

Amberlea Homeowners' Association - Officers and Directors

Officers

President: Ken Rejko
Vice President: Bob Koechlin
Treasurer: Carl Bowles
Secretary: Terry Rejko

Directors

Diane Chavez
B. J. Develle
Shaine Harvester
Deborah Macey
Don Ropp
Grace Cristo
Dave Dunlap
Joyce Kucek
Barbara Piltaver

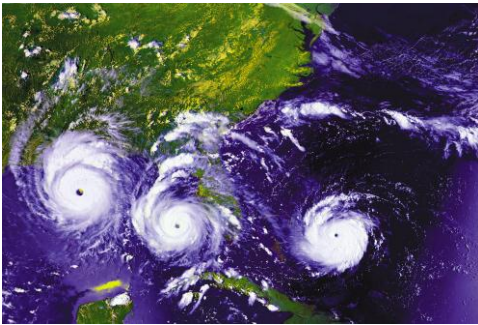


Greetings to All

I have been writing the Amberlea quarterly newsletter since becoming your president in January of 2009. My goal has been to keep everyone informed of the ongoing issues affecting Amberlea and the procedures implemented by your Amberlea Board of Directors to resolve those issues. I hope this has been accomplished to your satisfaction. However, I believe we can improve and expand our Board's communications with homeowners by introducing an invaluable individual **Director's Comments** page in our newsletters.

At the time I became a Director in 2006, six of our current Officers and Directors were members of the Board. I was impressed that so many had stayed on as volunteers for so many years. I soon learned of the wealth of experience on our Board and of the many years of individual dedicated efforts to improve and govern Amberlea. Over the past forty years of our association's existence, many ideas have been implemented. Some ideas were carried out. Some were tried and discarded or kept and improved. This continuity and longevity of decisive leadership has enabled the Board to cautiously and prudently consider all aspects of any issue before plunging ahead.

I feel our Directors should and need to share their expertise and views pertaining to the Amberlea Community with all homeowners, not just the Board. To this end, I have asked **Director, Shaine Harvester** to be our first director to compose her thoughts and aspirations regarding Amberlea. Her comments can be found later in this newsletter under the heading **Director's Comments**.



Hurricane Preparedness

Now that the summer months are here, it's time to be certain of your personal preparedness for the erratic behavior of potential hurricanes forecast for this season. Fortunately, we in Amberlea and Dunedin have been spared from catastrophic hurricane damage for many years. I often hear people speak of personal hurricane damage they have encountered locally in recent years and wonder how they would react if a full blown category 3 or 4 hurricane would center its fury on Dunedin.

Actually, the last hurricane to directly hit Dunedin was on October 25, 1921 and created what is now known as Hurricane Pass at the southern end of Honeymoon Island. It created a 10.5 ft. tide, rainfall of 11.73 inches, killed 5 people; and was described as having "moderate winds".

Our storms since then have not even produced the minimum wind speed of 75 miles per hour to be classified as a hurricane...yet people seem convinced that they have experienced and survived them firsthand. Unfortunately, this has led to a misguided sense of complacency and invulnerability on the part of the many people who do not evacuate from flood prone areas. I often wonder if they have even stocked emergency provisions for their personal safety until the last moment when our public emergency units are stressed to their capacity.

Let us each do our part for our own and our neighbors' safety by storing lawn chairs, trash cans or other potential flying debris ahead of time. Stock up on emergency water/foods, vital medicines and other supplies while maintaining contact with weather forecasts and bulletins as they are updated. Don't forget to check on and lend assistance to your neighbors if the need is present.

"No Parking" Signs

After receiving many complaints of several parked vehicles blocking drivers' views at the corner of Brook Drive and Brook Drive East, the city has taken action by installing "**NO PARKING**" signs on the west side of Brook Drive East near the corner. If you should continue to encounter this problem first hand, please alert the Sheriff's Department. Other complaints of parking issues of vehicles or boats should be directed to the City's Code Enforcement Official, **James Leavengood** at **727-298-3190** or our homeowners' association.



Tweaking the Front Entrance

The renovation of the two sides of the entry sidewalls has been placed on hold until further notice. We will inform everyone when information is available.

Homeowner Input

We received the following notice on May 5th from an anonymous resident:

“Amberlea Homeowners Association

As we walk/run/jog through our subdivision every day, we notice a lot of code violations on the deed restrictions.

Amberlea is starting to look like a Pinellas Park neighborhood, so hoping you can take care of this ASAP.

- 1- Elevator truck on Brook Drive in Driveway
- 2- A commercial truck on Amberlea Drive by park in driveway
- 3- Barefoot Pool truck on Amberlea Drive by Glendale in driveway
- 4- A boat in driveway, cars parked on grass and it looks like a car repair business (nights and weekends) on Overlea Drive by park

These violations are 24/7.

Maybe these residents do not know about the deed restrictions in Amberlea, but it is bringing down our neighborhood-in looks and sale prices. Thank you very much.”

Dear Anonymous, I will place this on the next Board Meeting’s Agenda.

Director's Comments

To quote the late Fred Rogers of "Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood" TV fame:

*"It's a beautiful day in this neighborhood
A beautiful day for a neighbor... Would you be mine... Could you be mine..."*

Amberlea may not be a TV neighborhood but it is our neighborhood and I for one am proud to say that I have lived here for the past 26 years. Over the years my husband, Bruce and I have seen many changes. Some have made us feel proud and others not so good. I joined the Homeowners' Association in 2003 once I retired. We used to meet at Wendy's and later had our meetings in Board members, homes. It is satisfying to be involved with the Board and to discuss/debate/argue and finally shake hands on many issues.

One of the things I really enjoyed heading was the Neighborhood Crime Watchers unit. We were really fortunate to develop a great working relationship with the Sheriff's department. Sadly in 2010, the Crime Prevention Unit was disbanded due to budgetary reductions. However, the connection had been forged and we always feel fortunate to have a representative from the Sheriff's department at our open meetings.

I remember collecting signatures for a petition to find a solution to the dangerous and frustrating intersection into our neighborhood. That was an exercise in futility!! However, even though it is not perfect, the intersection at 580/Sunlight has improved. I refer here to the traffic flow. Aesthetically, I am sure you will all agree that we have a beautiful entrance into our subdivision.

Although I have lived in many neighborhoods in different parts of the world, there is no place like home and for me that is Amberlea.

I encourage you to attend the open meetings and get involved. You will meet neighbors and keep abreast of what is happening in the area. And if you ever have a concern, problem or just want to say "Hi," you know where to find me.

"So, let's make the most of this beautiful day... Since we're together we might as well say... Won't you be my neighbor?"

Submitted by: Director, Shaine Harvester



Devil in the Details

Since the last newsletter where our efforts to thwart the infamous **PHANTOM BUDWEISER GREMLIN** were discussed, resident and entrance maintenance provider, **Kevin Oldfield** has noticed fewer beer cans in our entrance median island. However, he still has to pick-up thrown debris on a weekly basis. We do encourage you, if you witness anyone or have information (auto tag) regarding this disrespectful act, to please notify our board in some fashion so it can be curtailed. Many kudos to **Kevin** for his pruning and upkeep of our entrance.

Also from the last newsletter, we again are alerting any homeowner wanting to place a sign such as a **“FOR SALE”** or **“GARAGE SALE”** at the front entrance, to please place it on the grassy area on the east side of the entryway. There are still sensitive irrigation and electrical lines underground in the median strip and your signs are detrimental to their well being and are causing unnecessary repairs. We will continue pulling such signs out of the ground and discarding them when they are discovered. Thank you for your cooperation.

Our July 4th celebrations are at hand and we want everyone to be overly safe and cautious if you are involved with launching fireworks. Everyone enjoys oohing and aahing at the displays unless they get injured. Please, let us all be careful to a fault and considerate of our neighbors' property and well being. Clean-up the adjacent yards and streets of the debris where your fireworks have landed... everyone will think highly of you if you do.



Due to favorable weather conditions over the last year, **Secretary, Terry Rejko** has not had to change our seasonal entrance annuals as often as anticipated. She has been frugal in waiting for sale events at Lowes and recycling some of the stronger plants when possible. **Terry** will soon be seen changing the annuals to hot weather plantings and weeding...so say, "Hello," as you wait out the traffic light. Although some of you might think of me as being a little biased, I think she is doing an outstanding volunteer job by keeping our entrance very colorful and appealing to all passing traffic. Thanks, Terry!



Share Your Ideas and Suggestions

Your volunteer Amberlea Board was reelected to serve another term for 2012. We are most appreciative of your faith in us to perform our duties on your behalf for the overall welfare of Amberlea. The important things we still lack are your ideas and suggestions that would make our decision making more representative of the entire subdivision. We represent only about 5% of the 232 residences but we make 100% of the decisions related to all residents. We thought our "Contact" page on our website would create a simple format to gather a multitude of ideas and suggestions from a larger cross section of Amberlea. To date, it has not. Help us to share your ideas and suggestions.

www.amberleadunedinfl.com

Our next Board Meeting will be July 23, 2012 at 7:00PM at the Rejko residence. All Board members should respond to confirm their attendance for the meeting. Any other interested homeowner(s) that wish to attend are cordially invited. Please let me know in advance.

Thank you for your confidence,

Ken Rejko-President
Amberlea Homeowners' Association
727.734.0024 www.amberleadunedinfl.com