

Barrister's Keepe Newsletter

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November 2016

BK HOA Board Meeting

The November BK HOA Board Meeting will be held on *Tuesday, November 15th at the Metro Church, next door. Starting time is 7:00PM.*

Social Committee Updates

Let's gather to decorate the fountain on SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4th at 3:00PM. The fountain is such a focal point for our Community and it was so festive to have it "lit" up last year. The 2016 BK Holiday Party will be held on SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11TH, at Nancy Webster's, starting at 4:00PM.

Please RSVP to Barbara Petersen, and let her know what you may be bringing --- either a hors d'oeuvre or dessert.

Also, we collect new, unwrapped toys for the Toys-for-Tots program at this time. Come join in for this traditional Holiday event!

Octoberfest

This is a big thank you to the Social Committee for another outstanding Oktoberfest. Barbara Petersen and Artie Andreson and the Committee put on another great event enhanced absolutely outstanding weather. Bob Petersen, in spite of being too sick to enjoy the day, still managed to make sure that the authentic German beer and other beverages made it to the fountain area on time. We're all grateful to everyone who worked on the Oktoberfest.

Covenants Committee News

A report on the Walk-Around results: Thank you to all our neighbors who have corrected the issues the Covenants Committee noted this summer. We have a few owners who requested until the end of November to complete their issues, and we will be doing spot checks then. A few neighbors have requested

delaying painting and staining until spring, when the weather is better.

The most blatant issue remaining for many houses in the community is storage of property outside the house. This week there remain two wheelbarrows, bags of gravel and potting soil, empty flower pots, garden tools, masonry items, screens, storage shelves, and trash cans.

Kindly take some time this week to remove all items stored outside and dispose of them or put them inside your house or garage.

And an important reminder --- ***if you plan to make any alterations to your home exterior, or your grounds, you must request approval through the covenants committee before starting any work.*** Please refer to

www.barristerskeepeshoa.org for all information and forms.

And finally, thank you to those who have stopped parking homeowner's cars in the visitor parking lots. If you have a visitor who needs parking for more than two weeks, refer to the website and submit a visitor parking application.

Please contact any member of the Covenants Committee if you have any questions.

Grounds Committee News

We have lovely new flowers at our entrance and common areas as we move through fall and into winter. Our second leaf pick-up will be November 9, a third in November and a fourth in December. Our community landscape company, CLS, considers winter to begin on December 31. By this date, weather permitting, appropriate trees and perennial plants will have been trimmed and final mulch put down in yards.

When we have an unusually warm fall as this has been, plant trimming is delayed since plants continue to grow.

Emails received with questions and requests regarding work to be done in yards have been noted; they will be addressed by what you read here or on a personal return email.

BK One-Way Circle

Lately, there have been a number of vehicles spotted trying to exit via the entrance gate. Please remember that each of us has a responsibility to notify all of our guests and contractors, etc. before they leave our home that they must exit through the Exit Gate.

Letter from the President

Friends and Neighbors –

We had our elections in September and I put out an e-mail indicating who the new Board Officers are. I just wanted to recap it here.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Board Position</u>	<u>Committee Liaison</u>
Tom Burrell	President	Covenants
David Herrington	Vice President	Grounds
Jim Meyer	Secretary	Communications
Aaron Fox	Treasurer	Finance
Nancy Webster	At Large	Social



There are a few things I want to say on the very important topic of **Safety**. This year we have had more than a few instances of people being in the community that were unknown to residents. There are many ways we can approach this problem. What I don't advocate is direct confrontation. If you don't know the individual but he/she is acting suspiciously, I recommend calling the police. I know some think that gives us a bad name, but if we don't use our very capable City police force to keep us safe here within our community, quite frankly, what purpose do we think they serve? Please don't ever put yourself in a situation where you are face-to-face with a stranger. We have always told our children not to do that and we shouldn't either. And, don't give suspicious activity the benefit of time. When you see it, do something – call a neighbor, call a friend, call the police. Homeland Security has a great slogan – “If you see something, say something!” If necessary, and someone is interested in running it, we could set up a Neighborhood Watch program working with the City police. I'd be interested in hearing your thoughts on the subject.



The next “safety” topic is travel over the Holidays. Many of us will be traveling over the holidays to see family and friends. The holiday season normally involves more traveling, under more risky conditions, than travel during the peak summer months. Be safe out there!

Finally, despite the warm weather we have been experiencing lately, the evil cold is coming! Be prepared. Make sure your heating system is working properly and efficiently. Check out that snow shovel too! Last year when you put it up did you say to yourself, “I'm going to get a better one for next year!” Have you?

Frank and the Communications Committee have updated the BK Directory. In line with that is our informal Service Directory. Nancy Webster and Madan Gera are working together to maintain that useful tool so if you have any input on good or bad contractors and services provided, please let them

know. As we all work around the house, inside or out, it's always useful to have a document we can turn to for suggestions on contractors to use or stay away from.

Another big thanks to our Social Committee for the fun Oktoberfest event we had. Another big turn-out at the fountain. It's great to see everyone and get caught up on news. I'd sure like to see more people coming to these events though. They're fun. You'll read more about our Holiday Party this year so make sure it gets marked on your calendar.

Our Grounds Committee is also doing stellar work keeping the place looking nice. The new flowers out front and around the fountain make our community look as classy as it is. I want to thank Mikal Meyers for taking on the job of Chair of the Grounds Committee. I ask that you work through Mikal if you have questions about anything to do with the maintenance of our grounds.

A big shout-out to our Covenants Committee for the work they did this year during the annual walk-thru of the neighborhood. For the most part, we're in good shape. I want to remind everyone that adhering to our governing documents is not a suggestion. It is our responsibility as homeowners and members of this Association. We received the documents when we purchased

our homes. All the documents are on our web site so I want to remind everyone of the BK Design Standards and Community Reference Document that have been worked on arduously over the years. Please, read them and use them. This is not a difficult

process. Over the years, as our homes age, we must work throughout the year to maintain them. Doing so keeps the community looking good and an inviting place to live. It also

maintains the value in our homes. Everyone here, even those that are original owners, paid good money for our homes. Remember, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure!

Lots of Committee work being done. Serving on one of our committees is also a great way to get to know one another and understand how the Association works. And, serving on one of our committees doesn't involve a long-term commitment of time. It comes in spurts but we're all here to help each other. Get involved – volunteer.

One of our neighbors, after getting an extraordinary gas bill, had the gas company come out and check the meter. As it turned out, the meter was determined to be faulty. It goes without saying that if you notice anything strange about your bill – call and ask them to come out to check your meter. It could save you big bucks!



Tom

<http://www.barristerskeeppehoa.org/>