

SWEETGRASS NEWSLETTER

Who's Who

President: Mike Gibbons
(803)270-7859

Ponds: Jason Dammer
(843)697-0093

Boatyard: Troy Draughn
(843)729-4744

ARB: Thomas Webster
(864)542-6047

Landscape: John Glaser
(239)249-9212

Social: Catie Smith
(843)324-5021

Communications:
Virginia Allen
(843)860-9009

A+ Property Mgmt: Robert
& Debbie Rogers
(843)856-6556

Feel free to contact us:
SweetgrassHOAboard@gmail.com



President's Report

Greetings, neighbors!

I am sure you, like me, are enjoying the balmy summertime temps that Mount Pleasant is so kind to bring us each year. At least we have had plenty of rain so that we can all give our sprinkler systems a healthy amount of time off. The HOA Board has been busy tending to matters that are important to you and are working to continue to make Sweetgrass a great place to live.

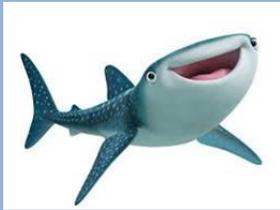
A few updates on some things going on in our fantastic neighborhood:

*Board member Jim Meister moved out of the neighborhood, and thus resigned his spot on the board. Thanks to Jim for his years of service to Sweetgrass. Current board member and ponds chairman Troy Draughn has taken over as boatyard chair, and new board member Jason Dammer has taken over as ponds chairman. Thanks to both Troy and Jason for stepping up to serve!

*Speaking of the boatyard, we understand the interest in expanding the boatyard, and we hear your concerns. Troy is exploring various possibilities that could serve that desire, all the while making sure we are responsible stewards of the HOA funds. We'll keep you posted.

*Our Fourth of July parade, despite being a smidge damp, was a success. Thanks

Boat Yard Report



I, Troy Draughn, have just taken over the duties of overseeing the boatyard from Jim Meister, who has recently moved out of our neighborhood. I would like to thank Jim for his many years of selfless service to our HOA board. We currently have 26 storage slots in our boatyard, which are all full, with three people on the waiting list. As a reminder please allow me to cover a few of the requirements for storing your boat in our boatyard:

- You must live in Sweetgrass.
- You must have a current registration with the current month and year sticker displayed on your boat.
- Area around your boat slot must be kept clean; all items belonging to you must be maintained in your boat, not in area around it.

We presently have a few infractions to the rules, but I'm sure they will be taken care in a timely manner. We are continuing to look at ways to improve the boat storage area and will keep you up to date on all chances. Have a great summer of boating!
~Troy

to social chair Catie Smith for continually finding new ways for us to have fun as a neighborhood. We also had our inaugural visit of the Lowcountry Street Grocery, and hope that is something everyone finds beneficial. If you have ideas for social events, please let us know!

*The aerators in all of the ponds should be installed by the end of the year. The aerators will help keep our ponds healthy and reduce the need for costly dredging. If you see some bubbles rising up in a bond, it's most likely one of the aerators doing its job.

Our monthly Board meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month, and if there are ever items you would like to have the HOA Board address, please let us know. You can e-mail us at SweetgrassHOABoard@gmail.com
Happy neighborin!
~Mike Gibbons



ARB Report



There are a lot of people continuing to improve and keep up their homes as we have had 34 projects approved so far this year! New windows have been installed, dead trees are coming down and new fences are on the rise! I want to thank everyone who has submitted a request this year as it's been a pleasure to work with and I hope you all feel the same from my end. Please also remember As Arb Chair, it is my responsibility to help everyone achieve their projects while ensuring they meet our C&R guidelines. You should have received a copy at closing and they are also available on our website should you have any questions. Also, please feel free to reach out to me anytime if you need further clarification on our C&R's and a couple bullets points for general reminders.

*All ARB submittals are to be completed online. This is located on our

Landscaping Report



The HOA will be putting down new mulch in the fall at all of the islands in the neighborhood. We have had to trim some trees along Pond 6 which were an expensive project to undertake this year. If you not that the dog bag stations are empty in the neighborhood please feel free to tag me on our Facebook group and I can the message the landscape company immediately.

John Glaser

Communications



Hello Neighbors! If you have sent a Facebook request; look in the FB Messenger App for a message from me. I ask for some validation that you do live in our neighborhood to protect our page from spammers.

If you have not joined our FB page yet please do! It's an incredibly helpful communication method for our neighborhood from heads up the AT&T solicitor is coming down the street, to lost pets, outages, or just to ask Mike what kind

neighborhood's website under the homeowners tab. Click on the Arb request button and everything required to be filled out is right there. Feel free to include more information than required and pictures and drawings are always helpful for a faster response.

*Just as the applications are now paperless, so are the approvals. Any questions or concerns about any work feel free to contact me directly or A-Plus as we have records of all approved work. Any potential violations can also be reported to either of us and they will be handled in the appropriate manner according to our bi-laws and C&R's.

*Emergency repairs do not require ARB approval, but we do ask that you let us know so we can keep a record of this work should any questions arise.

Sincerely,
Thomas Webster
1304 Country lane
(864)-542-6047

Ponds Report

My name is Jason Dammer, and I'm excited to be your new ponds chair on the board! Troy Draughn, the previous ponds chair and new boatyard chair, has done a great job maintaining our ponds and really set me up for success. I'm an avid fisherman (fly and spin) and the beautiful ponds in Sweetgrass were a huge selling point for my wife Maggie and me when we moved into the neighborhood last summer. If you see a loony guy fly fishing in our pond on a paddleboard, it's probably me. There are some exciting improvements happening to our ponds right now that will ensure their effectiveness at retaining storm water (a true necessity in our coastal environment and the main purpose of the ponds), their aesthetics, and the health of the ecosystem. Aeration systems which diffuse air and add movement to the water have been installed in pond #1 (the front pond with the fountain) and pond #6 (the back pond between Falling Creek Circle and the condominium complex on Hungryneck). The Greenery will be installing them in Ponds 2, 3, 4, and 5 as soon as permits are approved and electrical lines are run. These systems will maintain the depth of our ponds by promoting the decomposition of old leaves, grass clippings, and other organic matter which collects on the bottom, and will also greatly mitigate the growth of algae or "pond scum" which can be very unsightly. The entire project should hopefully be complete by the end of the year.

The floating "island" in pond 5 (the pond inside Falling Creek Circle) will be removed soon. While it's aesthetically pleasing, upon examining the cost of its maintenance, we found that it will cost over \$820 a year to replace the plants in it which die off during the winter. It also tends to provide nesting ground for those prolific defecators we all know as the Canada Goose. Floating plants like these are a great addition to some ponds, because they can help to remove excess nutrients from the water, and thereby mitigate algae growth. However, to truly perform their intended purpose, floating islands such as the one in pond 5 would have to cover at least 5% of all



of snake you found in your yard. Our page really has helped bond our community further.

We have 2 Facebook Closed Groups:
Sweetgrass Neighbors
Sweetgrass(Neighborhood) Parents

V/r,

Virginia Allen

our pond surfaces. The current island is about 10' square. Thankfully, the aeration systems we have already purchased will perform this same function exponentially better and in a more cost-effective manner over the long term.

The front fountain light is in the process of being replaced by the manufacturer after one of the LED's stopped working. I hope to have the fountain lit up again soon! The light will usually be white, except for special holidays and observances.

The Greenery ensures the health of our ponds in many other ways, including promoting healthy bacteria levels, stocking grass carp and blue tilapia, which forage on unwanted plant and algae material, controlling unwanted invasive species, and clearing limbs and debris. If you see a problem with our ponds or have a question, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me!

~Jason Dammer

Social Report



Thanks to all who came out for the annual 4th of July parade and neighborhood meet and greet! A special thanks to Deb Feldman, Buddy and Sherry, The Sudduth Family, and Mary Hayes for your help with the parade!

It wasn't the sunniest of days but ended up being a great event! We had a great turnout of parade participants with

awesome patriotic decorations! Congrats to our winner, Blakey Marley, for the "best float" Everyone also enjoyed popsicles from King of Pops...yum! and delicious coffee graciously donated by the Marleys and Biggy Coffee!

Get excited for our next neighborhood event coming up in mid-September....our annual Food Truck event! Stayed tuned for details!

Thanks!
Catie



Neighborhood Reminders:

- Annual Neighborhood Food Truck coming in mid-September
- Waste: Put waste out the night before pick up: Tuesdays for Trash/Yard Waste, Alternating Tuesdays for Recycling. Keep storm drains clear of yard debris
- DON'T IGNORE STOP SIGNS OR SPEED LIMIT!! Speed Limit is 25mph, let's slow down everyone!
- Show off your yards!! Yard of the month receives a prize awarded!
- Keep checking our Facebook and Marquee for other news and Neighborhood events!!

ENJOY THE REST OF YOUR SUMMER!!

