



Newsletter | October 2020

We did it! We have broken ground on Heartwood Commons!



It was a beautiful day in the neighborhood when we came together Thursday, September 17th to break ground for our future homes and Tulsa's first cohousing community. We were joined by Tulsa Mayor G.T. Bynum, City Councilor Jeannie Cue, and Tulsa County Commissioner Karen Keith who applauded the commitment of those who had this vision and who, through their hard work, have moved the vision to reality. Mayor Bynum spoke about the importance of community as an antidote to the isolation and polarization of the times.

Under a tree canopy in perfect weather we stood shoulder to shoulder and turned the soil with shovels we each brought from our own garages. With this we signaled to the world that even in the midst of a pandemic, we are united in purpose and resolve to create a community built to promote connections between people and successful aging in place.

Heartwood Commons will be our home, our refuge, our "happy place."

There is a great pause as we anticipate the machinery and the months of construction chaos. We are eager to watch the progress during which bit by bit our future homes will emerge.

If you are looking for a community you can lean on, we hope you will join us. **There are only a few homes left.**

Check out the media coverage of our ground breaking [HERE](#) and [HERE](#).



This is the view of the green and the Common House.

Explorer Spotlight

Kay and Bill Stauss



We are excited to welcome Kay and Bill Stauss, our newest Explorers. The couple has been married 63 years, have raised two children, have 4 grandkids, 2 great grandkids and a third one on the way. They share their Texas home with 14-year-old, Dusty, a large, fluffy Rag-Doll cat. [READ MORE](#)

The Value of Being an Explorer

We know it can be hard being new to any group. And right sizing into a cohousing community is a big step for anyone to take. That's why we offer an Explorer period. This is a time to really dig in to Heartwood Commons, meet current members, form relationships, ask questions and let the value of cohousing really sink in. You'll be connected with a Buddy to guide you through this process. You'll attend our General Meetings to see how we govern ourselves and use consensus decision making. The Explorer period is designed so you feel completely at ease with your decision to join. And despite the pandemic, we have found our Zoom meetings and on-line socials have made our Explorers feel right at home. We invite you to become an Explorer soon. Learn more at <https://www.heartwoodcommonstulsa.com/how-to-reserve-your-home>

Join us for an Upcoming Event



Dig In to Heartwood Commons

Thursday, October 8 | 6:30 pm CST on Zoom
OR
Thursday, October 22 | 6:30 pm CST on Zoom

Join us for this Zoom event to learn more about Heartwood Commons. See our plans and pricing. Learn about our progress, legal structure and decision-making. Get answers to your questions. Explore the membership process and timeline.

[OCT 8 - RSVP FOR THE MEETING LINK](#)

[OCT 22 - RSVP FOR THE MEETING LINK](#)



Tour Heartwood Commons

Saturday, October 17 | 10 am-Noon CST
Heartwood Commons
7141 S Quincy, Tulsa, OK

Join us for a tour of the land (using physical distancing guidelines). Meet some of our members. Get answers to your questions.

[DETAILS & RSVP](#)



Explorer Orientation

Tuesday, October 13 | 6:30 pm CST
or
Tuesday, October 27 | 6:30 pm CST

Intrigued by Heartwood Commons? We invite you to become an Explorer and check us out. This on-line orientation will give you the details of how you can dive deeper into the details of our project by observing our Member Business Meetings, reviewing our legal and financial documents, joining us for our social times, and more. Being an Explorer is a great way to see if we might be the community for you.

Please call community member Suzy at **918-519-5298** to become an Explorer and join this Orientation.



Join us for a bike ride

Saturday, October 24 | 10 am CST

Join avid bike rider and community member Tricia Price for a casual bike ride on Saturday, October 24. Meet at 10 am at the Heartwood Commons property located at 7141 S. Quincy Ave. Tricia will be your guide along the special passage from the land to the scenic bike trails that run right along the river. You'll meet other bike enthusiasts from Heartwood Commons and you can ask questions about the community. Contact Tricia Price at 405-795-3545 or triciaprice@cox.net with questions and to let her know you plan to come.



Porch Chats – Great Conversations You'll Overhear at Heartwood Commons

with Jan Owen

I am greeted by Suzy on a sunny day from the porch of a home she has lived in for more than 30 years. This porch reflects her personality with flowerpots, metal sculptures, wind chimes and a hot tub. She loves to sit here for breaks during her stay-at-home workday. But this space shines best when friends join her in the evenings or on weekends for a meal, a glass of wine or a cup of coffee. [READ MORE OF JAN'S PORCH CHAT WITH Suzy](#)

Choose **where** you live and **how** you live.
Heartwood Commons offers another choice.



Want to Learn More?

You are always welcome to call or email Suzy at **918-519-5298** or heartwoodcommonstulsa@gmail.com. She is happy to answer questions and share the details of most interest to you.

Last Thoughts

Heartwood Commons - the meaning behind the name

by Jan Owen

I remember the meeting clearly. There were dozens of potential names scrawled on pieces of paper taped to the wall of our meeting room. Following a lot of discussion, we had narrowed it down to just a few. And then, as if by magic, the name Heartwood Commons was suggested. It quickly became the front-runner and adopted by the group as our best choice. *Later, I remember thinking, well it wasn't my first choice, but I really like it. And here is why.* First of all, it was a choice made by consensus. That is, it came from the heart of the group as the best choice for the group as a whole. And later, as I did a little investigating, I learned that heartwood is the older, mature wood in the center of the tree that provides support for the newer wood around it. That is symbolic of the community we are growing. We are the support for our community and for the greater community around us. Third, the word "commons" designates us as mutually sharing our lives and our talents in such a way that preserves our individuality but reinforces our connections to each other. Heartwood Commons is a community founded on the idea that we are stronger, healthier and happier living intentionally together in this community.



More About Heartwood Commons

Construction will begin soon at our beautiful site in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Our anticipated move-in date is late 2021/early 2022. With only a few homes available, now is the time to get involved. If you'd like to know more about reserving one of our last homes, be sure to reach out to us soon.

[Visit Our Website](#)



Find us on Facebook

Email us at heartwoodcommonstulsa@gmail.com

Call 918-519-5298 to talk to member Suzy Sharp