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# Bryker Woods

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Newsletter of the BrykerWoods Neighborhood Association

Fall 2003 Vol. 22

## Historic District Amendment

The National Park Service approved the nomination of the **Old West Austin Historic District (OWHAD)** on September 13, 2003! Bryker Woods homes along the MoPac, our most vulnerable neighbors, were not included in the original district. On September 23, 2003 the Texas Historic Commission approved the nomination of these homes as an amendment to the OWAHD. Currently the nomination is being prepared for submission to the National Park Service in Washington, D.C. for review and, hopefully, final approval. See <http://www.OWAHD.org> for more information.

## MONAC (Update on MoPAC)

MONAC (The MoPac Neighborhood Associations Coalition of 12 Neighborhood Associations which border MoPac) continues to be active in many areas which affect our neighborhood, such as noise from MoPac and cut-through traffic. The group continues to monitor closely all activity related to MoPac. Recently MONAC joined in the talks with the East-West Transportation Study, believing that we must be included in this in order to assure that our neighborhoods' best interest are represented. At its last meeting, the members elected two of Bryker Woods NA Board of Directors: Joyce Basciano was elected as one of the two Vice Presidents and Bill Woods was elected to continue as a Vice President. Frances Allen of Allendale NA serves as President. More info on MoPAC may be found at <http://www.brykerwoods.org>!

## Neighborhood Water Projects

The water line replacement project in the Oakmont Heights neighborhood to our north is almost complete. There are lateral water lines to two homes in the northwestern corner of Bryker Woods which still need to be replaced. Also, the water line replacement along 35th St. needs to be completed before the water system pressure can be tested. The hydrants and water valves within Bryker Woods have been replaced. Once the project is completed, possibly by January 2004, water pressure in northern Bryker Woods will be much improved.

## Annual Meeting of the BrykerWoods Neighborhood Association

**Saturday December 13th**

**9:30 a.m.**

**Bryker Woods Elementary**

### **Featured presentations:**

*"The City of Austin's Official Neighborhood Planning Process; what it can and cannot do for Bryker Woods"*

*"Austin Water Utility and Shoal Creek Restoration Projects"*

Refreshments will be provided! Come visit with our APD West Central District Representative SPO John Evers. Share your traffic and other concerns with John over refreshments. Visit [BrykerWoods.org](http://BrykerWoods.org) for more details.

## New District Representative in Austin Police Department's Central West Command

SPO John Evers, #2641, is now our District Representative for the Austin Police Department's Central West Command. You may reach John by phone 974-5801, or by email [john.evers@ci.austin.tx](mailto:john.evers@ci.austin.tx) Come share your traffic, graffiti and other concerns with SPO Evers at our annual meeting December 13th.

## Assist the Bryker Woods Elementary School with your purchases !

Designate your Randall's Remarkable Card to benefit Bryker Woods Elementary. You can also help by 1) collecting boxtop logos (e.g. General Mills products have Boxtops for Education Coupons) and turning them in at the school office. The school can earn up to \$20,000 a year with coupons! 2) Recycle used printer cartridges--there is a collection box in the lobby. 3) Link your Target Visa Card, and Bryker Woods Elementary will get a percentage of your purchases.

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## **President's "State of the Neighborhood" Message**

At last year's annual meeting we did a little "envisioning" of Bryker Woods, 2005 and beyond. At that meeting we also heard from Council Member Will Wynn (now Mayor Wynn) about his visions for Central Austin and the Central Texas Region. Just last month, some residents of Central Texas have voted for their vision of the region in the likely event another 1.5 million people will need to be accommodated. We will all know the outcome of that vote sometime this spring.

In the meantime the City of Austin continues with its ambitious Neighborhood Planning Program. Although the Windsor Road Neighborhood Planning Area Project, which includes Bryker Woods, Pemberton Heights, Old Enfield and the medical/commercial complex to our northeast, is not scheduled to begin before 2007, it is a good idea to get a head start. To that end, we have invited Mark Walters, Senior Planner, of the Neighborhood Planning and Zoning Dept. to explain the official City neighborhood planning process, and what it can and cannot accomplish for our neighborhood. The Old West Austin Historic District project taught us much about the history of Bryker Woods and our neighbors to the south. Several of you have told us what you value most about Bryker Woods. This was a marked increase in variance and zoning requests and some interesting construction projects in the neighborhood. Come to the annual meeting Saturday, December 13th, to find out what you can do to maintain the character of Bryker Woods against inappropriate development.

By next summer the Austin Clean Water Program begin. The large sanitary sewer line lying exposed in Shoal Creek will be replaced by another line, 30 feet below the surface. The lateral sewer lines along Bryker Woods eastern perimeter will also be replaced. There will be a presentation on this project at our annual meeting.

We have updated BWNA's bylaws to reflect changes brought about by internet technology. They are posted on our website <http://www.brykerwoods.org> for review. This revision will require the approval of the membership at the annual meeting. Hope to see you all there!

*More information regarding the OWAHD may be found at the [www.owahd.org](http://www.owahd.org) website!*

## **BWNA By-Laws Revisions**

BWNA's bylaws have been revised and are posted on the website <http://www.brykerwoods.org> for review. This revision will require the approval of the membership at the annual meeting. Questions about the By-Laws should be directed to Bill Woods at 454-9180. If you require a hard copy please contact Margaret Tenney at 236-8356.

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A special thanks Eldarose Cardenas, Joyce Basciano, Bill Woods, Margaret Tenny and Kathy Genet for their contributions to this edition of the BrykerWoods Herald Newsletter.

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## **BWNA Board Membership**

President: Joyce Basciano (454-0207)  
Vice President: Edward Tasch (478-1337)  
Secretary: (position currently vacant)  
Treasurer: David Boenisch (453-0304)

### **Members at Large**

Jerry Balaka (453-1072)  
Greg Chico (482-8755)  
Michael Curry (453-7512)  
Eldarose Cardenas (477-2178)  
Joan Hyde (708-8405)  
Barbara Kelly (380-9922)  
Scott Page (478-7870)  
Irene Pickhardt (451-6820)  
Randy Schrecengost (472-7952)  
Tom Shefelman (477-9176)  
Margaret Tenney (236-8356)  
Bill Woods (454-9180)  
Donald Zappone (477-4395)

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The The BrykerWoods Neighborhood Association (BWNA) is 20 years old and served as an advocate for maintaining the quality of life within the BrykerWoods neighborhood.

**What the BWNA does:** The BWNA follows city issues affecting the neighborhood and transmits information to residents (e.g. MoPac, commercial development, zoning, transportation, utilities ect.) . Some other activities include:

- Represents the neighborhood in city policy decisions
- Publishes and distributes biannual newsletters
- Conducts at least one annual meeting
- Helps maintain greenspaces within the neighborhood
- Hosts annual 4th of July Parade
- Maintains a website for the neighborhood

### **Historic and recent calls to action:**

- ✓ Limited encroaching commercial development in sections of the neighborhood bordering the 35th street corridor
- ✓ Fought to keep a 6th grade class at BrykerWoods Elementary
- ✓ Had installed neighborhood traffic calming devices on Jefferson to help reduce cut-through traffic speed
- ✓ Defend the neighborhood from the inappropriate expansion of MoPAC and the 35th street corridor
- ✓ Contributed and help achieve historic status for the neighborhood
- ✓ Created a city wide respected website for the neighborhood rich in content
- ✓ Cleaned and help maintain greenspaces within the neighborhood

### **Why the BWNA needs annual dues from members:**

- production and distribution of biannual newsletters
- webserver fees and diskspace
- meeting refreshments

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BRYKER WOODS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION  
2003 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Yes! I want to join the BWNA       I want to renew my BWNA membership

I have enclosed my 2003 annual dues for:

\$10 regular household membership       \$5 retiree household membership

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate which topic or topics are of interest to you:

Communications/Newsletter     Trees     Neighborhood social gatherings

Traffic/Safety     Neighborhood parks & greenspaces     Zoning Issues

Neighborhood Liason     Transportation & Sidewalks     Neighborhood Plan

Mail this form along with  
a check to the following  
address:

**Bryker Woods Neighborhood Association (BWNA)**  
c/o David Boenisch  
1804 W. 34th Street  
Austin, Texas 78703

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Interested in advertising in the Newsletter?

Contact Joyce Basciano (454-0207) for pricing and ad space availability. The next BrykerWoods Newsletter is scheduled for delivery in Spring 2004!

**BrykerWoods.org Website**

Did you know that BrykerWoods has its very own website? At the website learn of the latest news and neighborhood issues. More detailed information on MoPac, neighborhood "cut through" traffic and the Old West Austin Historic District may be found at the website. Create a browser bookmark today at the website of <http://www.brykerwoods.org> for the latest neighborhood news and listings of relevant neighborhood and city hyperlinks!

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