



Autumn Lakes Gazette

Editor: Christine Melton

Established 9/85

March 2015

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Board of Directors

Laura Farkas	770-9442	President
Jay Black	269-7109	Vice President
Sonya Ptah	540-0467	Secretary
Andrea Crouch	344-9063	Trustee
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AL Website: autumnlakesstl.com

AMC Management LLC

Mickey Montee, President
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Bridgeton, MO 63044
Office Hours M-Th 8:00-5:00
Fr 8:00-4:00
24 Hour Phone: 314-291-1450

JANUARY 21, 2015 MEETING

Laura Farkas opened the meeting and introduced the Board members, Keith McCracken of AMC Management and Norm Rhea, City Councilman.

Association Management Report by Keith McCracken

Autumn Lakes Association as of 2/28/15 is \$728 under budget on income for the year and \$2033 under budget on expenses.

Autumn Lakes Condominiums as of 2/28/15 is \$3,346 better than budget on income YTD. The Condo Association is \$31,714 under budget on expenses.

The maintenance crew has been busy painting mail box posts throughout the property. They have completed the spring pre-emergent fertilizer application and have treated the lakes for algae and aquatic plant growth.

Rob and Dave were commended for their excellent work on the lakes.

The spring clean-up has been completed with the exception of a couple of piles of leaves remaining.

No mulch will be put down in 2015 at the Condo units. We mulch every even numbered year or every two years.

The lake fountain in the large lower lake has been installed. It required a new cable due to rodent damage (muskrat). Keith added that the location of the fountain will be corrected. The fountain in the middle lake is being installed with a new motor.

Exterior projects and improvements will begin this spring. Residents are required to obtain Board approval for any exterior changes, such as: landscaping, trees, decks, windows, doors or lighting. Written approval from the board is required before proceeding.

Residents considering any improvements to their units are also required to obtain permits from Maryland Heights. This assures that the work will comply with all building codes.

As always please call 314-291-1450 if you have a work request, questions or concerns or email us at: association3@juno.com.

Board Reports by Laura Farkas

Laura welcomed Christine Melton, our new AL Social Committee Chairman. Christine has also taken on the new role of editor for the AL Gazette.

Trustee terms ending in May are Laura Farkas and Larry Padberg. Owners interested in running on the May ballot for the board must be a resident in good standing and complete an informational sheet to be submitted prior to the elections with name, address, how long you've been a resident and why you want to be a trustee. Interested candidates must **contact Cindy at AMC by Friday April 10th** and provide a completed info form **by Friday April 17th** to be included on the ballot. Candidates are encouraged to contact any of the trustees for additional information.



Dog poop pick-up negligence continues to be a concern. The problem is noticeable on sidewalks, around the lakes and in yards.

Steps to address the problem include:

Call the AMC office if you see someone that has not picked up after their dog. Please attempt to determine the address of the negligent resident before calling. Taking a picture of the incident is helpful.

Questions were asked about residents that allow their dogs to roam free. **DOGS MUST BE LEASHED.** It is a Maryland Heights law, and an AL rule.

- ⇒ 1st offense = letter,
- ⇒ 2nd offense = a fine by association
- ⇒ NOTE: Maryland Heights also assesses a \$100 fine

Be a good neighbor!

Autumn Lakes Gazette
3011 Autumn Shores Drive
Maryland Heights, MO 63043

Ways to build a stronger Autumn Lakes Community:

- Run for the Board in May
- Assist on the Social Committee
- Join NEXTDOOR.COM

AL website: autumnlakesstl.com

The website includes information for upcoming events, a copy of the current and past gazettes, rules, and FAQs.

NextDoor.com is a social media site that is used by many AL residents to keep informed about the happenings in the neighborhood. NextDoor.com is FREE, and Laura Farkas invited anyone that would like to sign up to contact her.

Bridgeton/West Lake Landfill Report by Jay Black

Jay reported that Dr. Karl Brooks, Region 7 Administrator has moved to a headquarters position in Washington D.C. Mark Hague, Region 7's Deputy Administrator has been selected as Acting Regional Administrator. In a statement to the "West Lake Update", Mark states, "If you live and work around the West Lake Landfill, you can expect EPA to hold Potentially Responsible Parties accountable and to review any potential solutions with a critical eye"... "We will build on the important connections between EPA and the state of Missouri, elected leaders, businesses, unions and community members as we complete our work at the West Lake Landfill Superfund Site."

The EPA continues the review process of the Supplemental Feasibility Study that includes the consideration of "an alternate cap" design. EPA's Office of Research and Development is also investigating a "Fate and Transport Model" to understand the complexity of subsurface conditions as it relates to groundwater beneath and around the West Lake Site. EPA has also engaged with scientific support from the United States Geological Survey and the US Army Corps of Engineers to review the proposed isolation barrier. This is an on-going 18 month review and should be completed by March of 2016.

EPA and MoDNR continue to monitor off-site air. EPA reported, "What the data show EPA scientists is that the people around West Lake Landfill are not being exposed to levels of radiation or VOCs at concentrations greater than what is found in similar industrial cities including St. Louis".

Jay also talked about Missouri HB 955 and SB 54. Both bills state that a property owner cannot be held liable for any nuisance if that owner complies with DNR, EPA, Army Corps of Engineers, or the Office of the Attorney General. HB 955 was to be voted on March 19, 2015. The Missouri Coalition for the Environment and local activist groups are opposing these bills by letter, phone, e-mails and on the Capitol floor. Stay tuned.

Lake Treatment report by Jay Black

Our maintenance people, Rob and Dave, began lake treatment early March right after the ice cleared. Applications of copper sulfate were applied to areas around the shores where growth appeared, and a solar shade dye was added to all lakes. We will watch the lakes closely and apply aquatic herbicides on a frequent, and as needed basis. The new jon boat will assist greatly with direct contact spraying of any aquatic growth. Application dose rates will be in compliance with "lakes, potable water reservoirs, ponds (golf, farm, fish and fire)".

Rob and Dave have aggressively been "live-trapping" muskrats around the lakes and releasing them in safe off-site locations. Muskrats are very destructive to lake shores and especially earthen dams. Muskrats were responsible for chewing the insulation on the electrical cable to the lower lake fountain, which needed replacement and cost \$900. A protective conduit was placed on the new cable.

Mailbox report by Andrea Crouch:

Many mailbox posts are looking ragged. Rob and Dave have taken the initiative to paint the mailbox posts. Keith added that metal plates have sometimes been placed at the bottom of the post.

Social Committee Report by Christine Melton

There were ten attendees at the recent social committee meeting. Three new people have joined the committee and we are looking for more! Many hands make light work; and there are a lot of new activities available to create. Call Christine (314) 560-5705.

On the AL Social Calendar now:

- **APRIL 18 - Wine tasting in the clubhouse.** (RSVP required; space limited to 20). \$5 per person. Postcards will be sent to all residents. To make reservations, call Sharon Kohler (314) 348-1120.
- **JUNE 6:**
 - ◊ **AL Garage Sale** 8am-1pm
 - ◊ **Vendor/Craft Fair** 9am-3pm in the Clubhouse. To participate with a table, contact Christine Melton (314) 560-5705 for details.
- **JULY 19 - Ice Cream Social** in lieu of a pool party
- **SEPTEMBER 26 - Autumn Fest**
- **OCTOBER 17 OR 24 - Beer Tasting** (limited availability, RSVP event)

Open Discussion for Residents

- Leaf cleanup: Two residents reported that their leaves had not been removed. Keith took note of their locations.
- A resident inquired about the number of leaf clean-ups. The reply was 3 times per year. Leaves are not removed in the common areas as the mowers remove those. Maryland Heights does not provide leaf pick up, only street sweeping.
- A request was made of the AMC office that the reports to residents about their assessments and payments be made easier to understand.
- An inquiry was made about the oak galls on the pin oaks that are caused by tiny, non-stinging wasps. There is little harm to the tree (unless heavily infested). However, residents are requested to pick them up and put them in the yard waste for removal to help deter re-infestation. 
- Another resident spoke about the lawn care company cleaning up the pine needles in her yard, and she remarked the workers were very nice.
- The question was asked how often decks should be sealed. Residents are responsible for all deck repairs and are encouraged to seal their decks annually. It was noted by one resident that most decks are not up to code, and the code keeps changing. It is always wise to check with Maryland Heights.
- Pool tiles will be repaired before opening on Memorial weekend.
- It has not been determined yet which buildings will be painted this season.
- Keith mentioned checking the by-laws for questions regarding unit responsibilities. A general rule is "If it serves 1 unit it is your responsibility, if it is for more than 1 unit, it is likely the responsibility of the association."

The next Autumn Lakes Association meeting with elections will be held on 5/20/15.

ALL Autumn Lakes RESIDENTS are encouraged to attend.