

President's Message

August 2011 • By Dan Orza

Regarding Yard-Of The Month: making the selection, the process and just how I and Susie Brown, BNA Vice President go about trying to select what we consider the Best Yard-Of -The-Month, Runner-Up and Honorable Mentions.

Around the beginning of each month Susie & I tour Briarcreek viewing the yards in our neighborhood to make our selection for Yard-of-the-Month, Runner-Up and Honorable Mention Awards. It is never an easy job. Susie & I like different things - and this is good because we then must both agree that a yard meets both of our criteria. The winner must be neat, groomed, pretty, colorful (sometimes important/ meaning flowers which are seasonal), grass green (very difficult in dry weather) & manicured, is the yard professionally done or is it done by the homeowner? All of these things are taken into consideration. Also, we try very hard to select different homes/yards each month and to not repeat an award to the same resident over and over within the same year. Once a yard has won Yard-Of-The-Month or Runner-Up we try to find other residents to award before recognizing previous winners.

Some times we make a list of two or three 'top picks' and take photos and then make our final decision from the best looking photo.

And when a decision is made and an award given we usual ask the winners to help us select the next Yard-Of-The-Month. So far, past winners have not been very responsive. I have also requested ALL residents to please submit who you would like us to consider and again not received much input. I have however received some criticism on a recent selection. Instead of criticizing I would prefer that you join me in making the selections. Susie & I would love to have more input. **If you would like to be a part of picking the Yard-Of-The Month give me a phone call or [email](#) me. We need more volunteer help.**

Regarding our Swan: My wife Bert and I found the swan under the bridge as we were canoeing around the lake near the dam. The swan was swimming around under the bridge keeping cool in the shady water under the bridge. She was set free from my dock a while ago with her 'pal' a goose. We did not see the goose - just the swan. She seemed content in her shady retreat under the bridge.

Regarding Water for our entrance & Rockwell plantings: We are in the midst of information gathering and negotiations for a watering system on Rockwell. Two very important factors will come into play. #1. The cost. At this point I believe it will cost less than \$2000 to install a water system that will provide for all our needs on Rockwell. #2. We will need some resident volunteers to do a little manual labor (as always) to help defray costs) to install the system. Can you help? Will you volunteer a couple of hours when we get started? This is YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD, YOUR ENTRANCES, and YOUR LANDSCAPING ON ROCKWELL. We need your help, your dues. And once again THANK YOU to the residents who have been donating water !!