



# *The Voice of* StillWaters

## A Message From Your SWRA Board

Hoping that all of you had a wonderful holiday season. The SWRA Board and Staff closed out 2025 with a Christmas luncheon at the SWRA Centre. Our SWRA staff members work diligently to keep our community functioning properly and we certainly appreciate each of them.

The invoices for the 2026 Association annual fee & 2025 assessment have been mailed, and payment is due on January 1<sup>st</sup> and considered past due after January 31, 2026. Late fees of \$125 will be added to accounts that have not paid on February 15, 2026. If you have “easy entry” gate devices these were billed at the same time. Please email or call the SWRA office (256-825-2990) with any questions concerning your invoice.

After conducting interviews, the SWRA Nominating Committee has recommended three owners to run for a position on the SWRA Board of Directors, Gene Akers, Penny Alexander and Debra Knight. Their biographies are included in this newsletter and will be mailed with the election ballots. Two vehicle window decals will be mailed with Board election ballots in mid-February to all Members who have paid their annual fees and assessment. Additional vehicle decals may be purchased at the SWRA Centre with signature of a “responsible party” form.

Our Stillwaters Residential Association Annual meeting will be held at 10:00a.m at the SWRA Centre on Saturday, March 21, 2026. We encourage owners to attend to hear the recap of 2025, have your questions answered, meet staff and hear about plans for our community for 2026, as well as sign up to volunteer on committees if interested.

You've heard a bit about the Christmas, Nominating and Election Committees in the last few newsletters. In addition, there is a Social Committee that is always looking for new members and new ideas. The Facilities Maintenance Committee and the Landscape Committee meet a few times each year to evaluate, make suggestions/recommendations to the Board. The Finance Committee is limited to a few members in order to function as needed.

All of these committees, as well as your Board of Directors, serve as VOLUNTEERS. It takes a lot of time and a variety of experience and talents from these committee members which adds greatly to the success of StillWaters. If you are interested in serving on any of these committees, please sign up at the annual meeting or send an email to: [frontdesk@stillwatersra.com](mailto:frontdesk@stillwatersra.com).



*continued on page 2*

January  
2026

### **SWRA Business Hours**

Monday – Friday  
8 am - 5 pm  
Closed for lunch  
12 pm– 1pm

FAX: 256-825-2991  
Phone: 256-825-2990

Email:  
[info@stillwatersra.com](mailto:info@stillwatersra.com)  
Website:  
[www.stillwatersra.com](http://www.stillwatersra.com)

### **Board Members**

**Lee Eastman**  
*President*

**Debra Knight**  
*Vice - President*

**Gene Akers**  
*Treasurer*

**Penny Alexander**  
*Secretary*

**Sally Gantt**  
*Board Member*

**William Phillips**  
*Board Member*

**Bob Taffet**  
*Board Member*

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**Jason Klepper**  
*Community  
Association Manager*

**Mike Dean**  
*Associate Community  
Association Manager*



## A Message From Your SWRA Board

*(continued from page 1)*

The Architectural Review Committee is made up of five members appointed by the Board of Directors and is the most time intensive one which is active all year long. They review all permit requests and building plans to ensure that they comply with the covenants, make site visits weekly to construction projects and monitor improvements to make sure the approved plans are being followed. Remember, if you are making any changes to the outside of your home, please check the website and complete the required permits before starting any projects.

January weather can be unpredictable in our area. We can go from warm weather one day to icy roads the next day. Make sure you have signed up to receive severe weather alerts from Tallapoosa County EMA. Alerts can be sent to your cell phone or email address. Contact the EMA office at 256-825-1078.

It is the time of year where many people make new year's resolutions. One of the most popular is to lose weight and to exercise more. StillWaters is a wonderful place to walk, jog, or bike ride. So, let's get moving and good luck to all!

**Happy New Year!** The coming year promises to be a great one for our community. We hope everyone has a healthy and prosperous year!

## Nominating Committee Report

The property owners who served on the Nominating Committee have completed interviews and have submitted their report. Our thanks to Sally Gantt, Jackie Graham, Tom Nicholson, Cherie Stephenson and Bob Taffet for their time and diligence.

The Nominating Committee report recommending Members Gene Akers, Penny Alexander, and Debra Knight to serve for three-year terms on the SWRA Board was accepted by the Board. Please see the candidates' biographies in this newsletter.

The Bylaws provide an alternate way for a member under the 1987 covenants and in good standing not selected by the Nominating Committee to run for a board seat by petition. Anyone interested in running by petition must obtain a petition form from the SWRA office and return the completed form on or before January 16, 2026, to qualify and be listed on the election ballot.

Petitions must be signed by a minimum of twenty property owners under the 1987 covenants in good standing with the Association and returned to the SWRA Centre no later than January 16, 2026. Should someone decide to run for the board of directors by petition, their biography will be included in the Election mailout and printed in the next newsletter which will be published before the election ballots are mailed.

### SWRA Board Candidate Biography

#### Eugene J. Akers, Ph.D.

**Education:** Ph.D. in Public Administration, Auburn University, 2006.  
Master of Business Administration, Auburn University Montgomery, 1979.  
Bachelor of Science, Auburn University, 1970.

**Personal Background:** My hometown is Sylacauga, where I graduated in 1965 and then attended Auburn University. I spent over 45 years in the field of information technology, primarily in strategic management. I have worked in both the private and public sectors, but mostly for over 30 years in the public sector with the states of Florida and Alabama. I retired from Auburn University at Montgomery (AUM) in 2013.

**Professional Activities:** I retired with over 45 years of experience in information technology in both the public and private sectors. I served in several leadership roles in senior IT management, including at the Florida Crime Information Center, the Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center, the Alabama Department of Revenue, and the Alabama Department of Finance. I also served as the Chief Technology Officer and Chief Information Officer for the state of Alabama. My private sector experience includes managing the development of large application systems and serving as Vice President of a privately owned small business.

Before my retirement from AUM in June 2013, I served as the Senior Director for the Center for Advanced Technologies, University Outreach. I directed the activities of the Center in providing blended services in advanced information technology solutions to improve the operation and knowledge of information technology organizations in both the private and public sectors. I managed numerous contract agreements with public sector organizations, providing consulting services focused on technology strategic planning, large IT procurement, organizational analysis, business continuity and disaster recovery, application development, staff augmentation, digital government, security management, risk management, business process reengineering and simulation, and project management. I also taught in the College of Business, Information Systems and Management Department, where I taught both graduate and undergraduate courses.

## Save the Date

### Annual Stillwaters Volunteer Fire & Rescue Members Meeting

**Saturday, February 7, 2026 -10:00AM**

**StillWaters Residential Community Center  
1816 Stillwaters Dr**



## SWRA Board Candidate Biography

### Penny Alexander

The SWRA Board is a strong, productive one and it is rewarding to witness the continued growth and positive development of our community. Consistency in planning for the future of StillWaters is very important as is the knowledge of our history, especially in recent years.

I grew up in Birmingham, graduated from W.A. Berry High school in Hoover, attended the University of Alabama and graduated from the University of North Carolina in Asheville. John and I found this wonderful place in 1996 as a weekend getaway and were fortunate to move here full-time in 1999. My work experience has been mainly in management, bookkeeping, purchasing and public relations, as well as being a business owner in retail for over 10 years and in management of a national trade association of 115 stores for 15 years. I am currently the office administrator for Advantage Chiropractic Clinic in Auburn with four doctors and a staff of fifteen. John and I have five adult children with terrific spouses and eleven precious grandchildren! So, we are very blessed!

I have actively served as a volunteer in positions of leadership for many different church boards/committees, multiple school PTA's, the Stillwaters Yacht Club, the Stillwaters Volunteer Fire & Rescue Auxiliary, numerous SWRA committees and SWRA Board Secretary.

One asset I offer to SWRA is to provide historical knowledge of the changes and development of SWRA since the homeowners took over the Association after the bankruptcy auction in 2003. Familiarity with our multiple sets of covenants, governing documents and complications caused by the auction that define the Association's scope of authority is critical. Having served as secretary of the Board my organizational skills have been put to good use in compiling and keeping minutes and records of the Association in order. The orderly maintenance of the history and documentation is important to me, and I feel is a valuable contribution to the Board and our ever-changing community.

I am grateful to live in this wonderful area and appreciate your consideration. If elected I will happily commit to enthusiastically and diligently serve on the SWRA Board. If you have any questions for me, please contact me via email at [pennyalex@icloud.com](mailto:pennyalex@icloud.com) by phone 256-750-3834.

### STILLWATERS VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE ANNUAL FIRE DUES

Invoices for calendar year 2026 fire dues will be mailed in December. Property owners within the StillWaters Volunteer Fire & Rescue fire district may pay your annual fire dues by **credit card** by visiting our secure webpage <https://stillwatersfire.com> or by using the **QR Code** to go directly to the payment screen. **Property owners must have their invoice number to pay by credit card.**



**SWRA Board Candidate Biography****Debra Knight**

Debra has been a full-time resident of Stillwaters since 2017, residing with her husband, Mike. Debra is retired from her career in commercial real estate, property, and asset management. This has given her a wonderful opportunity to spend time with their three grandchildren.

Debra was a 1980 graduate of Jacksonville State University with a double major in Pre-Law and Social Psychology along with a certification in Gerontology. Her career began in Atlanta, GA as a Commercial Property Manager for Connolly Realty Services, where she spent 18 years and promoted to Vice President of Operations. She has experience in real estate acquisition, development, construction, tenant management, operations management, marketing, budgeting, and contract analysis. Her portfolio averaged over one million square feet of property in Metro Atlanta.

Most recent experience was with McKinley Companies based in Ann Arbor, MI. Debra held the position of Assistant Director of the Southern United States region. She served on the Senior Leadership Team and oversaw the portfolio operations over five million square feet and twelve property managers. Property types were Institutional Third-Party Management, Owner direct Management and court appointed Receiverships. These were comprised of anchored shopping centers, office buildings and office parks, outdoor lifestyle centers and enclosed malls across the United States.

Being service oriented, Debra has served on the following:

Building Owners and Managers Association, TOBY Committee Judge multiple years.

International Council of Shopping Centers, Management I, II designations

Gwinnett Place Community Improvement District, Board Member, Duluth, GA

Lilburn Business Watch Program Organizer and Chair

First Baptist Church Dadeville, Building & Grounds Committee, Celebration Choir member.

Stillwaters Residential Association, Current Chair Landscape and Facility Committee, Christmas Committee, and past Nominating Committee.

## **StillWaters Boat Storage**

### **Has Spaces Available**

**Looking for a safe, convenient place to store your boat this season**

**Call 256-853-0330**

**Spots are limited – reserve yours today**



## Election Report and Calendar

### SWRA ELECTION COMMITTEE

The Election Committee oversees the election for the SWRA Board of Directors. The committee counts and verifies all ballots received by SWRA.

Elections Ballots will be mailed to SWRA Members and should be returned to the SWRA office addressed to: Secretary, SWRA Board. Ballots must be in the office no later than 5 p.m. on March 13, 2026. Ballots that are postmarked by March 13th will be counted as long they arrive before the Election Committee meets. Members must be in good standing in order to vote, which means that they are compliant with association rules/covenants and current in all monies due to SWRA by that date.

#### ELECTION CALENDAR 2026

- January 16, 2026 - Board candidates running by petition to have completed petition presented to the SWRA Secretary to be placed on the ballot by 5pm.
- January 23, 2026 – Biographies for Board candidates recommended by the Nominating Committee or running by petition due in SWRA office to be published in the February Newsletter & *SWRA eFlash*.
- February 18, 2026 - Ballots & Biographies mailed (include vehicle window decals).
- March 3, 2026 - Board appoints Election Committee
- March 13, 2026 - Ballots are due in SWRA office by 5pm.
- March 17, 2026 - Election Committee Meets to count Ballots.
- March 21, 2026 – Annual Meeting, 10am. at SWRA Centre

#### SWRA BYLAWS - ARTICLE VII – NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

**Section 7.2** The Board of Directors shall appoint an Elections Committee consisting of five (5) Members, in good standing, at least 60 days prior to the election. The Committee's duties include verifying all ballots and proxies and announcing the results to the membership at the annual meeting and by other means. The Nominations Committee may serve as the Elections Committee at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

**Section 7.3** Elections to the Board of Directors shall be by written ballot, by Members in good standing. The Secretary shall prepare ballots listing the Board vacancies and those properly nominated to fill them and shall email or mail ballots to each Member at least 14 days prior to the election. The Member may cast as many votes as parcels owned for each candidate, but may not cumulate those votes for one candidate in elections with more than one vacancy. The ballot must be signed by the Member or proxy and returned to the Elections Committee for verification. The Elections Committee will verify all votes including those made by proxy and comparing the number of votes to the number of parcels owned. All Ballots will be held by the Committee as confidential. The Elections Committee may disallow all ballots not received by the due date or improperly executed by the Member or proxy.

**Section 7.4** The Elections Committee will count all proper ballots and publicize the results to the membership at the Members' meeting and by such other means deemed appropriate. All ballots will be destroyed unless a recount request is filed with the Elections Committee by at least one third (1/3) of members casting ballots within ten (10) days of the Members' meeting.



## 2026 Golf Cart Decals & ATV Decals

As we move into the new year, all golf carts and ATVs within StillWaters are required to display the new 2026 decal. The 2026 golf cart and ATV decals will be available **January 5, 2026**, at the StillWaters office.

### If You Previously Registered

If you previously registered your golf cart/ATV and signed the Waiver of Liability, you do not have to bring your golf cart/ATV to the office to receive your new 2026 decal.

### If You Have Not Registered

If you did not register your golf cart/ATV previously or if you have a different golf cart/ATV than the one you previously registered, you must bring the golf cart/ATV to the office to have it inspected and registered to receive your new 2026 decal.

### Vehicle Requirements to be Registered

- **Operating headlights**
- **Operating brake lights**
- **Operating taillights**
- **Rear –view mirrors**



We appreciate everyone's cooperation in keeping our community safe and compliant. If you have any questions, please contact the SWRA Office for assistance.

## Do Not Turn Off Your Heat !

As we head into the colder months, it's important to remember that some StillWaters property owners only visit during the warmer seasons, while others may be traveling to visit family for several days during the holidays. Whether you're away for a weekend or a longer stretch of time, please make sure your thermostat stays on.

### Set your thermostat to 55°F or higher.

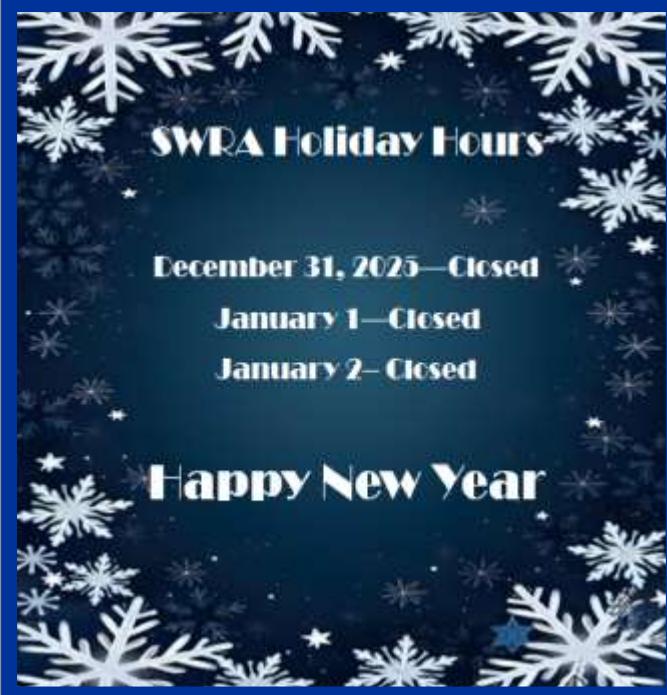
Our area is no stranger to freezing temperatures, and when the weather dips below freezing, water pipes can freeze and burst—leading to potentially significant damage to your property. A burst pipe can cause water to flood your home or condo quickly, resulting in costly repairs and inconvenience.

Each year, the SWRA office is forced to make a few unfortunate phone calls to property owners letting them know that water has been reported running from their homes or condos. We want to avoid this happening to you!

So, whether you're off to enjoy a winter getaway or simply won't be around as often, please **do not turn off your heat**. Keep it on, set it at a safe temperature, and ensure your property is protected against the winter chill.

If you have any questions or need assistance with your thermostat settings, please don't hesitate to reach out to the SWRA office.

Stay safe, stay warm, and have a wonderful winter season!



StilWaters Residential Association  
Annual Meeting

March 21, 2026

10 am  
at the SWRA Center  
We look forward to seeing  
Everyone!

Christmas Committee

With the decorations up and sparkling in all their glory, we're hoping that everyone is enjoying the beautiful holiday displays. These festive touches are here for all of us to enjoy and make this season even more special.

Volunteers are so important to our community; their hours of hard work add much value to all of us. We wanted to share some pictures highlighting the beautiful outcome of our Christmas Committee and how they brought cheer!

Our landscape and maintenance staff were invaluable in bringing the Committee's plans to life. Our thanks to each of our staff as well as Committee members **Sally Gantt, Debra Knight, Debbie Gibson, Claire Kuhn and Cherie Stephenson** for the outstanding results.

If you're looking to get involved and help out next year, the Christmas Committee is always open to new members. You can sign up during our **SWRA Annual Meeting** in March or reach out directly to one of the committee members. Planning starts months in advance, so your ideas and extra hands are always welcomed!

**We hope that the decorations made your holidays brighter and that they brought smiles to everyone.**



## Christmas around StillWaters





## Christmas Golf Cart Parade



On a wonderful December evening the parade of decorated golf carts winding through StillWaters was very festive and a lot of fun! Thanks to **Dave & Patti Reaves and Bob Taffet** for organizing this special event. Participants went all out adorning their carts with magical embellishments. Led by the SWRA Community Services vehicle and followed by the SWVF&R fire truck with Santa and Mrs. Claus all enjoyed the decorations throughout the neighborhood, from the SWRA Centre to end at the SW Golf course and Prime Steakhouse. What special treats of delicious coffee and a remarkable hot chocolate buffet with all the fixings provided by **Eric McKinley and Prime!** It was a terrific ending to an enjoyable night. Thank you!





**SWRA Office Staff**



Left to Right, Mike, Jason, Bridget, Anita, Yvette and Janie

**Happy New Year!**

**From your SWRA  
Office Staff**

**Wishing you a year of  
success, growth, and  
happiness. Cheers to  
new opportunities in**

**2026**

**Happening Around the Lake!**

**TO SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE LAKE, VISIT THE FOLLOWING WEBSITES:**

**Dadeville Performing Arts:** <https://dadevilleperformingartscenter.com/calendar/>

**LakeMartin.com:** <https://www.lakemartin.com/Events>

**AllEvents in Dadeville:** <https://allevents.in/dadeville-al/calendar>

**Explore Lake Martin:** <https://explorelakemartin.com/events>

**SCAN THIS QR CODE WITH YOUR SMART PHONE FOR  
QUICK ACCESS TO THE SWRA WEBSITE.**





## Lake Martin Creativity Group

The New Year brings new opportunities, fresh experiences, and the chance to grow. Choosing to try something new isn't about making a New Year's resolution—it's simply a positive step toward personal growth and fulfillment.

Mental and physical health experts remind us of the importance of continuing to learn throughout life, as well as nurturing existing relationships, while creating new ones. Staying socially creative, and engaged can enrich our lives and strengthen our sense of community.

The Lake Martin Creativity Group offers a welcoming space to do just that. The group meets every day Monday from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the community room at the StillWaters Office.

**New Participants are Welcome**

**For More information Call Kay Fincher 256-825-2506**

**Please No Text**



## SWRA LOTS FOR SALE

We continue to close on the sale of SWRA owned lots throughout StillWaters. Growth is consistent and our Lot listed inventory changes quickly. See the list below of the SWRA owned lots that are currently listed in the MLS. If you are wondering about a tree covered lot adjacent to your property and want to protect your privacy, it may be available as not all lots are listed in the MLS. Please don't wait as interest is strong. All SWRA lots are under the 1987 Covenants.

For more information on Lot sales please contact Sealy Hargrove of Roots Real Estate directly at [sealyh@gmail.com](mailto:sealyh@gmail.com) or by phone at 334-444-4527.

Lot 26 Tree Top	Lot 42 Fern Ridge Court
Lot 5 Fawn Lane	Lot 20 Fern Ridge Rd
Lot 6 Fawn Lane	Lot 21 Fern Ridge Rd
Lot 53 Doe Lane	Lot 54 Doe Lane
Lot 33A Deer Run Rd	Lot 1 Vista Wood
Lot 2 Vista Wood	Lot 14 Vista Wood
Lot 20 Vista Wood	Lot 50 Vista Wood





# SWRA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

# JANUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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				1  SWRA OFFICE CLOSED	2 SWRA OFFICE CLOSED	3
4	5 Lake Martin Creativity Group 1 PM - 4 PM	6 SWRA Board Meeting 9 AM	7 Bridge 9 AM - 1 PM  ARC Meeting 4 PM	8	9 Bridge 9 AM - 1 PM	10
11	12 Lake Martin Creativity Group 1 PM - 4 PM	13	14 Bridge 9 AM - 1 PM	15	16 Bridge 9 AM - 1 PM	17
18	19 Lake Martin Creativity Group 1 PM - 4 PM	20 SWRA Board Meeting 9 AM	21 Bridge 9 AM - 1 PM  ARC Meeting 4 PM	22	23 Bridge 9 AM - 1 PM	24
25	26 Lake Martin Creativity Group 1 PM - 4 PM	27	28 Bridge 9 AM - 1 PM	29	30 Bridge 9 AM - 1 PM	31

# ADVERTISEMENTS

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Auburn, AL 36830

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SCOTTY GOODSON  
OWNER

256-212-2397

## Oasis Salon & Spa at Lake Martin Center of Calm

Sylvia Cartron



Licensed Massage  
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[oasislakemartin.com](http://oasislakemartin.com)

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## Stillwaters Self Storage

5658 HWY 49 S. DADEVILLE, AL 36853

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# **GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP**

**Every Monday at 10 AM**

**Red Ridge United Methodist Church**

**8091 County Road 34**

**Dadeville, AL 36853**

**Office: 256-825-9820**

