

# The Grapevine



A Publication of The Vineyard's Neighborhood Association  
September 2012

## September 2012 Grapevine "Notes from the President"

Wow!! Where did the summer go? It seems like only a few days ago that I was writing about the beginning of summer and now school has started, elections have been held, and Labor Day, which traditionally signals the end of summer, has passed. Can fall weather be far away? I hope you have had a good summer.

**School Children** - We have an increasing number of children walking to bus stops and waiting there for the busses. Please be mindful of them and drive carefully; especially during the times when they are on the streets. Please remember the speed limits at all times when driving in the neighborhood.

**Welcome New Neighbors** - Welcome to our "newest" new neighbors and soon to be newlyweds Renee Johnson and George Lisgaris who have bought the home at 2830 Chablis Court. They will be married on September 29. Welcome to our neighborhood and congratulations on your upcoming marriage.

**Pool Party** - Weather did not cooperate with our pool party as it rained off and on thru the afternoon but it didn't keep the party from going on. Tables were set up under shelter and Backyard Burgers was able to do the cooking. It did cut our attendance but those who came out seemed to have an enjoyable time. Thanks to Dorothy Warren and Vicki Whitaker for all their efforts in making this a success.

**Pool** - Pool operations have gone smoothly throughout the summer with very few exceptions. Some rewiring has been done to separate and water proof some



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circuits. New umbrellas have been purchased and will be used when the pool is reopened next summer. We had to replace the lock last month after a couple of service calls before the lock finally failed. Cost for replacement was approximately \$1000. Thanks to Jim Symington for working with this and for reprogramming the codes several times. Thanks to our pool attendants, Alex Gillette and Chris McClenathen, for their work all season. The board has set the closing date for the pool for October 15.

**Yards Housekeeping Reminders** - Most of our residents are exhibiting a great deal of pride in the way they maintain their lawns and yards but, unfortunately, a very few are not and this detracts from the appearance of the whole neighborhood. Please be aware of

Eliminating weeds growing in flowerbeds and around the yard

Edging grass growing over the curbs

Keep garbage containers stored so that they are not visible from the streets.

Board members are not interested in policing the neighborhood but have a responsibility to see that a neat appearance in accordance with covenant guidelines is maintained. Please look at your yard and see if attention is needed in some area.

**Yard Waste In Streets** - We are seeing increasing incidents of residents and landscapers blowing grass trimmings into the street. This waste eventually winds up in the storm drains and they are not there to collect yard waste. While we don't see this often, there have been times when storm sewers have backed up and been unable to carry off the rain water. This problem becomes worse over time as the waste continues to build up in the drains and sewers. **Please do not blow grass clippings or other yard waste into the street or the storm drains!!!**

**Litigation** - We continue to await some word from the lawsuit filed against the Vineyards and Forsyth County over storm water. Motions were filed several



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months ago and attorneys are waiting for some word from the judge. We have no idea when this will occur.

**Finances** - A review of our current cash balances and projected expenses for the remainder of the year show that our financial condition is good. The board had decided earlier in the year to set aside \$5000 from 2012 operations and additional funds from the 2013 budget to pay for resurfacing the pool. We will begin to seek bids and make decisions on this. Work will need to be completed prior to pool opening next spring.

**Fall Yard Sale** - The board set the date for the neighborhood yard sale for October 12 and 13. More about this later but some have asked when it will be. This should allow us lots of time to go thru our "stuff."

**Thanks** - Thanks to our committee members and volunteers who keep working in various areas to help make The Vineyards a great place to live. The ACC continues to receive and act promptly on architectural matters. Thanks to residents who submit the requests according to our by-laws. The Gardens and Grounds Committee is continually tweaking the landscaping at the entrance. The officers continue to take care of business on a regular basis and it's a pleasure to work with them. Thanks to the Neighborhood Watch group who maintain contact with the sheriff's department and pass information along to us. Thanks to all of you who work behind the scenes.

Please contact me or any board member with question, suggestions, or concerns.

Johnny

## HOA Board Meeting, August 16, 2012

Johnny Stone opened the meeting. Those in attendance were Jim Burwell, Richard King, Carol Bursby, and Dolores Ferron. Minutes were taken by Dolores Ferron.



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**Treasurer's Report.** The balance in checking as of 7/31/2012 is \$26,750.80. The balance in savings as of 6/30/2012 is \$12,573.28. Expenses included the purchase of six new umbrellas for the pool (five to use and one for backup), new breaker to separate pool lights from main lights approximately \$399, seals repaired on baby pool approximately \$40, a new lock for pool gate at cost of approximately \$1,000, and a new "Homes for Sale" sign for the front entrance.

### **Committee Reports**

- **ACC:** The Architectural Committee approved drainage and driveway work on lot # 26.
- **Garden and Grounds:** "Five Star Landscaping" to clear the undergrowth around the trees along the fence on Nuckolls Road where we had work done before.
- **Neighborhood Watch:** Nothing new to report.
- **Pool and Tennis:** Water proof junction boxes have been installed in the pool and the pool rewiring has been done. A new lock had to be installed for the pool gate. Codes are set the same. Jim Symington set the gate to close more gently as we suspected the slamming of the gate contributed to the lock having to be replaced sooner than expected. The board discussed additional security lighting at the pool but decided since the season is about over to table it for the next pool season.
- **Social:** Dorothy Warren and Vicki Whitaker were in charge of the pool party this summer and despite a little rain it was a success. Expenses for that party amounted to approximately \$600.
- **Welcome and Sunshine:** Norman Baker has done an outstanding job keeping up with sending appropriate cards to people in the neighborhood.

**Old Business:** There is nothing to report on the litigation.

**New Business:** Nuckolls Road clear cutting is discussed above as is the pool lighting, electrical circuits, lock, and security lighting. The board discussed avenues for stump removal for the Leyland Cypress trees taken out on Napa Valley Road. Johnny is going to



check with the county to see if they will do it and if not will look into other options. The board selected the weekend of October 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> for the Vineyards fall yard sale.

Next meeting will be September 20, 2012.

### ***HOA Board Meeting, July 19, 2012***

Johnny Stone opened the meeting. Those in attendance were Jim Burwell, Richard King, Carol Bursby, Jim Symington for pool discussion, and Dolores Ferron. Minutes were taken by Dolores Ferron.

***Treasurer's Report:*** The balance in checking as of 6/31/2012 is \$31,252.16. The balance in savings as of 5/31/2012 is \$12,573.28. As of this meeting, all homeowners have paid their annual association dues. Expenses include, renewing the Vineyards website, replacing the safety hook and ring (\$170) at the pool, and our association insurance premium which increased approximately \$200 because of an increase in building values.

### ***Committee Reports***

- ***ACC:*** The Architectural Committee approved a redo of the front entrance on lot # 79.
- ***Garden and Grounds:*** Additional flowers were planted by the garden committee to replace flowers that were not doing well or that had died. Dolores is going to check with "Five Star Landscaping" to get an estimate on clearing the undergrowth around the trees along the fence on Nuckolls Road where we had work done before.
- ***Neighborhood Watch:*** Nothing new to report.
- ***Pool and Tennis:*** The board met at the pool to view and discuss concerns about the pool area. Jim Symington was present. The board voted to go ahead with pool wiring to isolate the pool circuit and discussed a lighting proposal that Symington brought to the board. The board decided to hold up on professional lighting at this time and look into less expensive options that we could install. The other thing discussed was the purchase of some additional umbrellas. The board decided that with the end of the pool season approaching we would look into purchasing five matching umbrellas that are a little larger to be installed next season.
- ***Social:*** Dorothy Warren and Vicki Whitaker are in charge of the pool party this summer and a



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date for the party has been set for July 21<sup>st</sup> at 5 PM.

- **Welcome and Sunshine:** Norman Baker has done an outstanding job keeping up with sending appropriate cards to people in the neighborhood.

**Old Business:** There is nothing to report on the litigation.

**New Business:** The pool electrical circuits, lights on the inside of the pool and the lights in the bathrooms are on the same electrical circuit and the board decided to hire a certified electrician to separate them to insure it is done correctly. As of this meeting this has been approved.

Replacing the "Vineyards Homes for Sale" sign for the entire Subdivision was discussed for the front entrance. The old sign was misplaced and the board would like to cut down on individual Real Estate signs placed at the front entrance. The old sign had the Vineyards website listed where we can show on the website what homes are for sale. Carol Bursby is looking into having some signs made.

Next meeting will be August 16, 2012.



From your Welcome & Sunshine Committee:  
Please notify Norman Baker (770) 886-0439 or Dennis McAlister (770) 886-6446 when you know of new neighbors moving in, a loss of a family member, or neighbors who have fallen ill, been injured, etc. We are your official spokespersons to welcome new neighbors to the Vineyards and to lift the spirits of those neighbors not feeling well. Thank you for your support.



**A Get Well card was sent to Sandy Cobb**

**Welcome Card & Bakery Goods from Atlanta Bread Company were delivered to Renee Johnson and George Lisgaris, 2830 Chablis Court**



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### Our Deepest Sympathy

We express our deepest sympathy to long-time Vineyards resident Les Mansfield and his family in the death of his wife, Sharon. She passed away on June 29, 2012. Please remember Les and his family.

*Thank You from the Family of Les Mansfield (Les, Jon, Deb, John & Jack)*

*Norman, we are grateful for neighbors like you at this difficult time for our family. We appreciate the gift card you sent on behalf of the association and want you to know that the grief books are so helpful. Thank you for your kindness.*

From the Editor: Happy Birthday and Anniversary to those of you who are celebrating. If you would like to advertise your business, community events, or articles of interest in *The Grapevine*, please submit your logo and information in a format compatible with Microsoft Word (earlier version, please) to Mary Baker at email listed below. Our aim is to publish every other month.

Mary Baker, 770-886-0439  
normanmaryb@bellsouth.net



Men's Weekly Breakfast. Come join this group of men who meet weekly on Tuesdays at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast at the Atlanta Bread Company to exchange ideas & plan for various events like car, boat, woodworking shows, etc. Call Mike Warren (770-889-7222) or Larry McKinley (770-888-7681) for more info.

### ATTENTION COMMENTS & CITICISMS ATTENTION

List your top 2 or 3 issues you want addressed by the board—short term or long term:  
Email to Jim Burwell or tear off and place in lock box at entrance:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Architectural Control Committee  
Application Request Form

Homeowner's Names: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lot #: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (ALT) \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the improvement you would like to make. Beside each improvement is a list of numbers that corresponds with the required attachments necessary for ACC review. The numbers in BOLD print identify the applicable standards that correspond with the improvement and are located in Chapter 3.00 of this manual. Please be sure to include all required information or the request will be returned causing a delay in the review process.

_____ New Construction (1,2,3,4)	3.01, 3.02	_____ Other (1,2,3,4)	3.10
_____ Deck (1,2,4)	3.03	_____ Satellite Dish/Antennae (1,2,3,4)	3.11
_____ Building Addition or Exterior Modification (1,2,3,4)	3.04	_____ Exterior Detached Structure (1,2,3,4)	3.12
_____ Fence (1,2,4)	3.05	_____ Exterior Lighting (1,2,3,4)	3.13
_____ Parking Pad (1,2,4)	3.06	_____ Retaining Wall (1,2,3,4)	3.14
_____ Walkway/patio (1,2,3,4)	3.07	_____ Hot Tub/Pool (1,2,3,4)	3.15
_____ Play Equipment (1,2,3,4)	3.97	_____ Mailboxes (1,2,3,4)	3.16
_____ Landscaping (1,2)	3.09	_____ Flagpoles (1,2,3,4)	3.17

Information and Attachment Required to Process Application

1. Plot Plan with improvements shown, drawn to scale including all dimensions of proposed improvements and distances to property lines.
2. Materials List (for landscaping requests, include lists of plants to be used with locations shown).
3. Indicate color(s).
4. Provide a picture, scaled drawings or manufacturer's literature indicating overall size, i.e., length, width, and height. (Top view looking down and front/side view looking at improvement.)

Detailed specifications and Description of Request: (Attach additional sheet(s) if necessary)

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Materials List: (attach additional sheet(s) if necessary)

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