



# NORTHWOOD TRAILS

## *Newsletter*

March – April 2017

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[www.eneighbors.com](http://www.eneighbors.com)

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### NOTES FROM YOUR BOARD PRESIDENT

By Julie Pickerill

Spring is the perfect time to begin sprucing up your yard and exterior of your house. Please keep in mind we all need to work together to keep our home values high.

One thing to keep in mind **is our neighborhood has one of the lowest dues in the entire area.** Keeping our dues low has been a consistent mainstay in our neighborhood. **The reason we can keep our dues low is because of the many volunteers we have working behind the scenes.** We could sure use more volunteers not only as board members, but also as members of committees. The Social, Pool, Pond and Grounds committees are always looking for more volunteers to help with all of the activities and upkeep each committee has for each year.

If you have not yet done so, I encourage you to register with eNeighbors (our website). There you will find information on upcoming meetings, social events, classified ads, etc. Registration is easy. Just follow the instructions at the end of this newsletter. Please keep in mind that the only directory that will be available from now on is the directory that you can print from the eNeighbors website that you create by adding yourself to the website.

Please be sure to pick up after your dog when you are walking around the neighborhood. Not only do you need to pick up dog waste from the

street and neighbors yards, but also any common ground area.

Dues invoices were sent out on January 1st. If you did not pay your dues by March 1st, you will be getting a reminder billing and a \$35 late-payment penalty will have been added. The only source of income to Northwood Trails is the annual dues you pay as a member of the homes association. The homes association is legally obligated to provide for certain services to maintain the value of the neighborhood and depends on the dues income for this purpose. If you have not yet paid your 2017 dues, please do so now.

The next board meeting is on March 14th at 7:00 pm. The April board meeting is on the 11th, also at 7:00 pm. We meet at Grace United Methodist Church across the street. As usual, the first 30 minutes is reserved for member input.

### GROUNDS COMMITTEE NEWS

By Regina Wittman

Starting out the new year our paid crew, DSLawn will be on board again and they have already cleared much of the over growth around the perimeter of the open field south of the parking lot. Many trees along the stream had low hanging limbs that made it difficult to mow and the brushy growth along the stream tends to take over. Walking along the trail becomes less enjoyable when you have to dodge branches!

The park bench along the trail at the stream was cleaned and stained last year, so please take advantage of this peaceful and scenic seating area.

The second item on the grounds agenda will be to clear out the dead (or dying) locust trees from the Southwest corner of the pool fence. We originally planned to take them out last Fall, but ran out of time and money.

Thirdly, we will have DSLawn repair the damaged turf areas around the outside faucet near the Volley ball court. There is significant work to be done there to get it back to the level it was prior to our Fall sidewalk project. The entire project was not as simple as we had first envisioned. We are hoping it will be worth the mess it caused and that the faucet will function better this Summer season.

Please remember to always clean up after your dogs. The field which I spoke of earlier is a shared community space and is **not an off leash dog park**. There are tons of droppings in that whole field. Please use the doggie bags that are available just west of the parking lot. No matter where you are walking your pets, remember to take a couple of bags just in case. Produce bags from the grocer work great and are easy to chuck in your pocket!

## ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE NEWS

By Rick Pickerill

Understanding neighborhood and city requirements can help NWT homeowners understand the things they need to be mindful of when it comes to maintaining or modifying their homes. Below are a few things to keep in mind.

**Did you know?** Per deed restriction 5: unsightly projections are not allowed on the front of any home and must be approved prior to attaching to the side or back of any home. This includes but is not limited to air conditioners, basketball

goals, solar panels, satellite dishes, and TV antennas.

**Did you know?** Per deed restriction 20: other than the normal parking in driveways of automobiles in running condition; storage of other vehicles on any property including on the driveway is prohibited unless stored in the garage. This includes but is not limited to motor homes, camping trailers, boats and boat trailers.

**Did you know?** Per Olathe Municipal Code all property owners must maintain the exterior of their homes such that there is no chipping, peeling or missing paint. Also, fences including gates, are to be maintained in sound condition free of damage, breaks or missing structural members.

Following the deed restrictions and city codes keeps our entire neighborhood looking great and keeping it attractive to others maintains our property values at the highest levels.

Questions/concerns? Contact the Architectural Committee by emailing [rickpickerill@gmail.com](mailto:rickpickerill@gmail.com).

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE

By Shanna Evans

We've started of the year with lots of new ideas and energy. We'd like to take a moment and thank all of the people who have volunteered their time to the NWT Community over the past year. Without you, we would not be able to accomplish all that we have. We celebrated all volunteers with an evening out at Sake Lounge in February and enjoyed great sushi and company.

Our next event will be the Easter Egg Hunt on April 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am at the park. Bring your kids and grandkids and come on out, there will be fun for all; face painting, an egg hunt and more!

In looking ahead, the Northwood Trails Spring Garage Sale will be held May 5 & 6, so start cleaning out those closets! If you still have items leftover that you would like to donate, please take them to the pool tower by 4pm and they will be picked up by a local charity.

We are always looking for more volunteers in order to put on these great events for our neighborhood. Please consider volunteering your time to the committee; we meet the first Thursday of each month. If attending regular meetings isn't possible, we are always looking for support on the day of our events or behind-the-scenes projects. Our March meeting is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> at Chris Brown's home and our April meeting is on the 6<sup>th</sup> at Shanna Evans' home. Please contact Shanna for location details: [sevansoe@olatheschools.org](mailto:sevansoe@olatheschools.org).

## **POOL COMMITTEE NEWS**

By Ian Tillinghast

We are looking forward to another fun year at the pool. Overland Park Pools will be responsible for maintaining our water quality this year as they did in 2016. They will also be responsible for the Pool Management in 2017. We will hire our own attendants and they will be supervised by Overland Park Pools.

The Pool Information and Emergency Contact forms are required in order to receive your pool sticker. **THE POOL STICKERS WILL NOT BE MAILED.** Please print off and bring your completed forms to the pool to pick up your sticker for 2017; exact dates will be announced in the coming months. The next newsletter will have more information on the pool opening and closing dates. As always, if you are interested in helping on the pool committee, contact Ian Tillinghast (913) 981-3780, for more information. Remember, if you have not paid your NWT dues you cannot use the pool.

## **POND COMMITTEE NEWS**

By Patrick Madden

It isn't Spring yet so although the pond looks fresh and safe it can fool you. When we have several cold days the pond freezes slightly and the ice is inviting but unsafe. We have posted hazard signs to make people aware of this risk but please caution your kids not to be tempted to walk on the soft ice.

On these warmer days through late winter, fishing is still available. We have seen a few hearty individuals fishing from the bank and hope they have had good luck. Even if you are not a fisherman though, the pond is a pleasant place to view as you hike around Northwood Trails and stop to enjoy some peace and quiet on the dock. We want people to enjoy the pond year-round.

Spring is just around the corner and your Pond Committee is already preparing for it as we meet to discuss the return of the fountains and pond treatment and get ready for our Summer social event - the Fishing Derby. We have a wonderful committee that is devoted to the pond and put in a lot of hours so we can all enjoy the experience and beauty of the pond. Thanks to you all.

## **NEW NEIGHBORS**

The following families have recently moved into Northwood Trails. If you are new to the neighborhood, and have not been listed here, please contact Julie Pickerill at 495-9514.

*Yong Bin Huang &  
Dan Dan Jiang  
18337 West 117th Street*

*Douglas & Kari Wagner  
18835 West 117th Street*

## CONTACT US

The Northwood Trails newsletter is published bi-monthly. To contact the Northwood Trails Homes Association, e-mail Julie Rippberger, Secretary, at [julie.rippberger@gmail.com](mailto:julie.rippberger@gmail.com). For the newsletter, send an e-mail to Erin Fletcher at [fletcher.erinj@gmail.com](mailto:fletcher.erinj@gmail.com)

## eNeighbors

Haven't registered yet? Follow these instructions:

1. Go to <http://www.eneighbors.com/> and search for "Northwood Trails"
2. Click "Join Neighborhood"
3. Click "Join by using my street address instead."
4. Complete the sign up form and follow the on-screen instructions to finish

If you need technical support with the website, please send an email to [support@eneighbors.com](mailto:support@eneighbors.com) for help.

### **Northwood Trails Homes Association**

4200 Somerset Drive, Suite 216  
Prairie Village, KS 66208

### **RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**