

Help Bring the Oaks Back to Oakridge Campaign Update

Friends of Oakridge is delighted to announce the installation of our first oak tree! Thanks to the generous donations of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, the Northridge West, Chatsworth and Porter Ranch Neighborhood Councils, community supporters and the friends and family of Barbara Stanwyck, a fifteen-foot tall California Live Oak now shades the circular stone planter directly in front of the Oakridge residence. A newly installed irrigation system will ensure that the tree thrives for generations to come.

Plans are in place to dedicate the oak to Stephen Harris, founding and past President of Friends of Oakridge, who recently passed away. Steve's passion for the rehabilitation and preservation of the Oakridge Estate will be remembered with the placement of a bronze plaque in his honor.

Other improvements at the entrance to the residence include replacement of the missing areas of boxwood hedge and the addition of dwarf bottlebrush shrubs in both the circular planter and at the edge of the driveway. In addition to servicing these areas, the new bubbler-based irrigation system has also been extended to water the mature olive and oak trees that frame the front of the home. We can now rest assured that these two majestic specimens will receive the care they deserve for surviving the past eighty years.

Friends wish to express our most sincere appreciation to all who have contributed to this inaugural project. Thanks to you, we have surpassed the half-way mark towards our goal of \$20,000! The "Help Bring the Oaks Back to Oakridge" campaign continues to raise funds to replace the two original oaks lost to drought and disease at the rear of the residence. We are now appealing to the rest of you to help us hit our target. There is still time to make a difference.

Please join us in our efforts to realize Steve's vision of returning the former beauty to this historic-cultural landmark by visiting our website

to make your tax-deductible donation: www.theoakridgeestate.org.

Contributions by check may be mailed to Friends of Oakridge, P.O. Box #3973, Chatsworth, CA 91311.

We thank you for your ongoing support and hope to have another newly planted tree to report in our next Newsletter!