manager, stated that to her knowledge, this is a first; it represents 10 years being in the top 2% of all Coldwell Banker agents nation wide. This represents over 150 million in residential home sales. In addition, The Moberly Team once again concluded 2006 as one of Colleyville's top producing agents for listings sold.

Laurie and Joel have lived in Colleyville since 1985 and have been selling homes in Brook Meadows since 1993. They also have a long history of community service. In 1989 they received the Colleyville Chamber of Commerce "Community Spirit Award", and founded the BBQ cook-off as a fundraiser raising over \$100,000 for the Library and Community Center. Joel served many years in the Lions Club and was Committee chairman for the local Boy Scout troop. Laurie has been involved over the years with numerous fund raising projects for the Colleyville Woman's Club and one year served as Fashion Show Chairperson.

Joel & Laurie MOBERLY

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Congratulations!

What Do I Do Now?

A new year...new possibilities...new challenges. Where do we go from here? The current drought has brought native and well-adapted plantings to the forefront. This is the future of landscaping here locally. It doesn't have to look like cactus and rocks. There are a variety of plants that add interest and color. Here are some plants that came through the drought of 2006 and looked good. Some of these plants looked even better once the fall rains finally came:

Purple Coneflower	Black-Eyed Susan
Standing Cypress	Ox-eye Daisy
Fall Aster	Lambs Ear
Mexican Mint Marigold	Knock-Out Rose
Autumn Sage	Texas Sage

These are just some of the plants that tolerate our drought conditions here in Texas. Check out www.txsmartscape.com for additional information on design ideas, how to attract butterflies, hummingbirds and other wildlife, and water conservation, just to name a few. There is even a garden gallery with pictures of many types of gardens in our area.

Now is the time to change our mindset, save some money, and do something different. Everyone likes to save money, don't they? Plant perennials that come back from year to year, and don't require much water...maybe two times a week initially and less as the root system matures.

If we design and plant with the forethought of drought conditions in 2007, we will be ready! Good luck and happy gardening in 2007!

Felicia Smith



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The Dreyfuss' move in!

Even though they bought the house at 4820 Lakeside Drive back in September, due to extensive interior remodeling, it was not until December that Rob and Amy Dreyfuss were able to move in. Relocating from Carrollton, the couple scoured the Metroplex to find the perfect combination of location convenient to the airport, a sense of uniqueness to the neighborhood and a roomy, private back yard. They found it here in Brook Meadows! Rob owns Cahn Management, which processes mail for financial institutions and will be able to enjoy his new surroundings working out of their home. Amy is the Regional Manager for Western Rim Properties in Coppell and oversees apartment communities in Dallas, Houston and Tyler. Originally from Shreveport, Louisiana and Littleton, Colorado, they enjoy golf, reading, travel, cooking and landscaping. Hopefully they'll have time for those hobbies shortly, but right now the house has been their "whole life for the past four months"! Rob and Amy, we're glad you're here.

Sudoku

The challenge is to fill every row across, every column down, and every 3x3 box with the digits 1 through 9. Each 1 through 9 digit must appear only once in each row across, each column down, and each 3x3 box.

		9					2	5
6			2	8				9
	6	4						3
			9	7				
	8						4	
			1	4	3			
		1	6			5		2
	3				8			

*Solution at www.PEELinc.com

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Coldwell Banker "Residential home sales"

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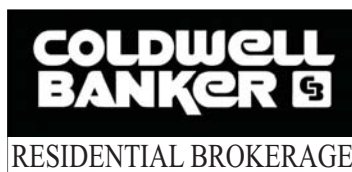
Laurie & Joel

817-942-1209

jmoberly@airmail.net



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and like to show it off!*



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Brook Meadows

How About Some Social “Stuff”?

A good time was had by all at the January “Last Tuesday” get together at LaHacienda Ranch. We will repeat the “Last Tuesday” concept on; guess what...the last Tuesday, Feb 27th, at Trivoli Wine Shop for a little casual wine tasting. Trivoli Wine Shop recently opened underneath 62 Main restaurant, on the corner by the little traffic circle. The tentative start time is 6pm and there is no charge for us, but consider buying a bottle or two of wine if you find something you like. Again, keep an eye out for emails that with more specifics, but that is the plan as we go to press!



Also mark your calendar for Saturday, **March 24th** and start gathering your “treasures” for our **Neighborhood GARAGE SALE**. We will advertise for the neighborhood and place a large sign at the entrances to bring the big spenders to our neighborhood to find their treasure. We will try to make a social event of the garage sale if there is time to pull it together. More news to follow.

Let us hear from you;

Social@brookmeadows.org

Your social team,
Brett and Ana...

Texas Events - February

10-11, 24-25—STEPHENVILLE: Chicken House Flea Market Shop among 100 inside booths, plus outside vendors. Hwy. 377, 2 1/2 miles west of Stephenville. E-mail: allencrafts@erath.net 254/968-0888
11-Apr. 29—FORT WORTH: Drama & Desire: Japanese Paintings from the Floating World, 1690 – 1850 Kimbell Art Museum. www.kimbellart.org 817/332-8451

13—BELLVILLE: Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church Country Store 979/865-2368

13—IRVING: Music of the People New Philharmonic Orchestra of Irving. Carpenter Performance Hall, Irving Arts Center. 972/252-ARTS

13—ROUND TOP: Valentine-Lincoln Birthday Program & Reception Come dressed in style for an afternoon celebrating the 100th anniversary of New York's Plaza Hotel, 1907–2007. The International Festival-Institute at Round Top. Call for reservations. www.festivalhill.org 979/249-3129

13—YOAKUM: Country Music USA Yoakum Community Center. E-mail: billlopez@gvec.net 361/293-2843

13-18—RICHARDSON: The Water Coolers Presents “laugh out loud” music and comedy about the things we share around the water coolers of America every day. Eisemann Center's Countrywide Theatre. www.seethewatercoolers.com 972/744-4650

14—DALLAS: Dinner in the Diner: Romance on the Rails Enjoy an authentic dining car meal with your sweetheart, as well as entertainment. Museum of the American Railroad, Fair Park. www.dallasrailwaymuseum.com 214/428-0101

14—RICHARDSON: A Valentine Gala with Marvin Hamlisch Presented by the Symphony Orchestra. The Eisemann Center's Hill Performance Hall. www.planosymphony.org 972/473-7262

15—COLLEGE STATION: Bush Museum Storytellers Guild — Presidents' Day Celebration with Theodore Roosevelt Meet Theodore Roosevelt with Ted Zalewski as the historical impressionist. Call or e-mail for free reservations. Frymire Auditorium. E-mail: bush.education@nara.gov 979/691-4006

15-17—RICHARDSON: I Do! I Do! Presented by The Labyrinth Theatre. www.thelabyrinththeatre.org 972/231-1012

15-18—DALLAS: Dallas Symphony Orchestra Includes conductor Louis Langree and violinist Vadim Gluzman. Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center. www.dallasymphony.com 214/692-0203

16-18—DALLAS: Dallas Autorama Annual event is a “hot-rod haven.” Dallas Market Hall. 214/373-1700

16-18—FRISCO: Kurt Thomas Invitational Gymnastics This international competition features 750 female gymnasts from around the world competing for levels 5 through elite. Dr Pepper Star Center. www.kurtthomas.com 214/387-4707

16-18—MCKINNEY: Third Monday Trade Days Includes antiques, collectibles, food, specialty products and much more. 4550 W. University Drive. www.tmttd.com 972/562-5466

16-Mar. 3—IRVING: The Winner This is a love story between Lyndon Baines Johnson and his wife, Ladybird. It chronicles one of the dirtiest, most vicious and most colorful campaigns in the country's history — LBJ's notorious Senate race of 1948. Irving Arts Center,

(Continued on page 11)

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Ridge Lake Shores
Steeplechase
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Texas Events - (Continued from page 8)

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17—BELLVILLE: Austin County Go Texan Dance Proceeds benefit Austin County Go Texan scholarships. Austin County Fairgrounds. E-mail: acfair@sbcglobal.net • www.austincountyfair.com 979/865-5995

17-18—RICHARDSON: Victorian Elegance Antique Show Special show of a select group of unique and fine quality items, specializing in pre-Civil War and Victorian-era through the 1940s. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Richardson Civic Center. www.victorianshow.com 972/235-5139

17-May 13—FORT WORTH: Forging an American Identity: The Art of William Ranney Many of Ranney's paintings focus on unnamed figures of history, affirming the importance of the average person in developing the nation and its identity. Amon Carter Museum. www.cartermuseum.org 817/738-1933

18—BELLVILLE: Salt Grass Trail Ride Dance Austin County Fairgrounds. E-mail: acfair@sbcglobal.net • www.austincountyfair.com 979/865-5995

21—IRVING: Getting to the Point Lone Star Youth Orchestra. Carpenter Performance Hall, Irving Arts Center, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd. 972/252-ARTS

21-25—DALLAS: Spring's Awakening Written in 1891, this was one of the most censored plays of the early 20th century, due to its frank treatment of adolescent sexuality but, today, is considered an important groundbreaking work. Owen Fine Arts Center — Southern Methodist University, Meadow School of Arts. 214/768-2787

22-25—BRENHAM: Used Book Sale Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday. Washington County Fairgrounds. 979/337-7201

22-25—ROUND TOP: Polka Joe, Chili Cook-Off, Artistry & More Event returns with cultural polkas and waltzes, local chili cook-off with activities around the square and special activities with artists. www.roundtop.org 979/249-4042

23-25—DALLAS: Dallas Symphony Orchestra Includes flutist Sir James Galway and conductor Richard Kaufman. Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center. www.dallassymphony.com 214/692-0203

23-25—DALLAS: Kodo Drummers (Japan) McFarlin Auditorium, Southern Methodist University. 214/768-3129

23-25—DECATUR: Wise County Antique Auto Swap Meet More than 2,000 vendors offer car-related items. Wise County Sheriff's Posse Grounds. www.wcaac.com 940/433-5770

23-25—FORT WORTH: Go for Baroque! Boisterous conductor Nicholas McGegan brings to life highlights of 18th-century opera and symphony. Bass Performance Hall. www.fwsymphony.org 817/665-6000

23-25—WACO: Autorama Hours are 5 to 10 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday and noon to 7 p.m. Sunday. Waco Convention Center. www.wacocvb.com 800/321-9226

23-25—YOAKUM: Land of Leather Days Includes carnival, leather factory tours, CASI and local chili cook-off, bean cook-off, dessert cook-off, arts & crafts, live music and team roping. Yoakum Community Center. E-mail: info@yoakumareachamber.com • www.yoakumareachamber.com 361/293-2309

23-Mar. 11—ARLINGTON: Oz! Enjoy this musical retelling

of the classic story. All-youth musical. Theatre Arlington. www.theatrearlington.org 817/275-7661

24—BELLVILLE: Spring Creek Bluegrass Club Festival 979/856-5250

24—FORT WORTH: Cowtown Marathon, Marathon Relay/10K & 5K Race begins in Sundance Square and moves through Fort Worth neighborhoods. www.cowtownmarathon.org 817/735-2033

24—GAINESVILLE: Annual North Texas Farm Toy Show Buy, sell, trade or show farm toys, trucks and other toys from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Gainesville Civic Center. E-mail: lpettigrew@cogtx.org 940/759-2876

24—GREENVILLE: Kenneth Threadgill Concert Series Stars Junior Brown, Derailers and The Blandelles. Municipal Auditorium. www.greenville-texas.com 903/457-3138

24—MESQUITE: Mesquite Symphonic Band with Lakeside Symphonic Wind Mesquite Arts Center Concert Hall. E-mail: mtemplet@ci.mesquite.tx.us 972/216-8127

24—TEMPLE: A Taste of Russia Chamber music concert features all Russian music. www.temple-symphony.org 254/778-NOTE

24-25—RICHARDSON: Exotic Bird & Pet Show Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Richardson Civic Center. www.birdsandpets.com 337/725-6365

24-Mar. 11—MESQUITE: Mesquite Community Theatre Mesquite Arts Center Black Box Theatre. E-mail: mtemplet@ci.mesquite.tx.us 972/216-8126

25—RICHARDSON: Harry the Dirty Dog Eisemann Center's Hill Performance Hall. www.eisemanncenter.com 972/744-4650

25-May 27—FORT WORTH: Pretty Baby Exhibit is international in scope and explores various notions of childhood identity. Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth. www.themodern.org 817/738-9215

26—MCKINNEY: Taste of Collin County Includes great food, entertainment, silent auction and more. Benefits North Collin County Habitat for Humanity. Collin County Regional Airport, 1500 E. Industrial. www.ncc-habitat.com 972/542-5300

27—COLLEGE STATION: Bush Museum Storytellers Guild — The Life of the Buffalo Soldiers The legacy and history of the African-American cavalry and infantry regiments are presented with living history demonstrations and exhibits. Call or e-mail for free reservations. Frymire Auditorium. E-mail: bush.education@nara.gov 979/691-4006

27-Mar. 4—DALLAS: Twelve Angry Men Produced by New York's Roundabout Theatre Company and starring Richard Thomas and George Wendt. One juror feels there is a "reasonable doubt" to the frustration of his 11 colleagues, thus preventing a quick verdict. Majestic Theatre. www.dallassummermusicals.org 214/421-5678

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