

# Buckingham Gazette

Official Newsletter of the Buckingham Subdivision Homeowner's Association

**Our Mission:** To help preserve, strengthen, and enrich the homes and lives of the homeowners and residents of the Buckingham community by providing helpful information and inspiration.



<http://buckinghamhoa.org>

August 2023 edition

Compiled by: Patrick Sarsfield

## ***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE***

My name is Patrick Sarsfield and I am the President of the 2023-2024 Buckingham H.O.A. I have enjoyed living in our subdivision since October of 2008 with my wife Katherine and our daughters, Kristina and Kelley.

I would like to thank the 2022-2023 Board for their service to our community. Leaving us is Secretary Katherine Sarsfield, Board member Jim Reed and Board member / ARC Chairperson Michelle Celadon. We wish them the best on their future endeavors and hopefully we will have them back on the Board in the future.

The ballots for the 2023-2024 Board have been counted and here are the new Officers and Directors:

Patrick Sarsfield - President

Rex Slay - Vice President

Bill Staley - Treasurer

Dottie Andrews - Secretary

Don Reeves – Director

Leon Dubois - Director

Howard Glaberson - Director

I would like to extend an invitation to all homeowners if you haven't attended a scheduled Board meeting. The Board meetings are open to all homeowners. We have a great neighborhood so let's maintain those standards to continue to maximize our property values.

## ***FACEBOOK SITE:***

Michelle Celadon and Katherine Sarsfield are administrators for the Buckingham Homeowners Association Facebook page. This Facebook site is used mainly for social information purposes. Recently there was some confusion generated by the title of the Facebook site so that has been changed to reflect a social purpose more than a H.O.A. business site. The official site for H.O.A. is above in the header. The Facebook site will be monitored for content and the normal Facebook protocols will apply on all messages. Accessing the site is as follows:

Log in to Facebook , Search for "Buckingham Homeowners Association", on the toolbar at top of screen, scroll all the way over to the right until you see the option "GROUPS" and select it. Look at your choices below and see the one that has our subdivision entrance picture on it. Click on "JOIN" and answer the question about your address and you will be allowed in. Once you have joined, you can have the other contacts in your address book that also live in the subdivision join the website. Only residents in our subdivision are allowed to join this website. If you have any issues accessing the site, please contact Michelle or Katherine and they will be glad to help.

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## *ARC COMMITTEE*

*Chairperson: Richard Kimball*

*Christine Dubois*

*Diana Aloisio*

As we get deeper into Fall and the weather becomes more tolerable many of us will have projects for improving our homes. **Please remember that any alteration to the exterior appearance of your home requires approval by the Architectural Review Committee before you begin work.**

Examples of the changes covered are applying new exterior colors to your home or installing a tool shed. A more complete sense can be obtained by reviewing paragraph 3 of the Covenants which is excerpted below.

*The architectural committee shall have the exclusive power and discretion to control and approve all of the buildings, structures, and other improvements on each lot in the manner and to the extent set forth herein*

*No residence or other building, and no fence, wall, utility yard, driveway, swimming pool, or other structure or improvement, regardless of size or purpose; whether attached to or detached from the main residence, shall be commenced, placed, erected, or allowed to remain on any lot, nor shall any addition to or exterior change, or alteration thereto be made unless and until building plans and specifications covering same, showing the nature, kind, shape, heights, size, materials, floor plans, exterior color schemes, location and orientation of the lot, and approximate square footage, construction schedule, front, side and rear elevations, and such other information as the committee shall require, including, if so required,*

## *MEET THE COMMITTEES*

I would like to take a few minutes and introduce everyone to the people on our various committees that “continue the mission” year after year to make our subdivision one of the most sought out places to live in the Brandon / Valrico area. The committees are strictly voluntary and there is a lot of hard work and extra hours that go into making it look easy year after year. I can not say enough on the job everyone does.

## *FRONT ENTRANCE COMMITTEE*

*Chairman Jim Reed*

*Leon Dubois*

*Bill Staley*

The entrance has been kept up and maintained under the direction of Jim Reed, Bill Staley and Leon Dubois for many years. I would ask that everyone in the subdivision be on the Front Entrance Committee. No matter if you are entering or leaving the subdivision, if you notice something out of the ordinary or that needs attention, please do not hesitate to contact the above personnel or a current Board member.

Please take notice of the message board at the West entrance to the subdivision. Keep an eye on it for the Board meeting schedule and locations, as well as upcoming events in the subdivision as the information becomes available.

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*plans for the grading and landscaping of the lot showing any changes proposed to be made in the elevation or surface contours of the land, have been submitted to and approved in writing by the committee.*

*The committee shall have the absolute and exclusive right to refuse to approve any such building plans and specifications and lot grading and landscaping plans which are not suitable or desirable, in its opinion, for any reason, including purely aesthetic reasons.*

Requests need to be accompanied by specifications and drawings, and/or paint chips or other samples necessary for the committee to make a determination of suitability. In addition to these items, if you are considering painting the exterior of your home a new color, the ARC will want to see a representative portion of your home painted in the colors proposed before granting approval.

You can reach the Architectural Review Committee by email at [arc@buckinghamhoa.org](mailto:arc@buckinghamhoa.org). The committee members would be glad to discuss any questions that you have regarding what requires approval and the procedure for obtaining it.

There is now a form that needs to accompany all request that are being submitted to the ARC on all projects. The form is located at the official site at [buckinghamhoa.org](http://buckinghamhoa.org). Please open or print the file, fill it out and send with your request. Please submit all requests so the ARC members have time to review and discuss the request and respond to the homeowner in a timely manner. The average response time is 7-10 days. Please take this into consideration when planning your projects.

## **VIOLATIONS COMMITTEE**

**Chairman Bill Staley**

**Jim Reed**

Our subdivision has been in existence since 1987 and has been maintained, keeping the value of our homes and your investment, at a high level. Below are some areas that need attention to keep our homes looking good and maintaining the quality of our subdivision.

Mailboxes need to be cleaned and painted. Some need to have the metal box replaced since the doors have fallen off.

Leaves on the roof need to be removed. If the leaves are left on the roof water can get under the leaves and back up under your shingles and cause damage to the inside of your home. Along with high humidity and constant rain showers, homes and sidewalks need to be pressure washed to remove the mildew. Chimneys are one area that inadvertently gets overlooked and they may need extra attention.

**The County ordinance for garbage can placement during non-collection days has been modified from “no visible cans” to “discretely placed out of frontal view of the home”. The cans need to be placed discretely on the side of the home as much out of sight of the street. The Board will also modified its deed restrictions to match the ordinance to prevent a conflict. Homeowners leaving the garbage cans out indiscriminately and on non-collection days can still be cited by Code Enforcement.**

Anything that is stored on the outside of your home needs to be out of sight of the street and to neighboring homes.

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Some of the lawns in the subdivision need some help to stay in compliance with the deed restrictions. If you need to re – sod, you should do so during the rainy season and the sod will have a better chance of rooting properly.

If your home has not been painted within the last ten to fifteen years there is a possibility your paint is not protecting your home from water seeping through the paint and penetrating interior walls. Several fences in the subdivision need attention. Missing or rotted boards need to be replaced.

Just a reminder parking on the grass is not permitted. This includes the grass areas (easements) between the curb and sidewalk.

**If your home has a condition that does not meet the deed restrictions and covenants you will be receiving a letter addressing those issues. Should you choose to ignore or return a response that doesn't address the issue, the Board has a Protocol in place that will involve our Counsel, Fining Committee and possible legal action. The best advice to offer is, no matter how long you have lived in this subdivision, if you receive a violation letter ..... resolve the issue in a timely manner.**

## *New Arrivals*

3802 BHL D – Hope Olsen and Richard Glorioso

3904 BHL D – Jason and Abby Izor

Please welcome them to the neighborhood, if you greet them with a wave and a “Hello”, I’m sure they would appreciate it.

## *SOCIAL COMMITTEE*

*Leon Dubois*

*Jeanne Rupp*

*Katherine Sarsfield*

Coming off a successful annual picnic, this group is gearing up for a smashing Holiday party. We will have the Holiday Party this year on December 2. If you would like to host the party at your house, please contact the above people or any Board member and we can work with you on the details.

Keep an eye on the Message Board at the West entrance as we get closer to the date. We will post upcoming events and Flyers will be delivered as well to keep everyone updated.

## *Homeowners Points*

Homeowner’s have asked me to stress a few points in the newsletter:

Please clean up after your pet when walking your dog. I have heard quite a few complaints about waste being left in people’s yards. This is also a county violation as well.

Please keep your back yard as cleaned up as your front yard, this will prevent a tirade of bugs and rodents from taking up residence and causing issues with everyone’s peace of mind.

Please ask your guest when parking for Holiday parties and get together to take into consideration the neighbor’s driveways and staggering the parking to let homeowners, and more importantly, emergency vehicle traffic to pass through. The same goes for the waste collection vehicles on Thursday and Monday morning. Please park accordingly so they can do their job efficiently, I’m sure they appreciate it also.

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## *Directory Updates*

**Please review your Buckingham Subdivision neighborhood directory for any updates that need to be made to your information.** The Board and Committees have run into more than once, disconnected numbers or numbers no longer in service, please take the time to check and if changes are required, please forward them to [treasurer@buckinghamhoa.org](mailto:treasurer@buckinghamhoa.org).

## *Last but not least .....*

We would like to put together a list of local businesses that do various work and include it in the “Welcome Aboard” packages that go to the new homeowners when they come into the neighborhood. While the Board does not endorse any specific company for any specific job, if a company has done a satisfactory job, we can list them on a “flyer” and it gives every homeowner the option of choosing a “known” supplier of a service versus “rolling the dice” on a company on the Internet. Please send a Company name and phone number to [Board@Buckinmghamhoa.org](mailto:Board@Buckinmghamhoa.org) and once completed we will distribute a flyer to every homeowner.