

# Windermere Lakes

H O M E O W N E R S

A S S O C I A T I O N



February 2011

[www.windermerylakes.net](http://www.windermerylakes.net)

Volume 5, Issue 2

## WINDERMERE 'Yard of the Month'

*Congratulations! The January Winner is*  
**12059 Miramar Shores**



This winner's landscaping was great and impressed members of our committee as the selection for Windermere's 'Yard of the Month'.

The homeowner receives a \$25 Gift Card from Home Depot, bragging rights to the honor AND our WL Yard of the Month sign remains in their yard during the month.

These homeowners captured the committee's attention with their vibrant green rye grass. This beautiful green blanket of grass really brightens up the yard and landscaping and brings a touch of spring into the cold winter season. Elegant and clean landscaping round out this lovely home.

If you would like to participate on the yard of the month selection committee or nominate a residence for yard of the month, please let us know by visiting our website at [www.windermerylakes.net](http://www.windermerylakes.net)

Our thanks go out to those that care about their homes and keep their lawns maintained. *Judy Maze, Landscape Committee*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### *2011 Volunteerism*

#### **Six Reasons Not To Volunteer At Windermere Lakes:**

1. It's a giant responsibility.
2. Your neighbors will blame you for everything.
3. All your free time will disappear, and you'll become enslaved to the association.
4. You'll have to work with bombasts, dictators, figureheads, and puppets.
5. You'll never have any fun ever again.
6. Besides . . . there's no real reason to get involved; the community is in fine shape—we don't need you. NOT!

#### **Ten Reasons To Volunteer At Windermere Lakes:**

1. Protect your self-interests. Protect your property values and maintain the quality of life in your community.
2. Correct a problem. Not happy with the way things look or do you think maybe maintenance has been neglected?
3. Be sociable. Meet your neighbors, make friends, and exchange opinions.
4. Give back. Repay a little of what's been done for you.
5. Advance your career. Build your personal resume by including your community volunteer service.
6. Have some fun. Association work isn't drudgery. It's fun accomplishing good things with your neighbors.
7. Get educated. Learn how it's done—we'll even train you.

*(Continued on Page 3)*

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Emergency .....	911
Sheriff's Dept. ....	713-221-6000
Center Point Energy - Customer Service (Gas).....	713-659-2111
Cy-Fair Fire Dept .....	911
Cy-Fair Hospital.....	281-890-4285
Animal Control.....	281-999-3191
Center Point (Street lights) .....	713-207-2222
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NW Harris County MUD #29 .....	713-983-3602
Post Office.....	713-937-6827
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(Service/Billing - NW Harris Co. MUD #29)	

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President .....	Kevin McClard
Vice President .....	Brian Greenhouse
Treasurer .....	Sreehari Gorantla
Secretary.....	Gerri Rougeau-Eubank
Directors .....	Raj Amin

### COMMITTEES:

Security .....	Kevin Swicegood
Social .....	Bill Wentzell
Clubhouse/Recreational Facilities .....	Dianne Wentzell
Communication .....	Gerri Rougeau-Eubank
Landscape .....	Judy Maze
Finance .....	Sreehari Gorantla
Architectural Control/Deed Restrictions .....	TBA

*All Board members and Committees  
can be contacted at [www.windmerelakes.net](http://www.windmerelakes.net)*

\* We are establishing our Committees for 2010 and need resident volunteers! If you are interested in participating with us, please contact us at [www.windmerelakes.net](http://www.windmerelakes.net) for more details. This is a great way to meet your fellow neighbors and to help make our Windermere Lakes community a better place to live.

## NEWSLETTER INFO

Editor.....	<a href="mailto:newsletter@windmerelakes.net">newsletter@windmerelakes.net</a>
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## Info From The Board....

Our Annual Homeowner Association meeting was held on November 2, 2010 at 7:00pm - Windermere Lakes Clubhouse.

Board Members were elected to serve the residents of Windermere Lakes; Sreehari Gorantla, Gerri Rougeau-Eubank were elected to return. Others returning are Kevin McClard, Raj Amin and Kevin Swicegood.

The initial perimeter fence discussion was held, however, there was no final resolution. The matter will be researched further by the Board to obtain additional options for consideration.

## Clubhouse Pool, Patio 'n' Playground (Recreational Facilities Committee)

If you are interested in being part of this committee to help make our pool and recreational areas more enjoyable, please contact Dianne by email at [ldwentzell@gmail.com](mailto:ldwentzell@gmail.com).

We hope to hear from you soon!

**Dianne Wentzell, Chairperson**

**WL Recreational Facilities Committee**

Not Available Online

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## President's Message- (Continued from Cover page)

8. Express yourself. Help with creative projects like community beautification, social events, lake projects and neighborhood communications.
9. Earn recognition. If you would like a little attention or validation, your contributions will be recognized and celebrated.
10. Try some altruism. Improve society by helping others.

Just trying to get your attention... hope it works! We do need Volunteers in all areas of Windermere Lakes HOA. Can we count on you? If just one person from each family would volunteer on our committees, we could be so much more effective and accomplish great things! Contact us at: [www.windermerelakes.net](http://www.windermerelakes.net)

**Kevin McClard**  
President

## CHRISTMAS DECORATION CONTEST:

As promised, here are the following homes that were left off the January 2011 Newsletter...

Thanks again for making this contest successful!

### Runner's Up:

11834 Newport Shore  
12002 Newport Shore

12030 Sunrise Way  
10226 Ripple Lake  
10142 Ripple Lake

### Honorable Mention:

10103 Lakeside Gables  
10126 Lazy Lagoon  
11810 Miramar Shores  
12031 Miramar Shores

10018 Ripple Lake  
10135 Ripple Lake  
12034 Flamingo Lakes  
12015 Quiet Water  
10014 Sand Dollar

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## Tips for Enjoying Networking Events

By Amy Wolfgang, M.Ed.

Many of us know someone who is in the midst of a job search. They may be looking for their first job after graduating, a new job after being laid off, or a totally new career. Job seekers use many different avenues to find a job but one of the most effective is networking. It is one thing to speak with your neighbor about opportunities at his or her company but, eventually, many job seekers will need to utilize different networking events.

Great opportunities are found at networking events but, at the same time, they can be intimidating because we may not know anyone there. Networking events can strike fear in many people, even those with outgoing personalities, so here are a few tips on how to make networking events more pleasant, less overwhelming and more productive.

### Tip 1: Take a Deep Breath

Remember that many people are uncomfortable at networking events. It is much more prevalent than you probably know. With

that said, go into the event with a relaxed and positive frame of mind. Identify how you relax – taking deep breaths, visualizing a positive experience, etc. Employ those methods before you enter the networking event.

### Tip 2: Appear Approachable

Smile! If you have a smile on your face, others will be encouraged to speak with you. Other open body language you should employ includes:

- keeping your arms uncrossed
- standing up straight (don't slouch)
- making eye contact with those around you

While you are at the event, take notice of others' body language. See if you can tell what aspect of their body language makes them look either approachable or closed off. That will help you with your own body language.

### Tip 3: Utilize the Event Activities

The toughest networking scenario is when you don't



know anyone at the event and go by yourself. In this case, try to use the activities or functions at the event to your advantage. Does the event have a bar or buffet? Once you are in the food or beverage line, begin speaking to someone also in line. Are you at an art gallery? Approach a piece of art and chat about it with someone else who is also looking at it. It's much easier to speak to people

when you already have some common ground.

Networking isn't easy and intimidates many people, however, it can lead to a powerful advantage over other job hunters! Hopefully the tips above give you the confidence to attend networking events. Who knows, you might really enjoy meeting new people and be surprised at the doors it opens for you!

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Contact: Kathy Hoffmaster x240  
Gerri Rougeau, Windermere Lakes Resident

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## WL SOCIAL COMMITTEE CORNER

### *Hello Again WL Residents!*

We sure do need help with our social events. If you have any ideas or would like to assist us, I can be contacted at [oldchristian@gmail.com](mailto:oldchristian@gmail.com). I would love to hear from you and urge you to consider becoming a committee member.

I'll see you next time...

**Bill Wentzell, Chairperson**  
**WL Social Committee**

## SECURITY REPORT

During the holidays we did have some vandalism and malicious mischief in the neighborhood.

The Deputies are patrolling our neighborhood but still need our eyes and ears to help them identify those that do not belong in our neighborhood.

They have also been watching for speeding vehicles and vehicles that are doing 'rolling stops' at the stop signs. The safety of our residents and their children are important... please do your part!

Please stay on the lookout for any persons you believe to be suspicious and/or that do not appear to belong in our neighborhood. Please report them so they can be checked out by the authorities.

Emergency: 911  
Sheriff's Dept. 713-221-6000.

Stay safe and keep a watchful eye on our neighborhood!

**WL Security Committee**

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## Windermere Lakes Classifieds

Have any items that you need to get rid of but think someone else could use? Have a useful service to offer your neighbors? Why not place an ad in the Windermere Lakes newsletter? Just send the info and a phone to the newsletter editor, and your ad will be run in the newsletter for two issues.

Personal classifieds (one time sell items, such as a used bike...) run at no charge to Windermere Lake residents, limit 30 words, please e-mail [newsletter@windermerylakes.com](mailto:newsletter@windermerylakes.com).

Business classifieds (offering a service or product line for profit) are \$50, limit 40 words, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales Office @ 888-687-6444 or [advertising@PEELinc.com](mailto:advertising@PEELinc.com).

## Fitting in Fitness: Making Time for Exercise

By Sarah S. Jordan, MS

Finding time for exercise can be an ongoing challenge in our busy lives. We know that exercise will benefit our bodies and minds in many ways and that we should do it. But actually finding the time and making it happen can be difficult.

### Here are a few tips to help you fit in fitness in the New Year.

- Remember that any movement is better than none. If you only have 15 minutes each day to go for a power walk, those 15 minutes will equal 105 minutes (almost two hours) by the end of the week, 420 minutes (seven hours) of exercise each month and 91 hours of exercise a year! Small things can add up to big victories over time.
- Find what works for you. For some people, a gym membership is very convenient. For others, it may not be convenient to their location, budget, job, or family. If
- that is the case, see if your neighborhood has any exercise groups, hire a personal trainer that will come to you, or start your own lunchtime workout group for added camaraderie and accountability.
- Schedule exercise into your week. Workouts are much more likely to happen if we put them in our calendars. Schedule workouts as you would important business meetings or doctor appointments.
- Remember that sometimes, the hardest thing to get is going. Many times, just getting our shoes on and getting out the door is the hardest part of a workout. Once we are moving, endorphins kick in and we feel great for moving.
- Make use of the early hours. I used to dread getting up at 5:20 every morning. But now I love it, because after I get ready for work, it guarantees me a few minutes

to myself before anyone else is awake. Similarly, getting workouts in before the

*(Continued on Page 7)*



## Electricity is **ON SALE** at StarTex Power!



Alan "Petrodamus" Lammey, host of 'Energy Week', can be heard every Sunday on 1070 KNTH in Houston.

I'm Texas Energy Analyst, Alan Lammey. In case you didn't know, electricity rates are currently at lows not seen in years, which means that NOW is the time to lock in a very low electricity rate with the provider that I highly recommend to all my radio show listeners: StarTex Power. StarTex Power is local and reputable, with some of the most competitive rates available in all of Texas. You can switch right online at [www.StarTexPower.com](http://www.StarTexPower.com)

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## Fitting in Fitness - (Continued from Page 6)

- busy day kicks off ensures that they happen, and the day will be better because of it.
- Take the kids along. My baby and I have logged countless hours with the jogging stroller. But I know that if I didn't take him with me, the majority of those workouts would have never happened. Pack up the kids and remember that pushing the kids will mean more calories burned.
  - Don't give up. If you are not reaching your goals, determine what is not working and create a roadmap to resolve it. Remember that fitness is a lifestyle and it goes through ups and downs, but always benefits us if we persevere.
  - Make the time that you do have count. If you have just thirty minutes three days a week, step up the intensity of those workouts to get the most you can for your time. Add intervals and hills, or find a fitness class or DVD that offers a combination of cardio and strength training.

*Wishing you a happy  
and movement filled 2011!*

## Recipe of the Month

### Chocolate Chip Cookies

#### INGREDIENTS

- 2 ¼ C. flour
- 1 tsp. soda
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 C. shortening
- ¾ C. sugar
- ¾ C. brown sugar
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- ½ tsp. water
- 2 eggs
- 12 oz. semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 1 C. chopped nuts

#### DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 375°. Combine flour, soda, & salt. Set aside. Combine shortening, sugars, vanilla, & water. Beat until creamy. Beat in eggs. Add flour mixture. Mix well. Stir in chips and nuts. Drop by well-rounded teaspoons onto greased baking sheet. Bake for 10-12 minutes.

# REACHING YOUR NEIGHBORS

*and many others...*

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- Coles Crossing
- Copperfield
- Cypress Mill
- Cypress Point
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- Lakemont
- Lakes of Fairhaven
- Lakes of Rosehill
- Lakes of Savannah
- Lakes on Eldridge
- Lakes on Eldridge North
- Lakewood Grove
- Legends Ranch
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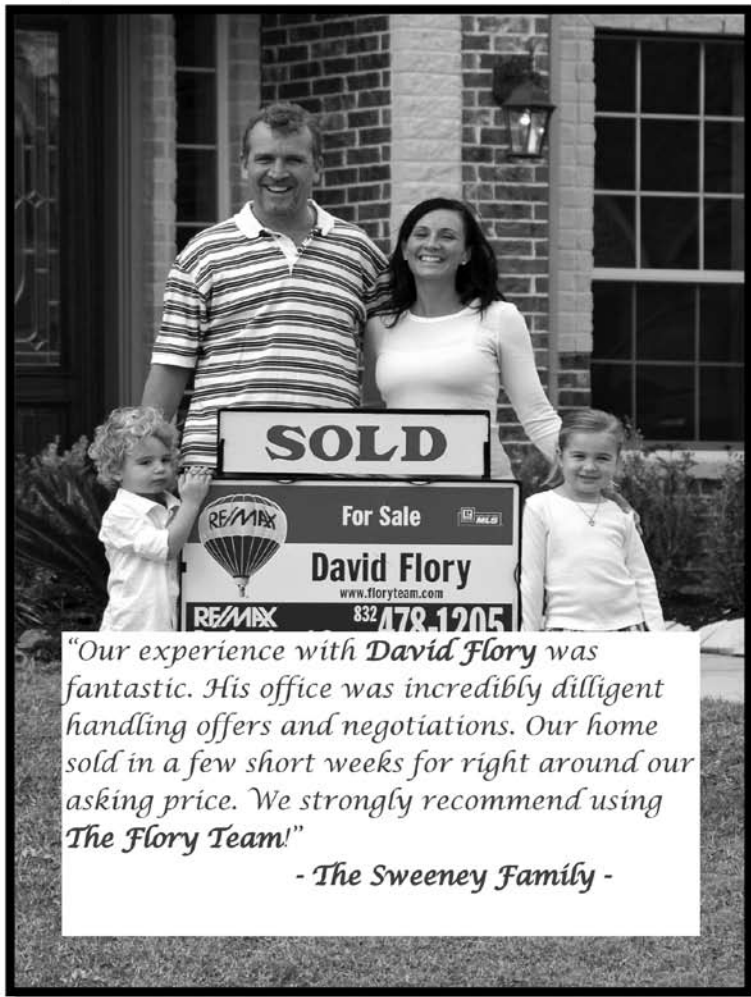
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