

August 2010, Volume 8 Issue 3
STRATFORD PLACE

Homeowners' Association

NEWSLETTER



Communication from President, Hi Neighbors,

The summer is almost spent and I trust that each of us had a vacation or staycation (stay at home). We are ready to continue the tasks started for Stratford Place Homeowner's Association. The picnic in June was a highly successful event. I received many favorable comments about the picnic. I salute the committee (Susan Thornton, Fred Sibley, James Varnado and Valerie Moore along with their spouses and others.) "Your hard work turned into a success for all of us" Thanks for a job well done.

As a common bond we are all concerned about Stratford Place Homeowner's Association. We must remember that the neighborhood is composed of many diverse people. "We cannot live only for ourselves. A thousand fibers connect us with our fellow men" *Herman Melville* If we want to have good neighbors, then we must continue to strive to be good neighbors. If we see a problem caused by our neighbor, please approach the neighbor before calling the debris court. If approaching the neighbor does not get the problem solved, we may have no choice other than to contact the debris court. The capacity for getting along with our neighbor depends to a large extent on the capacity for getting along with ourselves. "The self-respecting individual will try to be as tolerant of his neighbor's shortcomings as he is of his own." *Eric Hoffer*

We need to look out for each other at all times. "A man is called selfish not for pursuing his own good, but for neglecting his neighbor's" *Richard Whately* We must be careful in calling in a neighbor's problem before confronting the neighbor first. "Don't throw stones at your neighbors, if your own windows are glass" *Benjamin Franklin*. Did you get to meet your neighbor? If you did not have a meet and greet on your block, you are still responsible for getting to know your neighbors. "I want you to be concerned about your next door neighbor. Do you know your next door neighbor" *Mother Teresa of Calcutta* We all have goals for our neighborhood. We must also know the goals of our neighbors.

I would like to address two questions that were given to me. (1) One person asked me about reporting stray dogs. If you know the owner, please contact the owner. If you don't know the owner or the owner does not secure the dog, call 774-7700. Give your name, address, phone number. Example: There is a large brown dog out loose on our street. I think it might belong to the family at 135 Pine Street. I'm worried because it's barking at the kids getting off the school bus. (2) Another person asked about AT&T having persons going door to door in the neighborhood trying to sell AT&T services. I called AT&T and they confirmed that they indeed had persons going door to door. The showing of credentials is important, however, the credentials could be fake. You don't have to open your door for any one from any company. If the person does not leave in a reasonable time or as asked, you might want to call the police.

Seventy seven persons have paid dues. I will be sending letters to those families that have not paid dues.

Neighbor



and



Highlights from Neighborhood Picnic



Social Clubs

Several neighbors have expressed interest in starting two social clubs: bid whist card club and a book club. If you are interested in becoming involved in either one, please let me know.

New Neighbors

We extend a heartfelt welcome to our new neighbors.

Jokes

Every time the man next door headed toward Michaels' house, Michael knew he was coming to borrow something.

"He won't get away with it this time," muttered Michael to his wife. "Watch this."

"Er, I wonder if you'd be using your power-saw this morning," the neighbor began.

"Gee, I'm awfully sorry," said Michael with a smug look, "but the fact of the matter is, I'll be using it all day."

"In that case," said the neighbor, "you won't be using your golf clubs, mind if I borrow them?"

Worried because they hadn't heard anything for days from the widow in the neighboring apartment, Mrs. Silver said to her son, "Timmy, would you go next door and see how old Mrs. Kirkland is?"

A few minutes later, Timmy returned.

"Well," asked Mrs. Silver, "is she all right?"

"She's fine, except that she's pissed at you."

"At me?" the woman exclaimed. "Whatever for?"

"She said 'It's none of your business how old she is,'" snickered Timmy.

Stratford Place Logo

As you may have noticed, the Stratford Place Entrance sign is now our new logo. Our thanks go to Dr. Gary Ross for his suggestion.

Highlights from July 25, 2010 Neighborhood Meeting

The major topics of concern were how to handle the homes that were in disrepair. the potholes that were on some of the neighborhood's streets, and the many vacant homes . It was suggested that a call be made to the Department of Public Works about the potholes. If you are aware of any vacant homes, please send the addresses of the homes to William Farris {wcfarris@cox.net}. Concerning the homes that are in disrepair, letters will be sent to the homeowners expressing our concerns and requesting a response on their intentions to take care of the disrepair. If you are aware of any homes that are in disrepair, please send the addresses to Gerri Johnson.

Please let a member of the Welcome Committee [Clarence Johnson {cjohnplant@bellsouth.net}, Sam Johnson {samjerome@aol.com}, and Gene Rosby {g442r@yahoo.com}] know of any new people who have moved into our neighborhood.

The next Neighborhood Association Meeting will be 6:30 p.m., October 10, 2010 at the home of Samuel and Pastor Pollie Johnson on Stratford.

Treasurers' Report

Number	Names	Amount	Dates	Notes
	Balance brought forward	\$1,979.11	4/23/2010	
	Service Fee	(\$14.00)	4/30/2010	Checking
	Deposit	\$120.00	5/3/2010	
	Deposit	\$150.00	5/6/2010	
Drafted	Baton Rouge Water	(\$16.58)	5/11/2010	Water
1062	Entergy	(\$31.87)	5/13/2010	Electric

Number	Names	Amount	Dates	Notes
	Deposit	\$60.00	5/13/2010	
	Deposit	\$60.00	5/24/2010	
	Service Fee	(\$14.00)	5/28/2010	Checking
	Deposit	\$90.00	6/7/2010	
1063	Vallery Moore	(\$57.72)	6/7/2010	Food for picnic (chicken)
1061	Susan Thornton	(\$267.26)	6/7/2010	Food for picnic
1059	James Varnado	(\$149.96)	6/7/2010	Spacewalk & propane for picnic
1060	Fred Sibley	(\$213.45)	6/7/2010	Crawfish & Ice for picnic
	Deposit	\$642.00	6/9/2010	Collected for Picnic (\$664) Paid out (\$688) (\$24.00)
1064	Entergy	(\$29.02)	6/14/2010	Electric
	Baton Rouge Water	(\$14.29)	6/14/2010	Water
	Deposit	\$30.00	6/15/2010	
	Deposit	\$60.00	6/28/2010	
Drafted	Baton Rouge Water	(\$22.31)	7/13/2010	Water
	Service Fee	(\$14.00)	6/30/2010	Checking
	Deposit	\$52.00	7/14/2010	\$22 for picnic (\$2.00)
1065	Dr Gary N. Ross	(\$71.62)	7/14/2010	Supplies for entry flower bed
1066	Marcus Barnardez	(\$45.00)	7/14/2010	Weedeating and Chemical application
	Balance	\$2,282.03	7/14/2010	



From the Webmaster Chris Rogers!

Our domain name is www.stratfordplacebr.org. Chris is working hard to get the site up and running. So far, he has proposed the following links: Home, About, Demographics (Schools, Shopping, Crime Rates), Home Association Committees, News, Gallery, and Contact. Also Social Networking Tools: Twitter, Facebook (subdivision only) and Blogging (galleries).

Please send your ideas and suggestions to Chris at crogers1914@gmail.com

!!!!!!!!!! WE NEED YOU !!!!!!!!!!!

Neighbors are needed to work on the following committees

- Architectural Review
- Hospitality
- Neighborhood Watch Committee
- Restrictions/Bylaws Review
- Sick/Bereavement
- Stratford Walkers
- Yard of the Month/Beautification

If you are interested please contact the President (Dr. Clarence Johnson) or Vice President (Dr. Gary Ross).

GET WELL SOON



Dr. Gary Ross says that he welcomes all visitors as he recovers from his surgery. Be a good neighbor. Check in on Dr. Ross and lend a neighborly hand. Dr. Ross can be reached at 6095 Stratford, 927-8179, GNRoss40@yahoo.com.

To all neighbors who are ill or feeling a little under the weather, we wish you a speedy recovery. Please contact your Block Captains and let them know if there is anything the Association can do to assist you.

BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS

Happy Birthday and Anniversary wishes are extended to all neighbors who celebrated a birthday and/or anniversary during May through August 2010. We hope that you enjoy many more and wish you health, wealth and wedded bliss.

CLASS OF 2010

Congratulations to all our August graduates!

Lagniappe



Hurricane preparedness has some important information concerning hurricanes. The Disaster Prevention information include the following topics:

- ▶ Developing a Family Plan
- ▶ Creating a Disaster Supply Kit
- ▶ Having a Place to Go
- ▶ Securing your Home
- ▶ Having a Pet Plan



http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/HAW2/english/disaster_prevention.shtml

The goal of hurricane preparedness is to minimize the impact a storm could have on property and individuals during a storm. Preparedness is an ongoing, year-round process to mitigate the possible effects of dangerous debris, impassable roadways, no electricity, no running water and the inability to get your family and your business up and running. The Atlantic hurricane season runs from June 1 to November 30th. Since hurricanes, powered with high

winds and excessive rain, frequently have sub-storms imbedded within them, consider preparing for a variety of weather conditions. Be aware of National Weather Center warnings. Taken from-
<http://www.sun-sentinel.com/topic/disasters-accidents/meteorological-disasters/hurricane-preparedness/17006002.topic>

Start Your Fall Garden this Summer



Most people think gardening stops when the heat waves do, but gardening is not limited to summer. In fact, some of the tastiest vegetables do best in cooler, more temperate weather and July is not too early to start working on produce that will be harvested in October or November. Popular cool weather crops include broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, lettuce and carrots. With advance planning it is even possible to squeeze in a second crop of fast growing warm weather produce such as beans, cucumbers and herbs.
http://www.ehow.com/how_5203063_start-fall-garden-summer.html

Home Safety Tips



In these times of economic distress, many people are concerned about the threat of rising crime in their communities. Fortunately, there are ways to help protect your home and your neighborhood from crime. From simple steps like keeping your doors locked to starting a Neighborhood Watch program, there are plenty of things you can do to prevent crime.
<http://www.securitychoice.com/20-tips-for-home-safety.html>



Block Captain	Location	Phone
Fred Sibley	Moss Side Lane and Stratford	924-6047
Robert Mathes	Potomac (Bennington Moss Side)	754-2666
Esma Brougham	Stratford (Potomac - Guilford) 5511 -	928-4889
Cornelius Lewis	Stratford (Guilford - Bennington) (both sides from his residence at the corner of Georgetown to Stratford at Guilford)	248-8084
Gerri Johnson	Georgetown (Potomac - Guilford)	927-5470
Sherman Whiten	Georgetown (Guilford - Stratford) 5812 -	928-4530
Margie Martin	Tarrytown (Potomac - Guilford) 5602 -	926-7645
Eli Guillory	Tarrytown (Guilford - Stratford)	927-1890
Barbara Blunt	Bennington(Potomac - Guilford) 5555	924-0863
William Briley Pam Hutchinson	Bennington (Guilford - Stratford) Bennington (both sides from Stratford to Guilford)	928-5241 928-7853

2010 Leadership Team

Clarence Johnson, Jr.	President
Gary Ross	Vice President
William Farris	Treasurer
Charlisa Holmes	Secretary
Gloria Whiten	Block Captains Chair
Gerri Johnson	Editor
Chris Rogers	Webmaster
Michael Morris	Safety Committee
Gene Rosby	Stratford Walkers
Pastor Pollie Johnson & Margie Martin	Sick and Bereavement Committee

Please keep Pastor Pollie (926-6530) or Margie (926-7645) aware of any neighbors who are under the weather or who have lost a loved one.



Next Newsletter

The next newsletter will be published after our October 10, 2010 Neighborhood Association Meeting. Please let your Block Captain or the Editor know of any news you want included in the newsletter

Seminar for School Age Children

The seminar on "Bullying" was held Sunday, May 16, 2010. The children were very open in their sharing of incidents when they were bullied or had themselves been the bully. What was surprising was that many times the children perceived that the adult (mainly) the teacher was also a bully and did not intervene when inappropriate behavior occurred. Based on their comments, the next seminar will deal with issues of Self-Esteem. We will let you know of the time, place, and date. The seminar will be open to school-age children. Parents are also welcome!

If you are willing to design and conduct a seminar, please let us know. We MUST all be willing to sacrifice the time that our children need.

Dues Reminder

If you have not paid your 2010 Homeowners' dues - please do so. Make your \$30.00 annual dues payable to "*Stratford Place Homeowners Association.*" The dues can be sent to Treasurer William Farris, 5316 Stratford Avenue or mailed to Post Office Box 80691 - Baton Rouge, LA 70898.