



BIRNAMWOOD WINDS

notes and news to all who dwell in Birnamwood



President's Corner – Bernie Feldman

May 2011



The Board of Directors met on Wednesday May 18th with an extended agenda of items related to the Birnamwood Community. The Board discussed and approved for payment the pool resurfacing project that was approved last Fall. The accepted bid for the work was \$9,190.11 from Northern Air. The funds to pay for the work will be transferred from the Reserve Replacement Fund, account #61100 established for that purpose. A bill for \$350.00 from Percell Sewer Service for clearing the sewer line connected to Units #223 through #227 was approved for payment.

A review of work completed on Pride Day revealed that although it was a cold rainy day, a good bit of work was accomplished by the 45 members of our Community who gathered at the pool at 8:30 and with coffee cup in hand started scrubbing pool furniture, the pool surface and deck, the bathroom and any other thing that remained in place for too long. In addition, teams of volunteers took cleaning boxes and with chins tucked into their collars started cleaning the lights around the community. The grounds crew spent the morning spreading mulch and black dirt where needed. Although we were not able to do any of the painting that was needed, volunteers have scheduled time during the past week to prime and paint the benches, light poles, mailboxes step railings and the directional sign posts. Since we are having rain off and on you may see patches of white primer on some surfaces, the finished staining will be completed as the rainy days allow. There still is an opportunity to volunteer your services, just contact Del Hickman at #64 or Dick Phillips at #73. The day ended with lunch, prepared by Joe & Bev Carlisano. If this is a preview of the social events that Jo will be cooking, better plan to get your reservation in early.

We were most pleased to receive a check for \$100.00 from an Owner who was unable to participate in Pride Day. The money will be put to good use since we dumped the old styrofoam coolers and will use the donated funds to purchase 3-4 new coolers with handles and wheels. These will be much easier to handle when we have social events. The Social Committee has also requested funds to purchase a microwave and a small refrigerator for use at the pavilion, any additional donations will be accepted and appreciated. Many thanks to all the Volunteers, who despite the weather, helped to save our community several hundreds of dollars that would have been expended to accomplish the work. The Spirit of Birnamwood continues.

An area of general concern to the Board and the Architectural Committee relates to the fact that many Owners are engaging in alterations, repairs and replacements to their Townhomes without submitting the application for change to the Architectural Committee for approval and onto the Board, if an approved standard does not allow for an expedited review. Unfortunately, when a non-standard change is completed, it can be very costly to the Homeowner because the Owner will be required to remove the non-standard alteration/repair and can be assessed a fine until the correction is completed. The Board Members really dislike this part of their work as a Director, because it takes up a great deal of time to work through the problems involved, but also it places them in an adversarial position with their neighbors and at time their friends. It is a very difficult responsibility to assume. What is even more frustrating is that the requirement of submitting an application to the Architectural Committee is really very simple and quick. You download the application from the web site, complete the form, which asks you to state the change or alteration you intend, and provide the completed form to a member of the Architectural Committee. The Architectural Committee has assigned members of the Committee to sections of the Community, (see elsewhere in the Winds for the listed assignments) the intent of the Member assignment is to assist the homeowner through the process and to ensure the it is completed in a timely manner. If you need help with the process, especially if it is the first time you have done so, contact the person assigned to your Unit, they are most willing to assist you with completing the application, and help you work through the process so you can get on with the project.

The Board discussed the distribution of a survey this year and decided to postpone this for another year. In the past the Board has tried various methods to gain information from our Owners. This year to increase communication between the Board and the Homeowners we have been arranging opportunities to meet with various populations that live in the Birnamwood Community. Last month I met with the ladies sewing group, the give and take of the conversation was most helpful to learn their concerns about living in Birnamwood and their suggestions that would make Birnamwood an even better place to live. Neighbors looking out for one another really makes a difference among our mature Residents.

The next population of Residents I and other Board Members will be inviting for a conversation will be the single/ unattached/ independent Owners in our community. The purpose of the conversation is to learn what is working or not working for this group of residents. Look for a flyer in June. The two additional groups we will be meeting with during the Summer months are families with children and finally married couples. We shall learn how this effort succeeds in maintaining communication between the Board of Directors and the Homeowners. **(Continued on Page 3)**

Treasurer's Report—Dave Jones

Financial Account Details

Balances	28-Feb-11	31-Mar-11	30-Apr-11	+/-
Checking Wells Fargo	\$74,935	\$74,935	\$74,711	(224)
Checking Kline	\$30,854	\$49,409	\$41,825	(7,584)
Savings Wells Fargo	\$106,960	\$106,960	\$107,460	500
Savings CIF	\$45,252	\$45,752	\$46,252	500
Reserve Replacement	\$497,681	\$505,445	\$513,876	8,431
Total	\$755,682	\$782,501	\$784,124	\$1,623

Delinquent Accounts

Date	Number	Bal Forward	Current Mo	Payment	Past Due	Late fee	Total Due
Feb-11	44	\$25,704	\$8,657	\$4,321	\$30,040	\$700	\$30,740
Mar-11	29	\$22,475	\$4,548	\$5,440	\$21,583	\$0	\$21,583
Apr-11	29	\$22,532	\$5,148	\$6,698	\$20,982	\$675	\$21,657
May-11	36	\$20,543	\$5,662	\$2,886	\$23,319	\$875	\$24,194
2 Mo Delta	(7)	\$1,989	(\$514)	\$3,812	(\$2,337)	(\$200)	(\$2,537)

IMPORTANT! CLIP AND SAVE THIS SECTION WITH YOUR PARENT VOUCHERS! IMPORTANT!

There have been numerous errors in sending our payments to Gassen (including myself) which have caused delays in processing our payments. If you want your payment to be processed promptly you **must** have the following four items when sending payment:

1. Check must be made out to: Birnamwood Homes Association
2. Must include the voucher from the book sent from Gassen
3. Must be sent in the preprinted envelope or to the PO Box
4. Account Number **must** be on the check. The account number is the 2nd set of numbers on your voucher. All account numbers start with 300 and are followed by your unit number.



Do not mail Gassen your check as it needs to go to the PO Box. Mailing it to the Gassen office will cause a delay in payment. The PO Box address goes directly to the bank so Gassen never sees your check. The bank will process payments and deposit from their PO Box. The address on the back of the Winds is updated as of this issue. In previous issues, the Gassen street address was listed. Please disregard all old issues of the Winds and use the PO Box for payment.

BILL PAY: If you are using Bill Pay through your bank it's vital that you have the correct account number linked to your payment. Also remember that payments through bill pay normally take 5-7 days to send. Bill Pay accounts with missing or inaccurate account numbers will experience longer delays as well.

Your payment is due on the **1st of every month**, not the 15th. Please mail by the 1st to avoid any late fees.



Welcome New Residents: Evgeniy Kryzah(101) Anzrej & Ewa Dereziński(129), and Susan Allanson(150)

Birnamwood Homes that are currently for sale: #25, #66, #98, #115, #163, #166, #207, #220, & #231

Units that have signed purchase agreements: # 45, #94, #116, & #149

Units that have sold: # 231 sold on 5/13, #115 scheduled to close 5/23, and #192 scheduled to close 5/27

Recruit your family and friends to consider moving to our wonderful community, with all the apple trees in bloom and the lilacs soon to follow, we really look great!!


This is a reminder that the Birnamwood Garage Sale will be held on Saturday June 11, 2011. The registration form was in the last Winds. If you misplaced the form please feel free to call for a replacement. (You may also write your name, unit number, and a list of specific and/or general items you will be selling.) Submit your registration form and \$5 fee to Beth at #79 as soon as possible. The fliers will be taken to the printers on the Tuesday evening prior to the sale. You may register for the sale as late as Sat. morning but your unit and items will not be listed on the flier. Remember that the fee of \$5 is for each person selling items in your garage. For example if three households are selling items fee for that garage is \$15. This is the only way we can meet our costs.

Friday evening

Friday evening June 10 is an optional sale open and close when you want.

Volunteers still needed for handing out fliers for the sale Sat. June 11





PRESIDENTS NOTES cont. The Homes Committee reported that they have completed the annual inspection of homes and the various reports have been distributed. As the reports stated the Owners have until September to accomplish the repairs listed on the report. For those who have currently listed their home for sale or intend to do so, please know that the Association is required to attach the inspection report to the disclosure statement that the Association must prepare for the prospective buyer.

The Board had a preliminary discussion about the painting cycle for Birnamwood Homes. We are currently in the fifth year of the 5-year cycle. As you may remember we accelerated the number of units painted each year so that what we intended to take five years we actually completed in four years. The first decision relates to the need to begin another 5-year cycle next year in 2012 or maybe we can wait an additional year to 2013 before we begin another painting program. Hopefully, as we meet with homeowners you will be willing to offer your opinion regarding this decision. Since the painting program will require an assessment, the homeowners must be provided the opportunity to vote on a painting program, you make the final decision. You will be hearing, more about any future painting programs and will be given the opportunity to discuss the issue during the coming months and eventually decide through a formal vote at the annual meeting.

Finally a couple of suggestions, an excursion well worth the time is a trip to the Minnesota Arboretum, a treat for your eyes and nose. Also for those who want to stay COOL with the kindergarten crowd, remember show and tell activity, well no longer, it is now known as drag and brag. I got that from the Triplets last week. Next week-end is Memorial Day, we remember our Women and Men in the Military and pray for their safety and speedy return.

Current Architectural Committee Members and Home Assignments.

<u>UNIT ASSIGNMENTS</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</u>	<u>PHONE NUMBER</u>
29-59	43	Faye Kuhn	(952) 895-1030
60-67, 70-99	57	Jeff Hanto	(952) 426-1204
100-135	95	Chris Lindemann	(651) 674-3130
140-165	124	Lee Volmer	(952) 890-6818
10-28, 166-192	173	Rich Pearson	(952) 890-8559
217-234	57	Jeff Hanto	(952) 426-1204
136-139, 194-216	120	Dave Piculell	(952) 890-5230
CHAIRPERSON	120	Dave Piculell	(952) 890-5230

Homes Maintenance Committee—Jon Carlson

The annual inspection of the exteriors of our homes was completed by members of the Homes Maintenance Committee. Inspection reports have been delivered to the mailboxes all requiring repairs. Repairs are required to be completed by September 1st. Don Moe, a member of the Homes Maintenance Committee, will be coordinating an order for Arbor beams (the two large wooden beams that are suspended above most back decks). Due to their size, these are not boards that most lumberyards have on hand, and we generally obtain better pricing when we can order a group of them. Please contact Don by June 30th if you're interested. Don can be reached at 952-890-7954 or moepw@comcast.net

Grounds Committee—Terry Sarazin

Eight Birnamwood residents got up early on April 30 to attend the annual Burnsville tree sale. Each bought 2 trees (the limit) for our community. They are: Gary Streich, Tom Logan, Betty and Dave Murphy, Rita Gutenkauf, Diane McLaughlin, Bill Schoessow, and Terry Sarazin. The trees have all been planted.

With the help of some additional residents, Grounds Committee members spread four large bales of mulch around trees and bushes on Pride Day. Additional mulch will be brought in to complete coverage of remaining areas. Other

The Board and the Grounds Committee are encouraging residents to plant and landscape in front of their homes. All such work has to be approved in advance by the Committee. Standards for this and forms for submission can be found in your homeowner's manual. If you don't have that form or you have questions contact a Committee member or Terry Sarazin at 707-1102. Committee members with expertise in gardening are available to help if asked.

If you have mulch in front of your house it has to be replenished every year with new natural colored mulch.

We are continuing our program this year of preventing damage to our many ash trees from the emerald ash borer. The ash borer has not yet reached Burnsville but is as close as the West River Road in Minneapolis.

A small black and brown dog was found wandering around Birnamwood. If it is yours, please contact Animal Control.

BIRNAMWOOD DIRECTORY

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Unit#</u>	<u>Home Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
Bernie Feldman	President	113	952-890-7396	feldm001@tc.umn.edu
Tom Logan	Vice President	206	952-890-7096	tllogan@gmail.com
Dave Jones	Treasurer	130	952-890-5539	dave.jones66@gmail.com
Tom Daly	Secretary	134	952-994-4312	tommer2000@comcast.net

<u>Directors</u>	<u>Liaison</u>	<u>Unit #</u>	<u>Home Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
Kurt Hinrichsen	Architectural	152	952-454-6895	khinrich3@gmail.com
Joe Carlisano	Recreation/Social	51	952-894-9194	j.carlisano@Q.com
Richard Phillips	Facilities	73	952-882-0379	p51dman2@aol.com
Kirk Johnson	Grounds	138	612-743-8225	captainabbey@yahoo.com
Jonathan Carlson	Home Maintenance	145	952-984-5554	jon_carlson@cargill.com
Tom Daly	Welcome	134	952-994-4312	tommer2000@comcast.net

<u>Chairperson</u>	<u>Committee</u>	<u>Unit #</u>	<u>Home Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
Dave Piculell	Architectural	120	952-890-5230	bpiculell@comcast.net
Terry Sarazin	Grounds	80	952-707-1102	terrysarazin@gmail.com
Dave Jones	Security	130	952-890-5539	dave.jones66@gmail.com
Dave Jones	Birnamwood Website	130	952-890-5539	dave.jones66@gmail.com

<u>"The Winds"</u>	<u>Duty</u>	<u>Unit #</u>	<u>Home Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
Ann Fassbender	Editor			afassbender@zoho.com
Kent Greiner	Distribution List	204	952-808-7580	1947kjq@usfamily.net

Neighborhood Watch Block Captains

<u>Name</u>	<u>Unit #</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Unit Coverage</u>
Carol Moe	33	952-890-7954	Units 10 - 20
Gary Streich	28	952-890-9132	Units 21 - 59
Shirley Holden	71	952-894-4393	Units 60 - 94
Jane Hixon	121	952-894-7589	Units 95 - 198
Barb Lager	215	952-882-8171	Units 199 - 216
Dave Jones	130	952-890-5539	Units 127 - 198, Tennis Courts, Swimming Pool & Paddle Court

Official Association Notices

Association Monthly Fees - Due 1st of month. Send payments made out to Birnamwood Home Association to: Gassen Company, PO Box 466, Chaska MN 55318-0466 Include your acct number (300 followed by your unit #) Gassen Contact: Jodie Woodrow 952.253.4914

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 20th 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

Birnamwood Events Email - BirnamwoodEvents@gmail.com

Birnamwood Facebook Page - Search 'Birnamwood Homes' on Facebook



Editors Notes: Your comments and suggestions are welcome. Email afassbender@zoho.com If you would like to view the Winds in color, please visit the Birnamwood website.