

Grove Hill Gazette

Grove Hill Homeowners' Association • P. O. Box 2658 • Auburn, AL 36831

A Letter From the President

I wanted use this space to write about how much I love my Red Ford Truck and my stainless steel barbeque grill. I mentioned this to Barbara, our property manager, and she politely suggested that I write about something a little more relevant. Remembering Barbara's reaction, I decided not to mention this to my wife for fear of a pithy discussion regarding the color of the skin on my neck. I therefore apologize profusely for having to include the boring pertinent stuff below.

The Auburn Planning Commission met on May 11 to consider a proposal by a developer to get some property outside the northwestern boundary of our subdivision located between Grove Park and the interstate platted for development. This new development was not to be a part of Grove Hill but it was to be accessed through one of the most densely populated parts of Grove Hill. Your Board was called into action to protect what we considered the best interests of Grove Hill.

On short notice, the Board put up signs in the neighborhood and successfully convinced many homeowners of the need to attend the Auburn Planning Commission meeting and express the concerns of our neighborhood regarding this development. The plat was ultimately approved by the Auburn Planning Commission over our objection but they added a number of conditions that the developer will have to meet before construction can begin. The Planning Commission explained their decision stating that because of their own rules they had little or no discretion to deny the developer's application. This result was not unexpected. The Auburn Planning Commission had granted approval for development of the same property by the same developer a few years ago but that approval had recently expired because the developer could not resolve similar conditions imposed by the Auburn Planning Commission within the required time.

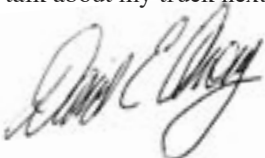
While our objections to the development of this property did not prevent the approval of this development at the Planning Commission meeting, the unity of support for the interests of our neighborhood expressed at that meeting did not go unrecognized by our government officials. It is my prediction that many good things will come from our "showing" at this meeting.

You may have noticed a number of little stop signs and other signs of various meaning placed along the bike path running through our subdivision. Frankly, those signs were a constant reminder to me that government can sometimes take the implementation of simple ideas to a whole new level by disregarding common sense and complicating things "to infinity and beyond". Lucky for us, your board and local governmental officials have worked toward a more logical resolution. It is currently my expectation that our neighborhood will have a significant reduction in the numbers of confusing and illogical traffic signs that we have endured far too long. If you notice a significant reduction in the number of signs along the main road in the next several weeks, please thank Gene Dulaney for his help.

As the temperatures outside become insufferable, the pool becomes a gathering place. Many enjoy this part of living in Grove Hill. However, sometimes the fun gets out of hand. If such behavior is limiting your enjoyment of these facilities, try to nicely talk to the people and work with them to correct the problem yourself. In recognition of the fact that this is not always effective, the Board has given Sandy Resa the authority to administer appropriate solutions to these pool area problems as they may appear necessary from time to time. I cannot think of anyone that will be more capable in this role.

Maybe I can talk about my truck next time.

David



David Avery, President, Grove Hill Homeowners' Association



In efforts to better serve our neighbors, the board maintains an association web site for Grove Hill Homeowners'.
Please visit often at

www.grovehillhoa.com

Spring Fling Snaps

See more images online at www.grovehillhoa.com



GHHA Points of Interest:



Vandalism has occurred in our neighborhood on stop signs and our streets, please be vigilant and report any suspicious activity to the Auburn Police Department at 501-3100.

To help us reduce speeding in our neighborhood, please contact the Auburn Police Department at 501-3100 and request additional police patrol of our neighborhood.

Please help us keep our neighborhood looking its best by picking up trash and debris, especially along Grove Hill Road.

If you see an animal roaming or lost in the neighborhood, please contact Animal Control at 501-3090.

Please do not allow dogs to "eliminate" on the sidewalk (carry a "pooper-scooper" to discard waste).

The Grove Hill Homeowners' Association Board of Directors is made up of twelve elected residents who volunteer their time to oversee the business and maintenance of the neighborhood. Each member serves a two year term and there are four vacancies each year. If you are interested in serving in any capacity please contact a current member or attend a meeting for more information.

The Perfect Place for a Party

Covenant Highlight :

- **All fences must be approved by the ARC prior to installation.**
- **Vehicles shall be parked in garages and/or driveways and not on the street or grass.**
- **No storage buildings or other out-buildings shall be permitted without prior approval from the ARC.**
- **All dogs must be maintained under leash (not allowed to roam the neighborhood).**
- **All exterior satellite dishes must be approved by ARC prior to installation.**
- **When renting the clubhouse, a Grove Hill resident must be in attendance of the event.**
- **No signs or advertising posters of any kind shall be permitted in any windows or lot or dwelling without prior approval of the ARC.**
- **Appropriate window treatments shall be used on all windows. Sheets, bed linens, blankets, and paper or plastic bags are not appropriate window treatments.**

(The before mentioned statements are derived from the Grove Hill Declaration of Covenants. More information can be obtained from www.grovehillhoa.com)

The Grove Hill clubhouse has recently undergone major renovations and is ready for your next party. Some of the improvements include the addition of a kitchenette with a microwave and refrigerator, a new heating and cooling system, a fresh coat of paint and new window treatments. The clubhouse is available for rent by any Grove Hill resident. Please contact Barbara Arington to book your special event or party!



Honoring Our Military Families

The neighbors on Sweetwood Circle wanted to do something special for a military family on their street. Charles Smith, an Army Reservist, who lives on Sweetwood Circle, has been called to active duty and is now stationed in Iraq and will be away defending freedom for the next 12-18 months. To honor Charles Smith along with his wife, Sheryl and kids, Justin and Cameryn the Sweetwood residents placed yellow bows on their mailboxes.



Local Duo Wins Prestigious Award

Tracey Oprandy and Lindsey Middleton, co-owners of Rooms Reinvented, recently attended the 2006 Interior Redesign Industry Specialists (IRIS) Conference in San Antonio, Texas, where they won an award for Best Living Room in the annual Redesign Challenge. Attending IRIS members were asked to submit "Before" and "After" photos of their redesign work, which were voted on by their peers, as well as the IRIS instructors, who train and certify the redesign specialists. Oprandy and Middleton were presented the prestigious Instructor's Award by Lee Snijders, host of HGTV's popular decorating series Design On a Dime.

The pair's winning redesign was the living room at Azalea Place, an assisted living community owned and operated by East Alabama Medical Center. The pair "reinvented" the room in about 4 hours, giving the space a dramatic new look by rearranging the existing furniture, art and accessories, without making any new purchases. "The ladies from Rooms Reinvented immediately seemed at home in our home -- a residential home for senior adults," comments Brenda Yost, EAMC's Director of Senior Services. "They were considerate and worked around the activities and lives of the residents who were in and about the facility that day. They found things we didn't even remember we had and things we thought were no longer attractive and put them together in a way to make the living room look new and fresh."

At the IRIS conference, the Rooms Reinvented team attended professional enrichment seminars on topics such as the psychology of color, new trends in lighting, and preparing homes for the real estate market. They look forward to implementing these insights with their clients here in the Auburn-Opelika area.

Rooms Reinvented is an interior redesign consulting service that specializes in one-day interior makeovers: redecorating homes and businesses with what their clients already own. For more information on their services, please visit www.roomsreinvented.com or call (334) 332-8818. IRIS is an international professional association for members of the Interior Redesign community. For more information on the Interior Redesign industry, please visit www.weredesign.com.



Room Reinvented's Top 5 Decorating Mistakes

5. Ignoring lighting.

Try to have at least 3 lighting sources in every room.

4. Hanging artwork too high.

Bring artwork down to eye level, engaged with the furniture below it.

3. Scattering collections.

Arrange like items together for more visual impact.

2. Hanging a mirror over your fireplace that reflects your ceiling fan.

A mirror should always reflect something that enhances your decor.

1. Not calling Rooms Reinvented (740-8893) to help you with your decorating dilemmas!

You can also get more information and see our Photo Gallery at www.roomsreinvented.com.



Oprandy (left) and Middleton (right) are presented their award by Lee Snijders, host of HGTV's Design On a Dime

Newsletter Articles

The Grove Hill Gazette newsletter is mailed to all residents quarterly in the Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer. The Gazette is also available on the web site at www.grovehillhoa.com. If you would like to see something in an upcoming issue, please submit your article to barbara@grovehillhoa.com or mail it to P.O. Box 2658, Auburn, AL 36831.

The Architectural Review Committee

In our Spring 2006 newsletter, Grove Hill Gazette, a special article concerning covenants was written by Charlie Perry, Board Member and Former Board President. As a follow-up, for this issue we want to provide information about our Architectural Review Committee (ARC).

The first thing to establish is the authority of the ARC. It is contained in Article V of our Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions. In Section 5.05 there is an outline of the responsibilities of this committee. Most important to each of us as homeowners in Grove Hill is the ARC charge to “preserve the architectural and aesthetic appearance and natural setting and beauty of the development, to establish and preserve a harmonious design for the development, and to protect and promote the value of the property, the lots, the dwellings, and all improvements thereon.” I am sure this is what influenced most of us to want to live in Grove Hill.

The procedure for approval is simple. You will find the ARC request form on our web site at www.grovehillhoa.com

The work of the ARC involves review and approval of all plans and specifications for construction of Dwellings and other Improvements on any part of the property. This includes any and all Improvements including the Dwelling to be constructed, sidewalks, driveways, parking lots, mailboxes, decks, terraces, patios, courtyards, swimming pools, tennis courts, greenhouses, playhouses, awnings, walls, fences, exterior lights, garages, guest or

servants quarters or any other outbuildings. We must also review for approval any change or alterations including painting or staining of any exterior surface.

The Use and Development Restrictions are contained in Article VI of our Covenants. These are the standards the ARC use in our reviews. All homeowners are encouraged to read and become familiar with these restrictions. We urge each homeowner to get approval from the ARC before any home remodel, change to the exterior appearance, fence installation, or change in landscaping is undertaken. This will help us maintain the integrity of our neighborhood and preserve our property values.

The procedure for approval is simple. You will find the ARC request form on our web site at www.grovehillhoa.com. Simply complete the form (just use a written request if you don't use the internet) and attach your plans and specifications as outlined in Section 5.05(b)(i) and submit to our Property Manager, she will control your request and refer it to the ARC. You will be notified of the action of the ARC. If the plan is not approved, you will be informed of the reason and what modifications or changes can be made to the plan to so it can be approved.

The important thing to stress is not to start a project until it is approved. Failure to do so could result in a covenant violation and subject the homeowner to fines, liens on property, and even court costs if required to have the matter resolved. If you have any questions as you plan improvements, you may contact the Property Manager or the ARC Chair.

Jack Downes, Board Member and ARC Chairman



The Best Kept Secret in Grove Hill

Did you know that Grove Hill has a lovely lake? Travel down Ingleside to one of the many great reasons to live in Grove Hill. The lake is maintained by the GHHA, and is for use by all Grove Hill residents. It is a great place to fish for bass and brim, or just enjoy a lovely afternoon in a serene setting. Southern Pond Management keeps the lake healthy, and landscape maintenance is conducted on a regular basis. Recently more shoreline was made usable by the removal of overgrown shrubbery. Even more improvements are planned in the future. Take advantage of this treasure and have a picnic or party down by the lake!



Landscape Improvements on Grove Hill Road

One of the most beautiful features of Grove Hill is Grove Hill Road. The original intent was to make the traveler feel as if they were going down a country lane. Numerous trees were planted to create this effect. Now we hope to improve upon this idea by making the turf and natural areas more appealing. Projects under consideration include additional irrigation, grass seeding, the addition of mulch in areas where turf is not feasible, and additional plant material. Improvements such as these are costly. Each year we hope to address a new area of concern until eventually

our entire neighborhood is well landscaped and maintained. Our goal is to make quality improvements that will enhance the overall appeal and value of our neighborhood.



Lake and Landscape stories written by Kathey Davidson, Landscape Chair, Grove Hill Homeowners' Association

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See our Photo Gallery and more at roomsreinvented.com

Contractor Referrals

We requested a list of reliable contractors and sub-contractors from our Grove Hill residents and the following has been submitted this quarter:

Sean Foote, President of Charter Design Group in Auburn and Grove Hill Board member would like to recommend **Andy Stewart with Drop & Roll Painting.** Stewart can be reached at

(706) 518-2957. Sean said, "He's incredibly affordable, does great work, and is very professional and friendly." "He also does faux finishes", Sean added.

To submit your referrals, please e-mail your referrals to barbara@grovehillhoa.com in order for them to be listed in the next issue of the Grove Hill Gazette.

Musical Instrument For Sale

King, Silver Trombone

LIKE NEW
\$850 O.B.O.

Call 821-9120 or 524-9120

A message from the Property Manager

The 2006 Grove Hill Homeowners' Directory has been delivered to your homes. If you did not receive a copy, please contact me at 826-5884 or barbara@grovehillhoa.com. You can also download a copy via the Grove Hill web site at www.grovehillhoa.com and click on resources.

The directory notebook can be used to keep the Grove Hill newsletter, neighborhood covenants, and other important neighborhood documents and notices. Next year, the association will simply mail new and updated "inside" pages that you can insert into the notebook and discard last year's listing. This should be more cost effective in terms of printing and mailing costs. Please note that this directory is for Grove Hill residents only and is not distributed to third party agencies and/or companies.

We hope everyone has a wonderful and safe summer! Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

*Barbara Arington,
Property Manager, Grove Hill Homeowners' Association*



Please remember, if you sell your property in Grove Hill, give your pool key, covenants booklet, and homeowners' directory to the new residents at the closing of your home.

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Grove Hill Gazette, Summer 2006, See you online! — www.grovehillhoa.com