

# Wedgwood Pool News

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## The 2008 Annual Meeting

The outcome of the voting for bylaws changes at the 2008 Annual Meeting was surprising. After several months of debate at Board meetings, 87 ballots cast, and an energetic discussion among members at the Annual Meeting, it was agreed to place a one-year moratorium on selling a membership with a house or to a direct descendant, and to put the two bylaws changes back on the ballot for next year's annual meeting.

The votes were very close, especially on the second item. On the second item, to allow sale of your membership to a direct descendant, the vote was 51 in favor and 36 opposed. However, a simple majority is not enough. The bylaws state that a change to the bylaws requires a 2/3 majority of ballots cast or, in the case of this year's balloting, 58 votes in favor. So the direct descendant change failed to pass. The first item, to amend the bylaws to allow sale of membership with your home, failed by a vote of 40 in favor and 47 opposed.

Even before the votes were counted and announced, it was clear the membership was divided on the direct descendant issue. Over 20 people attended the annual meeting this year, many more than last year, and there was a lot of discussion before and after the votes were announced. Some people expressed frustration about the waitlist, others concern about fairness, and others that the bylaws changes caught them by surprise. They wished the issues had come out sooner so there could be more opportunity for ideas and discussion.

The direct descendant question is obviously a difficult one. Even though a simple majority of those voting favored it, not enough families agreed. As the Board is obligated to operate the pool in accordance with the bylaws, the Board has little choice other than bringing policy and operations into conformance to the bylaws.

However, it was clear from the annual meeting that the pool community would be best served by a full discussion of the issue throughout the membership and a second vote in conjunction with next year's annual meeting. At its March meeting, the Board will make some proposals for facilitating the discussions.

One of the ideas suggested at the annual meeting

was hosting town-hall type meetings on two or three dates during the swim season, which I and other board members will certainly be willing to attend.

Look for more information about this in the next newsletter. In the meantime, if you have ideas, questions or concerns you want to share, please feel free to contact any Board member.

## From The Incoming President

Although the bylaws questions took most of the attention, the 2008 annual meeting was also remarkable for electing four terrific new members to the Board, Caryn Hopkins, Jacque Ives, Greg Miller, and Bill Leak. They're all smart and energetic and we're delighted to welcome them to the Board. Congratulations Caryn, Jacque, Greg and Bill.

I also want to thank the outgoing Board members, Kevin Majeau, Carolyn D'Albora, Pat Corr, and Mark Snyder. They have been dedicated and hardworking contributors during their terms on the board. Thanks for three great years. Or, in Carolyn's case, four great years! We will miss them all.

A special thanks goes out to Mark for the great work he did on the South Wall project, and all the time and energy that he and Rick Lippold and Dale Hoff devoted to getting it done. If we had an Above-and-Beyond award, I'm sure they would get it.

The February Board meeting is an ideal time to look over the coming year and think about what the Board can and should do during that time. Having served for two years, I'm aware of some great work that previous boards have done. This year we should try to extend that work in several areas:

1. Resolve the bylaws questions that came up last year. This year we should facilitate a full discussion of the issues among the members so we can have a fair, well-informed vote at this time next year.
2. Continue the great work begun last year to document our policies and procedures, especially those concerning membership. It's important to the board and membership to have a clear understanding of how this important area is managed.
3. Conduct an audit of pool operations. The 2006

Board conducted a first-ever audit of the pool operations in the Fall. We found out we are doing a lot of things well and there were a few areas to make improvements. One of the recommendations was to do audits in the Spring instead of the Fall because it's easier to act on the recommendations for the summer. So this Spring we will conduct the second pool audit.

The big new initiative this year is solar hot water. Last winter a pool member Greg Johnson gave the board some information about the benefits, both environmental and financial, of heating the pool with solar energy. Board member Tom Lambright, who is also an architect, has agreed to look into it this year. Peter Brunner and Bill Leak volunteered to help. Stay tuned for more about this exciting project.

We're starting to gear up for another wonderful swim season. I'm looking forward swimming outdoors again!

*Pete Kelly ~ President*

### **Gearing up for 2008**

Details regarding 2008 swim team, meets, and WWP social events will follow in April's Newsletter.

The board is exploring listserve email delivery of the WWP Newsletter, in the future. Back issues have been posted to [wwpool.org](http://wwpool.org) for some time.

Looking for volunteers ~ all age EVENT sign-makers.

*Bill Leak ~ Newsletter Editor*

### **Other 2008 WWP Board Members**

*Peter Brunner ~ VP/Landscape*

*Greg Miller ~ Treasurer*

*Jan Winchell ~ Secretary*

*Janet Cairns ~ Membership*

*Caryn Hopkins ~ Membership*

*Kim Prestbo ~ Swim Team*

*Jacque Ives ~ Swim Team*

*Tom Lambright ~ Swim Team & Maintenance*

*Muriel Sjoberg ~ Special Events*

*Carolyn Bernhard ~ Near Neighbor Liaison*

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