



Colony Woods News

April, 2005

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President

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Vice-President

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Treasurer

Suzanne Sanders(322-2244)
Secretary

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Kellie Dworkin (599-0544)
Christine Benedict (492-9125)

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Architectural -
John Miller (894-5232)
Tim Devine (495-9546)
Bob Del Popolo (888-2617)

Beautification-
Linda Brisson (599-1658)
Marilyn Ewing (888-9816)

Hospitality-
Angeline Marshall (541-0055)

Mailing List—
Jennifer Marsh (888-3626)

Newsletter—
Dean Weishaar (894-0542)

Pool-
David/Joy Cooper (492-7358)\

Social—
Jennifer Kuhn (894-4309)

Website-
Tom Howe (888-5723)

REPORT ON THE OPEN BOARD MEETING

Bob Webber, President

Attendance at this year's Open Board Meeting was better than it has been in years with a standing room only crowd. Next year's meeting will be planned for a larger facility to accommodate the growing number of residents interested in our neighborhood and our community.

Each of the Committee heads reported on what is happening in their respective areas of responsibility. Based on those reports, one can say that this will be a very busy year for Colony Woods improvements. Plans for the pool include completion of needed repairs, which should also create an aesthetically pleasing result, painting of the cabana and pump house, and purchasing new pool furniture. The Beautification Committee has numerous ideas for their plan to improve the pool and other common areas. The Social Committee presented their list of planned activities for 2005 starting with last month's newcomer's party and Easter egg hunt. Next up is the Pool Opening party. Detailed reports were also provided for the Hospitality Committee, the Colony Woods Website Committee, and the Architectural Control Committee. For a look at the goals that your board will attempt to accomplish this year, please see the Board of Directors' Goals for 2005 later in the newsletter. Then let us all work together to accomplish those goals.



As a new feature this year, our two city council members, Dan Sullivan and Amy Slater, were invited to the meeting. They provided up-to-date information on the status of the 87th Street/I-35 interchange. Large drawings of the project were presented which detailed how the project will look when it is completed. It will greatly improve this entry to our city. Other topics included discussion of the new City Center project and the Rain to Recreation storm management projects that are ongoing.

Also new this year, Officer David Lewis-Jones attended the meeting and discussed a variety of topics including how we can improve security in our neighborhood. One suggestion was to engrave our driver's license numbers on our valuables, thus enabling police departments to identify the rightful owner of recovered stolen property. Please see the article inside on some thoughts that the Board is considering on how to improve security by improving communication when immediate threats exist within our community.



What were the top three complaints received by the President this month?

SEE PAGE 3

What to do about Greater Security in Colony Woods

Your Board is about to consider some measures that might improve the ability to communicate with one another when conditions warrant. Two examples occurred recently. The first was in January when two young men broke into one of our homes and another home in Post Oak Farm. As reported in February, those two criminals have been apprehended due to the extraordinary diligence of one of our neighbors. The second incident occurred in mid-March when a man driving a white van broke into a home in Maplewood and in Four Colonies. His method included knocking on doors. If someone answered, he would offer to sell them meat out of his van. If no one answered he broke into the home. He stole over \$4,000 in valuables from each home.

Occasionally alerts are received from the Lenexa PD about potential threats like this. However, we have no way of alerting our residents to ongoing security risks. The Board will be considering establishing an electronic email system for Colony Woods residents to alert them of any ongoing threat. Are you interested in participating in such a system? If so, please email me your comments at rlwebber@everestkc.net.

REMEMBER YOUR TEENAGE YEARS?

Mary Baker and Kellie Dworkin, Directors

I remember catching crawdads, with my brothers, after warm spring rains swelled the small town creek and ditches. I remember riding my bike for hours all through the neighborhood. I remember swimming so much at the neighborhood pool that my hair turned green. I remember warm summer evenings playing kick-the-can with my neighborhood friends. Decades later, children are still playing in the creeks, riding bikes, swimming, and enjoying warm summer evenings outside. Our children are creating their own special memories right here in Colony Woods.

Sometimes, as adults, we forget what it was like to be a carefree teenager. There are times when we may think that our children or our neighbors' children are a nuisance. For example, rough housing at the pool, loud music, and cutting through yards are typical teenager behaviors. Sometimes these annoying behaviors cause us to react emotionally. If there are issues, many times they can be solved by rationally talking with parents and maybe even with the kids themselves.

In no way are we condoning inappropriate behavior. However, we need to remember that as children go through different stages, we need to be understanding, tolerant, and respectful just as we ask them to be respectful of us. These teenagers will soon be adults and they will mold their future behaviors by observing the behaviors of the adults around them now. Do we want them to be tolerant and understanding adults?

The memories that were created in the small town where I grew up will stay with me all my life as I hope my children's memories of Colony Woods will remain with them forever.

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY THE PRESIDENT IN MARCH

As a new feature, I thought you might be interested to know what complaints I received during the month. This will also provide some insight into how these matters might be handled. Included are some facts and opinions regarding these issues.

#3 – Cars parked on the Street: If you look around, you will see two types of scenarios, those streets with very few cars on them and those that are loaded with cars. Let's face it, streets where cars are parked in driveways and garages are much more attractive than those having lots of parked cars on the street. The Colony Woods deed restrictions state that parking of cars is to be limited to driveway parking. Understanding that this is difficult for families with several cars, let's see what we can do this spring about making room in our garages for our cars and, to the extent possible, get them off the street.

#2 – Cars being worked on in driveways: The Colony Woods deed restrictions specifically state that no automobile repairing of any type may take place within Colony Woods except for repairs on a not-for-hire basis conducted within an enclosed garage. That means repairs are not permitted to be made in your driveway. This provision has consistently been enforced in Colony Woods. In addition, Lenexa City Ordinance, Section 3-8-C-3, specifically addresses this concern and provides for monetary and other penalties. The last thing I want to do is to have to call the City regarding these types of issues. Let's just do our repairs in our garages.

#1 – Dog Poop: There are two types of complaint that I receive. They can be categorized as OPPP and MTPP. OPPP are complaints about dog owners that allow their dogs to poop on "other people's property". How disrespectful is it to leave such a deposit, expecting your neighbors to clean up after your dog? MTPP is Matt Taylor Park Poop. Our children play in that park. As a mother or father of those children, can you imagine just how disconcerting it is to clean up your child's bare feet or shoes?

Lenexa City Ordinance 3-2D-3 states that "It shall be unlawful for any person to:

- A. Appear with an animal upon the public ways, within public places or upon the property of another, absent that person's consent, without some means for the removal of excrement.
- Fail to immediately remove any excrement deposited by his animal upon any public or private property other than the property of the owner of the animal.

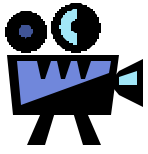
There seems to be one question. If we are respecting our fellow neighbors, as a matter of common courtesy, why do we need an ordinance to address this issue? **If you are walking your dog, carry along a bag or other instrument to pick up the poop your dog leaves behind!**

As I understand from the past presidents, the number of complaints tends to pick up as spring and summer approach. I hope we can all work together to resolve minor issues without them becoming big problems. I greatly appreciate your cooperation.

From the Desk of the Hospitality Chairman --

Jeff and Trudy Nisley are in the process of moving from their home in Shawnee to 12611 W. 81st Terrace.. They have two sons: Blair, a junior, is attending Pittsburg State, and Blake, a senior, is attending Northwest. Included in the family are Yavin, a miniature dachound and Paco, a small mix. Trudy works for Deluxe Corporation and Jeff works for The Nebraska Furniture Mart in the Flooring Department. Cooking, baking, quilting and sewing are some of the things that Trudy likes to do and Jeff is into computers and likes to swim. Welcome to Colony Woods.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE – UPCOMING EVENTS



Ladies Nite Out – April 22, 2005 Dinner & Movies



Join your neighbors at Barley's Brewhaus for drinks, appetizers & dinner and then head over to Westglen for a "chick flick" or some other fun movie. We'll start around 5:00 and catch an early movie or maybe a late one.

Ladies Nite Out – May 20, 2005 –

Mexican on the Veranda (or Jose Peppers on their Deck)

Let's welcome some warmer weather by gathering on the deck at Jose Pepper's, 435 & Midland for chips, salsa and Margarita's. Again, we'll start around 5:00. Looking forward to seeing the Colony Woods Ladies at these two events.



COLONY WOODS NITE AT THE T-BONES

What could be more fun than a family fun night at the T-Bones stadium, 435 & State Avenue. This is a wonderful family outing and hope everyone can join us. We are checking on dates and ticket/tailgating prices so keep reading the newsletters or checking the website at www.ourcolonywoods.com. We are planning this outing sometime in the first two weeks of June. Keep watching.

COME ONE AND ALL TO OUR ANNUAL POOL OPENING



Come welcome the start of summer and the pool season on **JUNE 4, 2005**. We will have pizza, salads, fruit and desserts, along with carnival games for the kids. This will be a BYOB Drink event and a small charge for the food. We hope to see everyone there as this is a fun, fun day for all!!!

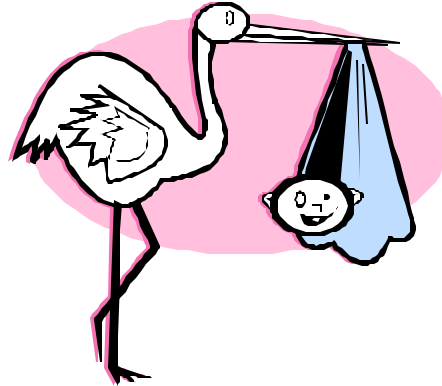


Water Aerobics

We will offer water aerobics at the pool this summer. Days and times to follow. If anyone is interested call or email Joy and David Cooper. 492-7358 or coopdj@everestkc.net.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT:

RACHELLE AND BRENT HESTER-LEE would like to announce the birth of their twin daughters; Melaina Gladys and Madalyn Josephine, born February 2, 2005 at 4:10 and 4:20 p.m.. Melaina weighed 4lbs. 8ozs. and was 17in. and Madalyn weighed 4lbs 1oz. and was 17in. These are the Hesterlee's first children.



Excerpts from a Letter from the Lenexa Police Department

Dean Lenexa Homeowner's Association,

Lenexa Police Animal Control and Community Policing Units are striving to reach out to Lenexa Citizens and make them aware of the services that we offer and our animal ordinances.

The Animal Control Office keeps a computerized list of lost and found pets; responds to calls of stray, injured, wild and nuisance animals, and offers assistance with animal behavior problems and neighborhood disputes involving animals. Our City licensing program for pets allows a pet to be traced back to its owner 24 hours a day.

Animal Control Officers would like you to also be aware of a short presentation that we can offer your organizations. The presentation covers the purpose of Animal Control, the services we provide to citizens, our basic ordinances, and our contact information followed by a short question and answer session.

Officer Jennifer Dorr

*Animal Control Supervisor
913-477-7385*

Master Police Officer Dave Lewis-Jones

*Community Policing Unit
913-477-7245*

Colony Woods Homes Association
Board of Directors' Goals for 2005

General Goals

- Facilitate the best possible neighborhood environment for our residents
- Create a safe and secure place for all residents to live and raise their families
- Facilitate the enhancement of our property values
- Encourage involvement of individuals in Colony Woods activities and government
- Ensure that the Board of Directors and Committees are positive and responsive to all residents

- Beautification Committee
 - New pool landscaping
 - New concealed area for trash cans at the pool
 - Research and identify alternatives to provide more shaded areas for the pool
 - Research cost and possible installation for pool grounds irrigation
 - Improve common areas and involve more neighbors in island maintenance/design
 - Sponsor the second annual Garden Tour
 - Look into the possibility of having Yard and House of the Month Awards

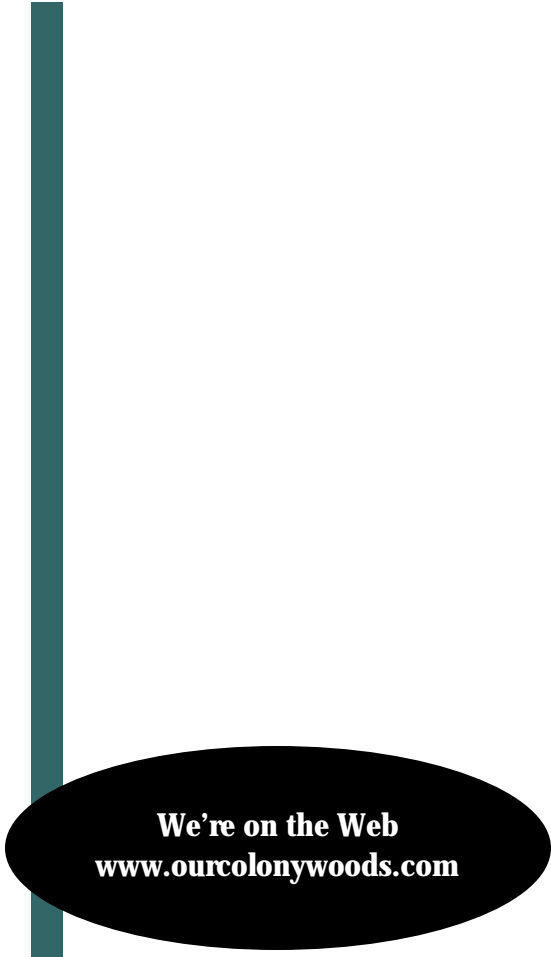
- Social Activities
 - Plan a range of activities calculated to attract a variety of residents with different interests
 - Plan events geared to the different age groups of our children
 - Plan events for adults only
 - Plan more events involving our pool
 - Plan an event that supports specific charities
 - Create public interest in Colony Woods through a possible article in the Sun or the Star related to our 4th of July picnic (our 30th anniversary year)
 - Acquire professional looking entrance signs to advertise events

- Pool
 - Furniture replacement program
 - Improvements to exterior of cabana and pump house
 - Ensure continued smooth operation of the pool's equipment
 - Crosswalks and crosswalk signage at the pool cross streets
 - Consider extending the Pool Operating Hours

- Architectural Review
 - Ensure the continued consistent beauty of our subdivision
 - Ensure that architectural deed restrictions are honored
 - Provide guidance on appropriate materials for repairing deteriorating siding
 - Ensure prompt response times for project plans submitted for review

- Website
 - Continue development of the website. Encourage use of the website by residents and others

- Newsletter
 - Continue to improve communication with our neighbors



We're on the Web
www.ourcolonywoods.com

Beautification Committee Update

The Beautification committee had a very productive meeting on Monday, March 14th. We have ordered plants for the pool area, and for some of the islands, which should be delivered about the beginning of May. Some improvements were made to the island at the corner of 80th and Rosehill, with the addition of some large limestone rocks. We also discussed various shade solutions for the pool area. With more neighbors being aware of the negative aspects of too much sun exposure, we decided that more shade areas were needed at the pool. We reviewed 'Shade Sails' and gazebos, but decided that more umbrellas, some larger than the ones currently at the pool would be our best bet. So, watch for more shade at the pool this summer!

We also want to remind you that Lenexa's "dumpster weekend" is April 2 & 3, so you can do some spring cleaning and get rid of unwanted clutter. The summer curbside clean-up for Lenexa is June 11th.

With the nice weather we have been experiencing lately, you probably want to get out in your garden, but don't! It's a little too early to do much planting, although you could plant pansies or snapdragons - they do well in the cold weather. Cut the ornamental grasses back to 3-5 inches in March. Apply your crabgrass preventer in late March, or before the redbuds are in bloom. And prune your trees, except birch, maple and walnut which are best pruned after leafing out. In April you can plant carrots, onions, beets, asparagus and rhubarb. In late April plant beans and corn. Plant new roses and annuals in mid to late April. And don't forget to plant a tree for National Arbor Day, which is April 29th!

Our next event/meeting will be the pool area clean-up on Saturday, April 23rd, with the rain-out date being the 24th. Come trim bushes, place pavers and gravel, we'll be happy with whatever help you want to give us :-)

And lastly, the Beautification committee and the Pool committee would like to thank the Gdanski family, with special thanks to Scott and James, for the incredible work they have been doing on the pool area enhancements. Between trimming trees and removing bushes, along with a lot of basic clean-up, they have done a great job. THANK YOU!!!