



Eppilog

JANUARY 2009

The Official Newsletter of Edgemere Park Preservation, Inc.

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EPPI Prez Leaves Office with Record High Approval Rating, Intimidates Incoming Administration

by Mark Clopton, president@edgemerepark.org

On January 20th EPPI President Jann Hook capped off her two-year term in office with characteristic thoroughness at a well-attended annual meeting which included an OKC retrospective delivered by Oklahoma History Center Executive Director, Bob Blackburn. She leaves a laundry list of achievements and rather large shoes to fill at the head of the boardroom table at Iron Starr where Edgemere Park trustees meet each month. For those who have not yet served on the board or been able to see "The Jann" in action I thought it was worth recapping a few of the strides she has made while working on our behalf. I'm sure she would tell you that she was only a part of a good team, or that anyone else would have done the same given the circumstances, but that's just silly-talk. She accomplished the following because she is a tenacious and conscientious lady and, lucky for us, a borderline volunteeraholic.

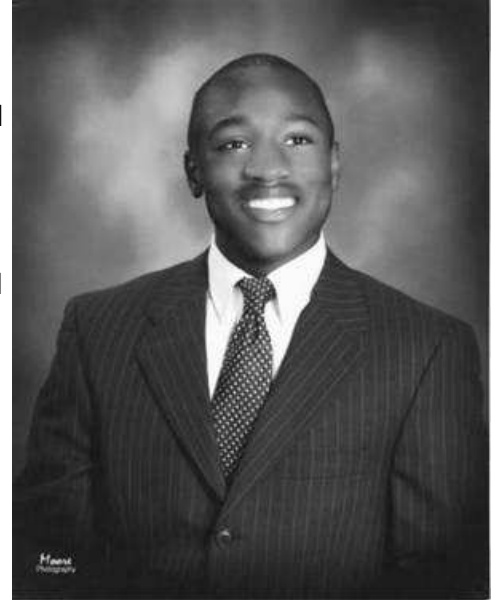
- Worked with the City and neighborhood residents to pick the perfect layout and materials for the new playground in our park
- Wrote and received multiple grants from the OKC Community Foundation totaling thousands of dollars to purchase new trees for our park
- Made sure we were the first neighborhood to have tree stumps removed after the ice storm
- Kept ODOT from installing a 70' tall, 5' wide utility tower in a resident's front lawn
- Somehow convinced ODOT to give EPPI \$40,000 to landscape our Robinson Ave. entrance
- Brought trustees and other residents together to revise our long-term strategic plan to build a consensus of neighborhood goals
- Represented Edgemere Park on the 36th St. Coalition dealing with the possible development on the north side of 36th St., and on the Near Northwest Alliance to build a stronger connection between historic neighborhoods
- Worked alongside resident Denise Waters to develop a comprehensive Capital Campaign to implement the goals from our strategic plan: adding more street lights, planting trees, landscaping our 36th St. entrance and providing Edgemere Elementary with new furniture
- Continued to serve as treasurer for the Edgemere Park Security Corp and finally, she and Terry bumped up our property values when they built their dream home at 30th & Harvey Ave.

So for all of the reasons listed above and many more I couldn't fit on this page, **thank you Jann.** Edgemere Park appreciates your advocacy.

As for me, it is my honor to serve as president for the next two years and my goals are to follow through with the mandate we received from neighbors during our strategic planning and to get more people involved in improving our community. I'm looking forward to it!

Experience of a Lifetime

Jordan Jackson, son of Dr. Anthony and Andrea Jackson, had the experience of a lifetime when he witnessed history at the presidential inauguration of Barack Obama. The 18-year-old Casady student was chosen to attend the inauguration as part of the Presidential Youth Inaugural Conference. The program is designed to provide young scholars on a national level with a deeper understanding of the electoral process and inauguration traditions. The students learned about the importance of the presidential process on a worldwide scale and participated in a mock election for a better understanding of the procedures. The Congressional Youth Leadership Council, a nonpartisan, independent educational organization, sponsored the Presidential Youth Inaugural Conference.



Jackson and the other program participants were chaperoned by former Secretary of State Colin Powell. They had a chance to interact with White House officials, congressional staff members and many VIPs such as former Vice President Al Gore, Desmond Tutu and James Carville. One of the highlights was attending the inaugural parade followed by the gala inauguration ball. The only disappointment for Jackson was when the crowd booed former President Bush. Even though he was not a Bush supporter, he thought it was inappropriate but understandable.

Jackson's many achievements including lettering 4 years in Track and 3 in Football. Jordan now holds Casady's rushing record in football with 1,200+ yards. He was also selected as the Casady Quintessential Student and was featured during the Casady vs Heritage Hall football game. He is a member of student Government on the Disciplinary committee. He is the founding member of two clubs at Casady, scored in the top 4% of African Americans on the PSAT, and with numerous awards is one of the top student Double Bass players in Oklahoma.

We wish Jordan good luck on a promising future!

EDGEMERE PARK . . . HISTORY IN THE MAKING

I will help make history with a donation of (please circle)

\$50 \$100 \$200 \$250 \$500 \$1000 \$1400

Other \$

I prefer my gift be used for

- Wherever it's needed most
- Furniture for Edgemere School
- Trees for the Park
- Landscaping for the 36th Street entrance
- Streetlights in the park (if donating a light you will be contacted for wording on plaque)

EPPI appreciates your permission to use your contribution for another project if your preference becomes fully funded.

Enclose your check made payable to EPPI and mail to PO Box 54655, OKC 73154-1655.

Donations can also be made online at www.edgemerepark.org



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*Some restrictions apply

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EDGEMERE PARK ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, January 20, 2009 6:30 PM
Iron Starr Urban Barbeque

- I. Welcome and Introductions. The meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM by President Jann Hook. Present: Jann Hook, Linda Clement, Elizabeth Bullen, Sally Farrell, Don Ferrell, Marnie Taylor, Nick Terech, Kelly Pearson, Brett Streetman, Sandra Harrison, Richard Harrison, Joe Cawley, Jenifer Cawley, Lindsay Neal, Megan Clement, Kent Johnson, Julie Jungman, Tim Jungman, Joseph Arguello, Lydia Arguello, John Doddy, Allen Brown, Denise Waters, Dave Laughead, Beverly Laughead, Stan Slater, Mary Surbeck, Steve Surbeck, Petra Cox, Terry Hook, Mark Clopton and Rita Benischek. Guest: Dr. Bob Blackburn, Oklahoma Historical Society.
- II. Treasurer's Report. J. Jungman. Total assets from the Balance Sheet for EPPI, \$33,974.96 as of 31 December 2008 and all line items were considered. See Committee Reports below for additional allocations and revenues. Motion to accept Treasurer's Report by M. Surbeck, second by S. Harrison. Motion carried unanimously.
- III. Announcements, Committee Reports and Neighborhood Campaign Update.
 - A. Edgemere Elementary School. K. Pearson, representing The Friends of Edgemere, reported that the group has raised >\$50,000 for school improvements such as furniture, window coverings, the Eason family donated a piano, Design Resources (Michael Smith) arranged for window covers at cost, computers donated from LCI, furniture from Globe Life, and many other items from cooperating businesses and residents. The Friends of Edgemere is a consortia representing Crown Heights, Edgemere Park, Edgemere Heights, Jefferson Park, Paseo, and Central Park Neighborhoods. Donations should be directed to the Oklahoma City Public School Foundation. The next goal is to assist in renovating the school yard.
 - B. Edgemere Park Security Corporation. M. Clopton. The corporation board raised dues to cover the rate increase from Wackenhut. The increase in dues did not adversely affect total enrollment. The newly installed member security signs have helped focus on the need for continued vigilance about the neighborhood. The members who subscribe to the security corporation may make use of a dedicated cell phone to the patrol on duty. Wackenhut also provides home-vacation checks when residents are out-of-town. The neighborhood has had recent occurrences of vehicle break-ins and a home burglary. Mark reminded the residents to keep lights on outside their homes when darkness falls and to not leave cars unlocked and parked on the street if at all possible.
 - C. Park and Public Improvement. M. Surbeck. Due to the diligence of J. Hook and D. Waters, EPPI was granted \$15,000 from the Margaret Annis Boys Trust via the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. M. Surbeck and J. Hook have met with the Parks Dept. to add 36-40 trees, hopefully to be planted by Feb 1, 2009. We need to reestablish our volunteer "tree-watering" groups from several points around the park to water the trees. The park now has more water faucets to connect to. J. Cawley will co-chair the committee. On March 28, 2008, the OU students will be volunteering to clean the park but they need supervision as to the tasks that are appropriate and feasible. Residents who will assist the students, please phone M. Surbeck or J. Cawley.
 - D. Resource Development Committee: D. Waters. Name of Project: **Edgemere Park: History in the Making**. Waters displayed several graphics about our campaign and a sample of the lamp for the lighting project. The committee is about two-thirds toward meeting the resource goals. There are five primary projects:

1. Oklahoma City Community Fund (OCCF)/John Kirkpatrick Grant. The neighborhood raised \$5465 which the Kirkpatrick Fund has matched with \$5000. EPPI receives the interest from our investment in OCCF on an annual basis. At the present time our equity is >\$50,000. Completely funded and task completed.
2. EPPI has raised and donated \$3,000 to Edgemere Elementary School. Completely funded and task completed.
3. Margaret Annis Boys Trust from which EPPI received moneys for 40-new trees. \$8,315 is funded and \$1,685 still needed from residents. Trees are due for planting approximately February 1, 2009. Task in progress.
4. 36th Street Edgemere Entrance Landscape Project. EPPI has raised \$49,000 for this project; \$40,000 from Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) and \$9,000 from the Margaret Annis Boys Trust. EPPI still will require approximately \$15,000 for the project. Much of the project cost is for infrastructure items such as setting a water meter, irrigation system, running power to the site and other essentials. Funding and ask in progress.
5. Streetlights for the Park. An example of the actual light is on view. OGE, J. Hook and D. Waters have met and there are some modifications to the previous lighting plan. The updated plan will include about 40 lamps. The next step is to get the City's approval for the plan. Funded with \$8,870 from residents to the present. Original estimated outlay: \$35,000 but the actual amount needed may be less. Funding and task in progress.

Summation of Resource Development Committee: D. Waters. \$20,420 has been donated to EPPI in the past two months and a total of \$81,920 donated for the above five projects. Forty households have participated representing 12% of EPPI residents. The trustees feel certain that additional residents will contribute to the upgrades for our neighborhood that benefit our homes and personal investments.

- IV. Elections of officers and trustees: EPPI consists of 19 blocks total and trustees are staggered in rotation. There are also five at-large trustees. Several blocks are without trustees. Motion by S. Benischek and seconded by Sally to accept the proposed slate. Passed unanimously:

President:	Mark Clopton
President-Elect:	Pending
Secretary:	Cindy Garrett
Treasurer:	Pending

- V. Bob Blackburn, PhD, Executive Director Oklahoma Historical Society, presented a 50-minute history about central Oklahoma City as a "walking tour" from SE, to the NE, NW and returned to the SW part of the city. Edgemere Park residents express their appreciation to Dr. Blackburn for his participation in our annual meeting.

For a study of the impact on a municipality's residential and commercial preservation, review the report completed by Preservation Oklahoma, Rutgers University and Oklahoma State University, go to: www.PreservationOk.org and click on "Executive Summary" for statistics, multiplier effects and added value of historic preservation.

- VI. Meeting adjourned by incoming president, M. Clopton at 8:15 PM.

Submitted,
 Rita Benischek
 Rlbenischek@aol.com

Congratulations, Edgemere Park

We have met our Endowment Fund and Edgemere School Goals!

Thanks to the following donors for Making History:

Those giving to the Endowment Fund

Joseph and Lydia Arguello, Rita Benischek, Allen Brown, Bernest and Joan Cain, Citizens for Cain, Joe and Jenifer Cawley, Linda Clement, Mark and Marian Clopton, Davis Family Fund, John Doddy, Doug and Tish Eason, Don and Sally Ferrell, Cindy Garrett, Chris George Homes, Sandra and Richard Harrison, Terry and Jann Hook, Liz Bullen and Eric Howard, Randy and Linda Johnson, Julie and Tim Jungman, Lindsay Neal, Sara Vesely and Chris Peters, Lindsey Pever, Scott and Kendra Plafker, Stan and Shirley Slater, Steve and Mary Surbeck, George and Denise Waters, Stan Williamson

Those giving a gift of a Street Light

Pat Aaron, Doug and Tish Eason, Frances Summers, George and Denise Waters, Steve Yeich and Sherry Brandt

Those giving to the Street Light Fund

Nicole Bondurant, Joe and Jenifer Cawley, David and Beverly Laughead, David and Becky Luke, Stan Williamson

Those giving to Trees in the Park

Doug and Tish Eason, Eric Groves, Jim and JoAnn Holden, Suzanne Owens, Stan Slater, George and Denise Waters

Those Giving to the 36th Street Entrance

Nancy Cain, Greg and Polly Engelbert, Leonard and Lisa Slater

Those Giving to Desks for Students at Edgemere School

Todd and Braden Blasdel, Joe and Jenifer Cawley, David Dyer, Doug and Tish Eason, James and Sandra Gilliland, David and Beverly Laughead, Laine McCarthy, Brian and Charlotte Mitchell, Glen and Jeanie Robards, Paul and Linda Woody

Those giving to where it is most needed

Yervand Azadgoli, Todd and Braden Blasdel, Linda Clement, Don Copelin, Mike and Rosanne Dover, Wayne and Joyce Hinton, Terry and Jann Hook, Kathy Merx and Dennis Huggins, Zelta Jackson, Steve Kreidler, Ed and Janet Martin, Mark & Molly McBride, Martin Oliveri, Kelly Ridgway, Jim and Sherry Rowan, Clayton and Mar-nie Taylor

Please continue to give . . .

we are well on our way to landscaping the 36th Street Entrance, planting more trees and adding historic-style streetlighting to the park!

Make your tax deductible gift today to:

Edgemere Park Preservation, Inc., P.O. Box 54655, Oklahoma City, OK 73154-1655

Former PBS Host Opens Unique “Green” Old House Rehab School in Hannibal, Missouri

Bob Yapp, the host and producer of the former national PBS program “*About Your House with Bob Yapp*”, has opened a one of a kind school for old house and building owners in Hannibal, Missouri called *The Belvedere School for Hands-On Preservation*.

This unique school is dedicated to teaching old house and building owners as well as small contractors how to save money, be more energy efficient, self reliant and green by learning practical, hands-on preservation techniques. Each workshop is a fun and intense learn-by-doing event with students working side-by-side with Yapp.

The schools emphasis is on keeping original materials out of our bloated landfills while affordably making them useful for how we live today. The oil and pollution it takes to produce inferior new materials just doesn't make sense in this time of energy dependence and climate change.

Students enrolling in the various three and five day sessions learn the why and how of: making original windows more energy efficient than replacements, usually for less money; construction of wooden storm windows that make your old windows even more energy efficient; exterior paint jobs that last 12 to 15 years for less than vinyl siding; floor refinishing that doesn't grid all the character away; building missing historic porches; making missing architectural features like balustrades/porch railings, brackets and columns. New and different workshops are being considered daily.

The school is located on the Mississippi River in a town familiar to most: Hannibal, Missouri. Hannibal is the boyhood home of Samuel Clemens, aka Mark Twain. This might be interesting enough but Hannibal is fast becoming one of the most desirable small towns in the country.

The school headquarters is in the Lamb-Munger Mansion overlooking the Mississippi River just above the downtown historic district. The house, built circa 1859, is a 7,800 square foot brick Italianate located in the Central Park National Historic District. The property is the school laboratory and as such, a work in progress.

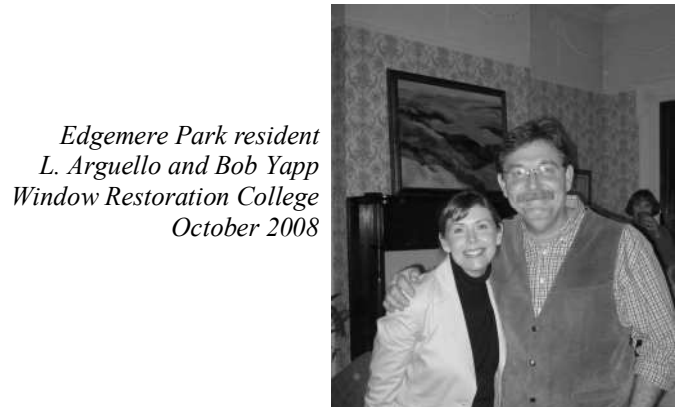
For more information contact: Bob Yapp (217) 474-6052 or yapperman@msn.com

Upcoming Sessions for 2009

February 14-16	Making Wooden Storm Windows Tuition = #350, 8 student max.
March 21-22	Window Restoration College Tuition = \$300, 12 student max.
March 27-29	Making Architectural Millwork-Ext. Tuition = \$350, 8-student max.
April 3-5	Making Architectural Millwork-Ext. Tuition = \$350, 8 student max.
April 24-26	Window Restoration College Tuition = \$300, 12 student max.
June 15-19	Replicating Historic Porches Tuition = \$450, 8 student max.
July 6-10	Replicating Historic Porches Tuition = \$450, 8 student max.
August 14-16	Exterior Wood Repair-Splice & Epoxy Tuition = \$450, 8 student max.



The Lamb-Munger House circa 1859



*Edgemere Park resident
L. Arguello and Bob Yapp
Window Restoration College
October 2008*

Edgemere Park Events

Monday, February 9

EPPI Board Meeting
Iron Starr Urban Barbecue
6:30 pm

Sunday, February 28

HP Committee Meeting
Sandra & Richard Harrison's
3600 North Harvey Pkwy
6:00 pm

Monday, March 9

EPPI Board Meeting
Iron Starr Urban Barbecue
6:30 pm

Sunday, March 28

HP Committee Meeting
Sandra & Richard Harrison's
3600 North Harvey Pkwy
6:00 pm

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