



Lake Heather Oaks

Community Newsletter

Quarter 2 – 2023

A Message from our President

You know what they say, you only have one chance to make a great first impression – and the entrances to LHO are where we can make a positive and lasting first impression.

Earlier this year, the LHO Board hired an arborist to remove two dead trees at the Valley entrance, and we continue to work with an irrigation crew to repair and replace the irrigation at the entryways. We are now entering the final phase of the project – new landscaping! Landscaping will begin around the first week of May and we can't wait to see the final result.

I am happy to announce that LHO applied for and was awarded a Hillsborough County mini grant this year! The grant will fund the purchase and installation of a new community message board that will be placed at the entrance of the park and a new bike rack that will be installed at the bus stop at the corner of Valley and Rolling Rock.

There is a lot of hard work being done by your HOA board of directors. If you have any special skills or just have an interest in the neighborhood, please volunteer your time on one of our committees (more details on page 2). We've seen an uptick in homeowner attendance at our monthly board meetings, and I really hope we can continue with that momentum. Meetings are held on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 7PM at the Northdale Rec Center. I hope to see you there!

- Sarah Riordan

Upcoming Social Events

Be on the lookout for signs at the neighborhood entrances about our first "Bubbles at Barnes" event on Saturday, April 15th – and every third Saturday of the month (weather permitting). Bring your kids to the park where they can meet new friends while playing with lots of bubbles! Adults BYOBubbly (as in champagne!) We'll provide cups, ice, music and fun! See you there! What a great way to start a Saturday!

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A Note about Dues

There's still time to pay your dues! **If paid by April 15 interest charges will be waived.** Mail payments to:

Lake Heather Oaks HOA
P.O. Box 271411
Tampa, FL 33688

You can also hand deliver your check to LHO treasurer, Kevin Wilkins, at 16706 Rolling Rock, or pay with Zelle.

Nickname: LHO zelle pmts

Email: kevinwilkinslho@tampabay.rr.com

If you find yourself in financial circumstances that make it difficult for you to pay the full amount on time, please pay what you can by the due date and let me know your situation so we can plan to get your dues paid in full. Questions about the dues or other HOA finances may be directed to Kevin at kevinwilkinslho@tampabay.rr.com.

Bubbles at Barnes

POP OVER TO THE PARK

To start the weekend! Kids can play with Bubbles while adults enjoy some Bubbly (BYOBeverage)! Bubbles & cups provided.

THIRD SATURDAY
9:30-11:30 AM



LHO Yard of the Quarter Awarded



Congratulations to the Lowther Family – recipients of the Lake Heather Oaks **Yard of the Quarter** award! Their beautiful home at 16644 Valley Drive is ready for Spring! The Lowther's will receive a \$50 gift card from Home Depot.

LHO Board of Directors

- Sarah Riordan, President
- Vince Cesario, Jr., Vice President
- Kevin Wilkins, Treasurer
- Mardee Powers, Co-Secretary and ARC Chair
- Leigh Dawson, Social Committee Chair
- Sherrie Elgar, Landscape & Maintenance Committee Chair
- Charlene Ponce, Communications Committee Chair
- Justin Ramedia, Park Committee Chair
- Maurna Williams, Co-Secretary and Nominating Committee Chair

Contact us!

For general Information, Email us at lakeheatheroakshoa@gmail.com

If you have ARC Questions: lakeheatheroaksacc@gmail.com

Exterior Home Improvement Requests

Please use this QR Code to access the form to fill out BEFORE you begin any exterior home improvements.

Or visit:

tinyurl.com/LHOexteriorimprovements.



Tips for Hiring a Reliable Tree Service

With Spring upon us, many of us are spending time tending to our yards, planting and pruning. Here are some quick tips if you find yourself in need of professional tree trimming or removal:

- Look for credentials and licensure
- Verify the company's insurance
- Ask for referrals
- Get an estimate
- If a permit is required, ask to see it before work begins

If you have questions about applying for a tree removal permit or whether you need one, visit

[Hillsboroughcounty.org/en/businesses/permits-and-records/natural-resources/action-folder/apply-for-a-tree-removal-permit](https://hillsboroughcounty.org/en/businesses/permits-and-records/natural-resources/action-folder/apply-for-a-tree-removal-permit).

If you need to report trees being removed without a permit, please email:

naturalresources@hillsboroughcounty.org



Many Hands Make Light Work

Can you spend some time helping the volunteers on the Board of Directors with some of the work they do to keep LHO an amazing place to live and raise our families? Help is needed to maintain the park, the landscaping and maintenance of the common areas, meeting with vendors, participating in a subcommittee to discuss revising guidelines for the architectural review committee, setting policy for a Fining Committee as allowed within Florida Statute 720, advocating on behalf of our lakes and ponds, distributing newsletters and more.



Please check out available volunteer opportunities here: bit.ly/HelpLHO or scan the QR code from your phone.

LHO Neighbor Spotlight

Susan Shonbrun is a retired speech pathologist, an avid mountain biker, a hiker, and a Citizen Scientist for Florida LAKEWATCH, a volunteer lake monitoring program that relies on citizen participation in the management of Florida lakes, estuaries, rivers and springs through monthly monitoring activities.

"I heard about the program through the Board of County Commissioners. The only requirements are that you have a boat and can go out once a month to sample and monitor for signs of invasive species," Susan explained.

Susan and her husband, Larry Pasman, have lived in Lake Heather Oaks since 1998. Once a month, the couple access Lake Zambito and East Lake Zambito from their backyard. Larry navigates their boat to the six GPS coordinates from which Susan measures water clarity and depth. She also collects two samples, one of which must be filtered. The samples are stored in her freezer until someone from the University of Florida IFAS program picks them up and takes them back to the lab for testing. The first set of samples is tested for phosphorus and nitrogen, along with color and conductivity. Healthy levels of these nutrients ensure the lake's ability to support optimal plant and animal life. The second set of samples is tested for chlorophyll to estimate the levels of algae in the lake.

Susan's sampling not only provides valuable information on the health of the lakes, but also adds to the existing database of water chemistry that can be used to establish trends and develop an overview of how our lake fits into the overall picture of Florida waterbodies.

This is Susan's first year participating in the LAKEWATCH program - one of the largest lake monitoring programs in the nation with over 1800 trained citizens currently monitoring 525 lakes, 175 estuary stations, 125 river stations, 20 coastal dune lakes and 10 spring runs in 57 counties. Susan is happy to report that "the lake is considered healthy and clean, with no sign of invasive plant life."



For more information on Florida LAKEWATCH, visit <https://lakewatch.ifas.ufl.edu/>.



Longtime LHO residents Susan Shonbrun and Larry Pasman love bike riding, hiking and being outdoors.



Robert H. Barnes Park

Reminders:

- To reserve the park pavilion for birthday parties or family celebrations, please email lakeheatheroakshoa@gmail.com with your event date and time.
- There is no cost to reserve the park, but a \$150 clean-up fee will be imposed if not cleaned up after use.
- Parking MUST stay in the parking area/lot.
- The basketball court is NEVER to be used for parking as vehicle weight could cause cracks.
- It's a safety hazard to have cars parked in the grass and children running between and around them.
- The bathroom water is NOT to be used for drinking.



Neighborhood Speeding

Last year, the LHO Board had the speed humps restriped, added six signs “Slow Down – Kids and Pets at Play” and had the Hillsborough County Sheriff’s Office (HCSO) install a temporary speed indicator on Valley. But speeding through the neighborhood remains a problem.

We have lots of young children in the neighborhood, many of whom are learning to ride their bikes or who are out playing in their yards with friends. **Please help us keep them safe** – talk to your young drivers, your visitors, and any vendors visiting your home about maintaining a safe speed while driving through the neighborhood.

Residents can contact HCSO’s Non-emergency number - 813-247-8200 - to report speeding or to request monitoring and ticketing. Of course, the best solution is to drive the speed limit.



A Friendly Reminder About Waste Pickup

Monday Pickup

Garbage only

Thursday Pickup

Garbage, Recycling & Yard Waste*

*Please put bagged and bundled yard waste out on Wednesday evening or Thursday Morning

Helpful Tips:

1. Everything must fit inside the carts.
2. Roll carts to the curb by 6 am on collection days.
3. Keep carts at least 3 feet away from other carts, mailboxes, cars, etc.
4. Place carts curbside (not the street) with the arrows pointing toward the street.

Yard Waste Guidelines:

1. The weekly set-out limit is 2 cubic yards or less – this is approximately twelve 30-gallon containers or bags.
2. Use your own cans, boxes, bags, or other containers.
3. Each container cannot exceed 50 pounds.
4. Keep limbs and branches shorter than 4 feet long and thinner than 6 inches in diameter.
5. Bundle, neatly stack, or place items in a yard waste container – leaves and small cuttings must be in a container or bag.
6. Place yard waste within 6 feet of the curb.

Containers should be stored out of sight on non-collection days.



Proper receptacle and yard waste placement

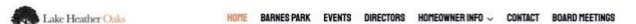
We’ve got a new look!

We’re updating the LHO website and hope you find it easier to navigate, with lots of helpful information!

It's still a work in progress, so please bear with us as we continue to add links. While we’re working toward securing an SSL Certificate, the site can be viewed at:

<http://www.lakeheatheroaks.org>.

Once we have the certificate, the address will revert back to <https://www.lakeheatheroaks.org>.



WELCOME!

LAKE HEATHER OAKS HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION

The Lake Heather Oaks Home Owners' Association's purpose is to protect, preserve and enhance the quality of life and property of the residents of the community.

OUR EVENTS

IMPROVING YOUR HOME?

BOARD MEETINGS

RESERVE THE PARK



LAKE HEATHER OAKS

Surrounded by lakes, conservation wetlands, and wonderful neighbors, Lake Heather Oaks is a unique residential community with 216 homes. The houses were built in the 1980s and surround the beautiful 22-acre Lake Zambito. Homeowners who live in the Lake Heather Oaks community enjoy walking their dogs down the mature oak-lined streets, playing with their children at our privately-owned park, and participating in community events hosted by the Homeowner's Association.



BE IN THE KNOW

Lake Heather Oaks Homeowner's Association Board meets every 4th Wednesday of the month at 7PM and all homeowners are encouraged to attend. Meetings are held at the Northdale Park & Recreation Center located at 15550 Spring Pine Dr.

An Annual Homeowner's Meeting is held each January.

[VIEW RECENT NEWSLETTER](#)

LHO Annual Easter Egg Hunt a Wild Success

Once again, the LHO Annual Easter Egg Hunt was a great success! There were so many children with baskets in their hands and smiles on their faces excited about the promise of finding a golden egg! The adults enjoyed visiting with neighbors and friends while sipping on Mimosas! I estimated 175 attendees! The Easter Bunny greeted families at the park entrance for photo opportunities (thank you Charlene and Bill Varian). With over 900 plastic eggs stuffed with candy and distributed far and wide throughout the park, plenty of goodies were had by all! A big huge THANK YOU goes out to those in the social committee and board members who helped to make this event so special. With your help, we provided another fantastic Easter Egg Hunt to the residents while creating long lasting memories of growing up in Lake Heather Oaks neighborhood!

- Leigh Dawson



ARC Celebrating Spring Fever!

After completing our full neighborhood walk-through, letters were mailed to every homeowner. Data was also shared in our last newsletter for the overall results. Since these letters went out, we have seen so many homeowners working hard to make improvements or continue to maintain beautiful properties. Spring is the perfect time to get out in your yards and spend time outdoors. For those of you who responded to our letters or have made improvements – THANK YOU!

The Board is establishing a committee of Homeowners who would like to be a part of the action for reviewing and revising our deed restrictions and/or participating on a Fining Committee per Florida State Statute. Please email lakeheatheroaksacc@gmail.com if you are interested in finding out more information.

If you would like to read more information about Fining Committees and the Florida State Statute, go to <https://www.floridacondoalawblog.com/2021/10/01/what-is-a-fining-committee-and-who-can-be-on-it/> or http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&URL=0700-0799/0720/0720.html.

Note: *In order to serve on a committee, you should be a Homeowner in good standing - up-to-date on dues and without property violations.*

County services

- **Permit Services** – 813-272-5600 or visit: hillsboroughcounty.org/en/government/departments/development/hillsgovhub
- **Sidewalks/Roadways** - 813-635-5400 – hillsboroughcounty.org/en/residents/property-owners-and-renters/roads-and-sidewalks
- **Animal Services** – 813-744-5660 – AnimalControl@HCFLGov.net
- **Reporting Dead Animals** (in roadways or public rights-of-way) - 813-272-5900
- **Mosquito Control** – 813-635-5400 or report online: service.hillsboroughcounty.org/311/mosquito



Join us on Facebook!
"Friend us" at Lake Heather Oaks

Need to contact the Board about neighborhood matters?
Email lakeheatheroakshoa@gmail.com

Community classified ads




✉ vianca@carrollwoodcharcuterie.com

📷 @carrollwoodcharcuterie

🌐 carrollwoodcharcuterie.com



Tracy Wisneski
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Call or text #813-453-5273

Get a FREE, instant home value estimate:
www.CarrollwoodValues.com

\$2000 off seller's commission for fellow LHO Residents

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Daddy Daughter Dog Walkers

Is your dog at home alone all day?

Are you busy working from home?

Are you going on vacation?

We are your dog walking neighbors (Mark & Emma) on Vallely Dr and we're here to help you keep your pet happy and healthy!

Please call (813) 359-9329 to schedule or for more information.

\$10 for a 15 minute walk

\$15 for a 30 minute walk/play session

\$5 extra for each additional dog

Other pet care services available upon request

Big or small we'll walk them all!



SPORTS FUN!

Not sure how to celebrate your kid's big day? Sports Fun Events can help! If your child is between 3-13, Sports Fun Events will supply a coach to meet you at the park and entertain your party guests. Activities include games, relay races, tug of war, dodge ball, and much more. Each birthday party is specifically designed to fit your child's sports interests.

Visit Sports Fun Events at www.sports-fun.com or call Leigh Dawson at 813-245-5069.