

Settles Bridge Sentinel

Newsletter of the Settles Bridge Homeowner's Association, Inc.

Post Office Box 837

Suwanee, GA 30024

September 2004



Annual SBHA Picnic



A good time was had by all at the annual SBHA picnic a few weeks ago. The presentation was by our own PACT officer, Officer Hassell of the Suwanee Police Department. Officer Hassell is there for our neighborhood, and we should feel free to contact him at any time with questions or concerns. He drives through our subdivision frequently while on duty - be sure to give him a wave when he passes by!

Special thanks to:

Ben Sawyer. Not only was he primarily responsible for organization of the picnic, but he also did most of the setup and takedown and all of the cooking.

Isabella's, for providing the *Dinner & Drinks for Two* gift certificate (won by Jim Horne). Right behind Kroger on PIB, Isabella's is a casual Italian eatery that's very affordable and family friendly. If you haven't been lately, they now have new brick pizza ovens installed!



Resident Tutors Art, Music, French

Many of you are not aware that Mr. Dennis Assayac (a.k.a. - Mr. Dennis), a ten year resident of our subdivision, is a professional artist with twenty years of experience.

Mr. Dennis received private lessons in art from two professors at the Beaux-Arts School, Paris, France. He also received private lessons in music from Master Farail. His artwork has captured international media and corporate attention, and his most recent portrait commission of Mr. Ray Buchanan and family (ex-Falcons player) was aired on MTV Cribs.

Mr. Dennis is now offering private lessons, but his time will fill up quickly. If you have considered Music, Art, or French lessons for anyone in your family, I encourage you to contact Mr. Dennis through his website (<http://www.epicgallery.com>) or by phone (770.271.9169).

New Officer e-mail Addresses

It is now easier than ever to contact your SBHA officers via e-mail. We have set up the following addresses to match our website (www.settlesbridge.com):

Clinton Lowe (President)
clinton.lowe@settlesbridge.com

David Hancock (Vice President)
david.hancock@settlesbridge.com

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Keeping Deer at Bay

It is disheartening to discover the daylily blooms you waited all spring to enjoy disappearing courtesy of our Settles Bridge deer population. Oriental lilies, tulips and the ever popular pansy often vanish overnight!

Some deterrents work, most do not. Here are a few products that may slow the deer in your own yard.

Blood Meal - Cheap and readily available, not liked by deer but a good fertilizer for plants. A box will cost you about \$2 and is available at garden centers. Regularly sprinkle the product on the plants, reapply after rain.

Deer Off – Expensive, but highly effective. A ready to use bottle will run \$7 and up, less if mixed from concentrate. Sprayed a few days a week on foliage, it holds up well to rain.

Coyote Urine – Very expensive but highly effective product. Available at Northside Gardens and costs \$15.59 for a 20 oz. container. It holds up well to rain and needs only a weekly application. Hold your nose folks. This stuff stinks!

Good 'ole un-neutered dog urine – A free and high effective product if you happen to have access to a (male) dog that is not neutered.

Catmint – Surround your most prized plants with this wonderful perennial. Deer do not like catmint at all and using this product in the front of the border keeps them out. The bonus here is that catmint is an outstanding perennial that blooms strongly all spring and summer and comes back year after year. "Walker's Low" is a wonderful smaller sized variety and for a larger type choose "Six Hills Giant".

For a longer version of this story, including a homemade deer repellent, visit the "Newsletter" link on the SBHA website.

Cutting a Neighbor's Tree - A Costly Mistake!

If your fall yard work involves cutting down trees near the edge of your property, the several hundred dollars you spend on a survey may save you thousands. Cutting someone's trees without authority is taken seriously by the Georgia courts. If you don't locate the boundary line with a survey, you could be found reckless and possibly negligent. The replacement value for a 5 inch tree could be \$1500, depending on the type of tree. Most courts use a multiplier between 3 and 10 to punish the trespasser who cuts a tree unlawfully, so the \$1500 tree you cut in your neighbor's yard may cost you between \$4,500 and \$15,000!

If your neighbor presses charges, you could also be charged with criminal trespass and criminal damage to property. If the damage is above \$1000, the offense is a felony, punishable with up to a year in prison. Be smart - talk to your neighbor and do a survey before you cut trees near a boundary line, and make sure you employ a licensed and insured tree cutter.

SBHA Fall Festival

The SBHA tries to have a Fall Festival each year usually around Halloween. This event has taken various forms over the years, depending on the families who want to help with the event. If any SBHA resident would like to be involved this year please e-mail festival@settlesbridge.com.

Special Thanks - Ron Rogers

Ron Rogers has been taking care of the front entrance for longer than most of us have lived in the subdivision. And he continues to donate his time to keep our Settles Bridge "gateway" looking nice. He was recently up there again cutting back some of the shrubbery that had gotten out of control. We all certainly appreciate his commitment and hard work over all these years.