

***President's Letter: September 2011***

*John Serumgard, President, Taberna Home Owners Association, Inc.*

*Dear Taberna Residents:*

**Piedmont Gas:** As this is being written, I have been advised that **Piedmont Gas will start installation of gas mains in the 3<sup>rd</sup> week in August**, and be completed by the end of October. As you read this, Piedmont should have started or be about to. It will be good for all of Taberna to finally get natural gas in our community. Once again, if you want to talk with Piedmont about natural gas, call Dan Voliva at **617-5917**.

**Budget preparation.** The Board, and especially our Treasurer, assisted by the Finance Committee and the three neighborhood sub-associations, is in the midst of **preparing budgets for the next fiscal year**, which begins January 1, 2012. Early indications are that we will have increases in our landscape maintenance costs and in some of our insurance premiums. We will also review all of our replacement reserves and emergency reserves to insure that they are at the correct level, in view of the very low interest rates these funds have earned recently. If need be, we may have to collect small increases in dues now, so that we don't have to have major assessments when it comes time for replacements or major rebuilding.

**Completion of Landscape Maintenance Contracts.** We are **signing contracts** with the successful bidders on our landscape maintenance contracts for 2012 and 2013. The current contractors all were selected to continue serving us for the next two years. We will have some increases in costs for these services, but we are confident we have the right combination of price and service to continue to provide good value to all Taberna residents.

**Parking Complaints.** The Board recently received two **anonymous complaints about cars parked on Taberna streets and cul-de-sacs**. Our streets are New Bern City streets, and are regulated by city ordinances. Under those laws, so long as a car is properly licensed and in operating condition, it can be parked on city streets, including overnight parking (unless of course it is parked in violation of another law, such as in front of a fire hydrant.).

**Volunteers to serve on the Board.** It is time to ask for candidates for Board membership for next year. We invite any Taberna resident to nominate themselves or any other resident to serve on the Board for a two year term beginning January 1, 2012. Please contact me or any other Board member with your suggestions and nominations.

As always, the Board welcomes your comments or complaints. Contact any one of us, or use the "comments to the Board" section of the website, <http://www.tabernahoa.org>. The next THOA Board meeting will be Wednesday, September 7, at 5:30 PM at the THOA office.