



October 2010

BROWNE'S FERRY BANNER

*** Check out our new website: <http://brownesferry.webs.com> ***

HOA MEETINGS TAKE PLACE BI-MONTHLY

NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, December 2
7:00 p.m.

University City
United Methodist Church
(Enter lower level from back parking lot)

Agenda:

Homeowners' Forum Old/New Business
Committee Reports Financials Review

Browne's Ferry HOA Board Members

Lori Sarisky President
lsarisky@carolina.rr.com
704-597-2843

Stafon Davis Vice-President & ARC Chair
sdavis100@bellsouth.net
704-599-8696

Open Member-At-Large

Mike Meeker Secretary
mmeeker1@carolina.rr.com

Parrish Miller Treasurer
pdmiller67@att.net
704-509-0273

Browne's Ferry HOA Committee Chairs

Jeff Riedel-Bicknell Safety Committee
bfsafety@yahoo.com

Kelly Lorentz Social Committee
kllorentznc@yahoo.com

Ladrean Hare Welcome Committee
hareraising@yahoo.com

Management Information

Association Management Group
of Charlotte, Inc.
P.O. Box 472029
Charlotte, NC 28247

Phone: 704-889-7500
Fax: 704-889-9500

Community Manager: Connie Papp
cpapp@amgworld.com ext. 115

BROWNE'S FERRY SAFETY COMMITTEE – AN INTRODUCTION AND INVITATION TO HELP

My name is Jeff and I am the new Safety Committee Chairperson. The goal of our committee is to establish a **strong** and **active** **Neighborhood Watch Program** in Browne's Ferry. This is important for several reasons: to be proactive about preventing crime in our neighborhood, to increase the sense of community and improve our network of communication within Browne's Ferry, and to develop a more positive community image in order to attract home buyers and increase home values.

The process of organizing a Community Watch Program is well underway, having notified CMPD of our intent and established a liaison with a CMPD contact and other local community neighborhood watch programs. The next steps include re-establishing our network of block captains and scheduling a community meeting with the CMPD Neighborhood Watch Liaison.

A **block captain** is a contact person who organizes and communicates directly with a small group of homes within a "block area" or often in our case a "cul-de-sac area." You will network with your immediate neighbors, residents of the **10-20 homes nearest to your home**.

Block Captain Responsibilities and Duties:

- Maintain current block contact information/distribution list
- Greet new neighborhoods and orient them to Neighborhood Watch
- Serve as liaison between chairperson and your neighbors
- Distribute information received from chairperson to your neighbors

Please contact me at bfsafety@yahoo.com to volunteer or recommit to be an active block captain, or simply for more information. You can also check out:

<http://charmack.org/city/charlotte/CMPD/safety/NeighborhoodWatch>

COME JOIN THE FUN!

The Social Committee has been busy planning get-togethers to meet a variety of interests. Check out the flier or contact Kelly Lorentz kllorentznc@yahoo.com for more information about these events. And please don't hesitate to contact Kelly with other fun ideas.

Oct. 24 – Carrigan Farms outing, 9:00 a.m., meet at the Gazebo
Oct. 30 – Fall Festival in the Park, 11:30 a.m. at the Gazebo
Nov. 13 – Southern Christmas Show, 9:30 a.m., meet at the Gazebo
Nov. 20 – Latta Plantation outing, 10:00 a.m., meet at the Gazebo

Walking groups now forming!

Contact Kelly Lorentz for weekday walking or Angie Edwards at angellevillar@hotmail.com for Saturday mornings.

WANT A BETTER HOA? HERE'S HOW ...

Get to know your neighbors by participating in the social events listed on page 1 and in the recently distributed flier. **Volunteer** to be a Neighborhood Watch block captain or join one of our committees.

Attend HOA meetings that now take place the last Thursday in Jan., Mar., May, July, & Sept. **Next meeting: Dec. 2.**

Get connected via our new website – <http://brownesferry.webs.com>

Sign-in and become a member to keep up with events, discussions, and the latest neighborhood news.

You can also receive future issues of the newsletter and fliers via email by sending a request with your email address to bfnews@earthlink.net.

GREEN TIP: BENEFITS OF MULCHING

- Mulches keep the soil cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter, thus maintaining a more even soil temperature.
- Mulches prevent loss of water from the soil by evaporation.
- Mulches reduce the growth of weeds, when the mulch material itself is weed-free and applied deeply enough to prevent weed germination or to smother existing weeds.
- Mulches prevent soil splashing, which not only stops erosion but also keeps soil-borne diseases from splashing up onto the plants.
- Mulches prevent crusting of the soil surface, thus improving the absorption and movement of water into the soil.
- Mulches help prevent soil compaction.
- Mulched plants have more roots than plants that are not mulched, because mulched plants will produce additional roots in the mulch that surrounds them.

Don't put untreated mulch too close to your house as it might contain pests that can damage your house.

To request free mulch (untreated) from Charlotte Engineering and Property Mgt., download a Mulch Request Form at: <http://charmeck.org/city/charlotte/epm/Services/Landscaping>

For more information, call the City at 704-336-4444.

Summary of September 30 HOA meeting:

- As mentioned in July meeting, a survey was sent out about adding a Clubhouse and/or Pool. The vote was 108 No, 18 Yes. The Board will not pursue it further. (Even though we have not received votes from all homeowners, the No vote is already at 51%).
- The best quote for mulch for the playground does not include installation – we are looking for volunteers to unload and spread. Delivery date and time will be posted on the website.
- The board got quotes from several landscape companies and will be choosing one in the next two weeks.
- Lights are out at front entrance; landscape company was notified and it was fixed.
- Ongoing problem of people hanging out at the quarry – someone has now cleared a path to it. The Board would welcome suggestions for putting a stop to this.
- Suggestion was made that we set aside a small part of the budget each year for potential future improvement projects.

PLEASE REMEMBER

- Recycling is picked up on alternate weeks. Our neighborhood is GREEN. For the schedule, please see: <http://charmeck.org/city/charlotte/SWS/CurbIt/Recycling/Documents/Recycle%20It!%20Calendar.pdf>
- Pets are *not* allowed to roam freely in the neighborhood. Mecklenburg County has a strict leash law requiring pets to be on a leash or in a fenced yard. Fines range from a \$50 citation for the first violation to \$500 and permanent seizure of the animal for a fifth violation. Call 311 to report an animal at large.
- Leaves and grass clippings should be bagged for pick-up by waste management or used as mulch, and *not* blown into the street. Storm drains feed our water source. Keep them free of all debris – trash and sticks as well as grass and leaves.

The Browne's Ferry Banner is now bi-monthly, published approximately 10-14 days after each HOA meeting. Contact bfnews@earthlink.net to:

- * **Submit ideas or announcements**
- * **Spotlight your business or service**
- * **Receive future issues of the newsletter as a .pdf file via email**

Deadline for inclusion in the next newsletter is Tuesday, December 7.