

PLAIN TALK

the newsletter of the Pine Lake Association of Involved Neighbors

APRIL 2005

2004 / 2005 OFFICERS & CHAIRS

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EMERGENCY NUMBERS

If you need emergency assistance, please call 911. Pine Lake's Police Department is committed to serving YOU! Call Pine Lake Neighborhood Watch at **404-298-1480**.

JOIN PLAIN

Join the Pine Lake Association of Involved Neighbors or renew your current membership! Just fill out the membership form on the back page of this newsletter and submit along with payment of \$25 per household to: Post Office Box 44, Pine Lake, Georgia 30072-0044.

PLAIN sponsors Safety program at next meeting

The next PLAIN membership meeting on Wed., April 6, offers something a little different. Chief Y'Hudah of the Pine Lake Police Department will facilitate a program on safety.

In light of recent incidents of vandalism and theft in Pine Lake, Chief Y'Hudah has some sound advice on how to protect yourself, your home and your personal belongings from theft and vandalism.

The PLAIN meeting begins at 7:30 at the Club House. The meeting usually lasts 15-20 minutes and will be immediately followed by Chief Y'Hudah's presentation.

See Page 3 for some homeowner safety tips.

PLCA welcomes Veronika Jackson to First Friday

Pine Lake Cultural Affairs welcomes Veronika Jackson to First Friday Coffee House, April 1 8:30 p.m. at the Beach House.

Jackson's blues acoustic style stems from being the youngest of seven children in a musically-talented family. She has made appearances on community radio shows on stations such as WCLK, WFRG, and WMNF. She was a guest on Atlanta's own People to People Television program and also gives her time at home dedications for Habitat for Humanity.

Her latest endeavor "Hat Check" is delighting audiences everywhere.

Jackson also has performed for The Callanwolde Fine Arts Center, the Georgia Music Hall of Fame in Macon and the Florida Folk Festival in White Springs, Florida.

Come see and hear her at Pine Lake's First Friday Coffee House.



Veronika Jackson

PLAIN annual meeting and upcoming activities

The Pine Lake Association of Involved Neighbors will be electing new officers at the May meeting on Wed., May 4. Anyone is eligible to make a nomination or to be nominated. Send nominations to: plain@pinelakegeorgia.com.

It's that time of year again. Time to beautify, landscape and nominate for the Yard of the Month award. Is there a yard in Pine Lake in full Spring bloom? Have you noticed a yard that has undergone definite improvement? Has someone's landscaping caught your eye?

If so, nominate them for the Yard of the Month award. Go to www.plainhelps.org and click on Yard of the Month. Click on the nomination link, fill out the form and submit your nomination for Yard of the Month.

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Elise Witt

Elise Witt: Singing for Fun in North Carolina

Elise Witt is teaching a weekend dedicated to the joy of singing, at the beautiful John Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, NC. The Folk School offers a huge variety of craft and art classes all year long, as well as music classes in traditional and roots music. For more information about "Singing For Fun" classes, check out Elise's website at www.elisewitt.com

JUNE 10-12, 2005 BRASSTOWN, NC
"Singing for Fun" with Elise Witt
full weekend workshop
John C. Campbell Folk School
One Folk School Road
Brasstown, NC 28902
1-800-FOLK-SCH (365-5724)
or 828-837-2775
singing@folkschool.org
<http://www.folkschool.org>

SING SWING & STRING WEEK
JULY 3-9, 2005
The Swannanoa Gathering
PO Box 9000
Warren Wilson College
Asheville NC 28815
To order a Catalogue contact:
gathering@warren-wilson.edu or (828)
298-3434. Check out the Gathering
Website: www.swangathering.org

PLAIN always welcomes volunteers. Right now, PLAIN is seeking someone to volunteer as Program Coordinator. In an effort to provide the Pine Lake community with useful and timely information, we would like to begin offering community programs at our monthly meetings. Anyone interested please contact Penny White at penspen@yahoo.com or call 404-298-8621.

In the meantime, please e-mail any ideas or suggestions for possible programs of interest to penspen@yahoo.com.

Spring planting and care tips

Think of the tree or shrub you purchased as a lifetime investment. How well your plant grows depends on the type of plant, location of planting, care in planting and follow-up care you provide.

Planting

* Dig a broad hole 2-3 times the diameter of the root ball, but 2-3" shallower than the root ball.

* Prevent the tree from settling deeper into the hole by making sure the bottom of the hole is firm. Do not put loose soil beneath the ball. Most of the roots grow in the top 12 inches of soil.

* Place the plant on undisturbed solid ground in the center of the hole, straightening it and making sure it is 2-3" above the soil line.

* Cut through circling or matted roots on both sides of the root ball. If the tree is B&B, remove pins, nails, and roping from the trunk and top of the ball as you begin to backfill. Pull back the burlap from the top 3rd of the ball and cut or drop it to the bottom of the hole, backfilling over top of it.

* Mix the soil from the hole with a soil amendment like our Jungle Growth Planting Mix (1/3 mix to 2/3 existing soil). Don't overdo the amendment and don't add other topsoil mixes because you want the roots to adapt to your existing soil.

* Backfill half the soil, then gently pack the soil around the root ball. Water well to settle out air pockets. Finish backfilling, firm the soil, and then water again.

* Spread 2-3" of mulch around the base of the plant making sure it does not touch the trunk or stem. Think of a bagel of mulch rather than a volcano up against the trunk.

Staking Trees

* Trees over 6 feet tall, trees that are not self-supporting or those susceptible to wind or needing protection from vandals or lawn mowers should be staked to promote a good, healthy root system.

* Wrap trunk area to be staked with tree wrap to prevent sun scald to trunk. Insert 3-4 2'x2' hardwood stakes into ground. Use wire

to attach tree to stakes. Be sure to use a piece of staking hose around wire where it wraps the trunk, to prevent wire from cutting into trunk.

* Remove stakes after six months if tree seems stable enough to support itself.

Care After Planting

* Follow-up care should include keeping the soil moist but not soaked. Water a minimum of 1" a week. In dry, hot weather more water may be required, especially during the first year.

* Watch plant closely, especially the first 30 days after planting.

* Deep water - thoroughly soak root ball twice a week or if plant appears wilted.

* After initial 30 day period, water thoroughly three times a month under normal conditions.

* If plant is not draining well, steps should be taken to improve drainage.

Feeding

* Wait 6-8 weeks to fertilize plants installed in the spring and only use a slow release fertilizer. Wait until spring to fertilize fall planted trees and shrubs. After the first year, fertilize in early spring before new growth begins and late fall after the first killing frost. Avoid fertilizer in summer and early fall. Apply fertilizer at the drip line and water in well.

Pruning

* Prune only to remove broken, damaged, or dead branches. After the tree is established, pruning should be minimal. Be careful not to remove any more than 1/3 of the leaf-bearing surface at a single time.

Pest Control

* Preventative spraying can be started in late May and continued throughout summer. Products such as Orthene and Malathion are commonly used as a preventative.

* To provide you with the best solution to a pest problem, bring in a picture of the distressed plant or an actual pest for identification. Once properly identified, a nursery professional will make the right recommendation for pest control.

Homeowner safety tips: protect yourself

Various sources indicate that simply displaying window decals and/or yard signs can decrease your chances of being burglarized by up to 75%.

You can help secure your windows from being slid open by placing pins through the window frames.

A solid door with a double deadbolt lock can delay a burglar; and time to a thief is synonymous to their own safety.

A piece of wood placed in the window track or pins through the window frames prevent sliding glass doors from sliding open for the wrong person.

You may want to first try any kind of alarm before committing to it because false alarms can become a nuisance as well as potentially dangerous. In lieu of contracting for a professionally installed security system and service, you can choose very carefully from different 'do it yourself' remedies.

Wireless systems are often the easiest to install, but often are also the fastest to cause false alarms. These systems can be hooked up to a central monitoring system and there are many available.

Check with the local police for any advice they may be able to offer before you

buy and especially, before you install a system. False alarms for police have become a national epidemic and one that you don't want to contribute to. You may need to register your system, depending on local laws.

A strong motivator to buying a security system is that most home owner insurance policies premiums will be reduced. Make sure to first consult with your insurance agent before making a final decision as to the type of system you want.

Invest in curtains or blinds if you don't have any already. Be sure to close curtains and/or blinds after dark. Nothing is more tempting to a would-be burglar than actually being able to see valuables through an uncovered window.

Security lights or motion lights outside your home are also burglar deterrents.

Lock up or store valuables normally left outside unattended.

Always lock car doors, even when parked in your home driveway or carport.

When going out of town, even overnight, have a friend to check on your home periodically. If going out of town for an extended period of time, hire someone to housesit.

These homeowner safety tips courtesy of www.safewithin.com.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL 1

First Friday Coffee House
Veronika Jackson
8 p.m. Beach House
\$5 suggested donation

APRIL 2

Pancake Breakfast
8:30 - 10:30 a.m. Beach House
\$5 PLAIN members; \$6 non-members

APRIL 6

PLAIN membership meeting
7:30 p.m. Club House

APRIL 11

City Council Meeting 7:30 p.m. City Hall

APRIL 14

Newcomers' Night
7:30 p.m. Beach House

APRIL 20

PLAINTalk Deadline.

APRIL 26

City Council Work Session
7:30 p.m. City Hall

MAY 14

PLCA open meeting.
Details in May PLAINTalk

APRIL CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE - Epson 610 color scanner \$30. Tony Little Gazelle Freestyle Elite with additional resistance training like new and portable \$200. Visor Handspring PDA and software \$80. Car seat back pack for travel (water proof, tear resistant) \$25. Call Chris or Nicky at **404 299 8233** or e-mail cnrosenbluth@hotmail.com

NEED A LOVING HOME FOR 2 CATS.

Ginger is an orange domestic short hair with the personality of a lovable princess, she loves getting cuddled and stroked and has beautiful almond-shaped eyes. Her brother Marmalade is also an orange domestic short hair with the personality of the Three Stooges, he's shy at first, but very lovable. Mom and son are extremely allergic and we have 3 cats so we hope downsizing helps alleviate problems. We will provide kitty litter, litter pan and shots will be up to date. Call Chris or Nicky at **404 299 8233** or e-mail cnrosenbluth@hotmail.com

NEED HELP WITH PET SITTING? yard

work? Odd chores? Call Chris at **404-508-5623**

READING TUTOR - Help your child get back on track with reading help from an experienced schoolteacher (7 years in public schools + Masters in Special Education). Sharpen reading and comprehension skills. Improve language and vocabulary. Sometimes a little extra help is all it takes! Reasonable rates. Call Beth Carr at **404-508-6757**.

ATTENTION PINE LAKE PARENTS

Are you interested in organizing a babies' and toddlers' play group? Get together once a month with your neighbors and their kids to play and share ideas. Let's give it a try! Contact Beth Carr at **404-508-6757**.

HOUSE TO SHARE PINE LAKE

3 Bdrm/2 bath. Private upstairs bed/bath. \$400/Mo. Includes utilities. Sorry, have to say no dogs. Cats maybe. Please call **404-296-6255**.

FOR SALE: '97 VW Jetta Gold 4DR Sedan, auto., new trans., \$4400 neg. Antique Mahogany Dining Table w/ pedestal base, leaf, 6 chairs, classic

Duncan Phyfe style \$2150; antique round pedestal table \$85. Call Aimee and Kwame at **404-294-1968**.

523 PINE DRIVE - Cool, hip home just steps away from the lake & just mins to downtown Decatur or ATL. 2BR, 2BA, LR, DR, office, fam room & 2 sleeping lofts, working fp. \$169,900. Call Heather & Erika at Adams Realtors **404-688-1222**

RETIREMENT HOME in Lakeland, FL., for sale. 1984 Fleetwood modular home: living room, kitchen/dining, 3 bedrooms, screened room, tool shed. Includes ceiling fans, auto lawn sprinkler system, dishwasher, washer, dryer, security system, concealed safe. Miscellaneous furniture (couch, chairs, tables, dressers, bed, sleeper couch, etc.) included. Adult community. \$20,000. Call John at **770-978-9848**.

MUSIC LESSONS: Music teacher Paul Jasionowski has two openings in his private studio. Lessons and coaching available in brass, percussion, piano, strings, and woodwinds. Call **404-292-1580**.

Classifieds continued on Page 4

available for energy balancing sessions.
Discount available for Pine Lakers. Gail
Hagenbuch **404-508-3351**.

HOME REPAIR and improvement available

FOR SALE Holly carburetor, double barrel,
\$100 obo. **404-292-1580**.

FIRE WOOD for sale. Aged hardwood
oak. Buy by the piece, or purchase by the
bundle. **404-292-1580**.

HAVE HEALTH INSURANCE? A high
deductible policy? CorpSavers, the latest
program from my 14 year old health care
company, can fill the hospital/physician
gaps with meaningful savings. Also avail-
able: dental, vision, chiropractic, and retail
pharmacy and/or mail option that can save
60%. Your business pays not \$65 or more,
but \$19 or less monthly depending on the
number of associates participating. Also
ideal for uninsured families. Sales opportu-
nity available. Please call Jack at **404-299-
6380** or e-mail jack@chgallied.com

WILL CLEAN YOUR HOME. I live in Pine
Lake and have excellent references. **404-
298-1750**.

DON'T LET THOSE FAMILY MEMORIES
fade away. Photograph restoration at rea-
sonable costs. Call **404-298-7498**.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO FEEL BETTER?
Let me help. Weekend appointments are