

Long's Pond ESTATES

Homeowners Association Newsletter

www.longspound.org

July 2011

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I sit down to write this, my last President's message, I am overwhelmed with gratitude to all the people I have worked with on the board these past 3 years. Everyone has volunteered their time for one common goal: to make Long's Pond Estates a wonderful place to live.

We have done a lot in these three years; we hired William Douglas as our management company and developed a good working relationship with them to run the day to day issues of the association. Our general meetings are run well, with speakers to help us with some issues regarding the homeowner association. Unfortunately, they are still not well attended. We are able to share many of the ideas the board has decided on in these meetings.

With the completion of the traffic circle, we have completed a major road project; had community involvement in the choice of our new sign; and reviewed with the homeowners the landscaping of the entryway. The Committees have had some volunteers, but are now in need of new blood.

One thing that is still a problem is the community lot. We still have issues with children vandalizing the lot. Please be assured the board is well aware of the problem and is discussing several issues to assist in decreasing the vandalism.

As I leave this position, I hope people will volunteer for the board. You will have a say in what goes on in the neighborhood, and help to make it a better place to live.

Thank you for your support these three years.

Connie Parson
President of Long's Pond HOA
2010-2011



BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETINGS

Tuesday, August 16, 2011 at 7 PM

**GENERAL HOA MEETINGS LOCATION:
Red Bank Community Center**

**ANNUAL MEETING:
Thursday, Sept. 15, 2011 at 7 PM**

**ELECTION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS WILL
HELD**

COVENANTS AND ARC GUIDELINES

Please take a minute to review our Covenants and ARC guidelines. They can be found at www.longspound.org. These covenants were put in place to protect the character and value of the neighborhood. One of the many committees is the Architectural Committee, which is responsible for the review of building requests to ensure they comply with the covenants. Any resident considering exterior improvements or modifications to their property is required to complete an application for approval, which is located on our website. Click on Forms and Documents on the home page. From there, you can find the Covenants and Bylaws, along with the ARC Guidelines and Application for Approval Instructions and documents.

MAILBOX MAINTENANCE

William Douglas brought to our attention several mailboxes that either need to be replaced or posts that need painted. There were also some that have landscape growth around them. Please take a look at your mailbox/post and do the proper maintenance. We've asked the management company to wait another month before sending violation letters to give homeowners a chance to paint or replace mailboxes. There is a list of approved replacement mailboxes on our website (www.longspond.org). It's important that we all maintain mailboxes and posts.

TRAFFIC CIRCLE UPDATE

As you can all see, the traffic circle is complete. People are starting to really pay attention to using the traffic circle. Our new sign is placed, and the landscaping has been completed. The grass has been sprayed and we are all cautiously optimistic it will grow in well. If not, we still can consider sodding the entry way. The lights around the sign and the landscaping are the last to be completed. This should be done within the next month.

FRONT ENTRANCE LANDSCAPING UPDATE

The board would like to express their appreciation to our Landscaping chairperson, Greg Garrett. He has tirelessly worked on every aspect of this project. He has met with DOT, irrigation, electricians thru out this project. He designed the new landscaping around the sign and supervised the installation. He also will be meeting with the lighting company to assure the lights look just right.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Now is your chance to get involved with the HOA! Have you wondered why the Board makes some of the decisions they do? How in the world they came up with that solution? Do you have a better way to do things? If so, get involved with the board.

The Board meets once a month, unless there are unusual circumstances that require immediate attention. Being on the board is a rewarding

experience! You develop friendships with other board members and meet your neighbors!

If you are interested in serving on the board or being a part of the nominating committee, please contact Laura Murray at 917-4091.

WELCOMING COMMITTEE

Welcome to:

Jamie and Stephanie Boughnight and their two boys have been in the neighborhood for a month and a half. They reside at 1540 Knotts Haven Trail.



My name is Kathy Handrock. I have taken over the Association Newsletter duties from Jeannette. I just wanted to take a moment to introduce myself.

My spouse, Jon and I, are relative newcomers to the neighborhood. We are by no means the newest members of the community, but we are a far cry from being here the longest.

One of the things that binds us all together are the Covenants and Bylaws of the Association. In the coming months, it is my intention to address them in a general nature – just as reminder. It's easy to just put them away with the rest of our "important papers" and then not give them another thought.

We all made a choice when we purchased our homes in Longs Pond Estates. I don't know about you, but Jon and I thought long and hard before making the final decision to purchase our home here. Like most people, we don't really want someone telling us what we can or can't do with our property, i.e. planting or removing a tree, updating the landscaping, or simply changing an exterior door. However, the covenants and bylaws are in place for a reason. It results in a

cohesive look and, hopefully, gives us all more pride of ownership.

For this newsletter, I simply want to say hello. If you have something you want to address, send me an e-mail at baddycoda@yahoo.com.

SPEED LIMIT



Over the past year, there have been a lot of comments at the HOA meetings regarding speeding through our neighborhood – especially on Knotts Road. In general, people don't drive through our neighborhood to get someplace else. There's only one way in and one way out. There is nowhere to go except to someone's house.

So it is probably safe to say that most of the speed offenders are residents.

There are a lot of children living in the community. Accidents happen – that's why they're called accidents. All it takes is one random soccer ball rolling into the street and a child chasing after it.

Is it really worth it to put the pedal to the metal while trying to break the sound barrier? Are you going to get there any sooner if you slow down to something under light speed? If we all just slow down, it will be better on our cars, the environment, and the streets. Not to mention on that three year old that might dart out so fast we don't have a chance to stop.

YARD DEBRIS CLEAN UP

Our subdivision has never looked better. Almost everyone seems to have a handle on a good looking lawn and beautifying landscape. However, it denigrates the neighborhood when you mow your lawn, edge your property, weed, rake, etc., and then leave the clippings/leaves/etc. in the gutter. Sweeping up gives a much better appearance and enhances the value of our community. (Packaged yard debris for pickup is not the issue.) Also, if you have weeds growing between the curb and the road in front of your house, it would be wonderful if you would take a few minutes to spray them with some sort of weed killer. What about that sand that has accumulated along your curb? Does it really take that long to sweep it up?



It's a great feeling when others drive through this community to hear them say, "What an attractive area! Look how clean and neat it is. It must be nice to live here." But, we need to keep it that way – *let's all be proud and caring property owners!*

Betty Fortin