

The Forest Lake News

"What's Going on in Your Own Back Yard" - June, 1994

Sweet Success!

Thanks to everyone who participated (and there were so many people who did!) our first annual Arbor Day Clean-up was a great success! If you haven't visited our parks in the past month, you are in for a big surprise. What a difference a day makes! More on the Arbor Day Clean-Up on Page Two.

What's Next?

Our new Parks Commissioner, **Greg Hatz**, is already assembling his committee of volunteers to continue improving our parks. Next up for this summer are picnic tables, new swings, and wood chips under all the park equipment. If you would like to be involved in planning, improving -- and ultimately enjoying -- our parks, call Greg today at 540-9427.

The first Parks Committee meeting will be held in June. Please join us, and help us to make Forest Lake an even better place to live!

\$\$ Keep 'Em Coming \$\$

We have heard from so many of you this past few months, and we are glad you all seem so pleased with our ideas and accomplishments. We still have lots of work to do this summer, but we've reached an impasse -- we need everyone in the community to pay their annual dues **NOW!** To date, over 40% of our neighbors have not paid their 1994 dues. Without this money, all we will be able to do this summer is pay our utilities and cut the grass at the parks. Please send yours in now. See Page 7 for a handy, tear-off "instant invoice".

Wedding Bells

...Will soon be ringing for one of our neighbors. Congratulations to **Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Williams** of Starry Lane, on the engagement of their daughter, **Victoria**, to **Douglas Shepherd** of Orland Hills. The happy couple plan to marry this July. Victoria and Douglas, on behalf of all your neighbors and friends in Forest Lake, may I wish you all the happiness in the world!

Dredging

I'm thrilled to say, "It's history!" That's it, no more, we're through! And what an accomplishment for our community. All that's left on the dredging "to do list" is a **GIANT** thanks to everyone who has volunteered their time. See Page Two.

Happy Mothers' Day

Our belated best wishes to all our Forest Lake Moms; we hope you enjoyed your day. (I suppose that I should have mentioned it last month, but it slipped my mind -- and I'm a mom, too!)

And Happy Fathers' Day

To all our Forest Lake Dads! May your day be enjoyable and relaxing.

How Does Your Garden Grow?

Ideas for the Forest Lake Garden Club are underway! Whether you have been gardening for a lifetime, or you are digging your very first garden, join us! Call Jean Hewett at 438-6617. Our idea is to meet new neighbors, make new friends, and to improve our gardens.

Our Garden Club is also interested in improving our parks and entrances, and we will be planting flowers at all the parks this month. *Kids -- we would love to have you help with this project. Additionally, we are asking for donations of hostas, columbines, and other shade-loving, low-maintenance perennials, which will be planted at our parks.

Thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Carro, who have donated Daffodil and Grape Hyacinth bulbs for our entrances. We will all enjoy the flowers next spring. Thanks, neighbors! Anyone else interested in donating bulbs and/or their time to plant them? Call us!

Finally, we will be planting a native Illinois prairie at the Central Beach, under the utility line by the parking area, and at the Community Center, in the ditch along East Road. There will be many varieties and blooming time will be from May until October.

The plants for the latter area were donated by, and will be planted by, our neighbors on East Road: Thanks to **The Gonsiorek's** and **The Urbach's**, who donated the plants. Please take heed: care must be taken for these plants to become established. Parents: please explain to your children that we must stay clear of the newly planted areas in order to enjoy many years of beautiful flowers.

If anyone is interested in being involved in our parks and entrance beautification project, if you would like to donate plants or bulbs, help with planting, or would like more information on this project, call a Board member or Ladies Auxiliary member.

What's in This Issue?

Thank You: Thanks to our neighbors who are helping to make a difference in Forest Lake.

Money Matters: Do you know how your dues are spent? Page 3.

Remember When: What do you know about our first FLCA President and his wife? Page 5.

Telephone Poll: We need your input on boat parking and the slide at Erker Park. Page 6.

And The Survey Says: Some survey responses, questions, and our answers. Page 7.

For Kids Only: Congratulations to our graduating students, some ideas for Fathers Day, and more! Page 5.

What are People Saying... about the FLCA Pot Luck Pig Roast? Say what you want, but be there! Details on Page 6.

Ladies' Auxiliary: This month's meeting is at Sharon Haul, Tuesday, June 7, at 7:30 pm. We need to do some planning for the rest of the year, so bring your ideas -- and don't forget your cookbook recipe! As always, call Nancy or Laura for more info.

More on the Clean-Up

The weather was great, the volunteers were abundant, and thanks to everyone's help, the parks look fantastic! I saw quite a few smiling faces, especially those who were just waiting for an excuse like this to wield a chainsaw! (I just don't get the attraction to power tools!)

The new bushes at the Central Beach look fantastic. We planted Black Chokeberry, Viburnum, and Forsythia. Please remember that the bushes are new and care must be taken until they are well established (Parents, please make your children aware of this, and ask them to stay clear of the bushes for now). Thanks to our Board Chairman **Steve Norman**, for obtaining some truly beautiful bushes at a price that could make even a bean-counter like me smile!

The Erker Park clean-up had to be postponed until May 15. I took advantage of this opportunity to meet our neighbors on the west side of the lake, and it was another successful day of fun and work! I'm sure everyone who uses Erker Park was thrilled to see the delivery of sand; we intend to make a swimming beach at Erker, where there was none before.

For those who participated, send us your ideas for our parks and for next year's clean-up now, while those ideas are fresh on your mind. We'll compile them to use in planning future projects. Better yet, join the new FLCA Parks Committee -- Call Greg at 540-9427. I think this is just the beginning of a lot of great projects for our community, don't you? Thanks again, neighbors!

Welcome! Welcome!

More new neighbors means more friends for all! Welcome to Forest Lake, and be sure to call any board member with any questions you may have!

Pat & Nancy Hanlon, on Valley Road.

Steve & Judy Bennett, on Lakeside Drive. Our thanks to Steve & Judy, who have volunteered their hose & water to water the new bushes at the Central Beach.

The Murphy's, on Cottage Road
Anyone else? Let us know if you or your neighbors are new in town, so we can welcome you into our neighborhood.

A Round of Applause!!

...To all who helped to make our dredging project a reality -- and a success!

Bob Hummel, our dredging contractor, who truly performed services above and beyond anything set forth in his contract--and at a price that we couldn't beat if we did all the work ourselves! And thanks to his work crew, who were always friendly, polite and hard-working!

Dave Hembd and **Dominic Tufano**, our dedicated Board Members who took charge of this project and headed up our volunteer task force. Dave and Dominic have spent hundreds (this is no exaggeration!) of hours organizing, planning and physically working on this project.

Mrs. Steinken, one of our long-time neighbors, who allowed the dredging crew to access the lake via her property. Our hats off to you!

Tom & Annette Heil, who not only allowed our dredging crew access to the channel via their property (which, consequently, is minus a few trees), but Tom was an active member of our volunteer work force. Thanks for your dedication!

Our volunteer work crew: Many of you are not be aware of the terms of our dredging contract: It was the responsibility of the FLCA to keep the water out of the way of our dredging contractor. As we have mentioned before, we got this job done through volunteers -- and we couldn't have done it without them! Our volunteers logged about two to three thousand hours of physical labor on this project, and for this we can not thank them enough!

Our volunteers are responsible for draining the lake last December, and keeping the water level down through one of Mother Nature's most helter-skelter winters! They were out on the lake, fighting the elements throughout the January Deep-Freeze, and they have been covered in mud so many times since the February Thaw that I wish I had purchased stock in Biz Bleach!

If you see any of these gentlemen out and about, be sure to give them your thanks! **Dave Hembd, Dominic Tufano, Todd Bouffard, Greg Hatz, Tom Heil, & Pat Lynn**. And thanks to your wives, children, significant others, et. al. who were willing to share you with your community!

Let's Set the Record Straight

We have many names for our beaches: South, Middle, Erker Park, West, Steinken Park, Central, etc. It's confusing! When I was enlisting volunteers for the Clean-up, no one knew which was which. For this reason, I would like to suggest that from this day forward we refer to our parks as follows:

The beach on Forest near Glendale was named in memory of one our long-time Board Members, **Walter Erker**. so let's call it that! No more "west beach," rather, **Erker Park**.

The beach on Lakeside near Valley was named in memory of **Gene Steinken**, who used to teach swimming lessons to our neighborhood children. So let's can the "south beach" label, in favor of **Steinken Park**.

We also have the Central Beach, on Lakeside between Ridge and Pepper, the Community Center Park and softball field, at South and East Roads., and the Boat Launch, at Old McHenry and Lakeside

Did You Know...

... that in the early days, the Boat Launch was *the* park in Forest Lake? It was complete with a water pump and changing cabana, and the annual carnival was held there. Next year, in connection with our 60th anniversary celebration, we plan to dedicate this park to one of Forest Lake's first benefactors. More in next month's edition of *The FLN*.

From the County: Newton's Notes

Dear Forest Lake Friends,

Congratulations to the FLCA Board for their work on behalf of all the residents in the community. This month, Lake County Department Directors have been working hard in response to inquiries made regarding traffic concerns and park rules enforcement (Lake County Sheriff's Dept.), road and entrance improvements (Public Works), and lot clearing and refuse burning (LZ Fire Dept.). I assure you, everyone in Lake County Government has become knowledgeable about Forest Lake and our wish list for services, and your board volunteers are to be commended for addressing these and many other concerns that are unique to Forest Lake.

On a positive note, I am pleased to inform you that last month, over one million dollars of county funds were allocated to Ela Township for road improvements. I am always pleased to lobby for tax dollars to be returned to communities that are often overlooked.

I plan to attend the FLCA Pot-Luck Pig Roast in July, and I hope to see many of you there. I intend to provide voter registration services at the picnic, so if you would like to be qualified to vote in the November election, and you are not currently registered to vote or you have recently moved and need to report a change of address, please bring two forms of I.D. (one with current address). The whole process takes one minute. Don't worry about jury duty -- in Lake County, jury duty selection is pulled from the driver's license bureau, so you have no excuse -- make your vote count!

I'll see you July 23rd, and please feel free to call me with any concerns.

*Pam Newton, Lake County District 18 Representative
Home 913-6868, Work 360-6336*

Money Matters

Every now and then I am asked, "what does the Board do with our dues? For your information, we publish our annual financial statements in this newsletter. This tells you how much we collected the previous year, how much was spent, and what it was spent on. Additionally, our budget tells you how and what we intend to spend in the upcoming year. Further, our books and records are always open for inspection, subject to the rules set forth in our bylaws.

I realize that if bean-counting is not in your blood, it can be hard to relate these statements to your \$60. Therefore, I have set forth an example of how one \$60 payment will be allocated and spent. This example is a composite, based on an average of the last few years of actual expenses and the current year budgeted amount. This will give you an idea of our routine expenses. Any money that is leftover is set aside as reserves. This is the money that we use for non-routine expenses, such as the dredging project, park equipment, or painting the Community Center.

Insurance	16.80
Membership*	3.60
Newsletter	3.30
Federal Income Tax	1.20
Other Operating Expense	1.20
Community Center Upkeep	7.50
Entrance Upkeep	.60
Parks-Grass Cutting	7.20
Parks-Other Maintenance	1.80
Association Activities	2.40
Reserves & Non-routine Expense	14.40
	<u>60.00</u>

**Membership expense is the cost of collecting dues: the cost of invoices, postage to mail them, and vehicle and boat stickers.*

This year, we expect to collect about \$23,000 in dues. Based on this model, that means we will have \$5,520 for reserves and non-routine expenses. That's not much, considering it will cost \$1000 to paint the Community Center, and park equipment -- well, there is not much available for less than \$7,500 that complies with all the guidelines for public parks. Do you get my drift?

If we were to receive dues from 100% of the people in Forest Lake, we would have an extra \$7,000 each year to improve our neighborhood!

FLCA Board Members

		<u>Area of Responsibility</u>
Laura Tegmeier	438-3688	Association Activities, Community Center Rentals
Vic Vaasalo	438-8013	
Dave Hembel	558-9064	Building, Zoning & Architecture
Maija Buriss	438-3114	FLCA Secretary
Jerry Hermes	438-9087	
Jovita Kerns	548-5958	Entrance Beautification
Greg Hatz	548-9427	Parks Commissioner, Insurance
Steve Norman	548-8857	FLCA Chairman, Community Center Maintenance
Dominic Tufano	558-6726	FLCA Vice Chairman, Lake Committee Chairman
Nancy Gonsiorek	726-2743	Accounting & Legal, Newsletter
Pat Lynn	438-8859	Membership
Barry Moore	438-4162	Historian

Our meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month, at 8:00 pm, at the Community Center. You are welcome!

The FLN is the monthly publication of the Forest Lake Community Association. Got some info, gossip, complaints, etc.? Write us:

The Forest Lake News
P.O. Box 314, Lake Zurich, IL 60047

Or call the Newsletter Hotline at 726-2743

@ ! # ! * Annoyances & Reminders * ! # ! @

Complaints were down this month; complimentary calls to say thanks, keep up the good work, etc. were up! -- I hope that means everyone is happy (almost everyone!).

We did receive several anonymous notes this month. A note to those of you who chose to remain nameless:

If you do not provide a name, address, and phone number, the board has no way of contacting you to obtain additional information or otherwise follow up on your questions, comments and complaints. This is particularly problematic in cases where a complaint is made about a specific property, vehicle, etc. We can not print matters regarding this type of situation in *The FLN*, as we may be subjecting the FLCA to libel or other harassment charges.

The FLCA Board feels strongly that the problems and concerns of all our members need to be addressed; however, such issues must be resolved in the proper manner. For this reason, we ask that anyone requesting assistance from the Board with specific problems or concerns provide a means for us to contact you. Please trust that we understand the need for confidentiality, and we will take care to guard your anonymity. As always, we will do our best to make Forest Lake an even better place to live.

A Word From Joe

We had lots of calls this month thanking us for the information regarding construction curfews. Additionally, we had questions pertaining to the state of the roads around construction sites. I spoke with **Joe Martinez**, our Ela Township Highway Supervisor, to get the facts.

We all know that mud is inherent around a building site, and it is inevitable that it will be on the roads in the vicinity of such sites. However, it is the responsibility of the builder to keep the roads clean. According to Joe, the roads should be cleaned every evening! Joe encourages us to call him if we ever have a problem with the state of our roads (438-2371). Joe takes his roads very seriously and he will follow up on any concerns we may have. Thanks again, Joe!

Smokey the Bear is Watching

Did you catch the "Volcano on South Road," around the beginning of May? Those of us who did were pondering the extent of the fire codes that govern us in Forest Lake. I always find the best way to find accurate information is get it "straight from the horses mouth." Accordingly, I spoke with **Mario Tristan**, Lake Zurich Fire Protection District Inspector, and he was happy to provide me with a list of ordinances.

Open burning of small, manageable piles of landscape materials (leaves, branches) is allowed.

Large piles of landscape debris (as in the South Road situation, where a builder is clearing a lot) can only be burned under certain circumstances, and a **permit must be issued** by the LZFPD.

Any open burning must be constantly attended, and will be prohibited if the smoke or other emissions are offensive or objectionable.

Burning of **any** construction materials is strictly prohibited in the State of Illinois. This includes lumber, cedar siding, etc.

If you have problems or questions regarding any of these issues, call the LZFP non-emergency number: 540-5070. Additionally, with July 4th rapidly approaching, Mario would like to remind all of us that **fireworks of any sort are illegal** in the Lake Zurich Fire Protection District area (this includes sparklers!). I trust that this information will help my cat sleep better this July 4th holiday!

Our Advertising Policy

Ad space is available in *The FLN*, subject to the following rules:

We print advertisements on a first-come, first-serve basis. There is only one size available; that is approximately the size of a business card.

Public service ads are no charge. Cost for a business ad is \$5 monthly, \$60 for 13 months. All ad revenues will be used to defray the cost of publishing *The FLN*.

Monthly Meetings

We received a comment from one of our neighbors regarding our monthly FLCA Board meetings. Specifically, this neighbor commented that we do not take care to include the audience in our meetings.

Our meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month, at 8:00 P.M., at the Community Center. Everyone is welcome to attend. However, these meetings are *monthly business meetings* of the FLCA Board of Directors. Our annual *membership meeting* is held each December. Additional membership meetings can be called under certain circumstances -- please consult our bylaws (or call me -- I'd be happy to clarify this issue) for more information.

As is customary with most homeowners associations, our monthly business meetings are conducted in accordance with *Robert's Rules of Order*. We value the input of all of our members, and we welcome attendance at our business meetings; however, in accordance with *Robert's Rules*, we ask that such issues, complaints, comments and concerns be addressed to the Board *at the end* of our meetings, when we have an open forum for such discussion.

Furthermore, please feel free to call any of our Board Members with your comments, suggestions, concerns, etc. That's why we publish our numbers. If you would like to know more about how homeowners associations operate, there is an excellent book available at the library: *The Homeowner's Association Manual*, by Peter Dunbar. That is the book we use as a guideline.

The FLCA reserves the right to refuse advertising that we feel is inappropriate for a family publication. We also reserve the right to slightly alter advertisements in order to fit them into the available space.

All the same rules apply for ads in the Ladies' Auxiliary cookbook, except that the cost is \$7.50 per ad, and proceeds will be spent on our neighborhood beautification project.

Our Heartfelt Wishes

Our thoughts are with our long-time neighbor, Tom Michael, and his family on the passing of his wife, JoAnne. JoAnne was a very active member of the old FLCA Ladies Club. Tom, our deepest sympathy is offered to you and your family; JoAnne will be missed.

Since JoAnne was involved with the last Forest Lake cookbook, we will dedicate our new cookbook to JoAnne. We will include JoAnne's favorite recipe, and we will increase the price of The Forest Lake Gourmet by 50 cents; proceeds will go to beautify the parks in JoAnne's memory, this is what she would have wanted.

Remember When...

The Arbor Day Clean-up was a great excuse to meet neighbors. Those of us who worked at the Central Beach received the extra bonus of getting a little dose of Forest Lake history from our long-time residents, **Jack and Helen Wendt**. The subject of the day? **Harold and Ruth Blackwell**. Many of you know the name, I'm sure. The Blackwells lived in Forest Lake for much of their very long lives; Harold was the first FLCA Board President, and several of our neighbors still use the Blackwell Community Well.

The Blackwells were very civic-minded individuals, and were great benefactors of the Lake County Forest Preserves, Lake Zurich, and Northern Illinois University -- not to mention Forest Lake. Mrs. Blackwell was a school teacher; she even drove the area children to school before there was a school bus. Mr. Blackwell was a Veteran of WWI -- he was actually declared dead on a battlefield, but managed to make it back to safety. A long recovery period followed, and ultimately he ended up in Forest Lake. He remained active with the VA until his death at age 95; the Lake Zurich American Legion Post named a hall on his behalf.

Pete West, the director of The Northern Illinois University Learning Center, was thrilled to hear from me, and has sent a whole package of information on the Blackwells. If you are interested in borrowing these materials, give me a call.

Do you remember when FLCA Board Members wore suits and ties to the monthly meetings? Today we are well-dressed if we are all wearing our shoes!

Storm Water Update

Pam Newton called me today with great news: The Storm Water Mgmt Commission (SMC) has received a \$5,000 Community Block Development Grant to complete Phase II of the engineering studies being performed in Forest Lake.

As you may recall, Phase I of this study was performed to delineate the Forest Lake creeks on the official Building & Zoning maps. It was determined that there are creeks in Forest Lake, and the creeks posed a flooding problem to nearby homes. Phase II of this study will determine what to do about this flooding in the future. At present, it is anticipated that a storm sewer system may be the answer.

Thanks again to Pam Newton, who has worked hard to resolve the flooding problems that have plagued us for so long. We will keep you updated on future actions of the SMC.

Ela Area Library Notes

As always, call Jennifer with your questions, at 438-3433.

Summer Film Fest on Tuesdays at 1 & 7 pm. *Mrs. Doubtfire, Shadowlands, and The Joy Luck Club* are scheduled.

Summer Reading Program Sign-up starts May 28.

Self-Defense Workshop June 23, 7:30pm

Star-Gazers Workshop July 28, 7:30 pm

Bus Trip - Natalie Cole at Ravinia, Aug 21

Another Playgroup

...Is starting in Forest Lake. **Lisa Bujnowski** is hoping to start a group for children around the age of 6-18 mos. Call Lisa if you are interested at 726-1938.

For Kids Only

School's Out!! And summer is here. I hope everyone is careful near the lake this summer. Remember, with the water level so low, you may find yourself walking in places where there is danger of broken glass, etc., so please be careful!

How will you spend your vacation? Why not write an article or draw a picture for this newsletter. Send it to :

The Forest Lake News
P.O. Box 314
Lake Zurich, IL 60047

Congratulations to everyone graduating this spring. Off to college? Let us know where you are going.

Fathers' Day is almost here! So take out the trash, mow the lawn, or just tell him he's great!

Wanted: Parent's Helper
To care for 2 small children, ages 2 and 3 years, while parents are home. Hours are Mon-Fri, 10 am - 2 pm. Call **Clara Piecuch** at 438-5624

Let's Make Our Parks Look Great! Join our neighborhood beautification project; details on Page 1.



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Thinking of Buying or Selling? Call:
Cheri Smith Zurek
Robin Rotella

Call: (708) 603-3912



What People are Saying...

...About the FLCA Pot Luck Pig Roast:

"It's almost as corny as Disneyland!"
-Nancy Kerrigan

"It's on my top ten list of things to do!"
-David Lettermen

"Hey, can I come?"
-Charles Barkley

"I give it a thumbs up!"
-Gene Siskel

Say what you want, but be there!

Saturday, July 23, at 1:00 pm
Tickets will be available during the month of June. We have to have a head count one month in advance. We are going to try doing tickets by mail this time, so please fill out the form on the bottom of this page and return it to us, along with your check payable to The FLCA.

Everyone is expected to bring a dish to pass, so please indicate what you intend to bring (we want to avoid having 20 dishes of cole slaw and no deserts). Any questions? As always, call Laura or Nancy with your questions, comments, etc. Don't forget to include your ideas for activities!

*Kids-- Barring any emergencies, the Lake Zurich Fire Department will have a Rescue Squad and Fire Engine at the Pig Roast at 2:00 pm, so you can see what its like to be a fireman!

Wanted:

Active Community Members to help make Forest Lake an even better place to live! Twelve Board Members can not do all the work necessary for a neighborhood of 540 homes! See our roster on Page 3 for a list of committees and who to call to volunteer.

A benefit of living in an unincorporated area is that we don't pay additional taxes to a municipality; however, we don't receive the services provided by a village, city, etc., either. We have a lot of common areas to take care of: the lake, the Community Center, and five parks! If you don't participate, why should your neighbor? Don't let apathy be contagious -- join us today!

We also have work to be done for which we intend to pay the going rate. We would prefer to keep our business in the community, so call us if you're interested.

The Community Center need painting and tuckpointing. Any painters in the area? Send your bid for this job to Steve Norman, 540-8857.

Also, the parking lot lights need replacement bulbs. Anyone with access to a cherry picker (or wings!), please call Steve.

The footpaths were among the most wanted improvements according to our survey. Any surveyors out there? We need to start work on this project, so call us if you are interested in helping us.

Boat Parking

We want your opinion on boat parking at the beaches. Call any board member and speak your mind. You must provide your name and address, so we can be sure not to double count votes.

Currently, and boats without current stickers will be moved to the boat launch. A maximum of 10 boats per beach will be allowed at Steinken and Erker Parks, first-come, first-serve. No boats will be allowed at the Central Beach.

We want your opinion:

1. On boats at the beaches, or just at the boat launch.
2. On the quantity of boats that should be allowed at each beach.
3. On the Board's removal of boats not in compliance with policy.

Erker Park Slide

Should it stay or go? For those that use this park, let us know what you want.

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*Detach here and return to Laura Tegtmeier, 23745 Valley Rd, Lake Zurich, IL 60047
We must receive your response no later than Friday, June 24, 1994*

Name:

Dish that you plan to bring:

Address:

Phone Number:

Suggestions for Activities, etc:

Number of Tickets:

_____ Adults at \$ 6.50 = _____
 _____ Children over 2 at \$ 3.50 = _____
 _____ Seniors at \$ 5.00 = _____
 _____ Total Enclosed _____

And The Survey Says...

Here is the survey "top ten list" of likes, and dislikes, as well as the FLCA Board's response. Thanks to all who responded, and for those who didn't...we have to assume that you are happy and content with the way things are in Forest Lake.

Likes

10. Great activities for kids
9. Snow removal (Thanks to Joe Martinez!)
8. (tie) Boat Facilities; like the new direction the Board is taking
7. Low Traffic
6. Unincorporated Area
5. Nearby Shopping & Schools
4. Diversity of Neighborhood
3. Friendly People
2. The Lake
1. Beautiful Area, Country Atmosphere

Dislikes

10. Dirty and outdated clubhouse
9. No sidewalks or streetlights
8. Don't get newsletter
7. Parks not monitored for non-members, rules aren't enforced
6. Loose dogs
5. Cars drive too fast
4. Board Members aren't doing enough, aren't listening to us
3. Poor condition of parks
2. Too much building, small lots
1. (tie) Inability to enforce collection of dues; poor condition of some properties and junk cars in yards

Response rate has been approximately 70% of dues-paying members; results were compiled in the highly non-scientific, unaudited, tick-mark tally method.

In response to the dislikes - there are things we can and can't do to address your concerns. For example, Item 2: Forest Lake was originally subdivided into lots that are forty feet wide. This is the way it is, and there is nothing we can do to change this. What we can do, in an attempt to prevent poor building practices in the future, is to watch what goes on in our own back yards, and take it upon ourselves to police our neighborhood for problems before it is too late. Don't hesitate to contact a board member if you think there is a problem, and if you know there is a problem, call Building and Zoning at 360-6330. At any rate, let a board member know of your concerns, so we can act in a unified manner.

Another area where we really can't do much is item 9. Sidewalks are not in the scheme of a rural lake community; it would cost big bucks, and I don't see this happening until we are annexed by Buffalo Grove (i.e., not in this millennium!) However, we will look into the cost of streetlights and report on our findings at future Board meetings.

Several of the dislikes were addressed in this and prior newsletters, via the Annoyances & Reminders column. Consult this column for info on loose dogs, junk cars, and newsletter problems.

Now, on to the good stuff. First of all, I would like to point out the responsibility of the FLCA Board: That is to maintain and improve the common area of the community. We are not a governmental body; we do not have a police force or security patrol. Further, if you read the *Money Matters* column on Page 3, you know we don't have the money to pay for this service. Therefore, everyone in this neighborhood needs to help police our parks. Call a Board Member or the Sheriff if you have any problems.

As far as dues enforcement and upkeep of property, the Board is making this issue a priority and we will be consulting an attorney that specializes in homeowners association law to determine our legal rights and responsibilities with respect to this issue. Our plan is to take a much more aggressive stand regarding dues collection in the future; it is not fair for some to enjoy the benefits our community has to offer without helping to pay for the upkeep.

Our Community Center and parks do need work, and I think you all will agree that we have made progress in this area this year. In the past, the board has spent most of their time and all of our money planning and saving for our dredging project. I trust the *Money Matters* column has clued you into what an accomplishment it is was; we had to save for over fifteen years to accumulate the \$70,000 necessary for this project -- and it was a race against time to remove the silt in the lake before we ended up with a swamp. Now that the dredging is complete, we can start concentrating on other areas -- but we need your help, so get involved today! Join a committee and offer your time, because that's the only way things are going to get done.

More on the Survey in months to come: How respondents feel about dues increases, what our dues will be spent on, and more.

If you haven't paid your dues, please do so today. Use the convenient form, below.

FLCA Instant Invoice

detach and mail, along with your check payable to The FLCA
Mail to: FLCA, P.O. Box 314, Lake Zurich IL 60047

Name:

Enclosed:

Address:

1994 Dues (\$60, \$30 for seniors) _____

Phone:

Boat Sticker (\$5 ea.) _____

Vehicle sticker (\$1 ea.) _____

Voluntary Dredging Assessment (\$65) _____

Other (93 dues, etc.) _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Garage Sale Aftermath- Another Success!

A huge thanks to **Jovita Kerns** and **JoEllen Hermes** for all their hard work. Thanks to these ladies, our 1994 garage sale was great! Didn't the new signs look great? Jovita wants everyone to know that they couldn't have done it alone, here's her list of thanks:

- **Jean Hewett**, of Arbor Lane, for all her help with the advertising, and her great ideas--we couldn't have done it without her!

- **Mr. Marek** of Overhill Road, who gave an extra donation towards signs.

- **Nancy Gonsiorek**, for all her help with the signs. They look great, thanks to her talent.

- Our husbands, **Jerry Hermes, Kent Kerns, and John Gonsiorek**, for all their help and support.

- Thanks to **Steve Heger** of Lakeside Dr., who helped us put up the signs.

- Congratulations to our earlybirds, the **Hegers** of Lakeside Dr., and our random pick, the **Brazils** of Highland Dr., who were the winners of the garage sale kits that were donated by two of the publications with whom we placed ads.

- Thank you to everyone who donated items to the Viet Nam Veterans.

A Fond Farewell

Thanks to all of you who have called or written over the past few months to say that you like the newsletter. I appreciate it!

Sorry this issue is so long, but this is my last newsletter, and there was a lot to fit in to avoid any loose ends for my predecessor. Please take the time to read what your neighbors and the FLCA Board have to say.

Anyone interested in getting involved with *The Forest Lake News*, call any Board member.



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