

AMBERLEA NEWSLETTER

March 2011

Amberlea Homeowners' Association - Officers and Directors

Officers

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

Directors

Area 1: Bob Koechlin	Area 7: Shaine Harvester
Area 2: Greta Develle	Area 8: Diane Chavez
Area 3: Joyce Kucek	Area 9: Barbara Piltaver
Area 4: B. J. Develle	Area 10: Grace Cristo
Area 5: Ed Albuoy	Area 11: Don Ropp
Area 6: Dave Dunlap	

Greetings to all our Amberlea neighbors as we begin 2011 with a spirit of renewed interest in making Amberlea Dunedin's model community!

AMBERLEA NEWSLETTER VIA THE WEBSITE

Since you are reading this newsletter via our amberleadunedinfl.com website we hope you are now utilizing and benefiting from the website's more comprehensive format than a single newsletter can possibly provide. The expansion and updating of the various menu selections and vital "updated bulletins" are due to the continuous monitoring efforts and fine tuning skills of **Director Dave Dunlap**. He has been channeling your inquiries and responses from the "contact" menu selection to the appropriate officer or director in a timely fashion. As you respond, he is slowly building an email database of Amberlea residents that will allow us to immediately email each of you directly should a "time sensitive event" arise. A couple of years ago we had an emergency contaminated water bulletin issued from the City of Dunedin and, unfortunately, we had no means in place to quickly inform Amberlea residents. Now we have the means! You could expedite this process by sending **Dave** your email address or updating your email address should it change via the "contact" menu selection. Without a correct address we can not contact you. Our new cost savings website that efficiently informs and reaches out to each Amberlea resident has been a long standing goal of **Dave's** since he became a director years ago. Now it is a reality and we thank him for his tireless and ongoing efforts.

As **Treasurer Carl Bowles** received your annual dues in January and February only five residents responded that they did not have a computer or access to the internet. I have contacted those individuals and have made arrangements for them to obtain hard copies of each newsletter. However, without going on line they will not be able to utilize the other benefits the website offers. Several residents did not indicate on **Carl's** dues form whether they have computers or access to the internet so we are not in a position to assist them. Please contact me for assistance if you have difficulties obtaining the newsletter.

In addition to this **March** issue, the remaining newsletters for 2011 will be posted on the amberleadunedinfl.com website the last week of **June, September and December**.

ANNUAL MEETING

The New Year began with our Annual Meeting at the Dunedin Community Center on January 31, 2011. Only 26 people signed the attendance log of which 14 were officers, directors or guest speakers; thus, leaving the remaining 12 attendees as interested residents. This low attendance indicates to the Board your complete faith in our ability to make important decisions on your behalf and that your input is not critical for the management of our association. Your opinions and suggestions are very meaningful to us as Board members when voting on matters that affect our entire subdivision. If you believe your ideas are important, as we think they are, please make an effort to attend the 2012 Annual Meeting next year and make your opinions count.

Director Shaine Harvester introduced **Steve Brewer** and his entertaining presentation of **Laughter Yoga** for the amusement of all present by getting everyone laughing at the expense of “selected volunteers” during their command performance. Thanks **Shaine** for adding some levity to our proceedings.

Dunedin Code Enforcement Director James Leavengood was warmly greeted as our featured speaker. He updated us on new city ordinances that will give us much needed relief for our car and boat parking problems we have dealt with since Amberlea has existed. We no longer have to consider parking violators as an Amberlea Deed Restriction issue. The City of Dunedin is gearing up to address the offenders with warnings and fines if compliance is not achieved. The new ordinances are posted on our website and anyone wishing to explore the matter further for details may contact **James Leavengood** at (727) 298-3190 and listed on the website menu selection “telephone numbers-code enforcement”.

Directors Shaine Harvester and **Joyce Kucek** gave us a status report on the Welcome Wagon project to greet our new neighbors in our Amberlea community. They only know of a few new residents at this time. Please assist **Shaine** and **Joyce** by communicating any pertinent information by use of the website of new neighbors near you.

Director Dave Dunlap gave us a Power Point Presentation in detail of our current website and links to outside information we should all find useful. Future ideas to enhance the website’s value would be to add color photographs of our activities and add additional links to other beneficial sites.

The names of the **Officers and Directors** listed in the header of this newsletter were submitted as our slate of nominees for the positions indicated for our annual election. There were no nominations from the floor and the nominees were unanimously re-elected for the 2011 to 2012 term of office.

Tentative Board / Annual meeting dates were announced for the next term. They are: April 21, July 21, and October 20 of 2011 and January 19 of 2012. All will be held at the Rejko residence at 7:00pm. The Annual Meeting is tentatively set for January 30, 2012.

FIREWORKS IN AMBERLEA

After the recent 4th of July and New Year's Eve celebrations, we received complaints of fireworks debris landing on roofs, yards, and in swimming pools that clogged filtering systems. The Sheriff's Department has the means to enforce existing ordinances and has jurisdiction over these matters and not our association. Residents providing fireworks displays are doing so at their own risk and liability. We at least ask that they show due consideration for their neighbors by being prudently safety conscious and removing debris from neighbor's yards and streets as soon as possible.

MEDIAN ISLANDS ALONG STATE ROAD 580

At this time, the median islands project proposed along State Road 580 has been tabled by the City of Dunedin. Should this issue arise again for public discussion, your Board will be kept informed and relay any pertinent information to our residents via the "updated bulletins" section of our website.

FRONT ENTRANCE UPDATE

If you have recently passed by our new entrance project it should be obvious that we are on the home stretch. We have received many compliments from people driving out of Amberlea while work was in progress, especially the additions of our website address visible from both sides of the entrance and the better nighttime illumination of the word "Amberlea" on the main plaque. City of Dunedin personnel, involved with our grant application process have also expressed only favorable comments and have extended their congratulations for adhering to the spirit of the grant monies usage as well. By the time you read this newsletter, the retaining blocks and irrigation system should be underway and nearing completion. All that will remain is for the landscaping and irrigation finalization which is anticipated for completion by early to mid-April. Volunteers will be notified of the exact date of the landscaping scheduling in a timely fashion. We are very pleased that our project is still within our budget guidelines, thus, allowing us to consider additional amenities at the entrance which will be discussed later in this newsletter. Thanks to your Board and the additional volunteers that signed up at the Annual Meeting, we should have enough assistance to complete the entrance in short order. We will attempt to include photographs of the work parties in the June newsletter.

Many people have asked me, "What can be done to prevent the unsightly trash that accumulates at the entrance". I know of no reasonable solution. We should all be mindful of the impact the debris has on Amberlea's image and refrain from dumping trash from our cars while waiting for the traffic light to change. I sincerely hope that no Amberlea resident is capable of such carelessness. We have little control over the inconsiderate actions of others passing through our subdivision. For the past several years, various Board members have conducted their own cleanup efforts and discovered fast food remnants (particularly McDonald's), whiskey bottles, beer cans/soda bottles, used diapers, shoes, garbage bags full of...you guessed it...garbage, trash bags with yard clippings, cigarette wrappers and butts; and, other items to distasteful and unbelievable to mention in this newsletter. We will simply have to continue to be diligent in our efforts to maintain our new entrance improvements by scheduling periodic cleanup details. Any helpful suggestions would be greatly appreciated.

ANNUAL DUES

If you have not yet done so, please remit your current \$20 annual dues or any dues in arrears to our **Treasurer Carl Bowles**. Our dues have remained at \$20 for many years. A few residents have questioned our ability to function on such a limited income. If everyone brought their dues up to date we could delay an increase for a few more years.

GOALS FOR 2011

Holiday Lighting

During the winter, many of our talented homeowners decorate their yards with lighting to celebrate the holiday season. The Board believes Amberlea, as a display of unity and community holiday spirit, should consider lighting our newly renovated entrance median island with **substantial** festive lighting. This would take place between Thanksgiving and the start of the New Year and certainly enhance and merit recognition for Amberlea. This proposal was announced at the Annual Meeting and was well received by all attending. To implement this project, we are asking our talented homeowners who display their talents each year to form a lighting committee. They would utilize provided association funds from our treasury and create a dazzling entrance display showcasing Amberlea. **Director Diane Chavez** has generously volunteered to store the lighting components when not in use at her place of business. We have installed three weatherproof duplex 110 volt electrical outlets at the entrance in anticipation of this endeavor. So, do we have any spirited and motivated volunteers willing to work together to form a team to:

1. Propose a budget and present design ideas to the Board.
2. Select/purchase and install the lighting components.
3. **Bask in the glory and admiration from all Amberlea residents.**

If you are so motivated, please contact me by telephone directly to clarify any questions and provide assistance for you by providing a committee planning session in my home.

Review of Bylaws and Deed Restrictions

From time to time, we find it prudent to review and update, if necessary, our Bylaws and Deed Restrictions to keep pace with changing times and community standards. We will undertake this review this year and welcome input from all concerned homeowners.

Re-election of Officers and Directors

We, as your officers and Directors, are appreciative of your faith in us by our re-election to serve another term for 2011. We are striving to continually keep the best interests of the majority of our residents uppermost in our deliberations and resolutions. We would like to do more but lack sufficient input from a broader spectrum of residents. We ask that **you make it your goal** to get involved, or become active in some way that fits your time constraints; and, most importantly, share your views and voice your opinions by offering constructive suggestions by telephone or the **amberleadunedinfl.com website**.

Thank you for your confidence,

Ken Rejko-President
Amberlea Homeowners' Association
(727) 734-0024 **amberleadunedinfl.com**