

# **SAPPHIRE SHORES RECREATIONAL ASSOCIATION**

<http://www.sapphireshores.org>

## **January 2010 NEWSLETTER**

### THE YEAR 2009 IN REVIEW

- Speed humps installed at 9 locations.
- Additional lights installed at pool and tot lot.
- New security cameras installed at pool and tot lot.
  
- Members have left, new members have arrived. Thank you for volunteering the time and effort to keep our community safe and attractive.
  
- Pines Management has sent the quarterly assessment for 2010 for both Silver Lakes and Sapphire Shores.

### HOMES AND THE ECONOMY

Sapphire Shores suffers some of the same problems that other communities have due to the economic downturn. This is evident in the number of homes that are in foreclosure. Homes sit empty or are being rented out by its owners at a significantly low payment. Some owners are failing to obtain the proper screening and approval by the Silver Lakes board for those renters. Other homes are behind in their quarterly payments for Silver Lakes and/or Sapphire Shores.

### CRIME

Early last year, the Silver Lakes master board hired the services of Kent Security, replacing the overnight and weekend patrols of Miramar Police department. However, Kent Security has no authority to arrest and its patrols are limited. There is just one patrol car at any one time to cover all of the Silver Lakes area of Miramar. That means that several hours pass before there is a patrol down any one street. Crime has increased in the Sapphire Shores area, including home invasions, burglary and petty theft.

The SSRA Board of Directors is now in the process of arranging extra patrols by the Miramar Police Department. You will be notified when this process is completed. While this will result in an increase in the quarterly association dues for Sapphire Shores, it is necessary in order to protect our homes and families.

### AT THE POOL

The crime and vandalism problem has continued. This includes destruction of the fence, the gate locks, as well as loitering and drug use.

Cameras have been installed, providing a continuous recording of activity in and near the pool area. We are working to obtain additional cameras to cover the entrance to the community itself. If any see any suspicious activity, you are strongly encouraged to call the Miramar police immediately. Do not call Kent Security, as it has no arresting authority.

### PARKING ISSUES

Miramar police will issue tickets to those vehicles parked on the street overnight. Take advantage of the overflow parking or your driveway and its apron.

### HOME UPKEEP

It is the homeowner's responsibility to maintain the exterior of the home. This includes trimming the trees on the swale, keeping the lawn cut and free of debris, and having the sidewalk, driveway and roof pressure cleaned. Failure to do so will result in fines from the Pines Management Office.

### GARAGES

The Silver Lakes Community Association rules state "no owner shall conduct or permit to be conducted repairs (except in an emergency) or restorations of any motor vehicle, or other vehicle upon any portion of the properties, except in an enclosed area with the doors thereto closed at all times." In other words, no auto repairs are permitted in the driveway. They must be done in the garage. In addition, "garage doors must be closed at all times except when the garage is being entered or exited" or when the garage is occupied.

### PET RULES

At all times, pets must be on a leash or in a carrier when outdoors. This is a city law for the protection of residents and visitors. Pet owners are also responsible for immediately picking up after their pet. Violations will result in a citation.

### STORM DRAINS

A number of the storm drains in Sapphire Shores are blocked by overgrown grass and weeds. This backs up the water into the streets, resulting in flooding of the streets and the surrounding property. Homeowners are responsible for keeping the full length of the storm drain in front of their home free of obstruction, including grass.

### TRASH COLLECTION DAYS

Trash is picked up in Sapphire Shores every week on Wednesday and Saturday. Bulk pick-up takes place on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month. All trash containers must be put

out for pick up no earlier than the night before or the morning of pick up. All empty trash containers must be retrieved by the owner on the same day as pick up.

### WATERING RESTRICTIONS

Phase II watering restrictions remain in place. Violators will receive a costly citation.

ODD-number address:

Wednesday & Saturday – 12 am to 10 am AND/OR 4 pm to 11:59 pm.

EVEN-number address:

Thursday & Sunday – 12 am to 10 am AND/OR 4 pm to 11:59 pm.

For the most efficient use of water, avoid watering during both time periods on the same day. Most lawns need only 3/4 to 1 inch of water per week.

No watering is allowed between 10 am and 4 pm. Low-volume systems such as drip, bubble and micro-jet systems that apply water directly to root plant zones may be used any time.

### OUR WEBSITE

There is a wealth of information regarding your Sapphire Shore community on the Sapphire Shores Web site: <http://www.sapphireshores.org>

Click onto the Police link to see where any crimes have occurred in our neighborhood. There is also a link to the Silver Lakes Community Association Web site, including the Homeowner's manual. You can also send an e-mail to the Board.

### FUTURE MEETINGS

The Sapphire Shores Recreational Association board meetings take place a minimum of four times a year, usually in January, April, July and October. The October meeting includes the budget and elections. Additional meetings may be called to address important issues. Meeting notices are posted on the web site and displayed on a sign near the entrance to our community.

All meetings begin promptly at 6:30 pm at the community pool located near the entrance of Sapphire Shores. It is your community and you are strongly encouraged to attend.

Your 2010 Board of Directors for Sapphire Shores is:

*Ana Rueger, President*

*Steve Damman, Vice President*

*Dennis Feltgen, Secretary*

*Richard Vera, Treasurer*

*Nelson Crespo, Director of Community Affairs*