

The Preserve

Preserve Pathways Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 3

SEPTEMBER 2012

Save the Date:

September 11: Preserve Board Meeting, 7:00P

September 20: Empty Nester Kickoff, 7:00P

September 29: Adopt-A-Street, 10:00A-Noon

November 8: Mexican Train Game Night, 7:00P

Board of Directors Meetings: Second Tuesday of each month



Announcements!

We are excited to announce that the Board of Directors is moving forward with several projects that are investments in the future of the Preserve.



Tennis Court Replacements

The biggest project will be the replacement of our 30 year old tennis courts. Currently we have four fenced and lighted courts. We will likely replace the current space with two to three new tennis courts. At least one of the courts will be lined for multiple use such as the fast growing popular sport of pickleball. For more information on pickleball visit www.usapa.org. We are also exploring a multi function area for such games as four square, hopscotch, shuffle board and other popular choices.

Preserve Center Enhancements

New improvements are set for the Preserve Center. The first is replacement of the carpet upstairs. This room gets over 80 rentals each year and the current carpet is not holding up well. The installation of carpet tiles should be attractive and will handle the heavy use of this facility and minimize carpet maintenance. The second improvement is the structure at the front of the Barn that encloses the utilities for the Center. The current structure is in disrepair and in need of replacement.

The Board recognizes their job to be good stewards of association dues and the importance of maintaining our facilities in good repair. Feel free to contact the Board or the General Manager if you should have any questions or suggestions.

New Communication Tools-We're on Facebook.

New this month we have started a Facebook page. <u>If you have a Facebook ac-</u> <u>count just go to "The Preserve Associa-</u> <u>tion" page and hit "like".</u>

We recognize the importance of keeping our members informed about the Preserve and we are trying different avenues to communicate. Members can choose to receive this newsletter by mail

or electronically. We have emails from many members and this too allows us to send out newsletters as well as other timely communications. Remember to send us your email.

Our website www.preserveassociation.com has information, documents and the ability to pay for dues and events online.

Wood Ducks in the Preserve



Here in The Preserve we have Wood Duck nesting boxes that are cared for by one of our residents, Cristian Domnisoru. A few weeks ago one of the many wood duck homes

was vandalized and destroyed. If you see anyone causing damage to a bird house, please report it to the Eden Prairie Police and to the Preserve office.

About Wood Ducks:

The wood duck is Minnesota's most colorful duck and is commonly found near lakes and wetlands, where nuts, berries and other food sources are easily found. They nest throughout Minnesota and readily use man-made nest boxes.

The male has a blue-green crested head with white stripes, a reddish brown breast, broad wings and a long square tail. The females (hens)

are brown with a crest and distinctive white eye rings. The hen make a distinctive "wee-e-e-k, wee-e-e-k" whistle.

Female wood ducks lay 10 to 15 eggs during the spring and hatching takes place 28 to 31 days later. Ducklings begin to fly eight to 10 weeks after hatching. The predators that affect wood ducks are mink, raccoons, red-tailed hawks, great horned owls, and human hunters.

Biologists believe more than 100,000 wood ducks breed in Minnesota each spring. They were once almost extinct because of habitat loss due to the lack of old, dead trees where these ducks nest but management efforts, such as the use of artificial nest boxes, have helped restore wood duck populations.

We thank Christian for tending to the nest boxes and ask all Preserve residents to help watch over them.

Bluebird Nesting Boxes

The Preserve also has a number of bluebird nesting boxes around and look what the spring brought!



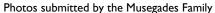




Neill Lake Wildlife

(see our website and Facebook page for more photos)







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Many thanks to our Preserve lifeguards and Eden Prairie sponsors: Brunswick Zone, Jerry's, Berry Blendz, Papa Johns Pizza, Burger King, and McDonalds.

Preserve Trivia – Did you Know??? -See next page



Hubert Humphrey at Pool Dedication



Anderson Lakes Parkway



Preserve Hot Air Balloon Races



Preserve Pool High Dive





Neill Lake horse tracks

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History shared with the Preserve office by Jim Nelson

Jim Nelson, one of the first home builders here in the Preserve, shared some of the beginning history of the Preserve. He brought in a photo album with pictures of the open prairies looking off to Anderson Lakes from High Point Circle. The album, along with other photos that the Preserve has maintained, is here at the Barn if you would like to look through them. Any other residents who have items of Preserve history to share please let us know; we would love to hear stories.

Like much of Eden Prairie, The Preserve was initially beautiful prairie turned farmland. In the 1850s, Robert Anderson, one of the first residents and founders of the area known as the Village of Eden Prairie, homesteaded much of what is now the Preserve. In 1891, some of this original homestead was sold to William Nesbitt. In 1971 the Nesbitt homestead was sold to Carter and Gertz Development Company and The Minneapolis Gas Company (Minnegasco), who proceeded to develop one of the nation's first "planned communities." This really meant an integrated mix of housing types (single family, twin homes, town homes, condominiums, and apartments) all within walking distance of nature, recreation, shopping and amenities. Part of the planned community concept was that the amenities and ambient maintenance of the area would be provided long-term by the property owners. Thus, The Preserve Association was born and incorporated in May of 1972. Our planned community was modeled after a Columbia, Maryland community and was one of the first in Minnesota. The first areas developed in the Preserve were High Point and Northmark.

Jim has many stories to tell about the early days in the Preserve.

- Senator Hubert Humphrey would often stay in the farm house to the east of the pool, which is still there. He would do his Washington D.C. homework under the shade of the cottonwood tree in the area that became the pool complex. He spoke at the dedication of the Preserve Pool.
- The Preserve sponsored a softball team for 4 years and Jim even has original jerseys.
- "The Preserve Cup" Hot Air balloon races took place from here for about 3-4 years with balloons lifting off from the Preserve and racing to a site in Apple Valley. The race event was part of the Aquatennial back in the 70's.
- Horses were once a big part of the Preserve with a horse arena by Neill Lake and three barns in the Center area. The walking trails were lined with woodchips, and if a resident cut down a tree in their yard they were to use the chips to replenish the trails which were used frequently by horseback riders.



Jim Nelson on
Highpoint
Circle was
responsible for
suggesting the
"Barn" be saved
and renovated
back in the 70's
as a community
center as well
as saving and
adding many
trees.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL A GREAT SUCCESS!



On August 26th we held an end of the season Ice Cream Social here at the Preserve Center. There were between 75-100 people who came and enjoyed ice cream sundaes in the shade. Many residents heard of the event by postings on the mailboxes, our newsletter and others by an email sent out. We hope you will join us next year to meet your neighbors and enjoy ice cream treats!

THE PRESERVE ASSOCIATION 11221 ANDERSON LAKES PKWY EDEN PRAIRIE, MINNESOTA 55344-4086

> Phone: 952-941-8400 Fax: 952 941-4978

Fall Office Hours

Tuesday—Friday 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

We're on the web at preserveassociation.com

Preserve Board of Directors

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Dean Swanson, Pool Engineer

NON-PROFIT ORG US POSTAGE PAID PERMIT NO.689 Hopkins

ADOPT-A-STREET (Anderson Lakes Pkwy)
Please help us on Sept. 29 from 10A-Noon to beautify our area

Call our office to RSVP

Recently Retired? Empty Nester? Flexible Schedule?

WOMEN'S FUN SOCIAL CLUB

Please join us for an informational evening to brainstorm ideas for future activities & social outings.

This group is celebrating it's 10 year anniversary.

Some of our activities have included: concerts, plays, book clubs, cooking classes, wine tastings & more.
Join us for light appetizers & wine.

Bring ideas & a friend or two!

Lots of fun door prizes.

Thursday Sept. 20 6:30 pm Preserve Barn

I 1221 Anderson Lakes Pkwy
Please RSVP to Preserve Resident,
Mary J Anderson
Malanewood@aol.com