

North Lakes Homes Association

June 2008 Newsletter

Dues Increase Rescinded

In April, Gerry Calk distributed a letter to the community announcing that the dues would be increased from the current \$105 per quarter to \$150. The reason for the increase was to increase the reserve fund to address lake dredging and accelerate the timeframe in which this issue could be addressed. We have since been advised of a potential alternative to dredging that may be far more cost effective. This alternative involves introducing a microorganism into the lakes that feed on the decayed leaves and algae that accumulate in the lake and result in algae blooms. If this alternative proves viable, or if other potential solutions are found, it may be possible to address the community's short-term needs with existing reserves and the current fee structure. At this time, we are not certain that this alternative will completely eliminate the need for dredging in the longer term, but it would remove the sludge, and reduce deposits to be dredged. We will evaluate potential alternatives and share the findings at the annual meeting in October.

Work Day Volunteers

A very special "thank you" goes out to all of the individuals that participated in the Spring Work Day event. A group of ~twenty people donated their time and energy to paint both sides of the stucco wall along Montclair, to seeding the bare spots in our common areas, clean-up of the tables, chairs and bathrooms at the pool to prepare for its opening, mulching, trimming, weeding and spraying the plants at the entrances, pool, and West end of the lake. A special thanks goes out to Gerry Calk and Alex Maslow for coordinating these efforts, and to all of the preparatory and follow-up work he has done on the wall and the entrance signs! A "partial" list of the volunteers includes: Carla Atwood, Rick Valdivia, Gerry & Susan Calk, John & Martha Rolf, Keith Phillips, Mary & Scott Jensen, Richard & Kelly Vogel, Sam & Tara Wineinger, Mark & Deb Greising, and Jan Seller. We would also like to acknowledge a member of our community that always donated her time and energy to the community – Linda Chapman. Linda has moved from the area, closer to her mother.

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New Board Member

Effective June 21, Gerry Calk has resigned from the Board of Directors to accept a new position as Fleet Manager for the City of Austin, TX. Sam Wineinger has been appointed by the Board to fill the vacant role for the remainder of the year.

We would like to thank Gerry for his service to the community, and to welcome Sam to the Board.

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting for North Lakes Homes Association will be held on Thursday, October 16. There is a great deal of business to discuss at this annual meeting, and we hope everyone will make plans to attend. A more detailed notice will be distributed in September, but take advantage of this opportunity to put it on your calendar.

A Word About Community

North Lakes is a family community. We are blessed to have such an oasis in the middle of a busy metropolitan area – a place where we can enjoy the beauty and serenity of two small lakes and surrounding greenways, the convenience of a community pool, and a safe environment for raising a family. With recent events, we seem to have lost sight of the sense of community that has always characterized North Lakes. At such times it is important for all of us to “take a step back” and bear in-mind that we are all a part of something unique in this day-and-age. This neighborhood, and all of its assets, are available for the enjoyment of all of its members. We are not a conglomeration of disparate “special interests.” As a community, we need to respect one another, even when our views on issues may differ. Please remember to respect the rights of your neighbors – whether it is their property and privacy or their access to the common areas and lakes of the community.