



## *Stratford Gardens Home's Association Newsletter - Fall 2010*

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Greetings to our Stratford Gardens Neighbors! We hope you all had a wonderful summer.

### **Annual Meeting**

The Stratford Gardens Annual Meeting was held at Mission Hills Country Club on Thursday evening, May 20th. Colleen started by summarizing the highlights of the past year, Nick introduced the proposed budget for the new fiscal year, and new board members were elected.

The minutes to the meeting and the approved budget are available for viewing on the Stratford Gardens website at [www.ha-kc.org](http://www.ha-kc.org).

### **Board News**

We are pleased to welcome a new member to the board: Charles Arthur.

The officers were elected at the first board meeting held on Monday, June 21st. The following is a list of the 2010/2011 officers:

Raphael Suarez	<i>President</i>
Charles Arthur	<i>Vice President</i>
Nick Scielzo	<i>Treasurer</i>
Charles Arthur	<i>Secretary</i>

The other board members are:

Roger Dutton  
Adriana Huntley  
Sal Monteleone  
Woody Underwood  
Dick Connor

### **Financial Update**

You should have received your bill for the 2010/2011 dues in early June. If you have not received this, please contact the HAKC office at 913-385-2440. Please pay your bill on time to avoid any late payment fees.

We ended the fiscal year with a budget surplus of \$6,578.73. These funds have been evenly split, with half put into the Capital Improvement Fund and half into the Association Reserve account. Detailed income statements are posted on our association's web site at [www.ha-kc.org](http://www.ha-kc.org), under the heading for "Minutes." For further information, contact the association at [StratfordGarden@aol.com](mailto:StratfordGarden@aol.com).

### **Islands and Common Areas Update**

Bids were solicited for the island maintenance contract. A one (1) year contract for the maintenance of our islands was signed in June. Constant Care is our contractor, and they are responsible for mowing, trimming, fertilizing, and maintenance of the sprinkler systems.

### **63<sup>rd</sup> Street and State Line Island – PIAC update**

In the spring of 2008, the Association was awarded a \$29,000 grant from the city's Public Improvement Advisory Committee (PIAC) to repair, refurbish and improve the island. The project has been completed and a re-dedication ceremony was held on August 31<sup>st</sup>. We would like to thank Paul Moore, the past board members, and everyone who contributed to make this project possible. The island looks wonderful and will continue to be an asset to the neighborhood.

### **Security Update**

#### Crime Alerts

As mentioned in numerous emails and previous newsletters, it is our obligation to inform you of any and all crime alerts in our area. We do this via the email system, so those members without email alerts are at a disadvantage. Please be sure to discuss the issue with your neighbors since it would be extremely costly to send out all notices via post, and we want to make sure all are informed and safe.

There is a website available for viewing crime statistics in our area: [www.crimereports.com](http://www.crimereports.com).

By entering in the zip code "64113" you can view the activity in our area.

#### Reporting Activity

The police have repeatedly and quite strongly requested that if you witness suspicious activity, or are awakened during the night by noise or disturbances; ***do not hesitate to call 911 immediately***. If our patrol officer is on duty, they will be dispatched and given their proximity should provide assistance quickly.

#### Holiday Parties

With holiday parties starting soon, please be considerate of your neighbors with respect to noise, loud music, parking and other disturbances. If you are planning a party, we suggest that you inform your neighbors of the event. Everyone will appreciate the "heads up". Simple courtesy and neighborliness can go a long way toward minimizing conflict.

Parking is a big issue on our narrow streets, so it will be appreciated if you ask your guests to park in a manner that does not inconvenience neighbors. If you note that parking would prohibit an emergency vehicle from entering your street, notify 911 immediately. As a courtesy we suggest that you inform your neighbor as well so that they don't feel blind-sided by a 911 call.

### **Social Updates**

#### Holiday Party

Benny and Edith Lee have graciously offered to host the holiday party in their home located at 6300 Ward Parkway. The Party will be held on Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm with food served at 7:30. Free valet parking is also being provided by the Lee's. Please RSVP to the HAKC at 913-385-2440 by November 22<sup>nd</sup> if you are planning to attend. No regrets required. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

#### Garage Sale Update

The neighborhood garage sale took place on June 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. Approximately 10-15 households took part in the sale. Plans are to have the garage sale the same time each year – **the second Friday and Saturday of June**. So, if you missed out on this garage sale, you can plan ahead and participate in next year's event. If you have any feedback regarding the sale, please email Woody Underwood at [StratfordGarden@aol.com](mailto:StratfordGarden@aol.com).

### **New Member Update**

Please welcome six new members to the Stratford Gardens Homes Association since the printing of the last newsletter:

David Green	1230 W. 61 <sup>st</sup> Terrace
Kurt Koenemann	1211 W. 62 <sup>nd</sup> Street
Gregory and Tara Koehler	1250 W. 63 <sup>rd</sup> Street
William and Kate Mahoney	1233 W. 63 <sup>rd</sup> Street
Michael and Julie McCann	1268 W. 61 <sup>st</sup> Terrace
Michael and Mary Vrabac	1227 W. 61 <sup>st</sup> Terrace

### **Communication Update**

The email system seems to be working well. If you are not receiving notices and updates via email, please send us your address. It will keep you informed of issues on a timely manner (such as crime alerts) as well as help the association save on printing and mailing expenses. Send your email address to:

[StratfordGarden@aol.com](mailto:StratfordGarden@aol.com)

NOTE: Email addresses are not shared with any other associations or organizations and are kept strictly confidential.

### **Other News**

#### *Leaves and Grass Clippings*

We have had reports that some lawn care services are blowing leaves and grass clippings into the street, instead of onto the lawn. If you have a hired service to tend to your lawn, please ask them to not do this since the leaves clog up storm sewers, which can have serious consequences to you and your neighbors. The City provides free curbside pickup of up to 20 paper sacks of leaves or bundles of brush (excluding grass clippings) twice a year. The next date for collection is December 10<sup>th</sup> for most of our area. For more information on the program with specific dates and guidelines, please visit the KCMO website at: <http://www.kcmo.org/CKCMO/Depts/PublicWorks/CurbsideLeavesandBrushCollection/index.htm>

Thank you in advance for doing your part to help our community.

#### *Snow Plowing*

Stratford Gardens has again hired a private contractor for snow removal. They will plow the streets from the south side of 59<sup>th</sup> Street up to and including 64<sup>th</sup> Street after 2" of snow has fallen. In order to properly clear the streets, please do not park any cars on the street before or during a storm. If you have any questions or concerns about the snow plow contract, or the condition of your street, please contact Woody Underwood at 523-8356.

#### ***For More Information. . .***

Our Stratford Gardens website can be accessed at: [www.ha-kc.org](http://www.ha-kc.org).

Select "Missouri Associations," then "Stratford Gardens."

If you have any questions for the Board, its operations or meetings, we ask that you directly contact any the officers or directors by phone, or by email to [StratfordGarden@aol.com](mailto:StratfordGarden@aol.com).