

# *The Buckhead South Homeowner's Club, Inc. Newsletter*

*Serving the Hampton, Keller Crossing and Tranquilla Hall communities*

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

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## *President's Message*

Dear Neighbors – With the new year upon us at Buckhead South, there's a lot going on. The election of BSHC officers will be held at the Annual Meeting on 4/8, time and place to be determined and advised in a meeting announcement in a separate email. Anyone interested in holding an office, chairing a committee, or volunteering on any committee, please respond to [buckheadsouthhoa@gmail.com](mailto:buckheadsouthhoa@gmail.com) or any current officer. We encourage you to attend our Officers Meetings during February and March to get a flavor of expectations and activities. We welcome your participation at any level of BSHC.

Officers are considering a BSHC Facebook page with a designated monitor for content. Anyone with opinions or comments on this idea, positive or negative, please direct them to [buckheadsouthhoa@gmail.com](mailto:buckheadsouthhoa@gmail.com). Please keep the comments constructive and pertinent to instituting a Facebook page for informational purposes.

We are going to have an Events chairperson to head up some seasonal activities such as Easter Egg hunt, Halloween event, possibly a community yard sale, etc. , and we'll announce this soon when she's ready.

2014 BSHC Dues Notice will go out in February with a payment due date of March 31<sup>st</sup> 2014. Dues will remain the same as last year: \$550. We've been able to hold the line on this because of careful use of our funds, and the additional new residents that have joined BSHC from new homes built here recently.

On a serious note, our neighborhoods have experienced some actual or attempted break-ins recently. Please read the article "Safety & Security at Home" on the next page of this newsletter for some quick ways to safeguard your property. As always, the best safeguard is a watchful community, so if you notice any suspicious person or vehicle, please call the South Bryan County's Sheriff's Department 911 line quickly.

A reminder that use of motorized golf carts, ATV's etc. are licensed and regulated by the county and are certainly not appropriate for speeding throughout our neighborhoods. We continue to see underage, non-helmeted children on these and police will be notified.

Are there newsletter omissions? Let us know and we'll get on it. Also, feel free to send your thoughts to me at [buckheadsouthhoa@gmail.com](mailto:buckheadsouthhoa@gmail.com) anytime. We hope to see you at the April 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting.

*Keith Spitznogle, BSHC President*

## *News from the Committees*

The **Landscape Committee** notes that spring is just around the corner and there are plans to keep buffing up our entrances/grounds in our neighborhoods. If you have a passion for making our neighborhoods look

beautiful and would like to get involved or have any materials to donate, please email me [joonie624@comcast.net](mailto:joonie624@comcast.net).

*June Ciccone, Landscape Committee Chair*

The **Pool Committee** reports there are tentative plans to open the pool for the 2014 season on April 17, in time for Spring Break. 2014 Pool Forms will be included in the February annual dues mailing, and as usual the pool gate code will be sent to you via email only after these forms are signed and returned to us. You will then get new codes monthly, for use of your family. Do not give this code out to anyone else. If a neighbor tells you they were missed in the emailing, please refer them to [buckheadsouthhoa@gmail.com](mailto:buckheadsouthhoa@gmail.com) for resolution.

We have ordered more durable furniture for the pool area, and it is currently being made at Leisure Creations. We have had to turn off the water several times this winter to prevent freezing, so we are in good operating shape. Unlike previous years, especially 2012, the only malfunction we experienced was the door lock, which has been repaired. We are looking into a number of improvements for the recreation area and ways to enhance our pool experience. There is a suggestion to not allow pool floats, given the increased population using the pool. So far we have relied on our members being courteous and using common sense when the pool is crowded. If anyone feels strongly about this, please let us know. Your comments are always welcome.

The Pool Team did a good job last year being accessible to pool users (note their blue "Pool Team" bags) to aid in an enjoyable pool time for all. We are in need of some additional Pool Team members – please contact [buckheadsouthhoa@gmail.com](mailto:buckheadsouthhoa@gmail.com) if you are interested in this worthy endeavor. If you're a regular user of the pool, you're a natural to be part of this team.

*Alec Breen, Pool Committee Chair*

The **Welcome Committee** continues to hand deliver Welcome Packets to new residents for a fast and helpful start to living at Buckhead South. If you know of a new neighbor who needs one, or if you've been missed yourself, please let us know and we'll hop on it. We rely on a haphazard network of newspaper property transfers, lawyer/bank closings and realtors to find out and we don't always hear in a timely way, especially with home rentals. The Welcome Committee also produces this BSHC Quarterly Newsletter and we're pleased that it's become a useful fixture here. Please contact [shea29v@comcast.net](mailto:shea29v@comcast.net) with any concerns.

*Sue Shea, Welcome Committee Chair*

## ***Keep Buckhead South Beautiful***

Spring will be here before you know it, and with it spring cleanup begins. BSHC has negotiated a 20% discount at Home Depot on all paints and stains. Contact [buckheadsouthhoa@gmail.com](mailto:buckheadsouthhoa@gmail.com) for details. Between sprucing up our common areas, an ongoing task, and your own property work, we can keep Buckhead South looking stellar! NOTE: Please do not use the street to dispose of your lawn clippings and leaves. Mulch, bag and contain in your property. Yard debris in the street will only cause issues downstream in our runoff culverts and drains.

**TIPS:** January is the time to prune crepe myrtles for best flowering later. Mid-February is an excellent time to apply weed control pre-emergence to centipede lawns.

When you begin regular watering of your lawn this year, remember that the best time to run your sprinklers is between midnight and 6AM. Watering later in the morning or during the heat of the day will waste too much water to evaporation. Early evening watering can cause mold and fungus to develop overnight. It's best to finish watering before the sun starts to heat up the day.

Now is a good time to test your soil for PH level, and to aerate your lawn. Centipede grass likes an acidic soil with a PH range between 5.6-6.2, with 6.0 being optimal. St. Augustine grass likes PH 6.2-6.8 with 6.5 ideal. Aeration acts to relieve compaction and increases air and water infiltration.

A reminder: many exterior home improvements such as additions of fences or outbuildings **must** be approved by the Design Review Committee first.

If you have easy economical ideas for maintaining our properties, please share with all in our next newsletter. Send to [shea29v@comcast.net](mailto:shea29v@comcast.net)

## ***Safety & Security at Home***

Unfortunately, in recent months there have been a few property break-ins in our neighborhoods. Most appear to be crimes of opportunity, and not greatly planned out. Prevent being a target by doing some simple things:

**Exterior:** Especially when not at home, keep your garage door fully down. Even leaving it open a third of the way up, allows thieves to see no cars are at home, and gives them a sheltered space inside to work on getting into the main part of your house. Keep cars locked when in the driveway to prevent opportunistic thefts. Keep your house entries lit at night --- thieves avoid well lit areas. Trim plantings around windows and doors to discourage concealment. If you're landscaping, consider spiky-leaved shrubs like holly under windows to discourage access. If you have engaged an alarm company, keep their sign visible and unobstructed by plants, because thieves like quick easy targets, and if they know you are alarmed, they may move on. If away, make arrangements to have your mail stopped or collected, so it doesn't pile up in your

mailbox. Same goes for newspapers. You can cancel those "blue bags" of advertising circulars (forever!) by calling the newspaper office. On the same topic, we've been hearing of some morning newspaper thefts and you should confirm with your newspaper circulation office that the paper was actually delivered, and then follow your own path to resolve this: watch for who is taking these, and/or treat this as a police matter directly.

**Interior:** Put at least one lamp on a timer, to rotate lights in your house, especially if you are away overnight. Make sure door and window locks are in working order, and USE THEM, especially deadbolts. Unfortunately, the days of leaving your house unlocked all the time is past.

*Please be aware of strangers in our neighborhoods, watch out for each other's homes and property, and report any unusual situations or circumstances to the Sheriff's office. They ask that you always jot down car tag (license plate) numbers, time of day, and vehicle description.*

***Other news*** Send news to [shea29v@comcast.net](mailto:shea29v@comcast.net)

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** and always welcome for the various committees or for just a small specific seasonal project. We know there are a lot of energetic neighbors out there with various skills -- we can always offer you ways to contribute your talents, large and small. Contact [buckheadsouthhoa@gmail.com](mailto:buckheadsouthhoa@gmail.com)

**WANTED:** Unwanted perennials or any color bricks for our Landscape Committee's use in our common areas. Contact June Ciccone [joonie624@comcast.net](mailto:joonie624@comcast.net)

**WANTED:** your extra pet (cat/dog) dishes, leashes, toys, bedding or wet/dry food for an ongoing collection drive for the South Bryan County Animal Shelter on Rt. 144 Spur. Many thanks to those that contributed this past quarter -- we were able to bring another big bag of goodies to the shelter. Please continue to drop off items at 29 Victors Ct. front porch anytime and we'll deliver!

**LIST HERE:** If you're forming a book club, card group, walking group, kids play group, etc or have an existing group looking to add members, please send us your information and we'll post it in the next newsletter. What better way for our neighbors to meet one another than through a common interest?

*Take the BSHC Quarterly Newsletter on the road! Send us a pic of you reading our newsletter in a fabulous locale, and we'll happily post it on our website.*

*GOT NEWS? We'd love to share your items of interest with everyone in the BSHC. Send us your local event dates, or any other pertinent news. Next newsletter deadline is 3-15-14 for the April issue.*

## Welcome Our Neighbors ♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥

*A heartfelt welcome to our newest BSHC neighbors:*

**Shannon & Matt Berkebile**, 511 Victors Ct, and son **Samuel** (8) and daughter **Lucy** (6), come to us from Pooler. We're happy you're here!

**Tanya & Kevin Weber**, 351 Beaully Dr, and daughter **Nyomi** (2) and son **William** (due Feb 2014!) just arrived from Ft. Leavenworth, KS. Best wishes to you!

**Bridget & Luis Izquierdo** of 484 Lou Page Ln and daughters **Analise** (8), **Sofia** (7), and **Isabelle** (3) lived nearby for several years and have just moved into Buckhead South. Welcome!

*Although complete information was not available at press time, we welcome these new neighbors as well:*

**Ricky Carroll Godwin**, 96 William Hall Way

**Christopher Neptune**, 88 William Hall Way

The **Martinez** family, 630 Lou Page Ln

*Are you new to Buckhead South and have not been listed here or was your listing incomplete? Please let us know and we'll print it in the next issue. We also have a great Welcome Packet for you. Contact Sue Shea: [shea29v@comcast.net](mailto:shea29v@comcast.net)*

## Calendar

Got something for the calendar? [glkool47@aol.com](mailto:glkool47@aol.com)

1<sup>st</sup> Thurs every month, RH Historical Soc. local history series, 7pm, free. 756-3697

1-20 Martin Luther King, Jr Day.  
[www.mlksavannah.com](http://www.mlksavannah.com) for local events listings.

1/24-2/2 Savannah Restaurant Week  
[www.dining.savannahnow.com](http://www.dining.savannahnow.com)

Feb – Annual Dues notice sent out, payable by 3-31.

2/1-23 Savannah Black Heritage Festival  
[www.sbfh.mindofjonas.com](http://www.sbfh.mindofjonas.com)

2-2 Superbowl Sunday. Many local museums have free entrance fee on this day for those that want something else to do.

2/8-9 Colonial Faire & Muster at Wormsloe State Park, Sav. Reenactments, period music, food.  
[www.gastateparks.org/wormsloe](http://www.gastateparks.org/wormsloe)

2/13-16 Savannah Book Festival, various venues.  
[www.savannahbookfestival.org](http://www.savannahbookfestival.org)

2-14 Valentine's Day under Venus Stargazing Party at Ft. McAllister State Park. Bring blanket & picnic (no alcohol) and view skies with your date along with a presentation by Prof. Mullenax, AASU Astronomy & Physics Dept. \$7 per person 912-727-2339

3-17 St. Patrick's Day Parade in Savannah. Many buses going from local parking lots including Fia Rua and Goody's/Goodwill by various bus companies, for a fee, leaving & returning every hour. Details: Bryan County Chamber Of Commerce.

3-31 Annual Dues payment due by this date.

Apr 2 – Oct RH Farmers Market opens for the season. Held every Tues 3-7pm, JFG Park. Local produce, food, crafts & entertainment, more! Stop by.

Apr - Dec Movie Night Under the Stars, every Sat 7:30-9:30 pm @ Ice Cream Stop, Publix Plaza, bring lawn chairs or car tuned to 88.5. G movies.

4-5 Civil War Trust Volunteer Day at Ft. McAllister. Come help clean & beautify the fort. Volunteers get free entrance & lunch. 912-727-2339

4-8 Buckhead South Homeowner's Club Annual Mtg. Election of officers, budget info, more! Please attend this important meeting. Time & place will be sent to you via email when arranged.

4-15 Passover begins.

4-17 Tentative pool opening in time for Spring Break.

4-18 Canoeing with the Stars at Ft Mcallister, 6-8pm. \$25 fee includes entrance fee. Explore Shark Tooth Sandbar by canoe.

4-20 Easter Sunday

4/24-27 Vidalia Onion Festival: Celebrate the onion!

5-11 Mother's Day

5-24 Memorial Day at Ft McAllister, 9-4pm. Family fun, demonstrations. Entrance fee 912-727-2339

5-26 Memorial Day, JFGregory Park

6-14 Flag Day

6-15 Father's Day

6-29 Ramadan begins.

7-4 Independence Day.

7-29 Eid-al-Fitr (end of Ramadan).

<p><b>BSHC Contacts</b> email: <a href="mailto:buckheadsouthhoa@gmail.com">buckheadsouthhoa@gmail.com</a> Keith Spitznogle, <b>President</b>; Phil Gore &amp; John Mims, <b>VP</b> Cyndi Castle, <b>Treasurer</b>; Missy Terry, <b>Secretary</b> <b>Committee Chairs:</b> Will Griffin, <b>Covenants</b>; Keith Spitznogle, <b>Design Review</b>; June Ciccone, <b>Landscape</b>; Alec Breen, <b>Pool</b>; Sue Shea, <b>Welcome &amp; Newsletter</b>.</p>
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**CLIP TO SAVE THE DATE:  
Annual Meeting Tuesday, April 8**