

Prairie Ridge Homes Association

Winter 2011 Newsletter

Hi Neighbors,

I love the cleansing season of winter, especially after the brutal scorching summer we had. So many plants and trees stressed no matter how much water we gave them. They put up a gallant fight but the foliage suffered anyway. So now that the beleaguered leaves have fallen and the trees and shrubs are bare we can see things that were hidden behind that foliage. I have found lost toys, golf, and tennis balls, and missing gardening tools among the leaves and withering plant material. It's like a treasure hunt! While I was raking one afternoon I stopped to enjoy the sun shining on the neighboring yards. I noticed a bird bath and a reflecting ball where I never saw one before. I also saw the beginnings of what I think must be a compost pile. There is a lovely stone wall off in the distance. The leafy summer bushes must have been hiding that from my line of sight. It made me start wondering what my neighbors see in my yard when standing on their deck, or patio, or front yard for that matter. Do they see my trash containers thoughtfully stored in the backyard so they are not visible from the front? Yes, they do, and sometimes it's not pretty. What can I do to make that easier on their eyes? I store some plant pots and gardening tools in a corner, but from their yard it just looks like a pile of forgotten items. Now is a great time to walk to your property line and survey your domain. Look at it from your neighbors' perspective. Do you like what you see? Is the shed rusting or the door off its track? Can that down spout be straightened and will it need some touch-up paint in the spring? What about those bikes and plastic yard toys? We all have tons of "stuff" and we have our property to keep it on. Just keeping that "stuff" tidy could make a neighbor very happy. Maybe now is a good time to wonder into your neighbor's yard and look at your own to see what the winter season has exposed for all to look at for the next five months. Do you like what you see? I'll bet it is in pretty good shape because you live in Prairie Ridge and we have pride in our homes. But every so often a little something needs some extra attention and we didn't even know it - until you look at it from a different angle.

It's been a great year and I'm looking forward to a wonderful lush, green, spring for all of us.

Have a safe and warm winter.
Dianne Pallanich
Board President





Introducing Your Prairie Ridge Board Members

Dianne Pallanich, President

648-1929 pallanich@sbcglobal.net

Dianne has not only lived in Prairie Ridge for 43 years...she's been in the same house! She says there have been many modifications over the years. She has served on the board for a little over 18 years and has held various positions and duties, saying she has "loved every minute." In addition to her current position as president, she is also an island volunteer helping keep the 75th & Juniper Island looking great!

Carole Mosher, New Neighbor

381-3108 carole.mosher@att.net

After growing up in the Northeast part of the United States Carole attended college in the Midwest. She liked this part of the country so much she stayed! Eventually she moved to Prairie Ridge in 1988. She has loved the neighborhood so much she's owned 3 different homes here. Now she's helping others buy and sell as a real estate agent for Reece & Nichols (913-652-4342-office or 913-626-7863-cell). Carole just joined the board for the first time this year.

Beth Cavanaugh, Island Maintenance

428-6638 editorcavsgarden@kc.rr.com

Bringing her experience as a small business owner to the board, Beth has been publishing The Kansas City Gardener, monthly gardening magazine, for 15 years along with her husband. That is almost as long as they have lived in Prairie Ridge (almost 16 years). This is Beth's first time to serve on the Board. She joined in July.

Margie Lundy, Special Events

649-3155 kansaspiggy@kc.rr.com

Moving to the area to work as a TWA "hostess." in the 60s, Margie moved to Prairie Ridge in 1965. She has loved the KC area so much as well as the neighborhood. Prairie Ridge is the first and only place her family has lived in the area. Having been on the board for several years, she has served as secretary, treasurer and president during that time.

Marc Montoy, Treasurer

901-9077 marc.montoy@gmail.com

When Marc joined the board he took on the finances! He has served as treasurer for 4 years, but has been a homeowner in Prairie Ridge for 11!

Kelly Henning, Newsletter

381-2885 henninghaus@att.net

When deciding to become a home owner for the first time in 2001, Kelly and her husband choose Prairie Ridge. They have not looked back and have taken advantage of this great neighborhood to start a family and raise their kids. Kelly has served on the board for 4 years and has served as secretary and handled the newsletter during that time.

Tis the Season...

As a neighborhood, the Prairie Ridge Homes Association donates annually to the **Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund** in Prairie Village. The lit tree, located in the Corinth Shopping Center is a reminder of the city's utility assistance and home maintenance program which is available to Prairie Village residents who qualify. Donations have assisted Prairie Village families for over twenty years. www.pvkansas.com

A donation was also made to **Santa America, Inc.** This national volunteer service organization has a very special mission. Over one-hundred Santas across America visit children and families in crisis. Santa Claus visits when a child or family needs him—twelve months a year—bringing love, hope and joy to special needs children in a loving visit of about an hour at home, hospital, or hospice. www.santa-america.org

To make your own charitable donation to either of these groups visit their websites for more information.

NOMINATE YOUR NEIGHBOR!

Have you noticed a home in Prairie Ridge that has been improved in some way...whether it be a great seasonal display or décor, improved landscaping, structural improvements... Or anything else to boost curb appeal?

If so, nominate your neighbor as a *House of Honor*.

The home nominated may be chosen to receive a monetary award!
(You don't have to know the home owner, just the address)

What a great way to compliment someone on their home!



The 3rd annual ice cream social was held in August once again to rave reviews. After 2 years of scorching temperatures, the weather gave us a break. We enjoyed cold Sheridan's custard with toppings and the fun music of Mr. Doolittle. Each year the number attending grows, so plan to join us next year! The date will be announced in the Spring/Summer newsletter.

Prairie Ridge on the Web!

Prairie Ridge has its own page within the city's newly redesigned website.

Just go to www.pvkansas.com and click on Resident Resources and then select PV Communities. Then choose Prairie Ridge. There you can get basic information about the neighborhood and upcoming events.



Bulletin Board

**Do you need a service done for your home?
Are you a person who can offer a service to homeowners?**

**In either case, call Board member Carole Mosher
for a referral, or to be included on the list.**



Kelly Henning
Independent Representative
913-526-8885

**Start the New Year right by eating
Nutritiously and deliciously**

Call for information on products

Prairie Ridge

***A community of homes bounded by 75th to 79th Streets,
Delmar to Rosewood Lane.***

***Proud to be on the historic Santa Fe Trail
in the heart of Prairie Village, Kansas***