



Somerset

Neighborhood News

March/April 2011

<http://www.somersetsubdivision.org>



"Somerset Subdivision"
83 Fans and counting

Updated Somerset Directories

New directories will be available early-April for all neighbors who have paid their dues. Each paid household will receive one copy, with additional copies available at \$5 per directory. Volunteers will be delivering directories to households that have already paid dues. The membership chairperson will get directories to those who pay dues after initial distribution.

If you are interested in additional copies for \$5 each, contact Nancy Forbes, 770-933-8644 or nforbes@us.ibm.com.

Thank You and Welcome!

Have you ever wondered how the newsletter gets to your mailbox? Once our editor Rick Cottrell gets them from the printer, he brings them to Nancy & Lew Forbes' house who separate them for distribution to 15 newsletter walkers. Many of these walkers have provided this service for a long time. Starting with this newsletter, we say goodbye and thank you for your service to Terry Porter and Luz Diaz, and to Arlene Schaefer. We extend a warm welcome to Bill Waguespack and Robin Condra who will serve as our new walkers for those newsletter zones.

Security Update

Spring is here, and with warmer weather we often see increases in home and auto burglaries. Cobb Police PENS reports over the last few weeks have most of the theft activity in zone 4 is not occurring in our beat (417 beat), but residential burglaries have been reported in Somerset and Ward Meade - one in each neighborhood. Also, a vehicle was apparently vandalized in Somerset. As usual, the largest form of theft is theft from vehicles, with stolen items including computers, GPSs, iPods, and handguns. The number of handguns reported stolen is alarming, as is the fact that several were stolen from unlocked vehicles.

Cobb Police report that there have been several incidents of AC units and copper piping being stolen from vacant residences throughout Cobb County, and request that we watch for any suspicious activity near unoccupied homes.

From Cobb Police: We frequently get calls regarding door-to-door solicitors. In unincorporated Cobb County, door-to-door solicitors are required to have a solicitor permit issued by Cobb County Business License Division which is valid for 30 days from the date of issuance. This permit may be displayed on either shoulder of the solicitor's clothing and must be visible to the customer.

2011 Somerset Sharks



Who is ready for some swimming?! Summer is around the corner, and the Somerset Sharks will be getting ready for another great season. Registration will be Sunday, April 17, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the clubhouse. Forms will be available soon at www.shoa.us to download. This

season we will use the same suit design as last year, and the uniform package (suit, t-shirt, shorts and cap) will also be available. We are working with Team Nike on the details. Suit fitting will be done at registration. If you are unable to attend registration, please set up a time to get fitted within the week following.

Three new co-coordinators have signed up to lead the Sharks this season, **Debbie Cottrell (djc0325@gmail.com)**, **Allison Fulton (allisongreg@bellsouth.net)** and **Debbie Masters (Debbie_masters18@hotmail.com)**. Feel free to contact any of us with questions. The schedule was set a few days ago at the Cobb County Coordinators Meeting, and we are happy to have three home meets.

Here is the 2011 Shark schedule:

Date	Day	Opponent
TBD	TBD	Practice Meet
6/1	Wednesday	Weatherstone
6/8	Wednesday	Meadowgrove
6/15	Wednesday	@ Camden Place
6/22	Wednesday	@ Pinecrest
6/29	Wednesday	Milford Chase
7/8-10	Friday - Sunday	County Meet @ Mountain View



Somerset Volunteers

Terry Porter iceporter@yahoo.com	President - SHOA 770.617.1712
Nancy Forbes nforbes@us.ibm.com	Vice President - SHOA 770.933.8644
Karen Sharpless karensarpless@kw.com	Secretary - SHOA 770.541.0258
Sean Barr seanbarr1@gmail.com	Treasurer - SHOA 678.315.0770
Christine Chapman 2christinec@comcast.net	Lake - SHOA 770.330.8718
Tracey Voegtle tracymv@marykay.com	Welcome - SHOA 770.859.9653
Kit Boden mrsbudboden@yahoo.com	Landscape - SHOA 770.955.3485
Steve Chapman 2stevec@comcast.net	Membership - SHOA 770.312.1035
Colin Schroeder acschroeder@bellsouth.net	Security - SHOA 678.525.3137
Shelley Fleishman shelley.fly@gmail.com	Social (Co-Chair) - SHOA 770.916.0101
Lynda Hedley lhedley@mindspring.com	Social (Co-Chair) - SHOA 404.358.1795
Sherridan Santivanez sherridan.santivanez@jmsadvisors.com	Pool (Co-Chair) - SHOA 770.859.0538
Jenn Jordan jenn@jennjordan.net	Pool (Co-Chair) - SHOA 770.951.2864
Rick Cottrell rick_cottrell@yahoo.com	Communications - SHOA 770.690.8219
Walt Helms walt.helms@comcast.net	Tennis - SHOA 770.859.2009
Edith O'Neill oneillbrianc@bellsouth.net	Clubhouse - SHOA 770.980.9681
Deb Cottrell djc0325@gmail.com	Somerset Sharks - Co Coord 770.596.0545
Luz Stella Diaz luzstella2000@yahoo.com	Sunshine 678.772.1189

Please be kind and call at reasonable hours 9AM-9PM

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2011 Membership Dues Invoice

Please complete appropriate sections below, enclose a check, and mail to:

Somerset Homeowners Association
3417 Turtle Cove Court
Marietta, Georgia 30067

Or deposit in the SHOA mailbox at the entrance to the pool/tennis area.

*If you did not pay your 2010 dues by Dec. 31, 2010, you are in NEW status and your dues structure will be different. Not sure of your status? Check your status at the SHOA web site (www.somersetsubdivision.org).

Item	Description	Amount	Total
SHOA DUES <small>*if not 2009 member see note above</small>	SHOA Annual Renewal Membership	\$160	
SHOA Member Pool/Tennis Dues	Annual Pool & Tennis Membership (SHOA members only)	\$370	
Somerset Resident Non-SHOA Member Pool/Tennis Dues	Annual Pool & Tennis Membership (Somerset Resident Non-SHOA member)	\$1,370	
Beautification Fund	Donations for Community Beautification	Any Amount	
Non-Resident Pool/Tennis Dues	Annual Pool & Tennis Membership For Non-Residents	\$495	
		TOTAL	

Other Somerset Voluntary Associations (can be on same check as SHOA dues)

Turtle Lake Association Dues (on the lake)	Property On the Lake Yearly Association Membership	\$200	
Turtle Lake Association Dues (off the lake)	Property Off the Lake Yearly Association Membership	\$100	
		TOTAL	

Check Total: \$ _____

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Need to add or edit phone/email

Phone (only 1) _____

**Email (up to 2) _____

I am a New Somerset Resident

Move In Date: ____ / ____ / ____

**The SHOA Board uses email for neighborhood communications such as security notices, social events, club meetings, lost and found (pets, wallets, keys, etc.) and community notices (drought updates, etc.) SHOA will not distribute or share your email to outside parties. Having your email address is an easy way to for SHOA to communicate between newsletters. Please make sure our email address mail@somersetsubdivision.org is set up in your accepted list of addresses so it does not get blocked by your security filter. Thank you.



John Knox Preschool

John Knox Presbyterian Church
505 Powers Ferry Road
Marietta, GA 30067
770-973-5050 x15

[Preschool @ JohnKnoxPCMarietta.Org](http://Preschool@JohnKnoxPCMarietta.Org)

Preschool Classes for Children ages 12mos-4yrs
2, 3, 4 or 5 days/ week
Monday - Friday, 9am - 12pm

Private Half-Day PreK
Monday - Friday, 9am - 1pm

Afternoon care available until 7pm for PreK students only

JKPS is committed to the total development of each child. Our play-based philosophy strives to stimulate social, emotional and spiritual growth, as well as provide academic, creative and social challenges.

Call or email today for an appointment to visit and see us in action!



Newsletter & Advertising

If you or someone you know would like to advertise in the newsletter please let me know. Content for the newsletter is welcomed too!!!! We are happy to have input from any SHOA member for non-profit, community service, or general information.

Advertising space is available for "for-profit" businesses, individuals or activities. Accommodations can be made for 1 time advertisements.

The current annual advertising rates (6 issues) is noted below:

- Full Page - \$1500
- 1/2 Page- \$800
- 1/4 Page - \$450
- 1/8 Page - \$250

Special thanks to our current advertisers - Ameriprise Financial (Lewis J. Forbes) and Peachtree Roofing (Alex Ray). These two advertisers are really helping Somerset!!

Feedback on this or any previous newsletter is welcomed. Contact Rick Cottrell at (770) 690-8219 or rick_cottrell@yahoo.com with your comments or inquiries.

Water Main Replacement

The SHOA Board has received several calls concerning crews in the neighborhood marking utility lines. The following is from a letter Cobb County Water System sent on February 9th to some of Somerset, but obviously not all residents, thus the notice. That letter is now online on the SHOA website: <http://www.somersetsubdivision.org/PDF/Cobb-Co-Water-Letter.pdf>

This is part of the engineering surveys to assist the Cobb County Water System in designing the FY11 Miscellaneous East Cobb Water Main Replacement. The purpose of this project is to replace old asbestos-cement and/or PVC water mains with new ductile iron pipe mains, including new valves, fire hydrants and customer service connections.

This work will, for the most part, take place within the public right-of-way of the street, but it may be necessary for engineering and survey personnel to enter your property to accomplish ground surveys and engineering data collection for design purposes. Any inquiries concerning this survey should be directed to:

Cobb County Water System
Tim Steenhoek
770.419.6330

Membership Report

There are 310 homes eligible for SHOA membership. Annual dues from 157 homes have been received as of March 26. In 2010 SHOA dues were received from 277 homes, versus 289 homes in 2009. We will be contacting those homeowners that paid in 2009 but not in 2010 to understand why that did not contribute and to confirm SHOA's records.

Clubhouse Rentals

Our clubhouse is always available for parties, showers and any other social event. Please visit the link below to check the clubhouse calendar for availability.

<http://www.somersetsubdivision.org/Clubhouse.asp>

Usage (per 4 hours):

- SHOA P/T member \$75
- SHOA-only member \$125
- Somerset non-SHOA member \$250

For reservations, please contact Edith O'Neill oneillbrian@bellsouth.net 770-980-9681





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Lake Update

TURTLE LAKE RESTORATION FUNDING

Turtle Lake Association (TLA) as formed in 2007 to address the long term needs of the lake in Somerset. Prior to and since TLA's formation, the cost of restoring Turtle Lake to a sustainable level was the issue that hindered the repair of the lake. After the heavy storm of late 2009 the deterioration of the West End and South Cove of the lake required immediate action to be taken in 2010. The project was undertaken with pledges from lake owners beginning in September 2010 and was recently finished in March of this year. There was shortfall between collections and costs, which a lake owner has agreed to advance TLA.

Total Estimated Cost of 2010-2011 Restoration Project \$115,050

TLA Treasury	\$17,000
Lake Homeowners (in addition to annual TLA dues)	\$72,000
Non-lake Homeowners (in addition to annual TLA dues)	\$400

SHOA	\$4,000
Total Collections to Date	\$93,400

Likely Additional Sources of Payment

Payments Pledged from Lake Homeowner to be Paid in 2011 (already have paid part of commitment)	\$3,000
Additional Funds from SHOA to reach 10% of project cost * (1) (to be paid over time as funds allow)	\$7,500
Balance to be Collected from Future TLA Dues & Donation	\$11,150
Remaining to be Collected	\$21,650

(1) TLA has requested this amount from SHOA to be paid over a couple of years. During the past several years SHOA has discussed 10% as an appropriate level of support for the restoration project. The SHOA Board is currently evaluating its overall capital needs before committing an amount and timing to TLA.

Now that the project is completed TLA is appealing to all of Somerset to consider making donations to help pay the final costs of this project. Contributions can be sent to the SHOA mailbox and 3417 Turtle Cove Court or to Carolyn Lyons at 3340 Turtle Lake Drive.

Turtle Lake Ecosystem

An ecosystem is made up from the community of animals, plants, and bacteria interrelated together with its physical environment. Throughout the lake renovation we had specialists come out to Turtle Lake and make recommendations for improvement. We had suggestions for plants materials, fish, bacteria in the water, erosion, and many, many more. The team working on the lake renovation incorporated aspects of most of the suggestions. Here is what we did but NOT all we plan to do:

Plant materials: Chattahoochee Nature Center has a native plant greenhouse which provided the majority of plant material that was replaced along spots of the lake perimeter. You will see additional plants as the spring season develops.

Fish: The lake is scheduled to be restocked with bass for fishing.

Erosion: This was our biggest challenge during the renovation because when Turtle Lake as created during the late 1960's, there were very limited guidelines related to Erosion. Developers essentially cut down trees and removed dirt from boggy farmland and let the three springs begin to form Turtle Lake. When the newly cut roads were put in, the storm sewers were required to drain into the lake. So the pattern of leaves, debris and storm wash off from lawns, pine straw from yards, etc. all began to flow into Turtle Lake.

Not too much of a problem until the 1990's when 20+ years of 435 acres of debris from surrounding parks and neighborhoods was sitting at the bottom of Turtle Lake. While the rebuilding of Terrill Mill now leave only debris from Somerset flowing into Turtle Lake, a long-term plan to address this issue was established as part of the ongoing maintenance of Turtle Lake.

Bacteria: Because the lake had deteriorated so much, having a bacterial maintenance program did not make sense so SHOA discontinued this cost approximately 5-6 years ago. The plan was to resume the bacterial maintenance once the renovation was complete. TLA is working with a company to train TLA's Ecology Maintenance person to begin and keep a healthy lake. IT'S GOING TO BE A VERY PRETTY LAKE SOON!

Social Events

Spring is hopping in Somerset! Join us for our annual Easter egg hunt and party.

Join in all of the Easter fun on Friday, April 22nd from 4:00 until 5:30 for our annual Easter Egg Hunt. Once again, the party will be in the Hunterdon Court cul-de-sac. We will have cookies to decorate, a moonwalk to jump in, and Easter eggs to find. We may even have a visit by the Easter Bunny. Please bring 12+ pre-stuffed eggs for each child to hunt. We will divide by age groups for the hunts. Snacks and drinks will be provided.

Upcoming events:

- April 16 - Spring Garage Sale (Rescheduled)
- April 22 - Easter Egg Hunt
- April 30 - Progressive Dinner*

Please check your email and the SHOA website for details on these events.

*Open to current SHOA members only.

Sope Creek Fun Run



The 26th Annual Sope Creek Elementary 5K and 1 Mile Fun Run which will be held on April 30, 2011. This year our theme will be RETRO 70's! We hope you will join us for a GROOVY time at this community celebration! You can come for the run...or

just come for the fun!

Visit our website at www.sopecreekfunsrun.com to download registration forms, see the 5K route through the surrounding neighborhoods, locate information on sponsorship, and find general information about the Sope

Creek Foundation.

This race would not be possible without the support of our local sponsors such as BB&T, Sports-A-Rama, FujiHana, The School Box, Chattahoochee Plantation Tennis Academy... and many more! Please visit our website for information on how to become a sponsor!

Live DJ, Bouncy House, ChickFILA Cow appearance, amazing basket auction, raffle for race participants... and MUCH MORE!!! Please feel free to call or email with questions:

Regina Wood
770.690.0492 (home) | 404.444.9935 (cell)
knockingonwood@comcast.net (email)

East Cobb Park

Ultimate Playdate Returns

Beginning Wednesday April 13, 2011, the popular seasonal event known as the Ultimate Playdate encourages families to take an outdoor break for some fresh air and family-friendly music. Join us each Wednesday from 4-7 p.m. (from April 13-June 29, and September 7-October 26). Jay Memory, founding member of the national act Memory Dean, performs old favorites and leads children in sing-alongs.

Sponsorships are still available for Ultimate Playdate and other East Cobb Park special events. For more information, please contact info@eastcobbpark.org

EVENT SPONSORSHIP and BENEFITS

ULTIMATE PLAYDATE

Sponsors will receive website recognition, a hyperlink to their business, and the use of a table(s) during the event to talk w/ guests and pass out promotional materials, coupons, etc. Friend Level Sponsorship:

- \$175 per Playdate or
- \$600 for any 4 Playdates (\$100 discount)
- \$1200 for any 8 Playdates (\$200 discount)

MOVIE NIGHTS

Sponsors will receive website recognition, a hyperlink to their business, and the use of a table(s) during the event to talk w/ guests and pass out promotional materials, coupons, etc.

- \$600 for 1 Movie Nighth Co-Sponsorship
- \$1200 for 1 Movie Night



ARTSCAPE! 2011

These are one-hour outdoor art classes for children offered in the summer. Sponsors receive website recognition and are listed on our banner during the seven week sessions.

- \$50 Family
- \$100 Bronze
- \$200 Silver
- \$350 Gold

Sponsors will be included on all advertising including flyers, press releases, email notifications (reaching nearly 4400 subscribers), plus, your business logo and website hyperlink will be posted at www.eastcobbpark.org

Kid's Privacy

Your kids' personal information and privacy are valuable to you, to them, and to marketers. Fortunately, there are ways you can safeguard that privacy when your kids are online.



Quick Facts

- Check out sites your kids visit, and see what kind of information the sites ask for or allow kids to post.
- Talk to your child about the risks and benefits of disclosing certain information, especially in a public forum.
- Take a look at the privacy policy, which should say what the site does with the information it collects. Then you can decide how you feel about it.
- Ask questions. If you're not clear on a site's practices or policies, ask about them.
- Be selective with your permission. In many cases, websites need your okay before they're allowed to collect personal information from your kids.
- Know your rights. For example, as a parent, you have the right to have a site delete any personal information it has about your child.
- Report a website. If you think a site has collected or disclosed information from your kids or marketed to them in a way that violates the law, report it to the FTC.

Read more about this important topic by visiting

<http://www.onguardonline.gov/topics/kids-privacy.aspx>

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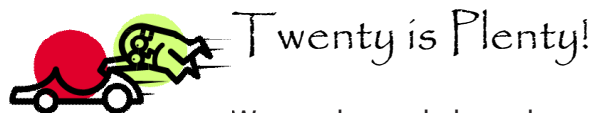




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Do You Get Email from SHOA?

Are you receiving email communications from SHOA? If not your email program may be blocking them as spam. Be sure to include emails sent from info@shoa.us in your safe list. SHOA members may update their email address from their home page at www.SomersetSubdivision.org.



We need your help and cooperation to keep our neighborhood streets a safe place to walk, ride and run. Our streets are really big, wide sidewalks that must accommodate vehicles and pedestrians. We respectfully ask you remember that Twenty Is Plenty as you drive on our sidewalks. It is so easy to become distracted so please be aware of your speed when driving within Somerset. Thanks.