

The Shorewood News

October – 2016

Shorewood News Editor: Betsy Wheelock wheelchock@msn.com

Monthly Board Meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of the month.

Everyone is welcome! Contact Angelica Spates at 206-769-0889 for location



President's Letter

It's often said "it takes a village" when we are talking about our communities. Shorewood on the Sound community could easily fall into that paradigm. We are so fortunate to have the kind of neighborhood that still connects regularly at our social events and at our various meetings. We are also excited to have so many younger families with children moving into the neighborhood and hopefully knowing that we want the kind of community where that saying has meaning. It takes all of us to connect and nurture this amazing community and look out for each other and especially our children. Social Media has made it easier to connect and get the word out on things that concern us. Thanks to all those people on Facebook and Nextdoor Neighborhood who help to keep us all informed on current events, both positive and negative.

With my year of being President reaching an end, I'm very grateful and honored to have served the community and hopefully facilitated some very successful events this year. We have many committed members who Chair those events and put them on with the help of many volunteers. As a Club, we'd love to have some of our new residents participate and give their voices to the direction we take moving forward to enhance the Community Club and what we do for the community. Please let us know what it would take for you to participate and continue to grow our Club and what new events might interest you. Let's be that Village that exists to make our Community one we all want to continue to live and flourish .

Angelica Spates, President, SOTS Community Club

Shorewood Park Work Party

Please join your neighbors on November 5th, 2016 at our own Shorewood Park. The park entrance is on 28th Ave. NW just down the street from Shorewood Elementary School. We will meet at 10:00 AM. In addition to removing English Ivy and other invasive plants we will plant some native plants. Gloves and tools will be provided, but feel free to bring your own favorites.

Please email Jean Spohn, jeanspohn@centurylink.net if you have questions or would like to help.

Editor's note: I've said it before and I'll say it again : These work parties are fun and rewarding! I bring my 9 year old and we always have a great time. Jean and her crew are wonderful neighbors and I highly recommend coming out to meet them and pull a little ivy.

Annual Meeting November 10th

Please mark your calendar to attend our Annual Meeting November 10, 2016 from 7 – 9 PM at Shorewood Elementary School. This is your opportunity to Vote on the Proposed New Bylaws, Nominate and Elect the Board for 2017, and have a voice on the Budget. In order to vote your 2016 dues must be current (paid). We are happy to process that at the meeting if necessary. Also, please review/print a copy of the "Proposed Updated Bylaws" to bring to the meeting. They will be available on the SOTS Website under "Upcoming Events". As a membership organization, the Board serves the Members. Without your voices we won't know if we are fulfilling those directives. We will also celebrate 70 years of Shorewood on the Sound towards the end of the meeting. What an amazing accomplishment to have an organization that has lasted and flourished all these years. We look forward to seeing you there.

Looking for New SOTS CC Board Members

Join us in making this the neighborhood you want to live in! There are at least three open board positions and we are also looking for a Secretary. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Lori Buchsbaum, Nominating Committee Chair, at (206) 240-4639 or Lori@bermuda-associates.com. Elections will take place at the Annual Meeting on November 10th.

Holiday Lights Contest

To the hap-hap-happiest community this side of West Seattle:

Christmas is around the corner and do you know what that means!? The opportunity for each and every one of us to welcome and light the way for Santa to come visit us on December 24th!

Growing up as a kid, there was a neighborhood that every year my family would go to see where 15-20 homes would pull out all the stops, not worry about the dollar sign on the electrical bill and would cover every square inch of their homes in the most beautiful decorations and lights for families, friends, people young and old from near and far to come and enjoy. Those memories will forever be with me.

(Cont'd on back)

(Cont'd from front page)

Now I'm not saying that we all have to go full Griswold style on our homes; however, I'd like to challenge Shorewood to become a place that really showcases the holiday spirit; one where where families know that every year they can count on a spectacular array of decorations that all will enjoy.

Making their appearance again this year will be the much sought after Christmas Décor Awards which will be given out a week prior to Christmas and provide the winners with a full year of bragging rights to those around them, along with a year of paid SOTS CC dues. Award categories are: Grand Prize, Runner Up, Highest Wattage, and Most Original. Thank you to all for your participation no matter the amount and to all a good night!

P.S. If you're wondering why in the world are Christmas lights so important to me? Well, let's just say that there is a little house down on 5600 block of Beach Drive that I and 10 other people work together for a week to decorate with 300,000+ lights every year.

-Kyle Lonzak, Director, SOTS Community Club

Native Plants in our Landscape

Why Use Native Plants in Your Landscape?

For the last 10 years I have been replacing the exotic and invasive plants in my home landscape with Northwest native plants. Friends ask why I would turn a traditional, manicured landscape of lawn, shrubs and flowering annuals into a wild and untidy place. I tell them I want a carefree landscape that survives on rain, needs no fertilizer or pesticides and that provides food and shelter for native animals.

I learned from WSU's Master Gardener class that the plants native to our region have evolved alongside the native insects, fungi, wildlife, and other native plants for thousands of years. This long-time association has produced a complex web of interrelationships, by which the native plant may depend upon numerous other native organisms to survive and flourish, and a multitude of native organisms may, in turn, depend upon that native plant to survive.

In the process, native plants have evolved the ability to attract native animals that benefit them (such as pollinating and seed-dispersing insects and birds), and repel or survive native organisms that harm them (such as plant viruses and munching insects). In addition, the plants native to your area are adapted to growing in your region's soils and climate, and so generally require less maintenance than do non-natives.

So that is why I decided to lead work parties in our community to remove English Ivy and other invasive plants. Ivy is really bad as in addition to covering the ground so native plants cannot survive, it grows up trees and eventually can topple them. It has no natural control as native animals and insects do not eat it. Even all of our fungus and moss is smothered by it. Only rats and raccoons like Ivy. Our next work party is November 5th at Shorewood Park. We will plant some native plants and pull out more Ivy.

-Jean Spohn, Director, SOTS Community Club

Give a gift of sight to people without access to glasses!

How? By donating your used prescription glasses to **VISTA Missions** vistamissions.org. Vista is a nonprofit, medical based, Christian organization whose goal is to provide vision and dental-based services to underserved communities primarily in Mexico and Latin America. With no paid employees, VISTA has minimal overhead expenses. To make it easier, you can drop off your used prescription glasses in a collection box at my front door (12157 Marine View Drive) and I'll get them to VISTA.

-Rand Fullington, Vice President, SOTS Community Club

The Boat Ramp

One of the benefits of Membership in the SOTS CC is access to the Boat Ramp. If you've never been to the beach, or don't know about it, the boat ramp is between the 3rd and 4th house on 30th SW, the street that gives us access to our private beach. It is an easement that was granted in 1958 and allows Shorewood on the Sound residents to launch small boats. The definition of small boat is really a kayak, canoe or truly small boat like a row boat or something of similar size. The easement runs with the property that granted the easement. Shorewood on the Sound does not own and did not buy the easement. Along with the granting of the easement was an agreement that there is no parking on 30th SW anywhere close to the boat ramp or anywhere else on the private road. All parking would be above where the gate is now after the boat is launched. This private road has limited parking. The parking of additional cars that may be using the boat launch would truly be a hardship and inconvenience to those residents. We are very fortunate to have our private community beach as a true physical asset of the Club. The boat ramp is another convenience for small boat owners and something residents can take advantage should they choose to do so.

Salmon Bake

Another hugely successful Community event this year! It was a hot day but several large tents provided comfortable shade that seemed to encourage folks to stay a little longer and enjoy lingering more. There was even a face painter for the kids (or young at heart). The variety of Salmon flavors was amazing and gave people some choices for their enjoyment along with an assortment of delicious sides and dessert. It was the perfect recipe for neighborhood fun. Jon Newton once again Chaired the event. Jon even brought some homebrew to share that of course disappeared quickly. It all couldn't have been done without some help procuring the fish and a hardworking group of volunteers, a delightful mix of mainstays from years past and those who spontaneously jumped in to help. All were greatly appreciated.