

Old North News

The News May Be Old, But so is Our Neighborhood

Newsletter of Old North Knoxville • December 2012 / February 2013, Vol. 14, No. 3 •

www.oldnorthknoxville.org



24th Annual Old North Knoxville Victorian Holiday Home Tour DECEMBER 1ST AND 2ND

TWENTY FOUR YEARS IS A LONG TIME TO DO ANYTHING. Children can grow up and move away. People who grew up in a place can decide to come back to visit their old neighborhood. And even a neighborhood itself can change. When the first Old North Knoxville Victorian Holiday Home Tour took place, the neighborhood was still in the early years of resurgence. Even now, while not all the way to where many folks would like it to be, it is, like a child grown older, much more able to stand on its own.

No neighborhood ever reaches the point that it can stand completely on its own; then, again, neither does a person. But just as you celebrate the years in a person's life, the annual home tour is a celebration of the neighborhood's growth and vibrancy. The homes on the tour each show a part of that renewal and of the spirit that is Old North Knoxville.

Tickets go on sale soon at area Kroger Stores, starting around November 19th. Price is \$10 a piece in advance and \$15 a piece the days of the tour. Price for Seniors is \$10 a ticket. Children under twelve get in free.

THE LINEUP FOR THIS YEAR INCLUDES NINE HOUSES AND A church. One house on the tour is a converted warehouse, showing that in an historic neighborhood things do evolve.

There will be a bathroom stop at The Time Warp Tea Room at 1207 N. Central St., where you can buy refreshments and ornaments. (See separate article about ornaments.)

A group of neighbors volunteering to plan our 24th Annual Victorian Holiday Home Tour have been diligently at work finalizing the line-up of homes for this year's event.

Holiday Home Tour Volunteers Dec. 1st and 2nd

ANOTHER WAY TO CONTRIBUTE to the tour is volunteering to work on event weekend. Join us Saturday, Dec. 1st (4 - 9 PM) and Sunday, Dec. 2nd (12:30 - 5 PM) to showcase our neighborhood. Volunteers are needed to help in houses (like a docent), at the ticket booth in the Tennova Hospital Parking lot (where the buses leave from and return), and in event buses.

Volunteers and participants also enjoy a pre-tour and holiday party on Friday, November 30th.

Can you participate this year? Sign up **NOW**: call or e-mail Lauren Rider, 524-4267 or laurenellent@yahoo.com.

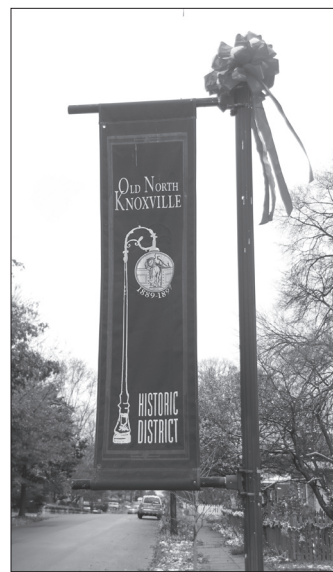
To see photos and information on some of the tour homes, go to **pages 4 and 5**.

HOUSE LINE-UP FOR 2012 AND ORDER OF TOUR ROUTE:

- 1 — 1303 Kenyon St.
 - 2 — 1515 Fremont St.
 - 3 — 4th Presbyterian Church—
1323 N. Broadway
 - 4 — 319 E. Anderson St.
(converted warehouse)
 - 5 — 254 E. Oklahoma Ave.
 - 6 — 221 E. Oklahoma Ave.
 - 7 — 222 E. Oklahoma Ave.
 - 8 — 229 E. Scott Ave.
 - 9 — 704 E. Scott Ave.
 - 10 — 712 E. Scott Ave.
- During the tour, if you take a tour bus, which is free, there will be a stop at The Time Warp Tea Room.

Bows appearing on the poles next to neighborhood banners is just one of the signs that the tour is coming. This year's tour is Dec. 1st (4 - 9 PM) and Dec. 2nd (12:30 - 5 PM).

There is still time to volunteer. Contact Lauren Rider: 524-4267.



Inside

Buy a piece of history this holiday season.

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What does this rooster have to do with books?

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Happenings in and around Old North Knoxville

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The News of Old North Knoxville

Lauren Rider

Welcome new board members; volunteers welcome

THE ELECTIONS ARE OVER, AND IT MAY BE a relief to some. No, I am not talking about *those* elections, though, they were important, too. I am referring to the Old North Knoxville (ONK) Board of Directors election held at the October 8th neighborhood meeting.



*Lauren Rider;
ONK president.*

Elections are held yearly. Board members are generally elected to three year terms, unless fulfilling a vacated board position, and the terms of the 21 board members are staggered, making yearly elections a part of the October meeting.

Any neighbor residing within ONK for 6 months or more is eligible to serve on the ONK Board of Directors. The Board conducts the business of ONK, Inc., a non-profit formed to preserve, promote and protect the Historic District of Old North Knoxville and the structures within.

MORE SPECIFICALLY, FROM THE BYLAWS OF ONK, Inc.: The Organization is formed to combat community deterioration and to secure decent, safe, and sanitary housing, community facilities, and other related facilities, services and conditions, economic, social and otherwise, conducive to the progress and general welfare of the public by facilitating rehabilitation, preservation and improvement of the historical structures and their surrounding environment located in the area known as Old North Knoxville in Knox County, Tennessee. (<http://www.oldnorthknoxville.org/onk-inc-bylaws/>)

On behalf the neighborhood and the board, I want to thank **Andy Anderson, Doug McDaniel, Ernie Roberts, and Daniel Schuh** for their service to the board and neighborhood. Being on the board or an officer on the board is a volunteer position. That means you give of your time and yourself, and these folks have done so generously. Thank you.

New board members elected at the recent meeting were **Chris Cheatham, Becca McCurdy, Andie Ray, and Andrew Ray**. The two Rays are not related. **Nancy Hugh**, a present board member, was elected to fill a one-year vacancy on the board. Thank you, Nancy, for being willing to help out for one more year. And thank you to all the new board members. A full list of board members is on **page 8**.

I CANNOT SAY ENOUGH TIMES HOW IMPORTANT volunteering is to the success of the ONK Board of Directors, but also to the neighborhood. You don't have to be on the board to volunteer to help. There are plenty of projects that can use a helping hand. You can even suggest one of your own — just be willing to help out on anything you suggest. That is not meant to discourage you, only to say that if you aren't willing to help out with something you think is important, who else will think it's important?

An example of this volunteering is First Creek Greenway cleanup, held twice a year for over ten years now. A write up of the most recent one is on **page 6**. Over the years a number of residents and former residents, and even folks outside the neighborhood have participated. Thank you, Beth and David Booker for organizing this event since its beginning. They were recently recognized by Keep Knoxville Beautiful and Adopt-A-Stream for their efforts.

Happy Holidays!

Upcoming Events in Old North Knoxville

Save these dates!

Saturday, December 1st,
4 - 9 pm and Sunday, December
2nd from 12:30 - 5 pm:
24th Annual Victorian Holiday
Home Tour.

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There is no ONK monthly meeting in December because of the home tour and the holidays.

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Monday, January 7th, 6:30 pm
ONK Monthly Potluck and Board of Directors meeting at St. James Episcopal, 1101 N. Broadway (enter through rear of fellowship hall, off Folsom).

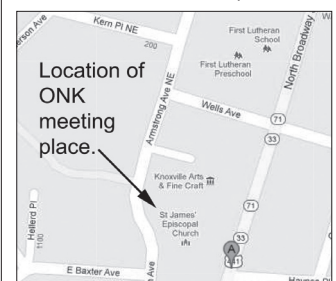
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Monday, February 11th, 6:30 pm
ONK Monthly Potluck and Board of Directors meeting at St. James Episcopal, 1101 N. Broadway (enter through rear of fellowship hall, off Folsom).

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Monday, March 11th, 6:30 pm
ONK Monthly Potluck and Board of Directors meeting, St. James Episcopal, 1101 N. Broadway (enter through rear of fellowship hall, off Folsom).

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Emergency number: 911
Non-emergency: 215-4010
City Services information: 311
Codes Enforcement: 215-2130
Report illegal uses of property, dangerous or unsanitary conditions.
Neighborhood watch:
Pete Creel, rscree1@msn.com.
Recycling pickup: Every other Friday morning. For example, Dec. pickups: 14th and 28th
Trash pickup: Friday mornings.



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Contributors: Lauren Rider, Beth Booker, and David E. Booker.
Photos courtesy of Lauren Rider, Travis Aslinger, Sonny Jones, Jason R. Scott, Beth Booker, and David E. Booker

Old North News covers the news and events in and around Old North Knoxville and welcomes suggestions and contributions. Contact David E. Booker at penup@bellsouth.net. Clip art courtesy of ClipartHeaven.com.

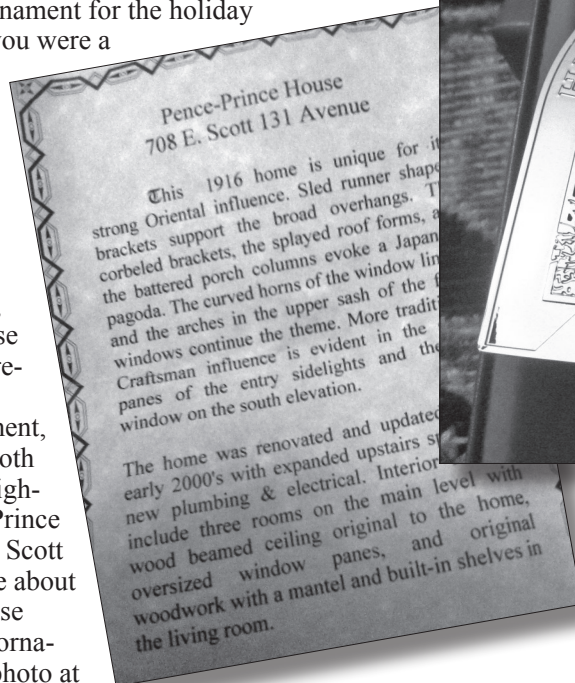
Purchase a piece of history this holiday season

PURCHASE A PIECE OF OLD NORTH KNOXVILLE history this holiday season. Buy a memento to hang on your tree that says you were a part of the 24th Annual Victorian Holiday Home Tour For \$15 each (10% discount for purchases of 10 or more), you can have your own ornament for the holiday season that says you were a part of the 2012 Old North Knoxville Victorian Holiday Home Tour.

Each year of the tour a new ornament is produced, celebrating a house that was on the previous year's tour. This year's ornament, which comes in both gold and silver, highlights the Pence-Prince house at 708 East Scott Ave. A short piece about the history of house comes with each ornament. (See inset photo at right.)

With this year's ornament, you will learn that the house is a craftsman style house with Oriental influence and was originally built in 1916

THEY ARE STOCKED AT THE TIME WARP TEA ROOM for purchase and can be purchased at any time during this holiday season.



This year's holiday home tour ornament features a craftsman style house with Oriental influences. Ornaments come in gold and silver and are \$15 each. They can be purchased at The Time Warp Tea and online at www.oldnorth-knoxville.org.

Also, Old North Knoxville neighbors will be selling them during the Home Tour.

And if you can't get to The Time Warp Tea Room, but can get to your computer, the ornaments are available via our website, www.oldnorthknoxville.org, with PayPal payment in conjunction with Tour ticket sales (Nov. 12th through Nov. 30th). Pick-up arranged via e-mail listed on the web site.

Consider joining or volunteering to help today in ONK

LOOKING FOR THAT PERFECT STOCKING STUFFER? That last-minute gift for the person who has everything, or at least believes she does? How about a membership in Old North Knoxville?

Already have one, you say. Or at least believe you do. Then it's probably time for you to renew that membership. Dues are due every January for that year. Annual dues are \$10 a year for one person, \$15 for a household, and \$25 for businesses.

If you would like to become a member of Old North Knoxville, fill out the form on the back page of this newsletter and send to: P.O. Box 3896, Knoxville, TN 37927.

RENTERS, HOMEOWNERS, PEOPLE INTERESTED in historic Old North Knoxville can join and will receive the newsletter. Membership questions: laurenellent@yahoo.com.

In a addition to the newsletter, there is a web site, www.old-



Beth Booker, neighborhood volunteer, working in the Old North Knoxville Park on Oklahoma Ave. A special thanks to all the neighbors who came out to clean up the park before the Ice Cream Social.

northknoxville.org, a yahoo group, and even a Facebook page for Old North Knoxville.

You can also join the ONK yahoo group using any email account by just sending a mail to ONK-subscribe@yahoogroups.com from your email account.

To find us on Facebook, go to <http://www.facebook.com/groups/77797179658/?ref=ts&fref=ts>. You can also type Old North Knoxville in Facebook search engine and you will be taken to it.

Membership, participation, volunteering are key parts of the success of Old North Knoxville neighborhood. Please join. It helps to pay for things like this newsletter. Please participate. It's the best way to make the neighborhood better.

A peek at some of the 24th ONK Victorian Holiday Home Tour

What: 24th Annual Victorian Holiday Home Tour.

When: Saturday, December 1st from 4 – 9 PM;
Sunday, December 2nd from 12:30 – 5 PM.

Where: Homes in Old North Knoxville.

Who: You and your family or neighbors, friends or relatives.

Why: To celebrate the unique character and spirit of Old North Knoxville. Volunteers are still needed to help with the tour.

Contact: **Lauren Rider** at laurenellent@yahoo.com or (865) 524-4267.

And if you are wondering, this is not all the homes on tour this year. This photographic presentation is to give you an idea of what to expect. If you were told everything, you might not come, and what what fun would that be? After all, a neighborhood has to have a few secrets and surprises it saves for later. It is the holidays, you know.



Fourth Presbyterian at 1323 N. Broadway is noted for the architectural beauty of the sanctuary, the stained glass windows, and its Kilgen pipe organ. The church was designed by Charles and West Barber, noted Knoxville architects who were members of the church.

The history of the stained glass windows is somewhat cloudy, but it is believed that they were designed in 1912 by the Louisville Art Glass Company for a church in Ohio.

A used Möller pipe organ was installed in 1914, with exposed pipes mounted in the back of the chancel. It was replaced in 1947 by the present Kilgen organ. It is the only Kilgen organ surviving in Knoxville.

This Queen Anne cottage at 254 E. Oklahoma Ave. was built in 1907 by James E. Kyker and his wife Lyda. Through the years, James Kyker served in a number of different jobs for Southern Railway – engineer, car repairman, hose repairman. Railroads were integral to the economy of turn-of-the-century Knoxville, and a good percentage of the houses in North Knoxville were occupied by families with ties to either Southern or L&N Railways.



This warehouse building at 319 E. Anderson St., the former home of Star Vending Co., is the current home of Roberta and Sonny Jones, who have lived in Frankfurt, Germany, and in or near Detroit, Indianapolis, and Washington, D.C. Relocating to Knoxville from Virginia, they bought the building in 2005, and then obtained permission from the City of Knoxville to treat it as a residence. The 4000 square foot commercial property was converted from an empty concrete box to a comfortable, spacious home full of many eclectic items.



A peek at some of the 24th ONK Victorian Holiday Home Tour



This Craftsman bungalow at 712 E. Scott Ave. was built in 1921 by Carl K. Robinson, a machinist for Southern Railway. The deep telescoping bracketed gables are representative of the Craftsman style, as is the cross-gabled front porch, a relatively popular composition in Knoxville. The foundation appears to be stone, but is actually cast molded concrete. Around the turn of the century, Sears, Roebuck & Co. began marketing concrete block making machines to builders and homeowners under the names Wizard, Triumph, and Knox.

This Queen Anne cottage at 1515 Fremont St. was built around 1904 by James T. Hunter, a foreman at Knoxville Coffin Company. It is sometimes strange today to think of Knoxville as city of industry, but its location near vast reserves of timber, cheap coal, a navigable river, and major railroad lines was ideal for all manner of manufacturing enterprises. That many workers in these industries could afford houses like this one is a testament to industrial profitability.



This house at 229 E. Scott Ave. was built in 1915 for Charles Dungan on a lot subdivided from the estate of James Fair, who had built the large George F. Barber designed Victorian on the corner to the northeast. The Dungans's house, while borrowing some elements from the late Victorian Shingle Style, especially the distinctive front gable with the inset gothic arch, is decidedly Neoclassical with its Tuscan columns and symmetrical arrangement. The design of the gable is uncommon in Knoxville, though there is another example on Washington Avenue in Park City and one on White Avenue in Fort Sanders, presently under threat of demolition by the University of Tennessee.

Central Street Books offers unusual books and rare experiences

WHERE ELSE CAN YOU FIND A ROOSTER PERCHED ATOP a cage and a first edition of Mark Twain's *Sketches*? Central Street Books (CSB) at 842 N. Central St., next to Magpies. And for animal lovers and those afraid of what an animal might do to books, don't worry, the rooster is not live, though he looks lifelike.

CSB opened in January 2011 and continues the bookselling career of owner John Coleman (previously Kingston Pike Book Shop, opened in 1991, followed by the Old City Book Shop, and The Book Eddy). "I think this current size store is just about right. It's manageable yet can hold a tremendous amount of cool stuff," John says.

An anachronism in this day of digital reading devices, John still believes there is a place for the analog version of the book. The book as an object is keeping the business going while people decide how much of their time they want to actually spend with a book. "Collectors want much of what goes through here and finding and presenting objects is the same as it has been for hundreds of years.



Rooster atop a cage of lights is only one of many serendipitous treasures to discover at CSB.

"HAVING A PLACE WHERE PEOPLE CAN STILL MAKE SERENDIPITOUS discoveries is important. The Internet is getting better, but is still not the same as browsing in a bookstore and finding a new author shelved next to the one you might have originally come in looking for," he says.

Current hours are Noon to 6 PM Monday through Saturday. Phone number is 865-573-9959 or by e-mail at 842ncentral@gmail.com. You can also find them on the web at www.centralstreetbooks.com and on Facebook. Type in Central Street Books. CSB also sells books online on eBay. User ID is **842central**.

CSB is located in the building that used house the Corner Lounge, a drinking establishment mentioned in Cormac McCarthy's semi-autobiographical novel *Suttree*. The bar is now where you step up and buy your treasures and "a portal between East Tennessee's collections of desirable and strange books and the world through the ever more pervasive digital age."

First Creek Greenway Cleanups gather trash and award

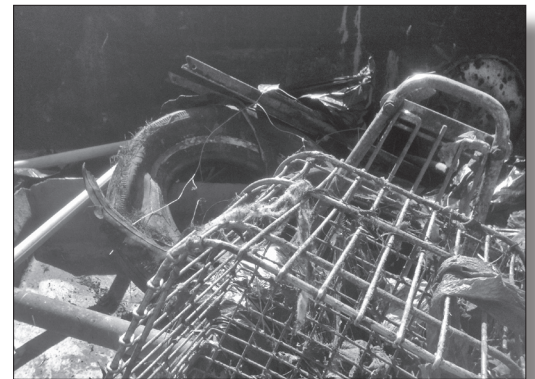
THANKS TO JIM MEAD; BRAD, JOY, CHARIS, AND CAI Guilford; Mark and Nathan Parker; Jonathan Ball; Lauren T. Rider; Steven Rider, and Finley and Hagen Rider; Mark Freeman; Tim Sparer, Cathy Shuck, Sierra and Aidyn Shuck-Sparer, Marcus Phelps and Kristina McLean; and Beth and Lauren Booker for helping collect 27 bags of trash, three tires, a shopping cart, 30 feet of coaxial cable, inside part of a car door, blankets, carry bag, purse, sections of a preformed roof, numerous beer and liquor bottles, part of a toy truck, a couch cushion, part of rusted metal drum, various pieces of clothing, and an assortment of other items at Saturday, October 13th's First Creek Greenway cleanup.

Thank you, too, to Officer Kaufman and his partner for riding bike patrol in the area not only while we were doing the cleanup, but on others days as well as part of the KPD bicycle patrol program.

Thank you to Three Rivers Market for the bananas and apples, Keep Knoxville Beautiful and Adopt-A-Stream for the bottled water and t-shirts, Knoxville Stormwater Management for wheelbarrow waders, and other supplies, and Beth and Lauren Booker for the pan of oatmeal-fudge brownies.

ALL THIS TRASH FROM

THE AREA BETWEEN Glenwood to Grainger Avenues. Join us in the Spring for the next cleanup. With more hands we could have gotten more done and you would have enjoyed some delicious pizza from Harby's after the cleanup.



For their efforts at organizing these cleanups for over ten years, Beth and David Booker were recently recognized by Adopt-A-Stream and Keep Knoxville Beautiful. Without the many volunteers who have helped out over the years, the award would not have been possible. Thank you to all who have helped. Keep up the good work.



Above, some of the trash collected at the October 13th First Creek Greenway Cleanup.

At left, Beth Booker, center of photo and holding the award, picks up the Adopt-A-Stream Beautification Award at the Keep Knoxville Beautiful Awards Celebration on November 8th. From left are: Jake Hudson of Fort Loudoun Lake Association, David Booker, Beth Booker, Tracy N. Jones of Knox County Stormwater Management and Adopt-A-Stream, and John Shubzda of Knoxville Stormwater Management and Adopt-a-Stream. Photo by Jason R. Scott.

Parting shots: Photos and a few words

What the Captain said

The boat is fine, the captain said;
he said it to our face.

The boat is fine, the captain said,
the river sets the pace.

The boat is fine, the captain said,
and then he said no more.

The boat is fine, the captain said
as we sailed away from shore.

The boat is fine, the captain said,
as the river tossed us about.

The boat is fine, the captain said,
as some of us wanted out.

The boat is fine, the captain said,
steering for the roughest part.

The boat is fine, the captain said;
he'd said it from the start.

The boat is fine, the captain said
as the waves thumped into the boat
The boat is fine, the captain said
as some of us tried to float.

The boat is fine, the captain said,
Come back again next year.

The boat is fine, the captain said —
but captain, I hope you're not here.



On August 12, 2012, Lauren Rider (sitting in the front left of the raft) and Pete Creel (front right) along with several other residents and friends, went rafting. Unfortunately, Pete, (bottom photo) got a little too close to the water:



Pete said the best place to sit on the raft was in the center, but two people had quickly seized those seats before he and Lauren could get in. He said he also felt that at times the captain / person steering the raft, aimed for the roughest patches of water to make sure he and the other members of the crew got their money's worth in experience.

Ice Cream Social

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH was warm and sunny, all the better for residents and friends of Old North Knoxville (ONK) to enjoy their annual ice cream social. Approximately thirty to thirty-five adults and children came together to eat ice cream, socialize, climb around inside a fire truck, and share ice cream toppings that they had brought from home. This year's social was again held at Old North Knoxville Park on Oklahoma Ave.

Neighbors were asked to bring an ice cream topping to share. Toppings included things from fruit to crumbled cookies to homemade concoctions with "secret" family ingredients. The ONK neighborhood association provided plenty of Mayfield ice cream and drinks for all to enjoy. Special thanks to the City of Knoxville Fire Department for providing a fire engine for kids of all ages to explore.

We hope to see you there next year.



At left, Clara Lloyd takes a tour of the Fire Engine with the help of her mom.



Above, Fin Rider and Lauren Booker (right) enjoy ice cream.



At left, some of the adults and children playing on the equipment at Old North Knoxville Park, the site of the Ice Cream Social.



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ONK Quick List of Events:

ONK Potluck and Board Meetings: January 7th,
February 11th, March 11th, starting at 6:30 pm.
St. James Episcopal, 1101 N. Broadway
(enter rear of fellowship hall off Folsom).
24th Annual Victorian Holiday Home Tour:
December 1st (4 - 9 pm) and 2nd (12:30 - 5 pm)
Christmas, Tuesday, December 25th
New Year's Day, Tuesday, January 1, 2013

ONK Board of Directors

Old North Knoxville, Inc. (ONK) was established in 1978 to preserve, promote, and protect the neighborhood, which is a residential and business district built from the 1880s to the 1940s. It includes the triangle formed by Central St., Broadway, and Woodland Ave., as well as the area east of Broadway bounded by Cecil Ave., Sixth Ave., Glenwood Ave. and Broadway. ONK strives to provide a forum for information, support and sharing among members and residents of Old North Knoxville. ONK board meetings and neighborhood potlucks are usually held on the second Monday of each month. **Officers:** President, Lauren Rider; 1st Vice President, (vacant); 2nd Vice President, (vacant); Secretary, Nancy Hugh; Treasurer, Rhonda Parker. **Board Members:** Term ending in 2013: Nancy Hugh, Janice Lewis, Rhonda Parker, Dodi Payne, Marcus Phelps, James Pierce, Nathan Powell; term ending in 2014: Beth Booker, Pete Creel, Kim Davis, Jeremy Jennings, Allison Rosenberg; term ending in 2015: Sean Bolen, Chris Cheatham, Laurence Eaton, Becca McCurdy, Andie Ray, Andrew Ray, Lauren Rider. Chester Kilgore, board member emeritis.

Newsletter Editor: David E. Booker. Send newsletter e-mail messages to penup@bellsouth.net.
Web Designer: (vacant), www.oldnorthknoxville.org. Dues are \$10, \$15, and \$25. ONK does not discriminate against any person because of race, age, gender, handicap, or country of national origin.

Discover the Hidden Treasure of
Historic Old North Knoxville:
Preserving the past; protecting the future.

How To Join/Renew

If you would like to become a member of Old North Knoxville, fill out the form below and submit annual dues of \$10 for individuals, \$15 for households, or \$25 for businesses to: P.O. Box 3896, Knoxville, TN 37927. Renters, homeowners, people interested in historic Old North Knoxville can join and will receive the newsletter. Membership questions: laurenellent@yahoo.com.



ONK president, Lauren Rider welcomes new board members, encourages volunteers, page 2.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

E-MAIL _____

TELEPHONE _____

INTERESTS _____