



# Gatewood News

Gatewood Historic District - founded in 1974  
PO Box 60774 - Oklahoma City - OK - 73146  
[www.gatewoodokc.com](http://www.gatewoodokc.com)  
Oklahoma State Historical District since 1979  
National Register for Historic Places since 2004



Greetings,

What a Spring season we've had/are having! Of course, by the time you read this it could be hot and dry but, as of the time of writing, we just had 5 more inches of rain! It seems we're making up for lost time.....

Much to report--The annual Gatewood Garage sale was a success...again! My apologies for submitting incorrect dates...I know that confused people. The days of the week were correct but the actual dates were not. Most people figured that out and called/emailed me but I'm sure there were some who "passed" this year due to my mistake and I'm so sorry about that! I promise to be more diligent about double checking in the future. However, those who did participate (26) did very well--the weather was a little dicey but held together.

There are more exciting things happening in the Plaza District! Read the Plaza District newsletter inserted to catch up on all the latest and, if you haven't been down there in a while, you really need to check it out. We have a new coffee shop--Cafe Java--just west of Lyric's offices--they have great food!

**Also, the date for the Plaza District Fall Festival has been set for Saturday, October 13th from Noon until 7PM.** This will be our biggest and best Festival ever! Gatewood is responsible for staffing the children's area so please give me a call (525-9441) if you're willing to work a

shift running a children's game.

The 2007 Gatewood Home and Garden Tour (to be held in late October) is in the planning stages--Trish Collins and Christie Reed have graciously consented to Co-Chair the event this year! Both have served on the committee AND had their homes on tour in the past so they will do a great job, I'm sure! Thanks Trish and Christie for taking on this responsibility!



National Nightout (August 7th) is coming up and we have a great event planned for this year. Read more about that elsewhere in the newsletter.

Since we have not yet been successful in getting enough members pledged to restart the paid security patrol--we are pursuing other options. The Gatewood board listened to a presentation from a newly formed security patrol company at the June meeting to see if they could provide the service we're needing at a more affordable rate. More about that in the next newsletter.

If you are wondering about the check you already sent in...we still have those. Please call me to let me know whether to send it back or just tear it up. We will keep the pledge sheets and contact people when we get to the point of being able to move forward. If you have not already done so, please send in a signed pledge form.

Congratulations to the May and June Gatewood Yard of the Month winners!

That's it for me,

Janet Seefeldt, President  
Gatewood Historic District

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### Upcoming board meetings

2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.  
August 14th, September 11th, 2006  
Meerscheart House, 3rd floor  
on the grounds of Rosary School,  
1901 NW 18th

**Everyone is welcome!**

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CHECK IT OUT.....

a click of the mouse

takes you to

[www.gatewoodokc.com](http://www.gatewoodokc.com)

.....N.o.w....i.n....c.o.l.o.r....!!!.....



## National Night Out in Gatewood! Tuesday, August 7th, 8 p.m.

National Night Out (NNO) is scheduled for Tuesday, August 7th. This important event is held the first Tuesday in August of each year as a crime prevention/deterrent measure and is very successful! NNO 2006 involved 34 million people in 10,000 communities throughout the US and Canada as well as US Military bases worldwide.

This event not only heightens awareness of crime prevention in a fun and safe way for neighborhoods; it also generates support for local anti-crime programs. We need to do our part in sending the message to criminals that we are serious about keeping Gatewood safe!

You might remember that we held our first Flashlight Walk in 2005 as our National Night Out event in Gatewood

and it was very successful. We attempted another walk last year but it was very hot (over 100) even though we didn't start until 7 p.m.. Because it's such an easy event and gives people the opportunity to get a little exercise and also see the neighborhood, we are holding another walk this year but we're going to do something a little different. One of our board members, Anna-Faye Rose, came up with a wonderful idea...a walk between our two neighborhood "parks", so we're calling it "Triangle to Trolley!"

This year's walk will start at 8 p.m. (hopefully it'll be a little cooler this year) at the Triangle Park median at Indiana and NW 21st. We will walk a course to the east side of Gatewood to our Interurban Park project at NW 17th and Classen (where the trolley car

sculpture sits). Maps will be provided at the beginning point. There will be a refreshment stop along the way. We anticipate finishing up between 9:30 and 10 p.m. and then we'll walk next door to Braum's (NW 17th and Classen) for ice cream cones!

As in years past, we ask that children under 12 be accompanied by an adult and **EVERYONE MUST CARRY A FLASHLIGHT**. Small children need to wear reflective/light colored clothing for safety. Pets are welcome but make sure they are on a leash and people/pet friendly (bring bags for pet waste). Bikes, wagons, skates and skateboards are also welcome--nothing motorized please. If you cannot walk but want to support those that do, please turn your porch lights on! Light is a tremendous deterrent to crime and it also makes a neighborhood more appealing.

We hope to have a great turnout this year--please come and join us as we walk the walk and let criminals know Gatewood is OUR neighborhood!

### \*\*\* Yard of the Month \*\*\*

- May:** Victor and Jackie Karban, 1912 NW17th  
Philip and Cheryl Davis, 1201 NW 19th  
Andrew & Ellen Spiropoulos, 1205 NW 19th  
Dan and Maria Devanney, 2005 NW 22nd
- June:** George & Lisa McDonald, 1401 NW 19  
A.J. & Lisa Gifford-Johnson,  
2106 N. Gatewood  
Two more to be announced later

## Got a Gripe?

There are several ways to reach Oklahoma City's Action Center and voice your complaints regarding city violations.

**Telephone 297-2535** or go to **www.okc.gov** and click on "Community & Citizen Services", from where you can link to "Action Center".

When you make your complaint by phone always remember to leave your name and address and ASK for the name of the person to whom you speak. Also, ask for a written response to your complaint and keep track of the day and time you call. If you use the internet or email for your complaint then print a copy of your correspondence and follow up with a phone call if you do not get a response within 10 days.

Examples of common violations and/or sources of neighborhood complaints are: parking on an unpaved surface, lawns that are in excess of 8 inches high, trash and/or trash receptacles left on the curb longer than 24 hours prior or after trash pickup, loud noises after 11 p.m., and animal issues (i.e. barking dogs).





## SPOTLIGHT ON THE COMMUNITY

### Gang Prevention through Targeted Outreach with the Boys & Girls Club

The programs that are currently offered for ages 6-18 years old are as follows:

Power Hour--Homework Enhancement

Street Smarts--Anti-gang curriculum (every Wed 4:30-5:00)

Computer Lab--Basic skills (every day)

Fitness/Exercise Program (every day)

Kids Cafe--Youth involvement (every day; provides snacks to our youth)

Reading Club--Enhancement skills on reading (Tues through Thurs 5-6:30)

Art Council--Story telling/Create your own cartoon (Wed & Fri 5-7)

Smart Girls--Self-Esteem enhancement with our girls (Fri 5:30-6:30)

Gang Prevention--Keeping youth from joining gangs

Sports activities consisting of:

\* Jr. NBA/Jr. WNBA Basketball Leagues

\* Soccer Organization--Seasonal Little League Football

(ages 5 to 7)

\* Dodgeball--All ages

\* Hockey--All ages

\* Games tables

\* Pool

\* Fuss Ball

\* Ping Pong

Our hours of operation are 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m when youth are on breaks from school. Regular hours are 2:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on school days.

Contact info: Chemere Taylor (Coordinator) or Milen Darby (Unit Director) at 524-0843 during office hours  
1300 N. McKinley Ave, Oklahoma City, OK 73106

### Oklahoma City University Poll Finds Optimism Among Middle Americans

*-- Consumers cut entertainment expenses to counter high gas prices --*

Consumers in 16 central states are eating out less often and cutting other expenses to compensate for high gasoline prices according to a recent study conducted by Oklahoma City University's Meinders School of Business.

Business Dean Vince Orza said the survey used the same index calculating formulas as the widely used University of

Michigan Consumer Sentiment Survey to allow for comparisons between nationwide results and those from the central United States.

Results from OCU's inaugural Consumer Confidence Poll, which represents the attitudes of about 50 million consumers, mirrored the numbers released June 1 by the University of Michigan.

"The comparison reveals that the index of Consumer Sentiment is slightly lower among middle Americans than among all Americans, but that middle Americans are more optimistic about the future," Orza said. The Consumer Sentiment Index reached 83.3 percent in the central U.S. while the nationwide index reached 88.3 percent. Central U.S. consumers' expectations index measured 80.5 percent while the nationwide results added up to 77.6 percent.

"As the Meinders study matures, we will be able to track the movement on these indices over time," Orza said.

The study, conducted from May 22 to 24, is planned quarterly.

According to the poll, 60 percent of central U.S. consumers are eating out less due to high gas prices, 50 percent are eating at less expensive restaurants, 49 percent have reduced entertainment expenses such as movie and concert tickets and the same amount have put off smaller purchases, 33 percent are contributing less to charities and 19 percent are giving less at church.

Other survey findings include:

- 37 percent of central U.S. consumers think their family is doing better today financially than last year while 31 percent think they are doing worse;
- 50 percent believe now is a good time to purchase major household items while 30 percent think this is a bad time to do so;
- Younger consumers are much more likely to think they are better off this year than last. 53 percent of those between the ages of 18 and 45 say they are in better condition. Among older consumers, the number dips to 29 percent and drops farther to 26 percent among senior citizens.
- Blacks are the most likely to be optimistic about next year's fortunes with 45 percent saying the coming year will be better for their family. Among Hispanics, the results drop to 35 percent and among whites the number drops to 29 percent.
- The greatest difference in attitudes toward the next five years is between genders. 50 percent of men think the next five years will bring mostly good times while 36 percent of women concur. Among consumers with children in the home, 63 percent of men are optimistic while 36 percent of women are.

Leslie Berger, Communications and Marketing,  
lberger@okcu.edu



Nothing says summertime more than home-grown tomatoes. If you are like my lucky husband, your tomato vines are thick with green, bulbous fruit promising a nice first crop. Even if you don't have tomatoes in your backyard, grab a pound or two the next time you are at the supermarket and make this delicious summer meal:

#### Cappelini Pomodoro

3 cloves of garlic, minced  
 2 lbs. plum tomatoes (seeded & diced)  
 1 ounce fresh basil leaves  
 1/3 cup extra virgin olive oil  
 3 oz. parmesan cheese  
 12 oz. dry spaghetti  
 1/4 teaspoon pepper

Heat olive oil over medium heat. Add garlic and cook until it is tender (about 30 seconds). Add tomatoes and pepper. Cook for 3-4 minutes. Remove from heat. Transfer hot, cooked pasta into large bowl. Toss pasta gently with tomato mixture. Salt to taste. Add basil and cheese. Serve.

Buon appetito! JoDee



## Landscape Maintenance Schedule for Summer

### July:

- Divide and replant crowded hybrid iris (bearded iris) after flowering until August.
- Mowing heights for cool-season turf grasses should be 3 inches during hot, dry summer months. Gradually raise mowing height of Bermuda grass lawns from 1 ½ to 2 inches.
- Vegetative establishment of warm-season grasses should be completed by the end of July to ensure the least risk of winter kill.
- Brown patch disease of cool-season grasses can be a problem.
- Meet water requirements of turf.
- Fertilization of warm-season grasses can continue if water is present for growth.
- The hotter and drier it gets, the larger the spider mite populations become! Spraying plant foliage will provide partial relief of this pest.

### August:

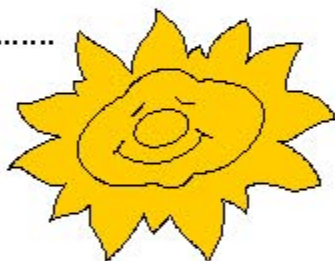
- Water all plantings thoroughly unless rainfall has been adequate.
- The fall vegetable garden is planted now.
- Divide and replant spring blooming perennials.
- Irrigated warm-season lawns may be fertilized again.
- Hedges and shrubs can be pruned, if necessary, about mid-August.
- Young trees and shrubs may be fertilized again.
- Discontinue dead-heading roses by mid-August to help initiate winter hardiness.
- Brown patch disease of cool-season grasses can be a problem (still)
- Meet water requirements of turf.
- For areas being converted to tall fescue this fall, begin spraying Bermuda grass with glyphosate products in early August.
- White grub damage can become visible this month. Apply appropriate soil insecticide if white grubs are a problem. Water product into soil.
- Watch for 2nd generation of fall webworm in late August/early September.
- Pre-emergent herbicides for winter-annual weed control in warm-season grasses can be applied in late August. Water in the product after application.

**Need to lower your blood pressure,  
avoid blood clots and the possibility  
of stroke?**

Try watermelon juice, says Dr. Penelope Perkins-Veazie, a research scientist with USDA, Agricultural Research Service, located at the South Central Agricultural Research Center, Lane, Oklahoma. She is also an adjunct professor at Oklahoma State University.

Dr. Perkins-Veazie does post-harvest storage and phytonutrient research on small fruits and vegetables, primarily in blackberries, blueberries, and watermelon, but is familiar with the post-harvest life of fruits and vegetables from A to Z (apples to zucchini). Over the last 8 years, Dr. Perkins-Veazie has worked on the phytonutrients in watermelon, including lycopene (red pigment) and amino acids such as citrulline and arginine, all of which may play a role in cardiovascular protection.

**Summer time.....**



**Join the Gatewood Neighborhood  
Association**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mail \$20 in annual membership dues with this form to: Gatewood Historic District, Inc.,  
P.O. Box 60774, Oklahoma City, OK 73146

**Wesley United Methodist  
Church**

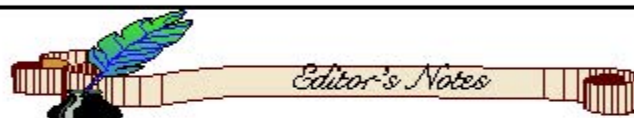
NW25th & Classen

Meet the new lady of the House  
– God's House

**Rev. Diana Cox Crawford**

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.,

Worship 10:30 a.m.



Dear Neighbors,

I admit that I have secretly thought that we have had enough rain for now, mainly out of compassion for my rose bushes. Although they still produce blossoms, if only half their usual size, they have pretty much lost all foliage.

What a pity!

Since there is very little I can do about that, I like to consider the quote of a wise man who said that in all things we think of as 'negative' there is ultimately a 'positive' value attached. For me, the most positive in all this rain is the lushness of the land. I have never seen Oklahoma this green in my 9 years here! The other day we visited my in-laws in Lawton and took a drive through the Wildlife Refuge near Medicine Park. We went up Mount Scott and marveled at the abundance of wildflowers and the verdant landscape below; to me it seemed as if the rolling, treeless hills were covered in green velvet. Oh, and the lakes and the water runs.... the usually slow creek at Medicine Bluff, north of Fort Sill, exhibited a raging waterfall.

Another 'positive' is definitely the low water bill at this time of the year-- who can argue that?

I hope you can find lots of positives of your own! Enjoy the summer and check out our new Food Follies column.

Irma Braun-Hampton, Editor

Tel: 557-1367 or [gatewoodeditor@yahoo.com](mailto:gatewoodeditor@yahoo.com)



# SECURITY PATROL FOR GATEWOOD

There has been much interest, and need, over the past few years to reinstate the security patrol. As many of you might recall, Gatewood did have paid security patrolling our neighborhood until just a few years ago. This security patrol was hired as a result of higher than desirable crime levels and was very effective by **immediately reducing our crime stats by 50% and then keeping them at an all-time low level. Crime in Gatewood was significantly lower than crime in the surrounding areas for the entire length of paid security service.**

Unfortunately, several people stopped paying security patrol dues because it was so effective that crime dropped to nearly nothing. This had the effect of allowing crime to, once again, become a serious concern for our neighborhood. While many of us have home security systems, and those are great for deterring certain types of crime, they do not have a significant impact on preventing yard theft, garage theft, petty vandalism or auto break-ins. The security patrol does all that and more. Some of the advantages of being a paid security patrol subscriber are:

- \* Home/property inspections for people out-of-town including newspaper and mail pickup
- \* Perimeter inspections and escorted entry into the home or onto the property if something seems “not quite right”
- \* Placing the security patrol company as first response on your home security system call list ensures that the neighborhood patrol (who is usually close by anyway) will respond to an alarm—often ahead of the OKC PD.
- \* Paid subscribers can call ANYTIME for assistance even during neighborhood patrol “off” hours
- \* Security officers patrol in well-marked vehicles and spot check unusual “foot traffic.” This has the effect of reducing “foot traffic” drastically.

## All security officers are CLEET certified

Although our OKC Police Department does the best that it can, they simply cannot provide the proactive patrol effort that they once did. They respond only to “incidents” whereas the paid security patrol takes a proactive approach. Their goal is to avert crime. **Another important thing to consider is that security officers cannot go onto property not listed on the paid subscriber’s list.**

Many of you are aware of the increase in crime experienced all over this neighborhood in the past 4-5 years. This is a direct result of allowing the security patrol to lapse. For that reason, we are asking for a pledge of commitment in order to reinstate the patrol. If you respond with a pledge of commitment, someone will contact you within the next few weeks and ask for the first quarter payment of \$75 (3 months at \$25/month.) If, after exhaustive efforts, we do not hit our minimum target of needed response to insure the security patrol’s success—we will return your check undeposited. **If you have any questions about the security patrol please call Janet Seefeldt at 525-9441.**

**Tear off, fill out, and return this pledge of support to Gatewood Historic District, PO Box 60774, OKC, OK73146 (Make checks payable to Gatewood)**

**NOTE: Be sure to include the Gatewood address this pledge/payment applies to.**

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Yes, I support the reinstatement of the Gatewood Area Patrol (GAP). I understand that by indicating my support through this pledge, I will be asked sometime in the next few weeks to pay \$75 towards the first quarter (\$25/month) of paid security patrol. **If the target number of subscribers is not met my check will be returned to me undeposited.** These funds will only be applied to the actual patrol hours and towards the minimal mailing/invoicing expenses associated with billing.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_