



*notes and news to all who dwell in birnamwood*

# BIRNAMWOOD WINDS

**August 2009**

**Important Events for September**

- Tuesday, Sept. 8th Kiddy Pool Closes
- Sunday Sept. 13th Adult Pool Closes (depending on weather)
- Sunday Sept. 13th Pool Closing Party
- Wednesday Sept. 16th Board of Directors Meeting
- Saturday, Sept. 19th Deadline for Winds Articles

## **President's Notes August '09 - Winds, Bernie Feldman**

Planning for the upcoming Annual meeting, the Annual Golf Hackers Tournament and the closing of the pool were all topics discussed at the August 19th meeting of the Board. At this time due to lack of interest the Annual Golf Hackers Tournament will not be held this year. The volunteers who have organized this event during the past several years stated that, given only 16 people participated last year, they are not willing to spend the necessary time to organize and prepare for the event. If there are individuals interested in assisting with this event please contact Barb Piculell.

The Board appointed Dave Piculell as chair of the Architecture Committee. We are most grateful for his willingness to serve our community on this very important committee.

We have been unable to recruit any members of the community to serve on the Nominations Committee, although I have contacted several individuals all declined stating they were too busy. The need to recruit homeowners to fill the 3 open positions on the Board of Directors becomes the work of all of us. If anyone is interested to serve on the Board please contact a member of the Board to discuss your interest. Members of the Board will be seeking potential candidates, please give it some thought.

A subgroup of the Board has been working on the service agreement with the Comcast Company, this has proven to be a very tedious effort. Given Comcast's demands for exclusivity, a multi year (10 years) agreement, vague statements that protect our grounds, and an extensive marketing effort to be provided by the Association; it appears we will be in negotiation with Comcast for some additional time. To ensure that the rights and obligations of the Association are consistent with our governing documents, we have obtained legal consultation from a member of the Felhaber Firm, who has experience with licensing contracts.

The Board approved a redesign of the pool interior that includes a lowering of the fence between the kiddie pool and the general pool area. Glynn Neumann prepared the design to ensure it is consistent with the existing pool architectural design. The architectural Committee approved the design, and forwarded their recommendation for the changes, to the Board for action. The work on the redesign and other repairs at the pool will be completed after the pool is closed for the season.

The tabulation of the results of the Annual Survey has been completed and distributed to the Board Members for their review. This year 61 members of the community completed the survey. To all those who took the time to complete the survey Many Thanks! We will be using the results of the survey as we plan for next year and review the current contracts with our vendors.

Several townhomes are listed for sale in Birnamwood, including the following units: #16, #29, #49, #135, #139, #171, #179, & #196. Two homes have sold recently, #175 and #18. We look forward to new neighbors in our community.

By the time you receive this issue of the *Winds* the State Fair or "The Great Minnesota Get Together", will be up and running. This year for sure I intend to get to the English Riding Program at the Hippodrome, I think the allergies will be in full force so I won't even notice the fragrance of the place, just the elegance of the riders. There is a silver lining to everything!!

**Birnamwood Homes Association  
Treasurer's Report - Donna Cooke  
August 15, 2009**

*Thanks to all our  
Birnamwood volunteers!  
Your efforts great and small  
are what make Birnamwood  
a great place to live.  
Consider offering your skills  
to our community.*

**Balances:**

	<b>Jun 30, 2009</b>	<b>Jul 31, 2009</b>
Current Cash - Checking	\$109,052.09	\$108,726.17
Current Cash - Savings	\$106,375.23	\$106,420.41
Replacement Reserve Account	\$467,428.77	\$465,185.57
Capital Improvement Fund	\$33,178.26	\$33,681.53

**DELINQUENT ACCOUNT ANALYSIS**

<b>Past Due Accounts:</b>	<b>Jul 14, 2009</b>	<b>Aug 15, 2009</b>
Balance	\$2,337.27	\$2,779.15
Number of Accounts	6	12
<b>Past Due Accounts (4+ mos. past due)</b>		
Balance	\$18,527.66	\$9,381.67
Number of Accounts	11	8
<b>Past Due Accounts (with legal)</b>		
Balance	\$8,738.75	\$13,771.95
Number of Accounts	2	4
Balance	\$29,603.68	\$25,932.77
Number of Accounts	19	24



**SOCIAL**

The Birnamwood cook out with Elvis impersonator, Tony Redmond, was attended by 80 people. It looked like a good time was had by all attending. Thanks to the committee- Rita Gutenkauf, Mary Mertz, Lois Sweeney, and Karon Gjorvad for all their work.

Sunday, September 13th will be our **pool closing party**. Watch for a flyer with the specifics.

Sunday, December 6 is the night for all Birnamwood residents and guests to **celebrate the Holiday season** at the Mediterranean Cruise Cafe. The price will be the same as last year, \$25/per person. More information will be coming in October.

**POOL**

The adult pool will stay open until Sunday, September 13th if weather permits. The kiddie pool will close the day after Labor Day.

Thanks,  
**Barb Piculell**



## VICE PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Thanks to all who completed the 2009 BHA Annual Survey and provided comments and suggestions to the Board! The survey results related to the BHA VP areas of parking and pets showed that 95% of those who responded thought the parking rules were clear and understandable, and 89% responded that enforcement of the rules was sufficient; 100% of those who responded agreed that the rules regarding pets were clear and appropriate; and 93% responded that enforcement of the rules was sufficient. The following summary of suggestions from Birnamwood residents serves as a good reminder of the rules and common courtesy:

### **Suggestions related to parking:**

- Visitor Parking is primarily for guests. If you have a long-term guest, contact the BHA VP about a permit.
- Visitor Parking is not for use by friends of residents who are going out of town.
- When parking in a Visitor Parking area, be considerate and take up only one space per vehicle.
- If there are three licensed drivers and three vehicles in your household, make sure you apply for a permit for the third car if it's being parked in the Visitor Parking area.

### **Suggestions related to pets:**

- Pet owners are required to pick up after their pets and not let their pets urinate in garden areas or on plantings.
- Pets need to be on leash at all times in Birnamwood – and someone must be holding the other end of the leash.

Reminder related to BHA property insurance claims: If you think you have a claim against the BHA property insurance policy, please contact the BHA VP. Remember, the BHA deductible is \$2,500 per incident, and the BHA insurance rates are adversely impacted by the number of claims filed, regardless of the outcome (whether or not anything is ever paid out on a claim). The BHA VP will review the situation and file a claim if warranted. Thank you!

- Terri Sharp

## For Sale

5' white, wood mantle, \$20, call 952-894-4432

*Townhome:* 50 Garden Drive, Burnsville \$249k  
3 bedroom, 3 bath, 2 car garage  
Private wooded walkout with over 3,000 sf  
Skylights, vaulted ceilings and fireplace  
3 decks plus a screened-in porch on upper level  
Original owners, move-in condition  
Includes all appliances and blinds  
Easy access to 35W and 35E  
Sellers will accept FHA, VA or contract for deed  
Contact Al or Sally 952-406-8897

## FROM ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL

ALL CHANGES (REPAIRS, REPLACEMENTS, NEW CONSTRUCTION, SATELLITE DISHES, ETC.) MUST BE APPROVED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL COMMITTEE BEFORE ANY WORK IS INITIATED ON YOUR HOME.

The reasons for this approval process are:

1. Forty years after Birnamwood was built it remains a beautiful development because its architectural integrity and continuity has been protected by this process.
2. A written approval on file protects the homeowner if any questions arise in the future.
3. An approval ensures that the proper materials and any architectural changes meet all Birnamwood specifications and codes.
4. The approval process protects the homeowner from costly rework that may result from making changes that do not meet Birnamwood specifications.
5. There are many approvals on file so the committee maybe able to save the homeowner a lot of time and effort by sharing how similar requests were approved in the past.

The committee is anxious to work with you and make the approval process as user friendly as possible.

Thanks,  
**Dave Piculell**

### **WHOSE SIDE AM I ON? - An Editorial** **\*Reprinted from the Winds 1977** **by Ralf E. Runquist, Editor**

Attending the special meeting of Birnamwood Homes Association reminded me again that a pretty nice bunch of people inhabit this area of Burnsville. It also reminded me that part of that bunch puts in a fantastic amount of work for the rest of us.

It's so easy, when we've elected somebody, to figure that they asked for grief, so they're entitled!! Suddenly, fellow homeowners are no longer regarded as "we".... but "they" .... As in what are 'they' going to do to 'us' this time?!!"

Being elected doesn't suddenly make board members any wiser than the rest of us, but neither does it make them distant beings, unconcerned with our problems. If anything, it indicates that they care about Birnamwood and our individual problems at least as much, and perhaps more than the average homeowner.

So, when I ask, "Whose side am I on?" the answer is "my side, and our side!" And that is the same side the board members are on.

I appreciate it!

**-Submitted by Gary Streich**

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Unit#</u>	<u>Home Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
Bernie Feldman	President	113	890-7396	
Terri Tharp	Vice President	108	736-3767	<a href="mailto:tharp@epi.umn.edu">tharp@epi.umn.edu</a>
Donna Cooke	Treasurer	129	707-8846	<a href="mailto:cooke@comcast.net">cooke@comcast.net</a>
Sue Sandell	Secretary	102	426-1146	<a href="mailto:sue@urmmortgage.com">sue@urmmortgage.com</a>
<u>Directors</u>	<u>Liaison</u>	<u>Unit #</u>	<u>Home Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
Joe Carlisano	Architectural	51	894-9194	<a href="mailto:j.carlisano@comcast.net">j.carlisano@comcast.net</a>
Barbara Piculell	Recreation	120	890-5230	<a href="mailto:bpiculell@comcast.net">bpiculell@comcast.net</a>
Richard Phillips	Facilities	73	882-0379	<a href="mailto:p51dman2@aol.com">p51dman2@aol.com</a>
Kirk Johnson	Grounds	138	612-743-8225 (cell)	<a href="mailto:captainabbey@yahoo.com">captainabbey@yahoo.com</a>
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Sue Sandell	Welcome	102	426-1146	<a href="mailto:sue@urmmortgage.com">sue@urmmortgage.com</a>
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	Social/Welcome			
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**Neighborhood Watch Block Captains**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Unit #</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Unit Coverage</u>
Carol Moe	33	890-7954	Units 10-20 & 29-50
Gary Streich	28	890-9132	Units 21-59
Shirley Holden	71	894-4393	Units 60-94
Jane Hixon	121	894-7589	Units 95-126
Barb Lager	215	882-8171	Units 199-216
Dave Jones	130	890-5539	Units 127-135, 217-234 & Tennis Court Units 136-153; 154-198 & Swimming Pool & Paddle Court

**Official Association Notices**

**Association Monthly Fees** - are due on the first of each month. Send payments to F&N Management Services – 4980 Dodd Road, Eagan, MN 55123. Phone Number: 651-423-1011.

**Architectural Stipulation** – any change, alteration, addition or replacement made to a townhouse exterior **must** be recommended by the Architectural Committee and approved by the Board of Directors. All homeowners are **required** to comply with these requirements.

**Applications for Exterior Changes** – must be submitted no later than the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month to be acted upon by the Architectural Committee and placed on the Board's agenda for the next monthly meeting...

**FHA & HUD ID# for Birnamwood** – NDF1

**Birnamwood Website** – [birnamwoodhomes.org](http://birnamwoodhomes.org)