

Homeowners Association Newsletter

www.longspond.org

May 2008

President's Note

At the last Meeting of the Board of Directors we reviewed our business plan and our goals for 2008. We are meeting several of our goals and there are a few that we are improving.

We are on track with the enhancements and beautification of common areas. The common areas are the entrance and the vacant lot. We understand that the roads at the entrance are going to be reworked my SC DOT later this year or first part of next year. The entry sign was on our list of things to address. Therefore we have decided to focus our efforts further up the drive. After the DOT is finished with construction we will plan a new arrangement around our sign. I am sure you have all noticed the new magnificent palm trees and other plantings. You have also seen the pruning of some of the older shrubs. Additional lighting will be installed as soon as the landscaping is finished. On the vacant lot we are having electric ser-

vice installed and later we will have an irrigation system. The availability of electricity will open up more possibilities for community events. Electricity will also provide power for water well. The irrigation system will serve to protect and nourish grass and planting as horticultural projects develop. As the vacant lot development moves forward we may solicit handy men and hobby carpenters to help build picnic tables and other structures. These are foundational systems that will be useful no matter what other plans develop on the vacant lot.

We developed a yearlong calendar for Board Meetings, Newsletters, Business Mailings and HOA meetings. Our board meetings have been held on schedule with almost 100% attendance. We planned to have quarterly newsletters. We sent one in February and this is the second one. You should have received your bill for Annual HOA dues by now. We have mailed several notices to individuals regarding violations. Those letters were developed by the previous property management company and we were using their same form and style. They are direct and could be seen as harsh. We are re-

Inside this Issue:	
Community Yard Sale	2
ARC Guidelines	3
Welcoming Committee	3
Monthly Budget	4
Stray Cats	5
Board Contact Info	5
Local Events	6

President's Note (cont'd from page 1)

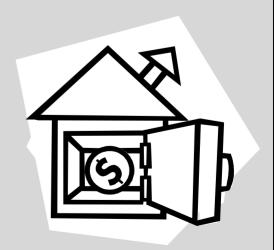
wording them to make them less threatening. If you were unfortunate enough to receive one of these letters please understand that the intent is to advise of an infraction and ways to correct it. They are not meant to provoke anger or intimidation. We planned to have quarterly HOA meetings. We had a meeting in December that was just a meet and greet dinner. We had another one in March. Minutes from the Board meetings and the HOA meetings are available on the website. Written communication is one area where we have come up short. We were using a printing and mailing service. Initially they were doing quite well but as time went by and we required more services they became less reliable. We are using a different service now. Hopefully you will be getting mailing more timely and accurately from now on. The next HOA meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 16. Depending on progress with the vacant lot it may be held there, if not it will be at the church as usual. You will receive a post card as that time draws closer.

The Board is meeting its goals. We hope that you all are satisfied with the progress that the Board and the HOA is making. Over the next 6 months you will see more improvements to the common areas. You will be getting letters and post cards about community events. Our Annual HOA meeting is in September. At that time we will be electing two new directors. Please keep this in mind and start thinking about whom you would like to nominate or if you would like to serve your community. We need your involvement and you need to be involved.

Stay Well, *Lindsey*

Long's Pond Yard Sale

The Long's Pond Homeowner's Association is holding a Neighborhood Yard Sale. There will be an ad in The State Newspaper advertising the Yard Sale for May 31st starting at 8 A.M. and ending at 12 noon. If you are interested in participating simply place a balloon on your mailbox. When the yard sale is over come on down to the vacant lot, socialize with your neighbors and enjoy a hot dog and a drink. You do not have to participate in the yard sale to come to the vacant lot and enjoy the company of your neighbors.



ARC Guideline and Regulation Reminders

Mailboxes

Mailboxes are usually the first thing visitors to our neighborhood see. There are some mailboxes in desperate need of repair. If your mailbox is one of them, please correct the issue before the ARC issues a violation letter.

Parking

The Guidelines state that no vehicle should ever be parked on any lot. The Guidelines also state that you should only park on the street when you do not have enough room in your driveway, although your garage is considered part of your driveway. In other words, if you have a two-car garage and you can fit four cars in the driveway, you should not be parking in the road unless you have more than six cars at your house. Choosing to use your garage as a storage room does not excuse you from this guideline. With all of this said, if you have visitors and they won't fit in the driveway, please park on the road. Don't park on the grass.

Speeding

There are still people that insist on speeding in the neighborhood. It was discussed at the last meeting of the members and the Board is looking into having an off-duty officer patrol our streets periodically.

Satellite Dishes

Satellite dishes require ARC approval prior to installation. The Guidelines also state that

dishes should not be mounted on the front portion of a home. Please, apply for approval. The ARC doesn't want to make anyone move their dish.

Window A/C units

Window units are not supposed to be installed in any window that is visible from the street. The ARC does have a list of alternative solutions. If you are interested in a copy of this list contact the ARC by mail or at arc@longspond.org

News from the Welcoming Committee

Congratulations to Brandon and Stacy McKinney on the birth of their son, Tyler Allen McKinney on April 16, 2008.

Welcome to Kenneth and April Morgan and family to the neighborhood. They reside at 1533 Knotts Haven Trail.

Please notify the Welcoming Committee (808 -1794) of any new births, as we don't want to miss anyone.

Debbie Kessel and Sheryl Wood



Monthly Budget: 1/1/2008 through 3/31/2008

The following table details the budget status as of March 31, 2008. Our expenses have been less than budget resulting in a favorable variance.

	Actual	Budget	Difference
Income			
Association Dues	1,155.00	-	1,155.00
Total Income	1,155.00	-	1,155.00
Expense:			
Accounting	-	75.00	75.00
Capitol Reserve	-	1,187.50	1,187.50
Community Events	-	375.00	375.00
Copies	-	25.00	25.00
Hall Rental	200.00	200.00	-
Insurance	-	275.00	275.00
Landscaping	500.00	2,500.00	2,000.00
Landscaping : Lighting Maint.	-	62.50	62.50
Landscaping : Sprinkler Maint.	-	100.00	100.00
Legal	10.00	125.00	115.00
News Letter	-	300.00	300.00
Postage	-	150.00	150.00
Supplies	-	187.50	187.50
Taxes	78.49	100.00	21.51
Utilities : Electricity	176.64	150.00	(26.64)
Total Expenses	965.13	5,812.50	4,847.37
Total:	189.87	(5,812.50)	6,002.37
i otal.	103.07	(0,012.00)	0,002.37

Cash balance 1/31/08 27,009.55

Helpful information about stray cats in the neighborhood

There have been several reports of stray, even "wild", cats in our neighborhood. The cats are reported to be unfriendly and even to be aggressive. Most of the reports are that the cat(s) seem to be living and breeding in the storm sewers as they are often sighted entering and leaving the storm sewer entrances.

Contact has been made with Lexington County Animal Service (785-8149). There are four Animal Control Officers for Lexington County. Their office is located at 321 Ball Park Rd. and they can be reached Monday through Friday 8-10 AM and 3-5 PM. In an emergency, the number shown above can be called at any time and a message will be dispatched accordingly.

The following information was provided, and can be applied to any stray or "wild" animal:

In order to catch a stray/wild cat, a cat trap will need to be placed in an appropriate location on the property of the owner where the catch basin is located.

That property owner must be the one to call the Animal Control Officer to report the cat(s) and request to have a cat trap placed. When a cat has been caught, it will be the property owner's responsibility to call the Animal Control Officer to retrieve the cat.

Hopefully this information has been helpful and that the offenders can be caught! We certainly do not need anyone attacked by a possibly rabid animal.

How to contact your Board of Directors

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

Lindsey Sturkie -- President president@longspond.org

Patrick Hedgepath -- Secretary secretary@longspond.org

Chad Keller -- Vice President vicepresident@longspond.org

Jane Sufka -- Treasurer treasurer@longspond.org

Randall Mungo -- Director director1@longspond.org



The next HOA meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 16. You will receive a post card as that time draws closer.

Long's Pond Web Site News

Please keep checking the website for news from the latest HOA meeting and other events. Don't forget you can download applications for approval for any new plans you might have for your lot. You can also download the Covenants, By-Laws, and regulations for our community from here. The new password for accessing the minutes is now palmetto. As always please feel free to email us with any suggestions you might have for the site at webmaster@longspond.org

Thanks,

Patrick J. Hedgepath



Receive Your Newsletter by Email!

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

Events Around Town

May, 2008

Lake Murray Rally formerly known as LAKE MURRAY POKER RUN. A fundraiser card game where boaters visit 5 out of 10 designated marinas and landings on Lake Murray from 9am-3pm. Contact The Lake Murray News, PO Box 175, Irmo, South Carolina 29063. Call (803) 772-5584.

May 17, 2008

10th Annual Pontoon TOUR OF HOMES - Lake Murray residents open up their homes and gardens for tours by pontoon boats leaving from a designated marina. Launching from Lighthouse Marina Contact: The Lake Murray Association, PO Box 495, Ballentine, South Carolina 29002. Phone: (803) 359-2880.

May 10-12, 2008

SC POULTRY FESTIVAL - Come join us in the fun & celebration at the South Carolina Poultry Festival. For additional information call (803) 532-3866 or visit us at www.batesburg-leesville.org/poultry

May 22 & 24, 2008

Lexington County Master Gardeners 7th Annual Garden Tour from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. -- Featuring 6 different gardens and a church garden. Tickets are \$20. Call Mildred Hedgepath at 772-3762.

June 13-22, 2008

DISNEY'S ALADDIN JR. at Village Square Theatre. Call (803) 359-1436.

June -August, 2008

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.

July 4, 2008

LEXINGTON COUNTY PEACH FESTIVAL - This Lexington County Peach Festival is a great way to recognize the Lexington County Peach, the peach industry and the birthday of our nation. Held in Gilbert. For more information call (803) 892-5207.