



The Voice Of StillWaters

November 1, 2017

Happy Thanksgiving



From the General Manager - Kevin Eason

November should be the month that everyone has a "hall pass" to gain weight. Watching what you eat and trying to not gain weight, just does not work in November. It is everyone's prerogative to enjoy good food during the Thanksgiving Day holiday. The few that don't gain weight in November should not worry; Christmas candy and other sweet treats are just a few weeks away.

Seriously there are many people in our area who will not have enough food to feed themselves or their families this holiday season. There are many local churches, charities, and other agencies that help make sure those who are less fortunate have food for the holidays. Please donate to these local organizations and to the local food bank. A ten dollar donation to a local food bank will feed a family of four at least one complete meal. Volunteering to help prepare, cook, or serve food during the holidays at one of the local organizations is just as important as money.

SWRA will be collecting canned food and other non-perishable food items at the main entrance gate house on Hwy 49 and at the SWRA office from November 1 through November 15. All collected food items will be donated to the local food bank. Please help us collect as much food as possible to give to those less fortunate.

The paving and drainage work that was scheduled for 2017 has been completed. Each year the association roads are the largest maintenance budget item. There are several areas SWRA had planned to work on but could not include due to budget constraints but they will be kept on the list for consideration in 2018.

Those who use Dogwood Trail will notice the intersection of Cardinal Heights and Dogwood Trail appears to be unfinished. The road and intersection is safe just not attractive. Based on a recommendation from the SWRA engineer, SWRA is allowing the ground to settle for the next several months. The ground under the intersection is unstable due to water erosion. The erosion issue has been corrected but we expect some settling at this intersection. A new asphalt wearing surface will not be applied until the SWRA engineer is satisfied the ground is stable enough not to move and damage any new asphalt.

Please read the articles in this newsletter about the board candidate nominating committee and how property owners can run for one of the two board seats that will be open in 2018. Any property owner who has property that is governed by the 87 covenants and is in good standing with StillWaters Residential Association can run for election to the board of directors.

Come join the fun and help decorate the SWRA Centre for Christmas on November 28th starting at 9am. Contact the SWRA office at 256-825-2990 or email info@stillwatersra.com if you plan on helping decorate. SWRA should have all the Christmas decorations installed by December 1st. Help make StillWaters a festive Christmas community by decorating your property for the Christmas holiday season.

I love StillWaters and it is the best community me and my family have had the pleasure of being a part of. Like all communities we may have a few ups and downs but once you live here you come to appreciate the beauty of our community and people that make StillWaters a great place to live.

SWRA

Business Hours

Monday 9 to 4 pm
Tuesday 9 to 4 pm
Wednesday 9 to 12 pm
Thursday 9 to 4 pm
Friday 9 to 5 pm

FAX: 256-825-2991

Phone: 256-825-2990

Email:

info@stillwatersra.com

Web site:

www.stillwatersra.com

Board Members

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Tom Dyne
Vice President

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Secretary

Gene Akers

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Kevin Eason
General Manager

Susan Thames
Community Administrator

November 1, 2017

Straight Talk by Kevin Eason, General Manager

Who can run for an open seat on the SWRA Board of Directors?

There are four different sets of covenants in StillWaters and all property owners under these covenants are members of the association and vote in the board of director's annual election. However, only property owners who own property under the 87' covenants and are in good standing with the association are eligible to run for an open seat on the StillWaters Residential Association board of directors. There will be two open seats on the board for the next election, each for a three year term beginning March 2018.



There are two different opportunities available to a qualified property owner that would like to run for the board of directors. One is to contact the Nominating Committee and inform them of your interest to run. The other opportunity is to run by petition. This information can be found in the *Bylaws Article VII, Section 7.1*. I will discuss both opportunities.

Run for board seat by Nominating Committee:

Each year a Nominating Committee is appointed by the SWRA Board of Directors to find qualified, willing board candidates to run for the open board seats. The Nominating Committee works diligently each year to present qualified candidates to the association members. The Nominating Committee is charged to put forth, who they have determined, the best candidates to fill the empty board seats.

The Nominating Committee works for several months contacting and interviewing possible candidates. The committee always request that anyone interested in running for the open board seats to contact them so the committee can include them in their selection.

Any qualified property owner interested in running for election to the SWRA board can contact any of the Nominating Committee members and discuss what is required to be considered. The names of the committee members and their telephone numbers are included in this newsletter in the article titled *SWRA Nominating Committee Appointed*.

Run for board seat by petition:

A qualified property owner may run by petition for an open board seat. The person interested in running for a board seat must pick up a petition at the SWRA office. The potential candidate must obtain signatures from twenty separate property owners governed by the 87' covenants and in good standing with the association. As of the date of this newsletter, there are 1,446 properties governed by the 87' covenants so it should be very easy to obtain twenty signatures. The petition must be filed with the SWRA Board Secretary at least thirty days prior to the election.

It does not matter if a candidate is selected by the Nominating Committee or runs by petition. All candidates are treated the same. All candidates' information is published in the newsletter and all names are listed in alphabetical order on the election ballot.

Being a SWRA Board Member is not easy. Each SWRA Board member attends a minimum of two board meetings per month on the first and third Tuesday of each month. There are additional special meetings, phone calls, and social events such as new member welcome socials, all of which board members must attend. Board members discuss and make decisions that will not always be the most popular with all property owners but is the best decision for the whole community.

Being a board member takes hard work and dedication. Each year I personally contact several potential candidates and suggest they consider running for a board seat. Very few are willing to commit to the time and effort that will be required if they are elected. The Nominating Committee has the same issue. The committee contacts at least 30-40 potential candidates but with the same results. If you are interested, then make the commitment and run for an open board seat either by contacting the Nominating Committee or by petition.

SWRA Nominating Committee Appointed

The following people have agreed to serve on the Nominating Committee for the next election of three Board of Directors for SWRA:

Gene Akers	334-201-2256	Sally Gantt	256-825-1384
Tom Dyne	334-332-1162	Jim Martin	256-825-8282
		Earl Moore	256-825-8228

If you are interested in serving on the Board or know of someone that you think would be a good candidate, please submit their name to the committee for consideration. After the nominating committee reports to the Board, other names may be added to the ballot by petition. Property owners under the 1987 covenants not selected by the Nominating Committee may run for the Board by obtaining a petition signed by a minimum of 20 property owners in good standing with the Association.

The election is for two positions for 3 year terms. The new members will begin serving March 2018 with results of the vote announced at the Annual Membership Meeting. Remember nominees must be property owners in good standing and under the 1987 covenants.

SWRA BYLAWS, ARTICLE VII

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Section 7.1. The Board of Directors shall appoint a Nominations Committee of five (5) members, two (2) of whom shall be Directors and three shall be non-Directors. The Committee shall be appointed at least 60 days before any members' meeting at which elections for the Board of Directors is to be held. The Committee shall nominate candidates to fill Board vacancies at least 30 days prior to the election and provide that list to the Secretary. No member of the Nominations Committee shall be eligible to be nominated. Nominations of members, must be in good standing, may also be made by petition signed by twenty (20) or more members, in good standing, filed with the Secretary at least thirty (30) days prior to the election.

Veterans Day, November 11th

Veterans Day is observed every year on November 11th. Veterans Day was originally called "Armistice Day" when President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed this day in November 1919. Armistice is when warring parties agree to stop fighting and "Armistice Day" recognizes the end of World War I when hostilities ceased on November 11th at 11 A.M., 1918 (11th hour, of the 11th, of the 11th month). On May 13th, 1938 Armistice Day was declared a legal holiday. A day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace. Originally Armistice Day only honored veterans of World War I.



Alabama helped change Armistice Day to Veterans Day. On November 11th, 1947 Raymond Weeks, a World War II veteran, organized a "National Veterans Day" parade in Birmingham, Alabama to recognize veterans of all wars. This celebration led to Congress changing Armistice Day to Veterans Day in 1954 to recognize Veterans of all U.S. wars.

Some may confuse Memorial Day and Veterans Day because they each honor veterans in a different way. Memorial Day is for remembering and honoring military personnel who die in the service of their country, particularly those who died in battle or as a result of a wound sustained in battle. Veterans Day is intended to thank all those who honorably served in the military – in war time or peace time.

StillWaters is blessed to have property owners, both men and women, who have unselfishly served our country in all branches of the armed forces so that we may enjoy the freedoms they fought and died for. Make sure you thank a Veteran for their service to our country not only on Veterans Day but every day.

Stillwaters Golf – November

Fall brings the cooler temperatures and color changes throughout the Tradition. Come enjoy some golf with us before you get busy entertaining for the holiday season.



MEMBER TOURNAMENTS

We had a great tournament season and look forward to planning a great golf campaign for 2018. I will tweak a couple of the current events and add a couple of new ones to complete the schedule. The schedule will be introduced in the February newsletter so you can plan to participate with us all year long.

GOLF SHOP ITEMS

We still have great deals on our logo merchandise in the shop. We carry a full line of Titlest/FJ and Under Armour apparel. We have Footjoy golf shoes on display and have a special deal on Triton drivers from Wilson Staff. The Auburn and Alabama logo shirts are in and look good. We have logo ball repair tools /hat clips and are selling the remaining inventory on Stillwaters Junior clinic hats and tee shirts, a great gift idea for your little golfer. We offer gift cards for the golf shop and you can buy lessons from Gabby or Danny as stocking stuffers.

OUTSIDE EVENTS

November 9th Montgomery Women's Golf Association 9:00am – 10:30am tee times

SPECIAL EVENTS

100 Hole Marathon was a huge success! I want to thank everyone who sponsored me for the event as we exceeded my goal by raising \$4,530 together! Thanks for all the great support of me and I appreciated all those who followed me around as I played.

Great day for all of us and The Lake Martin United Way.

GOLF COURSE NEWS

The golf course staff have delivered some wonderful greens for our enjoyment. They will be spraying the pigment, which will stain the plant cell walls green. Just like last year, when the grass turns brown the greens will still have color and be easy to see. We will also be going to a Friday rotation, once a week, changing the hole locations for play.

SWRA Office Phones

The SWRA office recently upgraded its phone system to a digital more efficient system. As with any change there are always challenges to get everything working as it was advertised. We are still working to get all the bugs worked out in the new phone system.

You may notice that now when you call the SWRA office you will not hear a ringing sound, instead, your call is now answered immediately by an automated phone attendant. The attendant will ask the caller to choose an option that best suites the reason the person called.



Several property owners have mentioned they are receiving a busy signal when they call the office. This issue should be corrected soon and all calls will be answered by the automated attendant.

When the new phone system was first installed about mid-October, the voicemail system lost several messages that were left for SWRA staff, some of it might have been staff fumbling through the new system. If you did not get a call back from a message you left, please accept our apology. We did not know you called and left us message.

The new phone company has assured us that the few bugs and glitches will be corrected soon. The staff is also going through a learning curve with the new phones. So if you call the office and we don't answer or call you back, please be patient soon the phones will be back to normal. New technology is just the greatest thing.

New Construction on Sunset Point

The property where the old timeshare association was located that closed September of 2016, formally known as Sunset Point One, has been sold to The Cottages at Lake Martin LLC. The existing buildings will be torn down and nine new single family houses will be constructed on the property. Don Allen Development out of Auburn is building the houses.



The pool house that was adjacent to Sunset Point One will be completely remodeled into a single family home. Making a total of ten new single family residence where the time share buildings were located.

This will be a tremendous improvement to the Sunset Point area. The timeshare buildings were constructed in 1978. Years of deferred maintenance and over a year of the buildings sitting vacant gave an appearance that is not normally seen in StillWaters. Unfortunately nothing could be done to improve the area until the Sunset Point One bankruptcy case was settled. We appreciate the patience of the surrounding residents.

The new waterfront homes will all be cottage style and come with a boat dock. They will be similar to the existing homes across the street giving the area a carefree lake life feel. Some of the houses have already been sold but others are available. Interested parties can contact Don Allen Development at 334-826-1120 for more information.

Fall Leaves Are Falling

This time of year leaves starting falling from the trees. Property owners are reminded not to rake leaves into drainage ditches or into Lake Martin. The leaves stop up drain pipes and can cause damage to the drainage system or our roads.



Leaves cannot be dumped onto an adjacent vacant lot. That lot is owned by someone and they do not want your leaves on their lot.

The best two options to remove leaves is to burn them or put them in bags and haul them to the local land fill. Please remember to contact the Stillwaters Volunteer Fire and Rescue to obtain a burn permit before burning any leaves or other debris. The fire department phone number is 256-825-0582.



The purpose of the burn permit is to make sure the fire department is aware of a fire in your area just encase it happened to get out of hand. Last year the fire department responded to several small leaf fires that got out of control.

Dumpsters will be at Welcome Centre December 4th and 5th

Our Tallapoosa County Commissioner, George Carlton Jr, has arranged to place two dumpsters at the StillWaters Welcome Centre located adjacent to the main entrance gate on December 4th and 5th. This will be an opportunity for property owners to dispose of unwanted items and debris.



This past July these dumpsters were also available for property owners to dispose of unwanted items. They were a huge success and volunteers from our community disposed of tons of trash. Please help keep our community clean and free of trash by using these dumpster on December 4th and 5th.

Fall Social - November 17th

The SWRA Recreation Committee will host a "Fall Social" for all residents at the SWRA Admin Center, Nov 17th (Friday) from 6-8 PM. It will be BYOB and bring an Hors d'oeuvre to share. Come enjoy the cooler weather, meet other residents and enjoy the evening. Hope to see you there!



StillWaters 2018 Residential Directory



SWRA will be printing the 2018 Residential Directory in December. SWRA only list your name and phone numbers in the directory **upon request**. If you would like your **name**, your **StillWaters address** and **telephone numbers (up to two)** in the directory, please complete your information below and return it to the SWRA office. Also, if you have any changes to your existing information in the last directory, use the form below for those changes. There is no need to reply if your information in the 2017 Directory is correct.

PLEASE PRINT

Last Name _____ First Name _____

StillWaters street address _____

Telephone Numbers _____

Please mail to 1816 StillWaters Drive, Dadeville, Alabama 36853,
fax to 256-825-2991 or bring by the SWRA Office.

Little known facts about Thanksgiving

According to many historians, in 1621, the Plymouth colonists (aka Pilgrims) and the Wampanoag Indians shared an autumn harvest feast that is acknowledged today as the first Thanksgiving celebration in the then English colonies. The autumn harvest is believed to have lasted at least three days and probably was celebrated more than once during the autumn of 1621. There is evidence that an autumn harvest festival was celebrated by the ancient Egyptians, Greeks, and Romans long before the one held in America.



For more than two centuries, days of thanksgiving were celebrated by individual colonies and states. During the American Revolution, the Continental Congress designated several different days of thanksgiving a year. In 1789 George Washington issued a proclamation for a day of thanksgiving calling upon Americans as a way to express their gratitude for a conclusion to the country's war of independence. It wasn't until 1863, during the Civil War, that President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national Thanksgiving Day to be held the last day of November as a way to help heal the wounds of the war.

Most everyone enjoys eating their fill on Thanksgiving but in 1623 instead of celebrating by enjoying a big feast, the Pilgrims held a religious fast to mark the end of a long drought that had threatened the year's harvest. The traditional pies, cakes, and other sweets would not have been found at the first Thanksgiving celebrations because the Pilgrims had no oven and their sugar supply had been exhausted. Lobster, seal and swans were on the first Thanksgiving menu. The Wampanoag Indians brought deer and corn. According to journals from the early settlers Turkey was not a staple of the traditional Thanksgiving Day feast. Turkey did not show up on most Thanksgiving Day tables until modern times.

There are just a few of the little known facts about the Thanksgiving Day holiday. The best fact about Thanksgiving is it gives people a time to come together to be thankful for what they have and to help spread their fortunes to those who have been less fortunate. Make sure you remember to pass your blessings onto someone else that might need a little help, sometimes a good word is all it takes to let someone know you are thankful they are in your life.

November 2017 for SWRA Centre

			1 ARC Meeting 4:00 PM Bridge 9:00 AM	2 Game Day 9:00 AM	3 Duplicate Bridge 9:00 AM	4
						
5	6	7 SWRA Board Meeting 9:00 AM	8 Bridge 9:00 AM	9 Game Day 9:00 AM Bid Whist 1:00 - 5:00 pm	10 Duplicate Bridge 9:00 AM	11 Veterans Day 
						
12	13	14	15 ARC Meeting 4:00 PM Bridge 9:00 AM	16 Game Day 9:00 AM	17 Duplicate Bridge 9:00 AM Fall Social SWRA Centre 6 - 8 PM	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
 Thanksgiving Week - SWRA Office Closed						
26	27	28 Christmas Decorating At SWRA Office 9:00 AM	29 Bridge 9:00 AM	30 Game Day 9:00 AM		



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We offer the following services: Security check of property; Storm check of property; Allow access to your home for service professionals; Listing of competent and professional contractors; your Satisfaction is guaranteed.

Please visit our website for a more complete list of all the services we provide.

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Proudly serving Lake Martin residents for over 5 years. Members of the Dadeville Chamber of Commerce and the Alexander City Chamber of Commerce.

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