

Emerald Forest

DECEMBER 2010

JOSE VAZQUEZ, EDITOR

From the President



Happy Holidays to each of you. I want to thank you for allowing me to serve as your president this past year. It has been an honor and privilege. I want to extend a very special thank you to our board, social committee, tennis committee, newsletter editor, contributors, block captains, and many volunteers that work tirelessly for the betterment of our Emerald Forest neighborhood.

As we begin 2011, please consider volunteering your time and talents. The opportunities abound. Please volunteer for one of our formed committees or start a new group such as ladies Bunco. We need you!. I encourage you to participate in Welcome Wagon, Second Saturday Coffees, Social Committee events, Tennis Committee, Nominating Committee, Block Captains and National Night Out. Opportunities are only limited by your imagination. Please print and post on your refrigerator the 2011 social calendar on page 3.

Let's ring in 2011 with a New Year's resolution to make this year the best in Emerald Forest's history.

Judy Matlock

*Thank
You*

A very special thank you to Jack Rutkowski, our Tennis Committee Chair, who is stepping down after serving in the position for 16 years. The commitment and dedication he has shown to our community is very much appreciated.

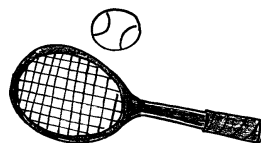


T'is the Season ...

to secure your valuables by taking a few precautions. Lock car doors and keep anything left in your car out of sight.



Tennis Report



As of December 31, 2010, and after 16 years of willing service, I will no longer preside as chair of the Tennis Committee. The purpose of this report is twofold: 1) introduce my replacement and 2) provide EFHA members the necessary insight into the maintenance of our tennis courts.

Randy Clark is replacing me as chair of the Tennis Committee. He is a capable young man who plays on our courts frequently. He is well aware of what is needed to keep the courts efficiently and cost effectively maintained. Randy plans to have several experienced tennis players to assist him on his committee.

I am very thankful to several individuals who have assisted me in maintaining the tennis courts. Floyd Thurman has spent numerous hours helping me put on new nets, repair the benches, and tie down the windbreakers. I also thank Hannah Smith, Kensey Boykin, and Randy Clark for their assistance.

In 1994, the tennis courts were under the care of the person taking care of the pool. She was not a tennis player and welcomed my offer to volunteer. At that time, the courts were in poor condition and needed a lot of attention.

Over time, and as funds were approved, I made the following improvements:

- Repaired cracks through court resurfacing every 5 years for a total of three times
- Improved poor lighting by increasing the number of light fixtures from 4 to 8
- Had benches made for the players Rewired and repaired the side fences
- Installed an entrance gate where, previously, there had been none
- Designed and had built a push button light timer switch
- Replaced nets and center straps numerous times Secured windbreakers with nylon

rope where, previously, plastic ties lasted only three months

- Recommended installation a separate clock to turn lights on and off for the pool and courts
- Replaced all light bulbs and ballasts at the same time resulting in 5 years service without failure
- Kept the tree area on the far side of the court area in pristine condition to enhance the future tree growth which provides excellent shade for court #2.

Several years ago, the EFHA changed the By Laws separating the tennis courts from being under the jurisdiction of the pool board member. This ensured that the courts are maintained and funded appropriately for tennis players. During my tenure as chair, the funds spent on the tennis courts averaged less than 3% per year of the annual membership dues.

I suggest that, eventually, the four light poles be sanded and painted. In addition, I feel that the windbreakers will soon need all new ropes to keep them properly secured.

My goal, when I started, was to keep the EFHA tennis courts in good condition and ready to play 365 days of the year. I believe I met that goal and am happy to have been able to provide this commitment to our community.

I have confidence in Randy Clark that he will provide excellent care of the courts. I am pleased that he has offered his services to be the new chair of the Tennis Committee. As I pass on the responsibilities of Tennis Committee chair to Randy, I feel that I have left this function in good hands.

-- Jack Rutkowski

Emerald Forest Social Calendar

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	TIME	ACTIVITY OR GUESTS
January 8	Second Saturday Coffee	Clubhouse	9-11 AM	*Police Dept.
February 12	Second Saturday Coffee	Clubhouse	9-11 AM	*Fire Dept
March 12	Second Saturday Coffee	Clubhouse	9-11 AM	*Card Games
March 26	The Big Event	Emerald Forest	9 AM - Noon	
April 9	Second Saturday Coffee	Clubhouse	9-11 AM	*Book Review
April 23	Children's Easter Egg Hunt	Clubhouse	10 AM-Noon	
May 7	Annual Garage Sale	Emerald Forest	8 AM-Noon	
May 12	Ladies Salad Dinner and Bunco	Clubhouse	6-9 PM	
May 14	Second Saturday Coffee	Clubhouse	9-11 AM	*City of CS
June 11	Second Saturday Coffee	Clubhouse	9-11 AM	*New Neighbors
July 9	Second Saturday Coffee	Clubhouse	9-11 AM	*By the Pool
August 13	Second Saturday Coffee	Clubhouse	9-11 AM	*Aggies/football
August 27	Back to School Swim Party	Clubhouse/Pool	10 AM - 1PM	
September 10	Second Saturday Coffee	Clubhouse	9-11 AM	*Block Captains
October 3	National Night Out	Clubhouse	5-8 PM	
October 8	Second Saturday Coffee	Clubhouse	9-11 AM	*Card Games
November 12	Second Saturday Coffee	Clubhouse	9-11 AM	*Veterans
December 10	Second Saturday Coffee	Clubhouse	9-11 AM	*Food Drive
December 11	Christmas Party	Clubhouse	6-9 PM	