



BRIARWOOD AREA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

~ Since 1997 ~

<http://www.geocities.com/briarwoodlr/>

Little Rock's Second Safest Neighborhood

December 2005

THE BRIAR PATCH

BANA Crime Watch meeting attracts 72 residents to Brady Elementary, Keyword 'briarwoodlr' Go To BANA Website, BANA Listserv To Go Online, More on Safety and Security lighting on our streets, and final judging for BANA Christmas Decorations awards is December 18, 2005

BANA Board of Directors

BANA Crime Watch Meets

72 Briarwood Neighborhood Area Association residents jammed the Brady Elementary Media Center on Wednesday November 16, for a special meeting of the BANA Crime Watch. Everyone who attended the meeting signed in giving name, address, and phone number so they can be contacted about neighborhood Crime Watch efforts. Attendees also signed up to be Watch Block Captains and Watch Walkers, and reported on happenings on their blocks.

As a result of the meeting a comprehensive list of neighborhood vandalism and theft reports is being worked on for publication so that the Crime Watch can coordinate more patrols with LRPD, a neighborhood lighting assessment is underway, and bumper stickers are to be designed and distributed to identify resident cars. Other equipment may be purchased to assist Block Captains and Walkers with Crime Watch activities.

The next meeting of the BANA Crime Watch will be Wednesday December 14, 2005, 5:15 PM, in the Brady Elementary Media Center on Markham. If you were not at the November meeting, did not sign up, or for information please contact James Thomson 225-2891 banacrimewatch@sbcglobal.net, <http://www.geocities.com/briarwoodlr/>

THE BRIARWOOD AREA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION WEBSITE

The Briarwood Area Neighborhood Association has one of the best association websites anywhere. Its homepage is at <http://www.geocities.com/briarwoodlr/> The BANA

homepage is like the cover of a magazine. It shows pictures and news about an event that recently happened in one of the Briarwood neighborhoods.

The heart of the BANA website, is the directory page, which is at <http://www.geocities.com/briarwoodlr/000-directory.html> The easy way to get to the directory is to scroll down to the bottom of the BANA homepage and click on the colored bar. When you do, the directory will open in your computer.

The BANA directory contains much useful information. For example, you can click on the link for the BANA Officers and Board of Directors at <http://www.geocities.com/briarwoodlr/005-board.html>, which lists all the association officers and directors along with their email addresses. By clicking on the appropriate link, you can contact anyone of them or all of them.

One page <http://www.geocities.com/briarwoodlr/003-map.html> shows a map of the area covered by BANA. Another page has a street index of all the streets in the Briarwood neighborhoods while other pages show platting in the BANA area. In addition, a simplified version of Little Rock's city code is on BANA's web pages along with how to contact the code enforcement office.

Lastly, there are pictures and summaries of happenings at BANA meetings and scenes from holidays like Halloween and Christmas.

We hope you find the BANA website useful.

Jim Bell, BANA Webmaster

**President
Jay Atkins**

**Vice President
James Thomson**

**Secretary
Blake Wintory**

**Treasurer
Elizabeth Danley**

**Immediate Past President
Nell Mathews Mock**

Board of Directors

**Denise Anderson
Jim Bell**

**Maxine Ellington
Bee Meldahl**

**Nonie S. San Padro
William Stuff
Amy Yetley Walters**

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**Briar Patch Writers
Elizabeth Danley, Jim Bell, and
Bee Meldahl**

Contribute to the Briar Patch
Briarwood Area Neighborhood
Association Newsletter
c/o James Thomson
7700 Apache Rd. Little Rock, AR 72205
(501) 225-2891
Email: bananews@sbcglobal.net
<http://www.geocities.com/briarwoodlr/>

BRIARWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NOW HAS A LISTSERV!—

The Briarwood Neighborhood Association has entered the Electronic Information Age! For two years, we have had our own website created by Webmaster, Jim Bell, where can be found a load of information about our association. If you have not visited it yet, be sure to go to <http://www.geocities.com/briarwoodlr/>. If you need to find but can't remember the URL, "google" briarwoodlr, then scroll down to www.geocities.com/briarwoodlr/.

Now we also have a BANA listserv for any resident with an email address who would like to join. We hope that this listserv will bring us together as neighbors looking out for each other and caring about each other in a way that will establish us as the safest and best-informed neighborhood in Little Rock.

Currently the bulk of our communications concerns news about the rash of vandalism we have been experiencing. But when this wave of crime passes, we can continue to keep each other informed not only as to what is happening within our neighborhood, but also what issues our policy makers are discussing that might affect us. If you would like to be included on the listserv, you can go to our website, <http://www.geocities.com/briarwoodlr/>. Then scroll down to Click here to subscribe to BANAs email listserv. You can also join by contacting one of the BANA web moderators:

Denise Anderson 7003 Lucerne 664-2773
whitefin6@comcast.net

Jim Bell 7611 Briarwood Circle 225-2538
j22bell@comcast.net

Betty Danley 15 Sun Valley Road 661-0523
edanley1@comcast.net

Street Lights and Security Lights in the Neighborhood Sodium Lights are brighter!

By Betty Danley

I live on Sun Valley. The people on my street have become increasingly alarmed at the number of crime incidents in our area. And because of our concern, we have become more aware of the lighting situation on our street. Nearly everybody on our street is now turning outside lights on at dusk and leaving them on all night.

A few weeks ago my neighbor commented on how dim the streetlight in between our houses was. Her house had been broken into right under that light at 8:30 one night. I hesitated to call Entergy because the light, though very dim, still came on at night, and I feared that they would think I wanted special treatment. I thought maybe that was the way the light was supposed to be. Then a few nights later, I noticed the light blinked on and off for a few minutes. I still hesitated to call Entergy. The next night the light actually went out for a few minutes. So I finally called still worrying that they might refuse because the light was not actually out all the time. I told them we had had a great deal of vandalism and that we wanted a sodium light. Jim Bell, our webmaster, had told me that there are two kinds of lights Entergy has. The lights that are greenish are mercury, and the brighter orange-yellow lights are sodium. They said they would file the report, and the light should be replaced within 3 days. Yeah, right, I thought. The next morning when I got up at 6:00, I walked into the room nearest that street light and immediately knew that it had been changed and that they had replaced the mercury light with sodium. It is very bright.

Maybe in another time I would think the street light shining in my front room too bright. But today I am glad for its illumination of our houses and front yards.

A couple of weeks ago I called Entergy (1-800-368-3749) about a light up the street. Several neighbors had expressed concern that tree branches were obscuring the light. While talking to the Entergy person, I also asked about two other things:

1. Whom should one contact when you feel there are not sufficient street lights on your street—Their Answer: Contact the city.
2. How could one have a private security light—Their Answer: If there is an existing Entergy utility pole on which you want it

installed, the cost of a 100 watt mercury vapor light that would cover 85 feet in diameter would be \$5.72 per month. If you need to have a pole put up for the light, the cost would be an additional \$3.38 per month. That would make a total of \$9.10 per month. They will put lights on Entergy utility poles only.

BANA residents Start Your Holiday Decorating!

BANA will be giving awards for the best Christmas decorations \$100 first place, \$50 second, and \$25 for third. Final judging will be done by December 18th with Awards given on December 20th, 2005. Open to all Briarwood Area Neighborhood Association residents. Call Nonie San Pedro at (501) 661-4611 for further information.

Greenbelt Project

Bee Meldahl

Goal: To enclose groups of trees by a rock-circled garden space so the mowers cannot get close enough to the trees to damage them, and also to provide beauty and increased noise abatement by planting more trees and native flowers in the enclosed areas. This will not affect parking on the greenbelt. (I understand there are adamant parkers) The city wants a plan drawn up and submitted and I will work on this. To date I have taken many rocks and piled them and brush around trees that are damaged, I've planted coneflowers, a crepe myrtle and a beauty bush (native shrub) and picked up tons of trash, mostly beer cans and wine bottles. What I'd like: People to donate rocks. If we could maybe have a certain day they could leave them by their curb and I could drive round and pick them up. They need not be huge, just big enough to deter the mowers (softball size or larger) People to donate trees and shrubs. I am constantly pulling tiny trees out of my yard. People who have a sapling that's been there for a couple of years could donate it. Volunteers could dig it up and transplant into the greenbelt area near the other trees so the mowers won't have something 'new' to mow around. Take a look at the trees up there. The mowers have whacked almost every one, some several times. If they are damaged enough, the tree becomes girdled and will die. Oaks don't grow fast; we need to protect them. Also would like to plant bamboo up there; I have some to donate, I'm sure others do too. It provides year round noise protection and pollution abatement as well as wildlife habitat. I've got nothing firm but think BANA should continue to be involved. I like to do, but hate to meet! beemeldahl@sbcglobal.net

Briarwood Area Neighborhood Association
2005 Membership Drive

Yes, I would like to be a part of BANA! Please add me to the membership list with the following contact information:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

Residential Membership (\$10) _____

Please mail payments to:

Betty Danley, Treasurer
BANA
15 Sun Valley Road
Little Rock AR 72205

I would like more information about the following committee(s):

Welcome/Membership	_____	Holiday Decorations	_____	Watch Walker	_____
VIPS	_____	Good Neighbors	_____	Watch Captain	_____
Crime Watch/Public Safety	_____	Civic Affairs	_____		
Neighborhood Enhancement	_____	BANA Board of Directors	_____		

Do you have any special skills - like carpentry, computer skills, gardening, leadership, etc.? We always need helping hands and creative minds! Also if you have any comments about neighborhood issues can you please list below?

What's BANA?
It's the
Briarwood Area

Neighborhood Association!

WHAT AREAS ARE INCLUDED?

BANA consists of the following neighborhoods:

- Briarwood
- Brook Park
- Cardinal Heights
- Fair Hills
- Markham Manor
- Plaza Terrace
- Sunnymead
- Tyndall

Shared Vision

Although the organization is an informal group, we have some common objectives, such as:

- **To promote** camaraderie and goodwill among neighbors
- **To assist** in preserving the distinguished value the neighborhood has traditionally upheld regarding appearance and demeanor
- **To help** inform the neighborhood regarding common issues and areas of interest
- **Knowing** that there is strength in numbers, to present a unified influence regarding public and civic issues that affect our area

Membership

Membership is open to any resident living in a BANA neighborhood. Area schools, businesses and churches are invited to be Associate Members. (Associate Members have no voting privileges.)

Dues

We are a voluntary organization so we have no mandatory dues. However, knowing that we need revenue to accomplish our goals, we ask that each participating household pay \$10 per year.

Leadership

BANA is coordinated by a volunteer Board of Directors consisting of 12 members - 5 of which hold the following offices:

- President
- 1st Vice-President
- 2nd Vice-President
- Secretary
- Treasurer

Meetings

- **The Board of Directors** meets quarterly, at a board member's home. Everyone is invited to attend Board meetings.
- **The general meetings** are held twice per year - once in the spring and once in the summer.
- **All meeting notices** and locations are announced by posting signs at various

intersections in the neighborhood, delivery of the newsletter and posting on the website.

Committees

BANA has the following standing committees and also forms special committees as needed: (Committee chairs keep the Board notified of new information)

- Welcome/Membership
- VIPS (Volunteers in Public Schools)
- Crime Watch/Public Safety
- Holiday Decorations
- Good Neighbors
- Civic Affairs
- Neighborhood Enhancement

Communications

- **Website:** BANA's website it is located at: www.geocities.com/briarwoodlr
The website is an excellent source of updated information, photographs, maps, etc.
- **Newsletter:** *The Briar Patch* is also an excellent source of news. It is published quarterly, shortly before each meeting and is distributed by hand to neighborhood residents and the free newspaper stand at Kroger. It keeps the area updated on various topics of interest, committee issues and meeting information.

The Briar Patch
Briarwood Neighborhood Association Newsletter
7700 Apache Road
Little Rock, AR 72205