April 2012 President's Message by Dan Orza

It is finally here. Spring has sprung! I am happy to have nice weather and a little rain. Briarcreek yards are now beginning to bloom and so it once again is time to start our YARD-OF-THE-MONTH program. We are pleased to announce our new Yard-of-the-Month volunteers, Vickie and Jim McAuliff. At the beginning of each month our new judges, Vickie and Jim, will tour Briarcreek to select outstanding yards and gardens. There will be a winner and a runner up selected and photographed. The Winner will receive a \$25 gift certificate from Bethany Country Store and their home's picture on the Briarcreek website. The BNA Board of Directors is dedicated to the Beautification of Briarcreek. We strive to make our neighborhood a better place to live and to continually work to make it a wonderful community and to increase the value of our homes. The YOM program is one of the many ways this is done.

Another way we help neighbors realize a better life-style involves the control of pets. There are City Municipal Code regarding animals – neighborhood pets are not addressed in our By-Laws or Covenants. Dogs should be leashed and if you notice abandoned or stray animals, please contact one of the over 40 rescue organizations that can work with you and assist you. Click here to see the list. Please spay and neuter your pets. Dog owners: please do not let your dogs make your neighbors flower beds a public restroom. Homeowners: there are many natural products that will help keep Fido out of your flower beds as well. Sprinkle whole cloves on the ground, or in your beds, or check out the many other products at your local pet store.

The pledge portion of the **Briarcreek Decorative Streetlight Project** is underway and almost complete. We will be collecting checks in the next few weeks and then start the installation of the new lights. **We have had overwhelming support from residents.** We are asking each homeowner to pedge \$125 to install new and beautiful light poles in Briarcreek - replacing all the wooden poles. Our total pledge amount is now about \$15,000, but there are still some residents who have not been contacted or have not yet responded. We need about \$5,000. If you have not yet pledged please give me or Susie a phone call or e-mail us at info@briarcreekonline.com with your pledge. We do not need any money now, but will be collecting door-to-door in the next few weeks. This is a TAX DEDUCTIBLE donation.

Thanks so much for all of the positive things so many of you do on an everyday basis. We live in a great community, with different philosophies and cultures. If we all remember to respect each other and discuss and resolve any differences it will continue to be a haven for everyone who calls Briarcreek home. We have such good neighbors in Briarcreek and the way everyone looks out for each other makes it a great place to live. Keep it up!

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