

The Thorough-Read News

Steeplechase Resident Homeowner's Association, Inc.

1925 Furlong Run, Lawrenceville, GA 30043



2004 Steeplechase Board

Chairman:

Scot Sherwin
770.822.4517
chairman@steeplechase.org

Facility President:

Bill Neidert
770.995.7641
facility.president@steeplechase.org

Community President

Nate Orrico
community.president@steeplechase.org

Communications

Pamela Wilkinson
678.377.5297
communications@steeplechase.org

A complete listing of Board Members
will be available next month.

From the Chairman of the Board

Happy New Year!!!

I hope everyone made it though the holiday season relatively unscathed, and with some sanity left. A great, but busy time of the year, so welcome back.

We have a lot to do this year. We have had some great suggestions about covenants and by-laws, and we will be working hard in getting the Home Value Protection Initiative implemented this year. Be looking for info on that in the upcoming months.

We had a great response from everyone concerning this initiative. A majority wanted us to increase the community dues in order for us to get an immediate influx of money to get the walls replaced on Sever Rd., and some new signage on the Dean Rd. entrance. That is a great idea but would be impractical, because we think it would tend to discourage some to participate. So, one idea I would like to float out there is to keep the dues where they are, BUT we would like to start a "Replace the Wall Fund".

We would take donations over and above any dues, and the funds would STRICTLY go to the replacement of the walls. We would print, at the approval of the donors, those who have donated to the wall fund and give you a running total of the wall fund every month in the newsletter. We estimate the cost for each entrance to be 15K-20K. If we could get each homeowner to donate \$80, for example, we would realize an immediate \$34,000. So, as you can see, if everyone pitched in a little, a WHOLE lot could get done.

We would also like to have fund raisers that would go to the wall fund, so anyone out there with ideas, please get in touch with a board member.

All for now, as always looking forward to your comments, compliments and complaints.

Scot Sherwin





Words from our Presidents . . .

Remember, the membership due date is **March 1st**.

► HAPPY NEW YEAR to all homeowners!

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. I would like to thank everyone for their support last year, and hopefully I have your support for 2004.

Now that 2004 is in motion, we need to start thinking about the budget for 2004. If you have any suggestions for next year, please email them to me at facility.president@steeplechase.org.

Remember, the membership due date is **March 1st**. To join the facility, the cost is \$420. You can pay it in a lump sum, or go to the **www.steeplechase.org** web site, and use PayPal. This will give you several options in paying.

Bill Neidert
Facility President

► Hope everyone had a great Holiday Season!

I want to thank **Peggy Boydston** and my wife, **Nancy**, for decorating the entrances for the Holidays - hope you enjoyed them as much as I did.

I encourage everyone to join the "Community" this year so we can continue to beautify our great subdivision. We've got some great projects scheduled for this year so please plan to be a part of it - all that we do adds to the value of each and every home. Thank you in advance!

I'm looking forward to serving you in 2004 so if you have any questions or suggestions, please let me know.

Nate Orrico
Community President



Make yourself heard! Send your letters, articles, and ads to the newsletter, at communications@steeplechase.org. Submission deadline is the 15th of each month.

A Note from the Editor

► This is my first issue as Editor of The Thorough-Read News. Although I'm feeling a little overwhelmed by the size of the job I've undertaken, I'm looking forward to making a contribution to the neighborhood through this volunteer position.

A little about me: I'm a graduate of GA Tech, with engineering and management experience in the electronics industry. I had a computer business in Greenville, SC, for 18 years. When we moved to Lawrenceville, I started a new company, Cyber Studios, offering graphic and web design services, as well as web hosting, product catalogs, corporate image development, and more.

I've lived in Steeplechase for three years with my husband, Alan Nichols, and our two teen-age boys, Joey and John. We love the neighborhood for its convenience, the easy access, and the friendly neighbors.

Alan and I are encouraged by the efforts of the Board to protect and improve the property values of the subdivision, and we hope that all of you will choose to get involved in the discussions centering on the By-Laws changes. It is difficult for this many individuals to reach a consensus on anything — the Board has done a great job so far in soliciting opinions and feedback from the community. Won't you get involved and make your opinions known?

As Editor of the Newsletter, I look forward to your letters, articles, and ads. Please participate in your newsletter and your community. Together, we can make this wonderful neighborhood an even better place to live.

Pamela Wilkinson (communications@steeplechase.org)

Get to Know...

Legal/Budget Director, Peggy Boydston

► Well, another great year is a memory, and a fun new year is beginning here in Steeplechase! I am excited to be back on the Board of Directors and hope to serve our community well.

For those of you I have not had the opportunity to meet me, may I introduce myself? I live at 1311 Glyndon Hunt. My family has lived here since January of 1986. My children, Jennifer, 27; Courtney, 23; and Billy, age 20, love to reminisce about the great times they had growing up in Steeplechase, and we feel extremely lucky to live in this great neighborhood.

I was fortunate enough to be here in the beginning and was involved in the formation of our Homeowner's Association and the structure of our current By-Laws. I, therefore, must take some responsibility for the things we did not foresee and address at that time. Although we tried to establish good rules for a top-quality community, because the subdivision was so new, we did not adequately cover issues of maintenance and aging. Now we hope to correct some of those oversights.

This year, the SRHA Board has taken on the huge mission of rewriting the By-Laws and adding Neighborhood Covenants to protect our property values. Also involved in this plan is the restructuring of our Steeplechase Resident Homeowner's Association, to transfer our properties to Permanent Membership status. Many of you attended the two recent neighborhood meetings about this issue, and voted overwhelmingly to approve this venture.

As we rewrite these conditions, we will post them on the SRHA website for your review. We also plan to have community meetings to inform you of our progress. There will be a membership vote on the Board's recommendations before anything is finalized.

This is a very important issue and we need your input, support and ideas. We want to make our by-laws and covenants as non-intrusive as possible, so no one feels their personal rights are infringed. Please feel free to e-mail me at legal.budget@Steeplechase.org if you have any concerns, thoughts, or suggestions on this issue.

My job is also to assist the Community President in creating a budget for the neighborhood this year, so please let me know how you want us to use your Community Dues! These dues go to maintenance of our entrances, including plantings, upkeep, and Christmas decorations. Community Dues are also used for children's holiday parties, Welcome Packets, New Neighbor Brunch, our newsletter, the Neighborhood Directory, etc.

In the past, we have also conducted such community activities as a Braves baseball trip, a community Casino Night, a St. Patrick's Day party, and Christmas Caroling. We would love to do so again if there is an interest. Your Community dues are **not** used for any Swim/Tennis purposes and **all finances are kept completely separate**.

So stay in touch and have a happy and healthy new year!!

Peggy Boydston

Mistaken Identity?



Are you NOT who we think you are?

Please take a quick look at the mailing label on this newsletter to ensure that we

have your correct information!

If your name is not on the label, or if it is incorrect, please contact our Database Administrator, **Darren Clark**, at admin@steeplechase.org or call him at **770.963.4845**.

This will help us distribute the newsletter correctly, and ensure that you receive other neighborhood news bulletins in a timely manner.

By the way, we never publish personal information without your permission!

••••• ● **FREE MULCH!**

● There is a pile of mulch
● along Sever Road we need
● to get rid of. If anyone
● needs any around their
● house, please take some or
● all of it!

● Bill Neidert
● Facility President

To Our Board Members:

The next meeting of the Steeplechase Community **Board of Directors** will be Sunday evening, **January 18th at 7:00 pm** at Scot's home. Please put this on your calendar!



SAFE AND CREATIVE PHOTO PRESERVATION TIPS

"In this age of disposable everything, we must be careful not to dispose of our past...It is no small task to find, organize, restore and preserve our photos but if it is not done, a VALUABLE LEGACY will be lost. We must establish a new tradition of the family photo-historian."

—Thomas Davies, author and photographer.

Tip #6: Do not cut Polaroid Instamatic prints!

Exposing the print's chemistry to the air may cause the image to deteriorate, and the alkaline developing gel can irritate skin and eyes (and damage albums).

- In-Home Classes & Getting-Started Workshops
- Technical Information & Creative Hints
- Simple Steps, Completed Albums
- Free House Calls!



Now enrolling for January classes!
www.ACreativeMood.com

Pam Wilkinson,

Independent Consultant, Steeplechase

678.377.5491

Newsletter Submissions

Deadline: All Newsletter ads, articles, and other information must be received by the 15th of each month for publication in the following issue.

Format: You may e-mail the article to communications@steeplechase.org, or drop it off to the Editor. Letters to the Editor are accepted, but you must provide your name, and it must be legibly printed.

Editing: All submissions may be edited for length and content. We reserve the right to reject any submissions deemed inappropriate.

Advertising Information

Ads may be emailed, snail-mailed, or dropped off to the Editor. No ads will be published until payment has been received. Ads do not have to be camera-ready. Just indicate the size of the ad, type or print the text, and provide any graphics you wish to use on a floppy disk. Contact the editor if you have any questions: **Pam Wilkinson, 678.377.9510**

If you do submit a camera-ready ad, it must fit within the published dimensions. Ads that do not fit will be subject to a \$10 layout fee.

Ad Rates & Sizes

Business Ads:

- Half pg, \$25,
(4.5" H x 7.5" W)
- 1/4 pg, \$15,
(4.5" H x 3.5" W)
- Business card, \$5
(2" H x 3.5" W)

Classified/General Ads:

- Classified ad, \$5
- Kids 18 & Under, FREE

Send ads to:

Pamela Wilkinson
2540 Bechers Brook
Lawrenceville, GA 30043

Call: 678.377.9510, or
send email to:

communications@steeplechase.org



January 2004

Have you checked out our website?

- ▶ Yes, the Steeplechase community has its own website. Go online, to this address: **<http://www.steeplechase.org>**

Here you can pay your community and facility dues, check out the latest list of Board Members, obtain contact information for the COPS program, and more.

The website is the place to start if you want to learn more about our neighborhood. Make an online visit today!

Editor's Note: *I've used PayPal to make personal online purchases for several years. They give you the option of using credit or debit cards, or even checks. The site is easy to use and very secure! I hope you will be comfortable using it.*

SRHA 1925 Furlong Run, Lawrenceville, GA 30043

▶ THOROUGH-READ NEWS ◀



<http://www.steeplechase.org>

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