

Long's Pond ESTATES

Homeowners Association Newsletter

www.longspound.org

August 2009

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

When I moved into the neighborhood nearly five years ago we had a Board consisting of five members and a Crime Watch Committee. Soon there after, two of the Board members and the entire Crime Watch committee resigned. There was then a call for volunteers. I decided to volunteer and interviewed for one of the open Board positions. I was not chosen to be a Board member but was asked to help start the first Architectural Review Committee independent from the Board. I wanted to help and accepted. While on the ARC, I and several other fine volunteers worked very hard to rewrite the ARC guidelines so they better fit our neighborhood. We also worked very hard trying to get all structures in the neighborhood to meet the guidelines.

After serving on the ARC for a little over a year, I nominated myself and was selected to fill one of the two Board positions coming open. I felt then, and still do today, that a Homeowner's Association can be a very positive and helpful part of any neighborhood. For that reason, I had several ideas that I wanted to see implemented during my three year term. Some of those ideas were a quarterly newsletter, quarterly meetings of the members, a welcoming committee, a yard of the month program and some community events.

I wanted to see the quarterly newsletter and meetings because I feel it is important for the Board to have two-way communication with the membership. The newsletter and meetings allow the Board to pass information on to the members, but the meetings also allow the membership to come voice any concerns they may have with the Board. That is the only reason we have these meetings and would love to see everyone there. I feel the Welcoming Committee is important for many reasons. It is important that we make new members feel welcome as soon as possible. They also let us all know of any new births or other important things going on in the lives of our neighbors. The Yard Of The Month program is a very positive aspect of the HOA. I think it is important to acknowledge the people who work hard to ensure their homes and yards look nice. A great side affect of this can be that others begin trying to have a nice looking yard as well. It benefits all of us when we have nice yards. Some of the community

events we have been able to start are an annual community wide yard sale followed by a neighborhood cookout, an annual Christmas gathering and this past Halloween we were able to have security during trick or treating. The best part is that all of this is being done by a large group of wonderful volunteers. Three years ago all of this was being done by the Board of Director's.

The only reason any of this was possible is because of the other Board members and volunteers I have been lucky enough to serve with. I thank all of you for volunteering and being so easy to work with. As my term comes to an end, I feel good in knowing that we are all being left in the good hands of Board members who care about making our neighborhood a wonderful place to live.

There were some difficult times, but the last four years have been very rewarding. I hope that anyone who hasn't already volunteered can find time to do so. I think you will be glad you did.

Chad Keller

Nominating Committee

The nominating committee has been formed for gathering names of potential nominees for our 2 open board positions. The focus of the nominating committee is to gather names of people who wish to run for the board and give them information and interview these candidates. Connie Parson is the chairperson of the committee. There are 4 other people on the committee. If you would like to run for the board, or would like to nominate some one else please e-mail Connie at director@longspound.org. Please remember the election is at our annual HOA meeting in September.

Running for the Board

If you're considering running for the board, we ask that you take a few moments to ask yourself the following three questions:

Do I have the time? As a board member, you will need to devote at least several hours of your time each month to association business. In addition to regular monthly

board meetings, you will need to be active in email discussions and occasional special meetings. During special projects, you may need to spend a little extra time on association business. Some board members may also spend a little more time than others if they work with a committee

Can I make tough decisions when it's required? The primary role of the board is to conduct the business of the association. This doesn't just mean approving the budget, but also developing and enforcing policies. Board members are required to step outside their immediate circle of family and neighbors and make decisions based on the greater good of the community.

Can I do all this and have fun, too? It isn't all about policies and tough decisions. Our community is only as good as we make it, and establishing and maintaining a sense of community is a part of a board member's responsibility. Planning and attending functions such as our picnics and being a presence in the community are as important as any policy decisions you may make.

Being a board member can be frustrating at times, but it may also be one of the most rewarding ways you'll find to volunteer your time. If you're interested in running for the board or would like more details about board's responsibilities, please contact the manager or a current board member.

CRIME WATCH AND ARC COMMITTEES

Crime Watch Update

As the crime watch coordinator I am working on reorganizing the neighborhood crime watch and attempting to get as many people involved as possible. Member participation is vital for the program to function effectively. The crime watch will be comprised of members, block captains, and a chairperson. I have several people who have volunteered to be a block captain. However, we will need at least a dozen more volunteers. When I have enough volunteers to adequately cover the neighborhood I will contact the Sheriff's Department to set up an initial meeting. Please contact me if you would like more information on member responsibilities and/or to volunteer. In addition, I would like to begin keeping track of any crime related incidents in the neighborhood so that I may generate periodic reports for the neighborhood. Please contact me with this type of information as well. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Matt Bullard, mhb1234@windstream.net

Welcoming Committee News

We'd like to welcome the following people to the neighborhood:

Welcome to Karen Hill and family. They reside at 1221 Knotts Haven Loop.

We are also looking for any ideas folks might have for the baskets. If you have a business card or trinket for your business that you'd like to have included, please let us know.

If you know of someone who has just moved in or has had an addition to their family, please get that information to the Welcoming Committee.

Debbie Kessel
Sheryl Wood
Michelle Herman
Welcoming Committee

YARD OF THE MONTH COMMITTEE

Hello Residents of Longs Pond Estates:

Below are the Yard of the Month winners for the last few months.

April – Steve & Kathy Vardas, 1341 Knotts Haven Loop
May – Crystal Teer & Troy Blume, 1449 Knotts Haven Loop
June – Brian & Danielle Paulen, 1374 Knotts Haven Loop
July – Kelly Brock, 1532 Knotts Haven Trail

Congratulations to everyone on beautiful yards!

Leslie and Jenny



There's no doubt about it. Successful garden and lawn care in South Carolina requires special knowledge and skills. The Carolina YardStick Workbook shows you how to create attractive and healthy yards by working with South Carolina's environment, rather than against it.

This Workbook guides you through an evaluation of your yard and yard care practices.

- Each action you take (or have already taken) earns you "inches" or credits on the Carolina YardStick.
- A yard that measures up to at least 36 inches is a **Carolina Yard!**
- The payoff? A yard that meets your needs, enhances your neighborhood and helps protect Carolina's natural beauty and natural resources.

The horticulture staff and Master Gardener volunteers at your county's Cooperative Extension Service can provide

you with more information and answer questions. They can also tell you about additional services they may provide such as diagnostic tests, workshops, and on-site resources.

Additional information is available at the Carolina Yards & Neighborhoods Website and the Home & Garden Information Center. Visit the [Home & Garden Information Center](#) online or call toll free 1-888-656-9988 (SC residents only, 9 am - 1 pm, M - F).

Remember, Rome wasn't built in a day and neither is an environmentally friendly Carolina Yard. Take this adventure a step at a time and have fun!

NOTE FROM THE WEBMASTER

There are a couple of email addresses I would like to remind everyone about for the web site. They are as follows...

Crime Watch – Want to help reduce crime in our neighborhood then contact the Crime Watch committee chair with your suggestions or volunteer – crimewatch@longspond.org

Decorations and Yard of the Month – See a neighbor with a nice yard? Recommend them for yard of the month to the Decorations committee chair – decorations@longspond.org

Welcoming – Got a new neighbor or a neighbor that just had a baby? Let our Welcoming committee know so they can give them a nice basket – welcome@longspond.org

Newsletter – Got an article suggestion for the newsletter? Got a child that wants to baby sit or do yard work for extra money? Contact our newsletter committee – newsletter@longspond.org

Please take a note of the login for the members' area of longspond.org

Finally please register on the Management Company website if you have not already done so. <https://wdm.cincweb.com/>

Patrick J. Hedgepath

TREASURER'S REPORT

So far this year the budget is in good shape. In order to offset the cost of the Management Company, we've cut back on several items and it seems to be paying off. As of July 23, 2009, our ending balance is \$33,586.10. This balance includes our balance with William Douglas and

our bank account. The updated budget is on the website for your review. If you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call and I will assist you to the best of my ability.

A majority of you have paid your yearly assessment this year, but we still have a few that have not. Currently 85% of the homeowners have paid. The remaining homeowners have received notices of late payment and we are in the process of sending the final notice before liens are placed on their homes. We prefer not to place any liens, but we have to be fair to the homeowners that have paid their assessments. So if you haven't paid yet, please do so and save yourself the expense of the lien process and headaches for all. If you are unable to pay, then please let me or another Board member know and we will be more than happy to work something out with you.

Randall Mungo, Treasurer

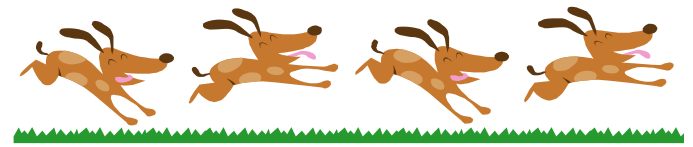
NEIGHBORLY ADVICE

ROOFS

As was mentioned in the last Newsletter, living in the South, has many advantages and disadvantages. The advantages are warm beautiful days; the disadvantage with the heat mold, mildew, and fungus develop on our homes and properties. As our houses age so do our roofs. Many roofs are now showing signs of early mold /fungus. There are certain chemicals and specialized cleaning agencies to care for this problem. If you notice that there are black streaks on your roof (lighter colors show up quicker) please investigate how to rid your roof of this problem. The quicker you can resolve the problem the less costly it may be. If you need help in identifying how to get rid of this, please contact the board and we will put you in contact with someone who can help. The following two websites might also be helpful:

www.sprayaway.biz and www.palmettopressureclean.com.

DOGS



We all love our dogs. They give their owners much joy and happiness. The home owner association has had several complaints over the last several months over dogs that are not leashed in our neighborhood. Did you know that according to the U.S. Humane Society, an unleashed dog has an average life span of less than 4 years? Allowing your dog to run free threatens your dog's health and welfare and the happiness it brings to you.

We also love our community. That is another reason the association is committed to enforcing the county leash law--- so all residents may enjoy their community. Just recently, in our neighborhood, 2 children were walking home from a friend's house and 2 dogs which were unleashed, came up to them and the children ran. The dogs ran and chased them, probably playing with them, and one child fell down and injured his leg. It was just a brush burn, but it could have been much worse.

LONGS POND HOA TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Newsletters

January, April, July, October

Meetings of the Members

March, June, September, December

Look for September meeting to be announced in a separate mailing.

CLASSIFIED SECTION

NEED A BABYSITTER?

Well you have just found one. I am very responsible, considerate of others, loving and caring! When you leave the front door you will know that your child or children will be in good hands! If you are interested call me at 1-803-356-9263 or e-mail me at VOsborne@sc.rr.com!



FOR SALE: We have a complete Ashley Furniture antique white girl's bunk bed set for sale. We want \$300 for the set (bunk beds, ladder, mattresses, dresser/mirror, desk and credenza).

For more information please contact: Leslie Shipp, 311 Knotts Circle, Lexington, SC 29073 (803-520-4865) or by email at lshipp@sc.rr.com.

If you would be interested in being listed in the newsletter classified section, please contact me at (803) 808-7559 or by email at newsletter@longspond.org.

Jeannette Munnett

LABOR DAY



Labor Day is a [United States federal holiday](#) observed on the first Monday in September (on September 7 in 2009).

The holiday originated in 1882 as the [Central Labor Union](#) of [New York City](#) sought to create "a day off for the working citizens." [Congress](#) made Labor Day a federal holiday on [June 28, 1894](#),^[1] two months after the [May Day Riots of 1894](#). May 4 was chosen to remember the [Haymarket Affair](#). All 50 [U.S. states](#) have made Labor Day a [state holiday](#).

Traditionally, Labor Day is celebrated by most Americans as the symbolic end of the [summer](#).

Labor Day has been celebrated on the first Monday in September in the United States since the 1880s. The form for the celebration of Labor Day was outlined in the first proposal of the holiday—a street parade to exhibit to the public "the strength and esprit de corps of the trade and labor organizations," followed by a festival for the workers and their families. This became the pattern for Labor Day celebrations. Speeches by prominent men and women were introduced later, as more emphasis was placed upon the economic and civil significance of the holiday. Still later, by a resolution of the American Federation of Labor convention of 1909, the Sunday preceding Labor Day was adopted as Labor Sunday and dedicated to the spiritual and educational aspects of the [labor movement](#).

Today, Labor Day is often regarded as a day of rest and parades. Speeches or political demonstrations are more low-key than [May 1 Labour Day celebrations](#) in most countries, although events held by labor organizations often feature political themes and appearances by candidates for office, especially in election years. Forms of celebration include picnics, barbecues, fireworks displays, water sports, and public art events. Families with school-age children take it as the last chance to travel before the end of summer. Some teenagers and young adults view it as the last weekend for parties before returning to school. However, of late, schools have begun well before Labor Day, as early as July 24 in many urban districts, including major southern cities in the United States such as Atlanta, Miami, and Los Angeles. In addition, Labor Day marks the beginning of the [NFL](#) and [college football](#) seasons. The NCAA usually plays their first games the week before Labor Day, with the NFL traditionally playing their first game the Thursday following Labor Day.

[From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia](#)

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

JUNE-AUGUST, 2009

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES - Live entertainment comes to Finlay Park every Saturday evening. Performances begin at 7 p.m. and are free to the public. Contact: Columbia Action Council, 722 Blanding Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201. Phone: (803) 343-8750.

Check www.SCIway.net to get information on the following events:

Aug 7: [Nighttime at the State Museum](#) - Columbia - bring your flashlight and tour the darkened museum

Aug 7-8: [South Carolina Peanut Party](#) - Pelion - food, entertainment, children's rides, parade, crafts, pageant

Aug 8: [Southeastern Toy Soldier Show](#) - Columbia - see, buy, or trade military miniatures from various eras

Aug 14-15: [Cops 4 Foster Kids](#) - [PDF](#) - Columbia - charity motorcycle ride, BBQ cook-off, live music, win a HOG!

Aug 21-23: [Gullah / Geechee Nation International Music & Movement Festival](#) - Charleston

Aug 27: [Bourbon, BBQ & Ballet](#) - Greenville - Carolina Ballet Theatre

Aug 27-30: [Original Charleston Beach Music and Shag Festival](#) - classes and concerts at multiple venues

Aug 29: [Race for the ARK](#) - Summerville - 5K run/walk, fun run - benefits [ARK](#) (Adult Respite Kare)

Aug 29: [Wild Summer's Nite Auction and Wild Game Feast](#) - Columbia - benefits [SC Wildlife Federation](#)

BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOR

Some of the following goes without saying and some is just good common sense but it never hurts to be reminded.

Excerpts from this **Good Neighbor** item is taken from *The State* newspaper of July 12, 2009, which printed it from *Wire Reports*.

"It's not hard to be a good neighbor." Here are some ways to avoid being a "hated house" in the community and to avoid that dreaded violation letter from the HOA management firm.

- 1.) **Keep your property neat.** Mow the grass and edge your yard. Do not leave your clippings and/or leaves in the street. Pick up your trash and remove the kid's toys strewn across your lawn. Don't decrease everyone else's property values with your perceived laziness.
- 2.) **Control your pets.** As per Longs Pond Estates Rules and Regulations, when outside your fenced yard, keep dogs on a leash. Carry a disposable bag and pick up after them. Don't let them incessantly bark.
- 3.) **Be quiet.** Listening to Def Leppard on your surround sound loudly enough for your neighbors to hear doesn't make you cool. Nor does mowing the lawn, using a chain saw or revving a leaf blower at 7 on Saturday, Sunday or holiday mornings.
- 4.) **Slow down.** Even if your high powered vehicle can go 0 to 60 in 2.5 seconds, you shouldn't be doing that in a neighborhood. Children in this neighborhood do play in the streets and we also have bikers and walkers of all ages. And very soon children will be standing on the street corners waiting for their school bus!
- 5.) **Keep your drama inside.** If your neighbors want to watch someone yelling and screaming in the driveway, they can turn their TV on "COPS."

We want a safe and pleasant environment for all residents.



Homeowners Association Junior Section

www.longspond.org

August 2009

SCHOOL DAYS ARE COMING SOON!

Welcome to our Junior Section. We want to highlight our students in the community. We are going to be looking for volunteer reporters from each school to write about what is happening. We even want athletes to write about their favorite sport. Are you on a team? Are you in the band? What are you doing? We want to hear.

The following are this edition's highlights.

S.C. GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR ARTS AND HUMANITIES

This August will mark a major change in my life. Up until now I have been home schooled, but this fall I am moving to Greenville to attend the South Carolina Governor's School For Arts and Humanities (or SCGSAH).

Sometime last summer, I heard about a residential high school that specialized in the arts and since I hope to have a career in music or more specifically vocals down the road, I started investigating. After talking to different people associated with the school, I went up to SCGSAH for a day in the fall to shadow a vocal student. This experience allowed me to observe the schedule and everyday life of the students there as well as meet current students.

The next step was the audition process. I spent two months filling out the application and preparing for my audition. When the audition day came in mid-February, I was ready. All prospective vocal students had to sing two songs, complete musical theory exercises, and be interviewed.

After two months of anxious waiting, I received my acceptance letter. It was a huge decision for me and my family to make, but we all felt God calling me to Greenville.

So this summer, I have been busy preparing myself for public school, dorm life, and the different culture at SCGSAH. One of the most helpful things for me has been talking to previous and current students about what to bring or what life will be like. While leaving my friends and family will be difficult, I look forward to the adventure awaiting me at SCGSAH.

Erin Aurednik

(I have asked Erin to keep us informed as to how she is doing

with this new learning experience. Hopefully, she will be reporting in our next Newsletter about life at SCGSAH. We wish her the best in this new school year.)

CAROLINA SPRINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL

Dear Readers,

My name is Victoria Osborne and I'm reporting for the summer school news. About a month ago we got out of school and I'm glad, and I bet you could ask the kids around here and they'll say the same thing! I go to Carolina Springs Middle School and am going into the 8th grade. For the school year 2009-2010 registration will be on 8-6-09 and the following days 6th-8th football and volleyball tryouts will be held at the school for seventh and eighth graders. School will start on the

19th of August and will start at 8:05 am. That's it for now; see you in the next issue. If you have any questions or want me to report on something special call me at 356-9263.

CAROLINA SPRINGS ELEMENTARY

My name is Alec Vardas. I will be in the 4th grade this year at Carolina Springs Elementary. The first day of school is August 19th. I really like my school because the teachers are really nice and the playground is a good place to express your energy.

This summer I went to the beach with my family and some friends. We dug big holes on the beach, went to the water park and played mini golf. I have also been racing my motorcycle and swimming at the club.

SOCCER SEASON AGAIN

It is that season again. Time to put the soccer chairs in the back of the minivan, load the cooler with drinks, and head off to the local recreation facility for evenings filled with soccer practices and Saturday mornings consumed by games. I ask myself, "Why do we do this fall, spring, fall, spring, for years on end?" Well, it starts when they are first beginning to crawl, it comes natural for almost all babies to chase a ball. When they turn four, you think they need to do it to run off some of that energy. It continues into the elementary years because they love getting together with kids their age, hopefully they learn the powerful lesson of winning and losing, and it is still really good exercise. If they continue on into middle and high school, then they are starting to truly understand the game and play it with some skill and you begin to think maybe this is going to lead to something...But the fact of the matter is, by this time you are hooked, your car is decaled with soccer ball magnets, you proudly consider yourself a "soccer mom or dad", and you can't wait to get back out there on the side lines with all the other parents to cheer your player on.

JUMP START ATHLETICS FEATURING WHITE KNOLL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT

USA Track and Field held its annual Junior Olympics from July 27 – August 2 in Greensboro, North Carolina at North Carolina A&T University. Byron Mingo, of Jump Start Athletics, a rising junior at White Knoll High School and a resident of Longs Pond subdivision participated in two events. He won a Silver medal in the 400 meter run with a time of 49.22 seconds. This ranked him as number 2 in the nation for his age group of intermediate boys ages 15 and 16. Jump Start Athletics' 1600 meter relay team of: Christopher Foster, Brandon Sanders, Brad Gibson, and Byron Mingo, won a gold medal with a time of 3 minutes and 18.13 seconds, and are as of the date of this newsletter ranked number one in the nation for their age group.

byronmingo@yahoo.com

Our congratulations go out to Byron on his outstanding hard work and accomplishment.

WHITE KNOLL HIGH SCHOOL BAND

White Knoll Band season is about to kick off. We will officially start our band camp August 3-14, 2009. The Band starts practice at 8am until 6pm. We are in need of lots of Gatorade (powder), PowerAde (powder), and bottled water. If you would like to donate any of these items please feel free to drop them off at White Knoll Band Room (located in the back of the school on the bus side). We appreciate any help you are able to offer.

We need your help! Sponsors are needed to help the White Knoll Band. Our annual Sponsorship fundraiser is now on the way. To see how you can be a great support to our band, please go to www.wkhsband.org.

The White Knoll Band has been very fortunate to receive numerous honors in its brief history. Though winning awards is not the main focus of our program, they do recognize the extraordinary efforts, determination, and esprit-de-corps of the White Knoll Band family.

2008-2009 Awards Marching Season

South Carolina State Championships 3rd Place - 4A

Superior Rating, Score: 93.875

Highest Overall Effect

South Carolina Lower State Championships

10/18/08 1st Place - 4A

Superior Rating: Score: 92.45

Highest in Music Ensemble, Music Individual, Visual Ensemble, Visual Individual, and Overall Effect.

Tournament of Bands

Blythewood, SC

10/11/08 5th Place - 4A

Superior Rating: Score 90.05

Palmetto Esprit de Corps

Irmo, SC

09/27/07 1st Place - 4A

Superior Rating: Score: 91.83

Grand Champions with Highest Overall Score, Highest Overall Effect, Highest Percussion and Auxiliary

Mr. Turner, our band director, will be leading a 150 student band this year, with Chris Hughes as our Drum Major. This is going to be another awesome year for the White Knoll Marching Pride. Please feel free to see photos on our website and a lot more interesting information about our students.



Angela Glenn

Proud Mom of a current band member