

November 2009

Edgewater Community Newsletter

LakeLife

Presidents Corner

By Gary Kinney

Autumn is here and Christmas is coming!

What a beautiful, hectic, fun-filled and absolutely delightful time of year. For the Edgewater Board it is also a busy time, as all seasons really are. Volunteers have sent out the election nomination forms, the 2010 proposed budget is being prepared, each Committee Chair is preparing a summary for the Annual Report, projects underway under the control of outgoing Chairs are being finished up, and the December festivities are being planned. The all-important election process will dominate November with the new budget coming in a close second.

The 2008/2009 Board has a lot to be proud of. Of course, all Boards accomplish a lot. For example, the previous Board had the sticky and time-consuming Mediation Agreement task, they expanded the exercise room, etc. This year the clubhouse was painted and re-carpeted; new cooling units were installed; an exciting new surveillance system was put in place; and a number of new exercise programs were introduced. The long-awaited and highly successful Proximity Card system was installed and prox cards were issued to replace each member's Membership Card. The sidewalks were repaired and necessary tree work was accomplished. Many new plantings were introduced along Edgewater Drive. An Edgewater Hotline was inaugurated, and residency checks were made to assist us in maintaining our lake and grounds as private. Steps were taken to make our clubhouse computers hacker-proof, and our new Webmaster and his team have updated our Web site and added nice new features. He has assured us that more neat features will be added in 2010.

A number of personal problems have kept me from contributing as much as I would have liked, but others on the Board worked tirelessly to accomplish the goals they had set for their various committees. The community is very fortunate to have such a dedicated group represent-

ing them. Enjoy the autumn weather and enjoy the holiday season.

Gary

New Office Manager

Please welcome our new Office Manager, Dottie Bash, if you have not already done so. She has accomplished a remarkable amount in the short time she has been with us. Even though she was new at the job, her diligence and ability to handle challenges kept the office running at maximum efficiency during this busy time of the year.



Community Events Calendar

- Oct 30 Board Nominations Deadline
- Oct 31 Photo Contest Deadline
- November 3 Madison Hospital CEO
- November 12 Meet the Candidates Night
- November 19 Last day to cast vote for
New Board Members
- November 30 Deadline Fall-Winter
Yard of the Season Nominations
- December 5 Luminary and (Tentatively)
Santa Sprint Night
- December 7 Annual Meeting and Holiday
Party

We're on the web: www.edgewatercommunity.com

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Grounds

By Bill Hastings

Neighborhood Entrance project

The Landscape committee is nearly finished renovating the entrances at Heritage Woods, Remington Place and Steeple Chase. The next targeted entrances will be the smaller entrances to: Lost Tree, Dunhill, Spinnaker Ridge, Lake Shore and Carriage Hill.

An open committee meeting will be announced to encourage resident participation in the planning and implementation of the remaining Edgewater Dr. entrances.

Heritage Woods:

A minor issue remains to remove the ground lighting in front of the brickwork, which will avoid continual damage by the lawn service equipment. Lighting inside the brickwork will provide light for the subdivision sign.

Remington Place:

Remington volunteers plus help from Kay Davis and Debbie Fulmore laid the sod and planted the shrubs. It is near completion. Just waiting on several shrubs from the local nursery.

Steeple Chase:

Additional rock is planned for the island and new shrubs behind the brickwork wings.



(Continued from page 2)

Edgewater Drive Committee / Landscaping

Sidewalk Repair:

Sidewalk repair is complete in both Madison and Huntsville. Huntsville has begun installing the plantings according to the Landscaping plan but is waiting on the authorization letters to continue. Madison and Huntsville implementation is planned to be complete before year-end.

Grounds committee is having 3-plaques prepared to recognize the Public Works staffs of Huntsville and Madison. The plan is to present the plaques at a City Council meeting in appreciation of the Mayor's support, their Department heads and of the workers who actually got the job done in such a short time-frame. The plan also includes EOA hosting a cold plate luncheon for the workers.

Landscaping/Beautification Plan:

There are updated drawings in the Clubhouse that illustrates the length of Edgewater Drive using pictures from Google Earth. The illustration shows the type and number of plantings, shrubs and trees to be planted. The final location will be determined by the Edgewater Drive committee and approved by the property owner.

Authorization letters for the plantings have been sent to each of the homeowners in Huntsville and Madison soliciting their agreement for the plan on their property. A small number of residents have declined to have the plantings installed. I do not believe those few will affect the symmetry of the plantings, but remain disappointed we are unable to implement the beautification plan, designed by Huntsville City Landscape Architect, Bryan Walker.

Current and Recent Grounds activities:

Volunteers have been actively reworking the Remington Place entrance. The Dog Park project has been abandoned as not feasible because our insurance carrier is unable to underwrite that activity. I have recommended to the Board that EOA sponsor a Pet Parade as a permanent item on the Community Relations calendar (Spring or Fall). It might make it extra fun to host it as a Halloween event and encourage costumes and prizes for the pets and their handlers.

Grounds committee is replacing the twelve 20-year old Trash cans. Project will be complete before year-end.

New signs, which specify "No Trespassing" in order to meet police requirements to remove people not entitled to use the Lake Path and Common Grounds, will be installed before year-end.

Giving your Dog a Drink

There is a place to provide a drink for your pet when walking around the lake. A water faucet and short hose are located on the lower level of the Clubhouse in front of the maintenance garage.

We simply ask residents to keep the pressure low, use the grassy area to avoid spraying traffic going to/from the exercise room and pool and to turn it off when finished. I hope this water station is useful for you—it is the only one on the Lake path.

-Bill Hastings

2009 Board of Directors

And Committee Chairs

Gary Kinney
Lake Shore
President

Scott Ray
Heritage Woods
Vice President
Covenants Chair

Lyle Needham
Remington Place
Secretary/Security

Dave Parker
Heritage Woods
Treasurer

Bill Hastings
Compass Pointe
Grounds Chair

Sallie Scott
Dunhill
Community Affairs

Debbie Fulmore
Compass Pointe
Clubhouse/Security Chair
Deputy Covenants Chair

Joe Roberts
Lost Tree Pointe
Lake Chair

Vickie Sloup
Remington Place
Architectural Review Chair

Office Manager:
Dottie Bash

Office Address:
**111 Edgewater Drive
Madison, AL 35758
461-8670**

Office Hours: 10AM-2:00 PM

The Edgewater Community Outreach

The Edgewater Community Outreach is an all-volunteer group organized in August 2005 for the sole purpose of helping neighbors in times of need (sickness, death in family or recovering from surgery)

The Outreach has been fortunate to have so many volunteers who have always stepped up to the plate to help when called upon. If you know of a neighbor in need or if you are looking for a way to help within your own community in 2010, please contact Joyce Bryant at EWOutreach@bellsouth.net, 774-7817 or 694-2004. I would like to thank all of the Outreach volunteers for their help in 2009.

The Edgewater Community Outreach will be collecting donations for CASA (Care Assurance System for the Aging and Homebound of Madison County) for Christmas. CASA's mission is to provide needed services to aging/homebound individuals, which will allow them to age at home. A community-wide email will be forthcoming in mid- November.

**ADOPT-A-MILE
CALENDAR**

A big thank you to these people who have volunteered to help keep our community clean by picking up the litter along Zierdt Road.

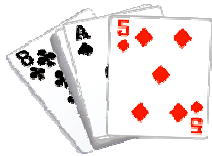
November Jerry/Carlotta Gattis

December Sam Lovelace, Linda Harris

January John Kolek

To help with this project and get some exercise at the same time, contact Patti Kolek at 464-3102 or plkolek@bellsouth.net. All supplies are provided.

THE 2010 VOLUNTEER CALENDAR IS NOW BEING FILLED.
PLEASE CALL TO SIGN UP FOR YOUR FAVORITE MONTH!



Community Corner

Mixed Doubles—"Round Robin" tennis is played each Friday Morning and men's tennis on Tuesday mornings. Call Dave Simpson at 772-0512.

Investment Club—2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM at the Clubhouse. Call Sue Chatham at 461-0262 or Joe Roberts at 489-0781.

Party Bridge—1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month from 9:30 AM to 2:00 PM. Call Eve Garriott at 461-0103 or Reba Jacobs at 461-9775.

Garden Club—The Edgewater Garden Club is recruiting new members; no gardening experience required. Our mission states "To beautify Edgewater through volunteerism, education and participation". The next meeting will be held at the Edgewater Clubhouse on Thursday, November 5, at 6:30 p.m. Cory Brown with the Catbird Seat Gardening Center will be available to discuss fall and winter gardening and refreshments will be served. Please RSVP Karen Jernigan at 325-9461.

Woodworking—2nd Tuesday of each month. Call Tom Kaeding at 461-0180, twkaeding@yahoo.com or Terry Tackney at 772-3438, tmtwood@aol.com.

The Ladies of Edgewater Book Club meet on the 2nd Wed. of each month at 11 AM in the clubhouse. For more information contact Devra Long at waltdev@knology.net.

Community Outreach— Call Joyce Bryant at 694-2004 or 774-7817, ewoutreach@bellsouth.net.

Hand and Foot (Cards)—Every Wednesday at 1PM. Call Judy Lindsey at 461-7069

Singles—2nd Friday of each month at 8:00 PM at the Heritage Club, 111 Washington St., Huntsville. Must be 21 or over and a single Edgewater resident. Call Trent Banks at 772-4079 for information.

Children's Play Group—Call Andrea Barnes at 489-6681, AndieKevin07@knology.net. There is a group of children that play at least once a week.

Simple Yoga—Every Thursday at the clubhouse. 8 AM and 6:30 PM. Call Linda Branum at 325-6332, ldbranum@aol.com.

The **lending library** in the clubhouse is open whenever the office manager is in. Come check out our selection of books.

Clubhouse

By Debbie Fulmore

As I near the end of my term on the Board, I would like to thank the many residents and staff that have helped me in making the area of our community recreation and clubhouse what it has been the past two years; an asset and resource for our Association. Serving on the Board has been an enlightening experience, providing me a new level of respect and appreciation for all those who have taken time to serve. I have really enjoyed getting to know so many more residents and making new friends in the community.

The Clubhouse, with a few improvements, is in pretty good shape. You may have noticed the new security cameras that were installed this past month. This investment, along with the prox card system installed early in the year, has significantly enhanced protection of our facilities and the safety of our residents. The cameras are quite amazing, particularly in the darkness. We have much broader coverage and are able to clearly distinguish features such as faces and license plates with the pan/zoom capability. If you would like to see how they work, please stop by the Clubhouse office and ask Dottie to pull them up on the computer. I think you will be impressed.

Don't forget about the many Clubhouse activities that are on going. They include:

Bridge - meeting 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 9:30 am to 2 pm

Hand and Foot (card game) - every Wednesday, 1 pm

Book Club - meets on 2nd Wednesday, 11 am

Investment Club - meets on 2nd Tuesday, 6:30 pm

Yoga - fee-based program (contact Linda Branum 757-373-9002 or ldbranum@aol.com)

Mon. 7:30-8:30 am yoga with weights

Thurs. 7:30-8:30 am gentle yoga

Thurs 6:30-7:30 pm basic yoga

Circuit/Weights - fee-based program (contact Clubhouse Chair)

Tues - Thurs 8:30-9:30 class full at this time - can change month to month

Tues - Thurs 9:30-10:30 we have several

CAUTION

Protect out most precious assets -
Our Children.

Be alert for school buses and no
Matter which way you are headed
STOP!

This message inserted at the request of a
Concerned mother who observed cars passing
Stopped school buses.



Covenants

By Scott Ray

Greetings fellow neighbors, I hope you all have had a great summer. With the end of summer comes one of my favorite times of year, fall and football. Also with fall and football comes one of my least favorite outdoor activities, leaves, leaves and more leaves. Please keep in mind as the leaves drop and we rake, blow, and mulch, that those bags need to be put out at the appropriate times. Speaking of appropriate times, our garbage pickup is now once per week. It is on Thursday for both Madison and Huntsville except when delayed by holidays. Please put your leaves, clippings, refuse and garbage out no earlier than Wednesday evening. After pickup, return your garbage can to an area that is not seen from the street. I have noticed that some cans are not being put out of view. This is a violation and you will be notified.

Again I want to say a big thank you to most of the people we have contacted with covenant violations. One phone call and the problems are usually corrected. In the cases that were not, we sent letters. I am happy to say, we have sent very few letters since the last Lake Life. Please be considerate of your fellow neighbors and keep your yard and house in good order. We want to keep our neighborhood a beautiful place to live. If you do see a violation please contact the EOA office and we will look into your complaint.

I would like to take this opportunity to say THANK YOU, THANK YOU, to my co-chair Debbie Fulmore. Not only has she co-chaired covenants, she is the chair of the clubhouse and has done an excellent job in both areas. With my travel schedule this year, she has had to do more than her share of covenant complaints. Thank you so much Debbie for all you do for Edgewater.

Keep Edgewater beautiful and have a great autumn.

Picking Up after Your Dog

A periodic source of complaint is when people do not pick up after their dogs. 99% of those walking their dogs dutifully pick up behind them, and we thank you. Please do not depend on getting to a refuse bag dispensing station. Always carry a plastic bag from the grocer or some other source. Not picking up after your pet is unsanitary, disgusting and unlawful. Be a good neighbor. Please pick up after your dog!

-Editor

Out in the Yard—A New Look to the Edgewater Landscape

by Karen Voelker

Out in a Real Garden

I found this article that seems to cover all you need to know about fall garden expectations. Sometimes it is nice to have a list to work from - even if you never get beyond suggestion one!

Written by Paul Anguiano

October 14, 2009

After the harvest is in, as the trees lose their leaves and the grass stops growing, it is time to prepare for winter. Tuck your plants and trees in well for their long winter's rest, and they'll be stronger and better prepared for a beautiful spring.

Early Autumn Preparation

As temperatures drop and trees start to change their colors it's a good idea to cut back a bit on your watering. [Bushes and trees](#) especially slow their uptake of water and nutrients, and drier conditions help them harden off for winter. Don't let everything dry out completely, though. They'll need at least some water in the ground through the winter.

As the lawn slows its growth you may space out the last few mowings a bit. This is a good time to attack perennial [weeds](#) before they die back and entrench themselves for spring. Manual removal is easiest at this time of year when the tops are large and easily spotted and grasped. Additionally, many broad-leaved weeds continue growing after the grass has slowed, making them stand out even more.

I'm not a big fan of chemicals and poisons, but this would be a good time to spot spray weeds. Most herbicides require that the plant is actively growing in order to take up the poison, so don't wait until too late in the year. Additionally, a good feeding for your lawn will provide nutrients that it can use in the spring to get off to a good early start. If you are more organically inclined, finely chopped leaves and other fine organic material can be spread on the lawn to be absorbed throughout the winter.

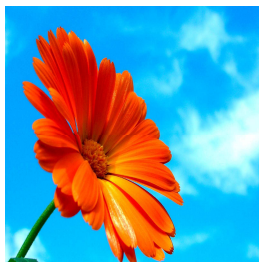
Do not fertilize your other plants, though. Many bushes and trees can get the wrong signal when given nitrogen and react by putting out new growth, wasting valuable resources that should be stored away, and delaying their preparation for dormancy. Remember that trees pick up water and fertilizer all the way out to the "drip line" below the far ends of their branches.

This is also a good time to get your [soil tested](#). Many amendments, such as lime for sweetening or sulfur for acidifying require some time in the soil to make a difference in soil pH and bioavailability of nutrients. Modifying your soil in the fall will give you better results in the spring because the amendments will have all winter to work on your soil.

LakeLife Survey

The Board of Directors has discussed making only about 75 copies of the LakeLife available for pickup at the Clubhouse, thinking the majority of our residents would prefer the colorful copy on our Web site. This would save money and effort, but we want to hear from you. If you feel strongly that this is NOT a good idea, please call the clubhouse and make it known. Thank you.

Fall 2009 Yard of the Season Contest



Sponsored by the Edgewater Garden Club

The deadline for nominations for the Fall 2009 Yard of the Season is **November 30**. Please take a moment to nominate your favorite yard in the Edgewater community.

By e-mail: EOAgardens@gmail.com

By mail or courier: EOA Gardens/Linda Harris, 472 Sussex Drive, Huntsville, 35824

By phone: 256/489-8031

Judging of the nominated yards will take place immediately following the deadline for nominations. The winner will be announced at EOA's Holiday Party in December.

Please note that while we're officially judging front landscapes, if berms and visible side or back yards are in obvious need of TLC, we must consider that when choosing among all the nominations.

****Please familiarize yourself with EOA covenants and architectural standards****

The contest is sponsored by the Edgewater Garden Club. Interested in joining? Feel free to e-mail the above address or call Karen Jernigan at 256-325-9461. Please see Community Corner for details regarding the next meeting .



Our Web site has a new look and has new information. Check it out at the link below!

Architectural Review

By Vickie Sloup, *Chair*

From Your Architectural Review Committee-

Many of our roofs, due to aging or weather related issues are in need of replacement. If you're like most people, the only thing you know is that when the roof starts leaking, it's a problem. If that happens, you'll have more than a roof to fix. If your roof is getting old and you've got to select a roofing company quickly, there are a few things you should know when choosing someone that will do the job right.

1. Get more than one estimate
2. Ask for the full name and physical address of the company. Some workers do work out of their home; so don't let this alarm you.
3. Check references thoroughly whether the company is large or small.
4. Ask if the company is a licensed contractor and if they are insured. A business license is required for tax purposes and does not ensure competency.
5. Ask how long the company has been in business.
6. Ask for references.
7. Check with the Better Business Bureau for any problems or complaints about the company. This information is available even if the company is not a BBB member.
8. When you decide to go with a company, make sure everything is written in the estimate. Before signing, make sure you are clear on the price and that the company is going to clean up and haul away the old roofing.

The company should include start and completion dates and any guarantees for the material used.

You don't have to know everything about roofing: just ask questions, do your homework, check references, and review all paperwork carefully. The roof on your house is very important. Choose wisely and your roof will last for another twenty years or more.

Madison Hospital Meeting at our Clubhouse

David Spillers, CEO of Huntsville Hospital, will be presenting information and an update of the progress being made toward construction of the new Madison Hospital on Tuesday, November 3rd at 6:30 P.M. at the Edgewater Clubhouse.

Groundbreaking is scheduled for early December and Mr. Spillers is anxious to share how the hospital will reflect both Madison's "personality" and how it will be equipped with the very best programs and technology to serve patients in our community. Refreshments will be available.

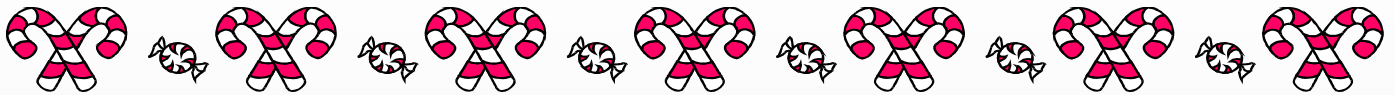


Madison and Huntsville are continuing their landscaping through the fall. Come to the Web site and see these in glorious color.



*Beautiful
Edgewater*





Security Report Lyle Needham



In this edition I will give an overview of the Security Status of the Edgewater Community. Thankfully, since the summer edition was published, there have been no reported break-ins. We have had one bicycle stolen, and I have had several calls from concerned residents about what they thought was suspicious activity.



Solicitors: In our last edition we made it clear that it is against the law for anybody to solicit in Edgewater. Even those companies who have certificates issued by the city, or even church or charity representatives, may not solicit in subdivisions such as ours which are registered as No Soliciting communities. Several residents reported one incident regarding a suspicious individual supposedly selling magazines so that he could earn points toward some cause. In one case when the husband started to come out to tell him to leave the property, he literally ran away between houses. Another couple reported a scam where they actually paid for several magazine subscriptions, supposedly to help a young woman with her education, and a third would go to a children's charity. When they did not get the magazine they called the Better Business Bureau and found the company was bankrupt. Being nice to solicitors is just encouraging them. If you want to engage them and tell them they are breaking the law, you may want to step outside to do it. We don't answer nuisance telephone calls. We should think of solicitors the same way.



Residency Checks: Although this has been a slow process for some good reasons, the new permanent signs that include the words "No Trespassing" have now been ordered and will be installed in a month or two. It is important that we support these signs with periodic residency checks so that those using our grounds are aware that we are serious. Our main theme is that we either have a public park or private. The above measures will assure that it stays private.



New Video Surveillance Equipment: The equipment is working well, and the last camera will soon be installed. We now have the ability to physically control the scanning and zooming of the camera remotely so that we can identify vandals and trespassers and can pinpoint the time of the incident. Thanks are due Bill Hastings, Debbie Fulmore, Terry Tackney and others for their diligent pursuit of this wonderful improvement in our ability to keep our clubhouse and surrounding areas secure. One case of an attempt to gain unauthorized access to the swimming pool has already been investigated and follow-up is in process.



Who to Call: All of you know about the Who to Call list in the front of your phone directory, but many forget that their new proximity card has hotline and police telephone information. Especially on the weekend, the hotline can be a focal point for reporting security incidents. Yesterday I got a call about found dogs so that if the owner had also called to report the dogs missing, I would have been able to give them the location where they were being held for safekeeping. Fortunately that matter was quickly resolved.



With our new Proximity cards, video surveillance system, protection from hackers installed in the clubhouse, and our new signs, your 2008-2009 Board is due a warm vote of gratitude for helping make us even more secure than we have been.

