

Sweetgrass Newsletter

Who's Who

President: Mike Gibbons
803-270-7859

VP & Ponds: Troy Draughn
843-729-4744

Treasurer & Boat yard:
Jim Meister
843-856-1466

ARB: Chris Lacey
843-834-4369

Landscaping: John Glaser
239-249-9212

Social: Catie Smith
843-324-5021

Communications:
Diana Dupuis
843-810-6603

A+ Property Mgmt:
Robert & Debbie Rogers
843-856-6556

Feel free to contact us
with questions or
concerns!



President's Report

Greetings, neighbors! Hopefully, the final cold snap of the season is behind us and we can all start getting out into our yards for spring planting soon.

The new HOA Board had our first meeting recently, and we are excited about serving our Sweetgrass neighbors. Thank you to all of the outgoing members who have served. And on a personal note, a special thank you to outgoing president Michael Hunter, who has been a wise and sage counsel as I transition into my role as president.

One of the big topics we discussed was speeding in the neighborhood. The current speed limit is 25 throughout, but some folks haven't gotten the message (or have decided not to adhere to it). We did have a speed monitor placed on Horseshoe Bend, so hopefully that alerted some to the limit. We should get some data back from the Mount Pleasant Police Department that will help us with a path forward to help abate the problem.



Boat Yard Report

As of now, all boat slips are filled. Contact me if you'd like to get on the waitlist. In the near future, look for information about the change of locks on the boat yard. We will have a new key for everyone. The logistics will be forthcoming.

Happy boating and stay safe!

Jim Meister



HOA Fees Due March 21!

Remit to:

Sweetgrass HOA
PO Box 2218
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29465

The town is planning on phasing out speed limit signs throughout neighborhoods and placing a single sign at the entrance; however, that is not slated until 2018. We will continue to work with the town to find additional solutions. I wish I could tell you, "Speeding problem solved!" Unfortunately, I can't. But we will remain diligent, and we appreciate everyone weighing in with their suggestions. At the end of the day, most every neighborhood will have some issues with speeding, in particular from visitors unaware of the limit. What we all can do is make sure all of us as neighbors are committed to keeping the speeds down and the streets safe. I love to see so many neighbors out walking and riding bikes, and we all should be able to do it in the safest environment possible.

I have also been asked by several folks about the status of 1951 Oak Tree Lane (the house at the front of the neighborhood). It has been purchased and, as I am sure you have all seen, a lot of work is being put into it. The new owner hopes to have it on the market in a couple of months.

The monthly Board meeting is held on the second Wednesday of every month. I welcome any concerns, issues, or comments prior to the meeting so that we can discuss them. The Board is here to serve our neighbors and the neighborhood, so your input is vital to helping us address things that matter to you.

Please don't hesitate to let me know if there is anything we can do to continue to make Sweetgrass a great neighborhood to live in! You can email me at scmgibbons@gmail.com.

Take Care,
 Mike Gibbons

ARB Report

We've had a very busy start to 2017 as our great neighbors continue making improvements throughout Sweetgrass.

Most Importantly: Any exterior improvement or (non-emergency) repair requires submission of an ARB form (found on our website at sweetgrasshoa.org) and approval. Once approved, we'll deliver a yellow placard to be placed on your home while you have the work done.

We've run into a couple different issues already this year and my hope is that homeowners didn't realize that ARB approval was needed. We're a friendly bunch, but please realize that work that is started without approval can be stopped, or even worse, be required to be removed at your expense.



Mark your calendars!

Annual Spring Yard Sale May 6th

Start your Spring Cleaning!
Our annual yard sale will be in conjunction with Hidden Lakes' sale and should draw crowds.



Did you know we have 2 Facebook Closed Groups?

Sweetgrass Neighbors Sweetgrass (Neighborhood) Parents

Ask to join, look for a private message from me, Diana Dupuis, confirm your identity using the phrase, "Sweetgrass Rocks," and Voila! - You're in!

They're great places to engage with neighbors.

Here's a short list of some of the items that require ARB approval:

- Fences
- Replacing trim or other exterior surfaces
- Tree removal
- Roofing

Our Covenants (the "rules" for our neighborhood) are available any time on the website. Please be sure to download a copy and reference them when considering outside improvements.

For the first time in quite awhile, we have a 4 member ARB board. Thank you to Michael, Katie and Connie for volunteering! **Our goal is to facilitate your requests, and not create turmoil or to unnecessarily delay projects you want to do to improve your home.** Please realize we are all volunteers and trying to help our neighbors while keeping the spirit of the covenants.

ARB requests can be submitted via mail to A+ or online direct to chrislacey@gailmail.com My cell phone number is 843-834-4369. I'm happy to discuss any questions or concerns at any time. As the new ARB chair, my personal goal is to make living (and improving) in Sweetgrass as simple a process as possible.

Thanks so much,
Chris Lacey
1944 Falling Creek Cir

Ponds Report

One year has just ended and another year is just beginning and the ponds committee is as busy as ever with pond improvements. The installation



of an Airmax Pond Aeration System with four diffusers in Pond #6 was just completed (the pond located between the Sweetgrass neighborhood and the new Pulte development). This system will greatly help keep the water in this pond much clearer and should reduce future algae and other vegetation issues. Hopefully, we can install this system in all our ponds in the future with careful planning.



Landscaping Report

Hi, everyone! This will be my second year as the Landscape Chairman and I'm starting the year off getting areas of our fence repaired. We are also working on getting the irrigation fixed at the front entrance and keeping our common areas trimmed and looking nice. Please contact me if you have any concerns.

Thank you,
John Glaser



Also in this year's plan is the installation of a floating wetland in pond #2, located off Horseshoe Bend. A floating wetland is a group of perennial aquatic plants put together to form an island which is not only beautiful but provides oxygen to the water and draws out various forms of pollutants. It provides protection for small fish with its root system and it is something that the homeowners will really enjoy. Also installed on these floating islands will be a series of rods that project out of the island to ward off geese, who sometimes like to eat the leaves of these plants. These rods were installed on a test basis on the floating island in pond #5, located just off Falling Creek Circle, with much success.

The Ponds Committee's main emphasis is the health of the ponds in the Sweetgrass neighborhood and they will be working with the Mount Pleasant Storm Water Management to stay abreast with the latest mandates and regulation changes, along with their beautification projects. With the continuing growth of the town of Mount Pleasant, a lot of pressure will be placed on the town's storm water runoff and ability to control future flooding. In all, it means a busy year for the ponds committee.

We also have a new Ponds Chairperson - Troy Draughn. He has been involved with the Sweetgrass HOA in the past and is experienced with a lot of the Pond activities. He'll do a great job.

JR Nelson

Social Report

My name is Catie Smith and I am a new board member heading up the social committee for 2017. My husband and I have lived in the neighborhood for the past two years and I am excited to get to know more of my Sweetgrass neighbors.

I have enjoyed all the activities that Sweetgrass has done in the past and I'm looking forward to organizing even more social functions this year to help continue to bring our neighborhood together. The social committee will consist of several members and we will be working hard to get new events on the calendar.

We are always open to suggestions and new ideas, so if you have something that you would like considered, please don't hesitate to reach out directly to me! Thank you and we are excited for a fun year! - Catie