



**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Dear Downtown Tuscaloosa Neighbor,

As always, the Original City Association (OCA) has been working very hard to protect your interests in preserving the quality of life for downtown neighborhoods. Your OCA Board has worked closely as a cohesive group to ensure that the Riverwalk is truly a Riverwalk along the river rather than along Jack Warner Parkway, has obtained the adoption of an ordinance requiring garbage carts in the Historic Districts to be removed from front yards and placed behind the front edge of houses, continues to utilize 311 to phone-in maintenance code, occupancy, front yard parking and other similar violations and has assisted neighborhoods in securing traffic calming devices including the new three-way stop on 13th Street. We have also supported the efforts of our member neighborhoods in issues that directly impact them to a greater degree than the Historic Districts as a whole. These activities have included supporting Guildswood as to commercial development issues relating to the Riverwalk and Sherwood Drive in its successful effort to close access to Riverside Drive.

We sincerely appreciate the dedicated hard work of our City Council Member, Lee Garrison as well as the assistance of Councilman Bobby Howard who represents the downtown neighborhood areas west of Queen City Avenue.

Our household membership now exceeds 190 members but our goal is 100% membership in all of the downtown neighborhoods. If you have not joined the OCA, please do so immediately. Below is a simple form to complete and mail. Your support is vital to the success and goals of our organization. Please join your neighbors at our **spring picnic at Monnish Park on Sunday, May 18, 2008 at 4:00 p.m.** I look forward to seeing you at the picnic.

Sincerely yours,

**Robert P. Reynolds**

President, Original City Association

**ORIGINAL CITY ASSOCIATION  
OF TUSCALOOSA**

<http://www.oca-tuscaloosa.org/>

The Purposes of the Original City Association of Tuscaloosa are:

1. Act as a Representative Organization for the families and individuals who live in the Downtown Neighborhoods of Tuscaloosa;
2. Organize events (monthly meetings, special meetings, Spring/Fall picnics, Holiday Walk-About and call programs) and employ mediums (website, e-mail campaigns, newsletters, advertising, and attendance at political and administrative City, County, State and other relevant meetings) to provide communication and information sharing opportunities for members, neighborhoods, and interested parties about issues, concerns, and opportunities facing the Downtown Neighborhoods; and
3. Act as a focal point for governmental officials and others who wish to reach citizens of the Downtown Neighborhoods in an efficient and effective manner.

We welcome comments and suggestions about how the OCA can be of further service to our communities. Please e-mail us at [originalcityassociation@gmail.com](mailto:originalcityassociation@gmail.com).

This is the inaugural edition of OCA's newsletter. Publication is scheduled for four times annually in conjunction with the following OCA activities:

1. Spring Picnic,
2. Annual Membership Meeting,
3. Fall Picnic and
4. Holiday Walk-About.

The goal of this publication is to further communication about OCA's activities with our downtown neighbors. OCA is constantly involved with issues and events that impact our everyday lives as residents and property owners within this wonderful area of our city.

If the mailing label on the reverse side contains the characters "\*\*\*" we show that your dues have been paid for 2008. If this notation is not included and you believe that this is incorrect please contact OCA Treasurer John Sheffield at [sheffie1304@bellsouth.net](mailto:sheffie1304@bellsouth.net). Otherwise, please join/renew today by mailing this completed form and your \$25. We will also have a membership table at the Spring Picnic on May 18 at Monnish Park (corner of Queen City Avenue and Monnish Drive).

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (if different) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

(Providing your e-mail address allows us to send you important OCA news alerts.)

Send this completed form and \$25 per household to

OCA Membership, P.O. Box 2253, Tuscaloosa, AL 35403-2253

## COMMUNICATION IS KEY

- Please ensure that OCA has your current e-mail address so that you can be included in important alerts concerning our downtown neighborhoods. If you are a member and have not been receiving e-mails, or if your e-mail address has changed, send us a note at [originalcityassociation@gmail.com](mailto:originalcityassociation@gmail.com).
- You can now receive e-mail notification of City meetings and agenda items just by completing the online form at [www.tuscaloosa.com](http://www.tuscaloosa.com). Click on *E-News Signup* then complete the information.
- Have a question/concern about a City issue but don't know who to contact? The helpful operators at 311 will be glad to assist you.
- OCA is proud to represent our downtown neighbors. If you feel that a particular issue needs the OCA's attention please contact your historic district neighborhood representative (listed below) or OCA President Robert Reynolds at [rreynolds@rrdlaw.com](mailto:rreynolds@rrdlaw.com).
  - Audubon Place - Jimmy Cochrane
  - Caplewood - Mary Ann Hampton
  - College Park - Mickey Ursic
  - Dearing Place - Paul Morgan/  
Jason Payne
  - Druid City/Druid Hills - Ted Miller
  - Eighth Street - *[currently vacant]*
  - Myrtlewood - LaDonnah Roberts
  - Oakwood Court - Amy Halladay
  - Pinehurst - Edward Guy
  - Seventh Street - Linda Ford
  - Sherwood Drive - Rocky Cicatiello
  - Thirteenth Street - Marvin Rogers
  - University Circle - Mark Hicks

## NEWS FROM OUR NEIGHBORHOODS

Here are just a few current events from various OCA neighborhoods:

- Revisions to plans for Riverwalk Place, a proposed development along Jack Warner Parkway near Guildswood, were slated for public comment at the May 6 City Council meeting. The OCA presented Mayor Maddox and the City Council with a Resolution expressing concern over some of the revisions. The request was withdrawn by the developer, and the Council voted to rescind its 2005 approval of the original plans. Media reports state that the developer plans to propose a mixed retail and residential development with a restaurant as its centerpiece.
  - Alabama Power has completed exterior renovations to their facility at the corner of Queen City Avenue and Bryant Drive. Druid City residents Rob and Jeannie Guthrie held a reception at their home and invited other OCA residents to join them in thanking Alabama Power for their inclusion of local neighbors in certain renovation decisions. The OCA looks forward to more instances of this type of partnering between corporate and resident neighbors!
  - The OCA is working with City Councilmember Lee Garrison, UA's Housing and Residential Communities, and the Tuscaloosa Department of Transportation to upgrade the lighting and paved surfaces in a number of alleys in downtown neighborhoods. Improvements such as these will encourage residents' use of rear-access parking areas and beautification of the associated front yards.
  - The Bryant Drive Streetscape project continues. City Engineer Joe Robinson states that the contractor is approximately 100 days into a 210-day contract. He further stated that the Queen City Avenue/Bryant Drive intersection would remain closed for approximately another week. This is being done in order to allow a large concrete "box" that was poured under that intersection to cure. Work for this phase of the project (Queen City Avenue to Wallace Wade), with the probable exception of landscaping, is slated to be completed by mid-August 2008.

SPRING PICNIC  
Sunday, May 18 at 4:00 pm  
Monish Park  
Questions? 752-6672

Box 2253, Tuscaloosa, AL 35403-2253

THE ORIGINAL CITY ASSOCIATION  
OF TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA

