



LakeLife

Edgewater Community Newsletter

February 2011

President's Corner

It's the first Lake Life of 2011 and the Board of Director's are trying to get the year started off right. Many of you may recall that I served as board president last year and it looks like we'll have one more year with me in that role. We have a new board with some new members and I'm excited to work with them. We hope everyone will get a chance to meet the board and thank the new members for their volunteer service.

As I write this article, we are collecting the final surveys sent out with your annual dues notice. I hope everyone took the time to fill out their surveys with consideration. We'll base this year's priorities on the results of the survey.

We do hope to continue our work on Edgewater Drive. Patti is working with her committee on a new lighting plan for every entrance. This is a huge undertaking but we think it will be well worth the effort. The lake also needs some attention. We would really like to deal with the erosion that is becoming more pronounced as well as activities that would make the lake more "user friendly". I have never seen more than one boat on the lake at any given time.

Perhaps you have some ideas concerning these projects or others that you would like accomplished. Well, we have the perfect opportunity for you to actually kick-start a project and then see it through. We'll have a "planning social" February 22nd for the entire neighborhood to meet board members, socialize and hear about plans for the upcoming year. We really hope to see you there!

I know you hear this every year but we will have many activities going on with grounds, lake management, architectural review, social activities, covenants and the usual day-to-day keeping Edgewater going. What we hope to see are more volunteers! This community has been able to maintain first level facilities and grounds at very low fees due to the high level of resident involvement. We really need more volunteers to step up and take on a role in keeping Edgewater up to the standards we all expect. I hope to see more people at board meetings, committee meetings and just out and about.

*Thanks,
Cameron Handyside, EOA President*

We need your help!

Community Social Night!

Feb. 22 - 6 pm at the Clubhouse

Come join us, Socialize with your neighbors and Join one of the committees that work to keep Edgewater a place where we all want to live.

Table of Contents

	Page
President's Report	1
Board of Directors	2
Community Calendar	2
Clubhouse/Recreation Report	3
Community Yard Sale - When?	3
Easter Egg Hunt	3
Covenants	4
Book Club Schedule	5
Community Corner	5
Grounds	6
Adopt-a-Mile	6
Outreach Thank you	6
Yard of the Season	7
Out in the Yard	8 - 9

Community Calendar

Feb. 16, 6 pm.	Edgewater Board Meeting
Feb. 22, 6 pm.	Volunteer Night
March 7, 6 pm.	Edgewater Board Meeting
April 4, 6 pm.	Town Hall Meeting
April 16, 2 pm.	Easter Egg Hunt
May 2, 6 pm	Edgewater Board Meeting
May 9	LakeLife Inputs Due

Note: No Architectural Review or Lake Management Chair has been identified at this time. Please watch your LakeLife and emails for further information.

2011 Board of Directors

And Committee Chairs

Cameron Handyside
cthandys@knology.net
Dunhill
President

Brain Goodwin, 772-7912
brianandkrisgoodwin@gmail.com
Carriage Hill
Vice-President & Community Affairs

Sue Chatham, 461-0262
chatham@knology.net
Lost Tree Pointe
Secretary

Joe Roberts, 489-0781
joeandthada@knology.net
Lost Tree Pointe
Treasurer

May Hudson, 772-3438
maziemail@aol.com
Heritage Woods
Clubhouse/Recreation

Stephen Brooks, 489-1881
brkssb@gmail.com
Lost Tree Pointe
Covenants

Patti Kolek, 464-3102
plkolek@bellsouth.net
Fox Lake
Grounds Chair

Greg Morgavi
gmorgavi@knology.net
Carriage Hill
Security/Community Watch

Steve Kirkpatrick, 509-3005
steve.kirkpartick@uwHSV.org
Heritage Woods

Office Manager:
Dottie Bash

Office Address:
**111 Edgewater Drive
Madison, AL 35758
461-8670**

edgewaterowners@knology.net
Office Hours: 10AM-2:00 PM
After Hours: Call a Board Member

Clubhouse Report

Hi neighbors!!!

I am pleased to be selected to Chair the Clubhouse and Rec Facilities. I know that we will all miss Deb-the go go girl-but do not dismay. She has agreed to be the CEO and will keep me straight. I do not think we have ever had a Board Member that has done as much for Edgewater as Debra Fulmore. **THANKS DEB!!!!**

So, I am getting my feet wet and learning the many tasks of keeping the facilities in working order. Some fun classes we are thinking about is a night Zumba and a Saturday open Hoop group. I will e-mail the community when these are firmed up.

We may be able to purchase a large piece of equipment and we are thinking of either another treadmill or elliptical. I will be asking for input on these choices. This brings me to the subject of the Clubhouse and Rec Committee. I hope that you will consider joining us on Feb 22 for the Community Social Night and sign up to assist a Committee Chair of your choice.

Summer will really be here soon and that is when our facilities turn into what looks like a resort with all of our summer activities. Looking forward to seeing all of our great neighbors.

May Hudson

Community Yard Sale - When?

We need your input! We are planning our calendar for the year and we need your help! Help us decide on dates for the following community events:

Spring & Fall Yard Sales
Annual Pool Party
Suggestions for other events!

Email Dottie at edgewaterowners@knology.net or come to the Community Social night on February 22. The Community Affairs committee needs your help!

Brian Godwin



Easter Egg Hunt

Boys & Girls ages 0-12 are invited to join the big Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 16 at 2 pm.

Reserve your spot: Have your mother or father call the Office Manger Dottie at 461-8670 to register. There will be prizes and refreshments, so bring your Easter basket and come out for a good time.

Needed: Volunteers to help. Parents, grandparents, older brothers & sisters or anyone that would like to see the enjoyment on the faces of the children as they hunt for eggs.

Contact Brain Goodwin - 772-7912 or brianandkrisgoodwin@gmail.com to volunteer.



COVENANTS

Happy New Year 2011!

An infraction of the Covenants has three elements: act of commission (or omission), harmful effect (tangible damage or potential damage) to a person or persons, or their property, and intent (even if unintentional!). Here are some recent (and not so recent but continuing) examples to illustrate common sense principles of community living, selected from 401 total infractions in 2010:

The Case of the Barking Dogs: [EOA Standards and Restrictions, aka Blue Book, paragraph 5.2, "Disturbing Uses"] - Your freedom to enjoy your pets may not hamper the equal freedom (and expectation) of your neighbors to be without disturbance or deterioration of property. - ALL DOGS must be attached to their OWNERS by a leash when walking their owners and are expected to clean up after themselves, too, or face the displeasure of their neighbors and animal control.

The Case of the Overflowing Driveway: [EOA 5.3] - Homeowner automobiles may not be parked in the street overnight. Specific instances present an immediate physical danger (near-collision) to others as they turn corners at night and barely avoid the unexpected and virtually invisible blockage to one-third of the street's width. - Cars parked in a cul-de-sac narrow the turning radius and often prevent sanitation trucks and mail delivery from free access. - Oh, yes, you can ask the EOA for a street parking permit for visitors who are going to be here for more than a couple of days.

The Case of the GREEN MONSTERS and BLUE BOXES: [EOA 5.2 Exterior Usage and Usage] Yes, those garbage cans and recycle bins - Put 'em out the night before scheduled pick-up, put 'em back out of sight where they belong, on the same day they're emptied! Help out your neighbors if they forget or go away for a weekend! Bags of lawn clippings, leaves, boxes, tree limbs (no more than 4 foot lengths) and other debris go out to the curb only the night before scheduled pick up. Let's face it, we don't think too often of these GREEN MONSTERS as a safety hazard in our streets but they are obstructions to traffic and tree limbs are dangers. We usually turn a blind eye when pick-up schedules are disrupted by weather events, or as happened last night the recycle truck was making its rounds after 9:00 PM!

Most common infractions:

Yard maintenance (edging, mowing, weeds, debris)

Garbage cans left in street or in driveway or visible from street

Exterior appearance (dirt/mold on walls, steps, driveways, mailboxes)

Garden hoses left out or in front of house

Lawn ornaments (limit is 4 decorations and Blue Book says no gazing balls!)

Driveway storage (dirt piles, bricks, lawn debris, toys, boxes, wheelbarrow)

Did you know you can let us know? Call or e-mail the office if you have an unusual situation. Is a contractor going to leave a trailer or materials in your driveway? Let us know. Planning to landscape your yard? Let us know (and submit plans to the Architectural Review Committee for major changes.) Let us know! Need to use your driveway for short-term project? Let us know.

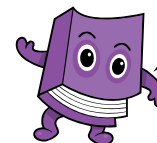
As a community matures, standards and restrictions may change. As community members, your inputs and feedback are important to preserving the beauty of Edgewater and improving our way of life. If you have questions or comments, please contact the Board of Directors or the Covenants Committee through the Edgewater Owners Association office! And yes, the Community Social Night is coming up and you're invited to join the team!

New Covenants Chair: Steve Brooks



Edgewater Ladies Book Club Schedule for 2011

Come join us!



Jan 12 - To Kill a Mocking Bird by Harper Lee

Feb 9 - Abundance by Sara Jeter Naslund

Mar 9 - How the Scots Invented the Modern World by Arthur Herman

Apr 13 - Who Was Helen Keller by Gare Thompson & Nancy Harrison (Field trip to Helen Keller home)

May 11 - Seabiscuit by Laura Hillenbrand

June 8 - Cutting for Stone by Abraham Verghese

July 13 - Kitchen Chinese by Ann Mah

Aug 20 - Edgar Sawtelle by David Wroblewski & The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho

Sept 14 - The Lost German Slave Girl by John Bailey

Oct 12 - The Women by T.C. Boyle

Nov. 9 - Half Broke Horses & The Glass Castle by Jeannette Walls

Dec 14 - The Elegance of the Hedgehog by Muriel Barbery & Christmas Social



Community Corner



Children's Play Group—Call Andrea Barnes at 489-6681, AndieKevin07@knology.net. There is a group of children that play at least once a week

Community Outreach— Call Joyce Bryant at 694-2004 or 774-7817, ewoutreach@bellsouth.net.

Fitness Classes—Men and Women's Fitness classes are held every Tuesday and Thursday. First session is at 8:30 am and the next one is at 9:30 am. There is a fee and usually a waiting list. Call May Hudson, 772-3438 for more information and to enroll.

Garden Club—The Edgewater Garden Club is scheduled to meet Tuesday, April 5, at 6:30 pm in the Clubhouse. All residents interested in learning and sharing gardening tips are welcome. No gardening experience required! Please RSVP Linda Harris 489-8031, lindaeharris1@gmail.com or Patti Kolek 464-3102, plkolek@bellsouth.net.

Hand and Foot (Cards)—Every Wednesday of each month at 1 PM. Call Judy Lindsey, 461-7069.

Investment Club—2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM at the Clubhouse. Call Sue Chatham at 461-0262 or Joe Roberts at 489-0781.

Mixed Doubles—"Round Robin" tennis is played each Friday Morning and men's tennis on Tuesday mornings. Call Dave Simpson at 772-0512.

Party Bridge—1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month from 9:30 AM to 2:00 PM. Call JoAnn Gore, 461-8906 or Reba Jacobs, 461-9775

Simple Yoga—Monday morning at 7:30 am and Thursday evening at 6:30 pm at the clubhouse. There is a fee. Contact Linda Branum at 325-6332 or ldbranum@aol.com for more information.

Singles—2nd Friday of each month at 8:00 PM at the Heritage Club, 111 Washington St., Huntsville. Must be 21 or over and a single Edgewater resident. Call Trent Banks at 772-4079 for information

The Ladies of Edgewater Book Club meet on the 2nd Wed. of each month at 10:30 am in the clubhouse. The book club is open to all Edgewater ladies who enjoy reading and sharing their thoughts and insights with others. This is a casual, easy group. No pressure, No pretense...just a love of books and friendship. For more information contact Devra Long at waltdev@knology.net.

Woodworking—2nd Tuesday of each month. Call Tom Kaeding at 461-0180, twkaeding@yahoo.com.

The **lending library** in the clubhouse is open whenever the office manager is in. Come check out our selection of books.



GROUNDS REPORT

I am pleased to have been appointed your Grounds Chair again this year. The last several years have been particularly challenging with the renovation of the landscape along Edgewater Drive, but, to the majority of our residents, the improvements have been worth the time, effort, and expense. Again we thank the cities of Madison and Huntsville for their cooperation. Also, thank you to those residents whose homes back to Edgewater Drive and have added attractive plantings in their backyards which enhance both their yards and the Drive.

This year will also have its challenges as we continue the renovation with the removal of the remaining pear trees at the entrance, put in lighting for the entrance signs, and work on entrances along Spinnaker Ridge Drive. Other projects include renovating the Steeplechase berms, finishing the pergola, fixing areas of our grounds that have suffered erosion this winter, and fixing/replacing the badly cracked areas of the sidewalk on the lake path.

This month the newly planted trees and shrubs along Edgewater Drive will be pruned and shaped. We will start filling the sink holes that have appeared over the winter. If you notice a sink hole or badly eroded area on EOA grounds, please let me or Dottie in the office know the location. If you have extra fill dirt left from a project, we may be able to take it off your hands for our use.

The first Grounds Committee meeting will be held in early March and I welcome new members. The input of this committee is vital to the decisions made that affect what happens on the common grounds of EOA. People with the ability to dig a hole, water a plant, use a saw, plant a bush, or just offer fresh insight are most welcome. Sign up at the Community Social on February 22 or contact me.

Patti Kolek -plkolek@bellsouth.net,
256-464-3102



2011 ADOPT-A-MILE CALENDAR

A big thank you to these people who have volunteered to help keep our community clean by picking up the litter along Zierdt Road.

January - Andrew Murphy
February - Brian/Noel Duffy
March - Peter Narbus
April - Lou/Sally Clark

There are still several months available in the 2011 calendar. To help with this project and get some exercise at the same time, contact Patti Kolek at 256-464-3102 or plkolek@bellsouth.net. All supplies are provided.

Thanks to the Edgewater Community for CASA Donations

The Edgewater Community Outreach would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to the residents of Edgewater for the overwhelming response to the Christmas drive for CASA (Care Assurance Systems for the Aging and Homebound). Your generous donations were so appreciated by CASA and by the aging/homebound clients they serve. Nearly 200 CASA clients were not adopted this year and CASA is still accepting donations. If you would like to help with a donation, please email me at ewoutreach@bellsouth.net or call me at 774-7817 for suggestions. I will be more than happy to pick up any donations.

Your donations were especially generous in the current economic times when so many agencies are seeking help and so many families are helping their own families. Edgewater is so blessed to have a community of people who are so willing to help when called upon.

In addition I would also like to thank the Edgewater Board for their help in getting the word out to the community via the Edgewater Owners email and a special thanks to Dottie Bash, Edgewater Office Manager, for all her help during the collection process.

Joyce Bryant

Fall 2010 Yard of the Season Winner



The home of Janet Pruitt, 183 West Lake Circle, was selected as the Fall 2010, Edgewater Yard of the Season. Ms. Pruitt's home is in the Carriage Hill Subdivision.

The Edgewater Garden Club judges selected Ms. Pruitt's yard based upon the plant materials utilized, garden design elements and general maintenance in the yard. Several angles of this yard can be viewed from the street and all views showed a well cared for and pleasing landscape.

Congratulations to the Pruitt household!

Nominations for the Edgewater Yard of the Season for Spring 2011 will be accepted between May 15 and May 31. Please send your nominations to: Linda Harris at lindaeharris1@gmail.com or 256/489-8031.

Out IN the Yard

SPRING FORWARD WITH A

Spring garden cleanup

Get your garden in shape for spring

As the seasons move from winter to spring, there are several garden chores that cry out for attention while we wait for the magic and beauty of warmer weather. Here are a few well-timed tasks that will pay off with a great beginning to your springtime gardening.

1. Prepare tools.

Tune up the lawn mower and sharpen the blades.

Wipe the wooden handles of garden tools with linseed oil and sharpen tools' edges. Fix a bucket of construction sand with some motor or vegetable oil to polish and protect tools. Just push tool into sand and wiggle around.

Replace weak or broken handles or purchase new ones.

Take an inventory of your tools, and make a list of new tools you'd like to buy and old ones you need to replace.

2. Cut perennials.

Cut perennial foliage to the ground, with a few exceptions:

Don't prune salvia, Russian sage creeping verbena or artemisia until they start showing growth on last year's stems. Then prune just above the emerging foliage.

Wait until sprigs of green growth appear on ornamental grasses, then cut back to the new growth. (Circle President's day as a target to cut grasses)

Prune butterfly bushes just as they begin to show new growth or when the last average frost date for your area has passed. If evergreen foliage of perennials such as Lenten rose is tattered from winter's wear, remove blemished foliage to the ground; fresh, new foliage will quickly return. Trim the evergreen foliage on sedge, liriopse and evergreen ferns.

3. Prune shrubs and trees

First remove dead branches from woody plants. Then remove any cross-over branches that compete for sunlight. Selectively prune to open up the canopy of trees and remove, older, less vigorous wood. If in doubt about removing a limb, be conservative- you cannot glue branches back on! Over the next few days observe the shrub or tree. After a week, decide whether it looks fine or whether you need to prune other branches. The goal is to allow the plant to take its natural form with discreet pruning. After several years, very little pruning is necessary. These shrubs and trees will be on their way to becoming beautiful specimens. However, if a shrub or tree has been neglected for several years, it may take three or four years to return it to a healthy, aesthetically pleasing form.

Please if you have kept your big shrubs 'pruned' using a chain saw, please revisit those shrubs with some sturdy pruners and cut out the dead sticks that are now so obvious. Cut them back to the stem from which they grew. Looking into a bush of severed dead branches can be so unpleasant. Again I ask you to walk past all exposures of your property the way the many Edgewater Walkers do to enjoy the view. One exception for late winter pruning is spring blooming shrubs such as spirea, forsythia, and Weigela- don't prune anything except dead branches until these plants finish blooming. (It's okay to prune summer blooming shrubs such as crepe myrtle, vitex (Chaste tree) and caryopteris [Bluebeard] now).

RULE: If it blooms before Memorial Day, prune after bloom. If it blooms after Memorial Day, prune early spring.

4. Apply Organic Controls

Late winter (once temperatures stay above freezing) is the best time to apply horticultural oil sprays. These oils are a safe and effective way to control insects, allowing prudent gardeners to get a jump on possible infestations. When applied according to instructions, oils reduce populations of insect pests such as bagworms, mites, aphids and mealy bugs. If you had problem with these insects last year, it's likely they will return again.

(If your garden is an organic vegetable garden, consider companion plantings to deter possible unwanted insects)

5. Analyze the garden

Spend 15 minutes once or twice a week walking around your garden looking for insect pests and diseases. They require less aggressive treatment when spotted early. Carry a plastic grocery bag so you can collect damaged leaves and fruits. To be sure you get an accurate assessment, get down to the plant's level. Most diseases start on lower leaves and work their way up. Insects, which tend to prefer young, tender foliage, often hide on the undersides of leaves. Because insects and diseases are more common when you have rotten vegetables and fruits lying on the ground and hanging on the plants, dispose of these on your weekly walk.

6. Test soil

If plants in one area do not perform well, take soil samples and sent them to your local cooperative extension agent or move the plant to a better location. If you know your soil is acidic- either add limestone in some form to change the pH or just grow acid loving plants- ajugas, rhododendrons and camellias. Too alkaline? Add sulphur or be happy with peonies and boxwood and other high pH lovers! Too much clay? Add organic materials to break up tight clay. Too sandy? Again add organic material.

7. Update garden records

Make a resolution to keep a garden journal in 2011. Make detailed entries daily or weekly or just put down quick notes every few weeks. The journal helps plan outdoor garden events- you can look back to see what bloomed in the past on a date, or remember plants that provided timely foliage color. Or just as a reminder of how great the garden looked that year. Or note to self in April- start or slip tomatoes to have ready the end of July for fall crop.

8. Preparing the most important tool

The most important 'tool' to be used during any yard expedition is made up of your body parts- it's you! Before you go dragging things around or lifting things heavier than you have lifted since last spring or climbing into spaces that 'used to be larger' or climbing higher up to just lop off that little limb in the wrong place- take care of your body- please!

Start out with some deep, calming breaths with your eyes closed to allow you to focus on the beauty of the space you will be tending. Now stretch your arms upward then slowly bring them out to your sides and repeat gently until arm muscles are loosened and stretched. Bend forward from the waist and stretch your back muscles- before you go lifting more than you should and review correct stances for lifting and shifting logs and bags of stuff and big things. Just generally loosen up to protect your body parts.

When your body tells you that it is tired from working- please allow it to rest even if that flower bed isn't finished or entire lawn in not mowed. The 'opportunities' will still be there when your body is feeling better. Don't push yourself to exhaustion. Why not start your clean up on one of these warmer days or even on a cold day after you bundle up- being sure to wear a hat to conserve body heat- and good gloves.

If the way to eat an elephant is one bite at a time, then the way to spring clean the yard is one space at a time.

Start slowly and make this a beautiful and healthy season.

Our yard on the lake is a registered **Backyard Wildlife Habitat** so it includes nesting facilities for up to ten bird families, multiple seed sources, a water feature that provides drinking and bathing opportunities, several natural sites for nesting and foraging plus the ever-present Great Blue Heron-our own Big Bird. We planted shrubs and trees to provide tasty treats for bird friends year round. All-in-all this is a pretty nice place to be if you are bird looking for a place to nest, hang out in the tub or grab a snack. We have also been a stop-over for raccoons, possums, some snakes who were hunting a wandering rat or two, etc. Even small deer at certain times of the year.

Our yard is also home to a little dog whose wildest adventure is running next door to hunt under the neighbor's porch. His outdoor actions are controlled most times by a leash, fence or his owner close by, his poop is always bagged and he is kept within visual range of his owners.

Enjoy the pretty days as they occur, take more walks to breathe the fresh air and look for daffodils in the not too distant future!

See you out in the yard!

Karen Voelker

Daffodils

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden **daffodils**;

Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze
Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the milky way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.



The waves beside them danced; but they
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:
A poet could not but be gay,
In such a jocund company:
I gazed--and gazed--but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought
For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the **daffodils**.

William Wordsworth

