

Long's Pond ESTATES

Homeowners Association Newsletter

www.longspond.org

October 2012

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

We have elected new Board members to the HOA. They are as follows:

President – Jon Handrock
Vice President – Matt Bullard
Treasurer – Michelle Jones
Secretary – Stephanie Young
Member at Large – Jennifer Bullard

I would like to thank everyone who has been so helpful throughout this year in helping carry out the duties of the Board and upkeep of the community. Your time and efforts are greatly appreciated.

Thanks,

Matt Bullard
President – Longs Pond HOA
2011-2012



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Wednesday, November 14, 2012 at 7:30 PM
Wednesday, January 16, 2013 at 7:30 PM
Wednesday, February 20, 2013 at 7:30 PM
Wednesday, March 20, 2013 at 7:30 PM
Wednesday, April 17, 2013 at 7:30 PM
Wednesday, May 17, 2013 at 7:30 PM

Wednesday, June 19, 2013 at 7:30 PM
Wednesday, July 17, 2013 at 7:30 PM
Wednesday, August 21, 2013 at 7:30 PM

ANNUAL MEETING:

Thursday, September 19, 2013 at 7 PM

COVENANTS AND ARC GUIDELINES

This has been another successful quarter in homeowners fulfilling the ARC requirements for applications and following the guidelines/rules. Please remember that the current Guidelines, Regulations, and application can be found on the www.longspond.org website.

Matt Bullard
arc@longspond.org

COMMUNICATION

We are on Facebook! Please like us: "Longs Pond Estates – Lexington SC 29073". This page is designed to share ideas and events throughout the neighborhood, as well as attempt to restore a sense of community to Longs Pond Estates. There should be no negative comments about individual homeowners, the board, violations or the management company on the Facebook page and it will be monitored. We will also be posting the quarterly newsletter on the Facebook page; for those of you who like us on Facebook, we can remove you from our mailing list to save on coping costs and mailings of the paper newsletter. The Board has some exciting things planned for the next few months and we will debut them on Facebook.

PET CARE

In recent months there have been several animals on the loose throughout our community. Please ensure your dogs and cats are contained on your property. Several kittens are roaming the neighborhood and to prevent further litters, please consider spaying and neutering your pets, especially if they are outdoor pets. In the Midlands, over 21,000 homeless dogs and cats enter municipal shelters in Lexington and Richland Counties. Over 18,000 of those same pets are euthanized simply because they are homeless. There are several low cost options (in some cases \$25- \$75) to have your pets spayed or neutered.

The Humane Society
121 Humane Lane
Columbia SC 29209
(803) 783-1267

Pawmetto Lifeline
1275 Bower Pkwy.
Columbia SC 29212
803.465.9150

DO IT YOURSELF – PEST CONTROL

Pests inside your home can be annoying, harmful and downright scary. Fortunately, there are many steps you can take to combat pest problems. Of course, your first stop can be your last by calling an exterminator—and don't hesitate to call the manager if you need a recommendation. But you can often save time and money by doing it yourself. Here are some methods for treating bugs locally.

Boric acid powder, like Borid, works as localized pest-control for spot-specific problems. Just sprinkle it behind the refrigerator or around the stove, washing machine or wherever you suspect pests are. It kills roaches, water bugs, ants, fleas and silverfish. Many pest control powders continue working for more than three months. Be sure to read the precautions—these powders can be harmful to infants and pets.

Many insecticide sprays that professionals use, like the water-soluble Demon-WP, and the proper sprayers to apply them are readily available in stores or online. Generic brands are usually available at lower cost. Be sure to follow all instructions carefully. Be wary of taking on large projects, like treating for termites, which can involve drilling, digging and more.

Staple products, like Combat, can also be effective, if you know what pests they should be used against. Combat is used specifically to target ants and roaches. The pests take the bait back to their nests, where presumably it destroys the entire infestation. This can be a good, cheap method—but again be aware of safety precautions.

Remember, all these methods are effective, but you can also eliminate bug problems by identifying why they're coming into your home. For example, ants are almost always a sign of excess moisture in your house or yard. Other pests are attracted to trash and food remnants. Eliminate whatever is attracting the pests, and you will eliminate the need for insecticides.

SURVIVING A JOB LOSS

It's never a good time to lose your job. However, the current economic environment has resulted in business closures, downsizing and layoffs for many in our community. The National Foundation for Credit Counseling offers the following tips for surviving a layoff:

- Allow yourself to be upset or even afraid. These are natural reactions. However, if they become intense, seek professional help. Talking things through and hearing another person's perspective can bring relief and restore your positive outlook.
- Resist the urge to tell your boss what you truly think of him or her. Remember, you may need him or her as a reference for a future job.
- Take advantage of any assistance your workplace offers. Many companies provide placement assistance, job retraining and severance packages. Make sure you are aware of all benefits offered.
- Apply for any applicable government benefits. Your HR representative at work will be a good resource.
- Resist the urge to solve your problems by spending recklessly. It may feel good for the moment, but the high of spending won't equal the low of dealing with additional debt when there is no income.
- Don't be tempted to live off of your credit cards. Someone with a good line of credit could actually

support the family at the current standard of living by using credit, but there's no guarantee a new position will materialize any time soon. Expect one month of job search for each \$10,000 of annual income you hope to replace. In other words, if you seek a \$50,000 salary, it may take you five months to land that job.

- Take a personal inventory. Consider all assets, income and expenses. No one wants to liquidate assets to survive, but it is good to know what you have to fall back on.

- Drastic times call for drastic measures. Nothing is off-limits. Consider selling the second car or recreational vehicle, real estate holdings, rental properties or jewelry.

- After you review your income versus debt obligations, if you don't have enough money to make ends meet, calculate how much you'll need for basic household expenses. Your goal is to pay everyone, but if you must make a choice, keep food on the table and your home life stable by paying your rent or mortgage, association assessments, utilities, childcare, insurance premiums and health care.

- Have a family meeting that includes the children. You don't want family members pulling in different directions, and a joint effort yields a better result.

- Make cutbacks wherever possible, knowing that your austere lifestyle will only be temporary. Resolve to stop all non-essential spending immediately.

- Tracking your spending is always a good idea, but when money is tight, it's essential. Write down every cent you spend. After 30 days, review where the money went and decide where to cut back. You'll be amazed how much you can save without feeling the pinch.

- Contact your creditors to arrange lower payments. Most major credit card issuers have help programs. Explain your situation and what you're doing to resolve it. The creditor may be able to temporarily lower your monthly payment and reduce interest.

- Inform your mortgage lender of your situation. Be prepared to provide documentation of your setback, and have a resolution plan in mind. Since the average consumer doesn't know all the loan modifications available, sit down with a

certified housing counselor and map out a plan best suited to your situation.

The National Foundation for Credit Counseling is a national nonprofit credit counseling organization. For more information, visit www.DebtAdvice.org.

COMMUNITY MANAGER

Our association employs a highly-qualified professional community manager, and we think residents should know what the manager has—and has not—been hired to do. The manager has two primary responsibilities: to carry out policies set by the board and to manage the association's daily operations.

Some residents expect the manager to perform certain tasks that just aren't part of the job. When the manager doesn't meet those expectations, residents naturally are unhappy. Since we want you to be happy, we're offering a few clarifications to help you understand what the manager does.

- The manager is trained to deal with conflict, but he or she will not get involved in quarrels you might be having with your neighbor. However, if association rules are being violated, the manager is the right person to call.

- While the manager works closely with the board, he or she is an advisor—not a member of the board. Also, the manager is not your advocate with or conduit to the board. If you have a concern, send a letter or e-mail directly to the board.

- Although the manager works for the board, he or she is available to residents. That doesn't mean the manager will drop everything to take your call. If you need to see the manager, call and arrange a meeting. If a matter is so urgent that you need an immediate response, call the association emergency number or 911.

- The manager is always happy to answer questions, but he or she is not the information officer. For routine inquiries, like the date of the next meeting, please read the newsletter or check the association website.

- The manager is responsible for monitoring contractors' performance, but not supervising them. Contractors are responsible for supervising

their own personnel. If you have a problem with a contractor, notify the manager, who will forward your concerns to the board. The board will decide how to proceed under the terms of the contract.

- The manager inspects the community regularly, but even an experienced manager won't catch everything. Your help is essential. If you know about a potential maintenance issue, report it to the manager.
- The manager does not set policy. If you disagree with a policy or rule, you'll get better results sending a letter or e-mail to the board than arguing with the manager.
- The manager has a broad range of expertise, but he or she is not a consultant to the residents. Neither is he or she an engineer, architect, attorney or accountant. The manager may offer opinions, but don't expect technical advice in areas where he or she is not qualified.
- Although the manager is a great resource to the association, he or she is not available 24 hours a day—except for emergencies. Getting locked out of your home may be an emergency to you, but it isn't an association emergency. An association emergency is defined as a threat to life or property.

SCHOOL INVOLVEMENT



Get Involved With Our Local School

This year, Carolina Springs Middle School (CSMS) will be participating in a great program designed to recycle unwanted clothing and footwear for use by those less fortunate than ourselves & in Third world countries. Go Green Clothing Recyclers (GGCR) is an organization that has put together a program, the “Green Campaign”, which provides an environmentally and socially conscious community service while promoting the educational objectives that we desire for our students!

As the days cool down and warmer wear replaces summer clothing, please consider sending any unwanted clothing & footwear their way. Not only will these donations provide students the opportunity to participate in a hands-on, meaningful, “Green

Campaign”, it will also raise money for The Wounded Warrior Project (WWP). The WWP is dedicated to helping support our returning veterans, and CSMS sends all money raised through this yearlong campaign in a lump-sum donation to the WWP at the end of the 2012-2013 school year.

If you would like to join CSMS's efforts to educate students about this meaningful community service project, while providing them the opportunity to make a difference in the life of our returning troops, please send your donations to the Carolina Springs Middle School front office OR contact me, Jenny Bullard, at bryjen2598@yahoo.com, and I will be happy to collect them and take them to the school for you. Also, if possible, place any footwear in a separate bag as it is processed & used differently.

You can find out more about GGCR.net & their program with Edge Outreach at

<http://www.edgeoutreach.com/go-green-clothing-recyclers-and-edge-outreach>

and about the Wounded Warrior Project at
<http://www.woundedwarriorproject.org/>

Thank you in advance for your support!



Jenny Bullard
LPHOA Member-at-Large
2012-2013 CSMS PTSA School Functions Chair

YARD OF THE MONTH



Thanks to everyone in our community for taking pride in their lawns and keeping our neighborhood looking so awesome! This year has flown by so fast that I'm sorry to say, I have had a hard time keeping up. Congratulations to everyone who has been selected so far!

But now the days are getting shorter and cooler and the holidays are fast approaching. That means there are only two more yards to select this year.....Halloween & Christmas. Everyone can compete....so, **BREAK OUT THE**

DECORATIONS! Good Luck to all!

Jenny Bullard
LPHOA Member-at-Large

**GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING ARTICLES
FOR INCLUSION IN THE COMMUNITY
NEWSLETTER**

The Long's Pond Estates quarterly newsletter is a wonderful way for the LPHOA Board to share upcoming events and important information with all of the residents of our community. In the past, seasonal articles have been included, as well as, "For Sale" items and some that were school and community related. The LPHOA Board would like to continue to run articles that are relevant to our neighborhood, schools and local business area, and welcome input from homeowners about subjects that they may wish to share or feel are important to the community as a whole.

Keep in mind the following guidelines when submitting articles:

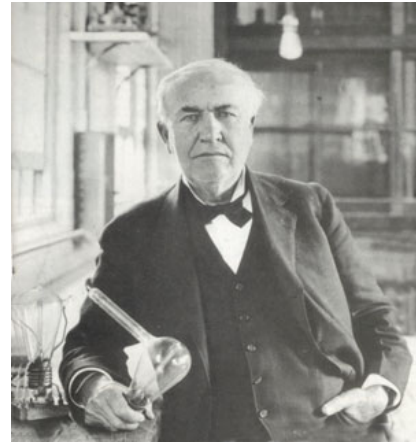
- Submit only positive, relative articles.
- Spell-check and edit your article just the way you would like it to read.
- Include complimentary clip-art, if desired, to make your submission "pop" 😊
- Complaints should be submitted to the Board as complaints....not newsletter articles.
- All submissions are subject to approval by the LPHOA Board

If you would like to submit an article, feel free to email it to Kathy Handrock, at baddy coda@yahoo.com. It will be forwarded to the Board for approval in the next newsletter, so be sure to get seasonal submissions in early enough to coincide with the appropriate distribution date. Our next newsletter should be published in January.

TRIVIA CORNER

Despite their name, centipedes do not necessarily have 100 legs; the number of appendages ranges anywhere from 28 to 354, depending on the species. And millipedes don't have 1,000 legs, either.

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Thomas Edison is credited with hundreds of inventions; not the least of these is the electric light bulb. Ask any school child who invented the light bulb, and he or she will, without hesitation, name Thomas Edison.

But the truly illuminated know the first light bulb was actually invented in 1802 (nearly 87 years before Edison's version) by an English chemist, Sir Humphrey Davy, who made an arc lamp glow by passing electricity through a platinum wire. Davy never pursued any practical use for his invention, and the world stayed dependent on candlepower and oil lamps for several more decades.

In 1845, an American, J.W. Starr, developed a light bulb using a vacuum bulb and a carbon filament – a design very similar to Edison's. When Starr died at the age of 25, an Englishman, Sir Joseph Wilson Swan, continued to work on his design. The main problem with this, and previous designs, was that the filament would burn only for a short while, rendering the light bulb impractical for any real use.

In 1877, Edison went about searching for a filament that could stay illuminated for a long period of time. After trying nearly 8,000 possibilities, he found one – a carbonized cotton thread. So, Edison discovered a way to make a light bulb work for an extended period time?

Not really. Remember Joseph Swan? Well, he discovered using a carbonized piece of cotton thread would do the trick, too – 10 months earlier. In fact, he filed a patent infringement suit against Edison and won. So Edison, living up to his credo that "genius is one percent inspiration and 99% perspiration" became inspired, made Swan a partner in his lighting company, and later bought him out.

TOP 10 THINGS TO DO IN COLUMBIA

Columbia was chosen the site of South Carolina's new state capital in 1786. It was chartered as a town in 1805 and as a city in 1854. Columbia was named for Christopher Columbus, and it was South Carolina's first planned city and the second planned city in the United States (Savannah was the first).

Visit Riverbanks Zoo & Botanical Garden



Located just 2 miles from downtown Columbia on

a scenic site along the beautiful Saluda River is Columbia's top tourist attraction and one of America's top zoos. The zoo is home to more than 2,000 animals that represent more than 350 species from around the world. Popular zoo exhibits include: elephants, tigers, bears, koalas, crocodiles, gorillas and much more. Riverbanks Botanical Garden showcases more than 4,200 species of native and exotic plants. There's also history at Riverbanks... Listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1973, Riverbanks' 170-acre site has a deep-rooted history dating back to the early 1800s with South Carolina's textile industry and the Civil War. Riverbanks is the Number 1 rated attraction in Columbia by TripAdvisor.com .

Visit South Carolina State House

The South Carolina State House is the state capitol building of the state of South Carolina. The building Houses the South Carolina General Assembly and the offices of the Governor. Initial construction began in 1851 and was suspended in 1865 as Sherman's Union Army swept through Columbia on February 17th, burning much of the city. The State House was not finished until 1907. The interior of the South Carolina State House is home to many beautiful portraits, plaques and other works of art. These works honor many of the people and events that are an important part of the history of South Carolina and the United

States. The State House grounds contain a number of historical monuments.

Learn all about the Palmetto State at The South Carolina State Museum

Housed in the historic 1893 Columbia Mill textile building, the South Carolina State Museum tells the story of South Carolina through many exhibits and programs. The museum building and surrounding area abounds in history. The building itself is historical as it was the first electrically powered textile mill in the world. Visit the museum to enjoy art, cultural history, natural history, science and technology. The museum is located beside the historic Gervais Street Bridge (and EdVenture Children's Museum) and just a few blocks west of the State Capitol in downtown Columbia.

Visit Another Interesting Museum

Make at least one other visit to an interesting Columbia or Columbia area museum! There are lots of great choices including:

[Columbia Museum of Art](#) - Founded in 1950, South Carolina's premier international art museum houses an extraordinary collection of European and American fine and decorative art that spans centuries. The museum opened its new building on Main Street in 1998 and houses 25 galleries. The collections include masterpieces of the Italian Renaissance and Baroque from the Samuel H. Kress Collection.

[EdVenture Children's Museum](#) - is the 7th largest children's museum in the United States and the largest in the South. EdVenture's mission is to inspire children to experience the joy of learning. The museum is home to six world-class exhibit galleries, a library, several laboratories, a 200-seat community theater, two resource centers, two outdoor gallery spaces and other visitor amenities. There are more than 350 individual hands-on exhibits.

[South Carolina Law Enforcement Officers Hall of Fame \(free\)](#) - was established "as a memorial to law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty and in recognition of the selfless dedication of all law enforcement officers in the day-to-day performance of their duties."

[South Carolina Confederate Relic Room & Military Museum](#) - Columbia's oldest museum (founded 1896) preserves the state's military history and tradition from the Revolutionary war to

the present war on terror. The museum is located adjacent to the State Museum.

[Fort Jackson Army Museum \(free\)](#) - the museum was established in 1972 with an initial collection of 20 artifacts. Today, the collection has grown to over 4,000 items, including weapons, uniforms and vehicles from WWI to the present.

More Museums! [McKissick](#) is on the University of South Carolina campus; [City of Cayce Historical Museum](#); [Lexington County Museum](#)

Visit an Historic Home
Enjoy THREE Columbia Historic House Museum tours with one



admission ticket from the [Historic Columbia Foundation](#). Homes on the tour: *Robert Mills House & Park* - This restored mansion was built in 1823 and designed by South Carolina's most famous architect, Robert Mills (architect of the Washington Monument). Start your tour here to purchase tickets and visit the Museum Shop; *Hampton-Preston Mansion and Gardens* - Built in 1818, this restored antebellum mansion is furnished with Hampton and Preston family pieces; *Woodrow Wilson Family Home* - Woodrow Wilson, the nation's 28th president, spent four years of his youth in Columbia. He and his family lived in this home built by his parents in 1872. (This site is currently closed due to restoration); *Mann-Simons Cottage* - Celia Mann, an enslaved Charleston midwife who acquired her freedom and walked to Columbia, lived here from the 1840s until 1867.

[The South Carolina Governor's Mansion](#)

has been "home" to more than thirty governors and their families through the



years. Built in 1855 as a residence for officers of the Arsenal Military Academy, the building was

spared during the burning of Columbia in the Civil War. It was selected as the official residence for the state's governors in 1868. The public rooms are a repository of treasures - silver and china, furniture, paintings and documents - that remain permanently in the Mansion. The mansion is located on 9 acres of land in downtown Columbia.

[Kensington Mansion](#), located approximately 31 miles from downtown Columbia, makes an interesting day trip. Kensington Mansion was completed in 1854 and placed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1971. Located in lower Richland County, it is an architectural and historical treasure.