

# DeerTracks

Deerbrook Home Owners Association Newsletter  
August 2004

## **Oktoberfest and DHOA General Meeting date chosen for Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

The tentative plan is this: We will all gather around 5:00 p.m., get some food and get comfortable. Then we will begin our brief General Meeting at 6:00, followed by more socializing and family-friendly activities.

Please bring a folding chair or lounge chair, whichever you prefer. DHOA will provide food and non-alcoholic beverages. Ice buckets will be available if you wish to bring some of your favorite beer to share with other adults in honor of the German holiday.

We need volunteers for organizing, set up, on-site activities, and breakdown. Contact the secretary at 770-931-0120 or email us at [DeerbrookHOA@netscape.net](mailto:DeerbrookHOA@netscape.net).

## **Neighborhood Beautification Day**

**Starts 10/2 at 10 a.m.:** Bring your trowel and join us at the front entrance on the day of Oktoberfest for fall planting and general cleanup. Let's maintain our neighborhood's appeal by joining together to improve our front entryway! Please email us at the address above, or contact Sherry Hoger, who has graciously volunteered to head up this effort. If you don't want to work with the group, we encourage you to take this day to work in your own yards. It's a great time to plant bulbs for spring and pansies or other winter color.

On a side note, we encourage all walkers, bikers, and drivers alike to pick up unsightly trash. The front entrance is often times littered and it sits there until a concerned homeowner or our landscaper picks it up.

## **Neighborhood Yard Sale Date Proposed for Saturday, October 16, 9a.m. to 2 p.m.**

If we have 6-8 households participating, we will purchase the newspaper ad and place signs. Please call the secretary, Jeanie Mooney, at 770-931-0120 or email [DeerbrookHOA@netscape.net](mailto:DeerbrookHOA@netscape.net) as soon as possible if you are interested.

## **Timber Glen Residents Join DHOA as Associate Members.**

We had several respondents to our previous letter, and are distributing this newsletter to all our Timber Glen neighbors to invite more residents to join. Benefits of membership include participation in yard sales, celebrations, neighborhood directory, newsletters, and holiday luminaries. Dues go toward subsidizing these activities, front entrance maintenance and lighting, among other things. *Welcome to all new members!*

**Parking:** The DHOA would like remind all of our neighbors about parking large or commercial vehicles on the street for more than one hour. Not only does it violate our covenants but county ordinances as well. You can read more at the Gwinnett County Website at [www.co.gwinnett.ga.us](http://www.co.gwinnett.ga.us); click on Departments, then Planning and Development, then Documents and Regulations. The Vehicle Parking information shows up along with lots of other interesting county laws!

**DHOA Website:** Please visit our website for FAQs and other information. It contains a calendar, including Board meeting dates, covenants, DHOA bylaws, and photos of past celebrations. Save this link:

<http://mywebpage.netscape.com/DeerbrookHOA/home.html>

## **Cars and Children: A True Story**

One of my saddest evenings working in the Emergency Room involved a teenager. He came in DOA after being slammed by a car that had drifted to the right. Handsome and athletic, he had been hit from behind. I will spare you the details, but I will never forget that he wore a navy blue jogging outfit. The accident had happened shortly after sunset.

I knew that this was a senseless death. If he'd been walking on the left side of the road, wearing light colors, I think he'd be alive today. Didn't his Mom tell him what my Mom had drilled into me? It was too late for him, but realized after I moved into Deerbrook that the young man wasn't alone in underestimating his risk when walking on a road without sidewalks.

Most children believe that if they can see a car, the driver can see them. Experienced drivers know that this cannot be counted on due to low light, glare, blind spots, contact lens slippage, and the occasional bee in the car. Not to mention cell phones, screaming toddlers, blinding headaches and getting dust in your eyes. And drunk drivers, whose existence I would prefer to forget. It is important that kids know these things can happen, and how to keep themselves safe.

Teach children to walk on the left, facing traffic, even in daylight. That way, if drivers don't move away from them, they can jump onto the grass and out of the way. If you have no kids, be a role model when you're out running or walking your dog. And, don't be afraid to talk with other neighborhood children –or their parents--when you see them in unsafe situations.

Teach them not to cross the street near intersections or hills, to avoid cars they can't yet see. They need to look both ways, wait until no cars are in sight, then get across and out of the roadway quickly.

If they are on bikes, rollerblades, skateboards, scooters, ATVs or other open vehicles, be sure they know the rules of the road and the hazards of cars. Also, require helmets and other protective gear needed for the sport. We want to protect those precious heads when they fall or crash. Once injured, brain tissues heal slowly and often incompletely. If they complain, remind them: You are not replaceable.

*This article was contributed by a concerned nurse. If you have other safety tips for children, please email [DeerbrookHOA@netscape.net](mailto:DeerbrookHOA@netscape.net)*

## **2004 Officers and Board Members**

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