

# The Richardson Duck Creek Quacker



United for Fellowship, Safety and Civic Pride

Richardson Duck Creek Homeowners Association, Inc.

September 2007



Grand Marshals Tuskegee Airmen.



Marine Color Guard with Bill Denton

## The Spirit of Duck Creek was *“The Spirit of America”*

The Steering Board wants to thank you, the residents and our guests for making the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Duck Creek Independence Parade a tremendous success. Our special thanks go out to our lunch sponsors and to Mrs. Priscilla Killion of the Berkner area for taking such great pictures.

### 2008 Parade

The 5<sup>th</sup> annual Duck Creek Independence Parade will be Saturday June 28, 2008 and will take a new route. (See page 3) Parade forming will be in the back parking lot of Huffhines Park. The parade will begin at 10:30am and proceed down St. Johns to Villanova. East on Villanova to Hidden Drive to North Spring Creek Drive to Marquette to St. Johns and back to Huffhines Park. Get ready for bigger and better.

See more pictures on Pages 2, 3, 5, 8, 12 and 13



U.S. Congressman Pete Sessions

### Duck Creek Homeowners Association Business Meeting

October 18 7:00 pm

Dinner for Members at 6:30 pm

Dartmouth Cafeteria

# Spirit of America



Mark Twain Neighborhood Association



Pete Sessions congratulates Jimmy McCarthy on appointment to West Point



Rough Riders' Mascot with Neighbor



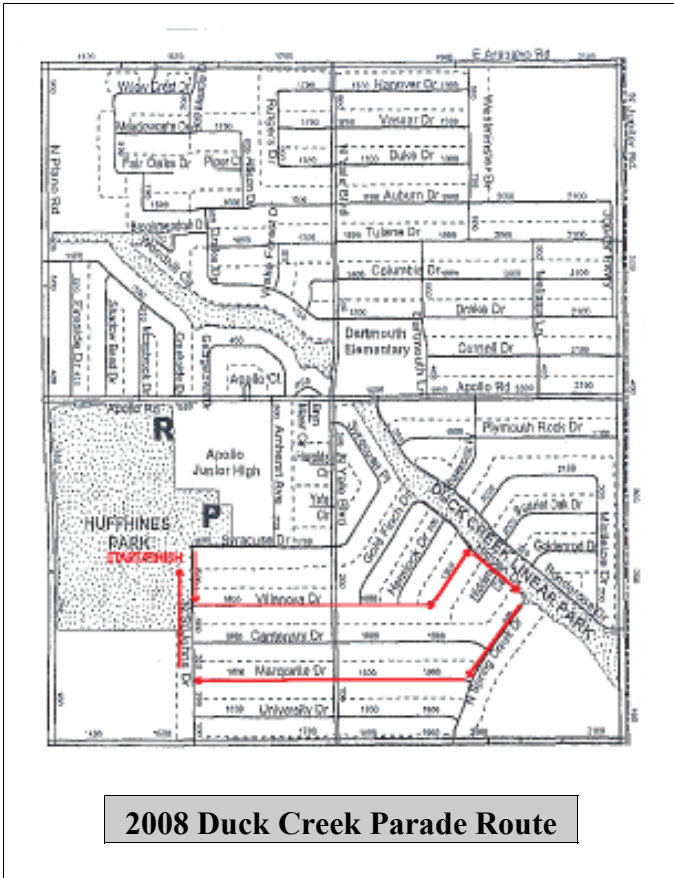
Spirit of America Theme Car







Military Color Guards



2008 Duck Creek Parade Route



Our thanks to the 7-Eleven at Jupiter and Arapaho for letting us keep the Blue Bell Ice Cream cold for the Parade picnic.

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Registered Insured

# Membership: Secrets Revealed

By Scott Morrison

Each year, about a third of households become members in the all-volunteer group of neighbors we call the Duck Creek HOA. All it takes is a \$25 check and completion of a simple form. But what happens to that money and information once it gets processed?

## The Membership Committee

The official membership year is January 1st through December 31st. Each year, all 1,451 households receive a membership statement at the end December. Residents may become members by simply returning the statement with a \$25 check. After the \$25 is deposited by the treasurer, the membership committee—consisting of one person supported by five sections leaders and other volunteers—enters the information into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet database. Critical information including name, address, phone, and email address are stored for each household. This database is securely and confidentially kept on a single computer and never distributed in its entirety to others.

## Getting The Word Out

Over the last few years, resident email addresses have proven to be a convenient and timely way to communicate neighborhood news, safety and crime alerts, and other HOA activity. Membership dues pay for yearly web server and email subscription fees. Additionally, two printed newsletters are mailed to all 1,451 households, usually in the first half of the year. The final two editions of the “Quacker” publication are mailed only to paid members. Also, membership fees help to cover printed signs to advertise the annual Easter egg hunt, Independence Day parade, our bi-annual meetings, as well as other events. You can see that the membership database and paid dues are vital to support communication to all residents.

## The Directory

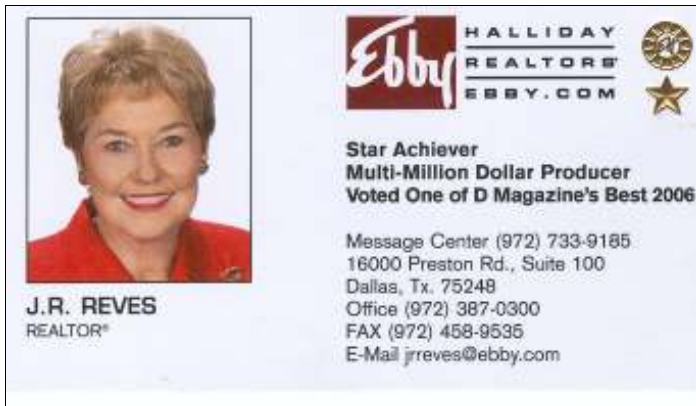
Upon payment of your \$25 membership dues, you will receive a printed directory and a yard sign (if needed) and year sticker. The directory is one of the most popular features provided by the HOA—but it generates a lot of questions from residents, such as “As a new resident, I just paid \$25 to join, but my name was left out of the directory. Why is that?” Answer: Because the directory information comes from the previous November. Near the end of the calendar year, the membership database is uploaded into the directory for printing. The Directory Committee adds maps, HOA information, city information, and advertising to offset the cost of directory printing. The directories are returned from the printer at the end of December and are ready for delivery at the beginning of the new calendar year. Therefore all new names will be reflected in the next year’s directory.

## Best Value In Town

With your paid \$25 membership dues, you and your family can enjoy free dinners at our twice-yearly meetings in April and October. Yes, you read that correctly. HELLO! Free dinner. This feature alone provides a return-on-investment that far exceeds any other deal in town.

While some residents have been loyal members for over 10 years, and some joined the RDCHOA in the last year, to all of you we say “thank you” for your continued support of the “best value in town:” the Richardson Duck Creek Homeowners’ Association.

Question about membership? Email [membership@rdchoa.org](mailto:membership@rdchoa.org)



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## National Night Out 2007

**W**hat a Night To Remember, NNO 2007! We had 193 registered block parties through out the city and we collected over 10,000 pounds of food for our local food bank! We came together as a community and really accomplished so many wonderful things.

I want to thank everyone who came out in the heat and did such a wonderful job. Phil's meatballs were great, Sandy's hamburgers were out of this world, Martha's chicken sandwiches were to die for, and by the time we made it to our next party I could not eat another bite because if I had, my belly would have busted wide open! Even better were the boxes and bags that were busting open with canned food items for our food bank. I tip my hat to you all for really making the mark. The past two years now we have collected over 10,000 pounds of food for our hungry. You should go to bed tonight very happy knowing you did something really wonderful!

Liz at Elcon brought food from her employees, Caremark brought more food from their employees, the Jaycees showed up to help load the trucks, and we had volunteers out all night and the rest of last week picking up food items. NNO may be over but now we must do two things. One is to send in all photos or disks of photos so we are able to assemble our NNO post project report. We must have our report into the folks in P.A. by the end of the month. Please if you have flyers, pictures, or anything else we may use then please send those into us immediately. Secondly, now that NNO is over it doesn't mean we put away our Crime Watch hats for another year and lock ourselves into our homes. This is just the beginning of a new Crime Watch year. I challenge everyone to get out there this year and really make a difference. Say "howdy" to all of your neighbors, remind each other about closing garage doors, call in suspicious activity, help your neighbor in need with a household project, spear head a crime watch patrol, help paint the address on the curb in your neighborhood so we may see them at night.

Like I said before, it does not matter what you do, just be out there and do something. Be a part of keeping our community safe. Keep those eyes and ears open. Sharing is caring, share your smile with a neighbor, dare to care about what happens on your street. Thank you all for opening up your hearts, your homes, your yards, and your pantries for a night we as a community will always remember. If I have said in once, I have said it a million times, our Crime Watchers are the best in the Nation! August 7, 2007 was the proof in the pudding. I don't know about you but I am still hungry for some second helpings of Crime Watch Stew! What you and I do, will make the Burglar stew. Start dishing it out and let's set our table for another successful year of fighting Crime!

David Spigelmyer  
Crime Prevention Officer  
Richardson Police Dept.  
972-744-4908  
fax-972-744-5941  
david.spigelmyer@cor.gov



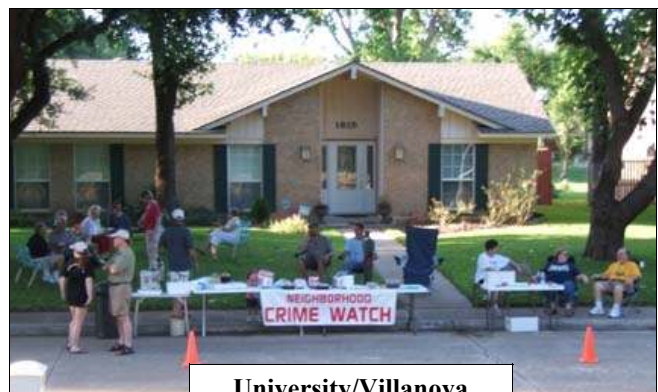
Centenary



Georgetown



Marquette



University/Villanova



## REVITALIZATION / NEIGHBORHOOD INTEGRITY

By Larry Menke RDCHOA Revitalization Committee

**A**s our neighborhood matures, it is increasingly important for our residents to insure that all regulations are followed when it comes to the maintenance and upkeep of our residences and property. The City of Richardson understands this and has a very active Neighborhood Integrity Program whose primary goal is to protect the vitality and integrity of Richardson by helping create healthy neighborhoods through proactive yet fair and reasonable enforcement of codes and ordinances. These ordinances include minimum property standards for residences and fences, limits for grass and weed heights, street parking, home businesses, and maximum occupancy limits.

Although the RDCHOA feels very strongly that protecting and maintaining our residences and properties is a vital responsibility of all of our residents, as a voluntary Homeowner's Association, the DCHOA can not make it a formal policy to try to police these types of governmental mandates. The RDCHOA believes that ALL RESIDENTS should feel free to contact the city staff directly whenever they identify any problems within our area and/or city. You will not be required to identify yourself when you call in to report possible infractions. The city staff will document all complaints, and make follow up drive by inspections to verify the complaint. If they concur that the property is not in compliance, they will contact the property owner to formally notify them of the code violation and set a time limit to correct the problem. If the owner does not correct the problem within the stated time period, the city will then take whatever action is necessary to alleviate the problem including, if necessary, legal action against the property owner. Due to property rights laws designed to protect all property owners from potentially overly zealous government action, the process can take time from your initial phone call or e-mail thru final resolution. Therefore, it is always best to contact the city as soon as you see a problem developing, rather than wait until the problem is already out of control.

The Code Enforcement Officer assigned to our areas is Ms. Paula Parrott. Her number at city hall is 972-744-4166 and the email address is paula.parrott@cor.gov. She or someone on her staff will investigate the situation and take appropriate enforcement action to make certain any outstanding code violations are addressed.

**Duck Creek Homeowners Association Business Meeting**  
**October 18 7:00 pm**  
**Dinner for Members at 6:30 pm**  
**Dartmouth Cafeteria**

## Neighborhood Services to Issue Temporary Parking Permits

**O**n August 1st Neighborhood Services assumed responsibility for issuing temporary parking permits for recreational vehicles on city streets. The application process will remain essentially the same, except now you may complete an application on-line as well as in person at the Neighborhood Services' office.

When requesting a temporary parking permit you should submit an application at least 72 hours prior to parking the vehicle. Permits will be available for up to 14 days and are not transferable.

Neighborhood Services will utilize the following criteria when evaluating temporary parking permit requests:

A recreational vehicle will not be permitted to be parked:

- In front of a public or private driveway;
- Within 15 feet of a fire hydrant;
- Within 20 feet of a crosswalk at an intersection;
- Within 20 feet of the driveway entrance to a fire station;
- Within 30 feet of the approach to a flashing signal, stop sign, yield sign, or traffic-control signal;
- Within 50 feet of the nearest rail of a railroad crossing;
- Alongside or opposite a street excavation or obstruction;
- Or where an official sign prohibits parking.

A recreational vehicle will be required to be parked so that:

- The right-hand wheels are parallel to and within 18 inches of the right-hand curb.
- A minimum of ten feet of the roadway is left clear for free movement of vehicular traffic.

For more information, visit us on-line at [www.cor.net/NS/Homepage.html](http://www.cor.net/NS/Homepage.html) or contact us at 972-744-4166.

Howdy, Neighbor!

**W**e need your help. Our association wants to welcome new residents to our neighborhood. However, it's difficult to know when new neighbors move in. We would like to let them know about the Duck Creek Homeowner's Association, answer any questions they might have as new residents, and present them with a welcoming gift. Please let us know when you see any new neighbors. Call me at 972-690-8376 or email at [Barbdavenport@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Barbdavenport@sbcglobal.net).

Our homeowner's association is also a good subject for you to use in meeting your neighbors.

Barb Davenport Welcoming Committee



# Richardson Duck Creek HOA



## RDCHOA Day - Saturday, Oct. 20th - SMU vs. Tulane

Join your neighbors for a day of football at Ford Stadium on Saturday, October 20th at 2:00 p.m.

We're going as a group to have some fun!

Meet at Dartmouth Elementary at 12:30PM on game day to arrange for carpooling if interested.

Tickets are only \$9.00 each and checks are to be made payable to SMU. Details Below.



### RDCHOA Tickets on Sale

Group Seating General Admission tickets are \$9.00 per and children 2 and under do not need a ticket. Make checks payable to SMU and deliver to Terry Hemme at 1704 Drake Drive – West of Dartmouth Elementary on Drake – **no later than Oct 8<sup>th</sup>**. Tickets will be delivered to your home before game day.



**For more information or to order tickets  
Call Terry Hemme at 214-768-2476 or [themme@smu.edu](mailto:themme@smu.edu)**

[SMUMUSTANGS.COM](http://SMUMUSTANGS.COM)





## Attention: Southeast Section

Anyone interested in being a block captain please call Section Leaders, Kathy & Richard Quintana at 972-480-8535. We'd like to have block captains that can help pass out yard-signs and membership directories, etc. Block captains could also let us know if there is a new family moving onto your street. We would like to invite those new families to be a part of the Duck Creek Homeowners Association and to make them feel welcome to our neighborhood. We look forward to seeing everyone at the October meeting.

### Duck Creek Homeowners Association Business Meeting

**October 18 7:00 pm**  
**Dinner for Members at 6:30 pm**  
**Dartmouth Cafeteria**



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## 2007 DUCK CREEK HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION BOARD MEMBERS

### General Officers

<b>President</b> Rick Wilder .....	972-644-9327
<b>Vice President</b> Bill Denton.....	972-783-7095
<b>Secretary</b> William Patrick Maher .....	972-783-8611
<b>Treasurer</b> Monica Weinman .....	972-234-2363

### Committee Chair Persons

<b>Beautification</b> Michael Wortman (Interim).....	972-235-1036
<b>Civic</b> David Clawson.....	972-690-5898
<b>Communications</b> Gordon Swink (Interim).....	972-238-8118
<b>Directory</b> Travis Weinman.....	972-234-3478
<b>Membership</b> Scott Morrison.....	972-690-5774
<b>Revitalization</b> Larry Menke.....	972-783-1532
<b>Safety</b> Darryl Brown .....	972-783-9939
<b>Social</b> Barbara & Jerry Nauyokas .....	972-690-3819
<b>Welcoming</b> Barbara Davenport .....	972-690-8376

### Section Leaders

<b>NW</b> Kyle Peavy .....	972-571-1722
<b>SW</b> Dorothy Hill .....	972-238-7436
<b>NE</b> Diana Clawson .....	972-690-5898
<b>SE</b> Kathy & Richard Quintana.....	972-480-8536
<b>HC</b> Gordon Swink .....	972-238-8118

If you would like to help with a section or committee please contact the section leader or committee chair. We are always in need of good hard workers to help with all of the committees and sections. If you have questions or concerns please feel free to contact any member of the HOA.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### Yard of the Month

April through September To nominate a yard call your section leader.

### Recycle

Recycling helps us all! Purchase your blue bags at Huffhines Recreation Center, \$3.50 for 25.

### Quacker News

If you have announcements that you think are "Quacker" worthy, please call RDCHOA at 972-943-4663 or email at [info@rdchoa.org](mailto:info@rdchoa.org).

### New Yard Signs

If you need a yard sign or need a replacement yard sign please call Scott Morrison at 972-690-5774 or email at [scott@ti.com](mailto:scott@ti.com)

### Email Addresses

If you would like to receive informational emails from the Duck Creek Home Owners Association please call Scott Morrison at 972-690-5774 or email at [scott@ti.com](mailto:scott@ti.com)

### Retiring Old Glory

It started with 13 stars and has grown to 50. It flies over this great country of ours in so many places to numerous to mention. But, there comes a time when it deserves the honor of being retired. We all know how to do it, but never seem to have the time. If your "Old Glory" is ready for retirement, contact Greg Duvall, Cub Master-Pack 871 at 972-699-0024. The pack performs a retirement ceremony at their fall campouts. Isn't it great! When one is retired, another takes its place to proudly fly over this great country of ours.

## 2007 DUCK CREEK HOA DATES

Sep 13	Board Meeting
Oct 11	Board Meeting
Oct 18	<b>Fall General Business Meeting</b> Dartmouth 6:30pm (FREE DINNER)
Nov 8	Board Meeting
Nov 17	Holiday Decoration Set-Up (Apollo & Yale) 9:00am
Dec 8	Holiday Lighting Ceremony (Apollo & Yale) 7:00pm
Dec 13	Board Meeting

ALL BOARD MEETINGS WILL BE IN THE DARTMOUTH TEACHERS LOUNGE EXCEPT JUNE AND AUGUST. THE TIME IS 7:00PM. JUNE AND AUGUST LOCATION TBD.

[www.rdchoa.org](http://www.rdchoa.org)

### A letter from the President

Hello neighbors, the end of summer is soon upon us. The kids are back in school and October is just around the corner. We are getting involved in PTA, Band, sports, etc. We also need to consider our homeowners association for next year.

Now is the time to consider joining the Board of Directors or one of our committees. We need to submit to the nominating committee candidates for the 4 elected officers. You the members will elect them at the October Business Meeting. If you are interested, email us at: [info@rdchoa.org](mailto:info@rdchoa.org)

#### OTHER VOLUNTEER POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Do you have talents going unused? Do you have an hour or so that you could spend improving the quality of life for you and your neighbors? If so, we have many opportunities to show your stuff. Would you like to be a Block Captain and be a vital link with the Section Chairpersons? Do you enjoy gardening and beautification? Are you interested in crime prevention? How about communications or using your talents to turn out a quality newsletter like this one. We have many opportunities to participate in making our neighborhood the great and desirable place it is. If you are interested please call the RDCHOA Hotline at 972-943-4663 or email us at: [info@rdchoa.org](mailto:info@rdchoa.org)

See you October 18 at the General Meeting.

*Rick Wilder*

## THIS SPACE COULD BE YOURS

The Duck Creek Quacker is published and distributed four times a year. If you or someone you know would like to advertise with us please contact: RDCHOA at 972-943-4663 or by email at [info@rdchoa.org](mailto:info@rdchoa.org).

### Newsletter Advertising

#### Rates

(per issue)

#### Business Card Size

\$25.00

1/4 Page

\$40.00

1/2 Page

\$75.00

Full Page

\$100.00

*Newsletter editor needed!*

### Acceptable Resident-Delivered Waste at NTMWD Solid Waste Facilities

Richardson residents can drop off waste materials, including items such as rugs, tile and furniture, twice per month at all three transfer stations. The transfer stations are located at 1601 E. Lookout, Richardson; 4030 W. Plano Pkwy, Plano; and 9901 Custer Rd., Plano.

*Effective August 1<sup>st</sup>, Brush and untreated/unpainted wood or fence panels will be accepted only at the Custer Road Transfer Station.*

Richardson residents must provide a driver's license and a current or prior month's water bill to use the services at the transfer stations. If you have any questions regarding resident-deliverable waste at the transfer stations, contact the NTMWD (972) 442-5405.

Brush and bulky items can also be disposed of by placing them on the front curb after calling for a special pick-up. Call 972-744-4111 or make a request on the City's Web site at [www.cor.net](http://www.cor.net) to arrange a special pick-up. Brush and bulky items will be collected on the next recycling day after the request is made.





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Redeemable at: **Chick-fil-A at Richardson**

Please use by: **NOV 30 2007**



MISC-005

**Spirit Days for Berkner PTA and Band, and Springridge Elementary**

**S**pirit Day is a special day set aside for you to come have fun, eat delicious food, and raise funds for your organization. **Chick-fil-A** will give the organization **15%** of the net profit for customers that come in the store on the dates designated. **Chick-fil-A** tracks the amount spent by customers supporting the organization by the receipts collected in the Spirit Day boxes. When a customer comes in and says that they are with your organization and need a receipt, the cashier rings up the order and prints a receipt for the customer to put in a Spirit Day box. Drive-thru customers may ask the drive-thru cashier to place the receipt in a Spirit Day box for them at the end of the day, the receipts are totaled and a check is sent to your organization for 15% of the receipt total (not including sales tax amount). Remember – the more people who patronize the **Chick-fil-A** Spirit Day, the more money our organizations receives in return.

Below are the dates:

Date	Sponsor
Aug 30th	Berkner PTA
Sept 8th	Berkner Band
Sept 11th	Springridge Elementary
Sept 20th	Berkner PTA
Oct 9th	Springridge Elementary
Nov 6th	Springridge Elementary
Nov 29th	Berkner PTA
Dec 11th	Springridge Elementary
Jan 8th	Springridge Elementary
Jan 24th	Berkner PTA
Feb 12th	Springridge Elementary
Mar 11th	Springridge Elementary
Mar 27th	Berkner PTA
Apr 8th	Springridge Elementary
May 13th	Springridge Elementary

**Duck Creek Homeowners General Business Meeting!**  
**October 18 7:00 PM**  
**Dinner for Members at 6:30 PM**  
**Dartmouth Elementary School**

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# Yards of the Month

## Hidden Creek

Janet Pride  
501 Fireside



## Northwest Section

Matthew and Shea Sanchez family  
1706 Drake



## Northeast Section Lance & Christine Lillis 1909 Auburn

### Southeast Section

Larry and Paula Denson  
200 Goldfinch



### Southwest Section

David and Margaret Duncan  
1611 Villanova





# Duck Creek Crime Watch Patrol

## Your Crime Watch Patrol

The Duck Creek Crime Watch Patrol (CWP) seeds were planted by Bill Denton and Rick Wilder in October of 2006. Two “interest” meetings were held at Dartmouth Elementary. Richardson Police Department (RPD) CWP bylaws and application documents were provided to 39 residents who had a definite interest. In early February, six (6) hours of RPD training was completed by the first 24 CWP volunteers. Shortly thereafter, Frank Krejci stepped up to be the CWP coordinator. Two organizational meetings were held in early March. The first monthly CWP meeting was held in mid-March and four (4) more HOA residents completed the RPD training in April.

Seven (7) Spring Ridge CWP members provided the two 2-hour, RPD required, on-the-job in-car training sessions. By mid-April there were 5 RPD trained and outfitted CWP folks and more were being trained each week. The first official Duck Creek area CWP tour of duty was performed on 5/8/07. At the May meeting the coordinator passed out the first patrol schedule. In June your CWP became fully functional.

The CWP has a monthly “sign-up” calendar that serves multiple coordination functions. They have two “kits” – one to accompany each patrol. The kits contain; 3 magnetic vehicle signs, RPD patrol logs, HOA directory, pens and clipboard, a Duck Creek map, and CWP application blanks. RPD has provided each trained member with a t-shirt and windbreaker. Each member provides their own transportation, cell phone, a strong flashlight at night and perhaps even binoculars. Some members are doing patrol by walking and one member by bicycle.

Your CWP is helping increase the safety of our neighborhood. CWP members don’t pursue suspects, but they become additional eyes and ears for the Richardson Police Department. However, don’t be surprised if a CWP person stops to tell you that your garage door appears to have been left open. RPD says that closed garage doors help prevent home burglaries.

If you are interested, email us at: [info@rdchoa.org](mailto:info@rdchoa.org)

Darryl E. Brown  
RDCHOA Safety Chairperson

Frank Krejci  
RDCHOA CWP coordinator



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214.575.8811 - office  
214.575.8855 - fax





Richardson Duck Creek Quacker  
Richardson Duck Creek Homeowners Association  
P.O. Box 851691  
Richardson, TX 75085-1691

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**TO:**

**Richardson Duck Creek Hotline: 972-943-4663**

[www.rdchoa.org](http://www.rdchoa.org)

**P**lease use to call about: births, deaths, new neighbors, promotions, addresses for nomination of Yard of the Month, questions/concerns about neighborhood, leaving a message for a Board member, needing new yard sign, information to be included in newsletter, reservations for meals at membership meetings, etc.