

# Autumn Lakes Gazette

Established 9/85

## January 2020

XXXVI No 1

### Board of Directors

**Laura Farkas** 770-9442 *President*  
**Shah Smith** 960-6620 *Vice President*  
**Jennifer Morgan** 344-2928 *Secretary*  
**Jay Black** 269-7109 *Trustee*  
**Richard Ornberg** 817-357-2633 *Trustee*  
**Christine Melton** 560-5705 *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

*Architecture committee: Richard Ornberg, Shah Smith*

*Landscaping committee: Jay Black, Andrea Crouch,*

*Retta Morcom*

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



## Association Meeting—January 15, 2020

Introductions: Laura Farkas opened members, Keith McCracken and Rob Rhea & Steve Borgmann, our City of atives were also present.

the meeting and introduced the Board Adelson of AMC Management. Norm Maryland Heights city council represent-

### Councilmen Report:

Norm gave a brief report of what's new going on in Maryland Heights. Here are just some of the new things happening:

- Mercy Home Infusion Pharmacy at Westport is having its grand opening.

- Citizens Police Academy – The 2020 Citizens Police Academy is a ten-week course where students will learn about various elements of law enforcement including investigative procedures, policing practices, equipment and technology, traffic laws and community policing. The Academy will meet from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, weather permitting, at the Government Center located at 11911 Dorsett Rd. Classes begin on Tuesday, Feb. 4 and run through Tuesday, April 7. Applications were accepted until Monday, January 20.
- Flatts of Dorsett Ridge – Zoning has been approved and waiting for development.
- AquaPort – Will be remodeling their entrance and getting a new wave machine attraction.
- Magnolia Garden Subdivision – Is in the planning stage, on Eldon Ave.
- Six Mile Bridge Brewery – Is planning an expansion, including an outdoor deck area.
- Hollywood Casino – Is planning a Thai restaurant to be added to the casino
- Everest Bar & Café – Is under construction at Westport.
- Robata at Westport – Is under construction at Westport
- Ice Arena – the All-Star game practices will be held there.
- Possibility of a new hotel going in on Dorsett Road

### Management Report by Keith McCracken:

Autumn Lakes Association as of 12/31/19 was \$162 under budget on income YTD and \$5,389 over budget on expenses YTD. Autumn Lakes Condominiums as of 12/31/19 was \$9,107 over budget in income YTD and \$32,459 over budget on expenses YTD.

Rob and Dave have been very busy addressing work requests, cleaning gutters and tending to the Lakes and replacing small retaining walls. The lake fountains have been stored for the winter. Squirrels, birds, and raccoons continue to be a problem in our attics. Please do not feed the wildlife as it creates a nuisance situation.

The spring leaf clean-up is set for the week of March 9<sup>th</sup> (weather permitting). The 18 houses can place their leaves at the curb for pick-up during this clean-up.

Several decks and patios in need of repair were identified in the 2019 walk through, letters are going out to notify these unit owners. Decks as well as concrete patios, windows, screens and doors are the unit owner's responsibility and are to be maintained in good repair.

Residents are encouraged to know where the water shut-off is in their unit and that it functions properly. In the event of a water emergency, knowing where and how to shut off the water flow quickly is very important and can save thousands of dollars in damage to your unit and the neighboring units. Every unit should have functional water shut-off for the entire unit and for the toilets, sinks, water heaters, etc. It is suggested that if you have an older model water shut off (a gate shut off), you may want to replace it with a new ball shut off which is easier to use and will more securely shut off the water.

Two of the most common problems with decks are no lag bolts securing the deck to the building and no flashing to prevent water from entering between the deck and the building. Lack of lag bolts is a safety issue and can result in the deck pulling away from the building and collapsing. Lack of flashing results in water rotting the ledger boards, band boards and result in siding damage and water leaks into the unit's lower level and can result in a deck collapse.

Check with the City of Maryland Heights to be sure your contractor has the 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.

As a reminder that Autumn Lakes does have an RV Lot for residents. However available spaces are very limited and must be reserved through the AMC office. Please contact AMC if you are interested in reserving a space for a boat or RV.

Please call 314.291-1450 if you have a work request, question or concerns or email [keith@amcassociation.com](mailto:keith@amcassociation.com)

### **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 Shah Smith and Dick Ornberg. 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 [autumn-lakesstl.com](http://autumn-lakesstl.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, please contact the AMC office for the Candidate Information form by Friday, April 10th. The Candidate Information form is due back to AMC no later than April 17<sup>th</sup>. Ballots will be mailed about May 5th. The election will be held on May 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Quarry Blasting:** Early this year, residents reported feeling higher seismic activity as part of the quarry blasting. Jay Black continues to research this each time it happens. He is working with Fred Weber and the City to see what can be done. *Vibratech* came to service and calibrate the seismograph at the clubhouse to study the magnitude of the current blasting. Norm reported that Maryland Heights had a short meeting about the blasting and the odor. Norm said the quarry owners would like to start with an information meeting about how the blasting works and may hold a meeting in February of area-wide residents including Bridgeton, possibly at the Maryland Heights Community Center. Letters will go out when the meeting is set.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Architecture Committee** – Dick Ornberg reported that we've had several requests for new windows to be installed which have been approved. There have been several new decks built as well. Dick did have a brief snafu with his emails to approve projects – but he has fixed that now. If you have older windows, replacing those windows can considerably cut your energy bills.

**Landscaping Committee** – Jay Black reported that Autumn Lakes and Maryland Heights took out 28 declining trees between November 2019 and January 2020; mostly oak trees infected with galls. Our treated ash trees are doing well. Maryland Heights has a few stumps yet to remove.

### **Social Committee –**

**Christmas Caroling** – A big thank you to Skip Williams for securing a float for the caroling event on December 15<sup>th</sup>. Carolers, and Santa, were able to ride while singing through the streets of Autumn Lakes. It was cold, but great fun. We would like suggestions on how to have more people open their doors to hear the group. It's always nice to have a good audience!



**Thanks to all the AL Residents who decorated their homes for the holiday. It was so pretty!**

**The LIGHT UP AUTUMN LAKES winners were:**

**Houses:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place: 11981 Autumn Lakes Drive (Besserman)

2<sup>nd</sup> Place 5 Autumn Shores Court (Molloy)

**Condos:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place: 11941 Autumn Trace Court (Williams)

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: 102-103 Autumn Shore Court combined decorations (Ball - Lauria)

**Back:** 11936 Autumn Lakes Drive (Brinkman)

**Wine Tasting:** We are currently interviewing wine companies for a Wine Tasting at the Clubhouse in May.

**AL Ladies Luncheon:** Sunday, April 26th from 1-3 at the clubhouse.

It was such a huge success last year, we are excited about creating another one. The planning committee is forming now—first meeting to be held on Sunday, February 16th at 1 o'clock at the Clubhouse. Call Christine to be included in planning.

**Picnic at the Pool:** Sunday, June 28th

**AutumnFest:** Sunday, October 4th

**Pink Flamingo Parties:** Fridays at someone's driveway (could it be YOURS?)

**Block Parties:** Watch for some block parties popping up this summer!

**AL Men's activity:** The social committee would like to help create an activity for the men of Autumn Lakes. And, we need suggestions. If we could get the AL men together, any ideas on what that could look like? Got an idea? Call Christine at 314-560-5705.

#### **Activity Groups in Autumn Lakes**

- AL Directory**—help get one started and/or be included. **LEAD: Christine Melton**
- Book Club - LEAD: Shah Smith 314-960-6620; 2nd Thursday each month at 7 pm.**
- Games - LEAD: Ronni Orłowski 970-980-9080**
- Movies—LEAD: Ronni Orłowski 970-980-9080**
- Dinner Out—LEAD: Marleen Padberg 314-323-1446**
- Local Day Trips—LEAD: Marleen Padberg 314-323-1446**
- The Arts - LEAD: Barb Stears 314-874-2216**

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### *Residents Questions & Comments*

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**Q:** A resident asked if the architecture committee would allow a resident to use pavers instead of concrete for their patio?

**A:** Yes, the committee would consider it if there are sound construction plans in place to prevent erosion and paver migration. Requires committee approval.

**Q:** A resident asked if a lot of patios were pulling away from the wall and how a group rate for patio replacement would work?

**A:** During the 2019 fall walk around, the Board found approximately 15 patios that need to be replaced and there are many others with cracks which owners might want to replace. These issues are usually caused by settling and by erosion around the patio. Residents will be sent a letter about the need to replace their patios. If owners don't get a letter but would like to be involved in the group rate, they can contact Shah Smith. AMC is still working on the details for participation in a group rate concrete patio replacement.

**Q:** A resident asked where does one look to see if flashing was installed on their deck?

**A:** Look for a folded piece of metal between the deck board and house siding. Don't forget to check to see if your deck has lag bolts as well.

#### **CLUBHOUSE RENTAL—Lynn Dornfeld, AL Manager**

Don't forget that the Clubhouse can be rented for special events by unit owners. The Clubhouse is available for resident rental for gatherings during the week and on weekends for graduation parties, baby showers, bridal showers and more. For more information, please contact AMC office.

## Speaking of TRASH.....

- Our AL Trash and Recycle Pick-up is on TUESDAY morning.
- For 2020, MEMORIAL DAY & LABOR DAY pick-up will be on WEDNESDAY morning.
  - Yard Waste Pick-up is on Monday morning (holiday schedule *may* apply)

If at all possible, **PLEASE PUT YOUR TRASH CONTAINERS OUT** no earlier than the night before, preferably after 6 pm.

Trash totes and cans should be stored away the evening after pickup. Help keep our neighborhood looking neat.

## *Autumn Lakes Ladies Luncheon*

Sunday, April 26th, 2020 1 to 3 pm.

### **WANTED:**

### **Planning Committee Members**

Open to all the Ladies of Autumn Lakes.

### **FIRST MEETING DATE:**

Sunday, February 16, 1:00 at the Clubhouse.

Call Christine Melton (314) 560-5705

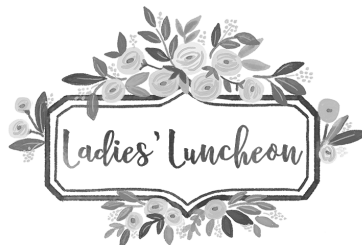
[meltonchristine17@gmail.com](mailto:meltonchristine17@gmail.com)

to join the planning fun!

Help us get the ball rolling to create a fantastic  
2nd Annual Autumn Lakes Ladies Luncheon

**Mark your calendars!!**

The next Autumn Lakes Association meeting will be held on 3/18/2020 at 7 pm.  
Autumn Lakes RESIDENTS are encouraged to attend.



**Autumn Lakes Ladies!**

Mark your calendars for  
Sunday, April 26th, 2020.