

ENCOURAGING RESPONSIBLE WATERSHED AND LAKESIDE MANAGEMENT



HIGHLAND PARK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

A Non-Profit Organization

October 4, 2020

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings from Highland Park Community Association Inc., a non-profit organization.

It has been one year since the first astonishing draining of Lake Optimist by independent actors that called into action a necessary regrouping of HPCA to bring it back to its purpose. Time has been our friend. The HPCA has made new friends and supporters and has experienced phenomenal growth with a clearer understanding as to the mission and purpose of HPCA.

Due to Covid-19 the court case Gros V. Helms et al has been delayed until October 14, 2020. Expect more delays as the attorneys and Covid-19 hash out their issues.

Today HPCA has a social education group for "active members" on Facebook to explore and discuss the role of the active members, members, Board of Directors, and Officers of HPCA. Briefly, the definition of active members are residents of Highland Park. As residents of Highland Park, you are entitled to free use of the park and lake according to the agreement in your covenants and deed. You may be eligible to vote at the annual meeting for Board of Directors submitted to a vote of the members. Members are elected by the Board of Directors. Board of Directors are either elected or appointed by the active members in such a manner as the By-Laws of the corporation shall provide. The by-laws provide that the active members cast their vote submitted to the members.

This year HPCA has secured agreements with Mobile County Health Department to test mosquitos every week. MCHD hangs a trap at a designated location here in Highland Park, collects the little bodies, identifies them at the Jon Archer Center then sends them to Auburn University to be tested for deadly viruses such as zika, eastern equine encephalitis, and chikungunya. We also have monthly patrols from the MCHD Vector Control Rat patrol of our ditches and sloughs. It has been a real pleasure working with this group and I look forward to the annual reports and continuing this healthy and productive relationship between MCHD and HPCA. A heartfelt thank from Highland Park to you MCHD.

HPCA has raised funds to have the water tested this 2020 fiscal year through Mobile Baykeeper. We are so grateful to them for teaching our volunteers water testing technique and helping us to fundraise for the testing costs. Special thanks to Cade, Meredith and Wesley at Mobile Baykeeper. And a very special howdy and tip of the hat goes to Amanda Pouncey, our volunteer water sampler whose Aunt Elizabeth Pouncey served on the Board of Directors of HPCA many years ago. Amanda suits up every week to walk waist deep into the lake to sweep her sample that is then taken downtown Mobile to the testing center and recorded online with other SWIM locations. Please consider donating to this awesome group.

Personal Development this year has been: 1) Water testing training by Mobile Baykeeper, 2) Amanda Pouncey and Sherry Gros have been studying to become Notaries to keep up with the demand of

having paperwork certified. This will cut down some of our costs at HPCA and maybe provide a couple of dollars egg money for times of need. We all have those now and again.

There are many day to day activities that need to be attended to throughout the course of this organization. Some miscellaneous but necessary duties are the budget planning, grant management, 100 year planning, administrative duties, legal issues, physical maintenance, organization, and networking throughout the neighborhood.

Our deed has some requirements to keeping the lake in the possession of HPCA and Highland Park Subdivision. One requirement is that we make a reasonable effort to keep the waters of Lake Optimist clean. We can do better than that and today we are doing better than that.

Happy Holidays to you all and please read the "We are Grateful" last page of this newsletter and be sure to say thank you to these wonderful folks should you see them along the way. Forgive me if I have overlooked anyone I will make it up to you in the next newsletter.



Please remember, HPCA authority is limited to the care and management of 7201 Lakeview Dr E, Mobile AL as is stated in its Articles of Incorporation (Real Property 750 Page 896). Any other Highland Park Subdivision residential concerns are covered under your amended covenants and not the responsibility of Highland Park Community Association, Inc. Please refer to your amended covenants in Real Property 181 page 591 for any other land management concerns for the most effective direction in handling those concerns.

www.highlandparkcommunityassociation.com

HPCA, Inc.
312 Schillinger Rd S
STE T #140
Mobile AL 36608

Facebook Group: Highland Park "Active Members" Group
Nextdoor Neighbor App: Highland Park "Active Members" Group



WE ARE GRATEFUL

With grateful hearts many thanks go to our volunteers who paved the way and made our journey smoother and our surroundings lovelier.

1. Mike Damoff to whom we could never repay for all the hours of volunteer work he has spent cleaning up the whole neighborhood and the maintenance and repairs on the park.
2. Amanda Pouncey a dear and loyal volunteer who is administrative support, official water tester for Lake Optimist and someone you can always count on to pitch in when you need a hand.
3. Alexandra Neal and Becky Kopec (now resigned but still members) for administrative support for as long as you were able.
4. Arthur Gros for monitoring water levels throughout the year so we could have a baseline. And for mowing the triangle. Arthur walks his push mower from the top of Lakeview down to the triangle to knock down those ugly weeds we all complain that makes the neighborhood look ugly. And for fashioning a custom chain link fence gate so we could close it when we need to.
5. Margaret Black who helped with our weekend “help a neighbor” campaign cleaning lawns. Margaret is another genuinely good heart willing to help a neighbor where she can.
6. Patti Wagner for keeping the triangle clean and weeded.
7. Thank you to the Board of Directors and Officers who serve to keep the lake and lands in the hands of the Highland Park Community Association and the residents she serves.
8. To Paul Pouncey and Donna Gaut for sharing their memories of the beautiful Lake Optimist.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT HPCA

We need:

1. Nominations for Board of Directors. Submit to any social media group or the address below.
2. We would like to have two more volunteer officers.
3. Park maintenance volunteers to pick up the little sticks and branches left behind from hurricane Sallie.
4. Donations for water testing. Go to www.highlandparkcommunityassociation.com click the fundraisers tab.
5. We need 1300.00 to turn on the park light for 3 years. Send checks to the address below. Make them payable to Highland Park Community Association. ATTN: Let There Be Light fund.

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