

The Berkeley Spotlight

The Fairways & The Lake
Summer Edition

Ah summer, what power you have to
make us suffer,
and like it.



It is so hard to choose what is most important and warrants the front page of each newsletter. So, this time we will just have a few nice photos of our front entry, and a list of what to look for inside.

Page 1: New front entry flowers for spring and fall

Page 1: New voice for the Berkeley Spotlight

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The Berkeley Spotlight will have a new voice

Marc Rhodes will be putting together the upcoming newsletters. If you have information you would like included please send the text and digital photographs to Marc at his email listed on page 11. Also, remember that old newsletters are available on our Website--- www.myfairlake.com. And the links to discussed topics have active links.



Thank you to the Board.

Liz Knoedler served as our president last year as we dragged her onto the Board. She has done so many things for the neighborhood since living here it is hard to list them in a newsletter. What stands out about Liz is her good eye. She sees what is going on in the neighborhood and she is willing to do what is necessary to make it right. She is a great neighbor, wonderful friend, and if you know her well she is comic relief in times that a good laugh is needed. I thank her for volunteering and for merely living in our neighborhood.

Debbie Riley had been on the Board for four years. Many of you know her as the Charity lady or the Block Party lady. Outside the neighborhood she is called the Turkey lady. I call myself the Turkey lady's helper. She is the organizer in chief. There is no telling how many people she helps every year but I can tell you she has performed countless good deeds for homeowners in this neighborhood which includes 122 homes full of neighbors. As long as she lives here forever I will be a happy helper.

Marc Rhodes who is remaining on the Board, is our ambassador of the World Wide Web. He saves us all kinds of money managing and hosting our site. Did you know that just one click gets you to security? Did you know that we send real estate agents and prospective new home buyers to our site? Did you know there are photos, covenants, weather, and local services on our site? Our Website makes us 'somebody'. And gives a visual to those who don't live here, and a memory for those of us who do. Marc does lots of different things for the neighborhood, but our Website is the 'Cats Pajamas'.

Getting to know you!

Serving on the Board allowed me to learn the names of all of my neighbors. But learning names was just memorization. I have been lucky enough to know many of you as friends...well enough to know what some dream about at night. I know who's father taught them to make kites, who's favorite golf ball is ProVI and who traded braces for a habit. You have spoiled me with flowers, fresh cherries, homemade soup, bean salad and fresh vegetables from your garden. Wonderful Christmas



cards in my mailbox and gifts and notes left at my door. You pulled weeds in my backyard, brought me rolls and rolls of ribbon, snowmen, dog and cat treats, and photo paper that will last years. You make me love living here. I was taken aback when Debbie stood up at our annual meeting with her sweet voice and the beautiful pink roses. Nathan and I both were taken aback when Matthew stood at the meeting with such funny/kind words and the wonderful gift from our neighbors. All of you have spoiled us rotten. Most of you know that I am not a mushy kind of girl. But you will have to indulge me this once. I count my blessings. Among those blessings I count you. Someone was watching over us, when we chose this neighborhood. With luck, I will be here for a

long time to come. I will get to be one of those neighbors who helps make this place a blessing for others. I thank you with all my heart. END MUSHY.

New Trash Law

As you probably know, our trash pick-up is now in the hands of Waste Pro and Gwinnett County. The fee for trash pick-up will be added to your tax bill. The tax bill will reflect charges for 18 months of service up front. The service is mandatory.

Some things you may not know:

1. Waste Pro had delivered new trash cans to some. If you were a patron of certain Trash companies like Robertson, BFI, Allied, etc. you did not receive a new can. Waste Pro purchased the containers from these companies and they will not replace them unless your can is not functioning properly. You will need to call Waste Pro to request a new can, and prove that your can is damaged. They will also send you a sticker with the Waste Pro logo to place on your old can. Call 770-451-9395
 2. For those of you who would like a smaller can please be warned... If you have too much trash to fit into the can and have to place a bag outside the can, the new law prohibits pickup of anything outside the container. So do not request the smaller 65 gallon can unless you know you will never need the extra room.
 3. Our pickup is scheduled for Thursdays. The first pickup will be July 1, 2010.
 4. Everyone has this service. We do not have the option to cancel service, nor do we have the option to change carriers. If you have any problems with the new company call the county and register your complaint. Gwinnett County Solid Waste Division: 770-822-7141
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Our Trash on Hopkins Mill

(We have some really wonderful neighbors who contribute every year to their community.) Since 2004 we have been the keepers of Hopkins Mill Road. I wonder, if we just quit picking up trash on Hopkins Mill, would those who do not volunteer to help realize how important it is to keep our street cleaned up. Would those who never help even notice the piles of trash on the side of the road?

We picked up 4800 pounds of trash on Hopkins Mill this past year. 120 bags. Thirty five of those bags came from one eviction house. Thank you to all of those people who braved the heat, the cold, the wet and the disgusting. The following people have volunteered to brave the streets again this year. Thank you in advance for your hard work.

June: Lynn Hughes, Bea Williams, Mary Frazier, and Julie.

July: Aimee Gregory, Richard Brimfield

August: Matthew Broyles, Sidhant Singh

September: Janet and Ron Hicks

October: Thomas Oh, Lucia Shim

November: Bruce Curry, Maggie Deutsch

December: David Hostler, Mike Pennesi

January: Janelle and Nathan Clodfelter

February: Betty and Eddie Burchfield

March: Dipti Patel

April: Barbara Kell, Seon Lim

Clean up day has lasted weeks. Our to do list.

It is very rewarding to do the little extras that make the neighborhood look good. We had 25 people help this year. We were able to take care of quite a few items on the list but some of the work has spread out over many weeks...Our list of things to do will show a check mark if completed. Some items on the list we are paying someone to do.

Prepare and paint fences

Cut greenery down at white fence- ✓

Remove mildew with bleach- ✓

Fix a few posts that need nails/remove hindering roots- ✓

Paint the white fence- to be completed during less humid weather

Spot paint the Brown fence- ✓

Work on pathways to lake:

Add rebar on Fairways pathway to prevent erosion- ✓

Pull weeds in walkway- ✓

Add gravel- ✓ (but still needs more)

Replace railroad ties and steps to enter lake area- to be completed by Landscaping crew.

Foreclosure on Creek Ford Drive

Mow front yard- ✓

Bush hog back yard then mow- ✓

Trim bushes and trees that were out of control- ✓

Wash garage windows- ✓

Edge sidewalks- ✓

Pull weeds- ✓

Remove rusted Basketball goal- ✓

Trash pickup on all of Hopkins Mill- ✓

Front entry and lake entry signs

NO Boating No Fishing sign-posts replaced in cement, sanded and primed- ✓

No solicitation sign-posts sanded and primed- ✓

No Boating signs, sanded, primed, and painted- ✓

No solicitation signs sanded, primed, and painted- ✓

Round-up application on our streets to kill grass in pavement- ✓

A big thanks to the following people for helping with our big neighborhood clean-up: Chang, Lee, Richard, Pam, Janet, Eileen, Iris, Bruce, Clarence, Melisa, Nathan, Janelle, Matthew, Lucia, Seon, Lynn, Julie, LeAnn, Mike, Ruth, Aimee, Freddie, Garrick, Debbie, Antonio.

Walk on By

We are in a time when we cannot just walk on by and expect things to be taken care of by someone else. Many of you have recognized this sign of times and stopped to solve the problem. We have some foreclosures in the neighborhood that will not be taken care of by banks, because the banks are so far behind in the processing. So, when the grass gets tall we have to mow it. When there is trash lying around, we pick it up. When doors are standing wide open, we close them. Of course we could always raise the annual dues to handle these sorts of things. Couldn't we???

What is Pre-emergent ?

I know you have seen the signs. "Time to Fertilize" and "Apply Pre-Emergent". Our good neighbor is placing those signs out for all to see at precisely the right time. When you see the fertilize sign, that means fertilize your lawn with fertilizer. Just fertilizer. NO WEED KILLER. Preferred brand is Scotts Turf Builder fertilizer with 2% iron.



We apply pre-emergent in early November for poa annua and in late February for crabgrass.

When you see the "Apply Pre-Emergent" sign, you should apply the appropriate preventer. Preferred brand is Scotts Halts. You must stick to the plan for multiple years to get your yard in shape. It does not happen overnight. Be diligent and do not give up. Do what our yard specialist says and a few years from now you will be green as green can be. Also, see a more detailed yard maintenance program on our Website...



www.MyFairLake.com

Traffic light at Satellite and Hopkins Mill

Gwinnett County DOT said there is not enough traffic on our road to warrant a traffic light installation at the intersection of Hopkins Mill and Satellite Boulevard. I expected the response. Maybe many in the neighborhood will make the request and eventually we will get the answer we need. This is a dangerous intersection. Until we finally get a traffic light please be extra careful.



The letter I received states in part: "Please accept this letter as a follow up to your request for signalization at the intersection of Satellite Blvd. at Hopkins Mill Road. We have conducted traffic studies to determine if a signal would improve the traffic safety in the area. We look at a variety of issues: current traffic volumes, delay and traffic accident experience. While we understand your concern, the intersection does not meet our criteria for the installation of a signal."

Financials -Year end May 1, 2010
and projections for 2010-2011

| | Description | Actual Fiscal Year 2008-2009 | Projected Fiscal Year 2009-2010 |
|---|--|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Current Funds | | | |
| Checking Account | | 11817.61 | |
| Certificates Deposit | | 5500.00 | 5500 |
| Total | | 17317.61 | |
| Received/projected Initiation fees | | 1500.00 | 1,200 |
| Outstanding Dues Security Fees | | | 23,400 |
| Current Checking | | | 11817 |
| Total Projected Available funds less CD | | | 36,417 |
| Expenses May 07- Apr 08 | | | |
| Taxes | Property/ Income, corporate | 43.62 | 50 |
| Maintenance/ New Front Entry lights New greenery | Drip hoses, lake pump electricity | 5661.37 | 2,500 |
| Insurance | Monuments Lake Officers | 1263.00 | 1,300 |
| Office Supplies | 2 newsletters, mailbox rental, yard signs, checks | 407.02 | 500 |
| Landscaping | Front entry's, lake, flowers | 8674.10 | 9,000 |
| Electric | Front Entry's | 699.00 | 800 |
| Water | Front Entry's | 722.97 | 700 |
| Social Events | Annual meeting/work day | 555.71 | 550 |
| Gifts/Misc | Welcome baskets neighbors/newborns | 270.00 | 300 |
| Security | Gwin. Co Off duty police | 17080.00 | 20,000 |
| Total | | 35,377.68 | 35,700 |

Annual Meeting Minutes

Accomplishments

The front entries received a makeover:

- New wiring and new lights

 - These are already providing a significant cost savings. The electric bill is down \$200 on an annual basis and none of the new bulbs have been replaced yet. (The old system blew bulbs on a frequent basis.)

- New dirt, New bushes and flowers

- Fence repaired and the root that was deforming the fence was cut out.

- Monuments pressure washed

Appreciation was given to all the volunteers who made these improvements possible.

A block party was held in the fall.

Volunteers continue to pick up trash on Hopkins Mill Road. 120 40-pound bags were collected over the past year. Thank you gifts were given to the volunteers.

The charitable work that our association does was appreciated. Debbie Riley read thank you letters that we received after our Thanksgiving and Christmas distributions and gave out thank you gifts to those who have helped with the charity work.

The association web site, <http://myfairlake.com>, continues to be maintained by Marc Rhodes.

A newsletter and a warning flyer were provided in print form to all residents. Many thanks to Janelle Clodfelter.

Other volunteers who make our neighborhood a better place were appreciated:

- Covenant Control Committee, Architectural Control Committee

- Matthew Broyles for the holiday décor at our front entryways

- Richard Lay for heading up the Lawn and Weed Control Committee

- Richard and Belle for the welcome baskets they bring to new residents and the baskets for other life events. This work got a little bit harder since hard times mean that Publix no longer donates for the baskets as they did in the past.

Security

Officers continue to patrol our neighborhood in marked and unmarked cars thanks to our security assessment. One neighbor mentioned a web site, <http://www.gwinnettmugs.com/>, that shows people recently admitted to the Gwinnett County Detention Center. Officer Ponder spoke briefly to the group. He mentioned his experience with white-collar crime and mentioned particularly the problem of theft from mailboxes and the problems with identity theft that can follow.

Complaints

There are some homeowners with more cars than will fit in their garage and driveway. This was discussed at length. Tabled to investigate options.

New Business

Residents were asked to volunteer for the big cleanup on Saturday, May 22.

The new trash pickup system in the county was discussed.

New officers introduced

Minutes submitted by Marc Rhodes.

Some memories of the year

Block Party in November

To be young again. It was rather fun sitting around the bond fires, wrapped in blankets as we chatted with our friends. We ate hotdogs, beans, coleslaw....And dessert. We had stadium lighting and that crazy Cornhole game to play. Baby it was cold outside, but everyone who attended looked a little younger with those rosy pink cheeks, smiles, and hometown or team jerseys. We even had a DJ. Rah Rah to the team. Thanks for all the good food and the hard work getting prepared (Debbie, Matthew, Nathan, Suk, Liz, and Maggie). Another Block Party success. Keep 'em coming.



Halloween for the kids

Once again, Matthew met them getting off the school bus. The kids came screaming and running full out for their Halloween treats. You may not know this, but the kids talk about this all year. And come fall, they start asking...When are the goblins coming? Take a look at the photo to the right. This is why the kids get so excited. Matthew sets them up for celebration. Balloons and bags full of candy, toys, other goodies and of course a toothbrush.

If you would like to see these big smiles as they run from the bus, take a peek out your window the week before Halloween.



Charity photos

Thanks to Debbie and many good neighbors, many families and children had a nice holiday. Really it was so much more than that. If you had been at our annual meeting you would have heard the heart wrenching letter written to Debbie giving thanks to everyone for, in actuality, her life. We also provided 12 families with a Thanksgiving plus meal. Holidays can be hard at times, and a little help can make a world of difference. To the right is a photo of the gifts given to one child. We wrap everything up pretty, then put all gifts in one large bike bag. We then deliver to the Sheltering Arms facility.



Our Security

All goes well in our neighborhood. Remember, when you are headed out of town for any reason, email our head of security Norm Howard at:

thefairwaysatthelake@yahoo.com

You will need to give the dates of departure and return. An emergency contact number. And provide house sitting or pet sitting descriptions.



Have you noticed that many people from other neighborhoods take their walks in our neighborhood. I have been told by these walkers that they come to our neighborhood because it is a safe neighborhood and is picturesque. Lots of flowers to look at.

As well, we have been approached by two surrounding neighborhoods asking what they could do to make their streets look like ours. They are now in the process of getting their HOA reinstated or getting votes to add security. They are going to get back with us when they have made progress. Once they show their commitment, we will be able to give them a bit more direction. It would be wonderful if the majority of surrounding neighborhoods add their own security.

Refrigerator Magnet

Please keep the insert provided in this newsletter. It has a magnet attached. You can store this on your refrigerator for quick access to important numbers. One side included emergency and county numbers, the other side provides contact info for Board and committee members.

Welcome Welcome

We have a new baby, and some new neighbors. We would like to welcome Khloe with at K just born and a little cutie. We would also like to welcome new neighbors, Key Wyatt, Jewel Hunt, The Weavers, Daniel Cooper, The Youns, Doris Virgil, Drew Clark. A note to new neighbors, please give us a call if you need anything.

Belle, Richard and Matthew continue to provide Welcome baskets to new neighbors. Unfortunately, Publix no longer contributes. But Belle gets some great products to add to baskets at really good prices. These baskets are such a big hit. I heard one fellow who was helping his friend move to this neighborhood say, Wow I wish my neighborhood did something like this. Then he choked when we handed him a neighborhood phonebook. A great place to live.



Wasted space

Filler: this could be your spot to put some piece of information out to the neighbors. Let us know what you have to say.

Have you ever seen a moonflower? They bloom at dusk. A little before nightfall. There are a few vines planted around the neighborhood. They should start

blooming in July. If you see one, take a whiff. They have a wonderful fragrance.

Received complaints from Neighbors

Parking in the street

The mail person asked me to put this in our newsletter. She can't get to your mailbox, you will be required to pick-up your mail at the post office. Unfortunately, so will your neighbor, if you park in front of their home. Please stop parking in the street.

Commercial Vehicles (including autos with signage)

Commercial vehicles must be parked in the garage or left at your place of business. Our covenants require this to help keep the neighborhood looking like a neighborhood, not a business parking lot.

Speeding?

Oh come on. Are you going so fast that you can't see the children playing?

Dogs (you are responsible for the poop/pee/and leash)

It hurts when you work hard to get your lawn to look great then all of a sudden this dead spot appears. Ugly yellow. Now, I have a dog. My dog pees in my own yard or in natural areas. NEVER IN SOMEONE ELSE'S YARD. Hey, your dogs poop may not stink, but your dogs pee will kill the grass. And be good enough not to make a neighbor step in your dogs poop. Pick it up...it's the law.

Also note: It is THE LAW, all dogs must be on a leash when outside the home and unconfined in the backyard.

New Homeowners Association Board

Contact Information

Here is the Homeowner's Association Board and committee contact Information for 2010-2011. Please feel free to contact them. Keep these names on your refrigerator for easy access. Please take the insert within this newsletter and put it on your refrigerator.

Homeowners Association Board.

President: Bruce Curry -----Ph: 770-248-1177
..... Email: ZackCurry@bellsouth.net

Vice President: Maggie Deutsch -----Ph: 770-734-0907
..... Email: Maggie677@bellsouth.net

Secretary Marc Rhodes-----Ph: 404-702-9620
..... Email: MarcRhodes@mac.com

Treasurer:..... Chuck Whelan-----Ph: 770-441-1650
..... Email: CLWhelan@bellsouth.net

Architectural Control

Nathan Clodfelter----Ph: 770-416-9550

Covenant Control Committee

If you want to report a covenant violation, please contact the person listed below who represents the street in which the violation is occurring. For instance: If someone on Fairway View Court is violating a covenant then you should call Ron Hicks. If you live on Creek Ford call Garrick, etc., etc. Chuck Whelan is the chairman of this committee. So if you are unable to report the violation to the person listed below, Chuck will be the back-up.

Lake Ford Circle: Mary Frazier-----Ph: 404-319-0502
Creek Ford Drive: Garrick Riley-----Ph: 770-729-8997
Fairway View's: Ron Hicks -----Ph: 770-441-1650

Security

Email: thefairwaysatthelake@yahoo.com

Website: www.myfairlake.com

I hate to cook

The problem is, I do not want to eat processed foods. Too much salt. I can't eat out every night, because it is too expensive and I get tired of ordering and having to explain, no salt please. I know there are a number of great cooks in this neighborhood, but I found a great cook who is willing to fix me a few meals each week. The food is fresh, often cooked on the grill, and I just freeze each meal and pull it out when I am ready to eat. So far I have had garlic chicken and spicy green beans, pork tenderloin and brocolli, tilapia cooked on brocolli salad, 15 bean soup and I am waiting on my egg buritos. All of the food is prepared in a healthy fashion...low carb, low salt, low fat, and it still tastes great. Mary Frazier is the gourmet preparing my food. If there is anyone else like me who hates to cook, and likes the ease of just pulling something healthy out of the freezer, give her a call:
404-319-0502

I never use the oven timer. My smoke alarm is louder.

Does your dog stink?

Many of the dog owners in this neighborhood are utilizing the Services of Dog Grooming by Jan. Everyone loves the way she bathes, and trims their small to medium size little doggies. Jan has 15 years of experience and has a quiet, stress free Location in Duluth. To make an appointment to have your Pets groomed, call 770-680-3737. Jan is offering our neighborhood 20% off of the first groom. It is hot outside for those furry animals. A little Trim goes a long way toward cooling them off. Give her a call.



Remember the dues

The annual dues were supposed to be paid by May 1st 2010. If you have not paid please get that taken care of as soon as possible. We have to pay for water, electric, security, etc. The dues are not used to pay volunteers on the boards. Please do not make them work their tails off to get the dues paid.

Primary Elections July 20th



Remember our primary election will be on July 20th, 2010. Get out and vote. The general elections will be held on November 2nd, 2010.

Gwinnett County residents will soon start casting their ballots for the July 20 primary election.

The county's Voter Registration and Election Office in Lawrenceville will be open during weekday business hours starting Friday for early voting, which runs through July 16. Voters have to complete an application, provide identification and cast the ballot in the same day.