

February 1, 2016

ASHFORD PARK HOA NEWSLETTER

A Message from the Ashford Park Homeowners Board President Dave Roffman

I am the newly-elected President of our Ashford Park Homeowners' Association. On the evening of Jan. 12, 2016, at the Annual Meeting, myself along with five other residents were chosen to represent all of Ashford Park home owners. The next evening, the new Board of Directors met to decide which board member would hold which office. Wilma Votta is our Vice President; Michael Callahan was voted Treasurer Teri Mellies is our Secretary; Michael Wilde will head up our Architectural Committee; and Laura Daily is our Nominations Chairwoman. Last year's Board implemented a "Trustee Council" consisting of three members who were voted in for 3, 2 and 1 year terms. The three trustees elected were Marianna Whatley, Linda Pledger and Dale Torrence. Their primary responsibility will be to assist the Board of Directors throughout the year. I welcome their assistance and good wisdom.

At that very meeting, two people dressed in black with guns drawn charged into our meeting, with the intent on robbing us. (See our Website for all the details at www.ashfordparkowner.com). The two perpetrators darted back out of the house as quickly as they entered. They harmed no one, they robbed no one. We locked the doors and called the police. The police responded quickly, took statements from all of us, and secured the immediate neighborhood. The perpetrators were later caught that evening near Walgreens where they had robbed a customer there. The burglars are now in jail, with no chance of meeting the bond set by the judge, and await trial. Turns out they were two 18 year olds from Foley, already out on bail for robbery. The crime spree started in Gulf Shores, continued with a home invasion in our neighborhood, then a holdup at Walgreens. We commend the police for their quick response.

Since that happened on Jan. 13th, the victims have met with Pastor Joe Aldrette and Pastor Michael McTighe, two crisis management counselors for Baldwin County. They spent close to three hours with us, and were instrumental in helping us through this ordeal.

A few days later, several volunteers and Board members met at Chris Canupp's home to begin formulating a Neighborhood Watch Program for our community. With your help, it will happen, and soon. Safety is the prime concern of your new Board of Directors. This program will start this process.

I wish to compliment Michael Wilde, our Architectural Chairman/Maintenance Chairman. Michael has identified several areas where maintenance is needed quickly. A dilapidated fence surrounding a small retention pond on West Ashford Park Drive is the first identified. The fence was literally falling down. It was a danger to anyone walking by, so Mike W. and the Board have taken swift action in seeking bids from people who could repair the fence. We found such a man, and by the time you read this, the fence will have been repaired. Michael Wilde has already signed up volunteers for his duel committee, and more volunteers are needed for other projects.

The annual dues for our HOA are being deposited, and we're glad to report that as of this newsletter, we have collected 75% of the 2016 dues. We thank all homeowners for their prompt attention. A copy of the invoice is enclosed for those still needing to complete their HOA Dues payment.

In conclusion, it is the 2016 Board of Directors' intention to work diligently to obey our covenants and by-laws, in a mature and respectful manner. Our ultimate goal is to do all we can to keep our community safe, beautiful and peaceful. We are proud to be your representatives. Let's work together in 2016 to achieve our goals.

We are fortunate to have a free website for our use in our community. You can find a list of the covenants, bylaws, names of the Board of Directors, lists of Committees, dates of meetings and more. In addition, you can read minutes from meetings or find forms that you may be interested in. Information on maintenance and inspections are available as well. Easy links to email various people are on the website too. This is a cost efficient method of sharing information for all.

ASHFORD PARK HOMEOWNERS WEBSITE (www.ashfordparkowner.com)

2016 – 2017 ASHFORD PARK HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION MEETING SCHEDULE

HOA WEBSITE – www.ashfordparkowner.com

★ **Committee Meetings** will be held at the upstairs Foley Library Meeting Room from 6:15pm to 7:45pm on the following Tuesdays in 2016: (This is a free service provided by the Library. Help is needed to set up and break down at each meeting)

February 23 ★ April 26 ★ June 28 ★ August 23 ★ October 25 ★ December ★ No Meeting

★ **Board Meetings** will be held at Foley United Methodist Church, 915 N Pine St, Foley, from 6 to 8 PM on the following Tuesdays in 2016: (We pay by the hour to have our meetings here)

May 10 ★ July 12 ★ Sept 13 ★ Nov 15 ★ December ★ No Meeting ★ January 10, 2016 ANNUAL MEETING

★ **Deadline to place a Committee recommendation on the Board Meeting Agenda (through the website please):**

May 3 ★ June 30 ★ September 6 ★ November 8

All members may submit your HOA concerns to the proper Board Committee by using the CONTACT US tab on the HOA Website. Your concerns will then be channeled to the proper committee for resolution and discussed at the board meeting. This site has been **updated** and **improved** to work better than last year. Or email: ashparkhoa@gmail.com

Accomplishments to date!

The 2015 Board had approved funds to repair the fence on the corner of West Ashford. This was deferred to 2016. By the time the newsletter arrives, D & E construction will have the repairs made. This was completed due to the emergency need for repair due to safety reasons.

★ ★ ★ WE NEED YOU ★ ★ ★ On January 25, the first meeting of the Neighborhood Watch Program (NWP) was held by Chris Canupp. Officer Cpl Matt Cuellar and his partner, from the Foley Police Department gave background information on ideas of how to utilize the neighborhood watch system, especially in lieu of the recent home invasion in our own Ashford Park.

(Please see the statement on the HOA Website home page by Chief of Police David Wilson for more background)

Volunteers have stepped forward to be Block Captains, however, we need MORE VOLUNTEERS! This is a very important group for all of our homeowners. Everyone wants to be safe and secure and we can all help each other. Contact Chris Canupp or Wilma Votta to get further information or to volunteer.

Here are some talking points for NWP from Cpl Matt:

- ° it's not a lot of work when we all pitch in
- ° it's all about looking out for each other, communication, reporting all crime and suspicious activity. No HOA issues or business please.
- ° it's a program run by your neighborhood volunteers
- ° no vigilante acts
- ° meetings are short but informative
- ° any information sent to neighborhood from police department will be police/crime specific.

You will have neighborhood watch "Block Captains" coming to your door. Please welcome them and offer to assist as best you can.

Our neighborhood is also using a private online network called [Nextdoor](#) Ashford Park. This is a SECURE site that even the Fairhope Police use. On our [Nextdoor](#) site, neighbors share community events, recommendations, items for sale, crime reports, ideas about how to improve our neighborhood and more. I think you and your neighborhood could benefit too. We invite all of our neighbors to join. [Nextdoor](#) Ashford Park works best when all of your neighbors are members. This is the BEST way to alert the Community of criminal activities. It's easy to set up. All they need to do is verify that you do live at the Ashford Park address. Just go to <https://nextdoor.com/invite/mqdegwefkhufqmckdzjt> or sign up at our HOA website (coming soon). For help or more information, email Chris Canupp at canuppc194@yahoo.com

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CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

The Architectural/Maintenance Committee is looking for 7 volunteers. Four volunteers would be inspectors, responsible for going around the neighborhood in pairs, in a pre-determined route, between the 1st -9th of each month, to evaluate homes from the street for covenant violations. Three volunteers are needed to be voters to assess violations and will also be working with the Architectural Chair on maintenance issues, fences, ponds, and grass cutting. The committee meets the second Saturday of every month at the Foley Library from 10am to 12 noon on the second floor. The first meeting is February 13, 2016. For more information and to join the committee, please contact Mike Wilde at 923-8437 as soon as possible.

Other positions are open to help with your HOA. Contact us at ashparkhoa@gmail.com

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ASHFORD PARK HOA 2016 DUES INVOICE

2016 Dues Amount: \$150.00

2016 Dues Due Dates

\$100 is due January 1- 31, 2016

\$50 is due February 1-29, 2016

(you may pay the entire \$150 in January)

Late charges (on the first \$100) begin on February 1
Late charges (on the remaining \$50) begin on March 1

Please mail to: Ashford Park HOA P.O. Box 1078 Foley AL 36536

If you are experiencing a true financial hardship this year, please contact us and we will work with you to set up a payment plan that meets your needs and that of our HOA budget.

Consider making a donation
anytime during the coming year.
**Your donation will help neighbors
experiencing financial hardships.**

Our Treasurer will create a special fund for donations
to our "Help-A-Neighbor" fund.

Our Treasurer will also create a special fund for donations
to our "Help-Rebuild-Our-Reserves" fund.

Please note on your check which fund you wish to support.
All donations to these funds will be kept confidential.
It will be your choice to advertise your good works.
Please encourage others to participate.

Please mail check to:
Ashford Park HOA P.O. Box 1078 Foley AL 36536

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