Dear Neighbors,

As this edition of our neighborhood newsletter unfolds we are half way through our summer. After a cool start to June we sure hit some hot weather in the latter part of the month. I don't know about you, but I say bring on the heat. We will be complaining about the cold soon enough. Summer marks a special time for many of us. Since we were children there has always been something magical and energizing about summer. It is all too short in Wisconsin but seeing and feeling the sun brings revitalization we all anxiously await.

In our neighborhood this year—a long desired period of revitalization is also underway. We are looking to reintroduce our neighborhood picnic, along with kicking off our new membership campaign. There will be more information to come as we are currently finalizing details.

The board recently approved the development of a maintenance committee to support the various upkeep needs in the neighborhood. Of course, all along we have had volunteers support this effort and hope they will join us in continuing their valued involvement and sharing of ideas. The board would like to publicly acknowledge the work that Jack and Kathy Horton have done in keeping up the maintenance of the islands along East Pass. Also included in volunteering their time and energy in keeping up our Country Grove Drive entranceway are Jim and Gwen Borlaug. Please thank both couples for their commitment the next time you see them.

By the time you receive this letter we will have held our annual Red, Bike and Blue event; something I know we all enjoy participating in or observing. Or you may be back from a well deserved vacation. No matter what activities you are enjoying, I hope you have a great summer.

Mike Friedenreich
President
The 5th annual **Red, Bike & Blue** was another success at Country Grove Estates. This year a big, red fire truck joined a Madison police cruiser in leading our participants along the parade route. Children were offered patriotic rubber bracelets, sparkly star headbands and various tattoos in celebrating the 4th of July. As is tradition everyone received popsicles back at the park following our parade.

**Please join us on Sept 13 from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Country Grove Park for a neighborhood picnic** co-hosted by our neighbors in Glacier Ridge. This will be a great opportunity to see your neighbors, play some games, eat good food and get back into the swing of the school year. Watch the website and upcoming flyer for more details!

And, this winter… join us for **Movie Night** at Chavez Elementary School! Watch for details on the date.

If you are interested in renting the large white tent that you have seen used at CGNA picnics, please contact Mike Friedenreich. It’s perfect for graduation open houses and holiday festivities in your very own backyard.

If you’re interested the tent also comes with a volleyball net for further enjoyment at your gathering. The rental cost is $20 for CGNA members and $40 for non-members who are residents of Country Grove Estates.
Congratulations to Ty & Julie Shea of Southern Oak Place. Baby Merritt Ivy joined big sister Addison (Ady) earlier this summer in June. Both Shea sisters even participated in the Red, Bike & Blue!

The CGNA would also like to welcome the Harpers to the neighborhood. Tricia and Hamilton live on Woodstone. Welcome to Country Grove Estates!

Good luck to any neighborhood children who may be participating in the 2009 All City Dive & Swim meets in August.

If you know of other new neighbors or new babies in the neighborhood, please alert our newsletter staff so we may welcome them to Country Grove.

The Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra is celebrating its 26th season of Concerts on the Square, led by Maestro Andrew Sewell. Concerts are on Wednesday evenings throughout the remainder of July.

The Dane County Farmers Market is the largest producer-only farmers’ market in the country. All items are produced locally by the vendor behind the table. The Farmers’ Market is open—rain or shine—on Saturdays from 6 a.m.-2 p.m. on the Capitol Square. There is also a Farmers Market on Wednesdays from 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. on the 200 Block of MLK Jr Blvd. The Farmers Market will run through the first week in November.

Please check out www.countrygrove.org to see latest happenings, electronic newsletters, email addresses for board members, photos from past events and more.
**CGNA Membership Update**

**MEMBERSHIP DRIVE DATE CHANGE** Mark your calendars! The 2010 CGNA Membership Drive will begin earlier this year, starting with a kick-off at our neighborhood picnic on September 13 and running through the end of November. Watch your email boxes for more information.

**MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION** As of this writing, almost half of the households in Country Grove are members in CGNA (49.5%). One of our Association goals for the coming year is to increase membership and participation in CGNA events. The Board has been discussing and exploring ideas. If you have ideas you would like to share on this, please let Membership know via email at www.countrygrove.org. Your ideas will be passed along to the Board for discussion and consideration.

Sue Dadds  
*CGNA Membership Coordinator*

**Treasurer’s Report**

The costs of maintaining the entrances/islands and the decreasing membership are contributing to Country Grove Neighborhood Association’s anticipation of a loss this year. Many thanks to those who have the joined the Association.

If you haven’t yet joined, please consider doing so now. We need all households to participate to make this neighborhood great!

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Cami Douglas  
*Treasurer*

Cami Douglas has enjoyed serving as the CGNA treasurer for the past 4 years, but we are now looking for an individual to replace her as treasurer. Interested parties should email our President through the CGNA website.

**Let’s be good neighbors!**

With warmer weather *(hopefully)* here to stay, please remember to pick up anything your pet may leave behind as you’re out enjoying a walk in the neighborhood.

**DRIVE SAFELY** … nice weather brings more of our neighbors outside to play. Watch for bouncing balls, cyclists and other summer time fun as you drive through the neighborhood.