



## Deer Tracks

### Deerbrook Home Owners Association Newsletter

April 2011

The **Annual General Membership Meeting** will take place **Monday May 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.** at 1384 Rustlewood Ct. The budget and election of officers are on the agenda. We are always looking for new officers & Board members. Now's a great time to get involved with DHOA! We will be discussing plans for the coming year. Get involved now so your voice can be heard. If you can't come to the meeting, give your proxy to a neighbor (see back page).

The **DHOA Spring Yard Sale** is set for **Saturday April 30<sup>th</sup>** from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Buying or selling, it's always fun.

**Meet Mike Beaudreau, your Gwinnett Commissioner on Thursday May 5<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m.** at 1391 Doe Hollow. Join us for soft drinks and light refreshments.

#### **Gwinnett burning ban**

There is a burning ban May 1<sup>st</sup> thru September 30<sup>th</sup> each year. Please don't have fires in your yard after April 30<sup>th</sup>. Check [www.gwinnettfiremarshal.com](http://www.gwinnettfiremarshal.com) or call 678.518.6100 for details.

**Farm animal ban** - It is tempting to bring home cute animals during spring. A reminder to residents: Gwinnett County does not allow farm animals in subdivisions.

#### **Lost cats: finding them fast**

**Thinking ahead:** Collar and tag your cat with 2 active phone numbers. Your neighbors will likely be the first to spot a lost cat, so make it easy for them to find you. In case of lost collars, microchips can be great if someone gets the cat to a vet -- they can find you.

**Cats hide.** Start your search as soon as you notice the cat is missing. Ask friends and family to help. Unless you are sure the cat went outside, first look in the house. Don't leave any space unchecked, including places you think they could not get to.

Cats tend to stay close to home even outside. If you don't find the cat inside, start close by: look in garages, pools, sheds, storm drains, and other places a cat may hide near the house. Even in the daytime, take a flashlight as cats like dark places. Check in the lower branches of nearby trees also. Cats are easier to find if you **think like your cat**.

There are 4 basic cat personality types: **Cautious** - cats who hide when strangers visit, but may peek out and investigate after awhile. If displaced cautious cats tend to hide and act fearful. These cats may try to come home after 2-10 days if they aren't scared out of hiding by a wild animal,

dog, or person. They are often found hiding within a few hundred yards of home.

**Curious and outgoing** cats who like visitors will often hide at first, but then may start to travel. They often get farther away than other cats.

**Aloof cats** who don't like strangers, who stand back and watch, will usually also hide out for awhile. This cat will often try to come home and meow to be let in again. But sometimes, they can travel far away as well.

**Fearful cats** are those who don't like anyone strange. They hide when someone comes to the door and don't come out at all until the stranger has left. They don't like being disturbed and may not even like being held by their owners. These cats are paralyzed in fear if they get out and often will stay in the same hiding place. If found by a stranger, they may be mistaken for wild or feral, and may hiss or spit.

**The search.** After you've looked in all the structures and dark places, go door to door asking neighbors, delivery people, & children – and show photos. Some experts suggest that you do your search in dirty clothes and smelly sneakers, trying to get sweaty so that your cat can scent you home.

**If you see your cat,** don't run or make loud noises. If they see you, kneel down, stretch your hand out, and call the cat in a quiet calm voice. Don't stare or make direct eye contact. If you can't get the cat to come to you, make a trail of used kitty litter just a few feet from your door, and put the litter pan next to it. Put out food and water nearer to the door, then wait.

**Make signs.** (see last issue, Feb 2011, about lost dog signs). Put up signs at stop signs in the neighborhood and at busy intersections and at least one neighborhood over in any direction.

**Make lost cat notices** for local vets too

**Post online:** Post a free notice and photo online at <http://ajcexchange.com/>.

**Follow up:** Don't forget to check the paper and other sites every day for "found cat" ads. You and others should look for "found cat" signs when driving.

If you haven't found your cat after a day or so, you may want to get a **humane trap** from a hardware store. Line the trap with towels that smell like home. Bait it with food, and put some of the cat's kitty litter in it.

You will also need to go to the **Gwinnett shelter** at 884 Winder Highway in Lawrenceville. It is open only 4 to 5.5 hours a day, closed on Mondays. To reclaim your lost pet, bring ID and proof of ownership, such as vet records.

**Other ideas** for pet searches include going on the web to look for lost & found pet sites. More search tips and ideas can be found at: [www.homeagain.com](http://www.homeagain.com) and [www.petdetectivetraining.com](http://www.petdetectivetraining.com)

### **Gwinnett County and other Info**

<http://www.cityofilburn.com/>

<http://www.gwinnettcounty.com/>

### **Your Gwinnett Commissioner**

You can visit our commissioner's web site and subscribe to his free newsletter at: [www.mikebeaudreau.com](http://www.mikebeaudreau.com)

### **Newsletter Announcements:**

Email Patricia Yeargin yeargin2000 AT yahoo.com  
or call 770.923.2823.



**Monday May 9<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 p.m.**

**Deerbrook Homeowners Association  
May General Meeting**

**Meeting Location:  
1384 Rustlewood Court**

The Dyers have once again offered to host the May General Meeting this year.  
We ask that you please bring a chair.

The General Meeting will start at 7:00 p.m.

For questions contact Patricia Yeargin at 770-923-2823 or Roger Hagen at 678-524-2797

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**Proposed Meeting Agenda**

Election of Officers & Board Members for 2011-2012  
2011-2012 Budget  
2010-2011 Budget report  
2011-2012 membership drive – Dues collections  
Discuss facelift for front entrance (budget for work?)  
Any concerns and ideas you want to bring up