

MCCONNELL'S TRACE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



Established 2000

A Deed Restricted Community

September 2011

Events and Announcements

October 27 (Thursday)

Semi-Annual MCTNA Meeting

**The next semi-annual meeting of the MTNA will be Thursday, October 27, 7:00 PM, at the First Baptist Church of Bracktown*

December 19(Monday)

Judging for Holiday Lights Contest

**Judging will take place for the annual Holiday Lights Contest about an hour after dark*

**Articles elsewhere in newsletter*

APPRECIATION TO OUR PAST MTNA PRESIDENT

The McConnell's Trace Neighborhood Association (MTNA) Semi-annual Meeting was held on April 28. At the meeting, Barbara Stucker, the new President, presented Robert Russell-Tutty with a plaque expressing appreciation for his 10 years of dedicated service to the MTNA. He became the first President of the Association in 2001 and held that office until his resignation in January of 2011. During those 10 years he kept the reputation of this community "at the top" through the enforcement of deed restrictions and encouragement of community spirit. Examples of his accomplishments include the landscaping and lighting at both entrances and the installation of an irrigation system at each entrance. He encouraged the organization of the Garden Committee, Social Committee, and Greenway Committee. As a result of his efforts, an annual picnic, Easter Egg Hunt and yard sale became annual events. Block Captains were put in place for each street to help increase communication with the 650 residences in the community, the MTNA started publication of its newsletter, and a website was established. Each year he provided communication with McConnell's Trace residents through two semi-annual meetings. These are only a few of his accomplishments during his ten years as President. Time will long remember your achievements and your leadership in McConnell's Trace. Thank you for your devoted service and for making us proud of this neighborhood.



Barb Stucker presented a plaque of appreciation to Bob Russell-Tutty.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's hard to believe it's already fall—at least it's September, even though the weather still seems like summer. Fall brings so many things that I love---beautiful colors, the warm days and crisp nights, the holidays, but, unfortunately, winter comes right behind it! As the newsletter goes to press this time, we are mid-way between hot days and the cool ones coming right behind.

Hopefully the cooler weather will mean a lessening of some of the mischief we have seen in our neighborhood lately. There have been several incidents involving vandalism, property damage, and thefts from automobiles. I encourage each of you to get in contact with the police whenever something like this happens to you. We need the attention of the police in order to be able to resolve those issues. But what we need most is your involvement. Have you ever realized that reporting any issues at your address is also being a good neighbor to those around you? The additional attention this might get from the police might prevent further incidents, or even something more serious.

In addition, please get in touch with one of us on the Board or call or email your Street Captain. The more people who know of these activities, the more of us can be on the alert for things that look suspicious. Even if you don't have property damages or thefts, please let us know of unusual activities you may see around you. We have the resources to alert others so we can all look out for each other.

It seems any more that we are all so busy that you may not want to take the time to talk to someone about things like this. Rest assured, busy as we all are, we all need to help keep our community safe so we can feel secure. In addition, I would urge everyone to make an effort every day to be a good neighbor----speak to the person you meet at the mailbox, wave to that person down the street, keep an eye out for anything out of the ordinary at your neighbor's home. It's nice to get to know your neighbors. It seems like with so much negativity in the world, being a good neighbor is just one way to make the world a better place, starting right here at home.

There are articles elsewhere in the newsletter about the planting of yard trees. Having a yard tree is required in the Deed of Restrictions. You can find the restrictions and Association bylaws on our website, www.mctna.org. By the way, if you'd like to submit an article for the newsletter or have something of interest that should be on the website, please feel free to contact me, bkstucker@gmail.com. We would also welcome your involvement in the Social Committee, Garden Club, or any other type of involvement you might want to offer. We are always looking for Street Captains, too---the best way to be in the know about what's happening on your street. Check the list of Street Captains on page 9 for a list of streets that need representation.

Our next association meeting is Thursday, October 27, at 7:00 PM at the First Baptist Church at Bracktown. I hope you will come and take the time to join us and see what's going on; our attendance is growing! Again, feel free to contact me with your suggestions or concerns.

Sincerely,
Barb Stucker
MTNA President

MTNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President: Barbara Stucker 129 Ocoee Court 859-389-8331 bkstucker@gmail.com

Vice President: Kay Blues 3017 Town Branch Road 859-246-0664 kblues@insightbb.com

Treasurer: Bob Russell-Tutty 104 McConnell's Trace Blvd 859-233-2940 secureins@insightbb.com

Secretary: Lisa Martin 129 Yamacraw Place 859-948-8365 lisaguintet@insightbb.com

Board Members:

Herald Ikard 297 Long Branch Lane 859-552-8065 hikard4@yahoo.com

Social Club Chair: Lisa Martin **Newsletter/Website Chair:** Barbara Stucker

Greenway Chair: DG Gridley **Garden Club Chair:** Will Hardin

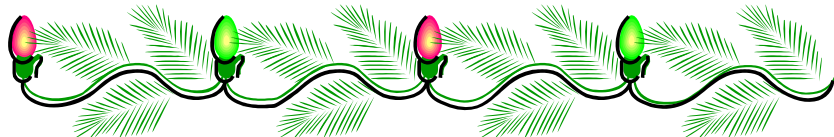
Block Captain Chair: Kay Blues **Deed Restriction and Enforcement Chair:** Bob Russell-Tutty



HOLIDAY LIGHTS CONTEST 2011



Winter will be here before we know it. And that means the 4th annual McConnell's Trace Holiday Lights Contest is almost here! We've had wonderful displays in years past, and surely this year will be no different. About an hour past dark on December 19, a judging panel will drive through the neighborhood to see who has that one display that simply outshines the rest. Will you win bragging rights this year for your awesome display? Bring on the lights---and it just may be you!



RESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOR MAKES GOOD SCENTS

It's been a long hot summer and a break in the temperature seems good, but it just does not make me feel any better about the "little things" that just keep occurring while I am on my walks with my master. Some things just get to me and I have to talk about them. I keep thinking that if I growl about them enough they will go away, but they do not. I guess I could compare them with barking at the mailman – I bark; he goes away and then.....he always comes back again.

Cut Grass on the Sidewalk – Now I am not complaining about people mowing their lawns, but why don't they use a blower or broom to clean the grass off the sidewalk after they finish? Not only does it look unsightly, but it is not pleasant to walk through. It gets in my paws and sometimes causes allergies because the grass has been treated with chemicals.

Dogs Lifting Their Leg on Plants and Flowers – I admit I too like to smell all those good aromas on the pretty plants and flowers in residents' yards, but just as soon as I stretch my nose out to enjoy other good dog aromas, I get jerked back on the sidewalk. My master knows that each time a dog smells vapors of another dog, the chain reaction begins. And then of course, it is not long before all intentions of the homeowner to make the yard look pretty turn into ugly brown wilting greenery.

Bagged Dog Poop Along the Way – I guess that some dog owners justify their guilt because they have exerted an effort to bend down, scoop up and sack the doo-doo. That having been done, they walk a little further and try to inconspicuously drop the bag in the grass. The dog doo-doo is still there and now they also become litter bugs!

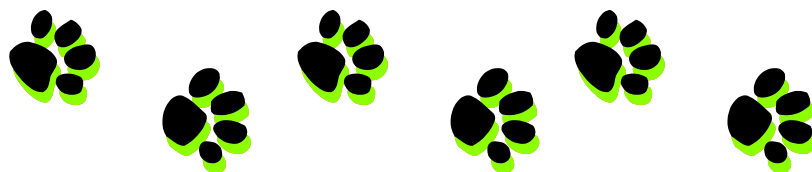
Bicycle Courtesy on the Trail – Sometimes my master and I are just walking along enjoying ourselves on the trail and "holy cats", out of nowhere a bicycle whizzes around us at a hundred miles an hour! We are left behind still trying to figure out why we were lucky enough not to be flattened on the pavement. There are a few riders who do have enough sense, as they come up behind walkers, to slow down and call out a few words like, "Hi, good morning, bike on your right (or left), coming around on your left", etc. It's just common sense that not all bikers can be heard when they approach from behind. Wouldn't it be great if all bicycles were equipped with car horns, or tricycle bells?

Water and Health Drink Bottles – It especially tees me off when my master has to stop and pick up litter, but what I really do not understand is the plastic water and health drink bottles cast aside. Supposedly runners, walkers, and bikers are out there in the environment trying to be, stay or get healthy; each toting their bottled liquid to stay hydrated, keep cool or just enjoy the environment. So now they empty their drink and throw the bottle in the grass for someone else to pick up – not the behavior of an environmentalist; maybe, more like a naturalist (do what comes naturally).

Well folks, I know how it is.....I went through obedience training, but sometimes I have to be reminded to change bad habits.

Sincerely,

Black Dog





McConnell's Trace

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DEED RESTRICTION CORNER

By Robert B. Russell-Tutty

Deed Restriction and Enforcement Chair

The McConnell's Trace Neighborhood Association Deed of Restrictions is in place to maintain the value of our homes and the quality of our home life. All homeowners are expected to know the Deed Restrictions and follow them accordingly. If you do not have a copy of the Deed of Restrictions, it is available on our website www.mctna.org.

In December, the McConnell's Trace Neighborhood Association Board of Directors and the developer amended the Bylaws and Deed of Restrictions. As required by the bylaws, every member should have received a notice in December of last year advising them of the changes. In last month's column, I addressed the changes to portable storage units and basketball goals.

In this issue I will address the following changes: **Use and Storage of Vehicles, Drainage and Rain Barrels.**

Use and Storage of Vehicles; any language in the Deeds of Restrictions pertaining to the use and storage of vehicles is hereby superseded by the following language, and if no such language exists, a new section is hereby added to each of the Deeds of Restrictions to read as follows. This addendum to the use and storage of vehicles shall not change, modify or remove any language in the Deeds of Restrictions concerning "Use of other structures" or "building or structure of a temporary character" or "detached buildings"

Use and Storage of vehicles; (a) No commercial trailer, commercial truck, other commercial vehicle, camper trailer, recreational vehicle, camping vehicle, personal watercraft, all-terrain vehicle (ATV), boat, trailer, or similar non-traditional passenger vehicle shall be parked or kept on any lot at any time unless said vehicle is present for delivery, construction purposes, the performance of some work at said Lot, or is kept in a garage or basement. No vehicle identified in this section or any inoperable vehicle or automobile shall be parked on any lot or street located in McConnell's Trace subdivision unless housed in a garage; shall not be parked on any street in McConnell's trace or upon McConnell's Trace streets, sidewalks, common areas or undeveloped areas in the McConnell's Trace subdivision.

(B) Any and all routine automobile or boat maintenance shall be conducted within the garage or within close proximity to the garage entrance. No such routine maintenance shall be permitted on residential streets or on portions of driveways within close proximity to the residential street.

Drainage and Rain Barrels; Any Language in the Deeds of Restrictions pertaining to draining and/or irrigation is hereby amended by the following language, and if no such language exists, a new section is hereby added to each Deeds of Restrictions to read as follows;

Drainage and Rain Barrels; Drainage of each lot shall be in conformity with the general plan of the subdivision; no storm water drains, roof downspouts or groundwater shall be integrated into the sanitary sewer system, and all lot connections shall be made with watertight joints in accordance with plumbing code requirements.

DEED RESTRICTION CORNER (Continued from Page 6)

Rainwater collection vessels (sometimes commonly referred to as “rain barrels” shall be permitted to collect roof water drainage if adequately connected to downspouts on a residence and integrated into and disguised so as to be a part of the general landscaping plan for the residents.

In future newsletters I will be addressing other changes to the Deed of Restrictions and Bylaws, including **Antennas and or Satellite Dishes, Radon Pipes, and Window Air Conditioners**, along with some changes to the Bylaws, in Article IIIc, Powers and Duties.

Feel free to e-mail me with any questions or concerns that you might have. Once again you can get a copy of our Deed of Restrictions or Bylaws by going to our website, www.mctna.org or by calling Maggard Property Management at 269-2222.

Bob
secureins@insightbb.com
233-2940

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MTNA BLOCK CAPTAINS DO GOOD THINGS

By Kay Blues, Block Captain Chair

I do not know how long you have lived in our community, but long enough, I hope, to appreciate the fact that McConnell's Trace has a Block Captain on each street. That is.....we did have. Unfortunately, we have lost three members of our crew and are hoping that we will soon have a volunteer to represent each of the three streets where we have lost our Block Captain: Ocoee Court, New River Place and Blue Heron.

This year, all have been helpful; some more than others. Nevertheless, their help in distributing flyers to each house on their street for the Great American Cleanup was invaluable. It would have taken many hours for one individual to deliver to 650 individual residences.

Our biggest project was the Great American Cleanup, a city-sponsored activity. I would like to recognize Block Captains Kevin FitzGerald, Trey McCallie, and Pam Russell-Tutty, Greenway Committee Members DG Gridley, Greg Hurr, MTNA member Jim Roark, and Board Members Bob Russell-Tutty, Barbara Stucker, and Kay Blues for devoting 9 AM to 12 PM on May 21, 2011 for completing the clearance of litter, weeds, trash and dead tree wood from the Trailwood Greenway. Thank you so much!

Other ways Street Captains helped the MTNA/Board were by reporting unmowed lawns, unkempt property, improperly located basketball goals, antennas and satellite dishes, as well as many other types of deed restriction violations. They served as ombudsmen to their neighbors in answering questions, finding answers to their questions or directing them to the proper person to answer their questions. Numerous times they were instrumental in obtaining a copy of Deed Restrictions for new residents. And on all occasions they provided a valuable link in communication between MTNA Board Members and residents.

If you live on any one of these three streets, Ocoee Court, New River Place or Blue Heron, currently in need of one of these helpful neighbors, please consider volunteering for the Block Captain position. Contact Block Captain Chair Kay Blues by e-mail at kblues@insightbb.com or by phone at 859-2466.



GOT A TREE IN YOUR YARD?

You may remember that in our last newsletter we mentioned that each home is supposed to have a tree in the front yard. We have had complaints from some homeowners who had planted trees that others didn't have one. So, in the spirit of fairness, the Association is going to start enforcing that restriction. Even owners with small yards can plant some dwarf or smaller variety of tree. There is an article elsewhere in the newsletter about choosing a tree for your yard. Many of the

nurseries in town would be happy to help you select the right tree for the space you have in your yard. Most will even plant the tree for a reasonable fee.

Because the hot days of late summer and fall are not ideal for planting---the best time to plant a tree is once the days turn cooler in the fall---the Association has decided not to issue violations until December. By the first of December, violations will be written if a tree hasn't been planted in the front yard. Thanks for helping to keep your neighborhood beautiful!

YOUR McCONNELL'S TRACE STREET REPRESENTATIVES

The MTNA Board is still looking for "Street Captains" for some of the streets below. By establishing Street Captains, we have increased your accessibility to reaching the board and making your voice heard. The Street Captain is your point person in the association. A Street Captain's responsibility is to hear/address your concerns and convey them to the board. If your street is not listed, we have not recruited anyone yet. If you are interested, please contact Street Captain Chair Kay Blues by e-mail at kblues@insightbb.com or by phone at 859-2466.

Angel Falls Drive – Joyce Everly 105 Angel Falls 388-9890 joeverly9890@yahoo.com

Black Water Lane – Tony Lancaster 220 Blackwater Lane 608-7304 tonyblancaster@yahoo.com

Blue Heron Place – OPEN

Bracktown Road – OPEN

Briggs Place – Nathan Lowe 2944 Briggs Place 309-3697 nate.lowe@yahoo.com

Burnt Mill Road – Bryan Schallner 2877 Burnt Mill Road 918-798-4606 bschallner@yahoo.com

Caddis Lane – Matt Hill 3008 Caddis Lane 312-2220 matthill@insightbb.com

Gauley Lane – Eddie Wesley 229 Gauley Lane 523-3069 edwes12@email.uky.edu

Leatherwood Lane - Bennie Pointer 177 Leatherwood Lane 252-1741 thepoynterfamily@gmail.com

Long Branch Lane – Keith Fitz-Gerald 212 Long Branch Lane (108-265) 327-7401 krfitz@windstream.com

Long Branch Lane – Herald Ikard 257 Long Branch Lane (268-496) 5552-8065 hikard4@insightbb.com

McConnell's Trace Blvd. – Pam Russell-Tutty 104 McConnells Trace 233-2940 pamrusselltutty@insightbb.com

New River Place – OPEN

New River Court – Melissa Grassle 216 New River Court 621-9500 missyg7@aol.com

Ocoee Court – OPEN

Old Woolen Mill Lane - Lauren Holman 257 Old Woolen Mill Lane 859-481-5770 laurenaholman@gmail.com

Peaks Mill Drive – Nathan Koerber 2892 Peaks Mill Drive 859-552-9325 n.koerber@insightbb.com

Trailwood Lane – Chuck White 3052 Trailwood Lane 859-231-0007 chuckwhite57@insightbb.com

Town Branch Road – Kay Blues 3017 Town Branch Road 246-0664 kblues@insightbb.com

Town Branch Cove – Cheryl Goldfarb 104 Town Branch Cove 335-9357 sgcar54@oal.com

White Oak Trace (100 -188) – Tony Wolfe 145 White Oak Trace 621-1821 tonywolfe@dbm.com

White Oak Trace (200-312) – Trey McCallie 244 White Oak Trace 312-7599 tremccallie@yahoo.com

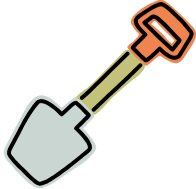
Yamacraw Place – Lisa Martin 129 Yamacraw Place 948-8365 lisaquintet@insightbb.com



HOMEOWNER MAINTENANCE TIP

Have you been noticing all the weeds and grass growing between your curb and the street or between the gaps in your sidewalk or driveway? This is a really easy problem to handle. Go to Home Depot or your favorite garden store and buy some Roundup. One or two applications per year will eliminate the problem and your home will have more curb appeal and value.

The Real Estate Expert



Prior to digging that hole for your new shrubs, trees, fence post, etc., call to have all underground utilities in your yard marked. You must call at least two business days before you begin to dig. This is a free service. More information can found at: www.kentucky811.org.



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- Over Seeding
- Aeration
- Mulching
- Annual Flowers
- Landscape Design, Installation & Maintenance

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Enhance Yard, Lower Energy Bill, Be CompliantPlant a Tree



Fall is the perfect time to plant a new shade tree in your front yard. The recommended time to plant trees in the fall is after the first frost and when leaves begin to fall off existing trees. Per the McConnell’s Trace subdivision Deed of Restriction, section 12 Trees: “Upon completion of construction of the house on each lot, the owner shall be responsible for planting at least one (1) shade tree in the front yard of the lot.”

To be in compliance, take this opportunity this fall to plant a shade tree. Not only do trees improve the appearance of your landscaping, they also can reduce your energy bill by providing shade to your home. Below you will find suggestions of several types of trees that vary in size to compliment your front yard. Two local nurseries, Great Acres Nursery Inc. and Two Brothers Garden Center and Landscape Design have agreed to offer discounts to McConnell’s Trace residents on tree purchases during the fall of 2011. Both nurseries recommend *placing orders in advance and referencing this article* to receive discounts.

Tree Name	Mature Height	Mature Width
Red Bud	15-20'	15-20'
Kwanzan Cherry	15-20'	15-20'
Thunder Cloud Plum	15-25'	15-25'
Prairefire Crabapple	15-25'	20-25'
Forrest Pansy Red Bud	25-30'	25-30'
October Glory Maple	35-40'	25-35'
Red Maple	40-50'	40-50'
Autumn Flame Maple	40-50'	40-50'

The Homeowner’s Association would like to thank Great Acres Nursery and Two Brothers Garden Center for extending discounts to McConnell’s Trace residents and contributing to this article.

- Great Acres Nursery Inc. – 2751 Leestown Road, Lexington, KY 40511 (859) 254-7252
- Two Brothers Garden Center and Landscape Design – 4000 Leestown Road, Lexington KY, 40511 (859) 254-4920

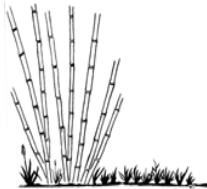




SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING

The fall semi-annual meeting of the McConnell's Trace Neighborhood Association will be held on Thursday, October 27, at 7 PM at the First Baptist Church of Bracktown. We will meet in the Community Room.

Please plan to attend to see what's going on in your neighborhood!



McConnell's Trace Neighborhood Assoc.
c/o Maggard Properties
133 Walton Avenue
Lexington, KY 40508