

ORCHARD HILLS-MAPLEWOOD HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

www.ohmha.org

OHMHA NEWSLETTER

May 2009

Annual General Meeting and Election at the Thurston Ice Cream Social Join us Friday, June 5, at 6 pm in the Thurston School Library



*There will also be a special
presentation on **home
energy reduction from
Recycle Ann Arbor***

and a cool movie (see page 3)



WHO:

You are eligible to vote if you have paid your 2008-2009 dues. Your paid status is stamped on this newsletter. Not a member but want to vote? Simply pay your '08-09 dues and then cast your ballot!

DEADLINE: Please turn in all ballots by June 6.

HOW:

- ◇ Turn in your ballot at the Social.
- ◇ Drop off or mail your ballot to Jack Cederquist,
2145 Ardenne, Ann Arbor, 48105

DUES: After June 1, we will be accepting dues (\$20) for the 2009-10 fiscal year (6/1-5/31).

MEETINGS:

Board meetings are open to the public, and your participation is welcomed. OHMHA aims to maintain and improve our neighborhood and to help with community issues. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, May 12, in the Thurston School library.

WHY JOIN OHMHA?

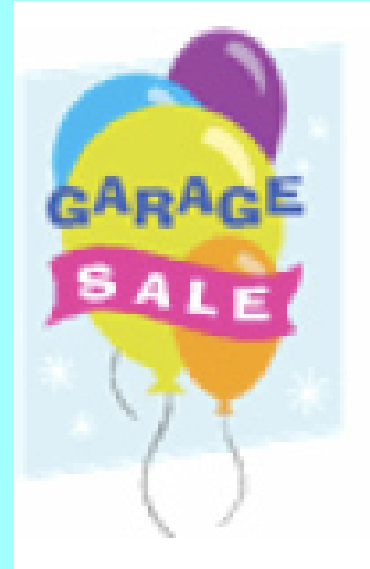
Membership is voluntary, but your dues directly support our neighborhood by financing such projects as entryway landscaping, newsletters, website costs, garage sale publicity, maintaining a legal fund, and so on. This past year, we again helped organize a tree planting, and we sponsored the neighborhood Fall Festival ■

2009 Annual Neighborhood Garage Sale!

Saturday, May 16, from 9 am

**OHMHA will run an ad in the Ann
Arbor News and will post signs at
subdivision entrances and major
intersections.**

**All you have to do is set up your sale
and enjoy the day!**



Special thanks to Anita Jones

After two and half decades of service, Anita Jones will not be on the ballot this year. In the early days of OHMHA, Anita led membership drive efforts, walking door-to-door meeting residents and encouraging them to pay their dues. For years she has led the nominating committee, searching diligently to recruit new people to serve on the Board. She has truly been one of our leaders, serving many terms as our Secretary, as the Parks and Recreation liaison, and as President from 1990-1993.

Anita has been a strong advocate for caring for our public spaces. She coordinated past efforts to update the Georgetown entrance, repair the cupolas, maintain the old carriage, and look after the medians including overseeing the mowing of the medians during periods when the City did not provide those services

and the removal of old plants that had become a safety hazard for our children. She led efforts to place signage and landscaping at the Burbank entrance. She worked to beautify the entrances to Sugarbush Park and brought stewardship issues to residents' attention by providing articles for the newsletter.

From hosting board meetings at her home, staffing the membership drive table at the Annual Meetings at the Thurston Ice Cream Social, to weeding and planting flowers at the entrances, Anita's hard work has always been visible. Anita has advanced the Association's goals to protect and enhance our neighborhood. We all owe Anita a great debt of gratitude for her service and her lasting commitment to our community. ■

Thanks to Dan Smith

The Board sincerely thanks retiring Board member Dan Smith for his service to the Board and to the Orchard Hills - Maplewood community. Dan has served as Board secretary, webmaster, and email list coordinator. We wish him the very best in the future and look forward to seeing him at community events. ■

Neighborhood Beautification Projects Underway

by Margaret Weiss

Spring is in the air! Despite random lingering snow piles, the daffodils and the birds are taking over. Our neighborhood is also undergoing several ongoing and one-time beautification projects of which you may not be aware.

As of April 25, new oak trees were planted near the edge of the Thurston Elementary playground where Yorktown Drive ends (see also page 4). This is part of long-term efforts by the Thurston Nature Center Committee (www.thurstonnaturecenter.org) to establish an **oak savanna**, a habitat that was once common throughout this part of Michigan. Oaks are mighty trees that grow slowly but live a very long time and become veritable giants, supporting a wide variety of plant and animal life.

The Thurston Elementary grounds will also be the recipient of a rain garden, part of the larger Miller's Creek watershed project aimed at controlling the flow of

storm water into the Huron River water system. The students of Thurston are part of this project and will have assisted in planting around 2,000 seedlings, or plugs, as part of this rain garden!

Stop by in mid-May to see the new garden. It will need care throughout the first summer and first few years so anyone interested in helping out should contact Margaret Weiss at 997-6541.

If you frequent the Thurston Pond area, you may have seen the ongoing efforts of Mike Conboy of the Thurston Nature Center Committee. At least twice a year, he orders wood chips at two locations around the pond and then directs and participates in the spreading of these chips along the trails. This is in addition to all the work he and others have performed in clearing various areas around the pond trails in order to establish new trails and discover new trees hidden amongst the wild growth. If you would like to get more involved, you can always spend a little time spreading some wood chips or, better yet, adopt a tree through the Thurston-Adopt-a-Tree Program. While many trees are being cared for by individuals and families in our community, there are plenty still needing some TLC. If interested, please contact Mike Conboy at 665-4027. ■



Mike Conboy

“Lost” Film to be Shown at Ice Cream Social

The 25-minute film “We’re On Our Way” was copyrighted in 1967, but the copy that was in the Thurston Library was either lost or discarded many years ago. In 2008, another copy was located at the Audio/Visual Archives of the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum in Austin, Texas, and with support from OHMHA, a DVD copy was made. Among other things, the film shows a large number of Thurston students, all armed with shovels, symbolically breaking ground for the Thurston Nature Center. It also depicts the late Dr. William B. Stapp showing Thurston students how to band a bird, releasing a live muskrat into the pond, and how to plant young evergreens near the pond, most of which are still there, big and tall, to this day. Mrs. Johnson (“Lady Bird”) even came to Thurston School in Ann Arbor in connection with the making of the film, which was shown at the 1967 National Youth Conference on Natural Beauty and Conservation (in a way, a predecessor of the first Earth Day in 1970).

The Thurston Nature Center Committee, a subcommittee of the nonprofit [501(c)(3)] Thurston PTO, is using the video as part of the kickoff for a long-term fund-raising campaign for the Thurston Nature Center. The TNCC needs to raise \$100,000 to dredge Thurston Pond to restore it to a healthy, clear-water condition (a “maintenance activity” not allowed under the MDEQ Thurston Pond Restoration grant to the Ann Arbor Schools). The film shows the long involvement that Thurston students have had with the Nature Center, a connection that began over 40 years ago. ■



Phase One of Thurston Oak Savanna is Complete!

On Saturday, April 25th, five trees of each of four oak species native to Michigan—Bur Oak, Swamp White Oak, White Oak, and Chinkapin Oak—were planted to form the beginnings of an oak savanna in the northern part of the Thurston School property in the Thurston Nature Center. The members of the Thurston Nature Center Committee are grateful and warmly thank the nearly fifty people who helped in various ways with this tree planting event.

Photo captions

Left: Our oak trees have arrived! TNCC members Tom Edsall, Mike Conboy, Neal Foster.

Right: Many wonderful volunteers helped with the planting.

OHMHA Proposed 2009-2010 Budget

	<u>2008-2009 Budget</u>	<u>2008-2009 Actual</u>	<u>2009-2010 Budget</u>
Beginning Balance Operating Account	\$10000	\$10631	\$9146
Beginning Balance Legal Account	1834	1834	3834
Total Assets	11834	12465	12980
Operating Budget			
Annual Dues and Contributions	5000	4205	4300
interest	10	5	5
Total Income	5010	4210	4305
Expenses			
Grounds Maintenance	600	549	485
Neighborhood Social Events	1500	919	1500
Newsletter Expenses	1800	1016	900
Mail permit/Postage	350	671	620
Garage Sale	300	220	300
State Organizational Fee	30	20	30
Bank Fees/ Checks	0	0	50
Website fees	120	0	120
Donation to Nature Center	300	300	300
Total Expenses	5000	3695	4305
Legal Budget			
Transfer to Legal Fund	2000	2000	300
Legal Expenses	0	0	300
Balance at End of Year			
Operating Fund	8010	9146	9146
Legal Fund	3834	3834	3834
Total Assets	<u>11844</u>	<u>12980</u>	<u>12980</u>

OHMHA 2009 Election Ballot

All residents who are paid members for the 2008-2009 fiscal year (as stamped on this newsletter) are eligible to vote, one vote per household.

BOARD MEMBERS: The following candidates have been nominated for Board membership, and would serve a two-year term (2009-2011), except as noted. Please vote for up to eight candidates.

_____ Stuart Baggaley
_____ Wendy Carman
_____ Emily Eisbruch
_____ Neal Foster
_____ Monica Hanna
_____ Anne Karabakal (to complete a 2008-2010 term)
_____ Peter Mooney
_____ Phil Savage (to complete a 2008-2010 term)
_____ Write-in* (name, address, phone)_____

*If submitting write-in candidates, please make sure they are eligible for board membership (that is, they are current OHMHA members, and you have their permission to submit their names). If you are interested in becoming a board member yourself, please contact any current board member or attend an upcoming meeting.

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2009-2010 (see page 4 of this newsletter)

_____ Approve _____ Do not approve

HOW TO VOTE

- Drop ballot in OHMHA ballot box at Thurston Ice Cream Social, June 5, 6-8 pm
- Turn in to Jack Cederquist, 2145 Ardenne, Ann Arbor, MI 48105, by June 6

ORCHARD HILLS ~ MAPLEWOOD HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR JUNE 1, 2009 ~ MAY 31, 2010

(Make check for \$20.00 payable to OHMHA ~ additional contributions gratefully accepted.)

NAME _____ TELEPHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ AMOUNT PAID _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____ ☐ Please remove my name from your email list.

COMMENTS (we welcome suggestions and/or offers to volunteer on OHMHA projects):

Mail or deliver your dues to: Wendy Carman, OHMHA Treasurer, 2340 Georgetown , Ann Arbor 48105

OHMHA BOARD MEMBERS

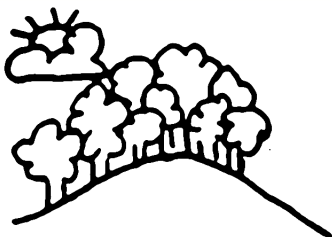
Jack Cederquist	2145 Ardenne	665-2285	President
Stuart Baggaley	3111 Cedarbrook	332-1874	Vice President/Neighborhood Watch
Henry Brysk	3032 Cedarbrook	369-2986	
Wendy Carman	2340 Georgetown	761-8693	Treasurer
Emily Eisbruch	2561 Bunker Hill	665-0533	Newsletter (eisbruchs@aol.com)
Neal Foster	2115 Georgetown	663-0756	
Greg Jagst	2080 Yorktown	846-6332	
Anita Jones	3359 Yellowstone	761-2748	
Anne Karabakal	2405 Bunker Hill	669-2084	Webmaster
Peter Mooney	3352 Yellowstone	213-0440	
Daniel Smith	2377 Georgetown	320-4494	Secretary
Margie Weiss	2215 Yorktown	997-6541	

ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

John Hieftje (Mayor)	1800 Traver	794-6161	jhieftje@a2gov.org
Tony Derezinski (Council Member, Ward 2)	1345 Glendaloch Cir.	995-2686	TDerezinski@a2gov.org
Stephen Rapundalo (Council Member, Ward 2)	3106 Bluett	476-0648	SRapundalo@a2gov.org

Question: How do I get on the neighborhood email list? **Answer:** email wjcarman@umich.edu

OHMHA
2145 Ardenne
Ann Arbor, MI 48105



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