

ASHTON WOOD HOA NEWSLETTER

www.ashtonwoodhoa.com theboard@ashtonwoodhoa.com

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

August 2016

The August meeting on Aug 2nd was at Reba and Robert Burch's house. We had three non-board members in attendance and we appreciated their input and presence. Community HOA members are welcome to attend any of meetings to see what goes on or share your ideas or concerns. The next Board meeting will be Sept 6th at the Alfie's Meeks house at 2843 Ashton Hill Dr.

Dates to Remember:

Sept 6th HOA meeting 7PM

Sept 10th Community Yard Sale (see notes below)

Sept Pool Closing date and work day TBA

Community Yard Sale - Sept 10th

The HOA has a large banner that we put out at the entrance on Braselton Hwy announcing we are having a "Community Yard Sale". This gets a lot more people to stop by, but we like to have at least 5 homes participating before we put out the banner. If you think you will be participating that weekend, please send a response to the Board theboard@ashtonwoodhoa.com so we will know if we have at least 5 homes participating to put out the banner.

Volunteers Needed – "To Do Nothing"

Thank you to the people that offered to be on a volunteer call list to help out on projects that pop up on short notice. We still need people if you would like to be on that list. Just email the Board and ask to be put on the call list for volunteers.

Important Reminder

The weather will be getting cooler and a lot nicer to get out and walk our pets. Please remember to take a doggie bag with you to clean up after them. I hate when I've stepped in my dog's mess, but I really hate it when I step in someone else's dog's mess. Thank you from the bottom of my shoe, sorry heart!

Swim Tennis Members

If you are a swim/tennis member, please we need a few more volunteers to do a week of pool/tennis duty. We still have a few weeks open where we need help. The sign-up sheet is in the hallway at the pool.

Congratulations to the Yard of the Week Winners

Larry & Beverly Manus	July 18-25
Felicia Farior and Chris Brown 2859 Ashton Briar Ct	July 25-Aug 1
Myrna and Bill Zimmerman 2150 Ashton Ridge Drive	Aug 1-8
Melinda and Ryan & Nicole Kersey 2205 Ashton Ridge Drive	Aug 8-15
Carolyn Haessler 2202 Ironwood Ridge Ct	Aug 15-22

Tip of the Month

It seems like we have had just little bits of rain here and there for a couple of weeks. Not necessarily enough for our grass but perfect for **mosquitos!** Here is a link for a video from the Ga Extension Service about mosquito control for your backyard <https://vimeo.com/172614694> . They essentially say mosquitos need standing water to lay eggs, any amount of standing water, a dog bowl, flower pot, bird bath or even a little bottle cap. But however, they say most mosquitos come from your houses gutters that might be clogged with just a few leaves. So if the mosquitos are bad in your yard take a look around your yard to see what you find. I was surprised what I found myself.

From the Garden

August and September may not seem like the perfect time to do gardening, but it is the perfect time to groom and divide daylilies, and many other perennials as well. Grooming daylilies consists of removing any dead foliage, and scapes (the stems the flowers bloom on), and cutting back the remaining leaves by no more than half their length. This encourages the plants to concentrate on growing and expanding their root system, for bigger better blooms next year. If you haven't been fertilizing them on a regular basis, I recommend Miracle-Gro or Bayer All-In-One Rose & Flower Care once a month during growing season, or as recommended on the product label. Between now, and the end of September, it is also the perfect time to transplant and/or divide daylilies. Depending on how well your daylilies multiply each year, it is a good idea to divide them every 3 years. As they multiply, the plants and roots begin to clump so tightly together, the number and quality of the blooms diminish. The entire clump should be dug up, divided into the individual plants, and replanted in amended soil. When dividing your plants, it is sometimes easier to allow them to soak & loosen up before trying to pull them apart. It is also the perfect time to share with a neighbors or friends. **By Angie Tatum**

Editor's Note: On **September 23rd**, Angie will be selling her daylilies at the **Duluth Fall Festival** with the Daylily Society of Greater Atlanta. Anyone interested in acquiring some, or just to see how to divide and care for daylilies is welcome. Angie's yard was part of our Community Backyard Tour.

Summer Bounty

It has been a hot summer, but tomatoes love it as long as they get enough water. I don't have any tomatoes planted this year, but I have thankfully been getting donations from friends that have a surplus. Here are some tips on enjoying that great summer tomato bounty. Harold McGee in his book On Food and Cooking explains that refrigerating tomatoes damages the membranes inside the fruit walls, causing the tomato to lose flavor and develop the mealy texture we associate with mid-January grocery store tomatoes. So the best place to store tomatoes is **on the counter top at room temperature**. They actually continue to develop flavor until maturation peaks a few days after picking. If you have been keeping your fresh tomatoes in the fridge, try letting them sit out at room temperature for a full day before eating them. McGee says that some of the enzymes will re-activate and boost the flavor back up.

If you are tired of just sliced tomatoes or tomato sandwiches here is my favorite tomato recipe:

Easy Tomato Pie

9" pie shell
5 large tomatoes, peeled, seeded (to make less watery) and chopped
½ tsp. salt
1 ½ tsp basil
¼ tsp garlic powder
¾ cup mayonnaise
1 ½ cups grated cheddar cheese
1 small onion **very** thinly sliced (optional)

Bake the store bought 9" frozen pie shell according to directions. Put tomatoes in a large bowl (drain excess liquid) and mix with all remaining ingredients. Spread into pie shell and bake at 350 degrees for 35 minutes. Cover pie crust edges with foil if getting too dark. Enjoy!

Local Happenings

Aurora Theatre • 128 East Pike Street • P.O Box 2014 •

Lawrenceville, Georgia • 30046 • 678.226.6222

In the Heights Continuing through August 28th.

The duo of Atlanta theatres that brought last season's smash-hit *MEMPHIS* partners once again for the Tony Award and Grammy Award-winning *IN THE HEIGHTS!* Filled with pulsating Caribbean rhythms, vibrant hip-hop and lyrical melodies, this highly-acclaimed musical is a universal story of a Latin community in New York's Washington Heights. A place where the coffee from Usnavi's corner bodega is light and sweet, the windows are always open and the breeze carries the brink of change. Like his community, Usnavi struggles to decide which traditions to keep and which to leave behind, in his search for a place called home.

[Aurora Theater Children's Playhouse](http://www.auroratheatre.com/education/childrens-playhouse/) <http://www.auroratheatre.com/education/childrens-playhouse/>

If you have children or grandchildren, this is great series of program for kids to introduce them to performing arts. Programs are about 45 minutes long so their attention span is not lost. The series goes all the way into next year with one or two performances a month.

**August 20, 2016 – *Dancing Through Mexico*
by Alma Mexicana Danza Folklórica**

**August 27, 2016 – *Princess Sing & Story*
by Ever After Entertainment**

Sugar Hill City Hall | The Bowl @ Sugar Hill

5039 West Broad St, Buford, GA 30518

Ok, I don't have a smart phone and I don't play Pokeman GO, but I do know it is the hottest thing around the country.

Pokemon Go 5K

Sunday, August 21 | 8am Cost - \$20 - \$35

The fun starts once you arrive at Sugar Hill City Hall, because it's a PokeStop, and we've got a gym inside City Hall. We're going to be dropping lures all along our 5K route, so you'll be able to run and catch all at the same time (or just run...it's up to you). You'll join one of the 3 teams available (Mystic, Valor, or Instinct), receiving a shirt that corresponds with your team. The 5K will start at 8:00, and we'll be handing out award medals to the overall M/F, overall master's M/F, and the top 3 in all of the usual age groups (10 & Under - 75+). Don't miss out on a chance to catch 'em all!

Stone Mountain Park

1000 Robert E Lee Blvd
Stone Mountain, GA 30083

48th Annual Yellow Daisy Festival

<https://www.stonemountainpark.com/Events/Yellow-Daisy-Festival>

Sept 8th -11th Check link for times.

Stone Mountain Park Special Events Meadow

The Daisy Festival is a dazzling event in a spectacular setting... it's easy to understand why so many artists travel so far each year, just to be a part of it. There is daily live entertainment and loads of activities throughout the event as well as fabulous festival food. More than 400 artists and crafters from 38 States and two countries display their works for your appreciation and purchase.