

# The Thornblade News

Fall 2011

[www.ThornbladeInfo.com](http://www.ThornbladeInfo.com)

## 2011 HOA dues; invoice attached

For your convenience, please use the postage-paid envelope included with your invoice to mail in your annual dues.

Our front entrance costs \$5,000 per year to maintain. It is important that we collect from a minimum of 100 families per year to break even on expenses. Our 2011 beginning bank balance was about \$7,400. Our maintained reserve fund is approximately \$2,400.

For a detailed report and budget please email Ellen Colitti at [ecolitti@msn.com](mailto:ecolitti@msn.com)

## Thornblade HOA Board

Please contact your HOA Board if you have any questions or if you would like to volunteer your time to one of our neighborhood committees.

### Vernon Roberts

[vernonroberts@evokelearning.com](mailto:vernonroberts@evokelearning.com)

### Ed Smallwood

[smallwood@carolina.rr.com](mailto:smallwood@carolina.rr.com)

### Karen Nunziata

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### Kathy McRorie

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### Ellen Colitti

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### Michelle & Steve Haggard

[hagcamp@windstream.net](mailto:hagcamp@windstream.net)

### Rebecca Kyler

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### Danny Gladziszewski

[Daniel@avenueappraisals.com](mailto:Daniel@avenueappraisals.com)

## Back-to-school supply drive benefits area children



In partnership with the Matthews Help Center, and thanks to your generosity, the Thornblade community donated 19 brand new backpacks and several bags of supplies for Matthews-area children just in time for the start of the school year. Thanks to HOA board members Karen Nunziata and Ellen Colitti for organizing the drive and collecting the supplies. And a big thank you to everyone in the neighborhood who contributed to this effort.

Watch your speed! School is back in session so please remember to watch out for our children at the bus stops.

Have you changed your telephone number or email address? Be sure to send your updated contact information to Ellen Colitti so our neighborhood directory can be kept up-to-date. If you need a copy of the neighborhood directory, let Ellen know. Thank you!

## Thornbladeinfo.com

Thank you to Karen Nunziata for creating and maintaining our neighborhood web site. Visit the site often for:

- ⇒ Newsletters
- ⇒ Announcements
- ⇒ Thornblade real estate news
- ⇒ Neighborhood businesses
- ⇒ Classified ads and
- ⇒ Matthews links

Submit your information to Karen via [knunziata@carolina.rr.com](mailto:knunziata@carolina.rr.com) and get into the habit of checking our web site regularly!

## Update on stop sign initiative

The proposal for a stop sign to be installed at the corner of Thornblade Ridge and Ivy Bluff continues to gain support within our neighborhood. Many neighbors have voiced concern about excessive speed in the neighborhood. Please be on the lookout for neighbors who will visit to ask for your signature in support of this effort.

## Dress up and step out at the Halloween Parade



The annual Halloween Parade will kick-off on Monday, October 31st at 5:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to join in the fun! Meet at the corner of Thornblade Ridge and Ivy Bluff. Want to be this year's parade leader? Please contact Ellen Colitti at [ecolitti@msn.com](mailto:ecolitti@msn.com)

## Let's brighten up our neighborhood!

Now that fall is here our days will get shorter and the neighborhood will be dark earlier. Some neighbors have voiced safety concerns because so many lamps are unlit.

As you may know, there is no money in our budget for street lights. Did you know you can light your gas lamp for as little as \$7? Check out the handy instructions to the right. Another option that doubles as an added security measure is to install motion-activated exterior lights.

### How to light your gas lamp

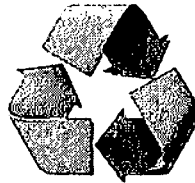
1. Purchase mantles at Renfrow Hardware
2. Turn off gas with screwdriver at front screw
3. Remove glass by screw in the lamp
4. Install mantles per instructions on package
5. Slowly turn on gas with screwdriver at front screw
6. As your gas turns on, light the flame under the mantle - it will catch fire and turn from black to white
7. Replace the glass

## Recycling just got easier

The recent introduction of new roll-out carts will make recycling even easier. Your new, green recycling carts will be collected every other Tuesday. Regular garbage collection will remain every Tuesday. If you have questions visit [matthewsnc.com](http://matthewsnc.com) or call 704-847-3640.

Did you know pizza boxes, lids and caps from plastic bottles, and #6 plastic cannot be recycled? Same goes for plastic bags, shredded paper, Styrofoam, batteries, light bulbs and wire hangers. For a complete list of what can and can't be recycled visit [matthewsnc.com](http://matthewsnc.com).

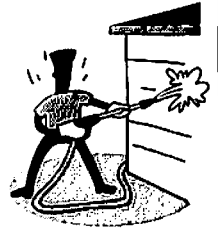
And don't forget to park your carts three feet apart with wheels facing your home so the mechanical arm on the trucks can easily lift the carts.



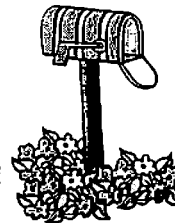
## How's your curb appeal?

Included with this newsletter and your annual dues invoice is a letter from Thornblade HOA Board of Directors asking for your help in assessing the exterior condition of your home.

Proper maintenance of your home's exterior and yard is important to maintain the value of your home as well as the overall appeal of our neighborhood.



Many neighbors enjoy taking walks in Thornblade. Please keep your shrubs and mailbox plants trimmed so they don't encroach on the sidewalks or street. Also, overgrown shrubs around your mailbox post may obscure your house number and could make it difficult for crews to find your home in the event of an emergency.



Thank you to the neighbors that are keeping their homes and yards looking presentable. Let's keep Thornblade a desirable neighborhood!

## Subscribe to Matthews PD Citizens Alerts

To sign up for *Citizens Alert* reports through the Matthews Police Department go to [www.matthewspolice.org](http://www.matthewspolice.org) and click on "Citizen Observer" from the front page.

If you would like to be on the Thornblade email distribution list, please email Karen Nunziata at [knunziata@carolina.rr.com](mailto:knunziata@carolina.rr.com)

Thanks for keeping an eye out and reporting any suspicious activity to authorities.

## Other important information

- Long-term signs at the front entrance are not permitted and will be removed.
- Please pick up after your dogs! Please do not litter and if you see litter please pick it up.
- Please contact Steve Haggard at 704-849-2397 for approval of any changes or additions to the exterior of your property.
- Please contact Ellen Colitti at 704-849-2908 or [ecolitti@msn.com](mailto:ecolitti@msn.com) if you need a copy of the directory or covenants and restrictions. Updated information is always appreciated.

S.A.F.E. Animal Haven's annual yard sale this month was a great success. Neighbor Jodi Blocker would like to thank everybody who supported this fundraising event.

## Spring forward, fall back

Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 6 at 2:00 a.m. Mark your calendars!