

St. John's Neighborhood

P.O. Box 10391

Conway, AR 72034

www.sjna-conway.org Email: sjna2018@gmail.com

We hope this newsletter finds your families well. It is the goal of our board to send you quarterly communications to keep you updated and informed about what's going on in St. John's. Coupled with our efforts on Facebook and our website, we hope you find the information you need. We are working hard to make St. John's the best it can be.

As we enter fall, the rodents that live in the brush beyond our fences and in the drainage ditches will be looking for a warm place to thrive. These pests have ventured into yards and homes and have become problematic in the neighborhood. The city has told us there is nothing they will do and it is each property owner's responsibility to take care of the situation. The board is currently assessing if and how it might help with this issue.

Steps to help prevent rodents:

- Place all wood piles 18" above the ground and away from the house
- Remove any pile of items, debris, dead plants, etc. that would offer a hiding place
- Always keep grass and weeds below 8"
- Be sure all garbage cans are securely closed at all times
- Remove any dog or cat food from the yard immediately after feeding
- Inspect the outside of your home, a rat can get through a quarter size hole and set up housekeeping in your house
- Check periodically for droppings in out-of-the-way places
- Bird seed on the ground is an easy source of food.



Upcoming Events

October 1st

Annual Dues Last Call-

Annual dues are \$50
Late fee of \$25 will be assessed after 10-1-20
Payments mailed to:
SJNA

P.O. Box 10391
Conway, AR 72034

Monthly Board Meetings

1st Thursday of the month
at 6:00pm---Locations to
be announced.

Connect on the Web

SJNA Website

www.sjna-conway.org

Covenants and Restrictions, Bylaws, Meeting minutes, including financials, committee reports, and other files are accessible at this site

Facebook Pages

Follow us on Facebook

[St. John's Neighborhood Watch \(Conway, Ar\)](#)

[St. John's Neighborhood Association-Board](#)

Committee Updates

Architectural Chair Committee We have a committee that consist of 5 people including myself (Joan Fusilier) and Mary Humphreys to work together with homeowners as they make the changes, if any, to alter the external portions of their property. I put a communication out on the Facebook page as a reminder. There have been a few concerns in the neighborhood but they have been remedied or been communicated to those who made the original complaint. If you have a complaint or concern in the neighborhood, please let us know.

Activities Committee We have made a decision to not have the annual Garage Sales this year due to Covid-19 concerns. The Board and Committee want to err on the side of safety for our neighborhood. We are in the process of brainstorming ideas for the upcoming holiday season and trying to create socially distant, yet fun activities for the neighborhood. Our gracious neighbors, the Masons, have already expressed interest in reprising their roles as Mr. and Mrs. Claus for the holidays.

Beautification Committee St. John's Beautification Committee now has four members. That is a hallmark for this group. Our members are: Larry Crowder, Mary Humphreys, Jackie Lamar, and Jacob Smith. These new folks have combined useful experience and knowledge to make our community beautiful.

This committee has researched, met individually with contractors, and garnered bids for the following:

1. Beautiful new fence
2. New maintenance company
3. Future fence staining
4. Sprinkler repairs - more than once
5. Traffic circle design and plant replacement

The roses, as you noticed, were removed from the traffic circles because they had a contagious disease that was spreading to the other roses. The only treatment was removal and special disposal. The committee is currently working to obtain the best replacement design and work at the best price for the community. This work ALWAYS takes longer than it seems it should. We appreciate your patience as this work continues to progress. We want our community to be something we are proud of and an example to other communities. There is always something going on in this committee, beauty is a continuous effort, ask any woman. If you would like to be a part of the progress and decision making, let the board know.

Safety Committee The safety committee has ordered the new electronic speed sign and it is estimated to be installed in November by the city about 200 feet from Tyler Street on John Bryant Drive. We have received donated Children at Play Signs from First Security Bank, we will be finding placement for them in St. John's.

Welcome Committee Hello from the St. John's Place Welcome Committee. Peggy Mason lives on John Bryant Dr and is often sitting on her front yard swing. Esther Toncre lives on Penny and can be seen walking around the neighborhood while walking her white, full-sized poodle. If you see us, give us a wave or stop and say hello. So far this month, we have welcomed 8 new neighbors in St John's. If you have recently moved into the neighborhood or have a new neighbor, please let someone on the HOA board know. Peggy or Esther would love to come by, say hello, and bring you a welcome packet.

Monthly Board Meetings

Due to the restrictions of Covid-19, the Board meetings will not be at their usual McGhee Center meeting place. They will continue to be on the first Thursday of the month. We are rotating locations to available board member homes. These locations will be communicated through our Facebook Page and website prior to the meetings. October 1st, November 5th and December 3rd are the upcoming meeting dates, and will be at 6:00pm on those days. Neighbors are welcome, we'd love advance notice to make room. Masks are required.

Annual Meeting

We missed our Annual Meeting this July due to Covid restrictions. There is further discussion to be had when to reschedule this meeting and be safe. You will receive updates as they become available.

Critter Committee

In response to the pests that have been seen in our neighborhood, the board has created the Critter Committee to help facilitate and further investigate solutions for our neighborhood. The drainage ditches seem to be the main source of our problem. The City's responsibility lies within the cement blocks and the drainage ditch. We are scheduled for a fall cleanup of the drainage ditch area maintained by the City. Please refrain from dumping large brush and grass clippings into this area.

From the outer edge of the cement blocks to the fence line is the homeowners responsibility. We understand that for some homeowners, accessing this portion of their backyards is very difficult. Much discussion has been had regarding how to assist homeowners with clearing the brush and overgrowth in these hard to access areas. We may be reaching out individually to each homeowner along these areas to determine the best solution.

Additionally, we have met with Thomas from Central Pest Control to assess the situation for baiting and exterminating the existing problematic rodents. Central Pest Control has previous experience in this matter for Hendrix Village in Conway. There will be ongoing discussion to determine the scope and need for these services. The four prong situation for this problem seems to be 1. Bait and exterminate 2. Remove the habitat 3. Continue to maintain and keep area clean 4. Educate and obtain homeowners cooperation moving forward

Landscaping and our new contractor, Natural State Lawn and Landscaping

At our most recent Board meeting, Natural State Lawn and Landscaping was present and met with the newly elected Board members. Jesse and Sarah Jimenez, owners, expressed their wish to create a long term relationship with our little neighborhood. They are looking for transparency and communication from the Board and our neighbors. They want to know about any issues so they can fix those issues. They can easily be contacted through their Facebook page, or you can pass a message through to them from a board member, please reach out. We look forward to developing an ongoing relationship with them. The cleaned and fresh looking entrance ways are a result of their hard work. With the expenses incurred this year, there won't be any further updates until the Spring. We are working on replacing the lights on the Irby traffic circle that were stolen.

Letter from our President, Mary Humphreys

Hello Neighbors,

It is my great pleasure to send you greetings from your newly elected SJNA Board. I am so impressed with the skills and attitudes we have represented on our board this term! Every member is dedicated to working together with the one goal, to serve the community well. I am amazed at how much of their personal time they are willing to donate to managing all the affairs of this community. As we go along, I hope you will recognize these folks for all the work they do.

Our Vice President this year is Elmer Thomas. He has proven to be a great fit in this position because he is what my aunt used to call, a velvet steam roller. He will roll up, approach you with a genuine smile on his face and a task to be done, and before you know it... you are working with him and getting the job done with a smile on your face. And, he won't stop until it is done. Who knew Elmer was so tenacious?!

Cindy Prokop is our invaluable secretary again this year. Cindy has technical skills that I wasn't aware existed. She not only takes and keeps our minutes up to date on the website, but she keeps the communications rolling for everyone in the community. At last count, she has four communication sites for which she is responsible. And, that does not include this newsletter you will be getting quarterly this year. She develops the technical requirements for our Facebook pages, board pages, website and anything else that requires an electrical plug and key board.

Our new treasurer is Pat Crowder. Pat has an extensive background in bookkeeping and is a whiz with spreadsheets and various other important bookkeeping necessities. She knows proper procedures and lawful requirements for the position. Did I mention she is super intelligent and meticulous? We definitely want meticulous in our money manager. She has taken on this position and is in the process of updating some of our bookkeeping procedures while keeping up with daily questions about dues, liens, etc.. Many of you have asked for an electronic option for paying dues. We will have that for you in the future, thanks to Pat. Pat and Cindy work together beautifully and get so much accomplished. They make a great, savvy duo.

Joan Davison-Fusilier is our new ACC chairman. Joan has volunteered to take on a position that most others run from. It is her duty to see that all complaints and all issues within our community are addressed, resolved, and documented. She is the receiver of all the headaches generated in the neighborhood. Yes, she actually volunteered! Joan has awesome people skills and a great capacity to problem-solve. It is also her duty to bring it to the attention of homeowners if they are out of compliance with the Covenants and Regulations (C&Rs) for their phase. **Please, please, please read your C&Rs.**

I, Mary Humphreys, have been elected by the board as president this year. I truly appreciate this gift. It has been a goal of mine the past three and one-half years I've served, to bring our board and our community closer together. This year's board has given me the opportunity to do that. Thank you, thank you. There are responsibilities the board has to the community members and that the community members have toward the community. We all need to know what these are in order to operate smoothly and to appreciate each other and the parts we all play. I will have an opportunity now to share information with the community. I will post on our FB page an item of information each week from our C&Rs, By-laws, law, and good neighbor practices that we all should have but might not. Questions are always encouraged and will be answered.

If you have any questions or comments please send an email to the board at: sjna2018@gmail.com You may put **ATTEN TO:** if you want to address a specific member.