

# THE OAKRIDGE JOURNAL

## ORIA EMPHASIS

### ORIA Board Up-Coming Elections:

Three ORIA Board positions are up for election for the term June 1, 2021– May 31, 2023. Should you wish to run for any of these positions, please send your bios to one of the three members of the nominating committee noted below. The deadline for submitting your bios is Saturday, April 24th, 2021.

### Nominating Committee Members:

Lisa Kelly - [lkelly9504@yahoo.com](mailto:lkelly9504@yahoo.com)  
Vernon Wallace - [vwallace@satvainc.com](mailto:vwallace@satvainc.com)  
Earl Fly - [fly5101@bellsouth.net](mailto:fly5101@bellsouth.net)

### Oakridge Road Update:

The ORIA Board of Directors wants to stress to all landowners the freezing weather we experienced in February caused significant damage to Oakridge Road. The Board simply can't delay in coming up with a long-term plan to repair the road. Your Road Committee and your Board of Directors is working diligently to gather quotes so that several options on how to best address our current road issue can be presented to the landowners. Once all the facts are gathered, the Board will inform everyone of an up-coming Town Hall meeting to present the facts. It will ultimately be up to the landowners to decide how we should proceed.

### Uncommonly Beautiful Oakridge Road, February 2021

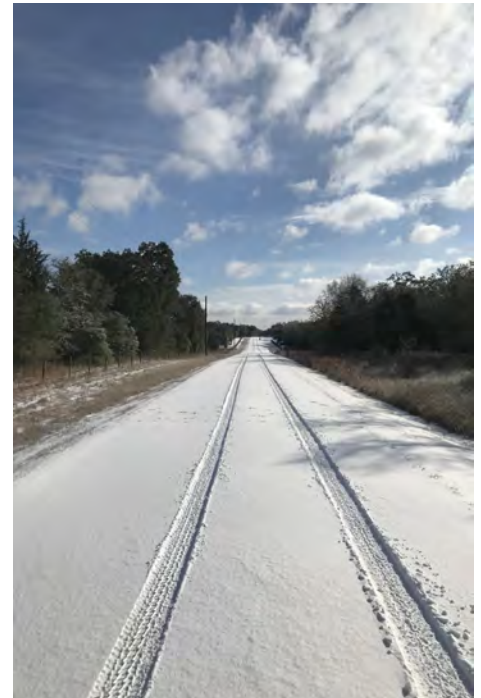


Photo by Earl Fly



Photo by Doug Jeske

The ORIA Officers' positions are:  
James Leavesley - President  
Tyler Poli - First Vice President  
Sam Kelly - Second Vice President  
Amy Hardy - Treasurer  
Deanna Jeske - Secretary

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

|                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| OVFD .....           | 2-3 |
| OVFD Auxiliary ..... | 2   |
| ORWMA .....          | 4-5 |



## OAKRIDGE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT



**OAKRIDGE**

# CHICKEN FRIED STEAK DINNER & RAFFLE LIVE AUCTION

**VOL. FIRE DEPT. Station 10 / Oakridge Ranch Community Ctr.  
1904 Oakridge Road, Weimar, 78962**

## SATURDAY MAY 1, 2021

**4pm - 9pm ~ Dinner Starts 5pm**

**\* Meals By Donation \***  
**Carry-Outs Available**

**For Raffle Tickets See:**  
**Oakridge VFD Firefighters & Auxiliary Members,**  
**Schneider Tire & Lube, M-G Farm Services Center**  
**Also Available at the Fundraiser**  
**While Tickets Last**

### OVFD Auxiliary Information

As you know, the Fire Department "Chicken Fried Steak" fundraiser is scheduled for Saturday, May 1st. Due to the pandemic we were not able to hold the May fundraiser last year, so we are behind where we wanted to be in regards to funds raised. For that reason, it is critical that this year's fundraiser is a big success. We need your help for this to be a success! I know that we will all be excited when the new building is completed.

There is a lot to do at the fundraiser and we are counting on everyone to participate. We need you! Please let us know ASAP that you will be able to attend and help. We are starting to put together a spreadsheet with everyone's assignments so we need to hear from each of you quickly. Any man or woman who has the availability to serve on the OVFD Auxiliary, please contact Deanna Jeske ([deannajeske@yahoo.com](mailto:deannajeske@yahoo.com)) or Angie Konvicka ([ruacajun2@yahoo.com](mailto:ruacajun2@yahoo.com)) for more details.

OAKRIDGE



VOL. FIRE DEPT.

A 501 (c)(3) organization

OVFD Mailing Address: 1904-A Oakridge Road,  
Weimar, TX 78962

[oakridgefiredepartment@gmail.com](mailto:oakridgefiredepartment@gmail.com) Also join us on Facebook!

## OAKRIDGE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

We broke ground in early February with Ms. Donna Stevenson having the first shovel. Then, together with the Board of Directors of ORIA, the OVFD Board broke ground. We had a good group of neighbors in attendance on that cold morning in addition to some Fire Chiefs from around Colorado County as well as our County Commissioner.

The site was cleared of trees and the dirt contractor has completed the pad site preparation. The concrete contractor has installed the forms and drilled & poured the piers. Underground plumbing and electrical will be going into the foundation area. We are expecting SBEC to bring in the required power and transformer soon and for the concrete slab to be poured.

We appreciate the support and assistance of our neighbors & friends who are working to make this building a reality for our neighborhood and our area of Colorado County. We hope to see everyone at the Chicken Fried Steak Dinner & Raffle on May 1<sup>st</sup>, 4 pm. As noted on the flyer (previous page), we are also planning a live auction. This will be a really fun afternoon & evening to be with your neighbors and a great way to support your local fire department.

### Ground-Breaking, February 6, 2021

Photos by Brenda LaVergne



Pictured from Left: Gary LaVergne, Tyler Poli, R.C. Lumpkin, Vernon Wallace, Donna Stevenson, James Leavesley, Wayne Wolfford, Deanna Jeske, Sam Kelly, Amy Hardy



Pictured from left: Wayne Wolfford, R. C. Lumpkin, Gary LaVergne, Greg Buzek, Rock Island Fire Chief, Vernon Wallace, David Brandt, Weimar Fire Chief, Darrell Kubesch, Colorado County Commissioner Pct.2



### 2020-2021 OVFD BOARD & OFFICERS

- Vernon Wallace, President
- R. C. Lumpkin, Vice-President
- Gary LaVergne, Secretary/Treasurer
- Wayne Wolfford, Fire Chief
- Jay Johannes, Captain
- Mark Prasatik, Lieutenant
- Douglas Mason, Chaplain



**VOL. FIRE DEPT.**

A 501 (c)(3) organization

**OVFD Mailing Address: 1904-A Oakridge Road,  
Weimar, TX 78962**

[oakridgefiredepartment@gmail.com](mailto:oakridgefiredepartment@gmail.com) Also join us on Facebook!



Winter's Blanket



Photo by Doug Jeske

UPDATE FROM THE ORWMA PRESIDENT:

We said good riddance to 2020 and then came the deep freeze of 2021. Not Covid, but Snowvid. Hope everyone is recovering from all the plumbing issues. Last year almost every event we planned had to be cancelled due to Covid restrictions. This year the Covid vaccinations are in full swing and the Governor has lifted the face mask restrictions so, maybe we might be closer to getting back to normal. In February, we did manage to hold the Winter Bird Count and the Purple Martin Seminar which was highly informative.

There is also lots of new construction going on around the Ranch. So, we are continuing to grow as a community. I hope you make the opportunity to meet your new neighbors and welcome them to the community.

Earl Fly, ORWMA President

Purple Martin Seminar, Feb 2021  
Presented by Bert Stipelcovich



Photos by Brenda LaVergne

**Rio Grande Turkey Season for Colorado County**  
April 1 — 30, 2021  
**Bag Limit: 1 Tom only (NO hens)**

The



**Important Numbers:**

|                            |                    |              |
|----------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| <u>Leanne Winkenwerder</u> | Game Warden        | 979-732-7929 |
| <u>John Kohleffel</u>      | Game Warden        | 979-732-7945 |
| <u>Mark Lange</u>          | Wildlife Biologist | 979-484-2583 |
| Sheriff's Department       |                    | 979-732-5522 |

[www.orwma.org](http://www.orwma.org)

Also join us on Facebook!

[oakridgewildlifemanagement@gmail.com](mailto:oakridgewildlifemanagement@gmail.com)

Mailing Address: 1904-B Oakridge Road, Weimar, TX 78962



Photo by Brenda LaVergne

**UP-COMING ORWMA EVENTS:**

The **April ORWMA Board meeting** will be held at the Community Center on **April 11th at 1 pm**. We hope to have **Mark Lange** (the TPWD Wildlife Biologist for our area) present to discuss the upcoming changes to the **Managed Land Deer Program (MLDP)** and how it will affect ORWMA. Of course, all landowners are invited to attend.



**April 17th** we will host the **Annual Fish Fry and Crawfish Boil**. This our annual fund raiser. This year we are fund raising for the Columbus Food Pantry. You may donate non-perishable food items or cash. **Mark Lange will speak at 4 pm about the MLDP changes** and we will begin serving at 5 pm.



Photos above & left by Brenda LaVergne

| <b>Hog Count</b> |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| <b>2020</b>      | <b>YTD 2021</b> |
| ~ 750            | 142             |
|                  | 30 traps        |



Winter Visitor — photo by Doug Jeske

**Hummingbird Nectar Recipe**  
 1 part sugar to 4 parts water  
 Example: 1/2 Cup sugar + 2 Cups water  
 They do not need food coloring.  
 If you hang the feeders, hummers will come!  
 Enjoy!

**Clean-up of County Road 215:**  
**April 24th - we will meet at the North Gate of Oakridge Ranch at 8am.** *If you did not turn in your grabber from last time, be sure to bring it with you.*  
**Wear boots & Gloves**

[www.orwma.org](http://www.orwma.org) Also join us on Facebook!  
[oakridgewildlifemanagement@gmail.com](mailto:oakridgewildlifemanagement@gmail.com)  
 Mailing Address: 1904-B Oakridge Road, Weimar, TX 78962