



# NORTHWOOD TRAILS

## Newsletter

eNeighbors.com • November – December, 2022

### Notes From Your Board President

Julie Pickerill • [jpickerill61@gmail.com](mailto:jpickerill61@gmail.com)



**Reminder: the 2022 Northwood Trails Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 15 at 7 p.m. at Grace United Methodist Church. Please check in at 6:30 p.m.**

We will be electing new members to next year's Board. The Board hopes you will attend the meeting; but if you can't, please remember to complete the proxy you will be receiving in the mail. The quorum for an official annual meeting is 69 voting members, either in-person or by proxy, so your proxy is important if you are unable to attend. You can mail it to: Sally Noltemeyer, 11428 S Northwood Circle, or drop it by this address: 18520 W 116th Street, or send it with a neighbor to the meeting.

Please consider volunteering for a few hours each month for one of the many committees we have in our neighborhood.

### Upcoming Events

**Northwood Trails Annual Homeowners Meeting**  
Tuesday, Nov. 15  
7 p.m. (registration at 6:30)  
Grace United Methodist Church

*NWT Board will present 2022 highlights, elections of new Board members for 2022 will be decided, and budget will be presented.*

**Cookies with Santa**  
December, details TBD



Creative neighborhood autumn decorations; photo submitted by Fox Foxworthy

### From The Treasurer

Bryan Kelling

Can you believe the end of 2022 is around the corner already? With that, our Associations' year-end is also around the corner. As many of you have experienced in your daily lives, costs have increased. This is the same for your Association. With the annual meeting coming up Nov. 15, this is a great opportunity to hear about the challenges we face and the solutions we have put forth. 2023 dues notices will go out the end of December, and there will be an early pay discount option available again like in past years. Being part of a community means being accountable to others in the community. There are small actions that can go a long way towards helping curb costs of providing

amenities for us all. Maintenance and operational costs will continue to rise, so anything we can do as a community to avoid unnecessary repair costs means it costs the Association less to provide the community experience we have all come to enjoy. I would like to thank each and every member of our community for your support, be it financial, volunteer, or participant. You all are what make Northwood Trails a fantastic place to live.

#### Do you need anything?

Our hospitality committee is here to help. Contact Brittany Craemer at [hospitalityNWT@gmail.com](mailto:hospitalityNWT@gmail.com).

## **Grounds Committee News**

*Gerry Buehler*

Have you wondered what it costs to maintain the grounds in Northwood Trails? The answer is, it costs a lot.

### **YOUR DUES DOLLARS AT WORK IN 2022**

Removing dead trees and limbs from common area . . . . . \$12,570

Repairing and maintaining the sprinkler system . . . . . \$1,249.50

DS Lawn contract. . . . . \$21,283

Gutter repairs at porch, refurbished entrance lights, leaf removal, new plants at 116th and 117th entrances, and more . . . . . several thousand

As of October 16th, we have spent \$43,385.

This does not include about \$70,000 for trail replacement and sealing, nor does it include the electric and water bills.

There are many projects that we would like to accomplish in 2023, but they require a hefty budget. Please attend our homeowners' meeting on November 15th for more details.

Do you see an area in our common areas that needs attention? Contact Gerry. If you would like to be a part of our grounds committee, please contact [GerryBuehler@sbcglobal.net](mailto:GerryBuehler@sbcglobal.net). or 913-894-0154.

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## **Architectural Committee News**

*Andy VandenHull*

I just wanted to thank the great volunteers on the architecture committee: Rick Pickerill, Tom Harrington, and Tim Wilson!

On a related note, if you want to join one of the best committees in the neighborhood please email me. We would love to talk to you about helping out the neighborhood!

The annual meeting is coming up soon; we'd love to see you there!

Don't forget to submit architectural requests to our committee using the form on eNeighbors.com.

Have a good holiday season!

## **Pool Committee News**

*Susie Kelling*

WOW - what an awesome pool season we had! We hope you all enjoyed the extended pool season this year.

I'd like to thank the entire Pool Committee for their dedication to making our pool experience great this year. Also, thank you to each and every Pool Attendant we employed this year. They proved not only to be hard working individuals, but displayed ethical, responsible behavior making our pool a fun, safe, family-oriented place for our residents to enjoy.

While we have wrapped up the pool season for this year, we will continue planning for the 2023 pool season. We hope to have some new furniture to add to the pool deck as well as an electronic access point/gate for next year. Stay tuned for more info to come regarding the access point gate and the process of receiving a fob to access the pool next year!



Furry friends enjoyed the pool closing doggie dive on Tuesday, Sept. 27. Photos submitted by Matt Noltemeyer and Sara Selensky.

## Social Committee News

*Abby VandenHull*

As we come to the end of our event season, I want to thank everyone who helped make all of these events possible. The social committee worked tirelessly this year, and recently we enjoyed the doggie dive and the fall bbq and dessert competition. All of these events are made possible through help and attendance from the neighborhood, and we are blessed to have such a fun neighborhood to do our events for. For the rest of this year - we have cookies with Santa coming up. There will also be a mailbox set out by the pool tower where children can mail letters to Santa (he responds!). Both of these are a fun way to enjoy the neighborhood and have some holiday fun, so we hope to see you there.

Looking forward to next year - we need your help. Watch for our events and the sign up genius that accompanies each event, or the announcements for help, and come volunteer to keep these events as fun as ever. These neighbor volunteer slots are extremely important to keeping our events running smoothly. If you want to do, more feel free to contact me about joining the committee We would love to have your help!



Bryan Kelling, Mark Shuck, and Kathy Currie enjoyed participating in the BBQ Competition on Oct. 8.

## Pond Committee News

*Matt Noltemeyer*

Greetings Northwood Trailsians! I hope your fall baking season is progressing with health, happiness, and an attitude of gratitude as your twilight pond-strolling minutes grow fewer by the day. Weeks slide by seemingly with greater haste since the conclusion of the extended pool season begat a thoroughly soaked doggie dive that made way for the BBQ competition. Thanks to the volunteer social committee for an exceptional event!

Your water feature this fall features a freshly sealed dock centered on a newly paved trail, perfect for a health-conscious canine out crushing his daily step goal or helping her human companions catch up on a must-hear podcast or audiobook.

Those unplugging entirely will hear the fountains and see the bubblers cycling clean, clear water thanks to an all-volunteer team crewed by Max Mueller, Keith Read, and Pat Madden.

While the weeks have been mostly quiet pond-side, there was some activity worth addressing for all. A neighbor in mid-October posted to neighborhood socials that her son and friends had been photographed at the pond on separate occasions while “hanging out and not doing anything wrong.”

I quote the post merely out of necessity; I didn't witness the activity, and from what I can tell, neither did any neighbor save for the mystery lensman. Now, we all know Northwood Trails youth are the best in the Midwest. I hope I'm raising mine to hold up the tradition. And yet, in my personal parental experience, I've found kids to be unreliable narrators at times.

Context matters. What activity was taking place, if not in the moment a photo was snapped, then in the preceding period when perhaps boisterous pond play (allowed) drew a neighbor's attention to vandalism (not allowed)?

Context matters because, just as with the pool and grounds committees, the pond committee's a steward of a neighborhood resource that costs real homeowner money to maintain and repair, budgeting for which has been a tough ask amid skyrocketing inflation amid a recession.

Context matters because the fish food machine was *(continued on back)*

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used as a freestanding kickboxing bag the first half of summer. Context matters because some active youths unearthed dam landscaping stones for a splash contest a fortnight ago. In the latter case, the youngsters complied. But in at least two cases in recent years, the vandals persisted past polite requests.

Context matters because, while we are in no way pond police patrolling for bad language and curfew violations, committee members and pond-adjacent neighbors will continue to call out vandalism as it is witnessed.

Context matters, and going forward we'll not hesitate to snap and post a pic of anyone who opts not to desist destruction after a polite but stern request. We think a clear outlay of this commonsense policy coming from you will make sense to young neighbors headed out for a hang at your Northwood Trails Pond. They might just become neighborhood ambassadors, teaching visiting friends the respectful Northwood Trails way.

Address comments on this or any pond issue to [MattNoltemeyer@gmail.com](mailto:MattNoltemeyer@gmail.com) or join our volunteer crew. See you at the annual association meeting!

## Welcome, New Neighbors

**Justin & Kathryn Bilyeu**

18613 West 117th Street

**Katie Holman**

18800 West 116th Street

**James Laird**

18590 West 117th Street

**Trey & Chloe Bales**

11555 Northwood Drive

**Zephan Woods & Miranda Koors**

11518 South Millview Road

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- Search for "Northwood Trails."

[Facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com)

- Group: "Northwood Trails - KS."