



Porter Cove Homeowners Association

P.O. Box 895, Chesterton, IN 46304

www.portercove.com

Volume 9, Issue 1

January, February & March 2009

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Important Notice !

WANTED !

Motivated and caring neighbors to fill the empty positions on The PCHA Board. Enter your name now! Time required is one(1) hours per month when and if a meeting is called. Ongoing support and advice during your term will be available from the current board if needed. Voting will take place at Hawthorn Park during our Annual Meeting Monday, February 2nd at 7pm. Available positions are:

President: Duties are simple. Must be able to respond to community emails. Call Sharon Jones the current President at 219 973-8742 if you are interested.

Vice President: Position is vacant. Must be able to help with quarterly newsletter. Call Sharon Jones the former VP at 219 973-8742 if you are interested.

Secretary: Madalene Vargas the Current Secretary will stay on but will need an assistant.

Treasurer: Systematic duties are simple. Must be able to keep record of accounts payable and receivable. Program already set up for you. Must have a computer that will support database programs, i.e. quick books. Call William Lopez the Current Treasurer at 219 921-0024 if interested.

Director: Must control the upkeep of the community properties, i.e. the four corner stones and the pond. Call Jim Wiseman the current Director at 219 929-1488 if interested.

Executive Board Simply assists The Board between meetings. No need to attend monthly meetings. Available positions are:

Assistant to President: Must be available to represent our community at a monthly Town of Porter meeting and call in report to President.

Assistant to V-President: Must be available to represent our community at a monthly Park Board meeting and call in report to V-President, assist with newsletter.

Assistant to Treasurer: Duties are clerical and may require mailing out an occasional letter or visits to Post office.

Assistant to Secretary: Must be able to write articles for quarterly newsletter. Cont. pg 3

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ANNOUNCEMENTS



Your PCHA Board

President - Sharon Jones
219 973--8742 president@portercove.com

Vice President - **Position is vacant**
vicepresident@portercove.com

Secretary - Madalene Vargas
219 921-0057 secretary@portercove.com

Treasurer - William Lopez
219 921-0024 treasurer@portercove.com

Director - Jim Wiseman
219 929-1488 director@portercove.com

Community Watch

Even though it's winter, please keep a watchful eye out for teen mischief in the Kids Cove park!
Also, Don't forget to keep your car doors locked.

Drainage Ditch Construction

The County is preparing to replace the Drainage Ditch and has begun clearing out trees and debris between 125w and 200w along the bike trail. More Pg. 3

2009 Assessment Fees

You can pay your 2009 assessment fees online through **PayPal** at www.portercove.com. Please call the Treasurer at 921-0024 if you need assistance using this feature.

Numbers On Mailboxes

Be a friend to the UPS, FED EX, and DHL delivery personnel. It will make their lives much easier if we would put the address on our mailboxes. Let's work to achieve this ASAP. Thanks

Welcome New Neighbors To Porter Cove

9 new neighbors in 2008. 1 purchased in the last quarter and we want to extend our congratulations for selecting the great community of Porter Cove!

We wish you all the peace of the holiday seasons for many years.

Please take it upon yourselves to keep on record the PCHA Board's contact information on page one of this newsletter. You are also welcome to visit our community website at porter-cove.com, you can read past newsletters, or even print out a copy of the covenants and restrictions.

If you have any questions and/or concerns, simply contact one of the board members and we will find the best answers for you.

We also welcome you to be a part of a Community Committee, a Board Mem-



Community Investment Annual Report/ comparison

(2008) 3 homes are actively on the market for sale. 1 home is pending a closing soon. 9 homes sold ranging from \$133,600 to \$218,000. Avg. home is 1800 sq. ft., Large Lot is 10,000 sq. ft.

(2007) 14 homes sold ranging from 137,000 to 180,000 avg. sq. ft. was 1500 plus (2) 2500 sq. ft. homes with lots over 13,000 sq. ft. sold for over \$200,000 and \$227,000.

ber or an assistant to a board member.

The quality of our community heavily depends on the volunteered time of our homeowners.

Equity in this community has grown every year. Even in this depressing real estate market the homes in our subdivision has remained in demand and we know that is in large part due to our caring neighbors who lend us all just a couple of hours of their lives each month and in some cases only a few hours every three months.

Let us take you by the hand and show you the simplest action you can take to keep Porter Cove Number one! Contact the president to get the details of each opening.

"We care about our community and those who choose to live here".

Congratulations!!
From The 2007/2008 Board



If you would like to network with neighbors please go to www.portercove.com for phone numbers and discounts.

Advertisement is free to residents of Porter Cove. The following are just a few networking opportunities that you may find online.

- **Lawn Care and odd jobs**
Alexander Buff—cdbuff@crow.net
Andrew Scott Menard 395-9873

Free PCHA Classifieds Cont...

- **Baby Sitters** (Red Cross Certified)
Krystena & Jesica 921-0508
Leah Dujmovich 983-1411
Alexander Buff 926-5218
- **Pet Sitters**
Krystena & Jesica 921-0508
Alexander Buff 926-5218
- **Computer Troubleshooters**
IT Specialist- Charles 746-1478
- **Mortgage Loan Financing**
Suzi Toadvine 916-6752
- **Real Estate Consultants**
Area Specialist-Sharon 973-8742
- **Financial Consultants** Cindy Wyman 405-2405
- **Spa and Salon Services**
Serenity Salon 219 921-0300
- **Home Cleaning Services** Michelle Bryant 241-6935

If you have a business or service that you would like to offer to the community, simply log onto our website, click **Workforce** and register.

Please take note that these listings will be provided for information purposes only and the PCHA Board strongly recommends that you exercise your consumer right to interview and research the backgrounds of those you would like to conduct business with.

2009 Election Year

Attention All Homeowners!

Please Attend a very important Annual Meeting at Hawthorn Park this February 2nd. At 7pm. If you need driving directions call Sharon at 219 973-8742.

We will cover a lot in this meeting which includes voting in officers and answering your many questions and concerns.

Please let Sharon know if you will make it to the meeting or not. We will need your vote on a number of things. You can also send someone in your place to vote but we need to okay that upfront. Call 219 973-8742.

The agenda will include talking about our community, preventing crime, our real estate market concerns, the budget and the upkeep of our community, common com-

plaints and how to solve them. We will also provide important numbers for many service providers for our community.

There will be light refreshments provided and door prizes handed

out throughout the meeting. The Welcome Committee has a presentation for the new homeowners along with many other presentations throughout the evening.

Please come and celebrate the end of another successful board term and welcome the next board and committee members. If you are interested in holding a board posi-

"My lifestyle doesn't allow me to attend meetings, but I can certainly look out of my window and make a call to the local authorities." Anonymous Neighborhood Watch Member.

tion simply call now or raise your hand at the meeting and your name will be written on a board for voting. We will count the votes and reveal the new board and committee members during this meeting and the person that you are replacing will meet with you at your convenience to bring you up to date. The member that you will replace will also be available to you as often as needed to help make for a smooth transition. I know we do not need to tell you that we need a board to assure the upkeep and value of our community and we

really need you to try your hand at volunteering in an office position. Board meetings are only once a month if a meeting is called at all that month. Committee members set their own schedules to a couple of hours total in two or more months. We need you to please step up.

Drainage Ditch Resolution

It has come to our attention that trees are being removed behind the homes that backs up to the bike trail and the Kids Cove Park. The PCHA Board and The Park Board has not been notified that this work would take place. We were made aware of this through phone calls and emails from concerned homeowners.

It turns out that the County Surveyor's Office sent out letters to homeowners about the project. The County started the project on December 24th and continues now. The name of the ditch is Gustafson Ditch. The work will take place between 125w and 200w along the bike trail.

There were many complaints about flooding this past year due to trail runoff water having no place to go. The Gustafson ditch has not been dug up in close to 30 years. The lack of a drainage ditch has been a real problem for the first 15 homes or so from Pearson Rd. When it rained, water had no where to go but sit and puddle in their yards. Even when it looked dry it was soggy when walked on. Conditions were perfect for Mosquitoes and none of the homeowners could really enjoy

there back yards during all four seasons.

Now that the project has started we hope that it would be completed by the spring so that the neighbors can start to enjoy their yards.

This improvement does not come without a price and to some the price is huge!

Many homeowners really enjoyed the privacy that the trees offered. Some say that the wooded lots were a key factor in why they purchased their lots. Now that the trees are going, so is the privacy.

Other Homeowners really enjoyed the look of a larger back yard and with all the digging the yards will appear smaller.

All of the homeowners have a command concern regarding home value. Many home owners purchased their homes and did not pay close attention to where their property line ended since it backed up to public/ unbuildable land.

Do not let land value concern you all that much. Value is determined by the buyer's preferences. It depend on where they are coming from. If they are coming from a condo, your yard would appear huge. Purchasers looking for a huge yard will

view homes with yards they consider huge. Purchasers looking for cozy, low maintenance yards will view them. It is all in how your agent markets your home when you are ready to sell.

So look on the bright side of this, you did not have to pay to have your home surveyed and now you can redesign your yards for an enjoyable outdoor space. If you lost privacy, now will be the perfect time to catch evergreen trees on sale, do not hesitate to bargain with the nursery owner for two for one prices. Buy colorful trees like "the burning bush", and set up some outdoor furniture for that cozy oasis along the bike trail. These things will increase the homes value and make outdoor entertaining more enjoyable.

If you have additional question and concerns contact the county surveyors office for immediate answers. Do not contact the Park Department because they are not managing this project. You may also attend the next public park board meeting at Hawthorn Park on the third Tuesday, Jan. 20th 2009 at 7pm to hear updates as they receive them.

Annual Meeting—February 2nd at 7:00 pm

The Annual Porter Cove Homeowners Association meeting is scheduled for **Monday, February 2nd, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.** It will be held in the **Hawthorne Park Community Center in Porter**, located at the intersection of Hageman and Rankin Streets.

This year is an election year, we need homeowners/residents to step up and fill the vacant positions. Please consider signing up and giving back to this wonderful community! Board meeting dates and times will be determined by the new boards schedule.

At the meeting, we will share the events and activities of 2007 and 2008. This is also the time for homeowner input with ideas for new activities, subdivision concerns and, of course, offers to help the board by volunteering to sit on a committee!

!! Special Presentations!!

Don't miss it, you never know if your name will be called.

!! Door Prizes !!

Gas Cards, Savings on community goods and services

Annual Assessments Due February 1st

As per our Covenants and By-Laws, the annual assessed fees of \$25/year are due on February 1, 2008. Payments can be made in several ways:

- 1) Bring a check made out to **PCHA** to the Annual Meeting on Feb. 2nd.
- 2) Pay online by going to **www.portercove.com** and at the top of the page hit **Click Here to Pay On-Line** and then click **Add to Cart**. Your fees are processed through **PayPal**.
- 3) Mail your check to **PCHA, PO BOX 895, Chesterton, IN 46304**.

Please make this a priority. Do not put it off and do not be late. When we send out late notices it costs the whole community.

Please include the information insert from this newsletter with your payment. We need to update all homeowner information. And—let us know if you want to be included on the **Cove Crier email distribution list** for immediate news of what's going on in our subdivision.



PORTER COVE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

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Website updated on a
weekly basis!!!

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