



DECEMBER 2009

On behalf of your Providence Plantation Home Owners' Association, we wish you very happy and healthy holidays. Soon our entrances will be decorated for the season. At the time I am writing this article it is a beautiful, sunny 65 degrees, but I have just learned we may have snow this weekend. You've gotta love this Charlotte weather.

Usually our president writes this article, but since we are currently in transition on several board positions, everyone is filling in where they can. It has been a tumultuous year, and changes in our board and even my own neighborhood are a reflection of the times. Some of the long standing board members have apparently looked back and wondered where the years have gone. Their commitment to our cause is what has motivated me to stay on the board for as long as I have. I am so grateful for the opportunity to have worked with them, and for their service to our neighborhood.

We have also recruited new talent along the way, but more is needed and we know it's out there. Several board positions are currently open and your neighborhood needs you. Please see Jane's article below. The annual board meeting is the time that new board positions are elected. If you are interested and available to serve, please contact our secretary Laureen Sullivan. The annual board meeting is scheduled for January 14th, 2010, 7:15pm at the Providence Plantation Swim & Racquet Club. Details regarding our guest speaker are still being finalized. Stay tuned to your PPHOA email blasts for further information.

Lynn Weiner, Webmaster
704-321-9055 (lynnweiner@windstream.net)

Editor's Note: Lynn has served on the board for a number of years and is always gracious about helping

out whenever or wherever it is needed. She has been a real asset to our organization and will be missed as she is stepping down the end of this year. .

One of our great new additions to the board is neighbor Sandy Sparks. Sandy has helped me run the Ladies Bunco group for 3 years and just recently joined the board as our Directory Chairperson. Sandy has already volunteered to help out with several tasks on the board, and has also submitted a short article on Holiday Cheer, found below.

I've worn a few hats for the board and am also stepping down this year. It's been great fun and I can't wait to see all the great things the board and you, the residents, will accomplish in coming years.

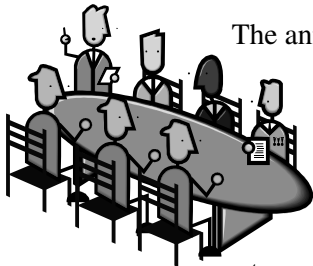
Jane Golz, Newsletter
704-849-8326 (jane.golz@yahoo.com)



The Holidays are a time we think of those we hold near and dear. Often times other things seem to get in the way of enjoying this time of year, mostly work I think. We need to try to take a deep breath once in a while, and try to put things in perspective. My husband was always one who worked to live. He didn't live to work. I think he had it right. Financial stressors, the rush of the holidays, the economy, the state of world politics are all smoke that detract from the one thing that is most important, the love of those we hold dear, their health and happiness. Isn't it wonderful to have people in your life that you love, and who love you? If we have that, don't we have everything we could possibly want in this world, really? Happy Holidays to all, and to all a good year.

Sandy Sparks, Directory
804-846-7963 (gsparks@carolina.rr.com)

New Board Members / Open Positions



The annual meeting is the time when we vote to elect new board members or re-elect board members who intend to serve again. Most members are in the middle of their two-year terms, and hence are

not up for re-election. Officers are elected by the existing board members. We are pleased that we have recently had several neighbors step up and get involved by filling some of our vacant or transitioning positions. This year, the following positions remain vacant or are up for re-election:

- Newsletter Chairperson: (Open)
- Socials Chairperson (Open)
- President (officer elected by current board)
- Webmaster Chairperson: (Open)
- Block Captains Chairperson: (Open)

If you would like to serve on the Board, in these or any other position, please contact Laureen Sullivan (laureen.sullivan@atcmail.com, 704-975-6608) or any other Board member. As an officer, the role of President is elected by the Board of Directors. The board has chosen Harvey Katowitz to act as President until we are able to permanently fill the now-vacant position. Also note that some chairperson positions (such as Socials or Newsletter committee chairperson) can even be filled by HOA members who wish to volunteer their time and effort, but without being formal Board Members.

Your current Officers and Board members (along with their committee roles) include:

President: vacant

(Harvey Katowitz, acting President)

Vice President: Terry Wray

Treasurer: Bob Hayes

Assistant Treasurer: Carol Sue Austin

Secretary: Laureen Sullivan

Architectural Review / Lights &

Sprinklers: Terry Wray

Membership: Bonnie Foulds

Directory: Sandy Sparks

Socials: Jane Golz (replacement needed)

Municipal Services: Steve Sanders

Neighborhood appearance: Sylvia Ann Beyer

Security: Harvey Katowitz

Newcomers: Joye Baucom

Webmaster: Lynn Weiner (replacement needed)

Newsletter: Jane Golz (replacement needed)

Zoning & Planning: Carol Sue Austin

Block Captains: Jane Golz (replacement needed)

Membership

The dues renewal notices will go out at the end of December. The sooner you are able to turn in your dues and fill out your forms, the sooner we can get the directory printed. Thank you in advance for your timely responses. Be sure and let us know if there were any misprints in last year's directory.

Bonnie Foulds, Membership

704-246-4436 (atriad@earthlink.net)

Municipal Services



As the chairman of the Municipal Services Committee for the Providence Plantation Homeowners' Association, I try to help facilitate needed repairs and replacements for street signs, potholes and street lights in the neighborhood.

Regarding potholes in particular, they can be deemed a traffic safety issue and the city Department of Transportation usually is quick to respond to their repair. Sometimes potholes simply do not get reported, and they tend to get worse after further exposure to traffic and weather. You can report a pothole by calling 311. If you are having trouble getting a pothole repaired properly, feel free to contact me so we can try to help.

Steve Sanders, Municipal Services

704-849-2335 (SSanders@sandstonegroup.com)

Zoning and Planning

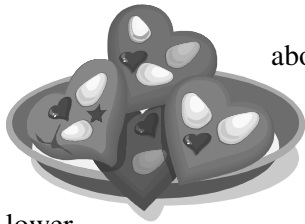


The zoning and planning report Contains information about local developments, road improvements, and long term planning as revealed by local and state government agencies. Please watch future editions of our e-newsletter for more information.

Carol Sue Austin, Zoning and Planning

704-814-7474 (apprsource@carolina.rr.com)

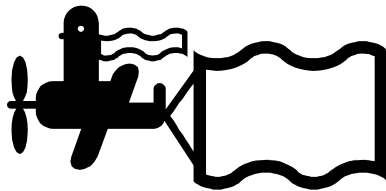
Welcoming New Neighbors



lower.

In a normal year, we see about 150 homes sell and change ownership. This year the housing market has been slow so the numbers are quite a bit

Our neighborhood is quite diverse in its topography; some older pockets have long driveways and mature trees which provide beauty and privacy. Other areas are newer developments with clear views of the front doors and sidewalks lining the street. If you've seen a new neighbor move in nearby, why not give them a taste of Southern Hospitality. A plate of cookies or even just ringing the doorbell to say hello and introduce yourselves might just bring a little sunshine to an otherwise stressful day. Did you have a particularly warm welcome when you moved to Providence Plantation? Send us your best stories and we'll print them in the next newsletter.



Webmaster

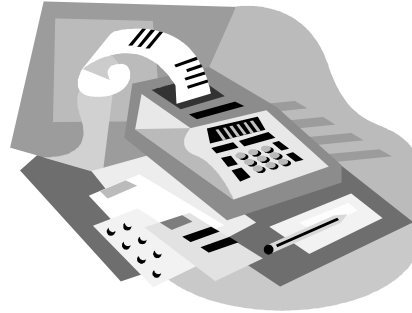
Neighbor Services 2010

As a dues paying member of the Providence Plantation Homeowners' Association, you have the opportunity to advertise your service in the Neighbor Services listing which is published in our directory, as well as on our website. Listings from the previous year are not carried forward. We create a new list each year from the information you mail to us with your membership form and dues payment. Please remember to tell us about your service on the 2010 membership form so that we can advertise it for you. Thank you for your support.

Lynn Weiner, Webmaster
704-321-9055 (lynnweiner@windstream.net)

Treasurer's Report

Here is the proposed budget for 2010. It may be a bit optimistic as it projects dues income of approximately \$4,000 more than we received this year. Our income in 2009 was down from previous years, and we hope that with the economy starting to improve some of our neighbors will choose to rejoin the association. Every paying member helps keep the neighborhood a beautiful and safe place to live.



INCOME

Dues	\$62,000
Interest	250
Other	-

Total Income **\$62,250**

EXPENSES

Electric	2,100
Water	600
Beautification	22,000
Insurance	1,500
Security	22,000
Membership	1,200
Newsletter	1,800
Directory	4,000
New Residents	300
Professional Fees	4,000
Website	600
Bank Fees	150
Other	2,000
Total Expenses	\$62,250

Bob Hayes, Treasurer
704-708-8867
(Bobhayesincharlotte@gmail.com)

Introducing New Neighbors

There are 8-10 new neighbors who have moved in the last couple of months. I will be by as soon as I can do so to deliver your new neighbor folder. I only have a record of those selling through the multiple listing service. Please call me if you are a new neighbor and I have missed you. Also, if you are a new neighbor and haven't been introduced, please e-mail or call me for a form so we can introduce you in the next issue. Thanks for your patience.

Joye Baucom, New Neighbors
704-846-4179 (jbaucom@cottinghamchalk.com)

Block Captains

Providence Plantation has over 1400 homes with approximately 6,000 residents. By dividing the neighborhood into 16 geographical sectors, we have the ability to distribute information back and forth between the board and the residents in a more timely and efficient manner. If you go to our website (providenceplantation.org) you will see a black hat that says "Block Captains." Through that link, you are able to see the geographical definitions of the sectors by street name and address, as well as by a color-coded map. Eventually we would like each sector to have two block captains who will help us with a few very specific things:

- Make sure we welcome our new neighbors
- Help to maintain utilities and signage
- Be a point person for severe utility outages or storm damage

We still have a few areas with no coverage. If you would enjoy a chance to meet your neighbors and make a couple phone calls a month for the good of the neighborhood, we welcome you to inquire further about the program.

All existing Block Captains, or those interested in becoming a Block Captain, are invited to the annual PPHA meeting on January 14th at 7:15 pm at the Swim Club.

Jane Golz, Block Captains
704-849-8326 (jane.golz@yahoo.com)

Security

With the upcoming Holiday season many of us will be out shopping for gifts. Here are some crime



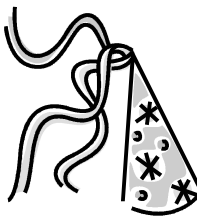
prevention tips that will ensure your holiday is safe and happy.

1. When shopping, secure your purchases in the trunk of your vehicle, where they will be out of sight.
2. Do not leave valuables in your car when it is unattended (e.g. wallet, purse, credit cards cellular telephones and radar detectors). If you want to leave a cell phone or radar detector in the car, secure it out of sight in the console, glove compartment or trunk.
3. Always lock your car, even while at home. Most larcenies from automobiles occur while a car is parked outside the home.
4. Do not leave your garage door opener visible in your vehicle. This creates an opportunity for a thief to break into your car and then your home. Always secure the garage door opener in the console, glove compartment, trunk, or best of all take it with you.
5. As with home security, be sure to record the make, model and serial number of all electronic equipment in your vehicle. Police officers recover a large amount of stereo equipment, radar detectors and cell-phones whose owners could be identified if they kept such records.

I hope everyone has a happy, healthy and safe holiday season and New Year.

Harvey Katowitz, Security Chairperson
704-849-9234 (hkatowitz@carolina.rr.com)

Socials



This is a great time to sign up for any of our ongoing Social organizations. We have over 80 households involved in socials, and we are always looking for new members. Young or old, new or long-time resident, you are all welcome sign up with one or all.


Members are asked to be current with their PPHA dues to participate.

While some organizations are ongoing, the Supper Club format follows an annual schedule so if you have interest in meeting and dining with new friends, now is the time to sign up. Read on to see which groups you might consider...

Ladies Book Clubs

Groups meet one night a month in members' homes to discuss selections. The reading selections for future months are selected in advance by members. *We are currently looking for a new coordinator for Book Clubs.* Contact: Cami Hayes, 704-708-8867 (bobcami@carolina.rr.com)

Ladies Bunco Group

Sign up to play this fun dice game  on a monthly basis. The existing group has 12 members, meeting monthly at each other's homes for socializing and fun. There is no talent required to play the game. New members and substitutes are needed. Contact: Sandy Sparks, 846-7963 (gsparks@carolina.rr.com)

Men's Monthly Poker

Sign up for email notice of upcoming game time and place. Games usually start at 7:30 pm one Friday a month. Contact: Steve Dionisi, 704-942-7564 (sdionisi@carolina.rr.com)

Supper Clubs



Good conversation and great meals! What a fun way to get to know others in the neighborhood. Each group of 4 couples meets 4 times (once at each home) between January and September. Every January we re-shuffle the names and new groups are formed. At present we have 35 couples participating. **TO JOIN A NEW GROUP, PLEASE SIGN UP BY JANUARY 1st.** (Contact Jane Golz)

Jane Golz, Socials

704-849-8326 (jane.golz@yahoo.com)



Socials Coordinator

When we moved here 5 years ago, we did not know a soul and were eager to meet new people. Having participated in a number of community activities elsewhere, it was easy to envision similar groups forming in Providence Plantation. Through the onset of Book Clubs, Bunco, Supper Clubs, and Golf, we have met a bunch of really fun and interesting people, and through the neighborhood,

we have an ever-broadening circle of friends. More than 70 households now belong to one group or another, with the largest participation being Supper Clubs – last year 9 different groups met during the season.

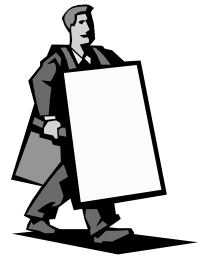
I have enjoyed meeting each and every one of the people I have placed into socials, and know they in turn will welcome others who continue to step forward and join various groups. If you'd like to play a role in bringing people together please consider inquiring about the Socials Chairperson position on the PPHA board.

Jane Golz, Socials

704-849-8326 (jane.golz@yahoo.com)

Signage Coordinator

Every month we place a sandwich board on High Ridge and Plantation roads to remind people of the monthly meeting. We need someone to help us put out and take down the signs each month. If you can help, please contact Laureen Sullivan (laureen.sullivan@atcmail.com, 704-975-6608)



PPHA Annual Meeting

The Annual Homeowners Association meeting will take place on Thursday, January 14th, at 7:15 PM at the Swim and Racquet Club.

It is our tradition to have a speaker at our annual meeting. This year we hope to have an official from the Parks and Recreation Department who will speak about the Greenway project and how the nearby Four Mile Creek Greenway will be developed.

Join Our E-Mail List!

The Board has implemented an e-Newsletter format for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Quarter Newsletters, allowing us to successfully reduce printing /mailing costs and to conserve resources. The 4th Quarter Newsletter is mailed out by regular mail to all dues-paying members. Our e-Newsletter format allowed the Board to use its scarce budget dollars in other areas.

If you are not already on our e-mail list, please send an e-mail to Laureen Sullivan (laureen.sullivan@atcmail.com). This will also allow you to receive neighborhood "e-Blasts" for important news and information that cannot wait until the Newsletter. Your e-mail address will never be shared or sold.

Join our e-mail list today! It's easy!