

WINTER 2010

# HAWTHORNE HAPPENINGS

*A Newsletter from your Hawthorne Valley Homes Association*



## Greetings from the Association President

February 2010

Dear Hawthorne Valley Neighbors,

Another winter is almost behind us, and what a winter it was! There's no denying it – we need spring. A number of our neighbors had their yards damaged from snow removal equipment this winter, and Overland Park has committed to work with individuals to make the necessary repairs.

I would like to welcome and introduce Nancy Cody to the Hawthorne Valley Board of Directors. Nancy will serve as the board's secretary. Nancy and her husband, Bill, have recently moved back to our wonderful neighborhood, and it is a pleasure having them participate in the goings-on within Hawthorne.

During the spring you will see a lot of activity taking place. Our very own Bill Myers, Hawthorne Valley Vice President was elected President of the Master's Board. There are a flood of endeavors happening at the Masters, and Bill is doing an outstanding job leading the charge. Our associations are in excellent position to meet any challenges that we may face in the future. Things are getting done—engineering study for the upkeep of the lake, dredging of the silt pond (contract has been let), removal of the bridge, the needed improvements in the park and trimming and pruning of the foliage and plants outside of the community walls (contract has been let). Our mindset is to ensure that Hawthorne is the place to live in southern Overland Park. All of these enterprises are being undertaken to keep our neighborhoods beautiful, thus maximizing the value of our homes. Congratulations, Bill. Don't hesitate to call upon us for any assistance.

We will also see changes in our Hawthorne Valley Directory in 2010. The directory publishers we have used in the past informed us that, due to the current economic environment, they can no longer provide our directory free of charge. In our next meeting, the Board will be assessing our best alternatives to continue providing a Hawthorne Valley Directory.

Please be sure that you are current with the payment of your homeowners' association dues. We were unable to pay the Masters full payment by the due date as a result of dues not being paid on time. Today, we are current with the Masters; however, there are still residents who have not paid their 2010 homeowners' association dues. In my career, I have worked as a collections supervisor, and I don't want to have to dust off those old skills and begin making collection calls. HA! We understand these are hard times, but if we don't meet the financial obligations of our neighborhood we will all suffer a negative impact as a result.

Having said that, I guess it's time to get ready for the spring. Snow shovels to the back and lawn mowers front and center!

Till later,

Darryl Lynn  
Hawthorne Neighborhood Association President

## 2009 Yards of the Month - Remember Summer?

The board recognizes how much work you do in making your home beautiful in the spring and summer. Your lawn and flower beds reflect a very positive attitude for the entire neighborhood. A gift certificate is our way of saying "Thank You" for a job well done in our community. Keep up the good work.

Congratulations to our Yard of the Month winners!

### July

Mr. & Mrs. Gary Peek, 12205 Cedar St.



### August

Greg & Lisa Kurz, 5330 W 123rd Street



### September

Davie & Julie Sprenger, 4800 West 121st Street



## Neighborhood Cleanup

The board is asking all residents to please take a plastic bag with you on your spring walks and pickup any trash you might see littering our neighborhood. This has been a fairly harsh winter with lots of windy days, and things are looking a bit tacky. We can all help by picking up any trash we see on our walks. Thank you for caring enough to help!

### Web Site

Did you know we have a web site? It is located at <http://www.hawthornevalley.org>. This is the place to keep up-to-date on all the important news and activities of our neighborhood.

Please spread the word to your neighbors about this important web site. Your Board of Directors will make all announcements here so you don't have to wait for the newsletter to find out what's happening in the neighborhood!



Annual Garage Sale  
May 13 - 15



## PLANNING FOR OUR HAWTHORNEY VALLEY NEIGHBORHOOD GARAGE SALE THURSDAY-SATURDAY – MAY 13-15, 2010

The keys to a successful garage sale are ample preparation, team organization and sales strategy.

Here is what our Hawthorne Valley Garage Sale Committee is planning:

### 1. Ample Preparation

It's not too early to think about preparation. We discovered that the best time for garage sales within our area is mid-May (to better insure for agreeable weather conditions). To that end, we have set the date for Hawthorne Valley's 2010 Neighborhood Garage Sale. Mark your calendars for THURSDAY, MAY 13 THROUGH SATURDAY, MAY 15, 2010.

### 2. Team Organization

Hawthorne Valley is hoping to coordinate our 2010 neighborhood garage sale with the other Hawthorne homeowners associations within our Master Community. We hope to encourage them to schedule their neighborhood sales at the same time, thus giving us better advertising weight and greater sales potential.

### 3. Sales Strategy

This year, Hawthorne Valley is planning to significantly increase our signage posted at the entrances of our neighborhood. In addition, we plan to double the amount of advertising we have given to our past sales. We also plan to have neighborhood maps available showing addresses of participating homes to aid customers in their "treasure hunting."

Now, here are some ideas for you in early preparation for the big event:

- As you pack away outgrown or out-of-season clothing for your family, do so with an eye for garage sale potential. Throw those items in a separate container marked for garage sale.
- Give a thought to those items in your closet that you haven't worn in a long time (like more than a couple of years!). It's time to get rid of it and free up your closet space. These forgotten clothing items make for great garage sale merchandise.
- Cut down on the amount of dusting of bric-a-brac and old books/videos that you are doing. Cull out those items you can part with and box them up for the sale. Less dusting, more money in your pocket!
- Give boxes/bags to everyone in your family. Have each person fill a box or two with things he or she wants to sell (beyond what's already piled in the garage). Let the kids know they can keep the cash from their items.

With these keys in mind, we should be on the way to a very successful Neighborhood Garage Sale in 2010!

*Article submitted by Paula Lynn - contact Paula at 913-661-9942 for further information about the garage sale.*

*Welcome to new board member Nancy Cody!*



## Treasurer's Report

Costs have remained under control and our biggest payment to the Master's Association for upkeep has thankfully remained the same for several years. Our annual dues and budget remain the same for 2010.

With the down turn in the

economy, several home owners' dues remain unpaid. If you have not paid your dues for 2010, please do so as soon as possible! The Board Members are all volunteers, please do your part.

Our community remains stable, with few houses for sale

in the development.

Ken Jones,  
Treasurer



## Pets

The board has received emails from both pet owners and non-pet owners about pet owners not picking up after their pets. Dog waste is a hazard to other pets and a nuisance to all residents. The local law states that all pets must be leashed and pet owners **must** pick up after their pets. Thanks for your cooperation!

## Deed Restrictions

The Hawthorne Valley Homes Association documents, as well as the Master Association documents, are now published on our web site, located at [www.hawthornevalley.org](http://www.hawthornevalley.org). Ever wonder about your deed restrictions? Now you can easily look them up on our web site.

## Selling Your Home?

If you are putting your property on the market, or know of a neighbor who is, your Board of Directors would appreciate this information. If new neighbors move in, please contact one of the board members so that they may be welcomed into the neighborhood.

*Questions, comments or suggestions  
about the newsletter or the web site?  
Please contact Dennis  
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