

March 2004

Volume 4, Issue 2

# The River Plantation Reporter

A Newsletter of the River Plantation Community

<http://www.river-plantation.us>

The members of the River Plantation Homeowners' Association Board of Directors are:

**Al Tong** – President (120 River Marsh Lane-678-445-5699).

**David Warden**- Vice President (506 Lazy River Lane 770-633-5142)

**Kelley Graham** - Secretary (1079 River Plantation Drive 770-591-2226)

**Carmine DiSclafani** – Treasurer (116 River Marsh Ln-678-445-0648)

**Katherine Cressler** – Board Member at Large (127 River Marsh Lane-770-592-5134)

## Access Management:

**Lindsay Malone:** 770-777-6890 ext 114  
[lmalone@accessmgt.com](mailto:lmalone@accessmgt.com)

The River Plantation Reporter is a newsletter published quarterly by volunteer homeowners for the entire River Plantation community. The Communications Committee is responsible for the content and production of the newsletter. Interested parties can contact Meridith Zelaya at 678-445-6427 or [mzel@bellsouth.net](mailto:mzel@bellsouth.net) with comments or if you are interested in volunteering. Please feel free to recommend content for inclusion in the newsletter. All suggestions are welcome.

## Summer is Here!

The pool is now open every day from 8:00am–10:00pm. Many thanks to those volunteers who helped in the cleaning, repairing, and painting of the pool prior to opening.

Please help in maintaining the cleanliness and safety of the pool and deck area. Be sure to clean up after yourselves by throwing garbage in the trash cans located outside of the gates. Trash

left in the bathrooms or in the breezeway will attract those unwanted bees and flies. Also, please keep the bathroom doors closed when not in use. There is a broom and dustpan in the breezeway for use by everyone. We could do without the ants as well as the bees and flies. Lowering the umbrellas when you leave is something we all need to remember so that we can

keep them in working order for as long as possible. We all paid for them—let's take care of them. Finally, for the safety of everyone, refrain from smoking and using glass bottles inside the pool gates.

Let's work together to maintain a clean and safe pool area for all!

## Letter From the Editor

Hello neighbors! Our summer is off to a great start, with fun visits to the pool, exciting tennis matches, and, as I gaze out my window this morning, some much-needed rain!

We would like to welcome all of our 2004 new neighbors: The Compos', Lang's, O'Weger's, Kumerow's, and Braio's!

I would like to say congratulations to Pam and Joe Tong for the latest edition to their family. Baby Andrew was born April 30. Also, Michael and Margaret Dean have a new baby, Kelly, to celebrate, and I guess I

should not leave my family out—we had a new baby boy, Andrew, on January 15.

The communications committee would like to add congratulations to neighbors in every issue, but we realize we may leave people out. So, we are asking for your help! Please notify us of people you'd like to recognize, be it for a new baby, a marriage, a promotion—whatever it may be.

As a new addition to the Reporter, , our Vent section is filled to the brim! Thanks for your comments—keep 'em coming.

On page 12, you'll see we have added a new section entitled "Net Zone" which

highlights websites for a given topic that will change from issue to issue. Also, I have included a list of resident babysitters on page 11. Additionally, please pay special attention to "A Call For Help" on page 6.

As always, please feel free to send any and all of your newsletter ideas to me or to [riverplantation@hotmail.com](mailto:riverplantation@hotmail.com). Have an article you'd like to write? Write it and send it to me! We'd love your input.

Meridith Zelaya

## A Letter From the Board of Directors

River Plantation Homeowners,

I hope everyone is doing well now that Spring is almost over and Summer is about to set in. I would like to take a few moments and update everyone on what is going on in the neighborhood.

The pool is now open every day now that school is out. Please take a few minutes and read the pool rules when you are down at the pool. Also, check out the new paint that has been applied to the bathrooms and the other cosmetic changes underway. Kelley Graham has been working hard to insure we have a beautiful recreation area and her hard work is showing. She has organized a few hard working volunteers who have done a wonderful job. Kelley is in charge of the gate system, so if you have any problems please contact her. Remember, your dues must be paid in order for your card to be activated. Until then, neither you nor any member of your household is able to use the neighborhood amenities.

Most of the yards in the neighborhood look excellent. I know most of you put a lot of effort into your yard and home and it shows. Some homeowners may receive letters from Access Management advising you of minor violations. Please remember, we are trying to maintain standards throughout the community.

If anyone has any architectural requests please contact David Warden. David is doing an outstanding job running the Architectural Commit

tee and making sure all approvals follow the guidelines set forth in the covenants. For the ACC members, thank you for volunteering your time to make our community look better.

We have two mixed doubles tennis teams in the neighborhood and they will be playing Saturday mornings. If you are not busy, stop by the courts and cheer the River Plantation teams on! We would like to add to the two City Championships that have already been won!

We have had a few complaints about parking in the street. We understand there may be times when you are entertaining guests and they will have to park in the street for a short period of time. Please have your guest park on one side of the street so others can pass safely. Also, when driving through the neighborhood, please slow down a little bit as there are a lot of children out playing. Remember, the speed limit is 25 mph.

We have installed motion sensor lights at the recreation area which should help stop our vandalism problems. If anyone sees any acts of vandalism or destruction of property, please contact the Cherokee County Sheriffs Office. We will prosecute any and all offenders. Hopefully we will be putting our security system back in place in the near future.

On a closing note, remember our brave troops who are overseas defending our way of life. Many servicemen have already paid the ultimate price so we can be free and safe in our homes. Please remember our President and troops in your prayers daily.

<http://www.river-plantation.us>  
[riverplantation@hotmail.com](mailto:riverplantation@hotmail.com)

## Area Events and Happenings of Interest

June 11: time TBA, Latino Orchestra concert in the park, Heritage Park Canton

June 12: 7:30 pm Felix Cavaliers of The Rascals, Woodstock City Park

June 14: Flag Day—Display your flag!

June 17-20: Atlanta Open Figure Skating at The Cooler, 10800 Davis Dr., Alpharetta. Free to spectators. [www.cooler.com](http://www.cooler.com). 770-649-6600

June 19-20: Alpharetta Main Street Market on the square in Historic Downtown Alpharetta, corner of Main St. and Milton Ave. Fine arts, crafts, antiques, and collectibles. Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. 12 noon-5pm [www.downtownalpharetta.com](http://www.downtownalpharetta.com). 770-475-5758

June 19: 10am-4pm. Peyote Bracelet Workshop. Cherokee Recreation and Parks Authority. 404-314-3615

July 4: Fire Works Celebration. 5pm-8pm children's activities, 6:30pm concert, fireworks at dusk. Wills Park. 678-297-6100

July 4: 3pm. Freedom Festival in Woodstock City Park

July 5: Independence Day Celebration and Parade. Downtown Canton to Heritage Park. 6:00pm

July 10: Art In The Park. 10am-3pm. Alpharetta Community Center. 678-297-6165

July 17-18: Alpharetta Main Street Market on the square in Historic

Downtown Alpharetta, corner of Main St. and Milton Ave. Fine arts, crafts, antiques, and collectibles. Sat 10am-5pm. Sun. 12 noon-5pm.

July 20: Georgia State Primary—make a difference, cast your vote!

July 23: Friday Night Dive-In. Gates open at 7:30, "Finding Nemo" starts at dark. Alpharetta City Pool on Old Milton Pkwy. \$3/person. Brings your floats and watch Nemo on the big screen!

July 28– August 8: USA Hockey Inline National Championship. The Cooler, 10800 Davis Dr., Alpharetta. 770-649-6600. [www.cooler.com](http://www.cooler.com)

August 6: 7:30pm, Coasters and Platters, Woodstock City Park

August 7: Old Soldiers Day Parade and Road Race. 9:30 memorial service and then parade. Main Street in Alpharetta. 8:00 am road race, Wills Park

August 13-14: Rodeo at Wills Park Equestrian Center. 8:00pm, gates open at 6:30. Adults \$15, children \$10. Bull riding, bare back riding, barrel racing, rodeo clowns, petting zoo, pony rides, mechanical bull, and rock climbing.

August 14: Peyote Bracelet Workshop, 10am-4pm, Cherokee Rec. and Parks Authority. 404-314-3615

### Ongoing Events/Tours/Exhibits:

Animal Encounters  
Chattahoochee Nature Center. Thursdays, 3-3:30pm, free with admission. Adults \$3, Children \$2, under 2 free. 770-992-2055

Star Talk  
Fernbank Museum of Natural History. Wednesdays 3pm 404-929-6300

Tanglewood Farm  
Tours Wed-Sun @ 10, 1, & 4. \$7, under 1 free. Tour includes pony ride; pre-registration required. 770-667-6464

Yellow River Game Ranch  
Tours daily 9:30-6. Adults \$7, children \$6, under 2 free. More than 600 animals & birds on a 24-acre see & touch preserve in Lilburn. 700-972-6643

Imagine It! Children's Museum of Atlanta: open daily 10-5. Geared toward children ages 2-8. 404-659-5437  
[www.imagineit-cma.org](http://www.imagineit-cma.org)

Fernbank Science Center: 678-874-7102 <http://fsc.fernbank.edu>

Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site: Mon-Sun 9-5 404-331-5190 [www.nps.gov/malu](http://www.nps.gov/malu)

**Check out these sites for more events! :**

<http://gastateparks.org>  
[www.ci.woodstock.ga.us/index.htm](http://www.ci.woodstock.ga.us/index.htm)  
[www.cherokeearts.org/](http://www.cherokeearts.org/)  
[Accessatlanta.com](http://Accessatlanta.com)

## Who's On First?

On July 20<sup>th</sup>, we have very important elections for local offices and we hope to see you voting. Don't think for a moment that all of the important stuff is coming up in November. This is the summer to be involved!

Many, if not most of the positions that are to be filled for South Cherokee County are going to be decided after the Republican Primary in July. Republicans are running unopposed; that is, there are no Democrats running against them. There may be as many as three members of the GOP running for the same post.

The drafting of new boundaries for many of these posts by the Secretary of State has further complicated the issue. Races that started a year ago have totally changed players. In the running to replace J.J.

Biello for the County Seat, we have Bart Brannon (R), Jim Hubbard (R), and Scott Forward (R). There is one US Senate seat up for grabs and there are two candidates vying for this position. They are Craig Dowdy (R) and Chip Rogers (R), both representing District 21. Representing House District 22, we have Sean Jerugson (R), Mary Wilhite (R), and Chuck Scheid (R). The positions of Sheriff, District Attorney, Probate Judge, Superior Court Judge, Coroner, and Tax Commissioner are unopposed so they will remain the same.

Those wishing to vote must be registered to do so by June 21. Please call the County Board of Elections at 770-479-0407. I don't like to play favorites in a political arena (I'm still a believer in the secret ballot) and I would never tell anyone which way to vote, but I will tell you that our polling

place is at Arnold Mill Elementary School.

Upcoming editions of the Cherokee Ledger will highlight interviews with many of the candidates and I encourage everyone to check out "who's on first" in our local political arena. I asked the candidates for interviews for this edition of the River Plantation Reporter, but only received one reply. That reply was from Craig Dowdy and is included below.

I would like to ask everyone to cast a vote. The past Memorial Days and those to come are dedicated to the men and women who gave their lives to preserve the right to vote. Let's not let those heroes down!

Michael Waycott Moore

## An Interview With Craig Dowdy

Michael Waycott Moore

*Craig Dowdy is a Republican running for the office of State Senator. He has received national recognition for his work in business law. Dowdy has been very active in the Republican Party and has spoken out against uncontrolled growth of Cobb and Cherokee Counties. He and his wife, Neeahima, have three children, Emma, Carsten, and new baby Regan.*

*The questions I asked Dowdy are as follows: How do you feel the recent redistricting affected and will affect our county and, specifically, our part of the county? What is the difference between a State Senator and a State Representative? You are a successful lawyer. Why would you want to go into the field of public service?*

Michael,

The redistricting should not affect southern Cherokee County or River Plantation subdivision. The maps that the court has drawn are not perfect, but they are better than politically drawn maps of the Democrats. Our district was and continues to be strongly Republican. It covers northeast Cobb and southern Cherokee.

The responsibilities of a State Representative and a state Senator are essentially the same with only minor differences. By the Georgia Constitution, the General Assembly is provided the "power to make all laws not inconsistent with [the Georgia] constitution, and not repugnant to the Constitution of the United States, which it shall deem necessary and proper for the welfare of the state." The rules of procedure and the committee structure does vary between the House and the Senate. We have 180 members of the House and 56 members of the Senate.

As your question states, running for and holding public office is demanding. It requires significant time and financial sacrifices to be made. I am running because I know I can make a difference in the Senate on the major issues facing our lives and the lives of our children. I view it as public service and I feel duty bound to make the effort to serve. For too long, politicians have talked about the issues without providing meaningful results. It's time for effective leadership. I am a pro-life, pro-family, and pro-taxpayer candidate. My business background and legal background along with my long history of leadership in the Republican Party make me uniquely qualified in this race to provide an effective difference in the Georgia Senate. I will work to improve education, to provide traffic relief, to create jobs in the District, to lower taxes, and I will push for smarter growth policies.

## Dear Tabi

Dear Tabi,

*I want to put a storm door on the front of my house so we can enjoy some outside air without letting in all the bugs in the county. Are there community rules about storm doors?*

Dear Stuffy Inside,

It is okay to put a storm door on the front of your house as long as it is first approved by the ACC. In order to get in touch with the ACC, you may contact the ACC Chairman, David Warden.

Truly Yours, Tabi

~~~~~  
*Dear Tabi, I would like to know the proper approach to letting a neighbor know that her/his dogs bark ALL DAY when they are at work. I can't go out my door without hearing these dogs. They bark for no reason other than to bark. I know dogs do this, but my problem is that the owners do not seem to care. I hope you can help me with this issue.*

Dear Annoyed,

Try talking in a nice, neighborly way to your neighbor and explain the situation. Hopefully they will return the courtesy and be kind in return and also do something to alleviate the situation. If not, call Animal Control at 770-479-6153.

~~~~~  
Dear Tabi,

*I've noticed at sporting events (Go Braves!) that during the National Anthem some people place their hands on their hearts when they sing but most do not. I thought a hand over your heart was for the pledge of allegiance; what gives?*

Dear Sport Fan,

You're exactly right, to put your hand over your

heart (and taking your hat off for respect) is for allegiance, but some people are just too disrespectful and are too lethargic to put their hand over their hearts. Those choosing not to make this gesture of allegiance oftentimes do not realize that the viewers, like yourself, are watching them.

Truly Yours, Tabi

~~~~~  
Dear Tabi,

*Why is it that a man is expected to remove his hat indoors but a woman is not? I really don't like feeling angry in church, but so often seem to have some lady with fantastically large headgear sit in front of me. I can't see a thing and it's just not right. Is it polite to ask her to remove her hat?*

Dear Anger Management Problem,

Men often put hats on their heads because they have not taken the two minutes it takes them to comb their hair or they have half the hair they used to. On the other hand, women often wear hats because it goes with their ensemble, therefore making it okay because it is just another accessory like a purse or sunglasses. Most women should know better than to wear a big hat as part of their church outfit because it will block other people's view and is just not appropriate as church attire. As far as being polite goes, she is already being rude, so in my opinion as long as you ask her in a polite tone it is perfectly fine to ask her to remove her hat (but make sure you ask her quietly so that you do not embarrass and offend her).

Truly Yours, Tabi

## The Green Thumbs

Tim Graham and Scott Northway

### Help Your Lawn Beat the Hot Season

Mowing adjustment is probably the most important practice to prepare lawns for hot weather. Mow at heights around three inches or slightly higher. If in doubt, set the mower as high as it will go. Lawns maintained at higher heights usually develop deeper roots and dry out slower than closely mowed turf. Lawn growth will slow as the weather gets drier and hotter.

Most lawns in our area consist of cool-season lawn grasses such as Kentucky Bluegrass, perennial Ryegrass, and fine Fescue. These grasses naturally slow down and may go dormant in the heat of summer. Decide to water lawns all summer as needed to keep them green or let lawns go dormant. Do not allow lawns to turn brown and then water them back to a

green condition, as this depletes energy reserves and stresses the plant.

Water lawns deeply and infrequently, applying about 1 to 1-1/2 inches per application, depending on site variables. Water early in the day if at all possible. Water should soak down into the soil. If allowed to go dormant, lawns only need about 1/4 to 1/2 inch of water every 2 to 3 weeks to keep root and crown tissue alive. Once more favorable cooler and drier weather returns, the lawn should break dormancy and green-up again.

It's best to hold off until later in the season for most other lawn care practices, including fertilizing, seed-

ing, thatch control, and applying weed killers. The period from late August through early September is ideal for many of these practices.

For now, help your lawn by proper mowing, watering, and keeping foot and vehicle traffic off the grass as much as possible during the heat of the summer months. For plants, make sure that your pine straw, mulch, or nugget layers are thick enough to hold back those pesky weeds and also keep the area around the plants moist and cool.

Well, that's all for now folks. Go enjoy a full rack of barbeque ribs and a tall glass of sweet iced tea. Take care and stay cool!

### A Call For Help

A fellow neighbor, Hermine, has asked for our help for some family friends whose house recently burned to the ground. The Rosenbaum Family of Coleman's Bluff subdivision lost everything, including their two beloved dogs, in a fire that occurred at 10:30am on Monday, May 9. While they will be supplied with a few things by their insurance company, they are still in need of clothing, suitcases in which to organize the clothing, and tools. David Rosenbaum is a private contractor with a business called "All Covered Up" and lost the majority of his tools and supplies in the fire, so any donations of tools would be appreciated. Clothing is needed in the following sizes : Men's medium shirts, 32x30 pants, 7 1/2 shoe; Women's medium shirts, size 12 pants, 9 1/2 shoe; size 10 boys, 6 1/2 shoe. Also, a benevolent fund has been established at the Washington Mutual Bank on Trickum for those wishing to contribute a monetary donation. Please consider any donation, no matter how small, for this family who has lost so much. Hermine lives at 521 Lazy River Lane and will collect any and all donations for the Rosenbaum Family. Call 770-592-9870 for more details.

## River Review

Due to lack of space in this issue, we chose to leave this section out this time around, but please continue to write us if you have something to recommend, whether it is a website, restaurant, book, software, store—whatever! We'd love your reviews! Thanks.

**We want to hear from you! [riverplantation@hotmail.com](mailto:riverplantation@hotmail.com)**

## A Case For The River Plantation Covenants

Standards, and review and control of those standards, involve everyone in the community who has a vested interest in maintaining, protecting, and enhancing property values. Failure to properly exercise review and control can foster misunderstanding and controversy among homeowners, a series of actual or alleged violations, and numerous expensive and protracted court cases. Additionally, the association and its members may suffer property value losses if standards and review are absent, ineffective, or inconsistently enforced. A successful standard review and control process must be recognized by the community as a benefit, not a burden.

As American society becomes more litigious, the individuals who serve on community association boards face increased risks of personal liability for improperly performing their duties. This one reason that the current ACC, formed in 2003, takes their responsibilities seriously and seeks to administer the covenants fairly, to document and publish its minutes, and to maintain paper backup of all modification requests. Prior to this time, there was little enforcement of these standards, including documentation to substantiate architectural change requests. Homeowners see so many inconsistencies in standards because this function was not properly executed in the past.

Your current ACC members view themselves as stewards entrusted with the responsibility to make sure homeowner property values within the association are maintained and that the covenants are adhered to. Does this mean that the Covenants are reasonable, complete, and effective? In some cases, no. The ACC is working to make the Covenants more reasonable and will present suggested wording changes of the 'ACC referenced sections' to the board and, if necessary, to the community for a vote. We also believe our responsibilities include being role models within the community and we work to avoid conflicts of interest by holding ourselves accountable to the same covenants as everyone else.

In addition to members of the ACC, members of the association's board owe the association the same duty of loyalty and care. Boards must enforce the association's covenants and rules and regulations consistently. Board members should never make exceptions for other board members or their friends.

As you ponder your expectations of both the ACC and Board members, remember that some personalities are not suited for community association living. Some people bristle when faced with rules and regulations that must be enforced to maintain established community standards. Like any endeavor involving people, community association living is not utopia. With all their inherent advantages – and there are many – community associations can face difficult issues, many of them connected to the need to balance the rights and responsibilities of individual homeowners with those of the community as a whole. Judgments are subjective and subject to change. Decisions are not always met with unanimous approval. Mistakes are made. Occasionally, community leaders may lose sight of what is right, fair, and reasonable. These entities are, after all, made up of fallible human beings.

So the next time you receive a violation notice, don't think of it as a foul instrument of harassment designed to cost you money. Think of it as a friendly reminder that your neighbors are interested in maintaining everyone's property values, including your own, and the esthetic appearance of the community as a whole. Also, if you need to make a change to your property or residence as outlined in the covenants, think of the modification request form as the 21st century's version of "being neighborly".

The ACC wants to personally thank everyone in the community who has made a determined effort to "play by the rules". You make our work enjoyable. Please email David Warden if you would like to volunteer for the ACC : davidwarden@msn.com.

ACC

# Slop Swap!

## EASY CHILI CHEESE DIP

In a 9X13, spread one block of cream cheese (reg or lite) Add one can of chili (any brand or hotness you like) Sprinkle shredded cheddar cheese to cover the top. Bake at 350 to heat thru and melt cheese. Serve with corn or tortilla chips. Easy and delicious!

Elaine

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## ONION CUCUMBER SALAD

Very nice salad for warm-weather get -togethers.

7 medium cucumber, sliced  
 1 small onion, sliced  
 1 small green pepper, cut into thin rings  
 2 tablespoons salt  
 1 tablespoon celery seed  
 2 cups sugar  
 1 cup white vinegar

In a large serving bowl, combine the cucumbers, onion and green pepper. Sprinkle with salt and celery seed. Combine the sugar and vinegar; pour over cucumber mixture. Cover and refrigerate for at least 8 hours. Serve with slotted spoon. Yields:14 servings.

Elaine

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## CROCK POT TACO SOUP

1 lb. ground beef, browned & drained  
 28-oz can crushed tomatoes  
 15 ¼ oz can corn  
 15oz can black beans  
 1 can pinto beans  
 1 small can tomato sauce  
 15 ½ oz can red kidney beans  
 1 envelope dry taco seasoning  
 1 small onion, chopped  
 Tortilla or corn chips  
 shredded cheddar cheese

sour cream

Combine all ingredients except chips, cheese, and sour cream in slow cooker. Cover & cook on low 4-6 hours. Garnish individual servings with sour cream, cheese, and chips.

Please contribute to the River Plantation Slop Swap! Our recipes are being compiled by Aubree Tong as she plans to create our first ever cookbook. We want your recipes!

Please send them to one of the following email addresses:

riverplantation@hotmail.com or mzel@bellsouth.net

Thanks for your input!

## TIMBERLINE LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT

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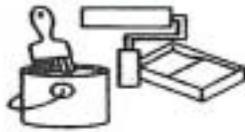
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# The River Rambler

This is our "vent" section—write us at [riverplantation@hotmail.com](mailto:riverplantation@hotmail.com)

This is the problem: parking on the side of the street instead of using the driveway. If you live at the residence park in the drive. If you don't live there but will be there for an extended time, use the drive. Sometimes the street is a must ,like parties, but please don't park on both sides of the road because it makes getting through a nightmare. Also it is very difficult when there are cars on the street on a curve because there have been several close-calls due to cars parked on the street. Please address this issue. Thank you

The bathrooms at the pool look great!

What can we do about all of the dogs that constantly bark? I'm so annoyed at the lack of concern on the part of our neighbors with loud, obnoxious dogs.

I would like to add to the vent section a concern about the lack of timely attention to the common areas - the landscaping looks pathetic. Flowers and pine straw are still not being replaced in a timely manner and it sets a bad example for the community! Another thing-- what is being done with the repetitive violators from last season that still have poor looking lawns and island beds this year? When is the whole board going to step up to the plate and do something about these folks?

I have a comment for the "vent" section: Why don't people clean up after themselves at the pool? I wish people would clean up their food and trash and not leave it for someone else to do. Let's keep it looking nice and clean and ant-free please, for the good of the whole community. Together, we can make a difference down there! Also, I saw some women smoking inside the pool gates and then leave their cigarette butts right on the cement by the pool—still lit! There is no smoking in the pool area! Isn't there a bucket of sand right outside the front gate? One cigarette butt can be deadly to a child, lit or not. I hope all of us pool-goers can work together on this so that the pool area can be kept safe and clean for everyone! Thanks!

People drive too fast for this neighborhood. Have you considered speed-bumps and/or a lowering of the speed limit, which is too fast for a neighborhood?

For the life of me, I cannot figure out why in the world some of our neighbors constantly insist on complaining about getting violation letters. Everyone agreed to the same covenants upon moving in. It should be no surprise to anyone that we need to take good care of our property for the good of everyone. If you're sick of notices, try not getting them. It isn't difficult. Also, I heard someone say recently that they were so annoyed that they got a notice a couple days after they took care of what the notice was instructing them to do. Why in the world would that bother you so much? Go throw it away, or better yet, document that you took care of the action and forget about it. The next time you get a notice, instead of getting all bent out of shape, be grateful that you live in a neighborhood that cares about its appearance and the property values of all of our homes! One day, hopefully everyone who lives here will take good care of their property so our community will always look its best. Until then, I hope those notices keep coming because I value this neighborhood and the people in it!

If one more dog wanders into my yard and pees on my flowers, I'm going to scream! I shouldn't have to worry about cleaning up someone else's dog's poop, nor should I have to be worried about my small children who have recently been scratched by a wandering dog that jumped all over them. Keep your dogs in your own yard and keep them quiet too. If your dog is barking excessively, please be considerate to your neighbors and bring your dog inside. I'm not talking about a dog that barks for a few minutes, I'm talking about barking that goes on for hours and hours—that is unbelievably annoying and inconsiderate.

# Antique Corner

Michael Waycott Moore

The joy of antiques should never be limited to just the back yard. Not all collectibles or antiques originate in the same area and even less wind up in where you are. So, its time to hit the road to look for the best buys and the most fun.

Our destination is Louisville, Kentucky. Sitting on the banks of the Ohio River, you will find antiques of the highest order. The trip begins with fine lodging, The Historic Rocking Horse Manor\*, a historic bed and breakfast, built in 1888 in the Louisville historic homes area. The building may be old, but the service is not; voted Best Customer Service for 2004, it is a place to be pampered. With rates that run from \$79.00-\$169.00, you can enjoy affordable luxury.

From the Inn it's off to the Louisville Antique Market. The building itself is an antique, an old warehouse that rests by the railroad tracks (everything rattles and moves when the trains go by). The building's brick and stairs are not quite level. Inside you are taken by the floors which are made of heavy planks of 2x4s worn by foot traffic and the steel wheels of the carts that moved freight over the floors for decades. The real fun begins as you look up and down the rows and rows of wonderful offerings and there's more than one floor. Thankfully there is a coffee shop upstairs to fortify you as you move along.

Our next stop is Joe Lays. The building was once a public school in the age when public schools were housed in one building. There are three floors above ground and a basement.

Every floor represents every type of antique or collectible (Want an old coffin? Perhaps a six foot stuffed bear with a beaver at its feet?). In the basement there is a wonderful collection of late 19<sup>th</sup> century to mid 50's hardware, doors, windows, and old flooring, enough to build a few houses in the old style.

If you have not found what you want in these two locations, there are 74 more major antique markets in and around Louisville. If you need some time away from the day-to-day, take an antiques road trip.

D.M. wrote in looking for a home for his antique radio. "Behind the Times" in Chattanooga uses parts and restores radios. Their number is 423.899.1058. Fred and Shirley May are often in Atlanta for various shows. They will be able to tell you more about the history of your radio and they may have a good home for it.

If you have antiques questions, please email me at our neighborhood address and I will do my best to find an answer for you.

Michael Waycott Moore, the resident Antique

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### Resident Babysitters:

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Stephanie Spurlin: 678-445-6438  
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Catherine Graham: 770-591-2226  
Brittany Booth: 770-591-5435  
Meredith Parker: 770-592-3336  
Erica Tong: 678-445-5699

\*\*Let us know if you want to be on this list!\*\*

# Net Zone

Doug Owsley

*The Internet can be a wonderful resource for answers to questions, but sometimes knowing where to look for those answers can present a bigger challenge than your questions do to begin with. It is our hope that this section of The River Plantation Reporter can help you with some of those challenges as each issue we'll highlight several websites focused on a certain theme. Since this is our first outing, I figured to keep this issue's topic close to home and focus on local web sites for information about our neighborhood, our county and other helpful sites.*

First off is our neighborhood's own site: <http://river-plantation.us/index.asp>

A calendar of events, information about tennis and the pool, a list of our covenants and an electronic copy of The River Plantation Reporter are some of the items currently on the site. We hope to keep the site growing and up to date and welcome your suggestions. (If the irony of seeing web links printed on paper isn't lost on you, stop by here for a soft copy of this document.)

Next is our home city's page: <http://www.ci.woodstock.ga.us/>

Here you'll find a brief history of the area, Woodstock's calendar of events, links to parks and recreation, Cherokee county schools as well as other helpful local information.

For information about our county visit: <http://www.cherokeega.com/>

You can learn in detail how the county came to be and a little about each of the municipalities. There is also a wonderful collection of community links (arts, environment, health) links to county services and departments, video of the commissioners' meetings as well as information concerning county officials and their

offices.

At the state level you can visit: <http://www.georgia.gov/>

Even from this site you'll need to do some searching to find specific items but it's a good place to start. Commonly requested items like elected officials, Governor Perdue's page, and state agencies are linked from the home page. There are also broadly focused links to help you find other items you may be after such as tourism, transportation, education, and legal & public safety.

With a general primary coming up you may want to visit: <http://www.sos.state.ga.us/>

Among many other things, you will find a link for elections near the center of the page. Here you can register to vote, get information on absentee ballots, and find contact information for our congressmen and state and county officers.

For local information from a commercial point of view try: <http://www.cherokeelink.com/>

It may take a moment to get used to the layout but once you do you'll find a collection of helpful links (like business and utilities) as well as some interesting maps of our area.

Lastly two links to help you keep things safe: <http://www.cherokeega-sheriff.org/>

<http://www.cherokeega-ema.org/#>

See what the folks who watch over our homes and our families are up to. You'll also find safety tips, photos, important phone numbers and collections of other helpful links.

If you have suggestions for topics you'd like to see web pages for in future issues, e-mail us and let us know: [riverplantation@hotmail.com](mailto:riverplantation@hotmail.com)

How many of you would prefer to see the newsletter posted to our website and/or sent to you via email in order to defray the cost of printing it? We are always looking for ways to save money. What do you think? Please let us know!

# Wonder Years

Michael Moore

This section is written specifically for the seniors in our neighborhood—have ideas for this section? Let Michael know! riverplantation@hotmail.com

During the weekend of the 12<sup>th</sup> of June, break out the sunscreen, a hat, and comfortable walking shoes and take a short drive to Blairsville. It is the weekend of the Highland Games. There will be pipes and drums, the throwing of the caber, and great Highland food. For those who are adventurous enough, there may even be haggis to sample.

The American Heart Association's heart screening includes a free CT scan of the arteries and information on stroke and heart disease. This is offered in the Education center of St. Joseph's Hospital. The next date for this event is yet to be

determined, but you can call the AHA, St. Joseph's Hospital, or me (770-516-7492) sometime after the middle of June as we should have that information by then.

Remember, being senior means that you have more to offer those who are junior, but only if you are healthy enough to offer it. So, take care of yourselves this summer, and remember, the best exercise you can do is "just move". Consult the "events" section earlier in this publication and go have fun!

Due to recent damage to the irrigation system at the front entrance from realtor signs, residents will no longer be allowed to place signs for the sale of real estate on community property. As per the Covenants, you are allowed one sign on your property. The Board is looking at the cost of placing one "Homes Available" sign at the entrance in order to entice potential homebuyers into our neighborhood. This decision will eliminate the "clutter" of signs which occupy our entrance at this time. Please have your realtor remove any signs by this weekend.

Our neighbor Cheryl would like to host a women's Bible study group this summer. The study is entitled "Lord Teach Me To Pray" by Kay Arthur. It is a 28-day study and Cheryl would like to meet once a week for five weeks during June and July. She would love to meet with those interested! Please contact her at cdspringer@bellsouth.net.

After mowing your lawn, please clean up the clippings with a blower while refraining from putting them in the street. The clippings, if allowed to enter the catch basins, will clog up the storm drains.

<http://www.river-plantation.us>  
[riverplantation@hotmail.com](mailto:riverplantation@hotmail.com)

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