

Grand Lake GAZETTE

Volume 2, Issue 1

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE GRAND LAKE ESTATES POA

January 2016

News and Notes from the Board November Board News Summary

- Minutes were reviewed for October 13 and 27th meetings and passed and financials reviewed for October. (visit GLE website for recent minutes and financials at www.glepoa.com - Documents - 2015 Minutes and Financials).
- In 1 meeting on Tuesday, November 17th, the board heard progress reports on several current projects, primarily concerned with actions to complete or follow-up on several projects begun during the year.
- Progress Reports: Remediation efforts on Connie Lane are still being pursued, with bids being sought from 2-3 companies. Options being explored include enclosing the ditch completely and providing periodic concrete drops for surface water, and an additional option of using a modified retaining wall with a surface grid for ease of cleanout.
- The LED sign for back gate should be installed in December. Additional electric bids will be sought to obtain more competitive pricing.
- Management reported that the audit materials were picked up and determinations are being made on need for current 2014 and 2015 audits and quotes to be solicited.
- The sound and video equipment will be ordered and should be received in time for the Cookies with Santa event and to accommodate the start of Movie nights again by mid-December.
- One additional quote on replat survey work was received - one quote is still outstanding.
- Nuisance fencing progress: At least one welder has been identified and quotes are progressing. Volunteer welders are still being sought. Volunteers interested please contact Ali Eichenberg at ali@glepoa.com and also email to suggest locations for fencing needed to block nuisance traffic from private property and reserves in GLE.
- Reports With No Developments to report: 200 Acres Issue; Sandy Beach Park Phase 3 and Consolidated DSL/Comcast Cable Service
- Maintenance Issues: Road repairs in Section 8, GLE and Zoe Loop and Kristina's Circle were reported and added to list of repairs for next cycle. Erosion repairs at 9044 GLE Drive (culvert under road) and Guinevere Spillway have been added to work orders for completion, with warranty repairs by Rocktec still pending negotiation.
- Connie Lane Project Coordinator, Damon Scott reported that 2 quotes for remediation of ditches on Connie Lane have been received, with estimates ranging from \$85,000 to \$160,000 for scopes of work that involve enclosing the ditches and providing periodic concrete drops for surface water. Chris Kisling reported that a quote to create a retaining wall and backfill on the street side, with or without a metal grid over the waterway is still pending completion. Debris removal quotes were received and a quote for \$1,300 was received and accepted by the board to clear the concrete and project construction debris fronting Connie Lane. Quotes for the portion of the debris removal behind Connie Lane homes are still pending or inclusive of ditch work quotes noted above. Two quotes for hydro-seeding the ditches on Adela, in the drainage easement between 2 Connie Lane homes and behind Connie Lane homes were heard and tabled for future research. Caution sign installation on Connie Lane has been pended at this time.
- The board reported that it is still interviewing ACC volunteers and has scheduled a 2nd set of meetings to accommodate volunteer schedules so all may be interviewed. A working meeting has been scheduled to review progress on policy development for a Builders Packet and 4 key ACC policies.
- The board will be addressing ATV policy/enforcement development, reviewing of several resolutions, ACC policy development and long-term property acquisition/capital improvement plans in working meetings slated for December and January.
- The board is awaiting new quotes on liability insurance and an umbrella policy from management, to coordinate with policy expiration dates currently in progress.

(Continued on Page 2)

Grand Lake Estates

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY	911
Fire.....	911
Ambulance.....	911
Montgomery County Sheriff.....	936-760-5800

AREA HOSPITALS

Conroe Regional Medical.....	936-539-1111
Memorial Hermann-The Woodlands.....	281-364-2300
St. Luke's – The Woodlands.....	936-266-2000

SCHOOLS

Montgomery ISD.....	936-582-1333
Lone Star Elementary.....	936-588-6100
Montgomery Intermediate.....	936-597-6494
Montgomery Middle School.....	936-597-7070
Montgomery Junior High.....	936-582-6400
Montgomery High School.....	936-597-6401

PUBLIC SERVICES

Montgomery Post Office.....	1-800-275-8777
Driver's License Info.....	936-442-2810
Montgomery Central Appraisal.....	936-756-3354
Montgomery County Registration & Titling...	936-539-7896

BOARD MEMBERS

Ryan Blair	903-574-3530	ryan@glepoa.com
Ali Eichenberg.....	281-935-2638	ali@glepoa.com
Chris Kisling.....	832-689-4889	chris@glepoa.com
Lonna Hord.....	305-905-0483	lonna@glepoa.com
Ray McCrea.....	281-914-1544	ray@glepoa.com
Thomas Clare.....		thomas@glepoa.com
Damon Scott.....	281-989-5478	damon@glepoa.com

MANAGEMENT SERVICE

Spectrum Association Mgmt.....	1-877-269-9092
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GRAND LAKE ESTATES GOLF COURSE

Clubhouse.....	936-447-4653
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NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc.....	888-687-6444
Article Submission.....	grandlakeestates@peelinc.com
Advertising.....	advertising@peelinc.com

(Continued from Cover)

- Significant Discussions: Owner questions on installation of speed bumps and stop signs were answered, with Ryan Blair indicating that the installation should progress as soon as he is able to get competitive quotes for some of the equipment. The survey was active from 10-27 until 11-30 and will be repeated for approximately 30 days once the speed controls and stop signs are installed. Approximately 96 residents took the survey with a clear preference emerging for speed humps (41%) and an almost equal number preferring speed bumps (18%), preferring stop signs only (19%) or preferring neither (18%).
- During open forum, several guests from the community expressed concerns and issues for the board's consideration in a question and answer session of approximately 30 minutes.

Notes from the Board

FENCING COMMITTEE VOLUNTERS: If you have an interest in serving on a committee to identify and/or help install fencing to prevent nuisance access (mudding and trespass) please contact ali@glepoa.com. Those with welding experience (no equipment necessary) are needed to install fencing.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH: GLE owners and residents are encouraged to report all incidents of vandalism or theft to the Montgomery County Sheriff's Dept. at 936-760-5871 or 5800 and notify a board member so they can meet Sheriff Dept. personnel to file reports. Several board members have agreed to be available to take your calls 24/7 and they can be reached at the numbers below to file reports and press charges for vandalism or trespassing on GLE POA property. Lonna Hord: (305) 905-0483 - Ray McCrea: (281) 914-1544 - Chris Kisling: (832) 689-4889. During regular business hours, you can also phone or email GLE Association Management Offices of Spectrum Association Management (281) 343-9178 or email management@glepoa.com.

FALL FESTIVAL APPRENTICE SOUGHT: Holly Jackson is seeking a special volunteer who would like to be trained next year (2016) to take over the Fall Festival in 2017! She will work closely with a volunteer to teach them all they need to know during next year's activities so they can be ready to launch out on their own by 2017. If you are interested in working with her on this important project, please call her at (713) 502-5328 or email hollyajackson@live.com.



Ten Reasons to Volunteer for the GLE POA Community

- Protect your self-interests. Protect your property values and maintain the quality of life in your community.
- Correct a problem. Has your car been towed, or do you think maybe maintenance has been neglected?
- Be sociable. Meet your neighbors, make friends, and exchange opinions.
- Give back. Repay a little of what's been done for you.
- Advance your career. Build your personal resume by including your community volunteer service.
- Have some fun. Association work isn't drudgery. It's fun accomplishing good things with your neighbors.
- Get educated. Learn how it's done—we'll train you.
- Express yourself. Help with creative projects like community beautification.
- Earn recognition. If you would like a little attention or validation, your contributions will be recognized and celebrated.
- Try some altruism. Improve society by helping others



Congratulations to Hollis and Wayne Jackson at 15599 Nicholas Court for their beautiful Christmas light decorations!

If you would like to nominate a yard or are interested in being on this important committee, please email your contact information to newsletter@glepoa.com.



COOKIES WITH SANTA THANKS

Thank you to everyone who helped with our first ever Cookies with Santa event! Our volunteers make it all work! More than 200 cookies were donated for the event as well as a handmade quilt for our raffle. Approximately 75 children attended for photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus, enjoying cookies, hot chocolate, milk, stories and Christmas crafts. Our special appreciation to Adriana Swanson who coordinated this event!

Thanks to Jader the Elf for his assistance (his Mom made that great costume) and to Mrs. Angel Owens for the beautiful quilt that she made and donated. Congratulations to Samantha for winning the quilt!



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MONTGOMERY ISD SCHOOL CALENDAR

JANUARY – MAY 2016

Holidays:

Student Holiday	January 15
Martin Luther King Day	January 18
Student Holiday	February 15
Spring Break	March 14 – 18
Good Friday	March 25
Memorial Day	May 30

Staff Development/Workdays:

January 15
February 15
June 3

Last Day of School:

Thursday, June 2
Copied from Montgomery ISD website

Northwest Flyers Youth Track Club Free Registration Breakfast

The Northwest Flyers Youth Track Club will celebrate its 29th Anniversary Season by hosting its annual free Registration/Orientation Breakfast on Saturday, February 6th, 2016. The breakfast starts promptly at 8:30 AM at the Cypress Creek Christian Community Center Forum, 6823 Cypresswood Dr., Spring, TX, 77379.

All boys and girls who wish to join the team for the 2016 spring/summer track season must attend the orientation, which will be highlighted by a special presentation from a member of the USA Track & Field Olympic organization (USATF).

The Northwest Flyers Track Club is a youth (ages 6 -18) track club, affiliated with USATF, that provides a full program of sanctioned "track" events such as sprints, hurdles, middle distance, distance and relays, and "field" events such as long jump, triple jump, high jump, pole vault, shot put, discus and javelin.

For additional information on the Northwest Flyers Track Club, please visit the team website at <http://www.northwestflyers.org>; contact Linette Roach at linette.roach@sbcglobal.net; or "Like" the club on Facebook.

Call today for more info
512.263.9181

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The Benefits of Hosting Span Borders

Traveling the world and experiencing new cultures is something many dream of but few are able to do. Hosting an Ayusa exchange student provides the opportunity to experience the world while bringing other benefits to their family and local community.

For schools, opening their doors to an exchange student provides their students the opportunity to experience new cultures and expand their understanding of the global society. Not only will students be able to expand their circle of friends, they will be able to reference different perspectives of world events. The new perspectives that both local and exchange students gain through the exchange experience are invaluable for the ever-expanding global community.

Ayusa exchange students are eager to learn and participate in school and community programs. They take their role as ambassadors for their country seriously. Ayusa students are not simply bystanders to their program year; they are active participants looking to make a difference in their host school and community.

Ayusa exchange students are strong academic performers, well-rounded, and open-minded. Prospective students go through an extensive interview process in their home countries and are evaluated for maturity, strength of goals, leadership skills, and academic background. Ayusa honors all school enrollment standards, academic requirements and student placement criteria specified in school or district policies.

Host families also reap the benefits of opening their home by sharing their America. When they share with their exchange student, they are also able to see America with fresh eyes through the student. Families often learn new things about the U.S. and have different perspectives after hosting. The experiences and memories that are shared during the program last a lifetime and span international borders.

For more information about hosting a high school foreign exchange student, please contact Ayusa at 1.888.552.9872 or by visiting the website at www.ayusa.org.

About Ayusa

Ayusa is a non-profit educational organization that promotes global learning and leadership through foreign exchange and leadership program programs for high school students from around the world. Ayusa offers unique, richly personal cross-cultural experiences for students, volunteer host families, schools, and local communities.

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Grandmother's German Sweet Chocolate Cake

Cake:

- 2 cups sugar
- 1 cup Crisco
- 1 cup buttermilk
- 4 eggs, separated
- 2 ½ cups flour
- 1 tsp. soda
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- ½ tsp. salt
- 1 package German Chocolate

Mix as any other cake except beat egg whites separately and fold in dough. Pour into three well-greased and floured cake pans. Bake for 30 minutes at 350 degrees.

Icing:

- 2 cups sugar
- 2 cups milk or 1 large can Pet Milk
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 1 stick butter or margarine
- 1 cups nuts
- 1 can Angel Flake coconut

Mix sugar, milk (I always use the Pet Milk), flour and margarine/butter in saucepan. Cook over medium heat for seven minutes after it comes to a boil. Add nuts and coconut after cooked. Pour over cooled cake layers.

SPRINGTAILS

Springtails are very small, jumping insects that can sometimes become a problem inside homes. Springtails are usually found in areas of moisture, so indoors they may be located near potted plants, sinks, bath tubs or kitchen compost areas. These insects are typically found outside in gardens, near swimming pools or near where there is excessive moisture or standing water.

Springtails are small (about 1/16 of an inch long), wingless and come in various colors. These insects have a "tail" that latches into a space on the underside of the body that they can use to "jump" several inches into the air.

Springtails are considered a nuisance insect, but some may chew on roots and leaves of sapling plants. They usually do not cause enough damage to warrant control measures to be taken. If you have springtails in your home it points to a moisture problem that should be fixed.

Options for helping reduce springtail problems:

- Remove excessive mulch and/ or leaf litter near the home
- Change watering schedule to reduce the amount of moisture near the home
- Use fans or dehumidifiers to reduce moisture indoors
- Seal cracks, crevices, pipe & wire penetrations on the outside of the home
- Replace or repair any screening on doors and windows that is damaged
- Replace weather stripping around doors and windows that does not provide a good seal
- Suck up any indoor infestations with a vacuum

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600. Check out my blog at www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!



Grand Lake Estates 2015 Single Family Home Property Sales YTD through 12-9-15.

Grand Lake Estates is moving with 25 closed property sales through 12-9-15. The sales prices ranged from \$250,000 to \$660,000. There are currently 4 properties pending to close and only 5 active properties for sale at this time.

The time to put your home on the market is now. There are fewer properties to compete with and buyers who are looking right now are very serious buyers.

If you would like to know more about what your home is worth or want to know about VACANT LOT sales & availability, please give me a shout or e-mail. I will be happy to discuss market details.



The Scheib Team

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theresa@homesaroundlakeconroe.com

homesaroundlakeconroe.com

Thinking of buying or selling? Call The Scheib Team today - We would love to help you! With over 37 years combined experience, we can help you with all of your real estate needs.

