

THE OAKRIDGE JOURNAL

ORIA EMPHASIS

As we come to the last two months of the Oak Ridge Improvement Association’s fiscal year, the ORIA board of directors will begin the election process for the coming 2-year term. During the month of April, we will begin a search for possible candidates to serve as directors/officers on the board. These positions are open to all landowners in good standing and will serve a two-year term beginning in June 2017 and ending in June 2019. Those wishing to be on the ballot to serve as a director/officer should submit a short bio by April 21st including reasons he/she wishes to serve on the board to the following designated persons authorized by the ORIA Board: Vernon Wallace, vwallace@satvainc.com, 713-444-0217 and/or J.D. Ray, jdray556@gmail.com, 713-295-1036.

A notice of the Annual Meeting of ORIA (the community association), the candidates’ bios and ORIA official ballots will be mailed to the landowners the first week in May. Annual dues invoices will be mailed to the landowners at the same time. Dues payments and ballots can be mailed to ORIA at 1904 Oakridge Road, Weimar, Texas 78962 to be received in the ORIA mailbox no later than Friday, June 2, 2017. If preferred, ballots can be brought to the Annual Meeting at the Community Center on Saturday, June 3, 2017 and turned in prior to the Annual Meeting starting at 10 am.

During the Annual Meeting, current board members will present what problems and/or solutions have come about in their respective oversight area during the past fiscal year. Land owners will be given an opportunity to ask questions or address concerns after each board member speaks. A select committee will tally the ballots during this time and at the end of the meeting, the winning candidates will be announced. Directly after the Annual Meeting is adjourned, the newly elected board members, along with the 2 remaining board members, will go into executive session to determine officer positions and areas of oversight for the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- *Submit Bios by April 21st*
- *Annual Dues Due June 1st*
- *“Mailed” Ballots Due by June 2nd*
- *Annual ORIA Landowner Meeting is June 3rd, 10 AM*



An early Spring brought with it many flowering dogwood trees at Oakridge Ranch.

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OAKRIDGE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Join the Oakridge Volunteer Fire Department on Facebook. Check it out for notices.

Come join us! Training is provided for all firefighters, new & old. No experience necessary. Interested persons send an email to oakridgefiredepartment@gmail.com. One of our Officers will contact you quickly.

Or join the OVFD Auxiliary by contacting the email above.

Auxiliary Meeting to prepare Silent Auction items at the Lumpkin's home on April 22nd at 9:30 AM, 1154 Trails End. This is a good way to join the Auxiliary and begin learning what it's all about.



CHICKEN FRIED STEAK DINNER

RAFFLE & SILENT AUCTION

SUNDAY, MAY 7, 2017

KC Hall, 3845 IH-10 West, Columbus, TX

Drive-thru Service Begins at 10:30 am

Inside Dining from 11 am to 1 pm

*Join in the Silent Auction & Live Raffle
Come Enjoy the Fun!*

Dinner Donations Accepted

Over 30 items in the Raffle:
Guns, Knives, Cross-bow, Gift Certificates, etc.

Raffle Tickets: \$20/ticket

Contact any OVFD Firefighter for Tickets

Raffle Tickets Also Available at Columbus Tire, Schneider Tire & Lube, Schobels Restaurant, Texana Shooting Supply and Tomball Pawn & Jewelry

Advanced Raffle Tickets Available or at the Event - Need not be present to win

IMPORTANT - BEFORE BURNING YOUR BRUSH PILES:

Schedule your burn with OVFD.

Call OVFD Fire Chief or an Asst. Fire Chief to inform them of your plans. OVFD will assist you with your burn, have equipment on the scene of the burn and they will make sure weather conditions are favorable for burning.

Phone numbers for OVFD are posted on the bulletin boards at the Oakridge gates.



DEER HARVEST for 2016-2017 SEASON

Correction from 1st Qtr newsletter: 34 total deer checked in; 15 bucks and 19 does.

BIRDING AT OAKRIDGE

We had a great winter bird count on Feb 4th on 10 properties. The most seen birds were American Robins, Cedar Waxwings and Chipping Sparrows. One Lewis's Woodpecker was seen and our area of Texas is out of its normal winter range. Below is a list of birds counted compiled by our Birding Chairperson, Amy Hardy. The next birding outing is planned for June, so plan on taking part in the Breeding Bird Census.



ORWMA Winter Bird Count, 02/04/2017					
Species (alphabetical)	Season (generally)	Resident/ Migratory	Common/ Uncommon	Habitat	Total
Bluebird, Eastern	All	Resident	C	open	16
Caracara, Crested	All	Resident	C	any	2
Cardinal, Northern	All	Resident	C	mixed	73
Chickadee, Carolina	All	Resident	C	mixed	18
Cowbird, Brown-Headed	Sp & Sum	Both	C	mixed	2
Cormorant, Double-Crested	Winter	Migratory	C	mixed	1
Crow, American	All	Resident	C	any	21
Dove, Common -Ground	All	Resident	C	any	7
Dove, Mourning	All	Resident	C	any	19
Duck, Blue-Winged Teal	Winter	Migratory	U	water	4
Duck, Mallard	All	Resident	C	water	9
Duck, Wood	Winter	Migratory	U	water	8
Egret, Great	All	Resident	C	water	2
Gnatcatcher, Blue-gray	Winter	Migratory	C	mixed	5
Goldfinch, American	Winter	Migratory	C	mixed	43
Hawk, Cooper's	All	Resident	C	mixed	1
Hawk, Red-shouldered	All	Resident	C	mixed	7
Hawk, Red-Tailed	All	Resident	C	open	1
Heron, Great Blue	All	Resident	C	water	2
Jay, Blue	All	Resident	C	any	4
Kestrel, American	Winter	Migratory	C	open	2
Killdeer	All	Resident	C	roads	10
Kingfisher, Belted	Winter	Migratory	C	water	2
Kinglet, Golden-Crowned	Winter	Migratory	U	woods	2
Kinglet, Ruby-Crowned	Winter	Migratory	C	woods	5
Mockingbird, Northern	All	Resident	C	woods	5
Owl, Barred	All	Resident	C	woods	1
Phoebe, Eastern	Winter	Migratory	C	open	4
Robin, American	Winter	Migratory	C	open	1,833
Sapsucker, Yellow-bellied	Winter	Migratory	C	woods	1
Sparrow, Chipping	Winter	Migratory	C	mixed	145
Thrush, Hermit	Winter	Migratory	C	woods	2
Titmouse, Tufted	All	Resident	C	woods	16
Vulture, Black	All	Both	C	any	12
Vulture, Turkey	All	Both	C	any	9
Warbler, Orange-crowned	Winter	Migratory	C	woods	1
Warbler, Yellow-rumped	Winter	Migratory	C	woods	4
Waxwing, Cedar	Winter	Migratory	C	woods	367
Woodpecker, Downy	All	Resident	C	woods	8
Woodpecker, Pileated	All	Resident	C	woods	2
Woodpecker, Red-bellied	All	Resident	C	woods	12
Woodpecker, Lewis's		Migratory	U	woods	1
Wren, Carolina	All	Resident	C	woods	15

ORWMA's Annual Fish Fry & Shrimp Boil

April 22, 2017, 5 PM

Speaker: Terry Rossignol, Refuge Manager

Attwater Prairie Chicken National Wildlife Refuge

Did you know the Prairie Chicken is actually not a chicken? Come find out more!

Bring the Family & Come Join in the Fun!

Annual Turkey Harvest/Season for Colorado County is April 1 through April 30, 2017. Bag limit per hunter is 1 (one) tom . Gobblers Only.

Thanks to J.D. Ray for the "in your face" picture below of a Rio Grande Turkey hen, March 2017.

