

# WOODSIDE ATHLETIC CLUB

2011 FALL NEWSLETTER

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Another wonderful Woodside summer is in the books. While I am saddened to see the surest signs of fall – school buses on my commute, leaves beginning to change, and a giant cover over the pool – I am thrilled to look back on the Summer of 2011 and see all we accomplished at Woodside.



The general theme of Woodside 2011 was learning from past experiences to make the current ones better than ever. This began in November when we welcomed new Directors to fill four spots on our Board of Directors. The energy these directors brought led to a new and wonderful swim coach, additional social events added to the ones we've grown to love over the years, improvements all around the club, and a new energy around tennis not seen for a while. Additionally, every time I went to the pool and was greeted by clean, well maintained facilities, and well-trained, happy employees, I knew our decision to hire two new managers, Dan and Paul, was the right one.

We tried on two occasions this summer to honor our lifetime members and unfortunately Mother Nature took it upon herself to impede the festivities. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the members, but especially the lifetime members, for the love and hard work they have put into Woodside over the years. Many of your children are grown and yet you are still at Woodside enjoying the facilities and celebrating the successes of your neighbor's children. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to take the best swim and tennis club in the community and make it even better.

Finally, I would like to recognize four board members who have completed their terms and will be taking some much needed time off. Karen Buescher revamped our Social calendar over the years and then graciously stepped into the Secretary spot when needed. Barb Borich made a very difficult job - keeping prospective members engaged until their numbers were called - look easy while making sure we maintained the right membership numbers. Craig Thompson brought Woodside into the digital age and spearheaded our efforts over the years to collect membership opinions via our annual survey. Finally, Jim Borich managed all aspects of Woodside's finances for over a decade (with a year off in between terms). Seeing where the club was and is financially is a testament to Jim's financial abilities as much as it is to his love for Woodside. Karen, Barb, Craig, and Jim will be missed by the Board next year. If you see them around this winter, please say "thank you" and give them a hug... they've earned it!

Respectfully,  
Alan Scher

## 2011 ANNUAL MEETING

Don't forget to join us at the Woodside Annual Membership meeting at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, November 8, 2011 at Woodside. During this meeting we will be electing new directors, voting on revised By-Laws, and discussing the general position and direction of Woodside Athletic Club.

If you are interested in running for a Director position, please e-mail me at [abscher@yahoo.com](mailto:abscher@yahoo.com). At present, we do have several interested volunteers for our open positions of Vice President, Secretary, Pool Director, Membership Director, and Social Director.

## PROPOSED BY-LAWS UPDATES

When I first came on the Board, I read through the By-Laws to get a general understanding of the club's governance. Because of the way the by-laws were amended over the years, some by-laws weren't always consistent with others.

This summer I attempted to rewrite the by-laws to remove these inconsistencies and update the by-laws to make them more reflective of how the club is operated in 2011 and beyond. We are attaching to this newsletter the current by-laws, proposed by-laws, a document that highlights the differences between the two, and a voting sheet.

Please review them and let us know your opinions at the annual meeting. You can vote either in person, by dropping off/ mailing your voting sheet at the club, or by e-mailing me at [abscher@yahoo.com](mailto:abscher@yahoo.com).

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

As of this writing, the wait list for Woodside membership stands at 42 families. I continue to receive applications for membership on a regular basis. If you have a friend who would like to join, please direct them to our website, <http://www.woodsideac.com> to print off a membership application.

This season we welcomed 55 new families to our club. To our new members, I hope you enjoyed your first of many years of membership.

Member dues statements will be e-mailed February 1, 2012. The anticipated due date for current members is March 1, 2012. After that, a late fee will be charged. If your e-mail address will be changing, please notify me at [woodsidemembership@gmail.com](mailto:woodsidemembership@gmail.com). We need to keep our records current so no one will miss our e-mail communications. If you have any questions or concerns about your membership please e-mail [woodsidemembership@gmail.com](mailto:woodsidemembership@gmail.com) and we'll get back to you as quickly as we can.

Barb Borich  
Membership Director

## SWIM TEAM UPDATE

Our first year as the Swim Team Co-Directors could not have been better, thanks to the support of so many wonderful swim families. Thank you all for bearing with us as we got the lay of the land, and thank you even more for volunteering. Whether you timed a meet, marshaled a rowdy 6-year-old, handed out pizza slices or flipped a pancake, Woodside Swimming is great because of you.

This year marked our first with our new head coach, Anne Wind, who we are happy to say, is here to stay. We cannot praise Anne enough. She brought great leadership, skill and passion about swimming to her position. With the help of Anne and our awesome team of assistant coaches including our much-loved Rachel Doherty, Colin Brosky, Jack Edwards and Peyton Violassi and his now-famous lightning bolts tattoos, the Sundevils finished 3<sup>rd</sup> overall in the NSSL A Finals. Our dual meet record was 4 wins, 2 loses. Our final meet against BHAC was truly one of the most fun and exciting meets in Woodside history. ("B Relay!!")

But the passion for Woodside swimming didn't end with the swim season. Thanks to a

small and ingenious group of parents, we hosted a Tailgate Fundraising Party. While the party itself was on the smaller side, the results were ENORMOUS: We raised over \$11,000 for a new timing system and scoreboard, and the checks are STILL coming in!

In fact, we cannot resist one more plug: If you would like to be a sponsor, and have your family or business name featured permanently on a plaque at Woodside, feel free to send a check to 6080 N. Cross, Bloomfield Hills, MI. 48301.

Sponsorship levels are: Platinum \$1000+, Gold \$500, Silver \$250, Bronze \$100.

We will be spending our winter months researching new timing systems, making plans, and dreaming of those hot summer days filled with the fun of Woodside Swimming!

See you at the pool!  
Lisa Farris &  
Tom MacKillop  
Swim Team Co-Chairs

## POOL UPDATE

Thank you, everyone, for another fantastic summer. I would like to extend a huge thank you to the new management team of Dan and Paul, who really stepped it up this summer and made a big difference at Woodside. We have worked hard to find the best-trained and most-qualified staff to make your club the best in the area. The board chose Paul and Dan because they complement each other well and are able to maintain a safe and fun club.

We take great pride in Woodside Athletic Club and would like to thank you for your

participation in the survey. We are carefully reviewing all the comments and will try to apply as many suggestions as we can. The board will be working diligently all winter long to make sure we have the premiere club that we all expect. The snow will be here soon enough, but spring will be here before you know it. I am looking forward to seeing all of you in May.

Matt Deighan  
Pool Director

## TENNIS UPDATE

Summer 2011 started off with a few rain delays on the courts, but wrapped up nicely. There were over 70 kids and teens represented on the Woodside Tennis Team. The team sweated through three practices and a match each week, playing in the humid heat of summer to give their all for the club. The team put up a strong fight in the Gold Cup match at the end of the season. The Gold Cup match is the final match of the season and consists of each club's top players in singles match play. While we had one of our strongest groups of Gold Cup players, we fell short of bringing home the cup. With a solid group of young players coming back next year, the Woodside Tennis Team is well positioned for future success and will be ready to take on the challenge again next summer. I would like to thank all of the parents who provided snacks during our home matches, assisted with getting the water cooler to the practices and matches, and provided valuable input and feedback.

As we look to the future of the Woodside Tennis Team, we had over 140 players

participate in our tennis clinics this past summer. We are hoping that they all have fallen in love with the sport and look to joining the Woodside Tennis Team as they grow and develop. Also, for our older tennis players and current tennis team participants, the team is a great way to gain match experience, but clinics remain the best option for enhancing individual skills. Please be sure to sign up for clinics again next summer.

As we wrap up this year and start planning for the next we want to be sure to include your input. A survey was sent out to gather your thoughts on the Tennis Team and Tennis Clinic programs. As always, we strive to make all programs offered at Woodside as enjoyable and valuable to the membership as possible. Please be sure to take a few moments to complete the surveys.

See you on the courts in 2012!

Christine Darby  
Tennis Director

## MAINTENANCE UPDATE

Although there always seems to be something still to do, we accomplished a lot this summer in the maintenance area.

A few of the big hitters were the renovation/expansion of the snack shack, repairing the tennis backboard, installing a new sound system, including new speakers, and installing new ceiling fans in the game room. Additionally, we also added two more wood tables to the picnic area and gave all 6 picnic tables a fresh coat of paint. The new path, which allows people to walk more safely from the lower parking lot to the club entrance,

seemed to be appreciated and utilized by many. Look for improved bumpers to keep cars from encroaching onto the path next year.

With the help of the Management and staff, the pool and grounds looked better than ever this year and my goal is for that to continue next season and beyond. As always, please do not hesitate to bring any concerns to myself or the staff's attention.

Steve Ruskowski  
Maintenance Director

## SOCIAL ACTIVITIES RECAP

My goal this year was to make Woodside Athletic Club a place the entire family would want to spend their summer, and I hope you found enough social activities for your family to enjoy.

We had close to 75 ladies take part in our Third Annual ***Flip Flops & Lemon Drops*** Ladies Night Out and over 100 adults attended our infamous ***Swim Under the Stars*** Adult Social – if you missed these, put them in your calendar early next spring because they're so fun! Our ***Family Bingo Nights*** and ***Float Nights*** were incredibly well attended, and adults and kids alike had a great time. Our First Annual ***Family Movie Night*** got a little stormy but I'm glad a few hard-core "Rio" fans stuck around for the fun.

I tried to mix it up a little this year, adding additional opportunities for family fun (Book Exchange / House Party) – but as always, if you have any additional suggestions, we would love to hear them.

My only regret is that our Lifetime Member Recognition was canceled due to foul weather ... twice! So I would like to use this space to thank our twenty-four lifetime members for their committed patronage, love and support of Woodside that they've offered the club (and consequently all of us).

In the days where life is moving so fast that loyalty is sometimes sacrificed, I think it's important to recognize these families that serve as the foundation upon which our great club is built. So when you return to Woodside next spring, look in the front lobby for a handsome plaque listing all of Woodside's "lifers".

Thank you for continuing to help make Woodside a great place to be, and I look forward to seeing you all in May.

Janine Deighan  
Social Chair

## TREASURER'S NOTE

Hard to believe Summer has left us so quickly. As some of you may know, after many years of being on the Woodside Board, 2011 is my last year serving as Treasurer. I will say, it has been my pleasure and honor in doing so. I am thankful for having worked with a number of outstanding people who served on our Board over the years and an equal number of our members who put their time and effort into making Woodside what it is today. There is a reason why we have a healthy waiting list and are the top neighborhood swim and tennis club in our area – because of their work and devotion.

Having been the longest current serving Board member, I can positively say, the Board has always tried to do what is best for our overall membership, with a focus on keeping our annual dues in check. While many of our current members may not recognize it, we have been fortunate to have some forward thinking individuals on our Board over the years and I believe our 2012 Board will continue in that regard. This attribute has allowed Woodside to be ahead of the curve in many ways and avert some of the

issues facing other neighboring clubs. We were not in a reactionary mode with respect to improvements, but have taken time to consult the membership, identify, plan and fund each one over the years. While the remodeling of the locker-rooms and construction of the new pool and infrastructure several years ago required outside financing, many of the more recent improvements (e.g, tennis courts, retaining walls around the pool, expanded snack bar, etc) were done within the confines of our annual operating budget, all while meeting all of our other ongoing financing obligations. In my opinion, we are in a good financial position today.

Even though the 2011 season is over, the work of the Board behind the scenes continues. Plans are already being discussed in preparation for the 2012 season. I will look forward toward its success, as I have many others, albeit, viewing it a little more from poolside than in prior years.

With Woodside Pride,  
Jim Borich, Treasurer

**IMPORTANT PLEASE READ!**

**ADDRESS & PHONE NUMBER CHANGES**

Please notify us if your address or phone number changes. Email address changes are particularly important because that is the primary method Woodside uses stay in touch with yourself and other members. You may like to take a look at the directory and make sure your information is up-to-date.

It is also very important to keep phone numbers current during the regular season, especially if you have a child over the age of 10 that may be at the swim club without a parent. In the event of an emergency, current home and cell phone numbers are extremely important.

We try and keep everything as current as possible, and your help in this regard is appreciated.

You may contact us at...

**[woodsidemembership@gmail.com](mailto:woodsidemembership@gmail.com)**