

PLAIN TALK

the newsletter of the Pine Lake Association of Involved Neighbors

January/February 2007

2006-07 PLAIN OFFICERS & CHAIRS

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PLAIN WEBSITE

www.plainhelps.org

EMERGENCY NUMBER

If you need emergency assistance, please call 911. Pine Lake's Police Department is committed to serving YOU!

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 :
P.O. Box 44
Pine Lake, GA 30072-0044.



What do you want for Pine Lake in the New Year?

The start of a New Year is a good time to share our goals and dreams.

PLAINTalk kicks off the New Year discussion by talking to some of the movers and shakers in our city about what their focus will be in the New Year.

Our mayor, **Greg Zarus**, focuses his attention in four main areas: green projects in the historic district; green development of the annexed business district; increasing city workers' salaries; and decreasing the millage rate. "I plan on reducing the Millage from 14.45 to 13.9 this year (council has accepted this proposal). With the annexations, we could afford to lower it more, but our workers are grossly underpaid, so I can't reduce it as I had hoped by this time. It will drop quicker once the new businesses are built. Please . . . eat at our restaurants and buy gas at our one station and do laundry at our one dry-cleaner." The new Western Wetlands area holds promise as an exciting addition to our city, and Greg looks forward to more community involvement as enthusiasm for the project grows this coming year (*see pg. 3*).

PLAIN's President, **Nicky Rosenbluth**, has a number of dreams for PLAIN and Pine Lake in the New Year. First and foremost, she would like to meet new friends by seeing an increase in PLAIN membership and more neighbors volunteering. She sees this year's International Dinner, Halloween and Easter Egg Hunt celebrations even bigger and better than last year. And she would like to create more social opportunities for neighbors and our police force to get to know one another. (*con't pg.2*)

Join the discussion! Tell us what you want for Pine Lake in the New Year and look for your comments in the next PLAINTalk.

Call or e-mail Ella – 404 298-6676 or ellalaura@gmail.com.

PLAIN NEWS

ABOUT PLAIN TALK

We are so relieved to have our new editor; Ella is doing an amazing job. Thank you also to Mary Stuckey & Sheryl Feenan for keeping our paper together in the interim.

I thought this would be a good issue to update everyone on how PLAIN TALK works. Please understand that our newsletter is an entirely volunteer endeavor. Our deadline is the 15th of each month, after which it takes about a week to compile, proof and edit the newsletter. The completed newsletter then goes to another volunteer who photocopies it (thank you Erika Brown) and then another group of volunteers collates, folds and/or staples all 500 of them. The papers are then distributed among our deliverers. So it is at least a two week process.

Good News! We will be posting PLAIN TALK on our website at www.plainhelps.org. Click on PLAIN TALK to read the current issue. This means you will have access to the newsletter about a week before the paper copy arrives on your doorstep.

Here's how *you* can help speed up the process:

1. If you have an article get it to the editor ellalaura@gmail.com no later than the 15th of the month.
2. We could always use help to collate, fold and extra staplers work wonders. We've had a wonderful time getting to know one another! (If some of your newsletters have salsa on it, I apologize, we snack while folding.)
3. We could use more deliverers so that they get out faster.

WALMART GRANT

Thank you to Candy Howland & Penny White and the rest of PLAIN'ers who worked on getting a grant from Walmart - we never heard anything and then out of the blue they called and asked if we needed money . . . well, we were awarded a much needed \$500.!

MEMBERSHIP

We will begin our membership drive for PLAIN soon. Please note that \$25 per household is a bargain and helps support the purchase of paper for PLAIN TALK, supplies for International Dinner, Halloween, Easter, and other celebrations and our Saturday Breakfasts. We've been doing some pretty incredible things with the \$875. that we received in membership this past year. (Keep in mind that paper for PLAIN TALK alone is \$500) Thanks to donations from generous city residents and board members, we were able to do much more. See the last page of this issue for the Membership Form. ~Nicky♦

What do you want for Pine Lake in the New Year?

(con't from pg. 1)

Police Chief **Sarai Y'udah-Green**, shares Nicky's sentiment and wants to bring more of a small-town friendliness between the police and residents. She envisions our officers walking more in the community, especially in the business district as it continues to grow.

"Making Pine Lake a healthier, safer, and cleaner place to live" are among the most important goals for our city administrator, **Phil Howland**. This coming year he plans to focus in on our growing business district, (look for sidewalks along Rockbridge Rd. and a more pedestrian friendly district) and on revising and enforcing our city codes. The current Pine Lake codes are antiquated and contradictory. The city is working to update and organize all codes. This will make enforcement much easier. Phil would like to see all our Pine Lake homes with adequate and safe heating systems, wiring and plumbing.

The growth and development of Pine Lake continues and it is within the power of each one of us to shape the direction that our beloved community will go. As the new editor of PLAIN TALK, I look forward to providing this vehicle for our increased communication and community involvement. ~ Ella ♦

A Note From Our Mayor . . .

I know that I told everybody that it was not in their interest to vote for the assessment freeze. BUT now that it passed, I recommend that they take it.

*** Return your DeKalb Tax Commissioner letter with a YES!!! ***

If you did not get a letter, contact them for the "freeze my assessment" form.

Please help get the word out. It will reduce our taxes a little for now.

GREG



FEBRUARY/MARCH

FEBRUARY

- *3rd - Pancake Breakfast 8:30 - 10:30
 Town Hall follows breakfast (beach house)
- 7th - PLAIN meeting at the Clubhouse 7pm
- 10th - Pet Clinic 3:30 - 4:30
- 12th - Council Meeting 7:30
- 17th - Chili/Soup Cookoff 6pm (see below)
- 20th - Neighborhood Watch (beach house)
- 24th - "Wetland Whack" 9-3 (see pg.5)
- 27th - Council Work Session 7:30

MARCH

- *3rd - Pancake Breakfast 8:30-10:30
 (beach house)
- *7th - PLAIN Mtg in the Clubhouse 7pm.
- 10th - Pet Clinic 3:30 - 4:30
- 12th - Council Meeting 7:30
- 20th - PLEAS (Pine Lake Environmental
 Access and Stewardship) General Mtg.
- 27th - Council Work Session 7:30

Notes from PLAIN

*February and March 3rd -- We are always open to new volunteer cooks for the Saturday Breakfast!

*February 7th - Come to the PLAIN meeting and help plan our best-yet Chili/Soup Cook off!

2/17 CHILI/SOUP COOK-OFF

It's easy to be a part of this annual event. Simply bring a batch of your best chili or soup, with a copy of your recipe. Bring an empty muffin pan to hold the sample cups. If you bring a soup or chili you get to sample for free, vote on the best soup or chili, *and* get prizes! If you don't want to cook, pay only \$5. admission to taste all you like. *We need volunteers for this event too!*

YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS . . .

An important Town Hall Meeting will follow the breakfast. Your opinion is needed! Mayor Greg Z. brings the following issues to our attention. They will be addressed at the Town Hall and your feedback is requested:

1. Architectural Preferences and Restrictions for New Development: There will be a survey to determine which architectural styles are most liked and which are disliked. The responses will be evaluated and we will develop codes to restrict those things that are undesirable. This guidance will be put into immediate use with the new developments planned on Rockbridge. We need your input because council has approved one multi-use development and is about to review another.

2. The Next Big Greenspace Project: Come see the design plans for the new bridge, ponds, and the proposed elevated trails for the western wetlands. Find out how you can help so that we can match the grants to pay for the heavy equipment work. We expect dramatic changes in the "Western Wetlands" by May of this year with enough volunteer help. (You may have already noticed the pile of bridge materials and the clearing of a small portion of the land.) The last volunteer effort provided us with about \$30K of matching to leverage 120% more to do work. Once we pass \$100K in total matching effort, the accumulated credit will snowball and allow us to execute real construction activities. A big community effort will surely make it happen. ♦

Fundraiser!

Priceless Pine Lake Memorabilia for sale!

at the

Chili/Soup Cook-Off

All proceeds from the sale will be used to purchase Trees and Shrubs to beautify our city.



CITY OF PINE LAKE POLICE DEPARTMENT
 456 Pine Lake Drive / P.O. Box 1325
 Pine Lake, Georgia 30072
 Phone: (404) 292-4250
 Fax: (404) 292-7531
 pinelakega.com



Yearly Statistic Report

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2006
Homicide	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	1	2	0	0	0
Robbery	5	0	0	1	0
Aggravated Assault	4	0	0	1	1
Burglary	4	2	6	2	10
Larceny (over \$ 500.00)	0	0	0	0	5
Arson	0	0	0	0	0
Auto theft	2	0	3	1	0
Theft	20	4	7	7	10
Damage to Property	4	3	3	1	5
Simple Assault	2	1	2	1	2
*Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	157
Crime overall	42	12	21	14	188
Accident Report	-	-	-	-	31

**Miscellaneous-incidents, reports taken and documented contact submitted by*

Sarai Y'hudah-Green

Chief of Police

Pine Lake Police Department



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NOTES FROM CITY HALL

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www.pinelakega.com

JANUARY 2006

CITY HALL HOURS

Mon. - Fri. • 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
(404) 292-4250 • FAX: (404) 292-4859

COURT CLERK

MON. & FRI. • 10 AM - 5 PM
TUES., WED. & THURS. • 7:30 AM - 4:30 PM

POLICE

(404) 296-6613 • FAX: (404) 292-7531
(CALL **911** IN AN EMERGENCY)

IF PINE LAKE LOSES POWER...

...and you need safe, warm shelter, come to the Court House on Pine Street, above the police department. An emergency generator will keep the building toasty, even if we lose power.

MINI-MINUTES Highlights from January 8, 2007 Council Meeting:

- This meeting constituted the annual official organizational meeting, required by law
- Discussed removal of eleven abandoned and delinquent properties.
- Mayor presented a map of the proposed bridge and walking trails for the wetlands (posted at City Hall).
- Received notice of extensive code violations at apartment building in City limits.
- Chief of Police gave overview of 2006 accomplishments, as well as 2007 goals.
- Director of Administration gave a quick overview of 2006 accomplishments; 2007 goals to be distributed soon.
- Received bid to pour sidewalks (\$260,000); City is looking for additional funds.

Agenda items in the near future: Changes to ordinance for business licenses; service delivery agreement with DeKalb County; special tax

issues; formation of a code enforcement committee of citizens.

Next meetings are February 12 and February 27 (second Monday and last Tuesday of each month NOT the third Tuesday! --- please note correction from last issue and see calendar on pg. 3)

Please join us at Council meetings. Each meeting has three opportunities for Public Comment. We have a lot of development issues (zoning, annexation, variances for new buildings) coming up, and appreciate your input and perspectives.

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT

The Downtown Development Authority continues to meet regularly on third Mondays of the month at 7:30pm (City Hall), laying the groundwork for developing our Rockbridge corridor. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday February 19. Please check the website at <pldda.org for details> or call Mike Tarnower at 404-508-2046 to confirm the date. All members of the public are welcome.

"WETLANDS WHACK"

Saturday, February 24 the community is invited to come to the "Wetlands Whack" from 9am-3pm. Modeled after the successful "Privet Pull" on the upstream end of our green space, the Wetlands Whack will focus on the overgrown areas on the downstream end of the greenway - where you see the giant culverts awaiting installation. These culverts will allow for access to this 6+ acre property. Come with good work boots and clothes. The City will provide tools, water and hot drinks if it's a chilly day.

**Pine Lake Enthusiastically
Welcomes
The Kingfisher Café**



The newest restaurant to find a home in the Pine Lake business district has fast become a favorite for many Pine Lake residents. The atmosphere is warm and inviting and the food is wonderful. The menu offers a variety of options for everyone including, brunch and lunch everyday and a full dinner menu at night. There is also a small beer, wine and spirits list. Don't forget bloody mary's and mimosas!

Owner Buffy Davis tells PLAINTalk about how the Kingfisher came to be:

"Chef Talcott Printz and I moved to Pine Lake 7 months ago. The eclectic nature of the community as well as the sense of safety and security really drew us in. At the time, we were partners in an Irish pub in Avondale estates. Many of our regulars there were Pine Lake residents and they were always enthusiastic about our efforts for good food and service at the pub. Several Pine Lakers asked us, 'Why aren't you doing this closer to home?' Listening to our neighbors and friends, we decided to sell our interest in the pub back to our partners and definitely give The Kingfisher Café a home in Pine Lake. We chose the name, The Kingfisher, of course to honor our city bird. We thought it would be a nice way to let our city know that we are here for them without excluding any of the neighboring communities. Our dishes are comfort foods oriented with a southern twist. We look forward to being your neighbors as well as your favorite café!"

The Kingfisher Café

Hours:

Tuesday – Saturday 9am to 9pm

Sunday 9am to 3pm. Closed on Mondays.

www.thekingfishercafe.com

Take Out is available 404.298.8755

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Meet Your Neighbor



When you first meet **William Dillard** you are struck by his easy laughter and broad smile. You may have already met him over the summer when the city had a few cookouts; he worked that grill like a pro. William loves to cook and at any given time you will find him in the kitchen cooking something new and delicious for Deborah, her family and many friends who come over to Dahlia Drive to eat and laugh over a hearty meal.

William is a plumber who works full-time for Georgia State University. He has operated, cleaned, inspected, adjusted, maintained, repaired, replaced, calibrated, and tested internal/external and underground plumbing and piping systems for years. He has maintained several downtown commercial buildings. He's seen it all. You get a sense that he strives to be his best at what he truly loves, doesn't care how

messy the job, not concerned about crawling under your home - he takes it all in stride. He has ripped out floors and walls down to their exposed beams and replaced rotten wood with pressure treated wood to rooms that have seen better days. Fixing problems around our home - not just plumbing - is his gift/passion. He has established long-term relationships with just about everyone he meets and with his easy spontaneous bass laughter - it's easy to see why he's respected and admired. He has his own plumbing business called "**Done Deal.**" Call anytime. Everyone has problems; just call him when you have yours. He offers advice or will stop by to solve your problem. Or perhaps simply stop by to swap favorite recipes! He can be



"If it leaks, I'll fix it."

reached at [678] 437-5080 or email at itleakswefix@gmail.com

***Would you like to feature someone in this column?
Send your article to ellalaura@gmail.com*** ♦

I've been selling intown real estate for nearly 10 years, but my heart is in this

hip, fantastic small town.



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That's why I live here.
That's why I work here.

**That's why I'd
love to go to
work for
you!**



Interested in helping to start a theatre group in Pine Lake? No experience necessary. Once we see who's interested, we can talk about what kind of work we might do, and how frequently, etc. For twelve years I directed community theatre in North Carolina, and I've been hankering to get back into it. For questions, **call Kathie deNobriga at 404-299-9498** (Oct)

Yoga Classes in the Clubhouse. Wednesdays 5:45-7PM Come stretch, relax and renew. Individual sessions available. **Ella 404 277-5747**

Pine Lake Portrait Photographer Family portraits, \$50.00 No markups on prints. Call **404-297-7936** (Oct.)

Seeking Male Manx Cat to breed with female. Will pay small stud fee. **Call Laura at 404-508-8766** (Sept.)

The Atlanta Lawyers Orchestra performs 6-8 public and private concerts a year. The following positions are open: strings, French horn and principle oboe. Membership is open to all musicians. For more information, please contact orchestra president [Korey Carter kcarter@grsmb.com](mailto:kcarter@grsmb.com), or music director/conductor **Paul Jasionowski at 404-494-1580**

In Home Nursing Care. Night or day shift. Cook meals and care for infirm or elderly. Call **Ginette at 404-508-6714** (Sept)

For Reliable Pet Sitting, Call **Brian at 404-508-5623.** (Oct)

Need Some Help Around the House? Inside or outside, I can help. I can also care for your dogs and cats while you are away. Flexible schedule. References available. Ten dollars per hour. **Call Rebecca at 404-372-769** (Sept)

Shared Home plus large 17X14 multi-purpose room; light, airy, private bath/shower, Jacuzzi tub, large walk in closets and laundry. \$450.00 includes utilities. Shared back and yard. Most private room in the home. **404-297-2922** (Sept)

Reflexology Sessions available in Pine Lake. Eva Sotus, certified reflexologist and licensed aesthetician offers 90-minute sessions. Reflexology uses acupressure and massage of the feet and hands to reduce stress, encourage lymphatic drainage (detox) and circulation. Feels wonderful. **678-357-8658** (Sept).

Life Wakes up when you enjoy it. Original writings on painted background painted on anything you choose. Will also paint furniture, cupboards, etc, with the original touch of art. Priced perfectly for you. Call artist **Dede Spitz at 404-299-6122** (Sept)

Seeking Saleswomen potential for extra income. penspen@yahoo.com for details.

Floyd's Heating And Air. Free Estimates for Pine Lakers. Commercial and Residential. Certified and Licensed. **404-314-7704** (Sept)

Do you enjoy reading and talking about interesting books? The Pine Lake Book Club is seeking new members. We're a small group that meets on 3rd Sundays at 5:30, and alternate reading fiction and non-fiction. For more information, **call Kathie at 404-299-9498** (Nov)

Therapeutic Massage For Relaxation and/or Pain Relief by Susan Ahl, nationally certified massage and energy therapist and integrative kinesiologist. Chakra balancing and kinesiology also available for integrative healing of the emotional body. Two locations: Toco Hills Shopping Center or Pine Lake. Discounts for Pine Lakers Call **404-386-9141** for appointment (Oct)

Music Lessons. Music teacher Paul Jasionowski has the following time slots open in his private teaching studio: Wednesday, 4:30, 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. Lessons and coaching available in brass, percussion, piano, strings and woodwinds. **Call 404-922-1580.** (Sept)

We believe in our handyman so much that we're placing this ad for him. The Mighty Midget, Jim Watkins, turns anything he does into a work of art. Stop by 4593 Lakeshore- we'd love to show you what he has done for us. Call Jim at 404 285-1833 or 404 392-4182. He is a perfectionist and pays attention to every little detail. You'll thank us for the recommendation. *Lisa Lee and Toula Giavaras* (Jan)

Pine Lake Association of Involved Neighbors Membership Form

Post Office Box 44 ♦ Pine Lake, Georgia ♦ 30072—0044

Name _____ **Occupation** _____

Address _____ **P.O. Box** _____

Day Phone Number _____ **Night Phone Number** _____

Best time to call Day _____ **Evening** _____

Email Address _____

How would you prefer to be notified of PLAIN events? _____ **Phone** _____ **Email** _____

Household Members Names

	Adult	Teenager	Child Age
	Adult	Teenager	Child Age
	Adult	Teenager	Child Age
	Adult	Teenager	Child Age

Are you interested in volunteering for family events, seniors, environment, etc.? _____

Signature _____ **Join Date** _____ **New** _____ **Renew** _____