

ERIE VILLAGE NEWSLETTER



October 2009

HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

77th Issue. Volume 2

5900 North Burdick Street

Suite 107

East Syracuse, New York

www.ErieVillageHOA.com

Jean DeSantis, Editor Jdesant9@twcny.rr.com

Dick Sparrow, President rsparrow@twcny.rr.com

Board Highlights September 21, 2009 Meeting

Treasurer/Finance Committee

Ed Bangel reviewed the financial statements for the 8 months ended August 31, 2009. Ed reported that we have started putting together the budget for 2010. The finance committee will review a draft budget at its October meeting. We expect to have a final budget ready for the Board to approve at the November meeting.

Snow Removal Committee

Bids for the 2009-2010 snow season have been received and are being reviewed.

Architectural Committee

The committee presented one request for change from a resident. A reminder that all changes to the exterior of buildings or the surrounding property must be submitted in writing prior to commencement of work. A request form can be found at www.ErieVillageHOA.com.

Managers Report

There are still a number of residents who have not scheduled smoke detector inspections in response to our recent mailings and telephone calls. Wynn will attempt to contact these residents once again. The Board will consider imposing a fine on any residents not complying with the request to schedule and be present for smoke detector inspection at their next monthly meeting.

Work continues on correcting drainage issues within the village. Recently, the Town of Manlius installed a new catch basin on Parkington. Wynn and crew cleaned out the existing drainage system and installed additional drainage where needed.

Significant work is in progress repairing water damage at the rear of 447 Summerhaven.

Insurance Committee

The committee has been in contact with our insurance broker regarding the 2010 renewal which will be occurring soon.

Monthly Board Meetings

Each month the board of directors meets to discuss issues, concerns and the normal day to day activities of Erie Village. The meetings are held on the third Monday of the month beginning at 6:30pm at our office in the basement of the medical center next to DOOW Lumber. All residents are welcome to attend.

If you have an issue that you would like to discuss with the board, we ask that you submit it in writing ahead of time so that it can be added to the agenda.

*Highlights Continued***Environmental Committee**

The second summer monthly water testing for the big lake has been completed. The test results continue to be excellent, well within guidelines set by the State of New York for swimming areas.

Other Committees

The following committees gave the board brief updates as to continuing issues relating to their activities: Street Lighting, Painting, Paving, Rubbish Removal, Grounds Maintenance, Erie Links Liaison, Covenants and Election

Web Site

The web site now has the "renters form" available on the site. The "renters form" provides us with needed contact information about you the owner and additional information if you rent the property. If you have not done so already, we request you complete this form and send it to the office.

General

Our legal counsel was present at the last board meeting to give advice and an opinion on a number of issues previously raised by the board. The board was advised that the main mission of the HOA is to maintain the exterior of buildings and common grounds as stated in Article VIII, Section 1 of the Covenants. You can find the covenants on our web site under General Information. Go to page 49 of the Covenants (it may show as page 50 in your Adobe Reader).

ARTICLE VIII**Exterior Maintenance**

Section 1. Exterior Maintenance. The Association shall provide exterior maintenance upon each Lot which is subject to assessment under this Article VIII hereof as follows: to maintain, repair, reconstruct, replace and preserve, on a non-profit basis, the exterior of the homes constructed, for the purpose of preserving, the exterior appearance and configurations of said Lots and homes, including, but not limited, to, all exterior (outside) walls, including window casements (excluding, nevertheless, all glass replacement or breakage and window screens), exterior chimney and exterior doors (excluding, nevertheless, storm and screen doors), roof, fascia and exterior trim, grasses and other exterior improvements, excluding, however, walks, patio areas, private areas, and/or decks. The Association shall have the obligation to keep the driveways and walkways reasonably clear of snow and ice and shall provide for the collection of garbage and trash. There shall be no obligation on the part of the Association to maintain, repair, reconstruct, replace or preserve any part of the interior of any home or any fixtures or mechanical system (including but not limited to, heating, including chimney, lighting, plumbing, air conditioning) for any Owner. The above obligation shall not include any maintenance, repairs or replacements caused by fire or other casualty to a home, except as provided under Article V, Section 3.

Other questions raised at the last meeting:

Question—Why are some lawns mowed with a hand mower? Answer—The lawn mowing equipment generally is sized for the large area mowing. Some lawn areas in front of certain units are simply too small to accommodate this large equipment, so push mowers are used.

Question—What do I do if there is a vehicle parked in visitor parking for an extended period of time or is illegally parked? Answer—Contact the office for a copy to a letter that can be placed on the windshield of the offending vehicle advising its user of the parking infraction.

Question—What is the status of relocating the fire hydrant on Lane V? It is a hazard to navigating the lane. Answer—We did receive a cost proposal to relocate the hydrant. The cost is prohibitive for the HOA. We are working with the County to see if they can give us some relief in regards to the cost.

Preparing for the Winter Season

If you are heading south for the winter, please provide a local emergency contact number while you are gone.

Make sure you close your foundation vents for those units that apply

Review the location of all water shut-off valves in your home with all family members.

Disconnect garden hoses and store in your garage for the winter. Make sure that you drain the hose before storing to prevent the hose from freezing and possible damage. Shut off the valve if possible.

Install or replace weather stripping on external doors including overhead garage door.

Replace furnace filters and have your heating system checked by a licensed heating/air-conditioning professional. Most furnace manufactures recommend at least annual inspections.

Check gutters and clean them if necessary. Clogged gutters can result in basement flooding and roofline damage when the snow melts.

Replace batteries in carbon monoxide and smoke detectors as well as thermostats and check to make sure these are all in working order.

Reset outside light timers for the time change and replace bulbs in light fixtures if needed.

Clean and lubricate garage door hinges, rollers and tracks and tighten screws.

Clean the clothes dryer exhaust duct, damper and space under the dryer.

Clean kitchen exhaust hood and air filter

From the Garden Committee

Thanks to the frequent nighttime rains, the Erie Village gardens bloomed beautifully throughout the season. The task of watering was less onerous than in drier summers. A sincere thank you to those who helped tend the common beds: Peter Monteleone, Rose DeSantis, Bernie Forth, Ed Ihle, Jim Skahen, Dominic Mercurio, Marcia Sleeper, Cliff Blakey, Barbara and Dan Shelly, Diane Tsibulsky, Karen Ferrari and Marj Schaff. A special thanks to Rose DeSantis for clipping, feeding and watering the beds on Parkington and for her assisting with planting in areas around the village.

In July and August, the Erie Village herb garden received numerous visitors. Small weatherproofing signs to identify the herbs would be helpful—a good winter project. The herbs planted were thyme, spearmint, chives, rosemary, sage, parsley, basil and dill.

Thank you to the many residents who beautify their surroundings with plants, shrubs and trees. As always, you are welcome to share your thoughts and gardening skills with the committee. Barb Whitney

A note from a concerned resident:

"Be aware of a growing problem with poison ivy around some units. In previous years I have pulled a vine growing on a tree trunk near my deck without any problem. This year it was entwined with "Black Dot" poison ivy, a more aggressive form. I suffered for a week of terrible itching and required steroid treatment for seven days, Research indicates that an increase in the incidence is due to global warming (Look it up on the web.) Keep out of it and keep your pets from brushing against it or you will be likely to suffer an incidence of it. " Although we are now into the fall season, poison ivy is still a menace even as it goes dormant for the winter.

Erie Village "GO GREEN" Initiative

Please consider receiving the monthly newsletter via email. It's as simple as sending a quick email to your editor referencing in the subject line EV-GO GREEN at jmdparkev@juno.com

Want to place an ad in our Newsletter or do you have any items of interest or suggestions for our monthly newsletter?

Looking for someone who can provide items of interest and ideas for our newsletter.

Your editor welcomes articles and helpful hints on just about any topic, from maintenance to gardening. Even the occasional human interest story. Please submit information to Jean DeSantis, 35 Parkington Circle or email and reference Erie Village Newsletter in subject line to jmdparkev@juno.com. Checks for ads should be made payable to EVHOA. For questions call 637-0018.

A Note of Thanks

The Creamers (Jeanne) wishes to thank all the neighbors in the village for the many kindnesses shown on the death of George. The numerous cards, food and help given to us at this very sad time show the reason why Erie Village is the place to work, play and live in the Syracuse area. We appreciate your thoughtfulness and prayers

Sincerely,
Jeanne Creamer

Erie Village Book Discussion Group



The book group will meet on Wednesday, October 14 at 7:00 pm at the Thiras residence, 189 Summerhaven to discuss Outliers by Malcolm Gladwell. The Wednesday, November 11 meeting will be held at 7:00 pm at the Schmidt residence, 361 Summerhaven when we will be discussing The Geography of Bliss by Eric Weiner. The group will once again get together for dinner for the Holidays in December. The book for the January 13, 2010 meeting will be Philippa Gregory's novel, Fallen Skies, meeting to take place at the Casciano residence, 411 Summerhaven. If you have any questions or would like to join the group, please call Janey Pajak at 637-1761 or jpajak@twcny.rr.com. The Erie Village Book Discussion Group encourages and warmly welcomes new members.

"To write simply is as difficult as to be good."

--W. Somerset Maugham

Happy Hour Now at Kirby's



The Wednesday night get gatherings have now moved back indoors and are being held at Kirby's in Fayetteville. Drink prices are reasonable, the food is good and the company is great! Come out and join the group 5PM on Wednesdays.

If you'd like to be added to the email notifications, contact Tom Callendar at tcallend@twcny.rr.com.

Board Members

Dick Sparrow—Pres.
Tom Callendar—V. Pres.

Dick Clark
Richard Lelong—Secretary
Jim Kraus
Sally Oot
Helen Buck
Millie Sitnik
Paul Franklin
Chuck Owen
Marj Schaff
Ed Bangel—Treasurer

Report Concerns to our Office

All residential concerns should be reported to 656-5148. Please leave your name, unit number, and a daytime phone number so that we can contact you. Also remember that all written notification should be mailed to the Erie Village Homeowners Association, 5900 N. Burdick St, Suite 107, E. Syracuse, NY 13057.

Wynn Collins—Maintenance Mgr.

EVHOA@cnyemail.com

Website: www.ErieVillageHOA.com

Committee Chairpersons:

Architectural: Helen Buck & Sally Oot Co-Chair
Covenants: Marj Schaff
Elections: Chuck Owen
Environmental: Millie Sitnik
Finance and Erie Links Liaison: Jim Kraus
Grounds Maint.: Bart Solenthaler
Painting: Wynn Collins
Risk Mgmt. / Insurance: Ed Bangel - Paul Franklin Co-Chair
Roads & Driveways: Tom Callender & Dick Sparrow Co-Chair
Rubbish and Snow Removal: Tom Callender
Website: Janet Yermas Decks: Millie Sitnik
Lighting District: Jim Kraus
Garden Committee: Barb Whitney

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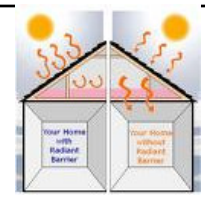
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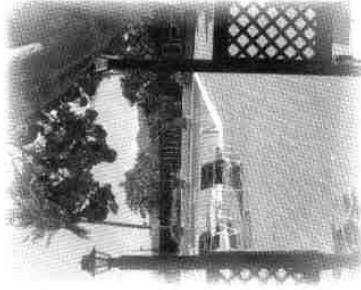
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