



The Arboretum News

March 2009

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March Board Meeting

The regular board meeting of the Arboretum Community Association was held March 10, 2009 at the Arboretum Clubhouse. President Bob Hittinger called the meeting to order. Directors Jim Czekalski, Toby Bronstein, Shirley McGraw, and Joe O'Donnell were present, as well as Treasurer Tom Kehoe and Secretary Jo Hitchuk. The minutes of the February 10, 2009 meeting were approved as written.

Tom Kehoe reported operating fund balance at the end of February was \$51,382, and the long-range fund balance, \$81,996. An expense of \$88 was incurred for re-setting the bridge protector. Propane usage during the month was 675 gallons, compared to 696 for February 2008. The price is holding steady around \$1.89. There was a landscaping supplies expense of \$341 for installing the clubhouse fans and switches.

There are currently 4 unpaid assessments. One is a foreclosure; in that instance, the bank has contacted Tom as to outstanding debts owing, so it is hoped the amount due will be recovered when the house is sold. The second is expected

*We need volunteers for the
Social Committee!*

*If you can help out please let
one of the committee members
know!*

to be paid this week. Owners of the third and fourth unpaid assessments have been notified that liens will be placed against their property.

Committee Reports

- **Landscape** – Jim Czekalski stated that he has sent out an email to all members and that Greenman will be offering pine straw again this year. Prices are the same as last year and it will be delivered to your property between April 1-15. All monies and orders must be received by March 27.

Jim will be meeting with Greenman this Thursday to review spring and summer plans.

Bob Hittinger asked that residents be aware and cautious of two holes caused by exposed manholes. One is on the island directly across from Toby Bronstein's house, and the other is on the corner of Palmetto and Flowering Bridge Path.

- **Caswell Sewer Service** - Howard Newett stated that an incident occurred yesterday in the late afternoon where a manhole behind Bausches' house on the golf course was filled with water. As it turned out, an electrician

Upcoming Board Meetings

Board Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Arboretum Clubhouse at 7:00PM. All Arboretum Community Association members are encouraged to come and make your voice heard.

- April: Tuesday, April 14th
- May: Tuesday, May 12th
- June: Tuesday, June 9th

who was working on some problems associated with the station made repairs and forgot to turn the power back on, preventing the pump from drawing water out of the manhole. It's estimated that between 400-500 gallons of water were spilled.

On February 20 the Town hand-delivered an offer of \$473,869 for the valuation of CSS's plant. This is the same amount that professional engineers have estimated as the value of the infrastructure. It hasn't depreciated or appreciated since November 2007.

The cost of replacement of the system is 15-20% higher than the 2007 figure.

Howard responded to the letter on March 3 and requested a meeting between the mutual parties.

The system is currently operating well.

Marti Hardy inquired again about the water quality of Tiny Piney, which runs in front of, or in back of, several homes in the community. She personally observed sewage leaking from Pump Station No. 2 recently (during the spill Howard spoke about).

Discussion followed, and it was noted that the current contamination levels are within federally acceptable guidelines.

Deborah Ahlers stated that the numbers for fecal coliform are not good enough, and the Town is looking into what further testing should be done, so they can isolate and determine what the problem is. She stated that during the spill at that particular pump station, the ground was contaminated.

Bob asked that Deborah keep the community updated as to progress in getting to the bottom of this problem.

- **Buildings and Grounds** – Joe O'Donnell stated there is nothing new on the roads or lighting. It's noticeable, though, that the bridge coating, which is supposed to have a lifetime warranty, has badly deteriorated. The contractor is bankrupt and out of business. Ongoing efforts are being made to obtain and compare estimates from certified contractors. We're attempting to get Tex Coat to provide at least the materials under their warranty. Otherwise, legal recourse will be sought.
- **Social** – Judy O'Donnell was absent. Anh Baginsky stated there was a very successful wine and cheese party recently. There will be an Italian dinner in two weeks; it will be a nice meal, wine, beer, soda and dessert for \$12.50, which is a very good deal! Please come and enjoy it.

The Social Committee has a very eventful year planned. Unfortunately, the number of committee members has fallen off, and others members are unavailable for various reasons. So they are very much in need of help with their efforts. It was a struggle to get enough help at the wine and cheese party; and if help remains at the same small number, the Flea Market may have to be cancelled. She made a personal appeal for help, and said that even if you feel you've "been there, done that", please consider lending your help and support to the Social Committee.

At any rate, please support Italian Night. You're guaranteed a delicious meal.

- **Pool/Spa** – Pat Wells stated that everything is functioning very well. There have been no problems, and she feels that is due in large part, to the placement of cameras in the clubhouse. She thanked the Board and members of the Arboretum who were supportive of the installation of the cameras.

The new pump is working well. They no longer backwash for at least 8 vacuumings, and when they do, there is no sand coming back through the system

- **Caswell Beach Liaison** - Jim Hinkhouse stated that the next Town Council meeting is Thursday, March 12 at 5 p.m. at Town Hall. If you have issues, please attend the meeting and voice them. The budget process is beginning, if you have things you want to suggest happen for next year, please be there.

The first item is auditing of the Town's books, which happens every year. Another item is sidewalks, an issue which comes up every few years, primarily for up and down Beach Road. House numbering is another issue, which is important to help us when emergency vehicles are called to a residence.

Under new business, a resolution will be discussed which concerns a strain of effluent on the golf course.

If you haven't walked on the beach recently, you're missing a great show watching sand being deposited onto the beach, at capabilities of up to 500 feet a day. Most likely they will be at our access in the next week or so. Renourishment will continue until April 30, or whenever sand runs out.

Jim is researching, and will discuss with Town officials, the absence of "no dumping" regulations in the waters surrounding Caswell Beach.

A question arose as to the possibility of police patrol on the beach, and Jim said that is still under discussion.

Deborah Ahlers stated that the Town is on the list to apply for \$3 million in economic stimulus funds. The application and proposal will be submitted, and there will be public

hearing on March 17 in Raleigh, which will be attended by Harry Simmons and Jim Carter.

- **Architectural Review Board** – Mike Gould said that there was a request by a resident to move their air conditioning unit from beneath a bedroom window to the side of the house. The next door neighbor concurred, and the request was approved.
- **Clubhouse Reservations** – Bo Plant was absent. Bob Hittinger stated that there was one event in March which brought in a \$50 fee.
- **Clubhouse Manager** – Pat Wells said that Clegg's has done their spring treatment.

The clubhouse was inspected by the fire marshall for the first time since 2006. Three items were not in compliance. (The list is posted on the back wall if you would like to read it.) The first was that there must be a water extinguisher placed in the pump room because of the storage of chemicals. The second was a violation in the social room -- nothing may be stored in a room without a 2' clearance, because there are no sprinklers. This will necessitate moving and rearranging Christmas wreaths and decorations. We will need volunteers to help with this. The third is the battery must be replaced in the exit sign of the pool room. All items must be complied with within 30 days, or April 5.

Please contact Bob if you can volunteer to help with rearranging the decorations.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

- **Insurance** - Bob stated that Jay Ervin has been working on insurance coverage and has been doing a great job. Jay said that he has

been talking to competitors to get insurance estimates, and has made arrangements for an expert do an on-site evaluation to ensure, among other things, that there is adequate coverage.

- Community Website - Alice Ervin announced that she has moved the community to the new post hosting company. Because of a BellSouth problem, we've gone back to Google. There are a few residents who still need addresses verified. We are now arboretum@googlegroups.com.

She's also working on finding a way for residents to easily add photos.

- Upkeep of Kayak Path - Bob Hittinger reviewed the history of the kayak path: In 2004 we established a pathway to get out to the marsh with kayaks, and at that time it was decided there would be no monetary input by the Arboretum but, rather, it would be maintained by volunteers. Since that time, we have a lot more people using the path than we did in the beginning, and the Board has been asked to consider having Greenman maintain the kayak path on a limited basis, together with volunteers.

Jim Czekalski has talked to Greenman, and we would be looking at the following: The pathway would be kept the present 6' wide. He would apply some inexpensive mulch on the area that's open at this point, and also level off any of the old stumps. The first trimming would be supervised by the Arboretum at a high estimate of \$300. To maintain the pathway thereafter, trimming would be done of the soft material within the 6' wide pathway, and no higher than 8', at a cost of \$30 each time. Greenman said he would only like to do it only 2-3 times a year. Much discussion followed.

Ultimately, a motion was made by Toby Bronstein to amend the December 20, 2004

motion to state that the Arboretum will allocate funds to maintain the kayak path 2 to 3 times a year at a rate of \$30 per visit, following a one-time initial cost of \$300. The paid maintenance will be supplemented by volunteer efforts by the community. The motion was seconded and passed.

Public Comment – Qs & As

- Shirley McGraw stated she had received complaint concerning a large dog owned by an Arboretum resident that plays ball on the golf course during both golfing hours and after hours.

There have also been complaints of another dog running free during all hours.

Please be aware that there are leash laws in the community. Dogs are not to be unattended, they are to be on owners' property or under their control at all time, and they are not allowed on the golf course.


The next regular meeting is Tuesday, April 14, at 7 pm at the Clubhouse. The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Minutes by Jo Hitchuk, Secretary


REMEMBER!

DO NOT LET YOUR DOGS RUN
LOOSE. THERE IS A LEASH
LAW IN CASWELL BEACH.











MARCH 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																																													
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15	16 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM WATER AEROBICS 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM American Literature Class with Bob Baginski	17 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Free Water Aerobics St. Patrick's Day	18 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM WATER AEROBICS 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM BRIDGE GAME 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Mah Jongg	19 7:30 AM Clubhouse Cleaning 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM YOGA w/Ella Noll 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM CANASTA CLUB 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Free Water Aerobics	20 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM WATER AEROBICS 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study w/Angie Lawrence Spring begins	21  6:00 PM - 8:30 PM PASTA PARTY AT ARBORETUM CLUBHOUSE																																																																													
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APRIL 2009

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 			<p>1</p> <p>8:30 AM - 11:00 AM Water Aerobics</p> <p>9:00 AM - 11:00 AM ACA AGENDA MTG.</p> <p>3:00 PM - 5:00 PM BRIDGE GAME</p> <p>7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Mah Jongg</p> <p>April Fool's Day</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7:30 AM Clubhouse Cleaning</p> <p>10:30 AM - 11:30 AM YOGA w/Ella Noll</p> <p>1:00 PM - 4:00 PM CANASTA CLUB</p> <p>5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Free Water Aerobics</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8:30 AM - 11:00 AM Water Aerobics</p> <p>12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study w/Angie Lawrence</p>	<p>4</p>  <p>Sadie Hawkins Day Party - Ladies Golf League 6:30-11:00pm</p>
<p>5</p> <p>Daylight Savings Time Begins</p>	<p>6</p>  <p>8:30 AM - 11:00 AM Water Aerobics</p> <p>4:00 PM - 7:00 PM Caswell Sewer Mtg.</p>	<p>7</p>  <p>9:00 AM - 12:00 PM LINUS MEETING</p> <p>5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Free Water Aerobics</p>	<p>8</p> <p>8:30 AM - 11:00 AM Water Aerobics</p> <p>3:00 PM - 5:00 PM BRIDGE GAME</p> <p>7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Mah Jongg</p>	<p>9</p> <p>10:30 AM - 11:30 AM YOGA w/Ella Noll</p> <p>1:00 PM - 4:00 PM CANASTA CLUB</p> <p>5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Free Water Aerobics</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8:30 AM - 11:00 AM Water Aerobics</p> <p>12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study w/Angie Lawrence</p>	<p>11</p>
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<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>  <p>8:30 AM - 11:00 AM Water Aerobics</p> <p>10:00 AM - 2:00 PM FLEA MARKET DROP-OFF</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10:00 AM - 2:00 PM FLEA MARKET DROP-OFF</p> <p>5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Free Water Aerobics</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8:30 AM - 11:00 AM Water Aerobics</p> <p>1:00 PM - 5:00 PM FLEA MARKET DROP OFF</p> <p>7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Mah Jongg</p>	<p>23</p> <p>1:00 PM - 5:00 PM FLEA MARKET DROP OFF</p> <p>5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Free Water Aerobics</p>	<p>24</p>  <p>8:30 AM - 11:00 AM Water Aerobics</p> <p>9:00 AM - 12:00 PM FLEA MARKET DROP-OFF</p>	<p>25</p> <p>8:00 AM - 12:00 PM ARBORETUM FLEA MARKET</p>
<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>  <p>8:30 AM - 11:00 AM Water Aerobics</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10:00 AM - 12:00 PM SOCIAL COMMITTEE MEETING</p> <p>5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Free Water Aerobics</p>	<p>29</p> <p>8:30 AM - 11:00 AM Water Aerobics</p> <p>3:00 PM - 5:00 PM BRIDGE GAME</p> <p>7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Mah Jongg</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7:30 AM Clubhouse Cleaning</p> <p>2:00 PM - 4:00 PM RED HAT LADIES</p> <p>5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Free Water Aerobics</p>		

MAY 2009

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<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p> 8:30 AM - 11:00 AM Water Aerobics</p> <p>4:00 PM - 7:00 PM Caswell Sewer Mtg.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:00 AM - 12:00 PM LINUS MEETING</p> <p>5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Free Water Aerobics</p> <p>CINCO DE MAYO MEXICAN DINNER (bring margarita glass)</p>	<p>6</p> <p>8:30 AM - 11:00 AM Water Aerobics</p> <p>9:00 AM - 11:00 AM ACA AGENDA MTG.</p> <p>7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Mah Jongg</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10:30 AM - 11:30 AM YOGA w/Ella Noll</p> <p>1:00 PM - 4:00 PM CANASTA CLUB</p> <p>5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Free Water Aerobics</p>	<p>8</p> <p>8:30 AM - 11:00 AM Water Aerobics</p> <p>12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study w/Angie Lawrence</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>10</p> <p>Mother's Day</p>	<p>11</p> <p> 8:30 AM - 11:00 AM Water Aerobics</p>	<p>12</p> <p>5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Free Water Aerobics</p> <p> 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM ACA MEETING</p>	<p>13</p> <p> 8:30 AM - 11:00 AM Water Aerobics</p> <p> 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Mah Jongg</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7:30 AM Clubhouse Cleaning</p> <p>10:30 AM - 11:30 AM YOGA w/Ella Noll</p> <p>1:00 PM - 4:00 PM CANASTA CLUB</p> <p>5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Free Water Aerobics</p>	<p>15</p> <p>8:30 AM - 11:00 AM Water Aerobics</p> <p>12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study w/Angie Lawrence</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Armed Forces Day</p>
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<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p> 8:30 AM - 11:00 AM Water Aerobics</p> <p>Memorial Day (Observed)</p>	<p>26</p> <p>10:00 AM - 12:00 PM SOCIAL COMMITTEE MEETING</p> <p>5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Free Water Aerobics</p>	<p>27</p> <p> 8:30 AM - 11:00 AM Water Aerobics</p> <p> 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Mah Jongg</p>	<p>28</p> <p>7:30 AM Clubhouse Cleaning</p> <p>2:00 PM - 4:00 PM RED HAT LADIES</p> <p>5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Free Water Aerobics</p>	<p>29</p> <p>8:30 AM - 11:00 AM Water Aerobics</p> <p>12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study w/Angie Lawrence</p>	<p>30</p>
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122 Flowering Bridge Path
Caswell Beach, NC 28465**

VISIT THE ARBORETUM
WEBSITE SOON!

WWW.ARBORETUMHOA.ORG