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Note from the President

As I write this I am reflecting over the last nine months. In September we will be having our Annual Open HOA meeting. It is easy to get so caught up in the day to day business that we miss the big picture. We are all prone to be hard on ourselves and find the things that we wish we had done differently or wonder if we could have done things better. If that were not bad enough we also suffer criticism from naysayers. I want to assure the entire membership that we have all done well. I am reviewing my notes and the Board Meeting minutes to prepare for the annual State of the Homeowners Association address. As a community we have much to be proud of and thankful for. I am pleased with the progress the Board has made. I am delighted with the response we have had from residents to help with projects and committees. The Board of Directors has been very proactive in enhancing the appearance of our common areas. We have asked for volunteers and many have come to our aid. Your Board has put in place standards and expectations for the day to day business affairs of the HOA. We have reviewed many past open meetings and we are planning ways to better run our open business meetings in the future.

When the present Board was installed we wrote down several goals and objectives for the year. We are meeting these goals. There are two ideals that we did not write down but we have made great strides on these as well. These two things were to set a precedent for the way we handle the routine matters of the Board and the larger matters of the HOA. The other ideal was to become as transparent as possible in all the activities of the Board and the HOA. We are on the steep end of the learning curve but we are well on the way to having one very fine HOA.

These are exciting times at Longs Pond Estates. There has been much progress and improvements in our neighborhood. There are more residents getting involved in the activities of the Homeowners Association. There seems to be a revival of community spirit. The Board and I are sure the residents want to foster this positive attitude. We will look for ways to make this happen and we will solicit your input as well.

As we near the end of this term we are planning for the election of a new board member. You will find information in this newsletter about how to nominate candidates. You are strongly encouraged to come to the annual meeting in September to hear about all the things that have taken place over the last year. You will also here about some of the goals for next year. I think you will be pleased.

Lindsey Sturkie,
President

Board of Directors

We will be making a strong effort to follow Robert's Rules of Order more closely to allow the HOA meetings to run more smoothly. You should find an insert in this mailing with some general procedures, common terms and the steps we will be following in order to handle motions. We also hope that any members that were bothered by the lack of order at the last meeting of the members will continue to come in the future and help us to improve on these issues.

Lindsey Sturkie -- President
president@longspond.org

Chad Keller -- Vice President
vicepresident@longspond.org

Patrick Hedgepath -- Secretary
secretary@longspond.org

Jane Sufka -- Treasurer
treasurer@longspond.org

Randall Mungo -- Director
director1@longspond.org

The annual meeting will be held at the Nazareth Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall on September 13th at 7:30 p.m. The main agenda item for this meeting will be the election of one new Board member.

Nominating Procedures for new HOA Board Members

The by-laws of Longs Pond Estates Homeowners Association dictate that we have a nominating committee to start the process of electing new board members. The chair of the nominating committee this year is Patrick Hedgepath. This is a short-lived committee that has a very specific function. The task of this committee is to review and/or interview nominees for office. Once the committee establishes a slate of eligible candidates these names are presented to the board and a ballot is created. This ballot is then presented to the membership at the annual meeting for elections and voting. Members of the association may be nominated from the floor at the annual meeting. If a member is nominated from the floor and elected the board of directors reserves the right to then review that person's qualification to serve and if found ineligible has the right and obligation to nullify their election. After board members are elected there is a special board meeting and they nominate and elect officers. We have four officers, a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. We have one member at large. There is no restriction on the number of board members. If you would like to serve on the nominating committee please contact Mr. Hedgepath. If you would like to nominate someone to serve on the board of directors please contact Mr. Hedgepath. You may contact him at secretary@longspond.org.

New HOA Address

The Homeowners Association has a new address. All forms and documents will be corrected accordingly. Please make sure to send any new correspondence to the below address.

Longs Pond Homeowners Association
P.O. Box 84565
Lexington, SC 29073

From the Treasurer

The following table details the budget status as of July 31, 2007. Our expenses have been less than budget and we have a favorable variance for total expenses.

	2007 Budget	Total Budget to 7/31/2007	Total Actual to 7/31/2007	Budget variance to 7/31/2007
Income				
Homeowners Dues	24,025	24,025	22,986	(1,039)
Total Income	24,025	24,025	22,986	(1,039)
Expense				
Accounting	300	175	-	(175)
Bank Charges	25	15	-	(15)
Capitol Reserve	3,075	1,794	2,490	696
Contingency	1,250	729	-	(729)
Copies	700	408	6	(402)
Hall Rental	800	467	400	(67)
Insurance	1,300	758	1,005	247
Landscaping	8,500	4,958	3,670	(1,288)
Landscaping : Lighting Maint.	100	58	250	192
Landscaping : Sprinkler Maint.	600	350	135	(215)
Legal	2,000	1,167	149	(1,018)
Newsletter	1,200	700	331	(369)
Postage	1,200	700	187	(513)
Supplies	500	292	426	134
Taxes	700	408	-	(408)
Utilities : Electricity	1,000	583	258	(325)
Total Expenses	23,250	13,563	9,307	(4,256)
Total	775	10,463	13,679	3,217
Assets				
Cash	26,881			

Welcoming Committee

If you have a new neighbor or know of any new births let us know. We would also like to know of anyone having a hardship, such as illness or death of an immediate family member. If you would like to help on this committee, please call 803-808-1794 or e-mail welcome@longspond.org.

Debbie Kessel,
Chairman

We would like to welcome the following new homeowners!!

David E. Wright	1301 Knott's Haven Loop
Matthew and Allison Rhine	1512 Knott's Haven Trail
Stephen and Beth Hoosier	1537 Knott's Haven Trail
David and Elizabeth Hanks	104 Lynn Haven Court

Long's Pond Web Site News

Website www.longspond.org

More minutes from our meetings have been posted to the website. The new password for this quarter is ***** the username is still *longspond*. We have added a Violation report form to the website so homeowners can report violations completely anonymously. You can and are encouraged to fill out your contact information however so the Board can update you on the violation's status. This form can be found under the Forms and Documents section and is entitled Report of Violation. We will be adding more forms to the website in the future for things like application forms for architectural changes. If you have any suggestions for things you would like to see on the longspond.org website please feel free to email them to webmaster@longspond.org

Architectural Committee

We would like to thank everyone who has taken the time to fill out an ARC Approval Request. We hope to see this become a more regular occurrence. Remember, we should all be getting an ARC approval for any changes we make to the exterior of our homes and yards.

<u>Approvals</u>	<u>Pending</u>	<u>Disapprovals</u>
Landscape - 3	Garage - 1	None
Deck - 1	Fence - 1	
Fence - 1	Porch - 1	
Pool - 2		
Playground - 1		
Patio - 1		

Your Homeowners Association Working for You

The role of the Homeowners Association

Today's homeowners associations serve multiple roles within a community. Some of those roles you are familiar with, but others you may not have thought about.

Certainly, the role you are probably most familiar with is enforcing the architectural guidelines and the covenants and restrictions of the community. As homeowners in Long's Pond Estates, all of us should take care of how our property, and thus the community, looks. Statistics show that communities with an inactive homeowners association can see property values fall by as much as 20 percent, because restrictions are not enforced. That's a scary number for all of us.

But, a homeowners association isn't only about landscaping and guidelines. It's about people. The people in the community.

A successful homeowners association is one in which the members participate and lead. One of the many reasons our association exists is to create a bond within the community, a bond that protects the value of neighborly relations as well as the value of your property.

So, what can you do for your association? It's probably simpler than you think. Have a voice in what happens in our community by attending the meetings. Care for your property. And get to know your neighbors. Because that's really what community is all about.

Fun Facts

Little Known South Carolina Facts

- ◆ The salamander was given the honor of official state amphibian.
 - ◆ South Carolina entered the Union on May 23, 1788 and became the 8th state.
 - ◆ South Carolina is the nation's leading peach producer and shipper east of the Mississippi River.
 - ◆ Johnston is known as the Peach Capital of the World.
 - ◆ Before being known as the Palmetto State, South Carolina was known as the Wonderful Iodine State. WIS-TV's call letters stemmed from this.
 - ◆ The only major league baseball player to wear the name of his hometown on his uniform was pitcher Bill Voiselle. He wore number 96.
 - ◆ South Carolina's smallest county is McCormick at 360 square miles while the largest county is Horry at 1,134 square miles
 - ◆ A noble Catawba Indian who befriended early Camden settlers, King Haiglar is often called "The Patron Saint of Camden." Today, he reigns over Camden in the form of a life-sized weather vane which graces the tower of what once was the circa-1886 Opera House.
 - ◆ Chapin is known as the Capital of Lake Murray.
 - ◆ Sumter has the largest Ginkgo farm in the world.
 - ◆ Stretching 60 miles from Little River to Georgetown, South Carolina's Grand Strand is one of the most popular tourist destinations in the United States.
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Electronic Communication

The Homeowners Association would like to offer some new services to the members. These services will be delivered by e-mail and should make communication easier as well as save us all a little money. If anyone is interested in receiving one or all of these services let Chad Keller know. Also, let us know if you have any other

ideas. These services are listed below:

Electronic Newsletters
Electronic Notifications\Reminders of
- Meetings - Website updates

Chad Keller vicepresident@longspond.org

Local Events

August 12, 2007

Concerts in the Park - Sunday, August 12th, from 2 p.m. - 6 p.m. will be the Battle of the Bands. Local amateur bands will entertain the crowd and compete for cash prizes. For more information or to register your band, contact Dylan Hunter, Department of Parks, Streets, and Sanitation at 803-359-1027.

September 7-9, 2007

Women's Outdoor Recreation Retreat at Camp Bob Cooper, Summerton - The WORR is a multi-faceted opportunity to challenge the "woman within you." The interactive, hands-on classes include canoeing, kayaking, sailing, fly casting, and striper fishing instructions. Other sessions like survival and self-reliance, outdoor cooking, bird watching, nature hikes, an owl prowl, stargazing, and more can be enjoyed in the company of like-minded women. The registration fee is \$75 and includes all equipment and supplies. For additional information and to register, visit www.scwf.org or call 803-256-0670.

September 7 -29, 2007

Town Theatre -- Open the door to MAME and find a "happy happening" musical -she's Eve, St. Joan, Lady Godiva, Susan B. Anthony, Clara Bow and Florence Nightingale, all rolled into one fantastic lady! For ticket information contact 803.799.2510

September 10-13th

Lexington FunFest Student Art Show-- At the Lexington Town Hall, ELi Mack Room, 111 Maiden

Lane, Lexington SC 29072 -- Contact Sharon Willis at 785-8201 for details.

September 15 - 30, 2007

Turner's Pointe to Host 2007 Parade of Homes-The 23rd Annual Parade of Homes is set for September 15 - 30 at Turner's Pointe in Lexington, SC. For the first time ever, this exciting event will be located on the shores of beautiful Lake Murray! The Parade of Homes offers the opportunity to explore multiple brand-new, fully decorated and landscaped homes in the Midlands' newest neighborhoods. Attendees will navigate through each home, gathering the latest in new home construction techniques and home decoration ideas. For information Earl McLeod at (803) 256-6238

September 17, 2007

Lake Murray Association "Voice of Lake Murray" 1st Annual Golf Tournament at Timberlake Golf Course. \$50 per person -- \$200 per team. Captain's Choice/Shotgun Start. For more information contact Louise Love at 803-781-6536.

September 21-October 7, 2007

FOOTLOOSE THE MUSICAL! at Village Square Theatre in Lexington. One of the most explosive movie musicals in recent memory now bursts onto the live stage. Call 803-665-3611 for more information.

October 23, 2007

The Babcock Center Foundation's Nineteenth Annual Golf Classic will be held at Wood Creek Farms golf course.

**DON'T FORGET THE HOA MEETING AT THE NAZARETH LUTHERAN
CHURCH FELLOWSHIP HALL ON SEPTEMBER 13TH @ 7:30 PM.
WE HOPE TO SEE EVERYONE THERE!**