

The Cobblestone Courier

Issue Number 6

Autumn 2003



Cobblestone Estates Annual Summer Picnic 2003

Many neighborhood residents enjoyed the Annual Summer Neighborhood Picnic which was held on Saturday, September 20, 2003 on Fielding Drive. Cobblestone Residents enjoyed the warm summer day. The Association would like to give a special thanks to Mike & Lex Bitner and other volunteers who organized the successful event.



Neighborhood Watch Program - On Monday, November 3, 2003, the Cobblestone Estates Homeowners Association held a meeting to learn about how to establish a Neighborhood Watch Program. Neighborhood Officer Scott Allin attended and informed the residents of safety measures that can be taken to reduce crime in our neighborhood. If wish to learn more about the program Scott Allin can be reached at Pager 217-527-4441 or email at mpo600@aol.com. We are calling for volunteers to serve a Block Captains. Our first volunteer is Tracy Gathard. To learn more about being a Block Captain, please contact Tracy at 217-726-8202 or email at bgathard@yahoo.com.

Compare Your 2003 Annual Fees

Piper Glen Subdivision	\$180
Scarborough Subdivision	\$150
Koke Mill Subdivision	\$125
White Oaks West Subdivision	\$110
Mill Creek Subdivision	\$110
Cobblestone Subdivision	\$60

Cobblestone Estates Social Events

Planned for 2004

Please visit our Cobblestone Web Page at cobblestonesub.com for news about what's going on in the neighborhood. We would like to thank all the Social Event volunteers for all the time and effort they put into making these events a success.

Cobblestone E-mail Directory – Several times throughout the year, we have announcements, such as hosting a meeting about forming a Neighborhood Watch Program. Since the Newsletter is published only twice a year, we try and distribute information via a broadcast email. If you would like to be included in the Cobblestone E-mail Directory, please contact Susan WaliMohammad at sjwali@insightbb.com or 793-3209.

Bunco - Bunco is played on the 1st Wednesday of every month. Currently there are 8 players. If enough people are interested, we can start another group. Contact Susan WaliMohammad at sjwali@insightbb.com or 793-3209.



Independence Day Fireworks - On Friday, July 4, 2003, Dave Crabtree, Jeff Schultz and Andy Hamilton hosted a fireworks display over Lake Kingsley. Several residents set up chairs in their back yard to watch the show. Some said the display rivaled shows put on by several Villages in Sangamon County. They filed and received a "residential fireworks display permit" with the City so everything was official. Independence Day this next year is on Sunday, July 4, 2004. Rumors are that other areas of the neighborhood plan to have a bigger and better show. There have been some rule changes with the City regarding amateur fireworks, so please be careful and make sure you obtain proper approval.

Ladies Night Out (Option 1) - 2nd Wednesday of every other Month (January, March, May, July, September and November) If you're interested in girl talk, no dirty dishes and being served dinner, this is the one for you! At 6:30 the ladies get together at various Springfield restaurants. Contact Susan WaliMohammad at sjwali@insightbb.com or 793-3209.

The Cobblestone Courier

Issue Number 6

Autumn 2003

The Cobblestone Courier is published at least annually. Look for future issues on our web page. Contact Andy Hamilton at 546-7525 or andrewjhamilton@andrewjhamilton.com if you are interested in serving on the Communications Committee or there is something you would like to include in the Newsletter.

Halloween "BOO-ING" - October 15th Through October 31st – Once you receive your treats and a BOO sign, the following directions may vary a little: **Directions:** Enjoy your treats! Keep the BOO sign on your front door. Copy this letter twice and secretly deliver to two neighbors who do not have a BOO sign on their front door. Then watch how far this spreads by Halloween!! And don't forget some nifty treats, like something cute or something sweet. Contact Susan WaliMohammad by October 1st at sjwali@insightbb.com or 793-3209 if you would be willing to be one of the 5 homes needed to start this event. This is a voluntary activity.

Holiday Celebration – We are hopeful to be able to host another Holiday Celebration this winter. Unfortunately, social funds are falling short of the amount needed for the Association to underwrite the event. We may possibly schedule the event and charge a small door fee to cover costs. We need a volunteer to coordinate the event. If interested, please contact Andy Hamilton at 217-546-7525 or email at andrewjhamilton@andrewjhamilton.com.

Neighborhood Garage Sale – The Association plans to hold a neighborhood garage sale again this summer on Saturday, June 12, 2004. We plan to advertise the event with notices and signs. If you plan to participate and want to be included in the advertising, please contact Karen Troute at 217-787-3595 or email at kstroute@aol.com.

Summer Time Evening Walks - June through August, 6:00 to 7:00 pm. Just starting walking and get to know your neighbors.

Neighborhood Summer Picnic – The residents on Huxley and Thackery have volunteered to host the Cobblestone 2004 Neighborhood Picnic. The picnic is planned for Saturday, September 18, 2004. If you are interested in helping call Evan Hart at 217-787-0372 or email at maxixe@aol.com.

Neighborhood Politeness – In a previous newsletter, we politely asked residents not to block sidewalks with portable Basketball hoops and most residents moved the hoops to allow walkers the right of way. Another small issue is for residents to move permanently parked vehicles off the street and into their garage or on their driveway. There are city codes and neighborhood covenants that address these issues, but if residents help in this area, there would be no need for further enforcement. Please help make our neighborhood look less cluttered.

Vendor Selection - Requests for Proposals (RFP) for interested vendors to submit bids for lawn maintenance, lawn treatment, lake treatment, insurance, legal, accounting and etc. are available on the Association's web page at www.cobblestonesub.com. Vendors will annually be required to submit bids by the annual meeting for services during the calendar year. Vendors interested in providing a proposal for these services are encouraged to complete the RFP forms and submit them to the Cobblestone President.

Call for Volunteers - There is a vacancy on the board of directors. If interested in serving please complete the Board of Directors form explained below and forward to the President. Those members in good standing that wish to run for the Board of Directors are required to complete the "Board of Directors Candidate Form" posted on the

Association's web page at www.cobblestonesub.com and submit them to the Cobblestone President at 2508 Dickens Drive, Springfield IL 62707 or fax to 217-546-7569 by December 31 of each calendar year in order to be placed on the ballot. The board approved election rules which prohibit nominations from the floor at the annual meeting.

Cobblestone Annual Budget and Dues

The Cobblestone Subdivision has grown to approx 420 plus homes. Approximately three years ago the control of the subdivision was turned over to the residents. A series of meetings were held and an annual fee was established at \$60. The covenants require any new member to pay a one time \$100 "Entering Membership Fee" When new families were moving into the subdivision, the \$100 fee helped supplement the annual costs of maintenance. This is why the Association was able to keep the fee at a level \$60 for the past three years. Now that the subdivision is nearly completed. The only time we receive the entering membership fee is when a new resident moves in. The bottom line is that a \$60 annual fee does not cover the cost of maintenance and capital improvements in the subdivision. The Board of Directors is recommending a modest increase in the fees to \$80 with a voluntary social contribution of \$20. The proposed fee is planned to go into effect for the 2004 dues which will be sent out in the first calendar quarter of 2004. If you would like to comment on the proposed fee increase, please attend the annual meeting to be held on January 26, 2004 at 7:00 pm at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 220 South Meadowbrook Drive, Springfield, Illinois.

Notice of Annual Meeting - The Cobblestone Estates Homeowners Association Annual Meeting will be held at 7:00 pm on Monday, January 26, 2004 at the Knights of Columbus, 2200 South Meadowbrook Drive, Springfield, IL 62707. All members in good standing are encouraged to attend.

Proposed 2003 Annual Budget

On November 3, 2002, the Cobblestone Estates Homeowners Association Board of Directors approved the following budget for Calendar Year 2004: Insurance - \$5,000, Legal & Accounting - \$17,000, Debt Service - \$6,000, Electric - \$4,000, Maintenance & Capital Improvements - \$20,000, Office Expense - \$1,500, Total - \$53,500 plus contingency of 10%. The social activities are budgeted for \$4,000. The budget is to be submitted to the residents of the Association 60 days prior to the annual meeting with a vote of approval/disapproval at the annual meeting.

Lake Riprap – Many homeowners with properties on the lake have elected to place a rock barrier on their shoreline to reduce erosion and shallowing of the pond. The Cobblestone Covenants require each homeowner to maintain their property such as lawn care, etc. to the shoreline. The cost of placing rock is the responsibility of the homeowner. The Association has been contacted by vendors to perform this service. If more than one vendor does it at the same time, a reduced price can be obtained. If interested in getting a quote on the cost of this improvement, please contact Andrew Hamilton at 217-546-7525.

Rev November 11, 2003