

NEWSLETTER



"Hail, Hail... the Gang's All Here"

Breaking a streak of bad luck, the board was finally able to field a quorum (some would say snore-'em). There was only a single board member absent and the opportunity was taken to draft two people to fulfill board vacancies.

Jeff Sirt and Steve Bennett will represent the West and South districts, respectively. Both terms run through the 1996 calendar year. Let's applaud these new board members for volunteering for an often thank less job. Welcome aboard Jeff and Steve!



It's a Wonderful Life

Life in Forest Lake can be wonderful. However, it still costs money. In a blatant attempt to tap into the holiday spirit, the board has decided to move up the dues notice mailing to November.

These dues are important to every resident of Forest Lake. If, for example, we were unable to

purchase liability insurance (which gets more difficult each year), and someone was drinking hot coffee on a boat on our lake and spilled it onto his/her lap, *every single homeowner in Forest Lake could be sued*. Then we'd all need to come up with our share of \$2.7 million.

Furthermore, without adequate dues collection, the parks and beaches would rapidly fall into disrepair, thus making houses lose value and become more difficult to sell.

Therefore, in order to encourage the forty percent of homeowners who are *unwilling* to pay their dues, the board is considering various options in an attempt to convince them to shoulder their responsibility. Those who are *unable* to pay their dues need only contact a board member.

Among the suggestions were to 1) publish the names and addresses of those who chose not to pay in this periodical; 2) issue an electro-static (no glue) 4" x 4" day-glo "I Paid" sticker for the front windows of the homeowners who've paid; 3) issue a sticker for the mailboxes of those who've paid. A suitable method is to be selected at the next board meeting (November 8) and feedback from residents in the audience will be solicited.



If it's Good Enough for the Federal Reserve...

As Alan Greenspan (Chairman of the Federal Reserve) has been raising interest rates this year it's only fair we follow his example and raise our dues. At least, that will be a topic of discussion at the December 13 (annual) board meeting. The proposal has been made to raise the dues to \$65.00 per year - a nominal fee at best. It has also been decided to change our annual meeting from December to October. The reason is that dues increases (and certain other board actions) can only be addressed at annual meetings.

If you've been paying attention thus far you're probably wondering what the upcoming dues will be. The first notice will be for \$60.00 - the same as last year. If the dues are successfully raised at the annual meeting in December (at which time **all** present, paid members may vote), the 2nd (and subsequent) notices will go out at the new \$65.00 rate. Thus, those who pay early will, in effect, receive a \$5.00 discount.

Also, on the matter of money, the board decided to request a \$30.00, voluntary, self-directed special assessment. The invoices will allow each member to select where he or she wants the money directed and in which percentages. The four areas of choice



are: the lake, the Community Center, the parks, and the other common areas.

Please remember that this organization, unlike Congress, cannot spend money it doesn't have. Therefore, in order to maintain the community, the board can only exercise 1/2 of Congress' options and increase revenues.



'Tis the Season

Among the Fall foliage a different species of autumnal growth has sprouted - yes, it's the bi-annual election sign blossom phenomenon. Forest Lake residents cast 600 votes in the primary last Spring, an astounding performance.

Let's try to set a new state record for voter turn-out in the general election on Tuesday, November 8 from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at St. Mathew's Lutheran Church on Old McHenry Road. This is your chance to choose your fate, so don't forgo the opportunity to direct your future.



"A River Runs Through It"

Is the answer. The question: What do people who buy houses on the creek say about their basements?

Apparently there is little we, as a community, can do at this time to prevent "builders" from erecting structures on the creek. They need only create a study showing they will not increase flooding. Scarcely a challenge as the U. S. Weather Service declared our area a severe drought this Summer. Storm Water Management is then obligated to issue a variance and, as the creek has yet to be legally platted, Lake County Building and Zoning issues a building permit.

Our county board representative, Pam O. Newton, who has done a great deal for this community, has stated she will look into the possibility of getting a moratorium on building permits for creek properties until the issue is resolved or the storm sewer is in place - much as she did with her successful bid to obtain a moratorium on new billboards throughout the county.



Presenting...



The Voter Rolls Grow...

The Editors received a note from Forest Lake's newest residents, Glenn and Shiela Pascoe of 23630 N. East Road. They're in their first home after escaping from Wheeling.

Glenn is originally from Seattle (a truly excellent city with a weird needle sticking out of it's downtown) and Shiela isn't ashamed to say she's from Princeton, Wisconsin. So no cheese jokes (unless they're truly funny).

They invite anyone (excluding board members) to drop by to say "Hi". Of course, a keg in the front yard would draw people like a magnet.

[Ed. Note: Remember people, if you're new to Forest Lake and have a masochistic streak, drop us a line and we'll be happy to embarrass you in front of the entire community. Also let us know if you've any additions to your families, even we don't make fun of children.]



Speed Kills

The Editors have received a number of complaints about the more dangerous driving habits of some users of our roads. Therefore we repeat a notice printed in a prior issue: the speed limit in Forest Lake **is 25 miles per hour**. As these are not (yet) interstates,



it is not permitted to add 10 to the speed of travel.

Also, the red octagons (8 sided figures) are *stop* signs. This means, using the other pedal, the vehicle is supposed to cease all forward motion.

Please remember, there are no sidewalks in Forest Lake and it's almost impossible to predict the next move a child will suddenly make.

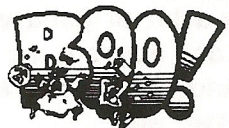


"Signs, Signs, Everywhere are Signs..."

Other types of signs in proliferation these days are those advertising realty and garage sales. The board, after receiving a number of complaints, has decided to limit garage sale signs to 48 hours after the event - or the garage is sold - whichever comes first.

Realty signs must, if on public land, have been approved by Ela Township in advance. Directional signs are discouraged. Open house signs should be in place before and removed immediately after the open house. These rules, from MAP (the realtor organization which provides agents with they're MLS access), imply realty signs have a 24 hour life-span and should only be on the property itself. For Sale signs on private property have no such restrictions. Remember, the

metal signs are recyclable, the wooden signs make great kindling.



Encounters of the Scariest Kind

The Halloween parade is still scheduled for Sunday, October 30, 3:30 p.m., at the South Beach. However, instead of judging the costumes, there will simply be a drawing for boys and girls in the 0 - 3, 4 - 6, and 7 - 10 age groups. This way the judges need not feel unsafe walking our streets.



Time for The Annual Fete

Time once again for the dinner party to end all dinner parties... the annual Holiday High-Spot. Our annual Christmas Party. As those of you who've been fortunate enough to attend in prior years undoubtedly know, this is the event at which to see and be seen.

The date is Friday, December 9

beginning at 7 p.m. with dinner at 8:00. The tickets are again only \$15.00 per person and there are only 100 tickets available (fire code) so get your sleeping bags and be ready to camp in line the night before tickets go on sale. Or you can get your money to the November (8th) board meeting, either in person or via an attendee (yes, now that the board is showing up you can get money to members between now and the next meeting). After that meeting you will need to contact Patrick Lynn (438-0859) and hope there are tickets remaining. As with *all* activities, only paid members may attend. There will be a live disc jockey (the dead ones draw more flies than board members attract) and a *very* inexpensive cash bar.

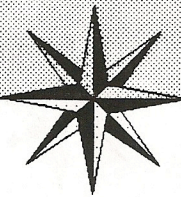
On Friday, December 2, at 7:00 p.m. the decorating will take place at the Community Center. Volunteers please call Laura Tegmeier at 438-3688.



They Didn't Mean To Do It

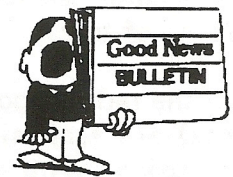
There have been a few concerns voiced about the proposal to use community service recipients to clear away some of our weeds. To allay any fears anyone might have, the board has the right to except only those who committed certain crimes, such as D.U.I.

The board has decided to try an experiment by having a small group of people who've been



convicted of DUI or small misdemeanors (DUI *is* a felony) and test pull, cut, and drag weeds from around the lake's perimeter after the ground freezes. Should this experiment fail, we'll attempt to burn the weeds, possibly using arsonists. Should that fail, we'll return to the first method, on a larger scale.

step will be painting. Eventually a new roof will be needed as well. This structure will soon become a capitol intense endeavor. Perhaps one of the builders altering our landscape would like to buy a lot of good will on the cheap and help out the community. And Congress won't raise taxes ever again.



Score One for the People

On Wednesday, October 19 the Lake County Zoning Board of Appeals heard a request for a variance from one of Forest Lake's "builders". The "builder", apparently attempting to maximize the structure within a lot, planted a house too close to a neighbor's lot line. On a 40 foot lot 4 feet of easement is required on each side and in this instance had "built" within 2 1/2 feet of the line. The Forest Lake residents and enough board members to field a quorum last month in attendance at the hearing were elated by the board's decision to **deny** the variance. This means the "builder" will need to demolish and/or move the house or sue the county.

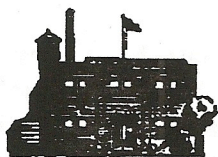
Anyone care to buy a house with open views - half off!

[Ed. Note: To head off the potentiality of rumours spreading especially this close to an election), the "builders" were represented by Peter Wifler of the law firm of Salvi, Salvi, and Wifler. This firm is headed by State Representative Al Salvi's Father. Al Savi is not an associate of this partnership; his practice is in Waukegan.]



Beach Blanket Bingo

Apparently quite a controversy was stirred up last month due to a letter to the editor regarding the volunteers who clean beaches and have the police set upon them. It turns out there were multiple instances. The group of residents who clean the beaches were not set upon by the law, there was, however, a non-resident with a back-hoe digging up the new sand to look for lost treasures with a metal detector. He, quite deservedly, had the police called on his sorry butt.



This Old House

The first step in badly needed restoration work on the Community Center has begun. The tuck pointing is progressing. The next



Breakfast of Champions

"Breakfast With Santa" is scheduled for Saturday, December 17 at 09:30 a.m. The \$3.00 per child admission fee must be paid to Laura Tegtmeier (438-3688) by December 10 and covers the cost of McDonald's Happy Meals as well as coffee and doughnuts for the parents. Any left over money will be used for reindeer feed. So bring the kids down to the Community Center to sit on the Jolly One's lap and make outrageous requests!



Sorry, no room for "Letters to the Editors" - Ed.





Classified

Do you have an old bicycle or baby-sitting services to sell? Advertise here for just \$5.00. \$50.00 for an entire year. (You must be a dues-paying member, however.)

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Your F.L.C.A. Board Members

Steve Norman	540-8857	FLCA Chairman, Community Center Maintenance
Dominic Tufano	550-6726	A Vice Chairman, Lake Committee Chair
Maija Boris	438-3114	FLCA Secretary
Laura Tegtmeier	438-3688	Association Activities, Community Center Rentals
Patrick Lynn	438-0859	Membership, Dues, Newsletter
Greg Hatz	540-9427	Parks Committee Chair
Dave Hembd	550-9004	Building, Zoning & Architecture Committee Chair
Barry Moore	438-4162	Historian
Vic Vassalo	438-8013	FLCA Chairman Emeritus
Jerry Hermes	438-9007	Member-At-Large
Jeff Sirt	726-2107	Member-At-Large
Steve Bennett	540-2107	Member-At-Large



*Forest Lake Community Association
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