



The Thorough-Read News

Steeplechase Resident Homeowners Association, Inc.

Volume 11, Issue 6

June 2011



Steeplechase Board 2011

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Happy June, fellow Steeplechaseans (Steeplechaseoids?) and welcome to the early Summer edition of your neighborhood, complete with picnics, parades, flowers in bloom, yards all prettied up, walks around the block, kids playing in the street, pools, green grass, friendly neighbors, overly attractive Board Members, tennis courts, ponds, volleyball sand pits and all the other wonderful things that our neighborhood, YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD, has to offer at this time of year. (Good run-on sentence..Huh?) We suggest that you enjoy it, all of it, whenever you can with the people that you like and remember that it's all right here in Steeplechase, a great place to live.

On May 3, a special Open Member Board Meeting was held at the pool pavilion to offer and discuss a redesigned version of the 2011 SRHA Budget. This redesigned version, fully compliant with the SRHA By-Laws, seemed to meet the needs of attending Members as it was voted in by a solid majority. You can view the Budget at www.steeplechase.org. Please feel free to direct questions regarding the Budget to any Board Member.

OK, so here are some assorted things, in no particular order of importance, that we feel that everyone should be aware of. We recommend you read them slowly and carefully, twice if necessary, and welcome any questions you may have.

*Trash cans and recycle bins should be brought back to wherever you store them within 24 hours of their pick-up. This was actually supposed to be one of The Ten Commandments, but it got bumped for the one about coveting.

*The homeowner or renter will be held responsible for any person living in or visiting their home that causes damage to Steeplechase common areas or properties.

*When you know your football is laying in your yard but you can't see it from the height of the grass, then your lawn needs to be mowed.

*Your dog's droppings, of any kind, are your problem and not good for anyone's flowers, plants, shrubbery, lawns or driveways. Please pick them up.

*The barbeque grills in the Facility area are to be used for charcoal fires lit by charcoal fluid, or those self-lighting charcoals. The use of sticks, leaves, pinecones, toys, animals, etc...is frowned upon. Also, the parents or guardians of anyone under the age of 14 using those grills may be subject to large fines and long jail sentences.

(Continued on p. 5)

FROM THE COMMUNITY PRESIDENT

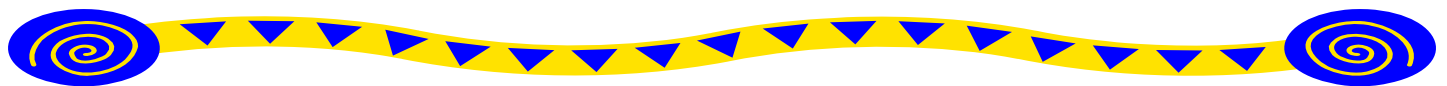
Hey everyone!

If you were not aware, we had a charity tennis tournament recently that benefitted The Quinn House right here in Lawrenceville. They have several ministries to help those in need; a great cause and Steeplechase was well represented. We should be proud to be associated with such a worthy organization that is doing great things within our community.

We had several positive comments on our facility areas. Visitors were impressed with our facility grounds, and commented on how they don't have these amenities in their communities. A positive impression was left on everyone's mind about our facility. Those that support our community by paying your dues....THANK YOU!!!!

We would all benefit from everyone becoming either a community member or a facility member. As of today, we have less than half of the homes in this neighborhood represented. We have 427 homes, and we only have little over 200 community members at this time; run that number and that's at least \$12,000 that we don't have to spend on repairs or replenish our long term capital project fund. SO IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID YOUR \$65... PLEASE...PLEASE...PLEASE...TAKE A FEW MINUTES AND WRITE OUT THAT CHECK...YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT!!! Thanks Everyone!!!!

Scot Sherwin



FROM THE COMMUNITY SOCIAL DIRECTOR

PROGRESSIVE DINNER: Calling all interested adults to host the next progressive dinner in June. You provide the space and one of the three courses and we reimburse you. Choice of course is appetizer, main course or dessert. This has been a huge hit in the past. Let's keep the tradition going! Drop me a line with any questions via email at community.social@steeplechase.org.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL ICE CREAM SOCIAL: Sunday, August 7th at pool pavilion, time TBD. All kids from rising Kindergarten through 5th graders are invited.



TEEN PARTY: The TEEN party has been scheduled for **Friday, August 5th** starting at 7 PM in the pool pavilion. Yes, *teens only*, no lil' peeps allowed. This will be a check-in event and NO -- I repeat -- NO exit until the 10 PM check out unless an adult comes to the door. There will be food, a non-alcoholic Daiquiri machine and of course a DJ!! Cost is \$5 per teen.

*** I am in DESPERATE need of adult volunteers for this party. Please call me or email me with your interest.*

As always I am open to your ideas. Let me know how I can serve you and our neighbors.

Blessings,

Cristina

FROM THE FACILITY PRESIDENT

This month's spring work day was a great success. We had a good turnout and were able to accomplish most of what we had planned for. Thanks to ALL who came out to help. Those who were unable to physically be there (but were with us in spirit) thank you, too.

We will have many projects going on this summer; please check our website for the latest information or e-mail me with questions/suggestions. Whether you have engineering, landscaping, tinkering, building or just back/elbow grease skills... let me know because we need a lot of these talents to get our beloved neighborhood back in shape. I will do my best to keep the info at www.steeplechase.org/workcrew updated.

Barring a flood of new facility members, the Board is looking at a possible increase in facility dues for 2012. Please let me know if you have any ideas on how to add funds to our Association & keep us from having to increase dues next year.

Check the weekly e-mail blasts for more information. If you do not receive the neighborhood e-mail blasts from the Board or want to be added to our **bonfire, party or workcrew distribution lists**, please send an e-mail to board@steeplechase.org letting us know to add you to said distribution lists. Thank you for your time.

Jose Gonzalez

FROM THE SWIM & TENNIS DIRECTOR

Tennis Update:

Congratulations to the Women's C-Team and Men's C-Team for winning their respective Division Championships. Although they both fell short of the City Finals, it was a great season for the C-Teams this spring.

June starts the Summer Season. Steeplechase will have ALTA Mixed Doubles Teams at A-6, C-3 and C-4, Senior Men's B, Senior Women's B and a Men's USTA Team.

Contact me at swim.tennis@steeplechase.org for more information on teams and check www.reservemycourt.com for the home matches happening during the summer.

The Friends Love Tennis SET Tournament May 12-15th was a success. We were able to make a generous donation to The Quinn House as well as raise some capital for future tennis facility improvements. Look for a wrap-up article in next month's newsletter or visit www.friendslovetennis.com. You can still make donations directly to the Quinn House. Also, check out the Sonic card / fundraiser enclosed.

Watch the e-blasts for Summertime Tennis Socials.

Swim Team Update:

The SteepleStation Stingrays have hit the pool and are getting ready for the upcoming season. The defending North Division Champs look forward to another successful season.

Home meets are on June 2nd and June 30th starting at 6 PM. Just a reminder: the pool is closed at 4:30 PM on these days in preparation for the Swim Meets.

SEE YOU AT THE POOL THIS SUMMER,

Bryan Schroeder

Sonic is a proud supporter of **Quinn House**
a charity for those in need

What can I do to help?
Join us at any of The McAfee Group (TMG) Sonic Drive-in restaurants (see back) and eat!
Beginning Monday, May 18th, and every Third Week of the Month (May, June, and July)

25% of your proceeds will benefit The Quinn House!
Just show this card to your car hop, or simply say you are there to support the Quinn House! **Make sure to tell your family and friends!**
Enjoy the fun, food and fellowship... see you at Sonic!

FROM THE FACILITY SOCIAL DIRECTOR

By the time you receive this newsletter, we will have celebrated Memorial Day and all the kids are now out of school and enjoying summer vacation. I hope all who attended the Memorial Day festivities had a great time! If the party was a flop, it's all my doing. If it was a success, it's because everyone pitched in (like we all do) and made it a success! A special thanks to all the volunteers who decorated, cooked, cleaned, helped with games, led the pledge, organized the food and generally did whatever it takes so that we could all enjoy the day.



Coming up next – **Movies on the Green!** Chad and Laura Cross have graciously agreed to provide a couple of Movies on the Green again this summer and the first one will be Saturday, June 25th. The movie will start once it's dark, around 8:45 – 9pm, so come on down and join us as we watch “How to Train Your Dragon.”

July 4th – We'll have our annual 4th of July Cookout at Noon. Barbeque will be provided – we'll just need everyone to bring a side to share along with your beverages. See the RSVP form below for more info.

Volunteers are needed in order to have our fireworks, so please let me know if you can help. Be sure to check for updates in the e-blasts and bulletin board.

Date TBD – Our 2nd Movie on the Green; Stay tuned for more info.

Sally Campbell



Attention Steeplechase Facility Members:
You are invited to our annual *July 4th Cookout, 12 Noon*

Where: The Steeplechase Pool & Pavilion

What to Bring: Your favorite beverage and:

If your last name begins with A-M please bring a dessert.

If your last name begins with N-Z please bring a side dish.

Barbecue and the trimmings will be provided. Hope to see you there!

We can also use some help with all the cooking, festivities and clean-up. Be sure to mark that you can help on the RSVP!



July 4th Cookout RSVP

YES, my family plans on attending the July 4th cookout at Noon.

Name of Facility Member: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

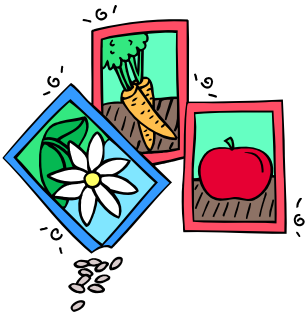
Number of Adults: ____ Children: ____/Ages: _____

____I would like to help. (Please include a contact email)

Please complete the RSVP form and drop it off in the Facility mailbox, or email your RSVP to: Facility.Social@Steeplechase.org so we know you're coming.

GARDEN CLUB CORNER

Calling all gardeners – If you have a garden that you are proud of (or just a few potted plants), we'd love to hear from you. Whether it is a vegetable, herb or flower garden, please send us your info and photos to share with the neighborhood.



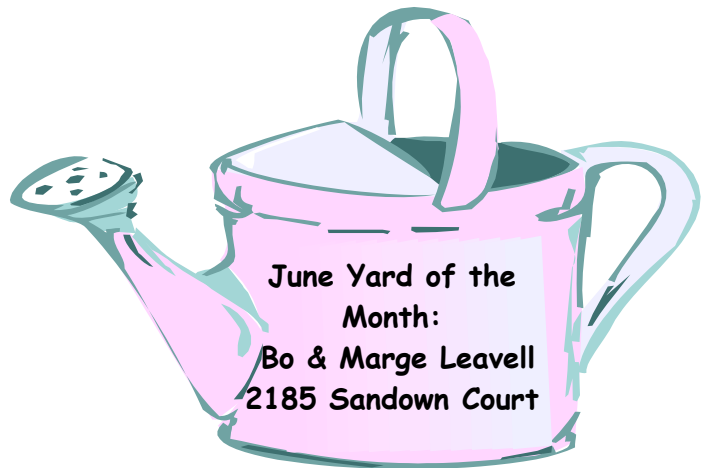
I've enjoyed seeing some of the creative ways people are incorporating vegetables into their landscape. Many of our lots are shaded with trees in the backyard, and I've seen tomatoes, squash and cucumbers growing alongside begonias, marigolds and lantana. There's nothing better than home-grown veggies and it's great to see so many neighbors growing their own. So, please send us your photos and "lettuce" share them within the newsletters and e-blasts!

If you are interested in participating in the garden club, or have garden news to share, please contact us at gardenclub@steeplechase.org. New members are always welcome.

Steeplechase Goes Green to Control Pesky Red Bug

Have you noticed masses of small red and black bugs in your yard? It may be the **Box Elder** bug. Soapy water is a good alternative to pest control. Pesticide use can harm the environment.

If you've noticed these harmless but annoying bugs, Google Box Elder Bug Control for more solutions.



FROM THE CHAIRMAN (Cont. from p.1)

While we're on the subject of fire, use of the fire pit at the Facility is for fires only and must be supervised by someone at least 21 years of age. Again, financial penalties and jail time may be doled out to violators.

* Gwinnett County outdoor burning restrictions apply at all times to everyone.

* Facility Members under the age of 14 who want to use the pool must be accompanied by someone at least 16 years old. Also, for Facility Members of all ages, when you're finished using the pool please put the chairs back, take home the stuff that you want keep, and throw away/recycle the stuff that you don't because NO ONE wants to pick-up after you.

*Use of any Steeplechase community property or area is always at the user's own risk.

*All Christmas decorations should be completely out of sight by now.

*Generally speaking, bales of pine straw should be spread out as ground cover and not left in a bale for a long period of time, unless of course flooding is anticipated.

That's it for now, but please remember we're all in this together and need everyone to do their part to make sure that Steeplechase continues to be a great place to live.

Thanks
Al

CLASSIFIEDS & MISCELLANEOUS



HEY LADIES, TENNIS ANYONE?

Summer's here and the time is right for some hitting! If you are available on any weekday mornings and would like to join other ladies in the neighborhood for some fun on the courts, we would love to hear from you. Open to all Facility members, no special talent required!!! Just RSVP to budget.operations@steeplechase.org . Time and days will be determined by availability, so please let us know what works for you. We are also looking into lessons if there is an interest. Hope to see you on the courts!

A NOTE TO ALL RESIDENTS:

School is out and the weather is nice, so that means more pedestrian traffic on our subdivision streets, as well as more kids riding bikes, scooters, etc.

Please observe the speed limit and drive with caution!



MEMORIAL DAY PARADE AND POOL PARTY: ONE MORE REASON STEEPLCHASE IS A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE!



Photo courtesy of Penny Radney

IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT GUESTS AT THE FACILITY



This Summer, you'll definitely want to get your money's worth for your membership and enjoy our pool and tennis courts as much as possible. Please remember, however, that, while you can bring guests into the facility, you may not bring other Steeplechase residents who have not paid their facility fees for 2011. Instead, encourage them to join!

STEEPLECHASE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June TBD Progressive Dinner—

Calling all interested adults to host the next progressive dinner in June. You provide the space and one of the three courses and we reimburse you. Choice of course is appetizer, main course or dessert. This has been a huge hit in the past. Let's keep the tradition going! Contact Cristina Cryan with any questions via email at community.social@steeplechase.org.

June 25 Movie on the Green I

Saturday, June 25th. The movie will start once it's dark, around 8:45 – 9pm, so come on down and join us as we watch "How to Train Your Dragon." Bring your chairs, blankets, snacks and drinks.

July 4 Facility pool party/cookout

Barbecue and the trimmings will be provided. We can also use some help with all the cooking, festivities and clean-up. Be sure to mark that you can help on the RSVP form on page 4.

Bring your favorite beverage and:

If your last name begins with A-M please bring a dessert.

If your last name begins with N-Z, please bring a side dish.

July TBD Movie on the Green II

August 5 TEEN –only party

Friday, August 5th starting at 7 PM in the pool pavilion. This will be a check-in event and NO exit until the 10 PM check out unless an adult comes to the door. There will be food, a non-alcoholic Daiquiri machine and of course a DJ!! Cost is \$5 per teen.

*** We need adult volunteers for this party. Please call me or email me with your interest at community.social@steeplechase.org.*

August 7 Back to school Ice Cream social

This event is for all rising K—5th grade children. Time TBD at Pool Pavilion. *This is not a pool party; attendees must be facility members accompanied by an adult in order to swim.*

Sept. 17 Facility adult close-the-pool party

Sept. 30 Fall Community yard sale

Oct. 29 Halloween Bonfire and Family Campout

Nov. 17 General Membership Meeting



The Thorough-Read News is now GREEN!

Unless you have indicated otherwise, you are now receiving this newsletter electronically.

If you have not given us your correct e-mail address, please send it to me at your earliest convenience at sandyparris@yahoo.com. *Your e-mail address will NOT be shared with anyone and will NOT be used for business solicitations.*

ADVERTISING INFORMATION:

Ad rates will remain the same. Some added BENEFITS of the Green format are:

- Your ad will run in full color if provided, along with photos of your products or services.
- Readers will be able to click on your business website information and hyperlink directly to your site.

Ad rates for the Thorough-Read News:

Business card \$5 Quarter page \$15
Half page \$30 Full page \$60

Classified ads are free to Community and Facility members but may not offer business services. * Kids up to 18 years old from Community/ Facility Member families can advertise services (babysitting, lawn care, etc.) free in the classified section.

Format: Color or B/W, camera-ready in either .pdf or .jpg formats.

Deadlines and payment: All artwork and payment must be provided to me by the 20th of each month prior to the upcoming issue. Checks should be made out to SRHA and delivered to my mailbox (Sandy Parris) at 2208 Sandown Drive.

Ads not paid for in advance will not run (sorry!).

2011 Community Directory. Planned publish date is TBD

Inside front cover - full pg \$100 - **SOLD**

Inside front cover - 1/2 pg \$50

Inside back cover - full pg \$100

Inside back cover - 1/2 pg \$50 Back Cover - \$200

Inner pages: half page - \$40 / quarter page - \$20

Planning a Party? Rent the Pool Pavilion!

The pool pavilion is the perfect place for Spring, Summer and even Fall events! Host your next gathering there and avoid having to clean your house. The pavilion is great for family potlucks, birthday, end-of-season sports parties, or any other reason to celebrate.

Rental fee is \$35 *plus* a \$50 refundable security and cleaning deposit and is open to all paid Facility members. Extra fees may apply for parties of 20 or more and for outside guests. For more details and to book, contact Molly Brooks at



770/546-7459 or at secretary@steeplechase.org

FYI

GWINNETT COUNTY CURFEW LAWS FOR MINORS

Parents: *Do you know where your kids are?* All minors (under 18 years of age) will be in violation of Gwinnett County curfew laws if they are outside, not on private property, and unsupervised after 12 AM on weekends and 11 PM on weeknights.

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INSIDE:

- *Board member messages*
- *Community Social Events*
- *July 4th Pool Party*
- *Garden Club*
- *Resident information:*
 - Facility Guests*
 - Gwinnett County Curfew*

...And More!

Stay current with Steeplechase news! Read your neighborhood newsletter!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

See p.7 for more details

June 11	Progressive Dinner
June 25	Movie on the Green I
July 4	Facility pool party/cookout
July TBD	Movie on the Green II
August 5	TEEN –only party
August 7	Back to school Ice Cream social
Sept. 17	Facility adult close-the-pool party
Sept. 30	Fall Community yard sale
Oct. 29	Halloween Bonfire and Family Campout
Nov. 17	General Membership Meeting

