

Grand Lake GAZETTE

Volume 4, Issue 5

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE GRAND LAKE ESTATES POA

May 2018

News and Notes from the Board

PROJECTS REPORT

1. A design spec will be sent out to potential builders to submit a design that will include a room for 150 people, enclosed storage, small office, rest rooms, landscaping and lighting. There will be community meetings once drawings have been presented. There are four areas where the building can be placed: park area, reserve area on Kirsten's Court and in the front on either side of the entrance.
2. LED signs have been completed.
3. Gate maintenance is still in progress.
4. Spillway backfill is completed except for adding sod.
5. Additional boulders will be bought and placed.

NEW BUSINESS

1. The Terpstra legal settlement – information regarding the settlement will be sent to all owners through the mail.
2. The management company is working on the last step of the 2016-2017 audit. Once approved, it will be posted in the financial section on the website.
3. A bid of \$344,000 was unanimously approved to overlay the road from the entrance to the stop sign at the park and also include the side street areas running off of GLE. A notice will be sent out when the repairs will begin.
4. The mowing contract was renewed with no increase in expenses.
5. The property management contract will be renewed.
6. Bids for roadside ditch inspection and repair will be sent out. Property owners will receive a notice when the repairs start.
7. A modification was made to the ACC requirements to ensure

that builders build culverts to properly drain and that any disturbed roadside be dressed and sodded upon completion.

8. A bid of \$9,779 for cameras at the two gates was unanimously approved.

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.

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.

The GLE POA website is glepoa.com. If you have any questions concerning the new website, please contact Tammy Perry at IMC Property Management.

Board minutes and financials are located at the POA website. Go to glepoa.com and select the board meeting tab. The password is GLEBoardMins&Fins. You must enter the password exactly as written with the same upper and lowercase letters.

REMINDER: Do not dump any type of materials such as dirt, landscaping supplies, etc. in the easement areas that the POA maintains.

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.....	936-276-2000
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

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GRAND LAKE ESTATES GOLF COURSE

Clubhouse.....	936-447-4653
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GLE POA Newsletter.....	newsletter@glepoa.com

GLE GETTING SOCIAL

Mark Your Calendars & Join the Fun!

The “GLE Getting Social” Facebook page includes the most up-to-date details, times, & locations.

- BUNCO GLE ladies meet at various homes on the 2nd Friday of each month
- Walking Club (Wednesdays 6:00 at the park)
- Movie Night (May 4th at the park)
- Mommy & Me Playdate (May 16th at the park)
- Painting Party (May 3rd and May 18th)
- End of School Ice Cream Social (May 25th at the park)
- Poker Night (May Date/Location(s) TBD)

We are always looking for additional groups/events to add to our current calendar, if there is something you would like to see offered in our community or if you are interested in getting involved with the planning efforts, contact Ellen Edwards to be a part of Getting Social in GLE at grandlakesocial@gmail.com or 936-777-3464. Our planning team is a wonderful group of volunteers, we get together each month and in addition to getting work done, we have a lot of fun together!

END OF SCHOOL ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Come join the fun as we welcome summer break with our annual GLE Ice Cream Social!

Meet us at the park after school Friday May 25th, grab some ice cream, bring your water blasters and squirt guns and have some fun!

This wet and wild event will be from 5-6pm, see you there!

FLAGS ACROSS GLE

The response for our Flags Across GLE has been phenomenal, so far this year we have 196 flags proudly flying in our neighborhood. Our next flag flying holiday is Memorial Day weekend. We are excited to once again bring a patriotic experience to our neighborhood while helping fund events for everyone such as the Easter Eggstravaganza, July 4th celebration, Welcome Wagon, Family Game Night, National Night Out & Ice Cream Socials for the kids!

The flags will be placed in front of the homes prior to the Memorial Day weekend and picked up after Memorial Day. We are always looking for individuals willing to help distribute and pick up the flags. If you are available to volunteer or questions please contact the Flag Fundraiser team at grandlakesocial@gmail.com

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MAY YARD OF THE MONTH



The May 2018 Yard of the Month is the home of Tim and Kirsten Manning located at 15657 Connie Lane. The Manning's finished building and moved to GLE in August 2003 from Spring, TX. in order to live in the quiet country while still working in Houston. They have no children, but say they are still working on it <wink, wink>.

Their yard includes an incredible variety of timber and greenery. Red bud, red oak, water oak, elm, bald cypress, live oak, pine, and crepe myrtles are the different trees on display. Shrubbery includes hack-berry, holly-berry, beauty-berry, and azalea. Old Glory and the

Texas Flag proudly wave in the very front of the yard and there are some very inviting rocking chairs on the front porch. They spend 18 to 24 hours each month in the early spring to late fall maintaining their lush landscaping. In the winter months, those hours decrease to about six.

The Manning's truly enjoy working in their front and back yards and it shows! They love the feeling of accomplishment and seeing the results of their manicuring and nurturing nature efforts. Their favorite parts are the azaleas in the Spring then the glorious trees the remainder of the year. Their most prized trees are in their back yard which includes many of the same varieties as in the front with the addition of fruit and nut trees. In the future, they plan to add more amenities for song birds and other wildlife. They currently have a roadrunner and hoot owl residing on their property along with whippoorwills, rabbits, deer, the occasional bobcat, and all kinds of cardinals, robins, blue jays, bats, and blue birds. A true paradise of fauna and flora.

Congratulations Tim and Kirsten and thank you for helping make Grand Lake Estates a wonderful place to live.

GLE PATRIOTIC & PROUD – JULY 4TH CELEBRATION

It is that time again and summer is just around the corner. Before

(Continued on Page 4)

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Grand Lake Estates

(Continued from Page 3)

we know it, our 2nd Annual PATRIOTIC & PROUD GLE Independence Day Celebration will be upon us! Mark your calendars for July 4th we will have a day of fun for the residents of GLE.

We will have the PATRIOTIC & PROUD Golf Cart & Classic Car Parade! There will be food, snow cones and lots of fun for a PATRIOTIC & PROUD Party at the Park.

If you would like to be a volunteer to help with the July 4th PATRIOTIC & PROUD Planning or be an EVENT SPONSOR contact Ali Eichenberg at grandlakesocial@gmail.com.

PAINTING PARTIES



Painting Parties began in February and over 25 ladies attended the event hosted at a home here in the neighborhood and painted various wooden signs. The best part was meeting neighbors and sharing a glass of wine or soda getting to know one another AND we left with beautiful, personalized signs.

In May we will be offering two dates for the next Painting Party

where we will make wooden trays personalized with the family last name, initial, established date and have beautiful iron handles.

Dates:

- Thursday, May 3rd, 6:00 at Jessica Blair's Home
- Friday, May 18th, 6:00 at Savannah Manhold's Home

There are two size options:

- 17-inch is \$30
- 23-inch is \$40 (23-inch shown in picture)

Reservations and pre-payment is required to attend. You will be sent a link for payment and will need to provide family last name and established date at least 4 days prior so that everything can be prepared in advanced.

If you are not on social media and have any questions, want additional details send an email to grandlakesocial@gmail.com

MEN'S POKER NIGHT

In March, the men started Poker Night again and they are meeting at homes in the neighborhood. If you are interested in joining them and/or hosting an evening, contact Geoff Goold at g2goold@yahoo.com.

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THE HISTORY OF MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in service of the United States of America. Over two dozen cities and towns claim to be the birthplace of Memorial Day. While Waterloo N.Y. was officially declared the birthplace of Memorial Day by President Lyndon Johnson in May 1966, it's difficult to prove conclusively the origins of the day.

Regardless of the exact date or location of its origins, one thing is clear – Memorial Day was borne out of the Civil War and a desire to honor our dead. It was officially proclaimed on 5 May 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, in his General Order No. 11. “The 30th of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet churchyard in the land,” he proclaimed. The date of Decoration Day, as he called it, was chosen because it wasn't the anniversary of any particular battle.

On the first Decoration Day, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery, and 5,000 participants decorated the graves of the 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers buried there.

The first state to officially recognize the holiday was New York in 1873. By 1890 it was recognized by all of the northern states. The South refused to acknowledge the day, honoring their dead on separate days until after World War I (when the holiday changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war).

It is now observed in almost every state on the last Monday in May with Congressional passage of the National Holiday Act of 1971. This helped ensure a three day weekend for Federal holidays, though several southern states have an additional separate day for honoring the Confederate war dead: January 19th in Texas; April 26th in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi; May 10th in South Carolina; and June 3rd (Jefferson Davis' birthday) in Louisiana and Tennessee.

In 1915, inspired by the poem “In Flanders Fields,” Moina Michael replied with her own poem:

*We cherish too, the Poppy red
That grows on fields where valor led,
It seems to signal to the skies
That blood of heroes never dies.*

She then conceived of an idea to wear red poppies on Memorial day in honor of those who died serving the nation during war. She was the first to wear one, and sold poppies to her friends and co-workers with the money going to benefit servicemen in need. Later a Madam Guerin from France was visiting the United States and learned of this new custom started by Ms. Michael. When she

returned to France she made artificial red poppies to raise money for war orphaned children and widowed women. This tradition spread to other countries. In 1921, the Franco-American Children's League sold poppies nationally to benefit war orphans of France and Belgium. The League disbanded a year later and Madam Guerin approached the VFW for help.

Shortly before Memorial Day in 1922 the VFW became the first veterans' organization to nationally sell poppies. Two years later their “Buddy” Poppy program was selling artificial poppies made by disabled veterans. In 1948 the US Post Office honored Ms. Michael for her role in founding the National Poppy movement by issuing a red 3 cent postage stamp with her likeness on it.

LADYBIRD BEETLES

Ladybird beetles, also known as ladybugs, are beneficial insects that can help eat pests in the landscape. While they help to control various soft-bodied insect pests, they are best known for eating aphids in the adult and larval stage. One ladybug can eat up to 5,000 aphids during its lifetime. Ladybugs may supplement their diet with flower nectar and honeydew in times when prey is scarce.

Ladybugs have a complete life cycle with four life stages- egg, larva, pupa, and adult. Adults come in a variety of sizes and colors. They are oval with a domed body shape, are brightly colored, and have contrasting markings. After mating, female adults lay eggs in clusters on plants, usually near aphids, mealybugs, or scale insects. The eggs are yellowish-orange and look like footballs sitting up on end. Larvae emerge from eggs to feed on the insects that are found nearby. Larvae are alligator-shaped, and often greyish-black with bright markings. Larvae feed on insect prey for several weeks before pupating on the plant. The pupae are non-feeding, non-moving, and are unprotected by a cocoon.

To conserve the ladybugs that you find in your landscape, learn to recognize all stages of the beetles. Make wise pesticide choices and target use to specific areas. Add plants that can provide pollen and nectar for the beetles to supplement their diet.

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WHEN IS A RABBIT NOT A RABBIT?

By Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center

Life is pretty tough for rabbits. It seems like everything wants to eat them. Bobcats, coyotes, raptors and even snakes. The Eastern Cottontail, which is the most common in our area, is lucky if it lives two years in the wild. Thank goodness they are prolific reproducers. Cottontails begin breeding as early as two months old and can have up to seven litters in one year, although they usually have three or four.

There are three native wild rabbits in Texas and one hare: the eastern cottontail, swamp rabbit, desert cottontail and the black-tailed jackrabbit. The jackrabbit is actually a hare. However, they all belong to the Lagomorpha order of mammals. Hares are larger animals and have longer ears. A hare's pregnancy lasts 42 days. Newborn hares are called leverets and are fully developed at birth, born with fur and eyes open. Mom doesn't build a nest but can deliver her young in something as simple as a depression in the ground. Babies are able to hop around shortly after birth. Female rabbits give birth after about 30 days. They build a nest three to four inches deep and about eight inches across. They line the nest and cover it with soft dead grass and some of her own fur. Newborn rabbits are called kits or kittens and are born with eyes closed and no fur.

Compassionate people with good intentions will sometimes "kidnap" baby rabbits thinking they have been abandoned or that something has happened to mama rabbit. Mom only feeds her young at dusk and dawn so chances are, you probably won't see her. If the babies are warm and appear to be well fed, she's taking care of them. Just to be sure, here are a few things you can try. Place string or yarn in the shape of an "X" on top of the nest in the late afternoon. You can also encircle the nest with flour. In the morning, check the nest. If the string or flour has been disturbed, Mom has been there taking care of her kits.

With spring comes lawn-mowing. A WORD OF CAUTION: if you see small "dead" sections of grass in your lawn, check it out before mowing. It may be a nest of baby rabbits. If it is a nest, you can simply lift the top layer of dead grass to reveal sleeping babies. Please leave them alone! They will be gone in a couple of weeks. Please be sure to protect nests from your dogs, too. If your dog discovers a nest, you can cover it with a wheelbarrow or fencing making sure there is an entrance point just large enough for Mom to go in and out and strong enough so the dog can't tear it down. There are other options, too. Just do a little research on the internet.

TWRC Wildlife Center is here to help. If you have questions about wildlife or find an injured or orphaned animal, please call us: 713-468-TWRC. You can also find helpful information on our website at www.twrcwildlifecenter.org. You'll also find cute photos and good information on our Facebook page. Please "Like" us!

SALTED CARAMEL BROWNIES

Caramel

1/2 cup granulated sugar

4 tablespoons unsalted butter (or salted, but then ease up on the sea salt)
Heaped 1/4 teaspoon flaky sea salt (or 1/8 teaspoon table salt, more to taste)

3 tablespoons heavy cream

Brownie

3 ounces (85 grams) unsweetened chocolate, roughly chopped

1 stick (4 ounces or 115 grams) unsalted butter, plus extra for pan

1 cup (200 grams) granulated sugar

2 large eggs

1 teaspoon (5 ml) vanilla extract

Heaped 1/4 teaspoon flaky sea salt or 1/8 teaspoon table salt

2/3 cup (85 grams) all-purpose flour

Make caramel: Set a square of parchment paper over a medium-sized plate. Lightly butter or coat the parchment with a spray oil, just as an added security measure.

In a medium, dry saucepan over medium-high heat, melt your sugar; this will take about 5 minutes, stirring if necessary to break up large chunks. By the time it is all melted, it should be a nice copper color; if not, cook until it is. Remove from heat and stir in butter. It may not incorporate entirely but do your best. Stir in cream and salt and return saucepan to the stove over medium-high heat, bringing it back to a simmer and melted again any sugar that solidified. Cook bubbling caramel for a few minutes more, until it is a shade darker. Remove from heat.

Pour out onto parchment-covered plate and transfer plate to your freezer. Freeze until solidified, (about 20 to 30 minutes in a decent freezer).

Meanwhile, or when your caramel is almost firm, make your brownies: Heat oven to 350°F. Line an 8x8-inch square baking pan with parchment, extending it up two sides. Butter the parchment or spray it with a nonstick cooking spray.

In a medium heatproof bowl over gently simmering water, melt chocolate and butter together until only a couple unmelted bits remain. Off the heat, stir until smooth and fully melted. You can also do this in the microwave in 30-second bursts, stirring between each. Whisk in sugar, then eggs, one at a time, then vanilla and salt. Stir in flour with a spoon or flexible spatula.

Assemble brownies: When caramel is firm, remove it from the freezer and chop it into rough 1-inch squares. Gently fold all but a small amount of caramel bits into batter. Scrape batter into prepared pan, spreading until mostly even. Scatter remaining caramel bits on top. Bake in heated oven for 30 minutes, until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean.

Cool thoroughly — a process that can be hastened in the freezer, which will also produce cleaner cuts — and cut into squares or other desired shapes.



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