

Welcome to the
Neighborhood:

Tortora's Restaurant-
In Hampton Village
**Mandarin House Buffet
and Grill**
In Center by Wal-Mart
J. Sparks Farms
On Esslinger in Gurley

Vandalism and Fireworks

There have been several reports to the HCOA office regarding vandalism like the destruction of mail boxes, rolling of yards etc. We encourage those in the community to keep an eye open, get car tag numbers when possible and report them to the Non-emergency police number at 722-7100.
Please report fireworks and related activity to the police at the same number.

HCOA Board Openings

In the fall of 2008, there will be four director positions open on the HCOA Board. Five current members have another year to serve. If you are interested in serving the entire community, please contact cindy@hamptoncove.com. Serving on the board requires a significant time commitment. The committees have a variety of challenges ahead of them. Hampton Cove is now in its 16th year and new issues arise daily. Here are some areas of expertise that might be advantageous: home building, water and land management, environmental, mechanical, and electrical construction. Experience in the process of strategic and long term planning, upper level accounting-or a QuickBooks expert, some legal experience related to real estate would be desirable. The ability to work with others in a team environment is also necessary.

Questions about the HCOA Log on to



The City of Huntsville recognized the Hampton Cove Waterfall again with the Honor Roll Award for 5 or more years of outstanding beauty. The Waterfall has been on the Honor Roll every year thanks to the hard work of Joe Tuck and Ronnie Allen who are in charge of landscaping for Hampton Cove. Say thank you to Joe and Ronnie for making the waterfall and all entrances of Hampton Cove the most beautiful in North Alabama.

Fall Community Yard Sale

Log on to www.hamptoncove.com
For the date in October

August 2008

Perseid Meteor Shower

Hays Nature Preserve-August 11-12th

The new nonprofit *Friends of the Preserve and Sanctuary* is sponsoring a viewing of the Perseid Meteor Shower (one of the year's best, if the weather is right) on Monday-Tuesday (midnight August 11th to 3 a.m. or so on August 12th) at the Hays Nature Preserve, a perfect natural area for such observances. The Von Braun Astronomical Society will be there to answer questions and will have a 12" telescope for observing celestial bodies such as star clusters. Bring kids, lawn chairs or blankets, food, and flashlights **only** with red lenses (white light destroys our night vision), but leave the dogs at home, please. It is a free event, and you can call 427-5116 or go to www.huntsvillepreserves.com for more information. The event will be cancelled if the night is not clear, but you can get an update on the weather at 427-5116.

The Benefits of Mulch

Mulch helps minimize weeds, conserve moisture, moderate soil temperature, and make your yard look good. Mulched plants generally grow better than similar, non-mulched plants in the same garden. The types of approved mulch in Hampton Cove are Mulch beds annually with a natural /neutral colored mulch, **not** artificially dyed mulch, and **not** pine straw.

Here are some simple steps to mulch your flower beds and gardens:

1. Clear out all weeds, leaves and old mulch from between shrubs and plants to expose the soil.
2. Dump new mulch into planting bed and spread with a garden rake to 2-4 inches deep.
3. Push mulch under shrubs with a rake, but keep it away from branches and trunks.
4. Use a rake to compact the mulch along the edge of the bed.

Mulching allows you to recycle nature's products to replenish your garden and in the process your garden will look greener and healthier. Be sure to mulch before winter, as it will help beds survive the cold weather. Also, don't forget to replace the mulch around your trees.

Here are some simple steps to replace mulch around your trees:

1. Place mulch around the base of the tree. Do not make mulch piles or "volcanoes" but instead leave a ring of bare soil around the tree like a "donut." Always keep the mulch at least 6 inches away from the base in order to keep the tree healthy.
2. Spread the mulch out evenly to a depth of 3-6 inches.

Garden Club Meetings

August 21, 2008 First Open House

Time: 9:30am-12:00 noon

Location: Hampton House

The purpose of the Open House is to provide information about the garden club in a social environment with refreshments and one to one interaction.

September 18, 2008 Meeting

Time: 9am 11:00 Social, Meeting & Program.

Where: Huntsville Botanical Gardens at 4747 Bob Wallace Ave.

Speaker: Tina Stanley

Program: **Butterflies:** Tina will give a slide show on butterflies and then we will get a guided tour through the butterfly house. This will conclude our summer study on butterflies.

****RSVP to Frankie Black (534-4086) for lunch reservations at the Gardens****

October 16, 2008 Meeting

Time: 9:30-11:00 Meeting & Program.

Where: Hampton House at 2700 Hampton Cove Way

Program: Holiday Hands-On Project by Kathy Ludwig (project and materials needed TBA)

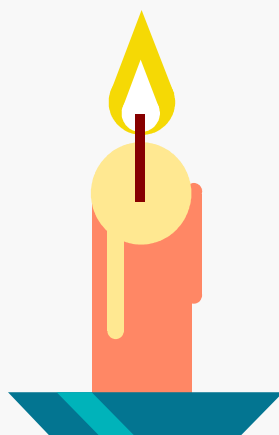
****Please bring in clothing donations for Operation Green Team workers****

For more garden club info, call or email Frankie Black @ 534-4086, robfrankienick@hotmail.com or Kathy Jones @ 539-1922, kathy@hamptoncove.com

Also, check out the Garden Clubs Bulletin Board Listing at www.hamptoncove.com.

Luminaries Return by Popular Demand

December 14th, 2008



Watch your mail for more information.

Playground Opens

The new Playground at Arbor Woods is complete and is now open for family recreation. The new Playground was designed by J.A. Dawson and Co. for child development and enjoyment. The equipment meets American Disabilities Act guidelines and includes extras to help with the development of special needs children. It is wheelchair accessible.

The playground design for Hampton Cove Owner's Association offers a wide variety of play events to assist children in physical, mental, and social development. The play environment was designed to follow the principles of inclusive design – to make a place where everybody can play together regardless of age, gender, or ability.

Both playground units offer graduated challenges that help children develop total body strength. Smaller children can practice climbing on the leaning wall or arch climber on the smaller unit and work their way up to the wave climber and mega rock climber on the larger unit.

Different kinds of motion offered with swings, the whirlwind seat, and rotator help with cognitive and social development. Spinning and swinging motions teach children cause and effect and helps children engage in cognitive thinking while playing. These pieces of equipment offer a chance for children to play together as a team while they make the rotator spin or are pushed on the swings by a parent or friend.

The Gazzas offer a different kind of play. Children can make their own music playing alone or with friends. Musical instruments for the playground offer an equal opportunity for children of all abilities to create a rhythm all their own.

Slides in the playground include a special feature: looping. Looping allows a child climb to the deck, slide down the slide, and go right back up again. By ensuring this design is included, children can enjoy the feeling of flying down a slide in an uninterrupted pattern.

Thank you to all the neighbors and volunteers who assisted in the design and construction of the Playground. Your past and future efforts are greatly appreciated.

Robert D. Vigil, Land and Water Chairman

Board Meeting Highlights April and May

These Highlights are not the actual minutes and for the purpose of brevity presented here in a topical format. Please see the website for the official minutes.)

In June and July the HCOA Board of directors conducted two board meetings on June 16th and July 28th. The board has had a variety of issues to consider recently and would like to encourage you to log on to the website and read them in their entirety.

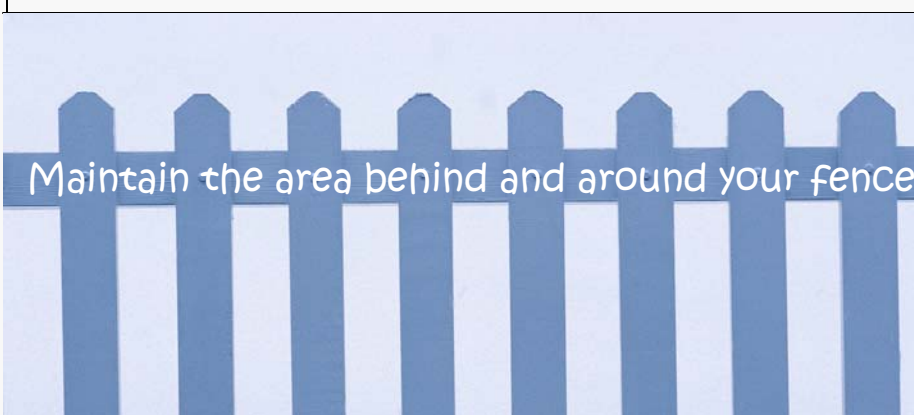
But here are some June highlights:

- Realtors came to propose a change in the signage rules for open houses.
- A new neighborhood for annexation was proposed near the Deford Mill community, no decision has been made by the Board.
- Neighbors on Little Cove Road requested annexation (one home).
- Residents along Haddonstone requested financial assistance with drainage that the city was planning to improve the standards.
- A request for an in-home daycare business was denied.
- Compliance and financial reports were submitted.
- Reported the status of the Playground- (please see the other article)
- Reported on the progress of completing items including the entrances at Eastern Shore and Stoneleigh Terrace.
- Discussed Architectural issues with specific residents.
- Discussed at the length the assessment of the mechanical operations of the waterfall and the cost of bringing it up to suitable standards and conditions.

In July:

- The above issues of annexation were discussed further but no decision rendered.
- Mark Anderson made a presentation regarding what had been requested of him to complete Eastern Shore.
- The Hampton House presented an update of their construction project.
- An Employee Handbook was presented and approved by the Board.
- The Board agreed to allow the Garden Club to include a piece in one of the upcoming mail packages by the HCOA office regarding the luminaries.

Again, these are highlights of the meeting. Complete minutes are now available online. In 2008, the board agreed to approve minutes in a timely manner so they can be posted within two weeks of the board meeting.



Covenant Corner

Architectural Review



- Submit all exterior changes to your home for approval this includes: landscaping, pools, any and all structures, fences, seawalls, paint, etc...any and all exterior changes.

Usage Restrictions:

- Bagged yard waste and trash must be held in the garage or back yard until Sunday evening, before putting it on the curb.
- Grass clippings may not be disposed of in creeks, drainage or behind fences.
- Mulch beds annually with a natural colored mulch, not artificially dyed mulch, and not pine straw.
- Store boats, trailers and other recreational vehicles outside Hampton Cove in storage facilities.
- Park your cars in the garage or in the driveway, not on the street.

Satellites:

- Do consider all the options available to you.
- Do consult with the HCOA office before installation
- Do conceal the satellite from all street visibility.
- Do choose a satellite that is 18 inches or smaller in diameter.
- Do try to find a discreet place in your back yard.
- Do use additional landscaping if necessary to conceal the dish.
- Don't allow the satellite to be visible from the street.
- Don't place it on the front of the road or house.
- Don't place it on the front roof line of your home!
- Don't place it on a pole/stake in the yard. Do have it affixed to your house!