



June 1, 2016

Dear Avalon Homeowner,

Your Avalon board of directors is happy to announce that for the **8th straight year** there will be no increase in dues for the 2016-2017 fiscal year. Your current Board of Directors; Ed Stapleton, Mike McGinnis, Charlie Calvert, Jeanine Powalie, and Alex Best will continue working hard in the best interests of the community and making sure that the Avalon reserve account stays well-funded. The Avalon finances continue to be strong and financially stable. Many Avalon homeowners are under the impression that the Avalon board members are paid for all the time we spend helping the community but our time is 100% voluntary. We do it because Avalon is our home and we want it to be a place for everyone to be proud of.

Avalon HOA Secretary Josh Chesner has sold his house in Avalon and he and his fiancé are having a larger home built elsewhere in Carolina Forest. Josh joined the Avalon Board in March of 2014 and we wanted to thank him for the time he has volunteered to our community.



Josh Chesner

When a vacancy comes open on the Avalon Board of Directors, the Avalon Covenants and Restrictions requires the remaining four members appoint a replacement to fill the vacancy. Last year Avalon board member Alex Best stepped down for personal reasons after serving for 7 years (2008-2015). Alex recently made us aware that he was ready to return to the board. With Josh moving away, there is nobody with more experience to take Josh's place than Alex. The board voted unanimously to ask Alex to return and he accepted.



Alex Best

Needless to say, this has been an interesting month in Avalon. Recently a sizeable alligator had temporarily taken up residence in the entrance pond in front of the waterfall. Avalon president Ed Stapleton sent out an email alert warning people about the alligator and pleaded with them to stay away from him. Ed informed residents that it is mating season and alligators can get very aggressive. Ed also told residents that it is important that the gator remain afraid of humans. When people start hanging around alligators they inevitably start feeding them (which is illegal). Once an alligator gets fed by humans they quickly start associating humans with food and that is when attacks occur. A lot of people totally disregarded those warnings and created some major problems. Kids were throwing rocks at him, parents with little kids were walking right up to him for a better look, and people were throwing food to him. It is sickening the way people behaved, they are the ones who are going to cause Avalon alligators to be destroyed. Alligators in Avalon are nothing new, we are surrounded by swamps! If people would just leave the alligators alone we could all live in harmony together.



Alligator sightings are a “lose-lose” situation. Half the residents were screaming for the board to get rid of the monster lurking in the ponds and the other half wanted us to leave the poor defenseless alligator alone. In the case of the current alligator in the front pond, it looks like both parties might get their way. The board hired a trapper to remove the alligator which means it will be destroyed (it is illegal to relocate alligators). However, the trappers have thus far been unsuccessful. The board was informed by an alligator expert that there is a possibility in the next few weeks that he might move on. He said at this time of the year that the males and females mate and the females kick the males out of their “home pond” for a few weeks while she builds a nest and lays her eggs. After this process is over the male will move back home. The alligator in the front pond moved to a different Avalon pond and he has now moved over to a pond in Waterbridge. Hopefully the alligator will be able to return to his home pond and rejoin his lady-friend soon.

The board wanted to acknowledge some great work that Jackie Wright (owner of Wright Management) recently did that saved the HOA a lot of money. In the March 1, 2016 newsletter the board informed homeowners that Waste Industries was raising their pickup fees by \$1.50 per house per month which would equate to around \$6,642.00 a year for the HOA. Waste Industries blamed the increase on the Horry County Solid Waste Authority raising their disposal fee by \$4.00 per ton this year. Jackie Wright stalled renewing the garbage contract and on April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016 the Solid Waste Authority’s budget was approved with no increases. Jackie Wright called Waste Industries and informed them that since the Horry County Solid Waste Authority was not increasing their disposal fees then neither were they. Due to Jackie Wright’s attention to details, Avalon’s garbage contract with Waste Industries was renewed with no increase saving homeowners \$6,642.00 per year.



The Avalon Board of Directors wants to make you aware of some recent improvements made in the community. Both bathrooms at the pool have been refurbished. Ten years cleaning the bathroom floors in conjunction to the high humidity were beginning to rot the sheetrock where it meets the floor. Wainscoting made from PVC was installed all the way around the walls about waist high. The bathroom walls were repainted and the floors were re-sealed. Also, all the lounge chairs on the pool deck have been replaced. We purchased 70 new loungers and the pool looks great!



Avalon's 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Ice Cream Social is being held on Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 1:00pm. As always it will be held under the pavilion at the Avalon Amenities Center. Children at heart of all ages from 1 to 100 are invited to come. Anyone living in Avalon can attend as long as a current 2016-2017 pass can be presented.



Congratulations to Donna Cislak at 5036 Wickalow for winning the June 2016 Yard of the quarter. This entitles Donna to one (1) quarter of free dues!



June 2016 – 5036 Wickalow Way (Lot# 664)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike McGinnis".

Mike McGinnis - Vice President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Best".

Alex Best - Secretary

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles Calvert".

Charles Calvert - Officer at Large

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeanine Powalie".

Jeanine Powalie - Treasurer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edward P. Stapleton".

Edward Stapleton