



**Summer Picnic at the Pool**  
 Sunday, August 7, 2016 4-7 pm

*Autumn Lakes Gazette*  
 3153 Fee Fee Road  
 Bridgeton MO 63044

*Our* **POOL** *monitor*

A great big thank you goes to **Barb Mack** for her dedication in keeping our Autumn Lakes Pool area safe and private.

She weathered the heat, sun and rain for all of us!

*Thank You, Barb!*

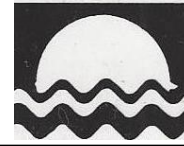
**Welcome Committee**



If you would like to participate in and bring your ideas together with others, contact Christine Melton at: (314) 560-5705 or meltonchristine17@gmail.com

**Need to get on Nextdoor.com?**  
 Call Christine or Laura Farkas.

**The next Autumn Lakes Association meeting will be held on 9/21/16 at 7 pm.**  
**All Autumn Lakes RESIDENTS are encouraged to attend.**



# Autumn Lakes Gazette

Established 9/85

**August 2016**

XXXII No 4

**Board of Directors**

**Shah Smith** 960-6620 *President*  
**Richard Ornberg** 817-357-2633 *Vice President*  
**Andrea Crouch** 344-9063 *Secretary*  
**Jay Black** 269-7109 *Trustee*  
**Laura Farkas** 770-9442 *Trustee*

**AMC Management**

**Mickey Montee, President**  
 3153 Fee Fee Road  
 Bridgeton MO 63044  
 24 hour phone: (314) 291-1450  
 Office Hours M-Th 8:00-5:00

**Architecture committee: Richard Ornberg, Shah Smith**

**Landscaping committee: Jay Black, Andrea Crouch, Patricia Law & Judy Haldeman**

**July 20, 2016 MEETING**

**GUEST AND BOARD INTRODUCTIONS**



Shah Smith opened the meeting with introductions of Board Members; Keith McCracken/AMC Management and Rob Adelson/AMC Management.

New residents in attendance were welcomed:

- ♦ Joyce & Ron Aton of ALD

**Maryland Heights (MH) Chief of Police, William Carson was the AL Guest speaker**

Chief William Carson has been with the MH Police Department for 30+ years and has held position of Chief the last 3.5 years. He also currently serves as Chairman of Police Chiefs for St Louis County; a one year term.

Chief Carson offered some history of the MH police force and the current status. In the 1980s MH had about 40 police officers and today that number is 78, including a detective bureau for solving crimes. Autumn Lakes has very little crime activity, particularly in burglary, noting a positive trend. Police records show no murder, rape, robbery, or burglary. (Yay!) He said AL records reflect some ambulance and alarm/security calls. A few years ago AL had some vandalism, spray painting, and a car break in, but no burglaries have been reported in the last 1.5 years.

In response to a question on how many police departments exist in St. Louis, Chief Carson responded that there are now 62 police departments. Many departments are disbanding or folding into the St. Louis County department. We are honored to have on our MH police force, Deputy Chief, Major Joe Delia who received the "Top Cop" award and was recognized in 2000 at the White House!

Chief Carson said the MH police force feels incredible support from the community. In response to how we can show our appreciation he replied, "We always enjoy receiving personal thanks, baked goods and notes from kids".

The 2 year anniversary of Michael Brown shooting will be coming up soon and the police department anticipates peaceful protests. A question was asked if there is any emphasis to hire bi-lingual officers. He said when he took over as Chief, MH had 73 white male, 4 female and 1 African American officers. The MH officers do not mirror the community as MH is a very mixed community with Asians, Hispanics, African American, however, the department hopes to see this change in the future as they are able to identify applicants from the colleges.

Chief Carson mentioned MH "Citizens Academy" and "MH University". Both of these programs are available to MH residents at no charge. They provide a close up view of what the police officers do as well as a lot of information about other MH programs and services available to residents. Anyone interested can contact [www.marylandheights.com/MHU](http://www.marylandheights.com/MHU) or call Gabby Macaluso at (314) 738-2204.

**Association Management Report by Keith McCracken**

Autumn Lakes Association as of 6/30/16 was \$1,454 over budget on assessment income YTD and \$7,891 under budget on expenses YTD. Autumn Lakes Condominiums as of 6/30/16 was \$7,598 over budget on income YTD and \$22,322 under budget on expenses YTD. (These numbers reflect assessments (prepaid or past due) collected and the decline in expenses due to the lighter winter snow-removal expenses).

The next shrub trimming will be the last week of September/first week of October.

**A trashy subject**



- **Trash and Recycle Pick-up is on TUESDAY morning.**
- **If Monday is a national holiday, pick-up will be on WEDNESDAY morning.**
- **Yard Waste Pick up is on Monday morning.**

If at all possible, **PLEASE PUT YOUR CONTAINERS OUT no earlier than the night before, preferably after 6 pm.**

Trash totes and cans should be stored away the evening after pickup. Help keep our neighborhood looking neat.

Allow 3 feet between the big totes and anything else so the trucks can mechanically pick them up.

If at all possible, **PLEASE PUT YOUR TRASH CONTAINERS OUT no earlier than the night before, preferably after 6 pm.**

Seven (7) retaining walls have been contracted for replacement this year:  
 12109 ALD • 3122 ATD • 3100 ATD (side) 3100-3110 ATD (rear will be removed and graded)  
 • 11911 ATC • 3152 ASD • 11930 AATD.

Rob and Dave have recently completed a small stone retaining wall at the lower pool parking lot.

Buildings still **scheduled for painting** this year are:  
 • 12000-12008 ALD • 3190-3198 ATD  
 • 3187-3193 ATD • 3150-3158 ATD  
 Painting has been completed on:

3173-3183 ATD • 12020-12034 ALD • 12010-12018 ALD  
 • 3174-3184 ATD • 3150 ATD (in progress)

11 sidewalks, 1 porch and 4 concrete driveways contracted for full or partial replacement and have been completed. 8 asphalt driveways are being replaced, 14 asphalt driveways are being repaired. 2 large asphalt lots are being replaced. All of these were identified during the fall walk-through. Notice will be given prior to any work being performed.

The new clubhouse ceiling is finished. It has been framed, insulated, dry walled and painted. This new ceiling will reduce the utility cost for heating and cooling the clubhouse.

Please remember to contact AMC Management if you are planning any landscape changes, windows, storm doors, awnings, garage doors, decks or any alterations to the exterior of your unit. AMC will notify the Board and a Board member will contact you. Board approval is required prior to starting the work and all necessary County and City permits must be obtained.

Residents are required to obtain an approval letter from the Management office prior to having a satellite dish installed. The letter instructs the installer where the dish may be installed. Dish companies are well aware that they must have this letter prior to installing at condos.

**As always, please call 314-291-1450 if you have a work request, questions or concerns, or email Keith at keith@amcassociation.com.**

### Board Reports

Dick asks that everyone pass the word to your neighbors if they are having any problems with gutters, birds nests etc. Residents need to call AMC or they can of course call any of the board members if frustrated.

### Andrea Crouch

The **Welcome Committee** has and met with 14 new residents that moved in since January.

### Landscape Committee Report

Each member of the committee reported:

**Judy Haldeman** explained the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) problem and provided a hand out showing when and where EAB first hit the US. See the next page for Judy's EAB article.

**Andrea Crouch** explained how the committee identified all ash trees, infested or not. Each tree has been tagged with a red or green tag disk nailed into the tree; **green tag means it could be treated and red tag means remove the tree.** Total ash trees identified in AL is 167 including city trees located between the sidewalk and the street.

Each tree was estimated for percentage of loss by looking at the tree canopy (top or crown), at the bark, and at all limbs. Any loss of 30% or greater would benefit less from treatment, and at 50% there is probably no benefit from treatment and the tree should be removed.

The circumference of the tree was measured at 4 foot height. Cost of treatment and removal often is based upon the diameter. Each tree was associated with the closest unit address and indicated if in the backyard, or side yard.

"City" trees were identified as those located on Maryland Heights right-of-way which is 12 feet from the street curb toward the sidewalk.

In June the committee initially identified trees (not ash) in need of trimming or removal. White tape indicates trees in need of trimming and orange tape indicates trees that need to be removed. Again, these ARE NOT ASH TREES.

**Jay Black** said that Maryland Heights will not treat ash trees, just cut them down. We have some ash trees on city property that we **may want** to treat. We are in the process of talking with the city to see if there is a way to keep some of the city trees and treat them rather than cutting them down, which could be devastating to the appearance of our neighborhood. We are identifying a certified arborist to come visit us for a consultation.

**Patricia Law** spoke about how all of this information has been saved on spread sheets to be used in working with an arborist and to estimate costs involved in removal and/or treatment of trees.



### Social Committee Report by Christine Melton

Fifty four (54) residents attended the ice cream Social on June 26th—a VERY hot day! CoolTimes ice cream truck offered a wide variety of treats from which to choose, and lemonade and water were provided by the committee.

❖ **Sunday, August 7—Picnic at the Pool 4-7 pm**  
 Autumn Lakes provides the fried chicken and drinks and residents bring side dishes and desserts! Come enjoy the great food, beer and margaritas and meet your neighbors.

❖ **Saturday, September 24—Fall Garage Sale**

❖ **Sunday, October 1—AutumnFest**

❖ **Saturday, November 12—Beer Tasting**

**Maryland Heights Night Out is set for Tuesday, October 4 from 5:30-9:00 pm.**

This is a great way for neighbors to come out and talk with one another, visit with the Chief of MH Police, our Fire Department personnel, and the MH police officers. MH provides 25 flyers and some fun stuff for the kids. To be a street sponsor, contact Gabby Macaluso (314) 738-2204. Autumn Trace Court is registered!!!

### OPEN DISCUSSION FOR RESIDENTS

**Q.** Will we be getting gutter guards on any of our gutters?

**A.** Some areas need more frequent cleaning than others due to the location next to trees. Gutter guards can be added in problem areas. Call AMC if you need your gutters cleaned and maintenance can do that.

**Q.** Are there standards for installing new windows?

**A.** The standard window is white trim with grids. There are many companies that provide acceptable window brands. Contact AMC. Maryland Heights permits are required which can be obtained at City Hall.

## *Seeing Pink Flamingoes?*



Thanks to Patricia Law who brought us the idea of the "Pink Flamingo" parties from her previous neighborhood in Ohio. **When PINK FLAMINGOS are at the AL Bulletin board it means there's a party going on that night in someone's driveway! Bring your chair and a drink and join the fun.** You'll be amazed at who you meet! **The flamingoes are passed from one to another and the event gets posted on Nextdoor.com.**

**These parties are OPEN TO ALL AL RESIDENTS!!!**

If you want more information, come to a party or call Patricia (419) 351-0271 or Christine (314) 560-5705.



This activity builds a stronger community with neighbors visiting and getting to know one another. Let's keep it going!

**Q.** Explain how we handle water leaking into our lower levels from decks that are above us.

**A.** If you have a leak from a deck above you, normally it means there is no flashing that connects the upper deck to the building. Contact AMC to come inspect the situation and advise what needs to be done.

**Compliments were given by two residents:**

Our grounds and the lake look really very nice thanks to Rob & Dave. The pool also looks really good after all the work that was done.

## **Oh, no! The Emerald Ash Borer is here!**

By Judy Haldeman

While not as dramatic and terrifying as a tornado, a tiny little insect is threatening to leave even more damage to Autumn Lakes in its wake than the tornadoes did, unless we can stop it. This insect, the Emerald Ash Borer, has been moving across the country, killing all ash trees in its path, for about 10 years. The Gateway Arch has recently completed removing all the trees you remember lining the walkways—because they were all ash. Other states have lost all their ash trees as the EAB moved from tree to tree. The cost to parks and municipalities has been huge, and homeowners have been severely impacted as well. It reached Creve Coeur in 2014, and has now been identified in our many ash trees. Unlike other tree pests that attack older and weaker trees, the Emerald Ash Borer attacks **all** ash trees. Without treatment, each tree dies within 2-3 years. Until recently, there was no effective treatment available for the insect, but pesticide researchers have now developed several. Unfortunately, treatment is costly.

You might ask, "So what if we lose a few trees? We can just replace them—or do without them." Our Landscaping Committee has just completed an inventory of our ash trees. They determined that 167 of our trees are ash. That is a substantial portion of all our trees, and an even larger proportion of our largest trees. Many of them are quite large, up to 22" in diameter. Can you imagine Autumn Lakes without those trees lining the streets and gracing yards and common areas? Not only would the attractiveness of Autumn Lakes be diminished, so would property values. Even from a short-term cost perspective, while treating the trees is of course costly, **NOT** treating them and having to take them down is even more costly. And leaving dead trees in place is not an option due to safety considerations for both people and property.

The Board is currently gathering more data, considering possibilities, and developing a plan of action. At present, a meeting is scheduled with a certified arborist qualified to diagnose and treat ash trees for the EAB to get cost estimates for several different courses of action. Some of the trees seem to be already damaged beyond the reasonable probability of recovery, while many can be preserved. Here are a couple of links if you'd like to obtain more information:

<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/gardens-gardening/your-garden/help-for-the-home-gardener/advice-tips-resources/pests-and-problems/insects/beetles/emerald-ash-borer.aspx>

[https://mdc.mo.gov/sites/default/files/resources/2015/04/mo\\_eab.management\\_guide.2015.pdf](https://mdc.mo.gov/sites/default/files/resources/2015/04/mo_eab.management_guide.2015.pdf)

## *For your information*