



# Living at... Walnut Grove Lake

## Winter 2011

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2010-2011

Board of Directors

**Margie McMillan, President**  
569-9487

**Joseph Jones, 1st VP**  
759-3991

**Barry Ledbetter, 2nd VP**  
508-6274

**Jane Raymond, Secretary**  
237-6034

**Beth Jackson, Treasurer**  
218-4357

**Darlene Jones, Alternate**  
759-3991

**Betty Burke, Alternate**  
754-4934

**Lorin Allen, Alternate**  
758-4985

Tricia Siano, Newsletter

## President's Message

Greetings WGLHA. Not much to report at this time. Things have been pretty quiet around here lately. I've been busy getting ready for the Annual Meeting.

As you know, at the Annual Meeting we review our operations of the past year and elect officers for the upcoming year. I sincerely hope that you will come. Over the past five years I've tried to make it enjoyable by presenting a slide show where you can see what we've done rather than listening to a speech. You should see what all we have accomplished this past year. It's really incredible!

In the last newsletter I mentioned that we want to hear from you. Maybe you have some suggestions of things we could be doing or other improvements that could be made. Or maybe there's an issue that needs to be addressed. Please don't hesitate to email me at Margiesmc@aol.com with your ideas, comments, suggestions or even support. I would love to hear from you.

I look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting and around the neighborhood!

- Margie McMillan, President

## Annual Meeting

Thursday, March 3, 2011, 6:30 P.M.  
Covenant United Methodist Church,  
Smith Covenant Center

### AGENDA

- Call to Order/Welcome - Margie McMillan
- Proof of Quorum - Jeanie Velarde
- Approval of Minutes - Jane Raymond
- Introduction of Prospective Board Members/Nominations from the Floor
- Election of Board of Directors for 2011 - 2012
- President's Message Slide Presentation - Margie McMillan
- Neighborhood Watch Update - Sandra McCorry
- Treasurer's Report - Beth Jackson
- Lake Report - Bob Marchini
- New Business
- Adjourn

Please make plans to attend. If you can't come, please fill out the enclosed Proxy and give it to a neighbor who will be going, or your block captain, or leave it in the mailbox of any Board Member or Alternate. Your proxies will enable us to have a quorum in case there are not enough attendees. We cannot conduct any business without a quorum, so it is important that everyone makes an effort to attend. See you there!

## Spring Is Almost Here Lawn of the Month and Garden of the Month

Hi Neighbors! It is only February and already there have been some beautiful warm days and it won't be long before the annual return of spring. I can hardly wait to see what our neighborhood looks like as the green grass makes its return and the flowers begin to bloom. I think you would agree our neighborhood has an especially bountiful bloom of azaleas and other spring flowers. Let us keep up the good work! This can be the best spring yet.

Spring will also be the return of our Lawn of the Month and Garden of the Month awarded by the WGLHA. Please let me know if one of your neighbors is giving a special effort with his/her lawn. We would like to recognize and reward them for their effort. If we all do our part our neighborhood can easily be the most beautiful in the area. What other neighborhood around has as much potential as ours?

### Tips Collected From our Neighbors

The following are tips I have received from our neighbors here in WGL subdivision. If you have any Lawn or Gardening tips, please forward them to me so I can share with all.

- Now (February) is a great time to put down your pre-emergent weed control. It will help thwart the growth of spring weeds such as dandelions and clover.

- The ground underneath large trees is always a difficult area for grass to grow. But it is more than just a lack of sunlight in most cases. The soil is almost always acidic (low pH) in these areas. Over time the trees cause this effect on the soil. Adding lime pellets to the soil in those areas this time of year will raise the pH of the soil and help grass to grow. These areas also need more water during the hot months, of course, because of the trees absorbing all of the available moisture in the soil.

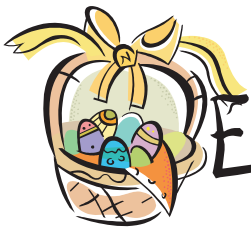
Please contact me at the email address below for nominations, suggestions, or lawn and gardening tips:

- Jeremy Ford

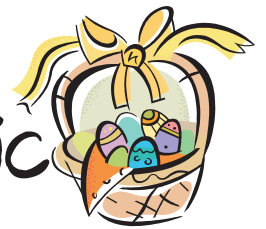
Email: goaquamax@yahoo.com

### CLASSIFIED ADS

The newsletter accepts classified ads in each issue, space permitting. Each ad is \$10 for a business card size. Please email or send your ad copy to us at wglha@juno.com. Newsletters are published roughly in February, April, July, September and November. The WGLHA Board reserves the right to accept or refuse ads submitted.



# Walnut Grove Lake Easter Egg Hunt and Picnic



Saturday, April 23rd at 11:00 a.m.

Get your kids' Easter baskets ready and come have fun with us at the Walnut Grove Lake Easter Egg Hunt and Picnic!

On Saturday, April 23 we will have the Easter Egg Hunt in Lovitt Field right across the street from Simpson Park starting at 11:00 A.M. There will be a separate hunt for toddlers so that all children can enjoy the chance to fill their baskets with eggs! Following the hunt we invite everyone to come across the street to Simpson Park for food and a good old-fashioned neighborhood social! Hot dogs, chips and drinks will be provided by the Association. Everyone is encouraged to bring their favorite side dish or dessert to add to the "spread." Bring some chairs!

There will be boat rides available, and of course the kids can enjoy the playground equipment.

We are looking for donations of plastic Easter eggs filled with candy, and if you know of a source who might donate hot dogs, chips or sodas, please let us know!

Please call Jane Raymond at 237-6034 if you have any questions, or if you would like to volunteer to help at this fun event.

Mark your calendars and make plans to come have fun with us as a community on April 23!

## Lake Report

The condition of the lake is quite good at the present time. The rains have brought the lake to full stage again, and it is up to all of us to maintain our most prominent resource. The most important step we can all take is to keep the streets and storm drains around the lake clean. This is especially important as the spring rains approach. Please bag your leaves to prevent them from being washed into the lake. When leaves and grass clippings decompose in the lake, they use up valuable oxygen. This will eventually lead to mosquito problems and abundant algae growth.

In this regard, I have filed two requests with the city to have the leaves swept from the streets. The city promised to take care of the street cleaning, but if they did, they never reached my street. If any of you have any influence with the city, I would appreciate your help with this matter.

Did you know that it is against the law to dump anything (other than water) into storm drains? It is also illegal to blow your leaves or grass clippings into the street (or the lake, for that matter). If you notice anyone doing either of these, please call the City Storm Drains office at 529-0237.

I would like to appeal to those of you who are interested in the care of the lake to join the lake committee. Our most active committee members have moved, and I could use some help. If you are interested in serving on the lake committee, please call me at 755-8653.

- Bob Marchini

## Pet News

Hi Neighbors!

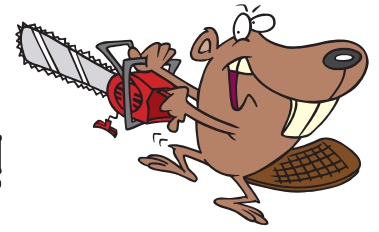
This has been a rough winter for our rescue groups - so many pups looking for warm, good homes. I have some good news. One of our neighbors contacted me and was able to adopt Chihuahua puppies from one of the rescue groups I work with. Midsouthpets@aol.com or gooddogrescue.com do a great job. Contact them if you want more love in your life - adopt a pet. They are so grateful, they make great companions, no judgment, no attitude, just love. If anyone would like to adopt a dog or cat, the rescues are neutered and spayed and fully vetted with all shots for the first year. A fenced yard and a good heart is all it takes to adopt or rescue.

Call me if you need help finding the kind of pet you want: 757-0676.

We mailed Valentine Cards to people that have their dogs on chains again this year. "Unchain my heart" is still in the works. Proverbs 12:16 - A wise man regards the life of his beast. This is instruction enough for me! How about you??

- Pam O'Fallin

## Beaver Alert!



We often see evidence of beavers in the lake and they can do some real damage. Living like we do so near a major wetland area, it's virtually impossible to get rid of them permanently. However, there are things that we can do to protect our trees and shrubs.

Surround those that are within 20' - 30' of the lake with 1/4" hardware cloth or wire mesh and make sure it is at least 36" high. Another way to protect your trees is to paint the trunks with grit paint. This is a mixture of about 4 ounces of mason sand per 1 quart of latex paint. You can have the paint matched to the tree bark.

Sea walls or rocks along the shoreline are good deterrents to the beavers. They will swim along a sea wall or shoreline until there is an opening where they can easily come onto the land and proceed to chow down. An opening in a sea wall is a perfect place for them to come ashore. If you have an opening that is there for drainage, you can place a piece of chicken wire in front of it to block beavers from entering there. Check your yard and your neighbor's yard along the lake for openings if you have experienced tree damage lately, and patch the holes.

We have a trapper who periodically traps and removes beavers from the lake. Our trapper is Alan Adams with American Wildlife. If you notice any recent beaver damage, call Mr. Adams at 323-8443 and he will see what he can do.

## Neighborhood Watch Update

Block Captain Meeting

February 24, 2011, 7:00 p.m. @ 347 Ericson Rd.

**Block Captains Needed**

*Ericson Rd. - north & south end*

*Viking - mid section*

*Leif Cove - east side*

Call or email Sandra McCorry at 755-6609 or mcsand@aol.com

Report a Crime - 545-2677 (COPS)

Please do your share. Get to know your neighbors!

Let's watch out for each other!

Thanks to all who help with this program for our neighborhood.

## HOLIDAY DECORATING CONTEST RESULTS

The winter holiday season has come and gone again. I want to thank all who participated in this year's wonderful holiday decorating contest. It was a great success and I hope that everyone got out and enjoyed the lights! We had almost 200 homes participate! GREAT JOB for community unity!

Here are the winners as well as a list of some that we felt should be mentioned:

### Best Classical Christmas

Wayne Dierks, 407 Lillehammer Cove

### Best Use of Landscape (2 winners)

Patricia Lampkins, 8396 Trondheim Dr.

Floyd & Christine Rowe, 38 W. Viking Dr.

### Honorable Mentions

- 1) Thomas Breen & Rebecca Palazolo, 8469 Loftan Cove
- 2) Jack & Judy Darmstaedter, 217 Leif Cove
- 3) Michael Hogan, 223 Glen Gyle Cove
- 4) Sid & Margie McMillan, 8428 Arendal Cove (back yard)



Since there were no entries in the Best Memphis Theme category, we are changing the categories to enhance the competition. Next time the categories will be Best Classical Christmas, Best Use of Landscape and Best Religious Theme. We want to congratulate the winners who each received \$50.00 and all those who made this such a wonderful success the last two years! Have a great year everyone!

- Barry V. Ledbetter

## LIONS AND TIGERS AND BEARS

OK, not really. However, living at WGL does mean that we share our neighborhood with a wide range of wildlife. Over our 10 plus years at WGL we have seen raccoons (regular and albino), opossums, squirrels, rabbits, owls, chipmunks, hawks, turkey vultures, deer, fox, geese, ducks, blue and green herons, bluebirds, purple martins, moles, voles, wolf spiders, a very large king snake, and most recently a coyote - just to name a few. This is one of the best things about living here. It is like a little bit of country in the city.

A few years ago, we had our lot on Oslo Cove certified as a Backyard Wildlife Habitat by the National Wildlife Federation. That means that we met the prescribed criteria and submitted an application. I thought this would be a good

project to do and share with my daughter. Here is the list of criteria from the National Wildlife Federation web site (<http://www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife/certify.cfm?campaignid=WH10A150>).

All you need to do is provide elements from each of the following areas:

- Food sources

for example: native plants, seeds, fruits, nuts, berries, nectar;

- Water sources

for example: birdbath, pond, water garden, stream;

- Places for cover

for example: thicket, rock pile, birdhouse;

- Places to raise young

for example: dense shrubs, vegetation, nesting box, pond; and

- Sustainable gardening

for example: mulch, compost, rain garden, organic fertilizer.

We are now among the almost 140,000 other backyards that have been certified across America. We have not put up our sign but you do get one when you are certified.

Considering this wide array of companions in the neighborhood and our yard, it is important to remember that it is their home too. This recognition was apparent throughout the certification process. These guys can make a mess out of our bird feeders and any trash that is left accessible to them. Therefore, it is in our best interest to keep things closed up tightly to prevent crimes of opportunity. I would much rather share on my terms than to find trash all over the place in the morning.

Our pets can also cause problems for wildlife. Dogs can easily run down a deer and any dog attempting to chase a coyote could end up very unhappy. The rabbit population is lower in recent years and it is hard to say if it is from cats, dogs, fox, coyote, or something else. I think many of us have been given loving natural gifts from our pets at one time or another. It is hard to decide what to do with that little bird or mouse dropped on your doorstep. I think it is good to keep in mind how our pets can impact wildlife.

This also goes the other way. We have seen cat parts at different times on Lovitt Field. It is sad to think of someone's pet meeting such a gruesome end. Pets out at night are especially at risk since that is when many animals do their hunting. Maybe you have lost fish from an ornamental pond. These are just a few scenarios. You can say all of this is part of nature, but we do share it with all of these creatures who are sometimes hungry. Sometimes, better safe than sorry.

I hope that you enjoy the many natural neighbors that share WGL with us and our pets as much as I do. Watching them from my widow or yard is always a treat and helps me remember that we are part of a bigger picture. Maybe you will even consider getting your own Certified Backyard Habitat.

- Stephanie Thompson

## Candidates for 2011-2012 Board of Directors

**Lorin Allen**, 190 W.Viking Drive, an architect, his wife Elizabeth and their two children have lived at WGL for almost 16 years. They are interested in the condition of the lake and in the subdivision in general, particularly regarding those things which may affect property values. Lorin has a B.A. from Vanderbilt and a B.Arch from the University of Arkansas. His activities have included: citizen member of Commercial Appeal editorial board; Grace St. Luke's Episcopal Church Building and Grounds Committee and former vestry member; Hein Park Subdivision Civic Association former president; TN Society of Architects former director; American Institute of Architects, Memphis Chapter former director; Rotary Club of Memphis; and former board member of Family Services of Memphis, Memphis Heritage and Goodwill Homes. He has served on the WGLHA Board for the past year as an Alternate.

**Betty Burke**, 8494 Karlstad Cove, has lived here for almost 38 years. She and her husband, Lynn, built the third house on the east side of the lake, where they live today. Betty has participated in many WGL activities over the years including the WGL Civic Club. She served as Secretary for two years and was in the group that started the Horse Association under the power lines in the 70s. Betty worked as a bookkeeper for several years before going into real estate. She worked with Crye Leike Realtors for 28 years. Betty has served on a committee of the Memphis Board of Realtors, she was Chairman of the Board of the Memphis Metro Wholesale Florist, Inc. for five years and she recently rotated off the Personnel Committee of Germantown Baptist Church after serving a three year term. Betty is also an avid tennis player. She is currently serving as a Block Captain for our Neighborhood Watch program and has served on the WGLHA Board for the past year as an Alternate.

**Karen Davis**, 30 W.Viking Dr., an optician for 27 years, newly married to John, has lived at WGL for two years. Karen is an avid animal lover and takes special interest in the animals that inhabit the lake and surrounding area. Karen is looking forward to being more involved in the neighborhood and its wonderful activities that make WGL such a special place to live.

**Beth Jackson**, 68 Viking Drive, and her partner, Dave Fearn, moved to Walnut Grove Lake a little over a year ago after many years of enjoying activities in the neighborhood with friends. She feels she has "come home." She and Dave are hard at work renovating their house, built in 1974. Beth has years of financial and accounting experience - she currently manages accounts payable for Covenant Dove, LLC, a nursing home company, and has served on the Methodist Healthcare Federal Credit Union Board of Directors for 13 years. She has served on the WGLHA Board as Treasurer for the past year.

**Joseph Jones**, 148 W.Viking Drive, and his wife, Darlene, are eight year long residents of WGL. Joseph's family lived at WGL, in two houses, for more than 30 years before Joseph and Darlene bought the last family home. So Joseph knows the neighborhood well. As a Remodeling Contractor, his house is the one next to Simpson Park where significant changes were made. During the last 3 years Joseph has served on the Board, most recently as 1st Vice President. He spent a lot of time on the "Spillway Project" as well as many other activities - including the July 4th boat parade, park improvements, construction approvals and more. Joseph believes in our neighborhood and would like to serve on the board for another year.

**Dik LeDoux**, 8372 Bergen Drive, has lived in Memphis since 1999 after moving here from Lafayette, LA. His work background is in production automation, but since moving to Memphis he's been a tech sales guy with a background in automation software. Dik works for General Electric - specifically GE Intelligent Platforms - the software end of GE. He's got a Bachelor of Architecture degree from UL and was actually working through his architectural internship when he became involved in his current field almost by accident. Dik married Debi last year. They both have grown-up kids from previous marriages. They feel like Walnut Grove Lake is their home.

**Margie McMillan, MPH**, 8428 Arendal Cove, has lived at WGL for almost eight years with her husband, Sid and their daughter Rachel who has recently moved to New York. Margie served as President of the East Buntyn Historic District Neighborhood Association for two years prior to moving here. She has served on WGLHA's Board as an Alternate, 2nd Vice President and is currently serving her 5th year as President. She spent a lot of time this past year on the Spillway Project, serving as de facto Project Manager. Margie is a Master Gardener and is self employed, doing survey research and statistical consulting. Her overriding goals for the neighborhood are to encourage everyone to properly maintain their homes and yards, for the WGLHA Board to maintain all common property owned by the Association and to have as many people as possible involved in neighborhood activities.

**Jane Raymond, MBA**, 74 Viking Cove. Since moving to WGL nearly ten years ago, Jane's enthusiasm for lake living has brought four friends and their families to buy homes in the neighborhood. She works at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital as Director of Managed Care. With a lot of help from good neighbors, she has facilitated the spring Easter Egg Hunt and Picnic for the last six years. Jane has been on the WGLHA Board for six years and is currently serving as secretary.

**Proxy**  
**Walnut Grove Lake Homeowners Association**  
**Annual Meeting, Thursday, March 3, 2011, 6:30 p.m.**  
**Covenant United Methodist Church, Smith Covenant Center**

*If you are unable to attend this very important meeting, please use the following form to give your proxy to someone who will be attending. This will assure that the business affairs of WGLHA can be duly transacted. To vote, you must be a homeowner with your dues current.*

I, the undersigned member of Walnut Grove Lake Homeowners Association, Inc., a Tennessee nonprofit corporation, do hereby constitute and appoint \_\_\_\_\_ as my true and lawful proxy, with full power of substitution for and in my name, place and stead, to vote and likewise act with respect to all of my rights as a member of Walnut Grove Lake Homeowners Association, Inc., at a meeting called for March 3, 2011, and any adjournments thereof.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have executed this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2011.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Member's signature (required)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Member's address & lot number (required)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Please print member's name

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone number (optional)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Email address (optional)

**2011 Ballot for Board of Directors**

The board consists of five regular members plus alternates. Alternates are non-voting members who attend Board meetings and who are ready to step in as a regular board member should someone have to resign. A representative of the Lake Committee serves as a nonvoting member. Please mark your ballot or fill in the space for write-in candidates. A \* denotes a current board member or alternate.

**Vote for NO MORE THAN FIVE candidates.**

\_\_\_\_\_ Lorin Allen\*    \_\_\_\_\_ Karen Davis    \_\_\_\_\_ Joseph Jones\*    \_\_\_\_\_ Jane Raymond\*

\_\_\_\_\_ Betty Burke\*    \_\_\_\_\_ Beth Jackson\*    \_\_\_\_\_ Dik LeDoux    \_\_\_\_\_ Margie McMillan\*

Write-in candidates: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## WGL Wildlife: Through the Eyes of a Child

Winter isn't drab, when you have "yellow cheep cheeps" in your yard. Normally, I'm not a big fan of winter weather, but seeing things through the eyes of my toddler has given me a new appreciation.

"Yellow cheep-cheeps" are what my two-year-old son calls the beautiful yellow birds that began visiting our bird feeder this winter. I'm including a picture in hopes that one of you can help me identify the bird. Could it be an American Goldfinch with subdued winter colors?



Whatever it is, it sure has brightened our backyard view and little William excitedly exclaims "Momma! Yellow cheep-cheep!" every time it visits. Our family also loves watching the small Eastern Bluebirds drop by for a taste of suet from our bird feeder.

Between the Bluebirds, "yellow cheep-cheeps", red House Finches, Northern Cardinals, little Downy Woodpeckers and the large Red-bellied Woodpeckers, winter seems

pretty bright and colorful around here.

Not only does my son take in the birds, but he loves spotting wildlife, especially in our neighborhood. Every now and then, I try to drive down Walnut Bend to get home faster, but William insists that I take Viking. He may be small, but the protests are large if I don't go the scenic route. Now what would make a little boy care so much about road choice? Well, it's the scenery. As we wind around Viking, he loves to catch glimpses of the lake. One night, as we approached Simpson Park, five deer ran across in front of us. Now whenever we get near the park, we have to slow down to look for them. Another time, we pulled into our driveway just in time to see the white raccoon standing there. For days after that, my son led me to the window to look for it. He can't quite say "raccoon" but he found a picture of one and said "white one by Momma's car".

Winter doesn't have to be dull and knowing now how much my little one has enjoyed watching the wildlife out our windows, I look forward to seeing him enjoy feeding the ducks and fish in the springtime and listening to the frog chorus this summer.

- Juli Parks



## Boat Racks

We now have new permanent boat storage racks on the west side of the dam, including spaces to store paddle boats.

These will be used for all boats including those that are currently stored on the east side. As you may recall, the dam inspectors required us to have all boats up off the ground. Therefore, a new storage place for the boats on the east side (currently on the ground) had to be built. Since there is no suitable place on the east side with access close to the lake to put racks, it was decided to put them on the west side for all boats that are stored on the dam.

*Owners of boats that are currently stored on the east side of the dam should move their boats now. Several of these boats have not been used in a very long time. If you no longer use your boat that is stored on the dam, please remove it.*

As always, please make sure that all boats have proper identification: WGL + your lot number, on both sides. We appreciate your cooperation in helping your volunteer Board by properly identifying and moving your boat.



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## New Directories

We are preparing to print a new neighborhood directory. This directory is for our homeowners only and is never given out to anyone else. Please check the current directory to be sure your name and phone numbers are correct. Many of you have switched to using your cell phones only, so we need your cell phone numbers if you don't have a home phone!

If your information needs to be changed, or if you don't have a current directory, please contact Jeanie Velarde at 754-2146 or [jeanie.velarde@yahoo.com](mailto:jeanie.velarde@yahoo.com) to check on the information we have for you.

## Helpful Phone Numbers:

### **Police 545-COPS**

### **Sheriff 379-7625**

Section H-Norseman, Walnut Creek,  
Brye Hollow & Glen Gyle

### **Citizen Service Center 576-6500**

Report code violations such as overgrown yards and  
debris. All complaints are kept confidential.

### **County Codes Enforcement 545-4311**

Report code violations for houses in the county

### **Report street lights out 320-1498**

### **Storm water drain hotline 529-0237**

To report dumping in streets or storm drains

### **MLGW 544-MLGW**

For power outage, wires down, leaking water  
mains & gas leaks.

### **Memphis Solid Waste Management 576-6851**

To request trash pickup.

(Section H contact the company you  
have contracted with.)



## new residents!

Say hello to your new neighbors who have moved to  
Walnut Grove Lake recently. If we've missed you, please let  
us know and we'll include you in the next newsletter.

Schanel & Darren Bailey 2010/12  
8521 Trondheim Drive

Richard & Patricia Smith 2010/12  
8426 Trondheim Drive

Jason Butcher 2010/12  
8486 Karlstad Cove

Renea & August Hinds 2011/01  
89 Ericson Road

Steven Giannini 2010/07  
170 Mysen Circle

Walnut Grove Lake Homeowners Association  
PO Box 1450  
Cordova, TN 38088-1450

FIRST CLASS