



# Autumn Lakes Gazette

## January 2021

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### Board of Directors

**Laura Farkas** 770-9442

**Shah Smith** 960-6620

**Jennifer Morgan** 344-2928

**Jay Black** 269-7109

**Richard Ornberg** 817-357-2633

**Christine Melton** 560-5705

**Architecture committee:** Richard Ornberg, Shah Smith

**Landscaping committee:** Jay Black, Andrea Crouch, Retta Morcom

**AL Website:** [autumnlakesstl.com](http://autumnlakesstl.com)

**President**

**Vice President**

**Secretary**

**Trustee**

**Trustee**

**Gazette editor/Social committee chair**

### AMC Management

**Mickey Montee, President**

**3153 Fee Fee Road**

**Bridgeton MO 63044**

**24 hour phone: (314) 291-1450**

**Office Hours M-Th 8:00-5:00**

**Fr 8:00-4:00**



### Autumn Lakes Meeting

1/20/21

**Association Meeting** – The association held the January meeting via Zoom. Future meetings may be held on Zoom – please check the Autumn Lakes website at <http://www.AutumnLakesSTL.com/> for more information and link.

#### Councilman Report:

Norm Rhea gave a brief report of what's new going on in Maryland Heights. Here are some of the highlights from Norm's report:

- Flats at Dorsett is a 218 unit apartment complex which is currently under construction.
- The Old North Port building on Dorsett has been removed and a Hilton hotel with 115 rooms will be replacing the office building.

- Tri-Star – Is building a 1.4 million sq ft office/distribution center in Maryland Heights
- Tony's Donuts is working on a new project at Fee Fee and Dorsett.
- Boulder Springs is planning 266 new luxury apartments at Ross Rd and 270. The building permit is under review.

**Management Report By Keith McCracken:** Autumn Lakes Association as of 11/30/20 was \$1,986 under budget on income YTD and \$208 under budget on expenses YTD. Autumn Lakes Condominiums as of 11/30/20 was \$10,684 over budget on income YTD and \$31,932 over budget on expenses YTD.

Rob and Dave have been busy trimming trees, addressing squirrel and critter issues and running work orders. They had a nice holiday break and are grateful for all the thoughtful cards and gifts.

We have been fortunate so far this winter and have had very limited snowfall. One of the events on December 31 of freezing rain required a salting/chemical application and that is all, so far.

Spring Leaf Clean-up is scheduled for the week of March 8. Just 7 weeks away!

Maryland Heights Code Enforcement has been on-site inspecting decks for safety issues and code compliance. Unit owners will be notified if their decks are in need of repair or replacement.

Please verify that your deck has proper flashing to prevent water intrusion where the deck is attached to the building. Owners are responsible for decks and flashing of decks. Damage costs resulting from decks without

proper flashing will be assessed back to the unit owner.

We have recently received a number of complaints about dog owners not picking up after their pets. Owners should have a bag with them when walking their pets and are required by City ordinance and Autumn Lakes rules to pick up promptly after their pet. Autumn Lakes rules as well as City Ordinance require all dogs to be on leash and under control when outdoors. Please comply with these rules/ordinances in order to foster a pleasant environment for all residents. Failure to do so can result in penalties from the City and the HOA.



**If any resident sees a dog owner not following the rules, please take a picture and send it to Laura (lfarkas@sbcglobal.net).**

Check with the City of Maryland Heights to be sure your contractor has all required permits for any work being done on your unit. Obtain Board approval prior to replacing or modifying decks, windows, doors, patios or landscaping.

Do not plant trees without Board approval.

A reminder that Autumn Lakes does have an RV Lot for residents. However, available spaces are very limited and must be reserved through the Management office. Contact AMC if you have an interest in reserving a space for a boat or RV.

As always please call 314-291-1450 if you have a work request, questions or concerns or email me at [keith@amcassociation.com](mailto:keith@amcassociation.com)

## **Committee Reports**

**Architecture:** Maryland Heights contacted the trustees that they planned to inspect the decks in Autumn Lakes. Dick agreed to accompany Ted Whittaker from Maryland Heights Code Enforcement as they walked through Autumn Lakes to check decks on units over a two-day period last fall. Of particular concern are the posts of decks and many of the lower decks that are not bolted to the building. Maryland Heights will review the information about the decks. It is uncertain if this information will be reviewed by the Board. Ted indicated that it may take another two or three weeks before an update is available. Just a reminder, Maryland Heights Code Enforcements can enforce that decks must be repaired or torn down if unsafe.

Dick reviewed with residents on how to get decks approved. New decks may have composite deck surfaces and railings. After the resident has received bids from contractors, they should provide plans to AMC and the Architecture Committee for approval. What the committee does is make sure that the proposed deck matches the aesthetics of the neighborhood to maintain the appeal of our properties. Maryland Heights also requires permits for safety and building integrity.

Don't be afraid to call members of the Architectural Committee, the Board or Maryland Heights with questions. They are here to help!

**Landscaping:** Jay reported that a large oak was removed from a front yard at 3140 Autumn Trace Dr as it was growing roots into the water meter well. The tree was also heavily infested with oak galls.

## **Board Reports**

### **Board Elections:**

Laura Farkas explained that there will be **two Association Board positions up for election during the May meeting**. Those positions are currently held by Laura Farkas and Jennifer Morgan. If you'd like to know more about what the board responsibilities are, please feel free to contact any of the board members or look at the FAQs on the [www.AutumnLakesSTL.com](http://www.AutumnLakesSTL.com) website. You must be a unit or homeowner in good standing to run for a trustee position. If you are interested in running in the upcoming election for trustees, you will need to

contact the AMC office for the Candidate Information form in April. Specific dates will be announced at the March meeting. The election will be held at the May meeting.

**Permits – Heads Up:** Maryland Heights requires a permit for many home projects (basements, bathrooms, kitchens, decks, HVACs, hot water heaters). During the sale of a house/condo or if an inspector sees a contractor truck in your drive, they are sometimes checking with Maryland Heights or St. Louis County permit departments to see if a permit was requested and the work was properly inspected. This can result in a fine and in some cases demolition of the job if there was no permit. Warning: It does not matter with an occupancy inspection whether a violation was missed on a previous sale, you can still be fined. For general information about Maryland Heights permits go to: [marylandheights.com/residents/index.php](http://marylandheights.com/residents/index.php) To be safe -- contact Maryland Heights Code Enforcement prior to planning or starting any work or appliance replacement.

The Maryland Heights' Guide to Home Improvements booklet can be found on the Maryland Heights' website at [https://www.marylandheights.com/Document\\_Center/Department/Community%20Development/Building%20and%20Code/HomeimprovementguideFINALc.pdf](https://www.marylandheights.com/Document_Center/Department/Community%20Development/Building%20and%20Code/HomeimprovementguideFINALc.pdf)

**Is Your Residence Properly Recorded in St Louis County Records?** Shah reported that we recently found three homes in Autumn Lakes that had never been updated with their new owners in the St Louis County Dept of Revenue records following their purchases (1 year, 4 years and 14 years old). This can have all kinds of repercussions. You can go to [Revenue.stlouisco.com/IAS](http://Revenue.stlouisco.com/IAS) and look up your address to see if it is properly recorded in your name. If it isn't, you can try contacting the county to get it corrected, but the easiest way is to go back to the Title company you used (it was their responsibility).



### Light Up Autumn Lakes

Light Up Autumn Lakes took place on December 15<sup>th</sup>.

The judging committee awarded prizes to:

- ◆ **Best House:** James and Victoria Schmidt, 11987 Autumn Lakes Drive
- ◆ **1<sup>st</sup> Place Condos:** Emily Standley, 3128 Autumn Shores Drive
- ◆ **2<sup>nd</sup> Place Condos:** Mathew Newport, 12123 Autumn Lakes Drive
- ◆ **Best Backing to Common Ground Decoration:**  
Christine Elwell, 3038 Autumn Lakes Court

**Congratulations winners!**

**Next Door App:** Just a reminder that the Next Door App is a great tool to hear about what's going on around us, but is not the official communication of AMC or the Board. Please contact the AMC office if you have repairs that need to be made or concerns. Of if you have questions about Autumn Lakes, you can check out the neighborhood website at <http://www.autumnlakesstl.com/>

### Looking for a Bookshelf

Does anyone have a 6 ft tall, 3-4 ft wide bookcase they would like to contribute to Autumn Lakes? We are thinking we'll use it for a free library to be located in the clubhouse. More info to come. Contact Laura at [lfarkas@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lfarkas@sbcglobal.net) if you have a bookcase for us.

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### *Residents Questions & Comments*

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#### Questions From Residents:

**Q:** With new residents moving in and more cars to park, several residents in her area have asked Autumn Lakes to consider adding more community parking spots to the existing lot in her area.

**A:** The Board will talk about whether or not this is feasible.

**Q:** Several residents have stated that the steps into their residences seem narrow, especially for those older residents. Can these be fixed?

**A:** Residents should fill out a Work Order to have repairs performed to the exterior of the building. Just contact the AMC office at 314-291-1450.



**THANK YOU to all the Autumn Lakes residents  
who contributed to the FOOD DRIVE  
on December 12th & 13th.**

***We were told that our subdivision collected about  
2,000 lbs. of  
food, diapers and hygiene products!***

***That is above the average of 800-1300 lbs. per subdivision.***

***Way to go Autumn Lakes!!!***

***And, we give special thanks to our residents, Glenn & Mary Mueller,  
who initiated, promoted and managed this event.***

***Thank you!***

**The next Autumn Lakes Association meeting is scheduled for 3/17/21 at 7 pm.**



**Help spread JOY  
with your SMILE.**

***Autumn Lakes Gazette***

**3153 Fee Fee Road  
Bridgeton MO 63044**