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# SADDLE CREEK EXPRESS

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VOLUME 25, ISSUE 2

CIRCULATION: ALL SADDLE CREEK RESIDENTS

2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER 2014

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## Saddle Creek Initiatives

Sanjay Mundkur ([treasurer@saddle-creek.net](mailto:treasurer@saddle-creek.net))

The focus of the [2014 March 2 Saddle Creek Annual Member Meeting](#) was to share information and gather members to vote in support of three initiatives that work in concert for the long-term financial health of our neighborhood. To date we have had tremendous support in favor of the above initiatives from the 125 members that have voted (current approval rate and **Yes votes needed to pass** in parentheses) and turned in their consent forms.

- ✓ Pass [Amendment to Charge Buyer-Paid Initiation Fees](#) upon sale of a member home (87% approval, **169**)
- ✓ [Increase Annual Dues from 2015 onward to \\$650](#) (74% approval, **127**)
- ✓ Pass [Special Assessment of \\$650 to repair pool plaster, pool deck and west side tennis courts](#) (77% approval, **169**)

The options are Yes/No on each initiative. Why should members pass all three initiatives? Please consider the three initiatives as pieces of a balanced approach that addresses the near-, mid- and long-term health of your Saddle Creek.

The Initiation/Transfer Fee (no cost to us members!) and the Increase in Dues are forward looking, mid- and long-

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## President's Letter

David Wallace ([president@saddle-creek.net](mailto:president@saddle-creek.net))

I want to thank our outgoing president, Lance Ledbetter, for leading the Association for the last two years. His leadership started with the task of finding what short term and long term projects needed to be accomplished in our Saddle Creek community. We spent many months reviewing projects that should and must be done to improve our subdivision. We found that we must revitalize the pool, tennis courts, landscape and entranceways. We came to the realization that putting off needed maintenance by patching and skimping on repairs was not going to be viable any more. We were falling behind member's expectations of being able to maintain the amenities for you.

Anyone who walks or rides around our subdivision will notice how homeowners are making major repairs and renovations. Homeowners are planning on remaining in Saddle Creek for a long time. If they do move, the value of their home will have increased.

As homeowners are renovating and fixing up their homes we too must do the same for our amenities in Saddle Creek. Our pool is thirty years old and now showing its age with cracks in the deck, poor drainage and cracks in the pool liner. One contractor, who gave us a bid, told us the pool and deck should have been updated ten years ago because that is about the lifetime anyone can expect. We've made do for thirty years. The Westside tennis courts need a complete overhaul having served us for over ten years with minimal upkeep.

As a board, we decided it is time to make these facilities first rate for our premier subdivision. No longer can we patch and put off what must be done for our present members and for those future families moving into Saddle Creek.

At our annual member meeting in March we explained the need for an increase in our dues beginning in 2015, a transfer fee paid by the buyer upon sale by a member home, and a special assessment to upgrade our pool deck and pool plaster. Included too, is the improvement of the Westside tennis courts.

If you have not voted on these initiatives please make your voice known by voting now. We are going door to door to

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## President's Letter

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collect the consent forms. Visit the Saddle Creek Website at [www.saddle-creek.net](http://www.saddle-creek.net) for further information and Q/A's on these initiatives.

## Saddle Creek Census

We are excited that Ann Long has volunteered to head our census initiative. This will help the SC board learn more about the community which we serve. We'll be updating household members, confirming email addresses and phone numbers for our member directory, gathering your thoughts about Saddle Creek and other information.

## Social Activity

Our theme this year is to have more members involved in social activity offerings planned by our Social Committee headed by Vrinda Mundkur. A schedule of activities is listed in this newsletter.

## Romeos

The Romeos (Retired Old Members Eating Out with Spouses) meet every last Friday of the month at The Diner at North Point. To be a member you must be thinking of retiring, planning retirement, wanting to retire, retired, or just plain tired. Different subjects are presented along with a social time for getting to know your neighbors. If you wish to join our group, or find out more, please e-mail [romeos@saddle-creek.net](mailto:romeos@saddle-creek.net).

## Volunteers Needed

We would like to have as many people as possible involved in our community. Please let us know how you would like to help. Also consider volunteering for a committee (landscape, tennis, pool, social, membership) by sending me a note at [president@saddle-creek.net](mailto:president@saddle-creek.net).

## Civic Update

ROUNDABOUT - Houze Road (GA 140) & Hembree Road intersection pending roundabout construction to begin in fall 2014. This project will enhance the sidewalks accessing SC boundary property with expectation of providing crosswalk access between the two sides of our subdivision. Details provided on City of Roswell's website - <http://www.roswellgov.com/index.aspx?NID=1294>

# Membership Matters

Pamela Ellis ([membership@saddle-creek.net](mailto:membership@saddle-creek.net))

Our major goal of membership this year is to reach out to non-members to ask: What can we as a community provide that might persuade you to become a member. We are aware that many of you have no interest in swim/tennis. However, ALL of our property values are increased by the amenities that our Homeowners Association offers. Saddle Creek was first developed in the mid-1970's. We require ongoing funds to maintain our neighborhood and keep us as one of the most desirable in the area. Many of your neighbors volunteer their time to keep your community a wonderful place to live. We need your help, but at the same time, we want to hear back from you. We would like to know your interests for clubs or events that you might want to participate in to become more active in your community. We welcome your feedback. Our HOA offers full memberships and associate memberships.

**Non-members:** We are asking that you consider signing a Convey Agreement. When you decide to sell, your home automatically converts to a Full Permanent Member at no cost to you. We are asking you to please support the long term viability of Saddle Creek.

We need volunteers!! Anyone interested in helping with our membership drive to keep our neighborhood financially sound, please contact [membership@saddle-creek.net](mailto:membership@saddle-creek.net).

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## 2014 Board of Directors

|                        |                 |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>President</b>       | David Wallace   |
| <b>Vice President</b>  | Lance Ledbetter |
| <b>Secretary</b>       | Robert Jackels  |
| <b>Treasurer</b>       | Sanjay Mundkur  |
| <b>Member-At-Large</b> | Bill L'Estrange |
| <b>Member-At-Large</b> | Nicole Schwartz |
| <b>Member-At-Large</b> | Howard Flint    |

## 2014 Committee Leads

|                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Fix-It</b>     | Paul Mattson    |
| <b>Landscape</b>  | John Morris     |
| <b>Membership</b> | Pam Ellis       |
| <b>Pool</b>       | Nicole Schwartz |
| <b>Social</b>     | Vrinda Mundkur  |
| <b>Swim Team</b>  | Nicole Schwartz |
| <b>Tennis</b>     | Paula Hope      |
| <b>Website</b>    | Sanjay Mundkur  |



## SOCIAL EVENTS CALENDAR



March 15<sup>th</sup>

**Saint Patrick's Social (Adults only)**

April 20<sup>th</sup>

**Easter Egg Hunt (Family)**



May 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Pre-Cinco de mayo party (Adults only)**



May 23<sup>th</sup>

**Memorial Day (Pool Open /Ice Cream Social (Family)**

June to August

**Friday Night Poolside Social (Family)**

July 4<sup>th</sup>

**Parade and Cookout (Family)**



August 9<sup>th</sup>

**Back to School Party (Family)**

September 6<sup>th</sup>



**Music on the Green / Cook Out (Family)**

November 1<sup>st</sup>

**Fall Festival - Chili Cook-Off & Halloween Costume Contest (Family)**



November TBD

**Adult Social (Adults only)**

December 19<sup>th</sup> /20<sup>th</sup>

**Holiday Lights Contest - Judging**



December TBD



**Holiday Cookie Swap/Cookie Decorating**

### SADDLE CREEK PROGRESSIVE DINNERS

Members have been expressing an interest in having a Progressive dinner (or two or three) within Saddle Creek. If you are interested in participating, please send your name and phone number to [social@saddlecreek.net](mailto:social@saddlecreek.net). If sufficient interest is generated, we will plan the event for around late October.

**We are trying "adults only" events based on member feedback! Please attend them.**

### 2014 Initiatives

*continued from page 1*

term solutions so that we can build up reserve funds to fix the infrastructure around a forty-year old Saddle Creek. By choosing to vote No on these two initiatives, you and I are guaranteeing a larger Special Assessment for the membership within three years.

Passing these two initiatives will help to generate 20% of the money needed for the 2015 work that is necessary on the pool deck, pool plaster and west side tennis courts. The current Special Assessment of \$650 will raise the other 80% for the work on the pool and the west courts.

On a historical note, in 2006-7, members were presented the option of a Special Assessment of over \$900 as an alternative to taking a loan – the votes were for the loan. We, the members, will have paid nearly \$100,000 in interest on this loan when it is paid off. Let us learn from this experience!

With the three-part structure we are making a strategic investment in the health of our neighborhood (and our property values). The Board has constructed a BALANCED plan that reflects member feedback about keeping dues steady for several years. This financial plan was developed with member input from meetings in [November 2013](#) and [January 2014](#), and [presented at the annual neighborhood meeting in March](#). The information is on the Saddle Creek website and was broadcast in meeting notices. We also had voting days at the clubhouse following the annual meeting in March - unfortunately, the turnout could have been better.

Participate! [CAST YOUR VOTE on each initiative Yes/No!](#) The Board will not rest until ALL MEMBERS have voted. You are always welcome to contact your Board of Directors at [bod@saddle-creek.net](mailto:bod@saddle-creek.net) for further information. **There is no deadline date on voting via the consent forms. Take the time to educate yourself and choose to be an informed voter!**

### Informational Documents

Q&A on Initiatives: <http://goo.gl/on7BIJ>

Annual Meeting Notes: <http://goo.gl/GcQkfU>

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>BOARD MEETINGS</b> | <b>Second Tuesday of each month (7 pm)</b><br>Clubhouse (read e-mail for East/ West)<br>- Members Welcome - |
| <b>WEB</b>            | <a href="http://www.saddle-creek.net">www.saddle-creek.net</a>  |
| <b>E-MAIL</b>         | <a href="mailto:info@saddle-creek.net">info@saddle-creek.net</a>  |
| <b>POST</b>           | 495 Saddle Creek Circle<br>Roswell, GA 30076  |

## BURGLARY PREVENTION CHECKLIST

Unfortunately, burglaries rise this time of year. Keep your home safe by making a few changes in your security. Check:

- ✓ Do entry doors have a wide-angle viewer?
- ✓ Are door locks secure from being opened if a burglar breaks out glass or a panel of lightweight wood?
- ✓ Can all of your doors (basement, porch, French, balcony) be securely locked?
- ✓ Do your basement doors have locks that allow you to isolate that part of the house?
- ✓ Do you know everyone who has a key to your house?
- ✓ Are entry areas unobstructed by shrubbery and other décor to permit maximum visibility?
- ✓ Does the porch light have a minimum 60-watt bulb?
- ✓ Do you lock your garage door at night?
- ✓ Do you keep your garage door closed and locked when at home?
- ✓ Are all windows equipped with auxiliary key locks or pinned?
- ✓ Do you keep your windows locked when they are shut?
- ✓ Are you as careful of basement and second floor windows as you are of those on the first floor?
- ✓ Do you keep a list of all valuable property? Serial numbers?
- ✓ Do not hide a key under the door mat or similar item.
- ✓ Do you have motion detection lighting on the outside of your house?
- ✓ Have you told your family what to do if they discover a burglar breaking in or suspect the home has been broken into?
- ✓ **Do you have telephone numbers and e-mails listed in the Saddle Creek online directory?**
- ✓ Do you have emergency telephone numbers listed by your phone or in your phone's address book?



Carolyn Mattingly, Owner

Call today and let me help you determine the course of care you require.

Our assessment is **FREE** and one of our RNs will thoroughly evaluate your needs. We will together select the best CNA to serve you with skill and quality care.

### **Advantage Private Home Care Serving Seniors in Saddle Creek and North Fulton for Ten Years.**

As a Saddle Creek resident for over 27 years, I have a special compassion for my senior neighbors and their important needs. My goal is to help seniors remain independent in their own homes. I only use **State licensed, Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs)** for you or your loved ones with **personalized care plans and continuity of service.**



**404-312-6423**

Email: [cbmatt@charter.net](mailto:cbmatt@charter.net)

[www.advantageseniorcareinc.com](http://www.advantageseniorcareinc.com)



As a resident of Saddle Creek for 14 years, I am an expert on our neighborhood. We are very fortunate to live in such a wonderful community. My office is conveniently located right down the street at Mansell and Houze.

**The Spring market is here!!  
Inventory is low.**

**Are you thinking of a move?  
Do you want to know your current home value?**

**I will be happy to get you the information you need.**

***Call Me! I am here to help!***



**Pamela Medor-Ellis**

770-356-4827 Cell  
770-594-3302 Office  
[Pamela@sell-atl-homes.com](mailto:Pamela@sell-atl-homes.com)

# Poolside

Nicole Schwarz ([pool@saddle-creek.net](mailto:pool@saddle-creek.net))

It's that time of year again. The pool cover has been removed and we are prepping for the pool opening on May 23.

All of you who use the pool know that the pool surface and deck are in need of repairs. We are hoping that the proposed SCHOA initiatives pass so we are able to make these needed repairs before the 2015 pool season. **We need you to vote Yes on all three initiatives to make this happen!**

In the meantime we are happy we have a pool in working order that can accommodate the younger families moving into the neighborhood. We also appreciate the "hand-me-down" pool furniture that we received from Hembree Grove last summer. Now everyone has a place to sit on the busy summer weekends!

Here are some reminders to everyone who uses the pool:

1. Please keep all children off the "starting blocks". They are not to be used as a diving board.
2. When the lifeguard is off duty, it is parent's responsibility to monitor their children during non-lifeguard hours.
3. If you are sitting at a table and you open an umbrella, please lower it upon leaving. When an umbrella is left up, it can be damaged by the wind or storms. Umbrellas that should last many years, only last a year due to negligence.
4. Please pick up all trash or food that may be on the decking. Food left on the pool decking will attract ants and bees. Would you leave food all over your house?
5. If your child is playing with toys in the pool (foam noodles, floats, sponge balls, etc.), please remove them from the pool before leaving. Toys do not mix well with skimmers or pumps.
6. Food is not allowed within 6 feet of the pool (per Fulton County Health ordinance). Please, do not use glass in the pool area. You may pour from your glass bottle to a cup, but then place the empty bottle back in your cooler. This also is a Fulton County Health ordinance.
7. No swimmers under 14 years of age will be allowed at the pool unless accompanied by an adult. The life guards will be monitoring this.

## Pool Opens May 23



## Saddle Creek Dolphins

Swim Team ([swimteam@saddle-creek.net](mailto:swimteam@saddle-creek.net))

The 2014 Saddle Creek Swim Team is already diving in head first for a fun and successful summer season. The Saddle Creek Swim Team is open to children ages 5-18 years (age by June 1 of current swim season) capable of swimming the length of the pool *with very little assistance*.

### Top 6 reasons to swim with the Dolphins:

- 1) Your child will become a confident swimmer, proficient at all strokes.
- 2) Your child (and YOU) will meet new friends and have fun!
- 3) Volunteering at swim meets is fun!
- 4) Free donuts on Friday!
- 5) Adds some structure to a sometimes too "lazy summer."
- 6) We have GREAT food at our concession stand.

### Sponsorships

The Saddle Creek Swim Team is always looking for sponsors. Please contact Katherine Duley or Lily Pabian at ([swimteam@saddle-creek.net](mailto:swimteam@saddle-creek.net)) if you or someone/business you know is interested in supporting the Dolphins.

### Meets

We have two home meets scheduled this season. The pool will close at 3:00 on meet days. Even if you don't have a swimmer, stop by on nights we have home meets to grab an awesome dinner from our award-winning concession stand and cheer on our swimmers to another successful season!

|                    |                             |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Tuesday, May 27    | Mock Meet                   |
| Thursday, June 12  | at Alpharetta Athletic Club |
| Thursday, May 29   | Wexford (Home)              |
| Thursday, June 19  | at Harrington Falls         |
| Thursday, June 5   | Hampton Hall N (Home)       |
| Wednesday, June 25 | at Wildwood Springs         |

Get your goggles and towels ready for another fun season! We hope to see you either on the team or joining us for dinner at our home meets.

**Saddle Creek Swim Team Committee**

# COVENANTS CORNER

Lance Ledbetter ([vicepresident@saddle-creek.net](mailto:vicepresident@saddle-creek.net))

I look forward to supporting our efforts in both maintaining & continuing improvements toward our subdivision. As Vice President, one of my primary responsibilities is to enforce the rules of our Homeowner's covenants.

Please assist our efforts to maintain our neighborhood's curb appeal. All you need to do is keep the curb clean in front of your house – i.e. edge when the grass is growing and clean up the street after recycling comes by to pick up your yard debris. Imagine how great everything would look if each one of us just took a little time to tidy up.

For SCHOA Members, your Board handles all complaints against any neighbor - Member or not. Roswell City ordinances apply to all resident homes!

## Roswell Ordinances That Affect Everyone

**House Number Visibility** There are several houses in Saddle Creek where house numbers have fallen off the mailbox or vines or shrubs have grown over the addresses on their mailboxes or numbers on the house. Roswell requires us to have our address clearly posted for our protection so in the case of an emergency fire, ambulance and police can correctly identify your residence.

**Taping Notices to City Signs** Taping signs for any purpose to stop signs, speed limit signs, etc. is illegal and the person taping the sign could be subjected to a fine.

**Roadside Signs** Real estate "open house" signs, garage sales signs and the like are only allowed on the weekends.

**Garage Sales** Garage sales are limited to 3 per year.

**Animal Control** Dog owners whose dog makes continuous noise for 10 minutes or frequent noise for 30 minutes disturbing the comfort and repose of others are subject to fine. Dog owners are required to keep their dog on a leash; they are not permitted to run at large. The "leash law" prohibiting animals to run free is not only for your protection, but for the pet as well. And don't forget to be a responsible pet owner and good neighbor by cleaning up after your pets on that walk around the neighborhood.

[Please contact Fulton County Animal Control regarding animals running at large: 404-613-0358]

## Roswell Animal Control Website

<http://www.roswellgov.com/index.aspx?NID=765>

**General Nuisances** All property must be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition free of junk, litter, and refuse.

**Lawn Care** Grass taller than 10" or overgrown shrubs and bushes could result in a visit from Roswell code enforcement. Curbs should be free and clear of shrubbery, ivy, etc., just think of it as grass and be sure to trim and edge at your curb. Yard waste must stay in your yard and not be blown or laid in the street. **City of Roswell Code prohibits blowing, or sweeping, yard debris into storm drains.**

**Home Businesses** Any business operating from a residence is required to have a Roswell Occupation Tax Certificate. (This does not include telecommuter home offices.)

**Parking** City ordinance does not permit parking on streets for more than 10 hours, so please park your cars in your garage or on your driveway. Don't forget the City does not permit parking on your lawn or on mulched areas of your lot. **Contact the City 770-594-6101 to report a violation.**

**RV's and Boats** RV's and boats cannot be parked in your driveway or clubhouse parking lots. There is a 24- hour leeway time to get your vehicle ready for a trip, but it can't be stored on your driveway.

Finally, please keep in mind that covenants and ordinances are enforced to keep Saddle Creek and Roswell looking nice and to keep up our property values. Thank you for helping Saddle Creek be the best it can be!

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## PARKING

*City ordinance does not permit parking on streets for more than 10 hours, so please park your cars in your garage or on your driveway. Don't forget the City does not permit parking on your lawn or on mulched areas of your lot. Contact the City if you want to report a violation.*

## GENERAL NUISANCES

*All property must be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition free of junk, litter, and refuse.*

# Tennis Courts

Paula Hope ([tennis@saddle-creek.net](mailto:tennis@saddle-creek.net))

Winter tennis at Saddle Creek was COLD! The extreme cold has started cracking the courts resurfaced less than a year ago. The Board is speaking with Talbot Tennis about fixing those areas covered by warranty. We have rusted corrugated pipe around the courts and replacing it will possibly require digging up the parking lot. The Board is researching how best to improve drainage around the courts.

Laurie Schmidt's ALTA A-1 Senior Mixed Team (Winter) won their division and then went on to win City. Some very happy players are celebrating in the picture to the top right. CONGRATULATIONS! The Winter 40+ 4.0 USTA Ladies team, captained by Rene' Beavers, won their division and went to semi-finals. They are now headed to state finals in Columbus, Georgia at the end of May. The 40+ 4.5 Ladies team is headed to state finals in Athens, Georgia at the end of May. The Thursday 4.5 USTA team, captained by Rene' Beavers, won their division and went to playoffs.

In the recently concluded Spring season, our C-2 Men's Team, captained by Lou Kerrins and Bill L'Estrange, won their division and went to quarter-finals. Susan L'Estrange's Thursday C-1 Ladies team (pictured bottom right) won the division and played in the City Finals!

If you are interested in joining a Saddle Creek team for ALTA or USTA, please contact [tennis@saddle-creek.net](mailto:tennis@saddle-creek.net). If you are interested in learning to play tennis, please contact Ann Long [ann@oboactivation.com](mailto:ann@oboactivation.com) for more information. Ann is organizing a beginners group.

Please use the online reservation system for booking courts. Happy hitting!



## Water Aerobics

Water aerobics classes will be offered again this summer!

The schedule is:

Monday & Wednesday from 7-8 PM

Beginning June 2nd through July

Tuesday & Thursday from 9-10 AM

Beginning July 8th through August

We will be charging a nominal fee of \$10.00 per person to help pay for the instructor. If you want to sign up for both morning and evening classes the fee is \$20.00.

Please make a check out to Saddle Creek HOA and place in the Eastside mailbox by tennis court viewing stand. Add a separate note "Water Aerobics", the names of participants and session(s) you want to attend.

Please contact Dave Wallace!  
[president@saddle-creek.net](mailto:president@saddle-creek.net)



**How Much is Your Home Worth?**

**Find out Today!**

**Want to know what the real estate market is doing in Saddle Creek?**  
**Would you like to know what your options might be?**  
**Call Diana today!**



**Diana Thorne**  
Saddle Creek Home Owner  
(770) 314-1928  
[Diana@TheThorneGrp.com](mailto:Diana@TheThorneGrp.com)  
[www.TheThorneGrp.com](http://www.TheThorneGrp.com)



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# Landscape

John Morris ([landscape@saddle-creek.net](mailto:landscape@saddle-creek.net))

## Volunteer Day

Now that Spring is here we can look forward to better weather. Your help on the next Volunteer Day will be greatly appreciated. May 3 was sunny for the Clean Up/ Fix Up Volunteer Day. Unfortunately, volunteer participation was low.

However, we accomplished a fair bit even before Volunteer Day. Bill L'Estrange and Brad Scholl cut down the trees by the East courts, and Rance Kirtley moved all the cut logs over to the West clubhouse. Dave Wallace, Lance Ledbetter and John Morris moved the remaining brush/tree debris to Houze Road for pick up. Dave also pressure washed the walkway around the West clubhouse, and Joe Schmidt and Clif Hope removed the deteriorating lumber ties around there. Dave Kelley pressure washed the East kids' playground,, and along with Jeff Baillairge trimmed limbs off the sycamore trees near the playground.

One of the major projects for the next Volunteer Day – in October – will be cleaning up along Houze Road. We will start at the pool entrance and go as far north as we can in a few hours. In addition to cleaning brush we plan to take out the small trees. Ultimately we would like the whole section of Houze bordering Saddle Creek to be as clear as the part just north of the pool entrance. That will take more than one Volunteer Day, but a journey of a thousand brambles begins with a single whack. Or something like that.

There are a number of other cleanup/fix up projects planned. We need help cleaning up brush north of the West Side playground.

## Spring-Summer Projects

We plan to investigate improvements to the drainage around the East Side tennis courts and playground. We expect some improvements can be done within our current budget. If the measures to increase revenue pass we will be able to make a number of improvements such as:

- ✓ remove the Sycamores that are dropping limbs near the East Side playground
- ✓ increase the size of the annual plantings at the entrances
- ✓ level out the area behind the West Side clubhouse
- ✓ plant grass behind the West Side clubhouse

Contact John at [landscape@saddle-creek.net](mailto:landscape@saddle-creek.net)

 **cara inman**  
& ASSOCIATES

*Where do you want to be?*

Thinking of a move this spring?

Now is the time to get together!

If you are curious about your home's value, give me a call. I can give you the information you need to make the right decision.



Cara Inman  
770-634-8814  
[cara@carainman.com](mailto:cara@carainman.com)

  
**KELLER**  
**WILLIAMS**  
REALTY  
FIRST ATLANTA  
404-531-5700



404-551-2438  
[HalcombPlumbing.com](http://HalcombPlumbing.com)

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## Cost Cutting & Financial Initiatives

Anonymous

We are voting on new revenue initiatives, but we should be prepared to cut costs even further just in case. With a little thought (actually very little thought) several ideas come to mind.

### Town Crier

With volunteers to stand at the entrances we can avoid lots of unnecessary expense for signs and banners and newsletters. This would not have to be 24/7. Covering the morning and evening rush hours would do. Just imagine, "Hear Ye. Hear Ye. Swim meet on Thursday ..." It adds a personal touch.

But you say, "Five entrances. That's a lot of volunteers." I'm glad you mentioned it. That is the next money saving idea.

### Barricade the Roads

We only have two sides. Why have five entrances? Simple inertia is all I can think of. We can block all the roads except for the Crabapple Road entrance and the pool entrance on Houze Road. This has the effect of converting Saddle Creek into two giant cul-de-sacs (or is it culs-de-sac, I'll have to look that up). Anyhow, that's more valuable, real estate wise. Imagine, Rounsaville Court, Saddle Creek Circle Court, ...

### Further Landscape Savings

Barricading the roads cuts the expense to maintain entrances by 60 percent. Excellent start! Maintenance expenses for the areas around the clubhouses can be cut radically with a little effort. There are roughly 30 weeks in the mowing season and 500 houses in Saddle Creek. If each house volunteered to mow the common areas on a rotating basis the savings would be huge. Granted that is several acres, but you would only have to mow once every 16 years.

### Storm Chasers

Actually, there is not much chasing to it, but the name sounds exciting. Every time there is a heavy rain elite crews of volunteers will assemble on the pool deck, between the pool and tennis court, and on the tennis courts. They will bail water to the storm drain and out of the ditch before it can seep under the pool deck and tennis court and damage the surface of each. As soon as the rain stops the action will shift to sweeping the pool deck and the tennis courts. What with the bailing and deck swabbing we could give the whole thing a nautical theme. Maybe "Saddle Creek Regatta."

I am sure we can come up with many more ideas to plug any budget holes.

## **WANTED**

**Saddle Creek Homeowners Association  
is currently seeking  
active participation  
by  
ALL residents.**

**This is YOUR neighborhood!**

**Get Involved!**

**Support it!**

**DEFEAT APATHY!**

Serving the Atlanta North Metro Area

Every week is busy enough . . .

North River Landscaping

let us handle your landscaping needs.

A maintained landscape by North River Landscaping, LLC can do wonders for your home's appearance and value. With regular service our expert care will accentuate the natural beauty of your property.

www.northriverlandscaping.com 770.645.4777

# Congratulations Graduates!

## UNIVERSITY

|                    |                             |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Wesley Caple       | Kennesaw State University   |
| Katura Finn        | University of Mississippi   |
| Carly Hall         | Georgia Southern University |
| Emily Handy        | University of Virginia      |
| Catherine McDevitt | University of Mississippi   |

## HIGH SCHOOL

|                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Muhammad Akram    | Roswell         |
| Mike Bascle       | Blessed Trinity |
| Victoria Chen     | Roswell         |
| Robert Grant Dean | Roswell         |
| Piper Flint       | Roswell         |
| Brian Griese      | Roswell         |
| Caleb Jones       | Roswell         |
| Megan Machado     | Milton          |
| Caitlin Tabilog   | Milton          |
| Austin Windsor    | Roswell         |

# Saddle Creek Online

Sanjay Mundkur ([webmaster@saddle-creek.net](mailto:webmaster@saddle-creek.net))

## Directory Update

Another Board initiative for 2014 is the Saddle Creek Census project to update the online resident directory. We are encouraging all residents to register and provide their e-mail and phone contact information so that we can update the directory and keep everyone in the loop on what is happening around Saddle Creek and in Roswell.

Please check if you are already in the system, and to register if you are not. The short link is

<http://goo.gl/gYLCb2>

The site has been reorganized in the past year to find information more easily. You can read the newsletter online, check the social events calendar and existing facility reservations without login.

A member login is required to access some of the information (directory, financials, Board meeting minutes) and to book facilities (pool party, bocce court, horseshoe pits, tennis courts) for your event(s).

SADDLE CREEK HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION  
495 SADDLE CREEK CIRCLE  
ROSWELL, GA 30076  
[WWW.SADDLE-CREEK.NET](http://WWW.SADDLE-CREEK.NET)

SADDLE CREEK RESIDENT