Neighborhood Newsletter | Winter 2021

Mark Wright (Treasurer)



UPCOMING EVENTS

Holiday Light Decorating Contest: Submissions due December 8, 2021 Voting online: December 13-16, 2021

2022 Dues: Mailed December 1, 2021

Due January 1, 2022

Hello Shorewood Members,

I hope this finds you and your family well and gearing up to enjoy the holiday season! I'm pleased to present this first newsletter from your newly elected Board of Directors.

2021 SHOREWOOD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Doug Routh (President) Kristi Griffith (VP)
415 White Field Drive 9833 Flag Stone Place
260-209-4427 260-255-4707

9130 Yellow Tree Court 9436 Blue Mound Drive

Todd Adams

Chuck Collier David Nicole
9916 Flag Stone Place 429 Blue Cliff Place

Dave Schaab Amy Schenkel 9616 Blue Mound Drive 310 Blue Cliff Place

With thoughts of Thanksgiving this week, it makes me thankful to live in this beautiful community of Shorewood. My wife and I have lived here for 16 years raising our two children. We have fantastic neighbors, the kids grew up with good friends, and we continue to meet more amazing people who live here. In addition, I'm thankful to serve on our board alongside other members with a passion for Shorewood. We're very excited about the things we've accomplished so far and for those yet to come.

With that said, I'd like to share a little about the board, our missions, and goals. Every HOA has three primary goals; 1.) Preserve, protect, and enhance the value of the community, it's assets, and our personal homes, 2.) Enhance the lifestyle of residents and provide for a harmonious atmosphere within the community, and 3.) Inform and enforce the Restrictive Covenants to support the first two items.

That last one is undoubtedly the most challenging. We receive three types of responses from folks; displeasure for enforcing a covenant, displeasure if they feel we aren't, or thanks for helping them comply with something they weren't aware of. For whichever side you fall on, I want to share this; as an HOA corporation we are all legally responsible to follow the By-Laws and Restrictive Covenants, and to provide a board to oversee its operations. Some HOAs hire a management company to run it but who better to do this than volunteers from our own residents who have a vested interest in the community and care about those living here?

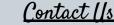
Few times in our neighborhood history has there been a full board to share responsibilities but fortunately we do this time. During our first board meeting a common comment was how many people stuck around at the end of the annual meeting to meet, talk, and share contact information. It was clear that what we all really want is to feel connected to our neighborhood and to connect with each other for new friendships. Sure, the board is committed to performing the mandated tasks but each one has expressed even more desire to help with those connections. So, for our tenure we have chosen the term "Connecting" as our overarching theme to drive what we do. We'll keep you informed for more opportunities to get to know each other as they come online.

For the remainder of this newsletter you can see what's been happening, upcoming events, and opportunities. We are currently implementing new HOA software with portals to see status of payments, outstanding items, complete record keeping, and direct connection with the board for faster responses and better communication. If you would like a login account please respond to the call for directory information on the next page.

And finally, our mission is to act as representatives of all Shorewood homeowners in the daily and overall management of the community. We are committed to being transparent and inclusive, and to act professionally with courtesy and respect while carrying out the responsibilities of the board. There is a wide breadth of experience and talents on the board from architects and builders, to accounting, planners and business. We're here to serve. If you have any questions, comments, suggestions, or anything else we can do to help please email us at hoa@shorewoodfw.com, or feel free to call me personally at 260-209-4427.

Thank you so much.

Douglas Routh President Shorewood Community Association





hoa@shorewoodfw.com www.shorewoodfw.com



Facebook: "Shorewood Neighborhood Fort Wayne"



CALLING ALL NEIGHBORS!

Do you have a skill you'd like to promote on our website?

Submit your name, details, and contact info to hoa@shorewoodfw.com to be added to our "Neighborhood Resources" page. Some examples include babysitting, pet sitting, tutoring, instrument lessons, lawn care, snow removal, in-home daycare, handyman, etc.

BOARD OPENING

We currently have one opening on the board for the position of Secretary. If you are interested in running for this position, please attend our next board meeting on Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at Westview Alliance Church at 6pm EST.

All those interested will share a brief bio and the current board members will vote to fill the vacancy. There is no member voting because the By-Laws state that board vacancies in between annual meetings are voted on by the board.

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

At the annual meeting this past June, a new board was voted in. We have a full board of 9 members voted in for the first time in quite a few years. Here's what the board has been up to since taking office on July 1st:

- Created a neighborhood website (<u>www.shorewoodfw.com</u>) where you can find:
 - Current board members and contacts
 - General information
 - Download area for the association By-Laws and Restrictive Covenants
 - o Board meeting minutes and newsletters
 - Forms for architectural requests
- Made a new Facebook page (Shorewood Neighborhood Fort Wayne)
- Reviewed and approved five architectural requests
- The board has been trained in the responsibilities mandated to us as a corporation such as taking care of the grounds, financial health of the association, enforcing the covenants and responding to architectural reviews
- In the month of August, we began sending out courtesy letters of covenant violations followed by fines when not complied with. By remedying these violations, we'll keep our neighborhood looking great, property values high, and an even better place to live! If you need a copy of the By-Laws or Covenants you can download them from the Shorewood website
- Managed collection of delinquent dues. There were approximately 18 properties delinquent when this
 board started. It is now down to 6. Please pay these when due by the end of January each year to avoid
 fines and/or liens placed on the property. We prefer not to raise dues to make up for those who are not
 paying
- Prepared the new budget for 2022 and voted to keep the current dues amount unchanged from 2021



DID YOU KNOW?

- The BYLAWS, COVENANTS, and ARTICLES OF DECLARATION documents for Shorewood can be found under the "General Information" tab on the Shorewood website.
- Our association covenants were designed to protect the aesthetics of our neighborhood, the property values of our homes, and to promote harmony among neighbors. Did you know, in order to amend our neighborhood Covenants, we need 75% of the 379 homeowners to vote YES to make a change (That's 285 homes!).
- Four of the top covenant violations our neighborhood is facing are listed here:
 - 1. Campers, RVs, boats and trailers are not allowed to be kept at your residence for any length of time other than briefly for the purpose of loading and unloading only.
 - 2. Detached storage sheds are not allowed. Outside storage may be attached to the house utilizing like materials as the house. If you would like to pursue this please submit your plans to the Architectural Review Committee through the Shorewood website.
 - 3. Trash and Recycling containers cannot be stored visibly on the outside of your house. They must be kept in our garage or completely concealed by an approved permanent attachment to your house.
 - 4. Any changes whatsoever to the outside of your house and property must be submitted for approval by the Architectural Review Committee. This applies to the house itself, fences, decks, patios, pergolas, driveways, color changes, etc. This includes changes to anything existing or for proposed new items.

HOLIDAY LIGHT DECORATING CONTEST

We want to see the homes in Shorewood lit up this holiday season! The purpose of the contest is to stimulate and enhance a sense of community by rewarding Shorewood residents that go above-and-beyond in decorating their home's exterior for the winter holiday season. All Shorewood residents are encouraged to participate!

Submit your entry by emailing one photo of your exterior holiday decorations along with your address to hoa@shorewoodfw.com. The last day to submit an entry is Wednesday, December 8th, 2021 at 11:59pm EST.

Voting begins on Monday, December 13, 2021 and ends Thursday, December 16, 2021 at 11:59pm EST on the Shorewood Neighborhood Website (www.shorewoodfw.com). You must be a resident of Shorewood to vote and only one vote counts per address.

Contest winners will be notified via email and posted to our Facebook page on December 17, 2021. Prizes will be awarded to first, second and third place winners. Prizes will include a yard sign and gift card prize pack (specific details will be shared on the Shorewood website no later than December 1, 2021).

Official contest rules are posted to the Shorewood Neighborhood website (<u>www.shorewoodfw.com</u>)

LET'S GET DIGITAL!

We'd love to move to a more digital format for communication! But we need your help!

Submit your email address via the Shorewood Neighborhood Directory Form on www.shorewoodfw.com Your email address will only be used for board communication and will not be distributed to the neighbors of Shorewood nor sold/distributed in any way.

In addition to the board adding more digital communication in the future, we've heard your requests to bring back a Neighborhood Directory. The directory will be digital (in a printer-friendly format) which allows us to keep it as current as

If you would like to be included in the Shorewood Neighborhood Digital Directory, you can opt-in on this same form. You will be able to add any or all of the following information: Name, Address, Phone Number.

While we'd love to collect every homeowner's email for board communication purposes, the added step of being included in the Digital Directory is completely optional.

Your Ad Could Be Here!

Do you have a local business you'd like to promote in a future Neighborhood Newsletter?

Email hoa@shorewoodfw.com for more information on our advertising packages!