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<http://www.silverlakes-gateway-hoa.com/>

September 2017

# Silverlakes News

*Respectfully submitted by Lauren “Bird” Siegel, president, for the board of directors:  
PJ Stratton, vice president; Jim Wisniewski, secretary; Markus Albrecht, treasurer; and Claude Marku, legal liaison.*

## **From the HOA President:**

In keeping with the Silverlakes-Gateway HOA Board of Directors’ commitment to open and honest communication with the membership, I offer the following comments on the Sept. 20 board of directors meeting.

The board certainly hopes everyone survived Hurricane Irma O.K., although a lot of landscaping and pool enclosures were damaged. In addition, there is roof damage in various areas of our community. It was quite an experience going outside in the eye of the hurricane, when there was just a light breeze and a light sprinkle of rain. Then the wind came from the other direction, but not as strong as before.

It was a wise move on the part of PJ Stratton, our vice president, to remove our new entry gates and store them in the clubhouse. I saw on the news another community’s gates that looked just like ours, but they were all twisted beyond repair. We have to wait for Main Gate to repair one of the hinges on a post before the gates can be reinstalled and adjusted properly. We must wait for our insurance to give us the go-ahead for some of the repairs, but the entrance and exit ponds should be back up and running after they are cleaned and new filters installed.

It is not known when all the hurricane debris will be picked up. We do know it will be picked up by FEMA, but there is no schedule known at this time. One of the ways our residents can maintain the above-average water quality in our lakes is to try to keep the leaves from getting into the storm drains. The street sweeper has been asked to come through our community as soon as he can after all the debris has been picked up.

Our spending through August continues to be under budget by 5.9 percent. Utilities continue to run over budget. It will be interesting to see how our finances stand at the end of September. The budget for 2018 has been worked on and will continue to be tweaked until adoption at our November board meeting.

Once again, I want to thank ALL committee and board members for all they do for Silverlakes.

## **Social Committee:**

Nearly 40 people enjoyed bingo on Friday, Sept. 22. The event gave Silverlakes residents a chance to mingle after the hurricane and catch up on one another's lives.

Upcoming events include a community-wide yard sale from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Oct. 14; an Italian dinner with entertainment at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 21; and another bingo at 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 27. These events are a wonderful opportunity to meet some of your neighbors and have some fun.

LaGrotta Ristorante and Grill will cater the Italian dinner this year, and the Social Committee has booked Chicago Heat, a doo-wop group that specializes in music from the 1950s and 1960s, as entertainment. The cost will be \$15 per person, paid in advance, and those who wish to attend should call to reserve a spot as soon as the event is posted at the entrance/exit to Silverlakes.

If you want to participate in the yard sale, the charge is \$5 per household to cover the cost of a guard at the gate. Please encourage visitors to the yard sale to park on only one side of the street to ease traffic congestion. Those planning to participate in the yard sale are invited to display their wares the night before to give Silverlakes residents the first chance to grab a bargain.

## **In memoriam:**

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Charles Norris on the death of his father on Aug. 29 in Alabama.

Thoughts and prayers also are with Joanne Montgomery, whose former husband, James, passed away Aug. 30 in St. Regis Medical Center in Jonesboro, Ark.

## **Sunshine Committee:**

The Sunshine Committee sends greeting cards to Silverlakes residents who are dealing with an illness or recovering from surgery or a fall; to those welcoming a new baby; and to those mourning the loss of a loved one.

If you know someone who could use a card, please send the person's name AND ADDRESS to Sue Beard. Her phone number is (239) 689-8065, and her email address is [shadden@comcast.net](mailto:shadden@comcast.net)

## **Helping Hands:**

Before Hurricane Irma arrived on Sept. 10, Silverlakes' community spirit was already on display. Everywhere, neighbors were seen installing storm shutters for older, infirm and absent homeowners; helping others stock up on essentials; and checking to make sure their friends were well-prepared to weather the storm.

After Irma passed, the same spirit was everywhere. Those who own chainsaws went door-to-door helping clear trees; volunteers helped disassemble twisted pool cages; and residents helped gather all the yard waste to the curb.

Thank you, Silverlakes!

