



Charter Point Notes

September 2010



Two things Florida can teach the other 49 states: how to make a really good Margarita and how to deal with the aftermath of a hurricane. ~ Tom Feeney (Florida House of Representatives, 24th District)



Charter Point is Going Green!

The *Charter Point Notes* newsletter will soon be “going green.” With printing costs at approximately \$115 per issue and over 2/3 of residents currently receiving the newsletter via email, converting from paper to electronic distribution makes sense, saving the Association around \$1,400 annually, as well as helping to save trees. The Association will continue to publish, print, and distribute paper copy newsletters through December 2010 before going fully green in January. Effective January 1, 2011, *Charter Point Notes* distribution will be primarily available by email and online (www.charterpoint.org). Households with email or Internet are encouraged to join the *Charter Point Breaking News* e-news group to receive the newsletter electronically. Contact Linda Hemphill, Breaking e-News administrator, at cpcanews@aol.com to join. Residents without email or Internet access may continue receiving a paper copy. Contact Linda Hemphill, *Charter Point Notes* editor, if you wish to continue receiving a paper copy.



Charter Point Pride

We have all undoubtedly affirmed many times that we are fortunate to live in a wonderful community with beautiful homes, well kept lawns, and a neighborly ambiance. Although we have much to be proud of, there are some lingering “blemishes” which need attention:

Fences: Please keep your fence in good form by replacing broken boards or repairing gates. Helpful tip: power washing brightens the appearance of a fence, making it look new. **Yard Care:** Please keep your yard regularly mowed and beds weeded (or install a suitable ground cover vs. defaulting to bare dirt) to maintain a pleasing over all appearance of our neighborhood. (See lawn standards on p. 3)

Home Additions and Changes: No additions or changes to the exterior of the home, including painting and fence installation, are permitted until you have received Architectural Review Committee (ARC) approval. Replacement projects, such as repainting, re-siding, and re-roofing require pre-approval, too. **ARC Approval Process:** Charter Point ARC guidelines and request forms (general & for fences) are available on the Charter Point Website, www.charterpoint.org, or by contacting Craig Hemphill, C&R/ARC Committee chair, at rcraigh@aol.com. When submitting a request form, please attach a drawing of the project or change being requested and, if available, a picture of what you are adding to the property (such as a product brochure, paint sample, or designer rendering). Send request to Craig Hemphill (rcraigh@aol.com or 5487 River Trail Rd, N.).



Change of Season

Can you believe fall is upon us again! It seems only a few months ago a common theme heard around town was -- “I can’t wait for springtime and warmer temperatures.” More recently, record breaking 90° plus temperatures relegated that theme to -- “This heat is unbearable, I can’t wait for fall!”

During my childhood many years ago, I recall confiding in my mom a desire to speed through adolescence to adulthood in order to do as I pleased and not have others tell me what to do! I also recall the sage advice she shared with me – “Don’t rush it, you’ll be grown-up soon enough and will miss your days of youth!” In the years following that youthful conversation, two facts resonate above all others – mothers are incredibly wise and there’s always someone around to tell you what to do.

As President of your Association, I encourage you to share your views with me and other board members. Though we’re often referred to as “The Association”, we are your Association and rely heavily on your input/feedback in the management of our community. No one can attend all meetings, but I encourage everyone to block at least one hour on your calendar to participate in a monthly board meeting and/or a semi-annual members’ meeting. In fact, please accept my personal invitation to attend the upcoming semi-annual CPCA Members’ meeting scheduled at the University Park Library on Saturday, September 18th from 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon. If for some reason you’re unable to attend the meeting, please consider how you can contribute personally to making Charter Point a better neighborhood and share those thoughts with us.

One final point – time is a relative point in one’s life. Just think, the Christmas season will soon be upon us. I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting! ~ Walt Holton

CPCA meetings are open to members in good standing and new residents only. Thank you.

Charter Point Community Association Members’ Meeting
Saturday, September 18, 2010 10:30Am—12:00 PM
University Park Library

Special Guest
Clay Yarborough
City Council, District 1

The **Charter Point Community Association Board of Directors** has the primary responsibility of ensuring that the best interest of all homeowners is the first priority in all decisions. Our commitment to you is to continue to be proper stewards of CPCA resources and maintain the community as one of the most desirable places to live in the area. The Board wishes to extend a special thank you to all who have been supportive in helping us accomplish this task. All homeowners are reminded to become familiar with the Charter Point Covenants & Restrictions, applicable to all properties regardless of CPCA membership status. You can view and download/print the C&R from www.charterpoint.org. C&R FAQ's, also on the Website, will assist you greatly with understanding restrictions and can answer many of the routine questions you might have. CPCA Association bylaws are also available for viewing/printing from the Web site.

Charter Point Community Association Board

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September Yard of the Month

Barry & Janice Barrett
4572 Oak Bay Drive, West (Lot 208)



Welcome New Neighbors!

The Smith Family
(Larry, Kristy, Zachary, Ashley, & Cole)
4429 Oak Bay Drive, W.

The Nelson Family
(Josh, Elizabeth, Hoss & Zack)
5367 Oak Bay Drive

Community Voices

As eluded to in previous newsletters and discussed door-to-door during the revised C&R consent gathering campaign, Charter Point reached a point where many C&R abiding homeowners vehemently asked for the Board to pursue corrective action, legally if necessary, against homeowners who do not show the aesthetic commitment necessary in a neighborhood of this kind, as is called for under the C&R governing documents to keep our homes and yards within the necessary standards. For this reason, the CPCA has sent notices of correction letters to homeowners in need of better kept properties or specific issues in need of correction. This will continue until Owners (and Tenants, if necessary) take corrective action to improve the aesthetics of their properties for the betterment of the community.



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Attention: New Charter Point Residents! The Charter Point Community Association has a welcome packet of information and a hospitality gift for you. If you recently moved into the neighborhood and would like a welcome visit, contact Nancy Barnes, Hospitality Chair, at 744-9055 or nancyfsu76@aol.com.

Lawn & Landscape Maintenance

The new revised Covenants empower the Association to take action when lawns are neglected. Properties must meet the exterior standards established by these Covenants, with lawns regularly maintained in a neat fashion. The following guidelines represent the expressed concerns submitted by Charter Point residents, approved by the CPCA Board.

GUIDELINES for MINIMUM lawn maintenance: "Minimum" assumes that a lawn is already in reasonable condition. Obviously if a lawn is in poor shape, it will need more work to restore it.

- The front, side and rear yards must be sodded with sufficient grass or appropriate ground cover (e.g., ivy, Mondo grass, shrubbery, flower beds, Xeriscaping and the like) with the exception of paved areas, patios, swimming pools, etc. Landscape design is up to the discretion of the individual property owner in keeping with CPCA covenants. Shade tolerant sod or appropriate ground cover is suggested for heavily shaded lawns that cannot grow grass.
- Shrub and Ground Cover Beds: planting areas consisting of groundcover and shrubs should be regularly maintained to prevent an unkempt appearance created by overgrown or "leggy" plant growth or invasive weeds. Weeds should be routinely removed or chemically or organically controlled. General trimming of shrubs to maintain a natural shape which is characteristic of the plant is encouraged. Mulching of shrub and groundcover areas is also encouraged. The edges where beds meet turf or structures should be maintained with a clean, trimmed edge.
- All lawn and garden areas must be kept free of weeds and maintained in a neat fashion. Weeds must be removed regularly.
- Lawns must be cut weekly during the growing season; during the hot, drier summer months, cut once every 10 days. Grass must not exceed 6 inches in height. To prevent stressing the grass, leading to disease or death, care should be taken to avoid mowing too close to the root: Suggested mower blade height from the grass roots (St. Augustine variety): 3.0" – 4.0". *Source: Florida Cooperative Extension Service, Publication SS-ENH-09*
- Mower Clippings: grass clippings should not be permitted to remain on any street, driveway or sidewalk after mowing is completed. All clippings must be raked, swept, or blown off these surfaces. Clippings should not be swept or blown into storm sewer inlets or neighboring yards.
- Lawns must be edged at least periodically (e.g., monthly in March, May, July, September, November, at minimum). All areas that touch concrete (curbs, sidewalks, etc.) must be edged.
- Dead trees must be cut down and stumps removed to ground level and removed from the property promptly to prevent loss of living trees via pests and/or disease. No CPCA approval to remove dead trees is required. Consulting an arborist before removing a possibly diseased tree is recommended. Do not rely on the advice of a lawn service or tree trimmer.
- Pruning: trees should be pruned to remove dead limbs and suckers, and in such a manner to maintain the general natural shape characteristic of the species. Limbs which endanger physical property (fences, houses, etc.) on an adjacent property should be removed. Tree branches over the sidewalk should be trimmed to at least ten (10) feet in height over the sidewalk area.
- Vines: non-ornamental vines (e.g., Kudzu, creeper vines, etc.) must be kept from proliferating on fences and home exteriors. Honeysuckle and jasmine are acceptable vines provided they are not so invasive that their growth is engulfing a neighboring tree or shrubbery, or so heavy along a fence that the fence is at risk of deterioration or being pulled down by the weight of the vine.

In the event that a yard is neglected by an absentee owner, the Association may, after following prescribed steps, take action to provide remedial action and charge the owner. If a yard is neglected by an owner in residence, the Board may enforce its reasonable requirements for maintaining the property and has tools for enforcement, along with procedures for communication to avert unnecessary confrontation.

Charter Point is an upscale neighborhood, however more attractive in years past. If we all do our part in keeping up our lawns, we will reap aesthetic and financial rewards. Lawn standards and enforcement procedures were not created to effect a "Stepford - like" neighborhood, where each lot looks exactly the same. However, our little oasis in Arlington has experienced a downturn in appearance in recent years, as evidenced by the continued gross neglect of several properties. Such deplorable conditions are totally unacceptable. Additionally, several sub-standard, but less glaring properties need attention, too. We can all at least regularly mow and edge our lawns, and sustain a good portion of grass or attractive groundcover. If you are struggling to maintain your lawn, please contact a service provider for assistance or ask neighbors who use a lawn service for recommendations. Neighborhood teens looking to earn extra money may also be available to tend to basic lawn care needs for a nominal charge. Outsourced or self-attended, lawn care is a good investment in your property.

GREATER ARLINGTON CIVIC COUNCIL
Meeting Agenda
Thursday, September 2, 2010
Regency Square Library
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Call to Order
Treasurer's Report - John Roberts.
President's Remarks - Lad Hawkins/on vacation
Vice President & Membership - Dianne Wiles

Welcome to a new school year and continued Summer in Jacksonville.

MEMBERSHIP: Membership is important. Plan to join now and pass the word to other neighborhood associations, communities and businesses that are not currently GACC Members.

ARBORETUM AND GARDENS: There is a major work day planned for Saturday Sept 11. Plan to come out and participate. There are jobs suitable for everyone. A fundraising event is planned for this Spring called a *Plein Aire*, or Paint Out. Twenty Eight Regionally known artists have already committed to paint on site at this event. Their artwork will be sold at a Gala to raise funds for the Arboretum. Summer hours for the Arboretum are 8:00 am to 7:00 pm, seven days a week. Mindy Hawkins is membership Chair for the Arboretum. The Arboretum has over 150 members. Have you joined yet? Check out the Web Site at jacksonvillearboretum.org.

VISIONING: Stay tuned. We are waiting for Zyscovich to complete his draft report.

CRAIG FIELD: A firm has been selected to guide JAA through a comprehensive brand review process for Jacksonville International Airport, Craig Municipal, Herlong, and Cecil Field Airports. Stakeholders in Craig Field, consisting of tenants, users, neighboring communities, etc. were invited to the initial kick-off meeting at Craig last Thursday, July 29th. Barry Bobek continues to function in an Amicus capacity in conjunction with the City in our behalf.

MAYPORT CRUISE TERMINAL: JPA has announced that they are once more assessing the potential for a Cruise Ship Terminal at Mayport. Three sites are currently being studied. The Mayport site is the only site being studied east of the Dames Point bridge. The other two sites have not been identified. Cost and economic feasibility will drive this decision. The results of the AB Visioning in our community has made it clear that a Cruise Ship Terminal is inappropriate for Mayport.

GATE STATION: (Wonderwood) Sadly, the City Council voted to approve this rezoning application even though Bill Bishop, John Crescembini and Clay Yarborough all opposed this rezoning. ABCPAC and GACC also strongly opposed this rezoning and many GACC members attended the various committee and council meetings to express their opposition. Following this decision Bill Bishop has requested that the Planning Department further strengthen the wording in the Wonderwood Corridor study to insure that this rezoning does not set a precedent for further rezonings along the WW corridor. John Fox and his neighbors have appealed this zoning decision.

ROGERO TOWN CENTER: The contract for the Rogero/ Arlington Road roundabout design work was authorized and the design work is underway. Clay Yarborough has withdrawn Resolution 2010-364 and has announced that he no longer intends to remove palm trees on the Rogero Town Center project. Check out this project now that the braces have been removed from the palms. It is a great improvement. Many thanks to Roberta Thomas for many years of hard work on this Town Center Project.

Greater Arlington Civic Council cont'd

WONDERWOOD III: Landscape Installation is complete. The contractor will maintain all the plant material for one year. Any plants that are dead or not healthy after a year will be replaced. The corridor looks very good. Thanks to Clay Yarborough, Lake Ray, Bill Bishop, Lynette Self, the City and JTA for working with the community to come up with a quality landscape plan that will replace some of the 22,000 caliper inches of mature protected trees that were removed to construct this project. This most scenic corridor is once again Scenic.

FLORIDA HOMETOWN DEMOCRACY/AMENDMENT 4: If this amendment passes the Planning Commission and City Council will review prospective land use changes as they do currently. If the land use change is approved by the City, voters will be asked to decide if the land use change is warranted. GACC as well as other organizations will make recommendations to the voters on land use changes proposed in our community. We have a comp plan. Is it unreasonable to ask developers to either follow our comp plan or convince us, the voters, that a comp plan change is in the communities best interest?
Think Craig Field!

CITY BUDGET: In the works.

INTERNET CAFES 2010-326: This involves the issue of video casino display devices and the issues of what constitutes gambling. Representatives in favor of the legislation made a presentations at ABCPAC's July 11th meeting. The representatives in opposition to the legislation were invited but did not attend. The full ABCPAC voted to support this legislation.

ST. JOHN'S RIVER: A St. Johns River Summit has been set for September 15th and 16th. It will be held at the Prime Osborn Convention Center. Details at www.stjohnsriversummit.com.

Gail Melton: Gail, who passed away recently, was a longtime Arlington Resident and was active in GACC, SHADCO and the ABCPAC. In her memory there is now a room in the University Park Library called the *Gail Melton Community Room*.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

NEIGHBORHOOD ISSUES

ADJOURNMENT



City of Jacksonville Recycling Program

Items for Curbside Blue Bin Collection

(Items accepted for recycling are not limited to the brands shown.)



Aluminum Cans



Metal Cans



Glass Bottles



Brown Paper Bags



Magazines



Newspapers



Phone Books



Corrugated Cardboard

For questions call: 630-CITY (630-2489)

City of Jacksonville Recycling Program (continued)

Plastic Bottles With Necks & Screw-on Tops
Labeled with a 1 or 2

(Items accepted for recycling are not limited to the brands shown.)



Oil, pool chemical, pesticide & fertilizer bottles are not recyclable.

For questions call: 630-CITY (630-2489)



CURBSIDE ITEMS

Note: The City no longer provides blue plastic recycle bins. If you do not have a blue plastic bin, you can use paper bags or other comparably sized plastic bins for your recyclables. Please, no plastic bags. The City-issued blue bins were 18 gallon containers measuring at 15" wide by 22" long and 15" deep. No "tall" recycle bins can be used since the collection employee has to separate material prior to it being put in the truck. Bins can be any color. (from www.coj.net)

Bin too full?

Place extra items curbside in a brown paper bag. Please do not use plastic bags for recyclables.



Need a new bin?

Call 630-CITY (630-2489) to request delivery of a new or replacement blue bin. Dispose of damaged bins with household garbage.

Do not place these items in your blue bin!

- plastic bags
- butter tubs & lids
- wet newspapers
- pizza boxes
- juice and milk cartons
- egg cartons
- styrofoam trays
- paperboard boxes (cereal)
- books (hardback)
- office paper
- toys
- aluminum foil
- pie plates
- clothes hangers
- broken glass, mirrors
- motor oil containers, auto parts
- pool and other chemical containers, aerosol cans
- window glass
- yard waste

