Quarterly Newsletter
MARCH 2012

# **Yellowleaf HOA**

Yellowleaf Ridge Estates Homeowners Association, Inc., Chelsea, Alabama

#### **IMPORTANT DATE**

Sunday, June 10, 2012 HOA Meeting 2:00 PM

**Chelsea Senior Center** 

#### **DIRECTIONS**

entrance, turn right onto Hwy 39.

Go 2.0 miles and turn right onto Hwy 36.

Go 0.7 miles and the gray building is on your right.

Travel time: 5 minutes

**SEE YOU THERE!** 

GOT AN IDEA OR INFO FOR THE NEWSLETTER?

Contact Pam Kimball pjk4@hotmail.com

#### **WEBSITE**

www.yellowleafhoa.com

## The Park



So much has happened in the past 3 months! Volunteer teams evaluated the 14 acres at the end of Sweet Gum and findings were presented at the March 6<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting. Highlights included: general mapping, land assessment, initial trail work, funding opportunities and challenges, communication efforts, and the outline of a 5 year plan. Efforts identified for 2012 were approved, subject to available funds, and include:

#### EAST END

Refinement of 2 trails, 2 picnic tables, 4 benches, 1 footbridge, and a swing at Yellowleaf Creek

#### **WEST END**

Trail cut in & refinement

#### **WUNDER THE BRIDGE**

A low-water crossing, removal of graffiti, and new signage

#### **PLATEAU**

Entrance area design and sign-

## Treasurer's Report

Great news: we reached a milestone in March! Unless unexpected expenses are incurred, a modest budget surplus is anticipated for the fiscal year ending 6/30. Year to date results are:

#### Expenses (as of 2/29)

\$2,430 Electricity & Water

\$1,500 Landscape Maintenance

\$ 843 Insurance

\$ 463 New Landscaping

\$ 250 Tax Preparation

\$ 216 POBox, Printing, Mailing

\$ 200 Website

\$ 172 Repairs

\$ 29 Property Taxes & Fees

\$6.103 Total Expenses

<u>Dues Received (as of 3/31)</u> 75% or 93 residents paid dues

For details & updates, go to the website *Treasurer's Report*.

age for entrance & other needs

#### BRANDING

Park and creek name recommendations for final homeowner voting, and on-going integration of branding elements

#### VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Establish a regular schedule; see "More Park News" below

#### **FUNDING**

Grant applications, requests for donations, and fundraisers. On the fundraising calendar so far:

February – Valentine cakes April – Baked Goods at Fairs May – Smoked Meats

July – Big Kaboom Concessions

Lastly, the survey of homeowners indicated a favorable response when asked if they support park development. Respondents said:

#### Yes 81% and Maybe 14%

For details on the presentation, survey and other info, go to website under *The Park*.

## From the President

Isn't it a joy to see warm weather bring everything to life in Spring! I know that everyone is busy, but now is a great time to visit the walking trail by the bridge and get an idea of the potential that the area holds for us as Yellowleaf residents.

I took a walk through the east end on 3/24 and saw unique wildflowers blooming, including several trillium and even wild azaleas. They smell wonderful. By the way the committee gave a great presentation of the ideas and plans for the trail and park at the last Board meeting. I invite everyone to try and attend the next board meeting to share ideas of how to best develop the property's potential to maintain and improve our neighborhood.

See you on the trail!

## **More Park News ...**

Opportunities to volunteer abound regarding the park, and many of you have asked about it. There are many ways you can help:

#### **TEAMS**

Members are needed for the following teams that meet once a month at 7pm:

Fundraising Team 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday

**Location:** 279 Pin Oak Home of Brenda and Matt Mellen

#### PARK WORK SCHEDULE

First & Third Saturday 9am-2pm

#### Location:

Gather under the Sweet Gum Drive bridge. *It's a cool place!* 

Beginning on 4/21, a monthly work schedule will be in effect

for park clearing, planting, working on trails and many, many other things. Specific duties planned for each day will be posted in advance on the website under *The Park*. Also listed will be tools to bring (if you have them) and what to wear. *Bring the family!* 

#### YOU NAME IT

Voting is open thru 4/7 for the park and "under the bridge" creek names; the survey link was sent to you with this newsletter. In keeping with the HOA board selected **Beautiful Woodlands** brand, you have 5 names to choose from. Winning names will be announced on 4/20. And the brand will be "lived" in the park in everything we do!

## **Yellowleaf HOA**

P. O. Box 573 Chelsea, AL 35043

www.yellowleafhoa.com

### **Board Members**

Paul Garmon, President PHONE: (205) 678-9488 pegarmon@southernco.com

Randy Welch, **Vice-President** PHONE: (205) 678-7740

> Pam Kimball, Secretary PHONE: (205) 678-9257 pjk4@hotmail.com

Rose Wade, **Treasurer** PHONE: (205) 678-8349

> Lori Cheney PHONE: (205) 678-0696

Brenda Mellen PHONE: (205) 678-2437

Duane Phillips PHONE: (205) 678-9225

Jim Powers PHONE: (205) 566-2937

#### **Lagniappe**

.. a little something extra..

"When the world wearies, and society ceases to satisfy, there is always the garden."

--Minnie Aumonier

## **For Your Safety**

A new tool is available thanks to the Shelby County Sheriff's Dept. - a smart phone Neighborhood Watch (NW) app. The app has dynamic reporting capabilities including options to add photos and text. It enables citizens to report neighborhood concerns or ask questions of their local law enforcement agency. With this NW app, there is no law enforcement agency subscription fee or monthly fee. The only charge is a \$1.99 fee charged by the app store to users who download it. Citizens may purchase the NW app by visiting the app store for their type of smart phone and searching for Neighborhood "Official Watch App". Or by going to www.nwapp.org and clicking on the icon that corresponds to their phone. Questions or info requests can be directed to the NSA's Neighborhood Watch program at (972) 576-8662 or Captain Ken Burchfield at (205) 670-6286.

## On the Web

Yellowleafhoa.com is an actively managed website and a great way of staying informed, especially between newsletters. A new section called **The Park** was recently added to the navigation bar. **Current News** is frequently updated and contains up to two months of postings. After that, news items are moved to the **News Archive**.

If you haven't checked **Current News** since the last newsletter, here's what you missed:

- \* Park Evaluation Kick-Off
- \* Park Evaluation Update
- \* Trail Walk Pictorial
- \* Valentine Fundraiser Results
- \* Quarterly Meeting Reminder
- \* Park Survey Announcement

#### Under Current News now:

- \* Before & After Bridge Photos
- \* 3/6 Quarterly Meeting Recap
- \* Park Survey Highlights
- \* Volunteer at the Park on 3/24
- \* NW Smart Phone App

## Other News & Reminders ...

#### **WELCOME!**

Welcome to new neighbors:

Josh Martin 100 Pin Oak

John & Laura Villanega 130 Hackberry Circle

Have we missed someone? Please let us know!

#### **SPRING FLOWERS**

It is almost time to replace seasonal pansies on the entrance island. If you are interested in "getting your hands dirty" on this project, contact Jim or Linda Powers at 566-2937. Gardening is good for the heart and good for the soul!

#### **ENTRANCE SAFETY**

Traffic problems and nearmiss accidents at the neighborhood entrance are being addressed. This is caused by parents lining up in cars to pick up their children from school via usage of the crosswalk on Hwy 39. On March 15<sup>th</sup>, the HOA sent letters to the principals of the middle and intermediate schools asking for assistance with the problem.

#### **ENTRANCE SIGN REPAIR**

After repair work done by neighbor Marshall Thomas, the wrought iron sign frame has been reinstalled at the entrance. *Thank You, Sir!* 

#### TEENAGE MISCHIEF

A number of teenage pranks and incidents reported in January and February escalated in potential damaging effects, including throwing bricks & other items at cars and throwing a tree limb at a front door. Doorbell ringing during late night hours also reoccurred. Noisy groups of

Two board members will be stepping down on June 30<sup>th</sup> after serving two 2-year terms: *Randy Welch*, Vice President, and *Lori Cheney*, former Treasurer (7/2008-4/2011). Thank you both for

your significant contributions!

**Board News** 

Why volunteer for board service? "We are all busy with life, careers and families. But joining the board last year and helping my neighborhood has been very fulfilling. I've met some wonderful neighbors", said Secretary Pam Kimball. "Plus being in service for others just feels wonderful!"

A board member can serve in various ways. Some actively manage and/or participate in special projects, while others manage general HOA business. And a few act as advisors, providing valuable input as needed and time permits.

BOTTOMLINE: we need you! Volunteers for board service are needed beginning on 7/1. Please contact Pam Kimball if you are interested...and we really hope that you are!

pre-teens and teenagers are periodically gathering on our streets, usually on Saturday nights. Both the COP and Sheriff's Deputies are patrolling Yellowleaf with increased frequency to monitor and help prevent damaging activity. *Please* don't allow your progeny to be part of this problem!

#### **EMAIL ADDRESSES**

Do we have your current email address? Get timely Yellowleaf info by sending it to: pjk4@hotmail.com. It will not be shared with anyone...

#### DOG ORDINANCE

Please obey the roaming dog ordinance: new complaints were received in March. You can contact Chelsea Animal Control Code Enforcement at: <a href="mailto:rking@cityofchelsea.com">rking@cityofchelsea.com</a>.