



THE SHANNON VALLEY VOICE

Winter 2004-2005

A Message From The President

2004 quickly came to a close - way before I was ready. The 2004 Shannon Valley Board had many great accomplishments. The highlight of the year was the completion of the Long Range Plan. This will provide a roadmap for the neighborhood and future boards to follow. "Thanks" to all the neighbors that assisted with its development and final presentation. Chaired by Tim Elliott, the committee spent many hours looking into the future and outlining a plan to challenge all of us. We hope to see the plan take off in 2005.

The second noticeable accomplishment was the Shannon Valley web page. Dave Eslinger and Paul Wildgen worked many long hours in the development phase and both continue to support this wonderful means of communication. This fall, everyone received a refrigerator magnet with the website address along with the updated neighborhood directory. Communication between and among residents is flowing. All the board and committee chairs have direct links on the SV web page. This is such an easy way to keep in contact with what's going on in the neighborhood.

The annual meeting, held in November, provided an update of the year's events and activities and the annual election of board members took place. Five door prizes were awarded to five lucky residents of SV. Unfortunately, less than 10% of the home owners in Shannon Valley were present. Board members elected (or re-elected) include: Jeff Burvee, Tim Elliott, Troy Russell, Paul Wildgen and Sue Wildgen. The board meets monthly (the first Tuesday of the month) and all residents are invited to attend. Check out the web page for specific dates and times.

The neighborhood continued to grow in 2004. Yes, we had a new home built and Jeremy Applebaum moved in. We now have 561 homes in Shannon Valley. Homes were sold and many of us have new neighbors. Hopefully, all new neighbors have been welcomed and feel a part of this great neighborhood. Jeff and Erin Burvee are the new Block Captain Coordinators and they have successfully recruited Block Captains to fill existing vacancies. They have super plans for 2005.

The late November snow storm brought much damage to the trees in Shannon Valley. Many trees in the common areas suffered irreversible damaged and were removed. The 2005 Board will make recommendations concerning replacement of removed trees.

All in all, it was a great year. To all our residents and neighbors - Thank you for making Shannon Valley "A Great Place to Live"!

Sue Wildgen, President



Meet Your New 2005 SV Board

The Annual meeting in November drew a crowd of approximately 60 residents who cast their ballots for new board members (one ballot per household). In addition, every home in Shannon Valley received a ballot that could be mailed-in by Nov 12th. We received a total of 42 ballots.

The ballots are in and counted! The 2005 Board is as follows:

Sue Wildgen, President
Tim Elliott, Vice President
Troy Russell, Secretary/Treasurer
Paul Wildgen, Communications
Jeff Burvee, Neighbor Relations

So that each resident has a better understanding of responsibilities, each board position is defined below:

President, oversees all activities, implements long range plan initiatives.

Vice President, direct contact with LTP chair, CERT, and government relations.

Secretary/Treasurer, maintains contact with Admin Asst., handles all financial matters, dues, budget, contracts and insurance.

Communications, web page, newsletter, and posting of all signs.

Neighbor Relations, grounds and maintenance, neighbor complaints, enforcement action, social chair, block captains

Communications Report

The SVHA website www.shannonvalley.org continues to have new information posted of interest to all residents. We have added a page for the CERT group and are soon to add a page for the Block Captains. The site contains the minutes from all 2004 SVHA Board meetings. With the new year coming and the new SVHA Board being appointed, the 2004 information will be archived and the schedules and minutes for 2005 will be added to the web page along with the new contact information for the 2005 SVHA Board. If you have events or activities you would like published on the Activities page, let us know. We will put the information on the web page to help publicize your event.

The SVHA Board would like to develop an email list of all residents. This would be used to communicate with the neighborhood in a more timely manner. We started to complete this list in 2004 and continue to expand. Currently we have approximately 130 email addresses. Communications might include: notifications of events, newsletters, meeting notices, Block Captain activities, new residents info, and any number of things of interest. Your email will never be used for non Shannon Valley information and will not be sold or shared with any outside business or agency. If you are willing to share your email address, just sent an email to webmaster@shannonvalley.org or any of the members of the Board listed on the Contacts web page.

Check out

<http://www.shannonvalley.org/>

ROLLING MASTER PLAN APPROVED AT ANNUAL MEETING

In September, the Long Term Planning Committee (“LTPC”) prepared its report, and it was approved by the Shannon Valley Board of Directors on September 30, 2004, and then published on www.shannonvalley.org. After discussion of the background, methodology, substance of the report, plan summary, and challenges to the membership, the Rolling Master Plan (“Plan”) was approved at the Annual Meeting on November 9, 2004.

For those members who have not yet reviewed the Plan, we are reprinting the Executive Summary as a teaser to hopefully tempt you to download the Plan from <http://shannonvalley.org/pdf/PLAN8.pdf> and, more importantly, read it.

“EXECUTIVE SUMMARY”

Our neighborhood is where we spend a large percentage of our time, has an impact on who will be our friends, determines where our children attend school, and, for most of us, contains our largest financial investment. So, it seems to make sense to have a “business plan” for how to maximize the use and value of our neighborhood.

The following is Shannon Valley’s 2004 Rolling Master Plan. The Board appointed a committee chairman who formed a committee. The Association’s Membership was surveyed, and input was solicited from the committee and all Association Members. The Committee’s Report was presented to the Board and modified based upon feedback from Board Members. Upon presentation to the Association’s Membership at the Annual Meeting, and upon approval, this Rolling Master Plan should provide a valuable resource for the Association and future Boards, and should be followed until modified in accordance with the procedure outlined below.

The General Recommendations provide instructions and guidelines for each Board to follow. The Specific Recommendations provide suggestions and ideas on how to improve Shannon Valley and address issues identified as most important on the Survey responses. Each Board will determine its One-Year Plan by setting objectives and following a course to implement such objectives.

The Rolling Master Plan is subject to modification and revision pursuant to the outlined planning process that requires study, recommendations, Board approval, and approval at the Annual Meeting of Members.”

NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICE DAY

In addition to preparation of the Rolling Master Plan, the LTPC, with the assistance of our Grounds Maintenance Chair, Vern Koeppen, sponsored a neighborhood service day on October 2, 2004. Our efforts focused on the College Boulevard easement, and the area around, and including, the tennis courts. In addition to filling an entire dump truck of mulched tree residue, we collected about 80 bags of trash and debris. The feedback on this effort was generally very positive. More importantly, this service days was an example of how we can successfully work together to improve our neighborhood, save money, set a good example for our children, and enhance our friendships.

I am extremely appreciative to all who assisted the LTPC, whether it was attending meetings, participating or responding to the e-mail list, working on the service day, and/or reviewing the draft of the Report. We estimate over 360 person/hours were invested in this project, which provides a strong foundation for further improvement of Shannon Valley. Again, I urge you to review the Plan, and provide your assistance in whatever way you see fit, to next year’s LTPC.

Tim Elliott
2004 LTPC Chair

2004 FORECASTED INCOME STATEMENT

Income	<u>Budget 2004</u>	<u>11/30 Actual</u>	<u>12/31 Forecast</u>	<u>Forecasted Variance</u>
Dues	\$112,200	\$113,187	\$113,187	\$987
Other Income	\$947	\$699	\$729	\$(218)
Total Income	\$113,147	\$113,886	\$113,916	\$769
Expense				
Garbage Contract	\$54,798	\$56,406	\$61,155	\$6,357
Grounds Maintenance & utilities	\$26,670	\$26,279	\$28,051	\$1,381
Social	\$1,150	\$1,622	\$1,622	\$472
Insurance/Taxes/Legal	\$8,340	\$4,443	\$4,463	\$(3,877)
Board (printing/postage/meeting)	\$6,700	\$6,552	\$6,852	\$152
Capital Improvements Reserve	\$15,000	\$-	\$11,334	\$(3,666)
Other	\$500	\$389	\$439	\$(61)
Total Expenses	\$113,158	\$95,691	\$113,915	\$757
Net Income	\$(11)	\$18,195	\$0	\$11

Changes & Corrections to Neighborhood Directory

New Residents		
11169 Benson	Bobby & Sherry Dunn	913.322.4212
Corrections		
11163 Benson	Bruce & Carolyn Wyhs	913.782.9173
Babysitting	Hannah Hayes	913.469.5140
Petsitting	Hannah Hayes	913.469.5140
Petsitting	Molly Hayes	913.469.5140
Mail/Newspaper	Hannah Hayes	913.469.5140
Mail/Newspaper	Molly Hayes	913.469.5140
Yardwork	Hannah Hayes	913.469.5140
Yardwork	Molly Hayes	913.469.5140



What a beautiful sight in Shannon Valley this holiday season. Streets with coordinated decorations, houses with outstanding displays and neighbors enjoying all the glitz and glimmer. Yes, the holidays are here. We love seeing everyone celebrate with lights and decorations.

Please remember to remove all festive decor on or before January 15, 2005. Thanks.



CONGRATULATIONS!

FALL HOME AWARD



The Shannon Valley board is pleased to announce Mike and Wendy Malyn as the winner of the Fall Home Award. Mike and Wendy reside at 11504 Grant along with Stephanie, their 14 year old daughter. They have lived in Shannon Valley for 4 years and decided that this year they will begin beautifying the front yard from scratch. If you drive by, notice what hard work will accomplish in one growing season. What you can't see is the back yard, which definitely does not take a back seat to the front in design and grooming. They appreciate the recognition and the gift certificate.

Social Committee

Progressive Dinner

One of the social activities mentioned at the annual meeting and in the questionnaire was a Shannon Valley Progressive Dinner. Therefore, we are going to give this one a try on February 26, 2005! It should be really fun, and a great opportunity to get to know some of your neighbors better! If you are interested in participating, please call Chris Melpolder at 498-0021, or email her at cmelpolder@sbcglobal.net. Details will be figured out after the first of the year, so contact her by the end of January 28th.

Garage Sale

Just a "heads up" - we are going to try a different season this year for our annual garage sale. The competition for garage sales during the last week of April and first week of May has really affected our sales, so we are going to try changing to the fall for our neighborhood sale. Hopefully, this will draw more people and we'll have less competition. And the weather should be better! We are tentatively looking at the weekend after Labor Day - so check future newsletters for further information!

General

If anyone has any questions about the social activities of Shannon Valley or is interested in helping with current or future activities, please call Linda Nease at 345-0308, or email me at hlnease@aol.com. I'd love to hear from you!



Winter Weather Driving Tips

Kansas road conditions Hotline - 511

or visit www.kanroad.org.

If outside of Kansas dial 1-866-511-KDOT

Winter driving can be dangerous, especially for rusty drivers at the beginning of the season. After a long spring and summer, it is easy to forget how to drive on winter's slick roads and in low visibility. Common sense says to monitor the weather, travel only when necessary, keep your speed down, and drive defensively. The Patrol offers these additional suggestions for your safe winter travel.

First, prepare your vehicle. Extreme temperatures can be hard on vehicles. Check the fluids, ensuring that the radiator is winterized, that the gas tank is over half-full, and that there is plenty of windshield washing fluid. Check belts, hoses, and brake systems for excessive wear. Have the exhaust system checked; small leaks can allow carbon monoxide to enter the passenger compartment. Check tire treads for adequate traction, and replace windshield wiper blades if they are ineffective.

Keep a survival kit that includes at least the following:

- An ice scraper and shovel
- Jumper cables
- Flashlights
- Sand or kitty litter for traction
- Extra clothing or blankets
- Non-perishable food
- A first aid kit
- Matches and candles or flares
- A towrope or chain.



On the road, remember the following:

Allow extra time for delays and slower traffic speeds.

Buckle up and properly secure children in safety seats.

Increase the distance between your vehicle and the vehicle ahead of you. Ice and snow significantly increase your stopping distance.

Accelerate and brake gently. A light foot on the gas is less likely to make wheels spin on ice and snow. Braking is best accomplished by pumping the pedal. If your vehicle has an anti-lock braking system (ABS), it is very important that you understand how to use it. Read the owner's manual or check with a dealership for more information, and practice using it correctly.

Make turns slowly and gradually, especially in heavily traveled areas (e.g. intersections that may be icy from snow that melted and refroze).

Visibility is very important. You must be able to see out, and other drivers must be able to see your vehicle. Clean frost and snow off all windows, mirrors, and lights. Use headlights as necessary.

If your car loses traction and begins to slide, steer into the swerve, or in the direction you want to go. Anticipate a second skid in the opposite direction as the car straightens out.

If you plan to drive, do not drink. Designate a driver or call a cab. Report impaired drivers to a law enforcement agency.

Watch for deer, especially near dusk and dawn.

If you are stranded in a winter storm, do not panic. Stay in the vehicle, keep fresh air circulating through a downwind window, run the motor sparingly, turn on the dome light, and stimulate circulation and stay awake by moving arms and legs. If you leave the car, work slowly in the snow to avoid over-exertion and the risk of a heart attack. If you have a cellular phone, **call a Kansas Highway Patrol dispatcher by dialing *HP (47), or *KTA (582) while on the Kansas Turnpike.**

You can check Kansas' road conditions by dialing **511** or by visiting **www.kanroad.org**. If outside of Kansas dial 1-866-511-KDOT.

2005 DUES

The Shannon Valley Homes Association Board voted at the December 2004 meeting to maintain our current annual assessment. The 2005 annual maintenance assessment and trash pickup fees totaling \$200 per household will be due on February 15, 2005. This payment consists of \$98 for household trash pickup (twice per week) and a \$102 for homes association maintenance. Any assessment not received by February 15, 2005 will be considered "past due", and will be subject to a \$50 late fee. Upon receipt of your bill, please mail your payment to the Shannon Valley Homeowners Association, at P.O. Box 25054, Overland Park, KS 66225. If you have questions, please contact a board member.

CONGRATULATIONS!

WINTER HOME AWARD



The Shannon Valley board is pleased and honored to announce that Gil & Nancy Gustafson have been awarded the winter Home Award. Gil and Nancy reside at 11239 Eby and have two grown children. Gil and Nancy have lived in Shannon Valley for 10 years and have no plans on moving again! Gil is retired from the military (Army) having served 6 years in Germany, 1 year in Vietnam and 1 year in Korea. All these moves explain their desire to call Shannon Valley their last home. In addition to the lighting display, their yard is properly manicured throughout the year. In case you are wondering what happened to the large beautifully decorated pine tree we all have enjoyed in years past . . . Gil apologized for not decorating it this year. This year's growth made it almost impossible!

I have been asked to deliver the Home Awards throughout the season and I really enjoy the plus side of surprising residents who have won. By doing this, I have noticed the diligent work people continue to do to keep their property well maintained. As you know, last year the residents on Grant (from Grandview to College Boulevard) teamed together to decorate their front trees in brilliant red lights. What a beautiful decision and it looks like more were added this year. This must be catching on as 114th street residents just off Grandview have followed with twinkling white lights! I'm the lucky one to enjoy the view from my house every night. Kudos to 114th Street residents this year. We will be anxiously waiting to see who will be the next group to beautify Shannon Valley!

Happy Holidays to all of you. Vern Koeppen

Updates to your home and yard!

Please remember to contact the appropriate official prior to working on your home improvements. Internal repairs and updates may need the approval of the City of OP and a building permit. External improvements such as deck additions, fences, extensive yard renovation, etc may also require the City's approval and permit. Don't forget to submit your external improvement plans to the SV Board as well.

Per **SHANNON VALLEY DECLARATION OF RESTRICTIONS AND HOMES ASSOCIATION DECLARATION Section 7. Fencing**: No fence may be erected without the prior written consent of Shannon Valley Developments. **And Section 16. Miscellaneous Provisions. f) Exterior Basketball Goals**: No exterior basketball goals shall be erected or maintained on any of the lots hereby restricted, without prior consent in writing by Shannon Valley Developments. **g) Swimming Pools**: No above ground swimming pools may be constructed or maintained on any of the lots hereby restricted, without prior consent in writing by Shannon Valley Developments.

Thanks!

Shannon Valley Homes Association
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