

The Wedge Word

August 1997

Newsletter of the Wedgewood Homeowners Association, Inc.

CITIZENS ON PATROL



COP 2 (the sequel)

At a recent meeting attended by President Bill Rogers, the City of Broken Arrow made available some additional information on the new "Citizens On Patrol" program (COP). It appears likely that Wedgewood will be 1 of the 5 homeowners associations to work with the Broken Arrow Police Department in this program.

ATT Cellular is providing each of the five areas with one cellular telephone and magnetic signs for the cars, along with 500 minutes per month of cellular phone time.

The program is a non-confrontational way for Wedgewood residents to watch for inappropriate activities in the area, and communicate them directly to the police. A training session is anticipated sometime in late August or early September for those desiring to participate.

The program will only work if we have enough people actively participating. Participation may be the most important test of getting and keeping the program in Wedgewood.

If you would like to participate in the program, call Demory Green, 258-4461

Published rules for individual participation in the COP program are:

Patrols may be organized by the neighborhood group on any day or time.

It is not necessary to notify the police dept. when patrolling.

Patrols will consist of a minimum of two volunteers. No one may patrol alone.

When a vehicle is used, the magnetic signs provided by AT&T must be affixed to the vehicle.

Patrols must carry the cellular telephone, and must abide by the agreement with AT&T.

When calling 911, individuals will identify themselves as Citizens On Patrol, and will answer all questions from the 911 operator.

Patrols must stay within the geographic boundaries of their neighborhood.

Participants are not police officers, and are not empowered by the B.A. Police Dept. above any other citizen.

Firearms, knives, clubs, or any other weapon may not be carried by any participant.

Alcoholic beverages, illegal substances or medications that can potentially affect mental alertness or the ability to operate a vehicle may not be consumed for a minimum of four (4) hours prior to, or during any patrol shift.

Participants will not approach suspects or suspect vehicles.

Citizens will not approach the scene of a crime or a police call unless directed to do so by a police officer. Citizens will not interfere with a police officer performing his duties.

Volunteers may observe activity occurring in any public place or any private area with the permission of the property owner or person in control of that property.

SAFETY IN WEDGEWOOD

Information was also made available to the public concerning Broken Arrow's "Traffic Calming Program." This program uses signs, painting, special Police activities, and physical barriers to slow traffic on residential streets.

The city's Traffic Calming Policy contains 6 possible methods.

The methods are:

1. Speed signs and street painting.
2. Zero tolerance speed enforcement.
3. Rumble / chatter strips.
4. Narrowing the street.
5. Traffic circles.
6. Speed humps.

Contact can be made through the Public Works Dept. at 259-8373, or the city's action Center at 258-3587.

IMPROVEMENTS

A gate is now in place to restrict after-hours vehicle traffic to the pool parking area. This has noticeably lessened its use by outside people as a gathering place for questionable activities.

Thanks also go to Lorna Hesskamp and her Modern Woodsmen Civic Youth Group who have painted area water hydrants & signs, and planted flowers in entrances. Tell her you appreciate it the next time you see her.

PARTY TIME

Plans for a "**Wedgewood Summer Festival**" are in preliminary stage. Saturday, September 13th is the target date. Fire up for food & fun at the pool parking lot and park. The association is planning to furnish hot-dogs, hamburgers,

and buns. We're asking each family to come and bring a covered dish. Let us hear from you. Call Gwen Mohler at 258-5479

DID YOU KNOW...?

Broken Arrow has an Internet location: WWW.City.BrokenArrow.OK.US

HOA MEETING

October sounds like a long way off, but start thinking about it now - That's when the annual Wedgewood Homeowners Association meeting will be. If you haven't joined and paid your \$25 dues, remember - only members vote at the annual meeting. Only with the participation of EVERYONE can we make Wedgewood the quality place we all want it to be.

IS THIS FOR YOU...?

During some recent research at the library, records showed that some residents don't appear to have their Homestead Property Tax Exemption in force. If you own the house you are living in, you are entitled to a Homestead Property Tax exemption that will lower your property taxes. If you don't remember ever filing for it, you might want to check it out. Why pay taxes you don't have to?

PHONE NUMBERS TO REMEMBER**1996-97 Board of Directors**

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