

SAPPHIRE SHORES RECREATIONAL ASSOCIATION

DECEMBER 2008 NEWSLETTER

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Members have left, new members have come. To those that went away, best of luck in your new endeavors. And to those that have come, thank you from the bottom of our hearts for volunteering the time and effort to keep our little slice of heaven safe and attractive.

Sapphire Shores has been fortunate to have not suffered many of the problems that other communities have due to the economic downturn. Even though Sapphire Shores is the largest community in Silver Lakes, less than 10 homes are in foreclosure.

Good news! The quarterly assessment for 2009 is unchanged from 2008.

The landscaping at the pool area, tot-lot and cul-de-sacs was redone for the first time since its original installation. All plants were removed in the cul-de-sacs in a successful effort to deter loitering. The mulch in the pool and tot-lot area was removed and replaced with grass. The palm trees and hedges were trimmed back. To avoid yearly replacements, any future plantings will be limited to drought-resistant plants and flowers.

SPEED HUMPS COMING SOON!

The city of Miramar had only approved five speed humps, but due to the diligent work of Anna Rueger, SSRA Community Affairs Director, we were able to obtain a total of nine. We are currently waiting for the construction permits to be pulled and a date set for construction. Once we have that, a map depicting the locations of the speed humps will be uploaded onto the Sapphire Shores Web site.

Letters will be sent in advance to all homeowners who will be impacted in any way by the construction. Please note that once the construction begins, we cannot cancel or delay the project without being assessed \$3,000 per day by the company. That assessment will be charged directly to the homeowner who was responsible for the delay.

AT THE POOL

The vandalism problem has subsided since the installation of cameras, but problems remain from those individuals who have no regard for the law or the neighborhood.

We are working with Comcast to obtain a continuous live video feed onto cable channel 36 of the pool area and tot-lot areas. Homeowners and residents as well as the Police

will be able to see what is going on at any time. If any suspicious activity is occurring, you are strongly encouraged to call the Police immediately.

CITY OF MIRAMAR TO ISSUE PARKING TICKETS

Miramar police will issue tickets to those homeowners whose vehicles are parked in the swales or overflow/guest parking when their own driveway is available. Many homeowners have been parking their vehicles in these locations so as to not mess up their driveway or to get out of their garage easier. However, you must use your driveway and apron first. Only after that is it permitted to use the swale or overflow/guest parking. Otherwise, you will be ticketed.

GARAGES

The Silver Lakes Community Association rules state “no owner shall conduct or permit to be conducted repairs (except in an emergency) or restorations of any motor vehicle, or other vehicle upon any portion of the properties, except in an enclosed area with the doors thereto closed at all times.” In other words, no auto repairs are permitted in the driveway. They must be done in the garage. In addition, “garage doors must be closed at all times except when the garage is being entered or exited” or the garage is occupied.

PET RULES

At all times, pets must be on a leash or in a carrier when outdoors. This is a city law for the protection of residents and visitors. Pet owners are also responsible for immediately picking up after their pet.

STORM DRAINS

A number of the storm drains in Sapphire Shores are blocked by overgrown grass and weeds. This backs up the water into the streets, resulting in minor flooding of streets and surrounding property. Homeowners are responsible for keeping the storm drain in front of their home free of obstruction, including grass.

TRASH COLLECTION REMINDER

Trash is picked up in Sapphire Shores each week on Wednesday and Saturday. Bulk pick-up takes place on the 4th Thursday of every month. All trash containers must be put out for pick up no earlier than the night before or the morning of pick up. All empty trash containers must be retrieved by the owner on the same day as pick up.

WATERING RESTRICTIONS

Phase II watering restrictions remain in place. Violations will be a costly citation.

ODD-number address:

Wednesday & Saturday – 12 am to 10 am AND/OR 4 pm to 11:59 pm.

EVEN-number address:

Thursday & Sunday – 12 am to 10 am AND/OR 4 pm to 11:59 pm.

For the most efficient use of water, avoid irrigating during both time periods on the same day. Most lawns need only 3/4 to 1 inch of water per week.

Watering is not allowed between 10 am and 4 pm. Low-volume systems such as drip, bubble and micro-jet systems that apply water directly to root plant zones may be used any time.

OUR WEBSITE

There is a wealth of information regarding your Sapphire Shore community on the Sapphire Shores Web site: <http://sapphireshores.org/index.html>

Click onto the Police link to see where any crimes have occurred in our neighborhood.

There is also a link to the Silver Lakes Community Association Web site, including the Homeowner's manual.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The Sapphire Shores Recreational Board meetings take place on the last Tuesday of January, April, July and October. The October meeting includes the budget and elections. All meetings begin promptly at 7:00 pm at the Southwest Regional Library, second floor. It is your community and you are strongly encouraged to attend.

Your Board of Directors for Sapphire Shores:

Avelina Damonte, President

George Infante, Vice President

Richard Vera, Treasurer

Dennis Feltgen, Secretary

Anna Rueger, Director of Community Affairs

We wish you peace, love, good health, and prosperity this Holiday Season and for 2009.

“A loving smile, a tender touch, a thoughtful word, these all mean so much.

A helping hand, in time of need, encouragement for each good deed.

A chance for play when work is done, to savor life and well-earned fun.

With blessings such as these we share, we turn to God in thankful prayer.” by B. Chevalier.