

PRESIDENT

Kathy Schweitzer

GENERAL MEETING Tuesday, November 26, 2002**DISTRICT TRUSTEES**

1. Ben Ulrich
2. Vacant
3. Kathleen Schweitzer
4. Harry Farb
5. Rebecca Kaley
6. Larry Jackson
7. Ed Shimamoto

AT-LARGE TRUSTEES

Fernando Curth

Don Dossier

Jerry Goldberg

Skip Hart

Joyce Lehman

Bill Sloan

Philip Treacy

**EMAIL ADDRESSES
AND PHONE NUMBERS**

The Email addresses and phone numbers for trustees and committee heads appear on Page 6

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Having done several of these, I always think I know exactly what I'm going to say, until I start writing that is! So many things to talk about and so little space!

First of all, I would like to say thank you to all of the people who have taken the time to contact the trustees on any one of a number of matters. It is truly your input that allows us to ascertain what some of the priorities of the subdivision should be.

Second of all, I would like to say that we may or may not be the best place for you to turn to for some issues or for the answers to some questions. On some matters, such as indenture restrictions, or budget issues, then sure, that would be us. On others, such as necessary building permits, sidewalk replacements or even barking dogs, then that would not be us. St. Louis County has recently started printing issues of "At Your Service" and the trustees have obtained multiple copies. We will make them available at the General Meeting on November 26th; at 7:30 in the large meeting room at Thornhill Library (did you like how I slipped that meeting notice in?). If we run out of copies (and I think I still have about 12 left) you can request one from the County Department of Planning and they will mail it to you. Their phone number is (314) 615-5186. Their e-mail is planning@stlouisco.com. Or you can write to them at St. Louis County Department of Planning, 41 South Central Avenue, Clayton, MO 63105. This is a fantastic publication and contains information about everything from assessments to zoning, along with phone numbers to call.

Continued on page 2

President's Message (continued from page 1)

I would also like to remind everyone that this is an election year, not only for state and federal offices but also for the offices of District Trustees. Please make sure you return your ballots to City and Village Tax Office with your votes (and no hanging chad please!).

I would like to take this opportunity to say thanks to those who have submitted their names for the ballot. I would also like to suggest to every one else... come on down, take that ball and run with it, step up to the plate, grab that bull by the horns or any other thing I can think of to get you to get involved.

We've got lots of things coming up and we need you! One of the things we are going to be discussing (at that General Meeting, remember? November 26th) is whether or not the subdivision should become a C.I.D. What's a C.I.D? It's a "Community Improvement District" and is something the Missouri Legislature devised in order to allow communities that do not necessarily receive the financial benefit of living within a municipality, the ability to plan for their future capital needs. Speaking of which, storm water is one of those things that may affect our future capital needs. Huh? Storm water? What is she talking about? Doesn't MSD or The County or *somebody else* handle that? Not necessarily. Seven Pines residents are paying in excess of \$200,000.00 to solve a storm water problem.....See what I mean? So many things to talk about, so little space. But **you** can come to the meeting (that's the General Meeting, November 26th, at Thornhill Library, 7:30) and we'll talk about it with you. See you there!

Kathy Schweitzer, President

RECREATION

Joyce Lehman

POOL –

Labor Day was the end of another wonderful summer season at the Old Farm Pool. The hot St. Louis temperatures always make the water refreshing. The laughter of children, barbecue smells and friendly neighbors complete the fun. Information for the 2003 season will be mailed to you next spring.

Several people have inquired about having universal pool membership for all residents. This is being considered. Tell your Trustee what you think...pro or con.

PLAYGROUND –

It's great to see kids and grandkids using the ball fields and playground all year round.

SPECIAL EVENTS –

The Halloween party was held on the common ground on October 31. Our next all-subdivision party will be the Easter Egg Hunt next spring. Watch for posted signs.

OFE DIRECTORY UPDATE

The revised Old Farm Estates directory will be distributed by mid-November. If not received by the end of the month call Ben Ulrich 434-5395. Thank you to our sponsors for covering the cost of the printing and mailing this directory.

Unfortunately, names of renters are not included. Our data source is the St. Louis County Records and their data contains the owner's name. Renters, please contact Ben to include your name in an 'Directory Update' column in the next issue of the Gazette. Thank you to Ed Shimamoto and Ben Ulrich for the time in researching, formatting and producing this directory.

SUBDIVISION MAINTENANCE

COMMON GROUNDS

Each week a group of volunteers clean up the common grounds of litter. Homeowners please do your part in maintaining your property appearance. Your neighbors would appreciate that when picking up your newspapers or accessing your mailbox, to occasionally check your street, sidewalk or lawn for trash. For the owners of a corner house we thank you for the extra effort.

Jerry Goldberg

SWEET GUM BALL PROBLEMS

The time is about upon us when we will have many Sweet Gum balls falling from our Sweet Gum trees. As beautiful as these trees are in the fall and the wonderful shade they provide, they could also create a real problem for all of us. They make it very difficult to navigate the sidewalks with a stroller, and if walking or jogging, these can cause sprained or broken ankles or other injuries from falls.

Please be sure to keep the gumballs, leaves, and other yard debris cleared from the sidewalks in front of your home.

Larry Jackson

LEAF AND YARD WASTE DISPOSAL

Some residents have reported that they have noted people raking leaves into the storm sewers on the street. MSD, St. Louis County and MO-American Water Company issued the following message

"Don't throw yard waste into sewers or streams. Yard waste can deplete the oxygen in the stream, resulting in fish kills and/or could impede flow of the water. Sewers could become clogged and cause street flooding and/or result in costly inlet cleaning."

Trustees

SUBDIVISION IMPROVEMENTS

Notice the entrance to Old Farm Estates? The Gazebo was tuckpointed, painted and re-roofed this year. There is also a flag mounted on the Old Farm Estates sign.

There is new pavement on the playground parking lot. Also new concrete has been poured at the pool.

HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Are you thinking about adding a new room or deck to your house...or a shed or fence to your yard? If so, you should call the Indentures committee for a review. Almost all improvements are nice enhancements to the property and approval by the Trustees is straightforward. The Trustees charter is to maintain the quality and character of the neighborhood for the benefit of all.

The process involves reviewing the plans for the improvement with three Trustees on site and presenting them to the Trustees for approval. Exterior views materials and property lines are considered.

Additional information on our Indenture of Restrictions is included in the new telephone directory.

Trustees

HOUSE TOUR

We are planning to have an Old Farm Estates House Tour on June 14, 2003. If you have been doing some remodeling and would be gracious enough to share your home or garden with your neighbors, we would be very grateful. Also, one of the essential elements in making this a success, is enough volunteers to be present at each location. There will be more details in the spring, but wanted to give you ample opportunity to prepare. Any questions please call me at 878-4068.

Sue Jackson

HELPFUL HINTS

Fernando Curth

TERMITE REMINDER

Check the foundation all around; make sure there is no vegetation covering the line where the concrete ends and the siding or brick begins. Look carefully in that area for any suspicious signs of the almost microscopic mud tunnels termite's build to bridge that line and invade your home.

FIRE ALARMS

Fires are very rare indeed; however have you ever had a fire-rehearsal? It must be very disconcerting if two or more alarms are sounding, and the racket interferes with communication between family members especially children. I am a firm believer in the "Hush-Alarm" which has a button for silencing it temporarily. Very useful for the kitchen too, where one often does not even place an alarm because of their nasty habit of reporting "dinner is ready".

BE KIND TO YOUR AIRCONDITIONER

It is said "Don't use it to cool down the house if the outside temperature drops suddenly to 60 degrees or so. The equipment could be damaged. Instead, open the windows. And what a boon if you have a whole-house attic fan. Worth considering if you don't have one.

CARBON MONOXIDE (CO)

Do you have at least one, GOOD QUALITY, CO Detector? And do you keep at hand instructions on what to do if it sounds or gives you a bad reading? In some cases, immediate action is needed.

<>

MEETINGS

All meetings are held in the Thornhill Library starting at 7:30 PM.

Trustee meetings, open to all residents, are held the second Tuesday of the month in the small meeting room.

Starting in 2003, general meetings will be held on the third Tuesday of May and November in the large meeting room.

2002

TRUSTEE MEETINGS

Nov 12 Dec 10

GENERAL MEETING

Nov 26

2003

TRUSTEE MEETINGS

Jan 14 Jul 8
Feb 11 Aug 12
Mar 11 Sep 9
Apr 8 Oct 14
May 13 Nov 11
Jun 10 Dec 9

GENERAL MEETING

May 20 Nov 18

OLD FARM TRAILS GARDEN CLUB

All residents are invited to join this group at their monthly meetings on the second Monday of the month. We meet around noon in members' homes or carpool for field trips to nurseries or other places of interest. For more information, call Jan Conant (576-7590).

CUL DE SACS

Ok, ok ok. We know our past letters in this paper have inspired some of you, because we've gotten your phone calls. If any have gone unanswered, we apologize. Sometimes answering machines have a mysterious way of eating messages.

In any event, if you've improved, maintained, upgraded, mowed, watered, fertilized your cul de sac, good for you! It improves not only your immediate view, but also that of everyone who sees it.

Now for some news. The Trustees have increased the budget for cul de sacs to \$1000.00 for the budget year 2003. Now, let's do some math! (Stop groaning, we'll do it for you) Since we have about 22 cul de sacs here in Old Farm, if every one of these were to get some funding it would amount to... (wait, where's my calculator!) \$45.45 per cul de sac. Not a whole lot of money to do major renovations with outside contractors, eh? That's why in past articles we've suggested splitting some of your perennials and putting several in your cul de sac. It's the most cost effective way of enhancing the area at minimal cost.

Several inexpensive (read cheap) ways of ensuring abundant plantings are to use those that spread on their own. Some that are also almost no maintenance include daylilies; liatris (purchased as bulbs, they are a native plant and quite prolific); bee balm; iris; lirioppe; echinacia (purple cone flower, another native). If you want to order a yard of mulch and have it delivered or prefer to buy it bagged, buy some bulbs or a few plants, get some edging, or purchase some weed killer, just keep your receipt and give it to me. I will make sure the treasurer receives it and you are reimbursed. In all honesty, not everybody has asked for reimbursement in years past, in fact very few people have. That is why the amount was reduced to \$500.00 in '02. That amounted to... (um, uh where DID I put that calculator?) \$22.72 per cul de sac. Looking at it another way, the amount you can spend has just doubled.

So everybody, let's get planting! (Oh wait, we can't do that for another 4 months) So, everybody let's get planning!

Kathy Schweitzer, President

COUNTY POLICY ON TREES NEAR SIDEWALKS

The County Streets Department has a new policy on removing trees in the easement between the street and sidewalk. The trees will be removed whenever roots are raising sidewalks, when the roots are too extensive or large to be cut out to allow for sidewalk replacement. Four trees at the corner of Delft and Old Farm Drive have recently been removed for this reason. If the Streets Dept. is called for a sidewalk problem, they will take the stated action without recourse. Removed trees will be replaced but not in the easement area.

Larry Jackson

OFFICERS

President	Kathy	Schweitzer
Vice President	Ed	Shimamoto
Treasurer	Bill	Sloan
Secretary	Joyce	Lehman

COMMITTEE HEADS

Common Grounds	Larry Jackson	Neighborhood Watch	Harry Farb
Cul-de-sacs	Kathy Schweitzer Rebecca Kaley	Pool	Doug Roth, President Skip Hart, Vice President Michele Tischer Treasurer Joyce Lehman, Secretary
Gazette	Ben Ulrich Jerry Goldberg	Recreation	Joyce Lehman
Indentures	Ed Shimamoto	Storm Water	George Smith Philip Treacy
Long Range Planning	Bill Sloan		

TRUSTEES, COMMITTEE HEADS AND VOLUNTEERS DIRECTORY

Curth	Fernando	576-5299	Curthfernando@juno.com
Dosser	Don	434-9378	
Farb	Harry	576-5775	HRF96@aol.com
Goldberg	Jerry	434-2566	Jerfransl@cs.com
Hart	Skip	434-5489	Skipin8or@aol.com
Jackson	Larry	878-4068	larrygjackson@juno.com
Kaley	Rebecca	434-2744	
Lehman	Joyce	878-7973	
Roth	Doug	878-1887	
Schweitzer	Kathleen	576-5891	kathyschweitzer@excite.com
Shimamoto	Ed	205-1990	eshima@worldnet.att.net
Sloan	Bill	878-3684	wpsloan@aol.com
Smith	George	434-0857	
Tischer,	Michele	434-6307	
Treacy	Philip	878-3833	ptreacy@lsistl.com
Ulrich	Ben	434-5395	lambsulrich@mindspring.com

**RESIDENTS AND LOT OWNERS
GENERAL MEETING**

7:30 p.m. Tuesday, November 26, 2002

THORNHILL LIBRARY AUDITORIUM

An open forum for trustees to address your questions and concerns

Come, meet your neighbors, and share your ideas on the future of our subdivision

GAZETTE

OLD FARM ESTATES

13009 Musket Court
St. Louis, MO 63146

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ST. LOUIS, MO
PERMIT NO. 5255