



Somerset

Neighborhood News

<http://www.somersetsubdivision.org>

September/October 2010



"Somerset Subdivision"
77 Fans and counting

SHOA Happenings

Annual Homeowners Meeting

Hi fellow SHOA members. It's that time of year again when thoughts go to the end of summer – if not the heat – and school and our annual homeowners meeting. The date for this year's meeting is Thursday, November 4, 2010 at 7:00PM at the East Cobb Government Center (4400 Lower Roswell Rd Marietta, GA 30068). Please note the meeting is open to all Somerset residents however only paid SHOA members have a vote. We hope to see you there.

Board Volunteers Needed

As is usually the case, we have some positions on the SHOA Board that are coming open at the end of the year. This is your opportunity to get involved and help keep Somerset a great place to live.

The following positions are up for election:

- Vice President
- Secretary
- Lake Chair
- Tennis Chair

Any of the people in these positions will be glad to explain to you what they do and how much time it takes. The present VP is Lew Forbes, Secretary is Teresa Bishop, Lake is Steve Chapman and Tennis chair is Jason Reese. Please contact any board member to express your interest in any of the aforementioned positions.

Dare to Scare

Annual Halloween Celebration

Join your neighbors for our annual Halloween parade and costume contest on Sunday, October 31st! The parade will start at The Rock (at the intersection of Turtle Lake Dr. and W. Somerset Court) and end at the clubhouse for further festivities. Look for more spooky details on the Somerset Facebook soon.



Pool Update

Extended Pool Hours

The regular swim season with lifeguards on duty will end on Labor Day, Sept. 9th. Current Swim & Tennis members are welcome to continue use of the pool with our extended "swim-at-your-own-risk" hours, every day 7am-10pm.

A few reminders about this new policy:

- NO LIFEGUARDS will be on duty. You are responsible for your own safety and that of your family at the pool.
- All children under 18yrs. MUST be accompanied by an adult S&T member (18yrs or older).
- Please clean up your tables and put umbrellas down when you leave.
- Non-potty-trained children still must wear a swim diaper AND rubber pants. If there is a fecal contamination, please notify the pool co-chairs or SwimAtlanta immediately so we can begin treatment as soon as possible.
- Please do not share your card with other families - all members must have signed the waiver to enter the pool.
- Cards will be valid next year, so please don't throw them away!

If current Swim & Tennis members would like to purchase a magnetic access card for \$25 (checks payable to SHOA), please download and sign the waiver form on our web site - www.shoa.us - and then email Sherridan Santivanez or Jenn Jordan to arrange picking up your card.

Pool Umbrellas

We are obviously aware of the deterioration of the pool umbrellas and apologize for their appearance - we thought they would last a little longer than they have! We are in the process of researching better options for next year's season.

If you have any questions regarding the pool, please contact our pool co-chairs via email: Sherridan Santivanez (ssantivanez@jmsadvisors.com) OR Jenn Jordan (jenn@jennjordan.net)



GIFTS GALORE & MORE

An expo event featuring artists, vendors and small businesses in East Cobb, Marietta

For info on specific participants visit www.somersetgiftsgalore.com

Where & When

3275 Somerset Tr. SE | Somerset Subdivision

Wednesday OCT. 6th 12 - 5 PM

Thursday OCT. 7th 10 AM - 2 PM & 5 - 8 PM

2010 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 2009 dues by Dec. 31, 2009, 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	
Holiday Lights	Pre-pay by Nov 1st 2010	\$8 <small>(\$10 after 11/1)</small>	
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) _____

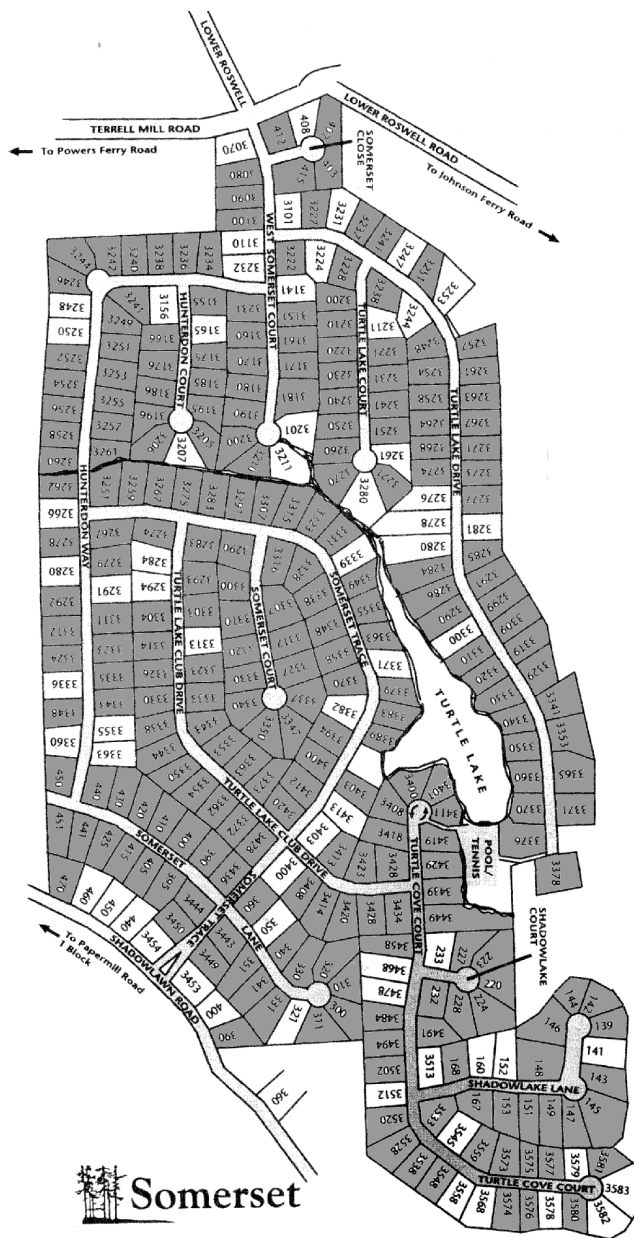
I am a New Somerset Resident

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.

Membership

Shaded Lots are homes of SHOA members as of September 4th



Do You Get E-mail 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.

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We have a list of references within the Somerset Subdivision

Contact Mark Brand for a quote today
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Special Thanks to the Somerset Lumberjacks

The SHOA board would like to thank our volunteer lumberjacks for their help in removing the dead trees on the dam. Two mature pines had died, making it necessary to remove them before they could fall. Professional removal services would have

charged approximately \$1500 for the work. One Saturday morning in July we gathered at the dam with chainsaws, trucks and chains. By noon both had been, felled, cut up and loaded into trucks.

SHOA extends our many thanks to **Kilbert Milhollin**, whose keen eye and sharp chainsaw dropped the trees exactly where they needed to be. I'm pretty certain that Kilbert was a lumberjack in a previous life. **Steele McCown** and his father, with a couple of workers that Steele brought along provided the muscle and truck power to pull the trees from the water. **Sean Barr and his son Taylor**, providing extra muscle along with the Scouts motto of always being prepared, came with their truck and chains.

Next time you see these Somerset neighbors be sure to join me in extending your thanks for their willingness to help our neighborhood.

Somerset Volunteers

Terry Porter iceporter@yahoo.com	President - SHOA 770.617.1712
Low Forbes lewis.j.forbes@ampf.com	Vice President - SHOA 770.933.8644
Teresa Bishop t1bishop@bellsouth.net	Secretary - SHOA 770.953.2379
Sean Barr seanbarr1@gmail.com	Treasurer - SHOA 678.315.0770
Christine Chapman 2christinec@comcast.net	Membership - 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	Lake - SHOA 770.312.1035
Colin Schroeder acschroeder@bellsouth.net	Security - SHOA 770.951.8747
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
Jason Reese jasonreese@mac.com	Tennis - SHOA 678.361.2541
Edith O'Neill oneillbrianc@bellsouth.net	Clubhouse - SHOA 770.980.9681
Amanda Huestis 5huestis@bellsouth.net	Somerset Sharks - Team Coord 770 989-0235
Luz Stella Diaz luzstella2000@yahoo.com	Sunshine 678.772.1189

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

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Lake Update

FINALLY!! ACTION ON THE LAKE!!

After years of planning and numerous false starts we are very close to cleaning up much of Turtle Lake. The TLA Board has asked Cobb County to draw down the lake by 4 feet on September 7 for the following reasons:

1. To facilitate the recreation of the silt basin on the west end of the lake, which is the end of the lake furthest from the clubhouse. In the last year the silt basin in that area has been destroyed and silt now pours into the lake each time it rains; and
2. To allow TLA and prospective contractors to determine the best use of the funds that TLA is in process of raising.
3. To allow the clean up of bottles, cans and other trash that has accumulated on the bottom of the lake.

Permits have been applied for to clean up the west end and the south cove (the area of the lake adjacent to the vacant lot on Somerset Trace) and TLA expects to hear from Cobb County and the State in mid-September on those applications.

TLA is raising at least \$80,000, with a goal of \$100,000, to launch a major effort to clear the lake of a substantial amount of silt and to create protection against the deterioration of the lake in the future. The \$80,000 figure is based on two contractors' bids that have been received to restore the west end and south cove areas.

As of the writing of this article, homeowners on the lake have committed more than \$60,000 in checks to the effort with others yet to commit. With the added support of SHOA and non-lake homeowners we are confident we can restore and maintain the lake going forward.

Rather than take pledges, TLA is accepting checks that will not be cashed until \$80,000 is received. Amounts above that minimum will help improve the lake even more! To contribute drop or mail a check to Carolyn Lyons at 3340 Turtle Lake Drive. Carolyn is TLA's Treasurer and will hold the checks until the minimum is received.

We look forward to reporting on a successful project in the next newsletter.

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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.

Security Update

Auto Burglaries We have had several incidents where someone entered an unlocked vehicle that was parked in a driveway or on the street, and stole items from the vehicle. Police term this a "crime of opportunity": the perpetrator sees an easy, relatively safe opportunity to steal something. To prevent this type of incident, which can be a real hassle for the victim, remove the opportunity. Keep your vehicle locked, or in a locked garage, and don't leave anything of value in a visible location.

Pool Security After several incidents of vandalism involving fecal contamination of the pool this summer, we were forced to install a video monitoring/recording system at the pool. As was stated in an earlier email about these incidents, SHOA is committed to preventing future acts of vandalism and is offering a \$250 reward to anyone with information that leads to the arrest of the individual(s) responsible. Please contact our Security Chair, Colin Schroeder at 678.525.3137 if you have any information.

PETiquette and the Lake A couple weeks ago, I observed a neighbor on W. Somerset Ct. scooping dog droppings off his lawn with a shovel and tossing them into a nearby storm drain. When I stopped to point out that anything that goes into the storm drain ends up in our lake, he responded that he doesn't even own a dog, that it was someone else's droppings. This is one more important reason why you should clean up after your dogs when you walk them. Not only is it rude not to pick up after your dog, it can also be harmful to our lake!!

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 your SHOA Clubhouse Volunteer:

Edith O'Neill
oneillbrianc@bellsouth.net
770-980-9681



Sunshine Committee

Welcome babies!!

Leah and Chris Wade welcomed **Grayson Pierce**. Grayson was born on May 18 at 10:00 p.m. He was 7 lbs and 4 oz. Big brother **Reese** is very happy.

Kersti and Joe Farrell welcomed twin baby girls. Their names are **Rose** and **Maura** (4lbs and 5 oz and 4 lbs and 9 oz). They were born on the 4th of July and are thoroughly adored by their three siblings **Maggie, Bobby** and **Elizabeth**.

Jamie Kohm and Susan Moore also welcomed **Axel Raymond** to their family. Axel was 7lbs and 11 oz. Axel Raymond joins his brothers **Lars Thomas** and **Harrison**.

Natasha and Michael Baker welcomed baby girl, **Willow**. She was born on June 16 and was 6 lbs and 11 oz. She joins her sister **Myla**.

Best Wishes

We are also happy to announce that our neighbor, **Henry Molinet** is recovering. Best wishes to him and wife **Gail**.

Condolences



It is with great sadness that we bring you the news of long time Somerset resident Jonnie Crawford's passing. After a battle with cancer Jonnie passed away Tuesday, August 3rd.

Know of a Neighbor Who Needs Help?

If you know of any household with a new baby, hospitalization, extended illness, death, etc., please let Somerset's Sunshine coordinator know about it. Luz Stella Diaz (678-772-1189 or luzstella2000@yahoo.com) can arrange for meals to help the household through their challenging time.

Book Club

Like to read? Somerset book club meets on the fourth Monday of each month at a member's home. We take turns hosting the meetings then choosing the book for the next month. Our book for July was "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo" by Stieg Larsson, and the book for August was "The Paris Vendetta" by Steve Berry.

The September meeting will be at Carol Starr's house, and the book is "The Girl Who Played with Fire" by Stieg Larsson.

If you are interested in joining us, we'd love to welcome you. Please call Judi Caldwell, or any other book club member.



School News

Back to School

School is back in full swing! Busses are rolling through the Somerset bright and early and seem to be in the neighborhood all day long. Please be extra careful while driving through Somerset.

Back the Schools

The beginning of school means the beginning of school fundraisers. Each school and each group within the school seem to have a different fundraiser and this year is no different. But now more than ever our schools need our communities to support them. Funding has been cut, class sizes have increased, staff has decreased, and the needs are many fold. These fundraisers help our schools keep giving our students the best education, materials, and environment in which our students can thrive. Strong schools make for a strong neighborhood and community. Please support our children when they come knocking on your door. Our schools need you!

Current fundraisers:

Sope Creek Elementary School PTA – BOOSTERTHON!

Sponsor an elementary school student in their quest to run laps. This is a fun, healthy fundraiser with all donations being 100% tax deductible.

East Cobb Middle School PTSA – gift wrap, magazines, and kitchen gadgets.

Time to stock up on delightful wrapping paper, renew your magazine subscriptions, or buy gifts for the holidays. We only have a few middle school students in Somerset, so please let me know if no one comes knocking your door.

Wheeler High School – a variety of fundraisers including advertising in the football programs, poinsettia sales during the holidays, and many more.

Also, a straight donation to the PTA's and Foundations at any of our schools are 100% tax deductible.

Wheeler Wildcats

Congratulations to Wheeler faculty, staff and students! With only 33% of Georgia's high schools making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), Wheeler not only made AYP but excelled across the board!



- Over 1000 AP exams were taken with an AP exam pass rate of 79.5% and an average score of 3.54, well above average and once again the highest in Cobb County.

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COBB FMS

- WHS ranked 347 in Newsweek's America's Best High Schools, a jump of 430 places in one year.
- WHS met AYP in all areas of the Georgia HS Graduation Test, had an almost 85% pass rate in Mathematics, and almost 95% pass rate in English/Language Arts.

Attendance Office: There are still a few shifts left in the Wheeler Attendance Office. If you are interested in volunteering, the commitment is 3.5 hours once every 3 weeks. If interested, email geri.gagat@cobbk12.org

School board approves \$20 million renovation project for Wheeler

The \$20.3 million Wheeler project will begin in summer 2011. The project includes demolishing the main structure and constructing a black box theater, to be complete by fall 2012. Trailers will be brought on campus to house students during the construction. The second phase, which begins in fall 2013, includes construction of a new, two-story main building that will house 14 classrooms. The final phase will be complete in January 2014 and will eliminate all trailer classrooms at the 46-year-old high school.

Visit the Somerset Facebook page for links to more details on this project.