

# Forest Brook Newsletter

## March, 2009



A publication of the Forest Brook HOA

### 2009 Board Members

#### President

Curtis Monson—985-674-4188  
president@forestbrookhoa.com

#### 1st Vice President

Alan Thriffley—985-624-4020  
vicepresident@forestbrookhoa.com

#### 2nd Vice President

Charlie Hall—985-373-1110  
vicepresident2@forestbrookhoa.com

#### Secretary

Matthew Monson—985-626-7208  
secretary@forestbrookhoa.com

#### Vice-Secretary

Tyanne Coutrain—985-626-7079  
vicesecretary@forestbrookhoa.com

#### Treasurer

Chrissy Williams—985-951-7344  
treasurer@forestbrookhoa.com

#### Vice Treasurer

Carlo Hernandez—985-626-7578  
victreasurer@forestbrookhoa.com

## Message From the President

My name is Curtis Monson and I am the new President of the Forest Brook Homeowner's Association for 2009. We are fortunate that the new board members have impressive skills. We have an attorney, two real estate professionals, an engineer, a computer expert, a retired public employee and a retired insurance executive.

The new board has set a priority of meeting all necessary expenses without raising dues. To this end, it is our intention to forward an email at the end of each month to all residents detailing all income and expenses for the month. I

invite any and all ideas to improve on what we are doing. We have set the following goals for the new year:

1—repair or replace all damaged traffic signs in the subdivision

2—have all retention and detention ponds bush hogged and treated with herbicides

3—clear all drainage ditches of logs and other debris

4—maintain all common areas, pool area and entrances

5—monitor security issues and establish direct and continuing contact with the St. Tammany Sheriff's Department

ment

6—establish and maintain a dialogue with government officials

7—increase our reserve fund for hurricanes or other unanticipated expenses

8—share all information with our residents

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing board for all their hard work and dedication.

I am available via email at [president@forestbrookhoa.com](mailto:president@forestbrookhoa.com)

### 2009 Committee Members

#### Social Committee

Tyanne Coutrain—985-626-7079  
Chrissy Williams—

#### Decorating Committee

Susan Monson—985-674-4188

#### Yard of the Month

Melissa Duvoisin—985-674-7521

#### Newsletter

Cielle Drouant—985-951-7080

#### Welcoming Committee

Tyanne Coutrain—985-626-7079

#### Architectural Review

Charlie Hall—985-626-1875

#### Website

Alan Thriffley—985-624-4020

## Important Information from the FBHOA

On January 12th, Kevin Davis, President of St. Tammany Parish met with representatives of the FBHOA. During this meeting it was agreed that the parish would furnish 20 stop signs, 4 speed limit signs and 2 children at play signs to replace the worn or damaged signs in Forest Brook. There is NO cost to the association for these signs. We have

agreed to frame them and install them and to paint the frames and posts at our cost. Volunteers for this project should contact the FBHOA president through our website at: [www.forestbrookhoa.com](http://www.forestbrookhoa.com)

Also, we met with the head engineer of the parish, Dr. Smythe, to discuss in detail the drainage concerns of our neighborhood and to look at the results of the parish's

recent drainage study.

Kevin Davis has agreed that our association should not have to bear the cost of digging out the south detention pond. He has expressed a willingness for the parish to assume the maintenance of this area. More will be discussed on March 16th.

## WHAT IS THE HOA DOING???

1. The new swings that were purchased by the outgoing board have been installed.
2. Expenditures of ANY board member were limited to \$100.00 without a vote of the board.
3. The Treasurer now reviews and pays all bills weekly.
4. The website has been updated and we have authorized selling of advertising on this site.
5. A board member has been assigned to oversee each committee.
6. We have eliminated the official position of block captain in order to save a potential \$2,000.00 in dues rebates.
7. We have established a bylaws and covenant committee to revise and update these documents.
8. We have re-bid the landscaping services.
9. We have obtained replacement signs for the broken ones in our neighborhood.
10. We have met with the parish President on a variety of issues (you can read about them in this publication).

*Our children are  
our most  
treasured  
possessions,  
PLEASE slow  
down in the  
subdivision, obey  
the STOP signs  
and above all,  
STOP for all  
school buses.*

### Important Notice

ALL communications from the Forest Brook Homeowner's Association will be done via e-mail. Please make sure that your neighbors sign up on our website at [forestbrookhoa.com](http://forestbrookhoa.com). If you are aware of any neighbor that does not have email capabilities please let Curtis Monson know so we can bring hard copies to them.

### Northshore Garden Show and Plant Sale

**DATE:** March 21-22, 2009

**TIME:** 9AM—4PM Daily

**PLACE:** St. Tammany Fairgrounds, Covington

**COST:** \$3/person (good for both days), Parking is FREE, Children under 12 years, FREE

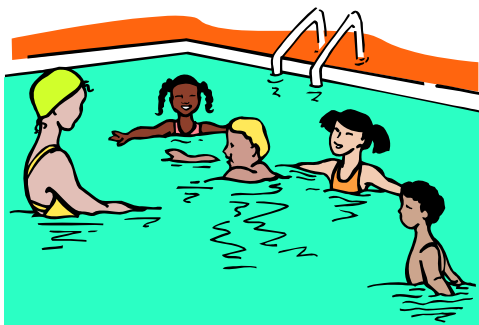
**FEATURES:** 35 plus vendors of plants and garden supplies; free plant and gardening information by local Master Gardeners; hourly presentations; free children's activities; free door prize drawings throughout the show on both days; food concessions available.

## The Pool House Will Open

March, 2009

### From April 5th to October 18th For The Summer

Be sure you have your pool code for entrance to the pool house. You can call Cielle Drouant at 985-951-7080 to obtain your code. Also, please read the pool house rules and guidelines that are included in this publication as there have been some changes as to the opening and closing times of the pool house.



Don't forget ,you can reserve the cabana for your children's birthday party. Start planning now and call Cielle Drouant at 985-951-7080 to get the date you want. There will be only one (1) party per day booked and remember, these parties are NOT exclusive to your party, as other residents can still use the pool during your party. Also, you MUST hire a life guard for all pool parties.

### PICK YOUR OWN BERRIES

My family and I look forward to picking our own berries each spring. It's a great opportunity to get some fresh air, exercise and most importantly some great, juicy berries that do not even compare to store-bought. Listed below are two farms we've visited, but also check out [www.pickyourown.org/LA.htm](http://www.pickyourown.org/LA.htm). It is always a good idea to phone ahead as the harvest greatly depends on the ripeness and availability of the berries.

#### Ridemore Ranch and Berry Farm

Abita Springs—985-875-1965

Visit in June and July for great blackberries and blueberries. This farm is operated by a wonderful couple who graciously show you a wonderful time. They share farm stories, let you feed (and maybe even ride) the horses, take you on a hay ride, etc. Bring gloves if you want to protect your hands from the blackberry brambles. And, don't forget to buy a jar of some wonderful local honey.

#### Mrs. Heather's Strawberry Patch

Albany, LA—225-567-3493 (only a 40 minute drive)

Visit as early as March for big, ripe, juicy strawberries. This is a great place for kids. She has a barn full of animals that the children can pet, and many times there are new babies. There is also a huge play area with swings, a sand pit, and little riding tractors. Bring your lunch and stay awhile. I bring a pair of baby nail scissors to cut the berries off the stem.

# Pool News

The Pool House is no longer closed on Mondays for maintenance. The pool maintenance company comes out 3 days a week now, early in the morning, on Monday, Wednesday and Friday which leaves enough time for the chemicals to set before swimming in the pool. Pool house opens at 8AM, except on Monday, Wednesday and Friday when it will open at 10AM, this is to allow the chemicals to set. The pool house will now close at 9PM each night however, pool parties must end by 8PM.

Every resident has their own private pool code for entry into the pool house. This code is NOT to be shared with other residents or any person outside of this subdivision. If found in violation of this rule, your pool code will be revoked.

Everyone is responsible for cleaning up after themselves and their children/guests. This means picking up your toys, towels, shoes and yes, even clothing. All furniture MUST be returned to its original place when finished using it.

Please supervise your children when they are in the bathrooms or at the very least, check the bathroom after they have finished using it. There are garbage cans now in the bathrooms and a changing station in the ladies room for your use with the infants.

We have a lost and found container next to the coke machine. Please check it periodically as everything will be thrown out on a weekly basis for garbage.

Please keep the pool house and cabanas clean and straight for all residents to enjoy.



## Advertising

Please contact Cielle Drouant at 985-951-7080 if you wish to continue to advertise in the Forest Brook Newsletter. We appreciate your interest in advertising however, if you do not wish to advertise, you have until March 31st to cancel your order, otherwise we will assume you want to continue and a bill will be sent to you. The Newsletter distribution has changed from every other month to a quarterly distribution.

Those advertising presently are:

Carla Arpin—Insurance Agent  
 Fred Drouant— Keller Williams Realty  
 Brandy Gonzales—Attorney  
 Safari Lawn Maintenance  
 Seams Sew Cute  
 A.J. Leonardi—Math Tutor  
 Lesley Pilcher—Realtor  
 House Doctors Home Repairs  
 Dr. Brenton Schulz—Chiropractor  
 Salon 59—Tina Hanson  
 Mike Nicklas—Action Chem Dry  
 Melissa Duvoisin—Realtor

### Advertising Rates

Business Card Ad	\$30/Year
1/4 Page Ad	\$45/Year
1/2 Page Ad	\$60/Year
Full Page Ad	\$80/Year

All ads must be in electronic format. We recommend you have your ad scanned at a local office supply store. Please email to: [cielle1950@bellsouth.net](mailto:cielle1950@bellsouth.net)

## Pool Party Reservations

The Pool House is open for all our residents to book your birthday parties.

First, go to the website: forestbrook-hoa.com to check the calendar to see if the date is available or call Cielle Drouant at 951-7080 to check the availability.

We only book one (1) pool party per day.

Next, go to the forms section and print out the 4 following forms:

Pool Party Registration

Pool Rules

Pool Registration

Hold Harmless & Indemnity Agreement -

Sign and return to Cielle Drouant at 2121 Ridge Ct. Drop the forms along with two (2) checks each made payable to Forest Brook HOA in the amount of \$50.00.

One check is a non-refundable check for the pool party and the other is for a deposit that you will get back providing the area is clean and all trash thrown away.

The party area will be checked out after each pool party and your deposit check will be shredded. All pool parties are booked in three (3) hour intervals and are booked on a first come basis. Parties are to start at 10AM and MUST end (and that includes the clean up process) by 8PM.

Due to a liability issue with our insurance company, homeowners MUST now hire

their own lifeguard for all pool parties, regardless of the number of attendees. In the past, residents have been using Amy Smith who is a lifeguard at PAC and is a resident of Forest Brook. Amy charges \$15/hour and you can contact Amy directly at 985-778-1013.

## NEIGHBOR FOR HIRE

Please contact Cielle Drouant at 985-951-7080 or email at: [cielle1950@bellsouth.net](mailto:cielle1950@bellsouth.net) if you are still interested in either baby-sitting or pet-sitting services. This advertising section is free of charge. Deadline for notification is March 31, 2009

## Welcome Neighbor

There are a lot of new residents in Forest Brook and we would like to know something about you and your family, so please don't forget to turn in your Welcome Neighbor packet as soon as possible. We will introduce you to your new friends by way of the Forest Brook Newsletter. Please contact Tyanne Coudrain at 985-626-7079 to obtain a copy of the Welcome Packet.

## Garbage Pick Up

The SDT garbage pick up days are now Mondays and Thursdays. Be sure and place your garbage cans on the street on Sunday night and Wednesday night and remove from the street after pick up days.

## Upcoming Social Events

**April 5th—Easter Egg Hunt at the Pool House.** Please watch for more information on the time. Hot dogs will be served and the Easter Bunny will be present however, we need a few volunteers to help make cup cakes. Please contact Tyanne Coudrain at 985-626-7079 if you are willing to help with this fun filled event for our kids.



**June 13th—Luau Party (8PM) at the Pool House (Adults only)** - Once again the band Clockwerk will be performing. Please bring your favorite dish for all to enjoy and BOYB. Set ups will be provided.

There will not be a summer kick off party this year.

## 2009 Mardi Gras Parade



The 2009 Forest Brook Mardi Gras parade was held on Sunday, February 15th and from these pictures, looks like everyone had a great time.

Our neighbors at the Mandeville Sports Complex has sent Forest Brook residents an invitation to their open house on Sunday, March 22nd. Please read the below invitation and take this opportunity to visit the Complex and introduce yourselves.



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23052 Highway 1088 Mandeville, Louisiana 70448 (985) 727-7277 Fax (985)727-9020

March 2, 2009

Forest Brook Howeowners Association  
Curtis Monson, President  
1128 Brook Court  
Mandeville, LA 70448

RE: *Grand Opening, March 22, 2009*

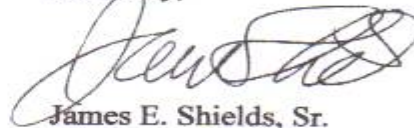
Dear Mr. Monson:

We are having our Grand Opening on Sunday, March 22, 2009 from 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. I enclose a brochure showing what we have done with our land and facility. It is truly adult and child friendly. We have invited all.

Come see. We will have free food, beverages and entertainment.

We thank our neighbors for their patience.

Sincerely,



James E. Shields, Sr.  
Owner

P.S. We have added the 120 parking spaces requested and will have an additional 80-200 available. Pastor Doug of the church located across the street and I have mutually agreed to share parking of the church and of our facility ongoing. This in the event of overflow at any time for both of us. The church is zoned for 90 spots. I believe this will prevent any parking/traffic problems in the future.

# Need To Know Phone Numbers

## Utility Services

Bell South Telephone	557-6500	SDT (Garbage)	504-940-2177
CLECO (Electric)	800-622-6537	Washington St. Tammany (WST)	892-8804
ATMOS (Gas)	800-547-4321	SELA (Water)	626-8426
Charter Communications	645-8000	Direct TV (Satellite)	888-783-0726

## Public Schools

St. Tammany School Board	892-2276	Magnolia Trace Elementary	626-8238
Mandeville Elementary	626-3950	Mandeville Middle	626-8778
Mandeville Junior	626-4428	Mandeville High	626-4428
Monteleone Jr. High	951-8088	Fontainebleau Junior	626-1778
Fontainebleau High	892-7112	Lake Harbor Middle	674-4440
Woodlake Elementary	626-8842		

## Private Schools

Our Lade of The Lake	626-5678	Cedarwood	845-7111
Lake Castle	845-3537	Mary Queen of Peace	674-2466
Northlake Christian	892-2683	St. Paul's	892-3200
St. Scholastica	892-2540		

## Hospitals/Clinics

St. Tammany Parish Hospital	898-4000	Lakeview Regional Hospital	867-3800
Ochsner Clinic Covington	875-2828	Redi-Med Walk In Clinic	626-8470

## Miscellaneous

LA Motor Vehicles	624-4445	Mandeville City Hall	626-3144
Fire District #4	626-8671	Mandeville Post Office	626-8147
Registrar of Voters	898-2572	St. Tammany Sheriff's Office	809-8200
Magnificent Mailboxes	641-3145	Tourist & Convention Commission	892-0520
W. St. Tammany Chamber	892-3216	St. Tammany Dept of Animal Svc	809-0183

## Donations/Discards

Salvation Army	643-5516	Vietnam Veterans of America	800-775-8387
Samaritan Center	626-4457	Habitat for Humanity	893-3172