

# Across the Brook

Late Spring/Early Summer, 2005

## Summer's Here!

What a mild spring we had! No major thunderstorms, less than normal rain, and temperatures ranging from the 40s to the 90s! Not to mention the first May on record with no tornados! It's been quite unusual. While we won't complain about missing severe weather, this fluctuation has presented some problems with weeds and bugs. Be on the lookout for spiders and ants invading your home. These critters usually only come inside in the fall, but the mild and (mostly) dry spring has forced them inside early.

And, of course, the weeds just LOVE these conditions. It's too late to apply preemergents, but spot treatments and broadleaf weed killers can still be applied.

Those of you lucky enough to be near creeks (and that's a lot of our neighbors!) be careful of runoff. Fertilizers can cause algae blooms, and herbicides can harm frogs and turtles, which help with mosquitoes!

Don't forget about the weeds growing up in the cracks in sidewalks, drives, and curbs in your front yard. They detract from all the other hard work you've done to have that beautiful, lush lawn!

And finally, check out the **Yards of the Week**, and congratulate your neighbors on a job well done!



## Annual Meeting Date Has Been Set

Put the annual meeting of the Brookhaven North Homeowners Association on your calendar for Tuesday evening, July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2005 at 7:00 pm. Please make a note of the **NEW LOCATION**: The MAC at Mitch Park! We're excited about this new venue available to us, and if you've never been, now's your chance!

To be discussed are election of 2005-2006 Officers, annual Treasurer's Report, the past year's accomplishments, and voting on future projects.

As you can see, this is an important meeting, so please plan to attend. **We need your input and participation!**



### 2004-2005 Officers

#### President

Mark Krienke  
2416 Brookhaven Dr.  
330-2094

#### Vice President

Open

#### Treasurer

Jim Slaughter  
2512 Brookside Ave  
340-7573

#### Secretary

Mary Scott  
2121 Brookview Lane  
359-0203

#### Member at Large

Nancy French  
2604 Brookside Ave  
348-4159

### Committee Chairs

#### Beautification

Mary Scott  
359-0203

#### Welcoming

Michelle Hale  
340-2163

#### Neighborhood Events

Dana Holland  
844-5233

#### Newsletter/Directory

Open



## Welcome New Neighbors!!

Brookhaven North welcomes our new neighbors to this terrific neighborhood:

- Scott Phillips
- David & Debra Deckard
- Kathy Bayat
- Brent & Lara Ragsdale

Alas, we may have missed some of you, but we hope you feel welcome and are enjoying your new home!

Which reminds us, it's about time to update our records. On the last page is a form for you to provide us with your current information. Please take a minute to fill it out and send or deliver it to:

Jim Slaughter, Treasurer  
2512 Brookside Ave.  
Edmond, OK 73034



## Ten Tips for Summer Travel

(Courtesy of [SmarterTravel.com](http://SmarterTravel.com))

**Expect** filled planes and "no vacancy" signs this summer as predictions point to a busy travel season. Such conditions make it difficult for even the savviest of travelers to find savings on airfare and accommodations. We've compiled a list of the best tried-and-true tips, and consulted travel experts to find you new strategies for this summer.

### Four tried-and-true tips

- **Look before you buy:** Our perennial advice, whether you're booking airfare, accommodations, or car rentals, is to shop around. The airlines and the major online travel agencies have launched price guarantees and new promotions to encourage travelers to book *without* comparing prices the opposite of what you *should* do. Use a price-compare website like [BookingBuddy.com](http://BookingBuddy.com), a sister site to [SmarterTravel.com](http://SmarterTravel.com), to compare prices on airfare, hotels, vacations, or cars.
- **Don't procrastinate:** If you have your heart set on a specific destination during a specific week or two, it's important to book early. All spring, we've recommended booking at least three weeks in advance, and as summer approaches, we still offer the same advice. You can sometimes get a great last-minute airfare or vacation package, but if you've made up your mind about when and where to go, book ahead or risk disappointment.
- **Stay flexible:** That being said, if you stay flexible with dates and even destinations, you can often save more. Sometimes flying on a Wednesday instead of a Friday will save you hundreds of dollars. Or, if you know you want to go to the Caribbean, you might be able to save by heading to Jamaica instead of Anguilla. Remember to consider all of your options dates, timing of your flight, different hotel properties before you book.
- **Avoid holidays:** The summer holidays Memorial Day, the Fourth of July, and Labor Day are very popular times to travel. So, if you're looking for savings this summer, avoid the holidays. Traveling a week before or after can be a money-saving strategy. If you must travel around the holidays, read our tips for saving on accommodations over holiday weekends.

### Six strategies from the experts

- **Stay stateside:** [Hotwire.com](http://Hotwire.com)'s consumer travel expert Amy Bohutinsky suggests staying domestic this summer. She notes, "Bottom line if price is your priority, this is not the year to head to Europe, where the dollar will get you much less than it used to." Bohutinsky recommends visiting cities such as Miami and Las Vegas, both of which were recently recommended by [SmarterTravel.com](http://SmarterTravel.com) editors, and notes that Canada can also be a good bargain.
- **Do your homework:** [USAToday.com](http://USAToday.com) columnist Ben Mutzabaugh recommends that travelers check prices often, as much as once a day before booking. Checking often will give you a good average price to look for, and if the price drops due to a fare sale or even a mistake by the airline, you'll know to grab it right away. However, Mutzabaugh also cautions against working too hard to save a small amount. He says "don't hold out if you're only hoping to save another \$25 or so. True, the fare could drop by that amount...or it could go up by \$100 or more if the cheapest fares sell out." Be smart by doing prep work before booking, work before booking, but don't gamble a low fare away.

Continued back page (Travel Tips)

"...popular resort and beach destinations are expecting a banner year."



# EDMOND'S LIBERTYFEST A BLAST!!

Edmond has become nationally famous for its "small town, old-fashioned" LibertyFest. This event was rated by CNN and USAToday as one of the top ten places to be in America on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July!

Seven events are planned for the weeklong celebration. Saturday, June 25, starts off the festival with the car show on the UCO campus. All types of cars will be exhibited, from Model Ts to Corvettes. If you are a car buff, you can't miss this great show!

Thursday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, the UCO Summer Band will perform a patriotic music concert at Mitchell Hall Theater on the UCO campus. This rousing

rendition of American standards will fill you with patriotic pride!

If kite-flying is more your style, there's a special event just for you! Saturday and Sunday, July 2 & 3, gather your best kite and flying skills (or just a great picnic basket) and head to Mitch Park to watch or fly with some of the best kites in the country! There's even a Night Flight Saturday evening!

Those same evenings, there's a rodeo for all you bronco-busters! An assortment of cowboy skills will be demonstrated, including bareback, barrel racing, and roping.

Also on Sunday, July 3, there's the Taste of Edmond for all you

gastrophiles. Featuring 50 of Edmond's finest restaurants, there will be something for everyone in the family to munch on!

For the grand finale, plan to attend the Parkfest at the UCO campus and enjoy a fun filled day at the festival which will feature food, kiddy activities, and best of all, the biggest fireworks show in the Metro!

There you have it, a week of fun all planned out for you this Independence Day Holiday! Some of these activities have a small charge, but for more details, please go to [www.libertyfest.com](http://www.libertyfest.com)!



## Other Edmond Events to Catch

The **Summer Concert** series has already started, but it's not too late to catch some great music on delightful summer evenings! Thursdays in Hafer Park at 7:15, enjoy every style from classical to barbershop, and everything in between! Concerts are scheduled for every Thursday through August 11. And they are FREE! More information and more activities can be found on the City of Edmond's website, [www.ci.edmond.ok.us](http://www.ci.edmond.ok.us).

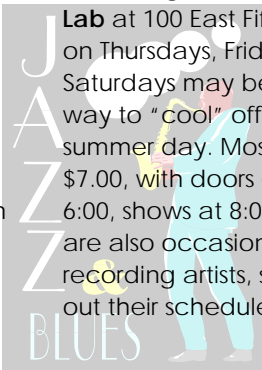
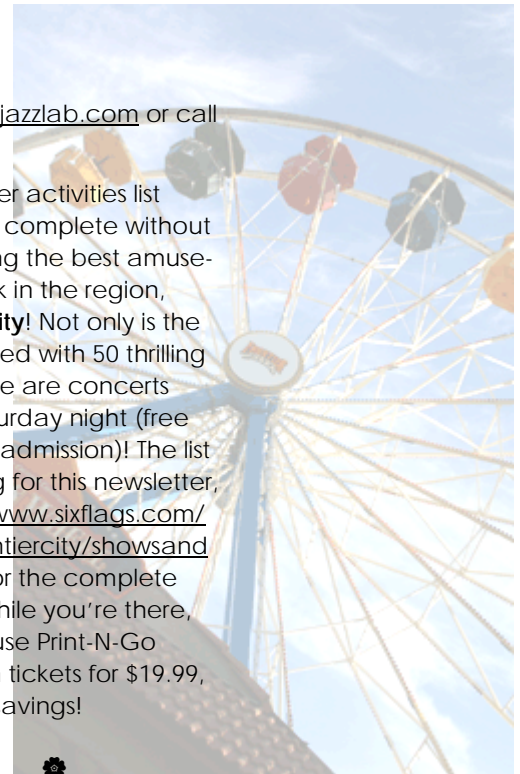
**Oklahoma Shakespeare in the Park's** season began June 16 with the production of *The Merry Wives of Windsor* (through July 10). Later this summer, *Love's*

*Labour's Lost* and *Romeo and Juliet* will also be performed. Due to a fire, the shows have been relocated to UCO's Plunkett Park (formerly Want-land Park off of University). More information can be obtained by calling 340-1222, or at [www.theshop.net/okshkspr](http://www.theshop.net/okshkspr).

Don't forget the **UCO Jazz Lab** at 100 East Fifth! Live jazz on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays may be just the way to "cool" off after a hot summer day. Most shows are \$7.00, with doors opening at 6:00, shows at 8:00. There are also occasional national recording artists, so check out their schedule at

[www.ucojazzlab.com](http://www.ucojazzlab.com) or call 359-7989.

No summer activities list would be complete without mentioning the best amusement park in the region, **Frontier City!** Not only is the park loaded with 50 thrilling rides, there are concerts every Saturday night (free with park admission)! The list is too long for this newsletter, so go to [www.sixflags.com/parks/frontiercity/showsandevents/](http://www.sixflags.com/parks/frontiercity/showsandevents/) for the complete scoop! While you're there, you can use Print-N-Go admission tickets for \$19.99, an \$8.00 savings!





  
**Brookhaven North HOA  
Information Update**

Resident's Name(s):

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Resident's Address:

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Edmond, OK 73034-\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone:

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Fax:

Cell or other phone:

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Comments/Ideas:

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Forward/Deliver to:  
Jim Slaughter, Treasurer  
2512 Brookside Ave.  
Edmond, OK 73034

**Summer Travel Tips** (continued from page 2)

- **Bundle up:** SmarterTravel.com columnist Ed Perkins recommends that even travelers who usually book air and hotel separately should consider booking a package this year because popular travel providers and last-minute specialists can undercut the best individual deals available. Virtually every airline and online travel agency offers some form of vacation package to suit any traveler's needs. For example, price-compare website [SideStep.com](http://SideStep.com) recently added vacations to its airfare searches. [Expedia.com](http://Expedia.com) spokeswoman Katie Deines also encourages booking a package, and notes that consumers usually get a lowered combined price on packages when compared to booking a la carte.
- **Think off-season:** At [SmarterTravel.com](http://SmarterTravel.com), we have long been believers of traveling to off-peak destinations, i.e., Paris in the winter and Jamaica in the summer. Columnist Eileen Ogintz agrees, particularly for this summer. Ogintz suggests visiting the Caribbean or ski resorts in Colorado or Utah this summer. Travelers can often find good deals on air and accommodations during the off-peak season, and as another benefit, can often afford more luxury than they could otherwise during the busy season.
- **Include the food:** Instead of booking a few nights in a hotel that may or may not include continental breakfast, Deines recommends that travelers consider booking all-inclusive vacations. A recent Expedia survey found that 57 percent of travelers blow their vacation budgets on food and drinks, so booking an all-inclusive package that includes meals can be a budget-saver. Ogintz notes that all-inclusives like Club Med or even cruises also include morning-till-night activities wrapped into one price with food and lodging, making them even better deals. If you're not a resort kind of traveler, Ogintz suggests looking for accommodations with a kitchen. Ogintz recommends sites like [HomewoodSuites.com](http://HomewoodSuites.com) and [ResortQuest.com](http://ResortQuest.com) that can help you find a condo or apartment-style hotel for your vacation. Or, try booking a vacation rental from a site like Vacation Rentals by Owner ([vrbo.com](http://vrbo.com)).
- **Spend summer in the city:** Bohutinsky recommends looking at big cities to find summer bargains, particularly on the weekends. She reports that "popular resort and beach destinations are expecting a banner year," so it's wise to hit the city when most travelers are at the beach. And, because business travel tends to lessen during the summer, many cities, including San Francisco and Philadelphia, have more availability (and therefore, lower prices).

Even though this summer will likely be one of the busiest in recent years, by arming yourself with our 10 travel tips, you're bound to save more than you would have otherwise.

**2005 Funds Drive (Dues)**

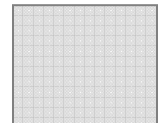
By now, you should have received your notice for the 2005 Funds Drive, which also included a letter from Mark Krienke explaining how much Brookhaven North needs your membership in 2005. In the next year, we would like to re-landscape the Covell entrance similar to the Bryant entrance, replace all four gas lamps, and hire a professional service to maintain both beds. But before we can do these improvements, we need to make sure we have enough funds. Please mail your payment now so that we can get the bed maintenance started early this summer. *Together we can make Brookhaven North a more beautiful place to live!*

2005 Membership Dues: \$75

Mail to:

Brookhaven North HOA, PO Box 30251, Edmond, OK 73003-0005

Brookhaven North Homeowners'  
Association  
C/o Mark Krienke, President  
2416 Brookhaven Drive  
Edmond, OK 73034



**NAME  
STREET ADDRESS  
EDMOND, OK 73034**