

WINTER 2006

THE DUCK & PONY SHOW

BENTWOOD FARMS / MALLARD POND
HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

www.bwfmp.com

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NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

BY JIM MCGRATH

We are all concerned about safety, and even though we live in a “safe” neighborhood, that doesn’t mean that the criminals won’t travel to come find us! Now that it is getting darker earlier, it is even more important to have exterior lights on, whether a post lamp, or other lights, and it is best to get lights that come on and off with the sunlight. (Saves money too!) Other neighborhoods in Pickerington have had a rash of burglaries of personal items out of cars in driveways or garages, so please keep garages down and cars locked to be safe. If you see something suspicious, or see someone vandalizing anyone’s property, please call the sheriff (837-2499). It seems that teens like to congregate near the pond, as we have found beer and remnants of smoking, etc. If you see this happening, again, call the sheriff. Finally, we have now replaced three entrance-lights because vandals are breaking the units, this is expensive and a waste of valuable time.

With all the children walking to Harmon, when it snows, it would be helpful to shovel the snow off of the sidewalk so they don’t have to walk in the street.

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The holidays are here!

Do you like to shop?

Being a Secret Sister might be just your cup of tea! We are re-forming the Secret Sister group for 2007. This is a fun “game” where we exchange names and surprise our neighbors with little presents throughout the year.

Interested? Contact Denise DeNunzio at 759-9958 or dkd@insight.rr.com.



Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Bentwood Farms/Mallard Pond Homeowners Association will be 7pm, January 2 at the Violet Township Administration building, 12970 Rustic Drive. The annual budget will be reviewed and approved. Any questions, contact Jim McGrath at jmcgrath@insight.rr.com.

The Bentwood Farms/Mallard Pond
Homeowner’s Association
P.O. Box 609
Pickerington, OH 43147

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Grounds & Communications Sharon Lach

Communications Committee:

The baby-sitters list is only updated when someone calls me with a change or addition. Please review the list and call me with any changes. The new phonebook should be ready soon. The volunteers on this committee will be hand-delivering the directories.

Grounds:

As the snow season approaches, you are reminded the townships policy of no cars are allowed to be parked on the streets. Cul-de-sacs will not be plowed if cars are not removed from the street. We made a few improvements to the neighborhood this year. I don't have any great plans for next year except getting the entrance beds planted and the dead trees removed. The pond area will need a big cleanup and clearing out. New trees will be planted in selected areas. If anyone has any ideas for ground projects, please call me. We will be planning next year's projects at our annual meeting.



On a Special Note:

During this holiday season, please don't forget those less fortunate than us and donate to the Pickerington food bank. Donations can be dropped off at the fire station on Refugee road.

Upcoming dates:

This years Santa visit will be on Sunday the 17th of December. If you would like Santa and his helper to visit your home, please fill out the enclosed flyer and put it in the Santa mailbox.

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT (CONT.)

One final safety item, if you are planning on skating on the pond, make sure the ice is at least 4" thick, otherwise it is not safe to be on it. Even though most of the pond is 5' deep or less, with the water being cold, it would be easy to get trapped in the water. Also, always skate with a friend, just in case something were to go wrong. Common sense goes a long way...

If you have any interest in being active in the subdivision in an Architectural Control Committee capacity (ACC), we now have two positions that need to be filled. The responsibilities are mainly approving changes that homeowner's would like to make to their properties. It is done in an attempt to keep our neighborhood looking nice. Most of the time, it is just saying "yes" as most people are very reasonable. Some people however just don't understand our restrictions, or don't know about them therefore some education is involved as well. Please e-mail any of the Trustees if you have an interest.

Feel free to attend a homeowner's meeting, which are currently set for the first Tuesday of each month at the Violet Township offices. Please get involved; you'll make new friends, and help to improve our Association and neighborhood. We can always use more input on what's going on. Our annual meeting is set for January 2, 2007 at 7pm.



Neighbor News! Denise DeNunzio, Welcome Wagon

It has certainly been a busy summer in Bentwood Farms/ Mallard Pond. Many houses have been sold. Please greet your new neighbors and show them what a friendly community we are!

Jill Stotridge	12637 Bentwood Farms Drive
Vicki Schwab	9262 Pimlico Place
John & Christina DiNapoli	9106 Palomino Drive
Jennifer & David Glover	12192 Derby Court

If you have new neighbors in need of a Homeowner Welcome Folder (these packets include our neighborhood phone directory, past issues of the Duck & Pony Show, and other useful information), please contact Denise DeNunzio at 759-9958, or dkd@insight.rr.com.

Gift Cards

Violet Elementary is selling gift cards as a fundraiser. These cards are exactly like the ones you would buy from the stores, but Violet earns a percentage of each card.



This has proven to be a very effective fundraiser for the school. The money is used to pay for things not covered by the School District, such as field trips, special science lesson materials (like butterflies and worms), books for classrooms and the library, and many other items that enhance the educational experience of these young students.

If you are interested in seeing a list of gift cards available, you can visit the website: www.glscrip.com. To order gift cards, call Jennifer Newell at 834-1301 or newellfarm@netzero.net. The cards are ordered each Monday and are available for pick-up or delivery on that same Friday.

Architectural Control Committee Guidelines

The Architectural Control Committee (ACC) is responsible for reviewing all projects outside the home. The purpose of the ACC is to maintain the community as an architecturally harmonious, artistic, and desirable residential, upper-middle-class community. This set of guidelines is derived from the deed restrictions, and is designed to assist the homeowners in planning outdoor projects. If you have any questions about these guidelines, or home improvements in general, please contact an ACC member. The three members of the ACC are currently: Karen Austin (Chair), 759-8044/bop_pie@yahoo.com, Robert Barnhart, 759-0930/leah@core.com, and Darryl Murphy, 501-4707/dm@core.com.

Fences: Fences are limited to 4' high (or 4½' if scalloped), including posts. Fences may not extend past the front of the house. Chain link fences are not permitted. Privacy fences are not permitted. All fences must be submitted for approval. In general, split rail and picket fences are acceptable if they blend with adjacent lots.

Decks and Patios: Plans for decks and patios must be submitted for approval. In general, plans produced by professional builders are approved as submitted. The primary concerns are aesthetics and the quality of materials.

Walls: Plans for walls must be submitted for approval, except for stone edging blocks, landscape timbers, or similar materials used to edge flower beds.

Play Sets: Wooden play sets and playhouses must be submitted for approval. Metal swing sets are permitted, but not preferred. Plastic children's playhouses such as Little Tykes are permitted behind the home.

Pools: Above-ground pools are not permitted, with the exception of portable children's wading pools no deeper than 24 inches and no wider than 8 feet. Wading pools must be removed over the winter. Plans for in-ground pools must be submitted for approval, and must include fencing around the pool or the yard.

Ponds: Plans for decorative ponds must be submitted for approval. Ponds are only acceptable in the rear of the home.

Hot Tubs: Plans for hot tubs and enclosures must be submitted for approval.

Mailboxes: Replacement mailboxes and posts must be consistent with the overall community design, i.e. wooden 4x4 posts or plastic, heavy-duty box and post.

Sheds: No sheds of any type are permitted

Statuary: Lawn ornaments and statuary must be aesthetically integrated with landscaping. Freestanding items such as windmills and life-size deer are not permitted in the front yard. Significant sizes or quantities must be submitted for approval.

Landscaping: The only restriction on landscaping is that it must be maintained consistent with the community. Article 2, Paragraph 10 prohibits weeds, underbrush, and other unsightly growths or objects of any kind.

Other: No clotheslines are permitted except the removable umbrella type. No building materials or scrap may remain on the lot longer than 90 days. All improvements must be completed within one year from the start of construction. Trees may not be planted in the lawn between the street and the sidewalk. No doghouses or other such animal pens are permitted.

Neighborhood Smart - Paper Recycling

Harmon Middle School has recently added a paper recycling bin. The bin is open to the public, so feel free to drop by the school and recycle your paper there!

The students at the school are very excited about initiating this recycling program and are hoping to get the community involved in this worthwhile effort.

The bin is on the north side of the building and accepts all sorts of paper, including newspapers, magazines, mail, junk mail (even envelopes with windows), posters, folders and fax paper. They do not accept phone books, cardboard, laminated paper, milk cartons, metal, glass or trash.

Did you know ...

- 40% of landfills consist of paper that could be recycled
- The average family creates 4 pounds of paper "trash" per week
- Every day Americans buy 64 million newspapers and throw out 44 million
- Each ton of paper recycled saves enough electricity to run a TV for 41 hours (our paper bin holds 1-2 tons)
- One ton of recycled paper uses: 64% less energy, 50% less water, 74% less air pollution and creates 5 times more jobs than one ton of paper products from virgin wood pulp



Community Baby Sitting List

Adults:

Stephanie Charache (PM Kindergarteners)

Pacer Drive — 860-0227

Tina Murphy

Derby Court — 501-4707

Morgan Goldberg

Paddock Court — 856-0818

(experienced nanny)

Teenagers:

(Listed Under Parents' Name)

Sheryl or Mike Lyman — 751-9614

Karen Brady — 866-1647

Chris Taylor — 866-0396

Megan Snare — 891-4150

(Red Cross certified)

Directory

President

Jim McGrath
jmcgrath@insight.rr.com

Vice President / Welcome Wagon

Denise DeNunzio
759-9958
dkd@insight.rr.com

Treasurer

Curt Anderson
861-1206

Trustee

Diane Klein
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diane.klein@kingthompson.com

Trustee / Communications / Grounds

Sharon Lach
861-0325

Trustee / Secretary / Social Committee

Rhonda Van Arsdale
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frvanarsdale@netzero.com

Trustee / Special Projects

Wayne Whitehead
wjpe1W@yahoo.com

Architectural Control Committee Chair

Karen Austin
759-8044
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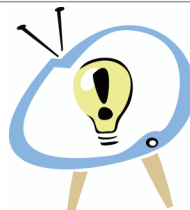
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