

WRENWOOD NEWSLETTER

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The President's Corner

May 16, 2010

Wow! It's hard to believe that Memorial Day is just around the corner! That means it is time to plant the flowers, cleanup the mulch and get ready for a great long summer break, full of graduation parties and backyard barbeques. What a great time to live in Wrenwood!

We are finally underway with the front entry feature. I was a little premature in having the contractor remove the original sign back in March, but it was a nice first step to show how the gazebo and front island is far more open and easier to see. The contractor should be starting excavating for the new sign by the time this letter gets out, but only after a few little snags in getting the permits wrapped up. Now that those are ready, we should have the new sign in place by June. I look forward to having a photo of the new sign for the summer newsletter! The next step will be to begin working with a company to string holiday lighting on the sign, gazebo and shrubs this coming Fall – Anyone interested in helping in the process, please let a Board Member know.

The notices for the 2010 annual HOA were sent out and, for the first time in my tenure as President, we will not have to file any liens to complete the collection ... All 152 homes are up to date thanks to the great efforts of our Treasurer Lisa Dailey and our Secretary Lynne Gardner. Our more aggressive approach in collecting dues for 2010 and being far less lenient in pursuing outstanding payments paid off. I am sorry that we had to take that approach, but it worked nonetheless.

Our Annual Meeting was held on March 24th and was decently attended in comparison to past years. Major actions that took place included passing the 2010 annual budget and significant discussion regarding pet maintenance and safety. The budget includes the capital funds for the front entrance and holiday lighting that will result in a significant dent in our cash reserves, but will be worth the investment in the long run. The pet issues are still confounding ... Some folks continue to allow their dogs to run loose on occasion and (perhaps the same dogs) to defecate on sidewalks. I have not personally caught anyone's "dog in the act" but have certainly witnessed the aftermath and it's not pretty! We continue to ask that each person try to be courteous and considerate of your fellow neighbors and **clean up these messes!!!**

In regards to safety, several comments were brought to the floor regarding speeding drivers. We have seen more of a presence from the Lucas County Sheriff and will request even more to try to curb the speeding drivers. Again, this really is an issue of courtesy toward your fellow residents. We would truly hate to see something foolish or tragic occur as the result of someone trying to shave 10 seconds from their commute.

I have volunteered Magnolia Circle to be the site of the 2010 Annual Picnic and we are starting the planning process. The notices will be issued well in advance and we plan to set the bar higher than before as we host on "The M-O". A couple of questions and comments were raised to me about last year's picnic, specifically pertaining to residents from other neighborhoods such as The Ridge and elsewhere. Once again, this really comes down to an issue of common sense and courtesy. The analogy that comes to mind is having a party at your house. You may not mind if one of your guests brings an extra person, maybe two. But how would you feel if they brought more? Or worse yet, everyone you invited brought two with them without asking you? One of the great things about

The President's Corner continued...

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Wrenwood is how open and welcoming we are, but the Annual Picnic is the largest single expenditure that comes from your dues. This is the one tangible thing that is returned from the \$150 per household you pay ... Is it really appropriate to spend those funds on groups from outside our neighborhood? Please think about your neighbors before extending the invitation to folks outside the neighborhood.

As we move forward toward Summer, we are still looking to fill a couple of committee openings that we are requesting to be filled:

Welcoming Committee: As we continue to see some changeover in our neighborhood, it is important that our new neighbors feel welcomed and are provided with assistance and knowledge about the various activities and amenities in and around Wrenwood. We are looking for a few volunteers who would be willing to take the time to introduce yourselves and our community. If you are interested in participating, please contact a HOA Board Member and we will help where we can.

Ladies Night Out: We have been asked to seek out a new person to spearhead the Ladies Night Out events. If the different Bunko groups are not enough, we are looking for someone to carry these efforts forward. As above, if you are interested in assisting with coordinating these events, please contact a HOA Board Member.

Wrenwood Board: I will be stepping down as president this coming Spring and we will need someone to step in. If you are interested in serving on the Board, please contact us so that we may bring you up to speed on the processes and issues and get my replacement lined up before the next Annual meeting.

Recently some comments and concerns have been raised by residents regarding various issues within the development. Some of these items are within the Board's control, while others are not.

Pet Messes & Speeding: See the notes above and nearly every newsletter for the past couple of years.

Restricted Pets: The deed restrictions are very clear on the types of pets that may be kept and maintained within our neighborhood. Specifically, each of the plats has a section pertaining to pets, including the strict prohibition of "Pit Bulls and other vicious animals" within Wrenwood. The Board will be contacting offending owners directly.

Mis-Use of Trash Bins: I thought that I had heard it all, but it appears that there has been at least one incident of residents placing their trash in another's bins, including dog messes. Now, in one aspect, I am happy to hear that the mess was cleaned up, but to drop it into someone else's empty, closed container after pickup by the service and forcing those folks to keep it for a week is pretty sad. In addition, those same folks encountered two milk containers placed into their empty recycling bin after it had been dumped by the service. Once again, I am proud to hear about the recycling effort, but would remind people that the Township also provides the service ***for free*** if you are willing to take the materials over by the Township hall.

"Street Walkers": Sorry for the bad joke, but I figured it might get your attention ... Another concern that has been raised is the number of folks who make the choice of walking along the streets, versus using the sidewalks for exercise. While I suppose that this is a matter of choice that may be OK assuming drivers are not speeding or talking/texting on their cell phones while driving. However, witnesses have also mentioned people with strollers and small children in the streets – This could end very badly. Exercise is definitely important and I really encourage getting outside to enjoy the weather. But please be smart and wear brightly colored and/or reflective clothing. I would also encourage you to refrain from pushing strollers or allowing toddlers to walk along the streets.

If there are other issues, within the bounds of control of the Homeowner's Association that you would like to have addressed, please feel free to contact me via e-mail at president@wrenwood.net.

Lastly, Lisa Willford did another excellent job organizing the Wrenwood Garage Sale. A total of 58 homes signed up to participate in this event and the St. Vincent DePaul Society van came through after for the cleanup. This is a great annual event that does create some minor nuisance that one weekend, but seems to be well supported and will continue in the future.

Until the next issue, thank you for all of your comments and suggestions and we look forward to seeing you at our annual picnic later this summer!!



Once again, Laurel Hill Swim & Tennis Club is offering a great deal on summer memberships to all Wrenwood (and surrounding Monclova area families) residents. The cost is \$700 plus tax (\$747.25 total) and the membership runs from mid-May through mid-September. This includes outdoor tennis as well. Check out the website at www.laurelhillclub.com for information on the swim program. Tours are also available. Please contact Lynne Gardner at 419-531-7046 or lynnegardner@bex.net for more information or any questions you may have.

Garage Sale Recap

Another neighborhood Garage Sale has come and gone and we all survived! It sure was a crazy weekend around Wrenwood—with over 50 houses involved, we had record turnout. Even with the less than desirable weather I had reports that sales were successful. You know we have hit it big time in garage sales when we have a port-a-potty and other neighborhoods schedule their sales the same time as ours to get some more customers! The majority of the people (68%) who responded to a survey voted to have the sales again next year on Friday and Saturday. Other choices were Thurs & Fri (5%), Thurs, Fri & Saturday (6%), Saturday only (9%), and Friday only (12%).



The Wrenwood newsletter is now distributed electronically. Any email address changes or additions should be given to Lisa Dailey.

The neighborhood playgroup for preschool children meets at area parks, play destinations, as well as homes. Angel Fong has stepped down from her role as coordinator and is looking for someone to coordinate the playgroup meeting locations. Although it is often put on hiatus during the summer months, anyone looking to help organize this playgroup in the fall or even the summer should contact Angel for the email list of the most recent participants. Contact Angel Fong at 419-740-2828 or afong66@gmail.com.

Buck Brothers (www.buckbros.com) has offered a discount rate of \$115.20 for driveway sealing to all Wrenwood residents. Please contact Chad Buck for more details on this offer.

Glass City Coatings has also offered a discount of \$10 off of their quoted prices (price will be vary per house). Please contact them at 419-469-2620 for more details - mention the Wrenwood HOA discount.

Ladies Night Out

Would you like to meet some neighbors, take a break from your routine, and enjoy some fun? The Wrenwood Ladies Night Out is in need of a coordinator. Duties involved would be keeping the calendar of volunteers, and following up with the host for the month to make sure the event is going on as planned. Or, to be a host for LNO—just pick a date, plan an event and email the ladies in the neighborhood. Past night outs have included dinner at new/interesting restaurants in town, scrapbooking, beer & bowling, a night at the Toledo Museum of Art.

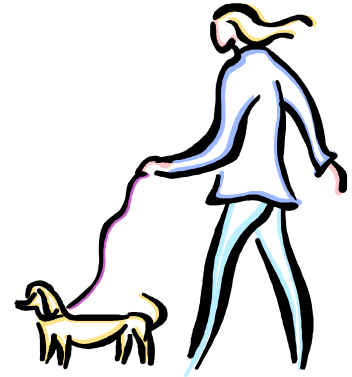
If you are interested, please contact a Board Member.

www.wrenwood.net

Don't forget to check the official Wrenwood website for all the latest information.

Jim Tomlinson of 3853 Silverberry Circle is our webmaster. If you have any suggestions or comments please contact Jim at 419-865-1806 or **webmaster@wrenwood.net**

Other items of interest on the website are information on Ladies Night Out, Playgroup, prior Newsletters, Meeting Minutes, Helpers Wanted/Available and community links of interest.



Help Us Help You!

Looking for a babysitter or someone to watch your dog while you are out of town? We'd love to help! The Wrenwood website can provide you with contacts for these services. Check out "**Help Wanted / Services Offered**" at Wrenwood.net.

If you have a service that you would like to advertise—such as babysitting, lawn mowing and care, pet sitting, snow removal etc, contact our webmaster to be listed on the website.

