

# SOMMERSET ASSOCIATION

## The News

Volume 8 Issue 1

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



The Somerset annual meeting will be held on May 16, at 7 pm in West Fargo City Hall Commissioners Chambers.

There will be two director positions open. If you are interested or would just like more information, please contact any board member or by email [board@sommersetonline.com](mailto:board@sommersetonline.com).

Sommerset's Address:  
PO Box 213  
West Fargo, ND 58078

A Community within a  
Community

Looking for a babysitter?  
Emily Harris is 15 and is Red Cross Trained.  
Her phone number is 282-0802

Board of Directors:

Jack Fuller, President  
1510 Somerset Drive  
Phone: 492-0861

Larry Cody, Vice President  
1533 Somerset Drive  
Phone: 277-0337

Tom Soucy, Treasurer  
1523 4th Ave E  
Phone: 281-7939

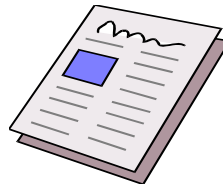
Marilyn Harris, Secretary  
543 Somerset Lane  
Phone: 282-0802

Carol Schmidt, Director  
708 Somerset Lane  
Phone: 282-5655

Kevin Wanner, Director  
550 Somerset Lane  
Phone: 492-0616

Pam Nikle, Director  
1113 Somerset Place  
Phone: 282-4330

If you have anything that you would like to see in upcoming newsletters, please email the board at [board@sommersetonline.com](mailto:board@sommersetonline.com).



### Holiday Lights Winners

Dave and Kim Olson, 1526 Somerset Drive  
won 1st place and \$150

Jerome and Susan Bailey, 619 12<sup>th</sup> street E.  
won 2nd place and \$100

Ken and Sherrie Frank, 637 Somerset Lane  
won 3rd place and \$50

Congratulations to all these winners!

# A Message from the President

Jack Fuller

In this newsletter I would like to address one area of responsibility that past Sommerset Boards have been involved with.

Looking back to when I was first elected to the Sommerset Board of Directors it was in its infancy. Mr. Pierce, the developer, had set some rules (covenants and policies) he felt would provide for a cleaner, more organized community that would hold the value of the properties. These were registered at that time with Cass County and are legal documents. When the development was completed, the authority to uphold the covenants was turned over to an elected governing body comprised of its residents. This body is your Sommerset Board of Directors which is elected by the residents of Sommerset at the annual meetings scheduled each May. Each member serves a 3 year term and may run for re-election.

I will not reiterate the duties of the individual officers, that is explained by each at the annual meetings.

Initially there was much confusion and growing pains. That comes with newly formed commissions. At this time we found the covenants and policies had not always been distributed to the residents or they were incomplete. Many homeowners had bits and pieces or none at all. Complete copies, could have been distributed to the new home owners by the developer or the realtors. These are the first people prospective homeowners deal with. Also, when homeowners sell they should give copies to the new owners. None the less, it left homeowners with the question of what could or could not be done on their property.

One of the tasks the board had to face was how to make this clear and understandable. We gathered up all the information we could on the covenants, got a legal opinion, and went about putting it in a form that could be easily understood with the least confusion. This took much time and effort by the committees assigned to research and put it all together.

The completed document, "Policies and Procedures", as well as an original copy of the legal by-laws and covenants was placed on our web-site, sommersetonline.com and hard copies were made available also. This organizing and dissemination seems to have helped, whether residents are in agreement or not with the covenants, the early confusion and violations have diminished considerably. When people know the rules, I believe they do not intentionally violate them.

As I leave the board, (my second term has ended) I look back at all the individuals who have served on the board through the years and the contributions they have made. I applaud each of you and the future members who I know will keep Sommerset a great place to live.



Spring has Sprung: Now that the wintry weather is melting away and you're feeling that spring time tug to get out into your yard, where should you start? Certainly the windows need washing and the siding needs scrubbing, but a little spring time TLC with your lawn will go a long way toward an enjoyable summer.

1. It's time to Rake. When your lawn starts to wake up for the spring season, give it a light once over with the rake. But be careful not to harm any new grass by raking too hard.
2. It's time to Breathe. By aerating your lawn in the spring, you give your lawn an easier time to let in the water, air and fertilizer.
3. Let's get Dressed Up. By spreading a thin layer of peat moss over the lawn with a rake you'll help to gradually condition your lawn throughout the year. It will strengthen the grass to resist disease, weeds and thatch which in turn will reduce the amount of water and fertilizer needed throughout the summer.
4. On to your favorite part Weeding. If you attack the weeds early in the season, they will have little to no chance to go to seed.
5. Last but not least, it's time for a tool tune-up. Before you start your spring time lawn adventure, make sure your lawn mower is up to snuff. Check to make sure the oil, spark plugs and blade are in top shape to help make your work that much easier.

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The board is looking to improve the entrance signs. They are hard to read because they are so low to the ground. In the summer, shrubs block much of it and in the winter it's the snow. Andy Buckley has submitted a proposal and cost for the project. The cost for the brick signs both sides would run about \$3,000. This will be addressed at the annual meeting. If you have questions or anything pertaining to this project, you may voice them at the meeting or contact a board member.

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If you have not paid your \$60 annual dues yet, please send your payment to:

Sommerset Association  
PO Box 213  
West Fargo, ND 58078