

Grand Lake GAZETTE

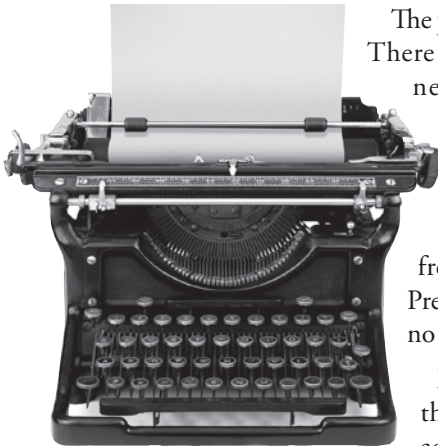
Volume 3, Issue 12

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE GRAND LAKE ESTATES POA

December 2017

News and Notes from the Board

OCTOBER 2017 BOARD MEETING



The project report was reviewed. There is one speed bump that needs to be repaired and remarked. Cones and barrels have been set up until the repair is made.

The audit report feedback from Thomas Clare, Board President, was that there were no issues.

Effective October 15, the new gate codes will be activated.

A meeting is being planned for the community to go over information for the capital improvement plan.

The officers for the 2017-2018 Board of Directors are: President – Thomas Clare, Vice President – Damon Scott, Secretary – Jules Peterson, Treasurer – Ryan Blair. All were accepted unanimously.

A bid for \$18,183 with Bear Services was approved to do the repairs to the Guinevere spillway.

The Board approved a motion to bid between \$10,000 and \$15,000 to purchase reserve properties.

The Board approved a bid of \$1,244.88 to PKCP to paint the front gate. This amount includes materials and labor.

A unanimous approval to hire a person for \$12/hour to scan GLE POA documents was passed. Scanning the documents according to records retention regulations will do away with the storage unit that is currently being rented.

Bids are needed to concrete all signs and to replace missing signs on East Connie and Adela.

The Board is obtaining information needed to get the LED signs at the front and back gates operational.

Hollis Jackson suggested to the Board that a liaison be established to budget event with the social committee. Garage sale reminders will be sent out. The Fall Festival will be held October 28 and help will be needed to unload the booths.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Missing out on the GLE newsletter? Go to Peel, Inc. Newsletter Subscription and sign up to have the newsletters sent directly to your mailbox. Prior versions of the newsletter may be found at the Peel website, as well as, on the GLE POA website.

GLE's Property Management Company is IMC Property Management and our property manager is Tammy Perry. Tammy can be reached at tammyperry@imcmanagement.net or 936-756-0032.

GLE POA's new website is up and running. Just go to glepoa.com to check it out. If you have any questions concerning the new website, please contact Tammy Perry at IMC Property Management.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY911
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.....	936-276-2000
Lone Star Elementary	936-276-4500
Montgomery Intermediate	936-276-4700
Montgomery Middle School	936-276-3700
Montgomery Junior High	936-276-3300
Montgomery High School.....	936-276-3000

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

Thomas Clare	281-460-7822
.....	thomas@glepoa.com
Damon Scott.....	281-989-5478
.....	damon@glepoa.com
Ryan Blair	903-574-3530
.....	ryan@glepoa.com
Diane Melroe	diane@glepoa.com
David Martin	david@glepoa.com
Don Harp	don@glepoa.com
Jules Peterson	jules@glepoa.com

MANAGEMENT SERVICE

IMC Property Management 936-756-0032
..... tammyperry@imcmanagement.net

GRAND LAKE ESTATES GOLF COURSE

Clubhouse..... 936-447-4653

NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc 888-687-6444
Article Submission..... grandlakeestates@peelinc.com
Advertising..... advertising@peelinc.com
GLE POA Newsletter..... newsletter@glepoa.com



GLE Getting Social

2017 YEAR IN REVIEW

At the end of 2016, there were a handful of opportunities to meet your neighbors, then a group of ladies got together and created GLE Getting Social as a way to offer various groups and events to the residents of GLE. We formed the Flags Across GLE as a means to fund the neighborhood social events, while providing a beautiful, patriotic display multiple times a year. With those funds, we paid for the flags and 100% of the proceeds went back into the community with 5 inaugural events: Easter Eggstravaganza (our Easter Egg Hunt with a visit from the Easter Bunny), Ice Cream Socials at the end and beginning of the school year, Game Night for the kids over the summer, Patriotic & Proud was our July 4th Celebration, and National Night Out to meet and honor our first responders. These events were added to the incredibly successful Fall Festival & Cookies with Santa. We also offered additional groups to get to know one another based on personal interests, led by volunteers (note: no flag funds were allocated to these): Mommy & Me Playdates, BUNCO, Dinner Club, Walking Group and we brought back Yard of the Month.

I'd like to take a moment to thank the team of volunteers who without them NONE of this would have been possible: Brandie Joy (Flag Chair), Morgan Borths (Welcome Wagon and Mommy & Me Chair), Holly Yen (Easter Eggstravaganza Chair), Nikki Martin (Ice Cream Social & Game Night Chair), Ali Eichenberg (July 4th Chair), Christi Gryder (National Night Out Chair), Crystal Ward & Hollis Jackson (Movie Night & Fall Festival Chairs), Adriana Swanson (Book Club & Cookies with Santa Chair) and Gaylen Kluckman our event photographer. Thank you ladies, you did an incredible job in 2017!!

This is just the beginning of what is possible if we have multiple residents involved! The team of volunteers meet once a month to plan; we welcome anyone who would like to join us. If you have an event or a group you would like to see become a part of Getting Social in GLE all you need to do is get involved! For additional information on how you can be a part of what we are doing, contact Ellen Edwards grandlakesocial@gmail.com

– Ellen Edwards

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2018 FLAG SUBSCRIPTIONS



2018 Flag Subscriptions are available until the end of the year. Be sure to get yours NOW! \$40 for (1) flag \$65 for (2) flags. Flags are placed and picked up at the entrance to your drive way 6 times a year on patriotic holidays (President's Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, Patriot's Day (9/11) and Veteran's Day)!

In 2018 we are looking for 1-2 individuals per section to help with the Flags Across GLE. If you are interested in helping in your section, please contact Brandie Joy at grandlakesocial@gmail.com

WELCOME WAGON

Welcome Wagon is one of the newly formed social groups that welcome new residents of GLE. We had a very successful launch in 2017! We were able to welcome 43 new residents to our beautiful community with a smile, a welcome basket and pie from Pie in

the Sky! May and June were our busiest months welcoming 7 new neighbors.

We are excited to continue meeting our new neighbors in 2018 with funds from your yearly flag subscriptions. Thank you to all those who volunteered to help deliver baskets and greet new neighbors! A smile is the universal welcome, and we look forward to smiling more in 2018.

If you would like to be a part of welcoming new residents, please contact Morgan Borths at grandlakesocial@gmail.com



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DECEMBER YARD OF THE MONTH

It's the most wonderful time of the year! December's Yard of the Month will be the most festive Christmas Decorations in GLE.

We will be judging the BEST decked-out house for the holidays. Judging will take place Sunday, December 9th and Monday, December 10th.

The winner will be our December Yard of the Month – the winner and pictures will be on the Getting Social Facebook Page!!

Poinsettia Maintenance Tips



The life of the poinsettia, if cared for properly during the holidays, can be extended throughout the year. During the holidays:

1. When selecting a poinsettia, choose tightly clustered, small, central flowers with crisp and bright foliage.
2. When surface soil is dry to the touch, water thoroughly. Discard excess water in the saucer.
3. To prolong color, keep a temperature range of 60 degrees for night and 72 degrees for days. High humidity is preferred.
4. Avoid cold drafts and protect from cold winds.
To Rebloom for Next Season:
 1. During the winter, continue to follow holiday upkeep tips.
 2. When bracts face, cut back to eight inches.
 3. Lightly fertilize every three to four weeks.
5. When temperatures are warm, place plant out-of-doors; first in indirect, then direct light. Avoid temperatures below 50 degrees throughout the summer.
6. Cut back stems and branches twice during the summer. Repot if needed.
7. During the first week of September, move plant inside. Provide six or more hours of direct light.
8. From October 1 through mid-December, confine plant to darkness for 14 hours, giving it 10 hours of natural light. This will force the green bracts to color.

They're Everywhere

By Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center



Love them or hate them, they're everywhere! I'm talking about those funny little critters called squirrels.

As the fall baby season is coming to an end, TWRC Wildlife Center has been inundated with babies. What is normally a very busy time anyway, Hurricane Harvey only added to the numbers.

Hundreds of orphans were admitted and will continue to be cared for until they are ready for release.

The Houston area is home to the gray squirrel, the fox squirrel, and the flying squirrel. About 90% of the squirrels in our area are gray squirrels. Most people have never seen a flying squirrel because they are nocturnal. They are very small and their tail acts as a rudder to help guide it in flight. They don't have wings but rather skin that forms "flaps" that stretch between the "ankle" and "wrist".

If you've ever seen a squirrel eating out of a "squirrel-proof" bird feeder, then you know how intelligent they are. They have also been known to pretend to bury food just to trick other animals. A 2010 study showed that when a squirrel is being watched, they will actually dig a hole, pat it with their front teeth and scrape dirt over it to make it look like they are burying a treasure when, in fact, they are hiding their stash in a pocket near their armpit.

Here are some things you probably don't know about squirrels:

- A squirrel's front teeth never stop growing. In the wild, squirrels are constantly gnawing which keeps them short.
- When you see squirrels running and zig-zagging in your yard, they are doing this to avoid capture by a predator.
- Baby squirrels are only about an inch long when they're born.
- There are 285 species of squirrels and they can be found in every continent except Antarctica and Australia.
- Squirrels have four toes on the front feet and five on the back feet.
- Squirrels will twitch their tails to alert other squirrels to possible danger.
- Squirrels have more than one nest. If one gets destroyed or infested with insects, they always have a back-up.

TWRC Wildlife Center is a 38-year-old non-profit in Houston that rehabilitates injured and orphaned wildlife with the goal of releasing healthy animals back to the wild. If you love wildlife and want to help, go to www.twrcwildlifecenter.org or you can call 713-468-8972.

- **WRAP UP THE SEASON!** Creating handmade gift paper and holiday cards: Provide your child with water-soluble markers, crayons or paint and large sheets of paper. Encourage your child to draw a self-portrait or paint a picture of his or her favorite holiday activity. Kids can also cut simple shapes out of heavy sheets of folded paper

- **BELLS AND WHISTLES!** Drumming up the sounds of the holidays: Have kids pick a favorite holiday song and produce the rhythm to accompany the song using homemade instruments. Use pots, pans and coffee cans to double as cymbals and drums, and add pencils and chopsticks with their ends wrapped with rubber bands for the drumsticks. To simulate the sound of bells, try a variety of bottles, partially filled with water, and tap them gently with pencils. Kids can sing along, then talk about the sounds and why the song is special to them.



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Cinnamon Roll Swirl Cake

FOR THE BATTER:

- 3 cup flour
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1 cup sugar
- 4 tsp baking powder
- 1 1/2 cup milk
- 2 eggs
- 2 tsp vanilla
- 1/2 cup butter, melted

TOPPING:

- 1 cup butter, soft to the point of almost melted
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 2 Tbsp flour
- 2 Tbsp cinnamon

DIRECTIONS:

1. In a large bowl, mix all the ingredients together except for the butter.
2. Once mixed ...slowly pour in the butter & blend in.
3. Pour into a greased 9x13 pan.
4. For the topping, mix all the ingredients together until well combined.
5. Drop evenly over the batter and swirl with a knife.
6. Bake at 350 for 30-40 minutes.

GLAZE:

- 2 cup powdered sugar
- 5 Tbsp milk
- 1 tsp vanilla

While the cake is warm, drizzle the glaze over the cake.

TEXAS A&M AGRI LIFE EXTENSION

CARPET BEETLES



Carpet beetles adults can be found outdoors on crape myrtles or other plants where the adults eat pollen and nectar. The adults may also be found in rodent or bird nests. When these adults move into homes, they may lay eggs which can lead to problems. These beetles can be pests in

warehouses, homes, museums and other locations.

Carpet beetle adults are small, round to oval shaped and often brightly colored. Larvae are small, tan, and ringed with bands of long hairs.

Carpet beetle larvae feed on high protein foods, usually animal based, but they can also feed on plant material. They can be found in a variety of locations throughout the home. In the pantry, you may find them in items such as powdered milk, dried meats (jerky), or pet food. Other areas of the home they can be attracted to items made from wool, fur or feathers, areas where dead insects accumulate (i.e. light fixtures), leather book bindings, hair, silk or dried plant products. If the larvae are seen feeding on synthetic fibers, it is because the material is stained with body oils or food.

A program utilizing sanitation, exclusion and insecticides should be able to get a carpet beetle problem under control.

- Clean accumulations of hair, dead insects, and bird, rodent or wasp nests
- Regularly clean rugs, carpets, upholstery, etc.
 - o make sure to get along edges, under cushions, and under furniture where debris may collect
- Inspect animal based items (taxidermied animals, leather, wool, silk, etc.) once a year to avoid infestations
- Keep pantry items/ dry goods in sealed, air-tight containers
- Infested items (if possible, depending on the items) can be heated or cooled to kill any beetles
 - o freeze 2 weeks at temperatures below 18°F
 - o heat for at least 30 minutes to temperatures above 120°F
- Insecticides should be used as spot treatments- make sure carpet beetles are listed on the label as well as the area/ item you are treating
 - o make sure the product will not stain

If you find a few adult carpet beetles in your home, squish them on vacuum them up. A few adults usually do not warrant a full treatment, but you should watch for a developing infestation.

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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Spend Time With Loved Ones...



Why should the winter holiday season be the only time to enjoy your friends and loved ones? While it's still early in the year, plan to set aside time for someone close to you, or someone you'd like to know better.

- Make a list of friends you've lost touch with over the years. Scribble a note in

your planner to call one of them every other month just to catch up.

- Plan private time with your significant other. Send the kids to sleep over at a friend's house so that you can be together in the comfort of your own home.
- Make a date with each of your kids to go out where he or she chooses. Use the opportunity to have fun together, just the two of you, without mentioning schoolwork or a messy room.
- Use a special event, like a new exhibition at a museum or a craft fair, to invite a friend for a "walk and talk" afternoon.
- Keep postcards and stamps handy, so that you can drop the people you love a note whenever you think of it.



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