

CHESTERBROOK WOODS CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION

E-NEWSLETTER - April 2008



CWCA 2008 ANNUAL MEETING WRAP-UP

Thanks to the many residents that came out for the Annual Meeting this year! We had over one hundred residents present during the Social Hour and Meeting. Additionally, we had 20+ kids onsite in a separate playroom, along with three neighborhood teen babysitters and one adult babysitter (from a local pre-school). Many thanks go out to the wonderful neighborhood Babysitters/Mother's Helpers: **Katie Grady, Olivia Murton and Karina Stevens!**

And, last but definitely not least, a huge thanks goes to all the residents who volunteered their time running the following stations and/or giving short updates on their respective areas:

- Welcome and CWCA Table - Amanda Antico-Majkowski, Ione Braswell, Ann Hooton, Susan Mrachek and Rosemary Ryan
- Parties Table
 - Yvonne Mizusawa and Bea Helguero of the *first Annual Third of July Party*, <http://web.mac.com/bhelguero/iWeb/Site%206/July%203,%202007.html>
 - Michelle Joss and Betty Ende for the *Annual Halloween Party*, <http://mcleanonline.com/CWCAHalloweenParty2007.pdf>
- Dessert Table - David Guas of *Damgoodsweet Consulting Group*, www.DamGoodSweet.com
- Vendor Table
 - J.D. Callander of *Weichert Realtors* - www.NewNovaHome.com
 - Kevin Connelly of *BB&T Mortgage* - KConnelly@bbandt.com
 - John Glowacki of *TwinTech* - www.TwinTechHeatingAndCooling.com
 - Charlotte Jones of *Long & Foster Real Estate* - CharlotteJones@mrisc.com
 - Anne Pham of *LaGoogie* - www.LaGoogie.com
 - Jane Price of *Weichert Realtors* - www.JanePrice.com
 - Robin McKibbin Waugh of *Weichert Realtors* - www.RobinWaugh.com

- **Guest Speakers**
 - **Tom Black**, *Master Police Officer of McLean District Station*, www.FairfaxCounty.gov/police
 - **John Foust**, *Supervisor of Dranesville District*, www.FairfaxCounty.gov/dranesville
- **CWCA Updates**
 - **Committee**
 - **Lori Boerner** (*President*), **Kevin Connelly** (*Vice-President*), **Nicki Watts** (*Secretary*) and **Charles Hoyt** (*Treasurer*), www.McLeanOnline.com
 - **Security**
 - **John Glowacki** (*Director*) and **Ione Braswell** (*Neighborhood Watch*)
 - **Arnold Braswell** (*Traffic Safety*)
 - **Snow Removal**
 - **Roger Nucho** and **Dave Stevens** (*Co-Chairs*)
 - **Welcome Committee**
 - **Edie Ashton** (*Co-Chair*)
 - **McLean Citizens Association**
 - **Tom Stoll** (*CWCA Rep*)
 - **Nominating Committee - 2008 CWCA Officers**
 - **Betsy Brand**, **Roger Nucho** and **Rosemary Ryan**
- **Meeting Services**
 - **Geoff Balleisen**, Tech Support
 - **Hanna Emrich**, Posters
 - **Jennifer Mendelsohn**, Photographer
- **Gift Certificates Give-A-Way**
 - **Corkie's/newly-named Dominion Restaurant**, Two \$25 Gift Certificates, courtesy of the new manager, Rohit Kapoor, www.DominionRestaurant.com
 - **Winners: Dee Custer and Thelma Zener**
 - Thelma already used her prize with her husband and some neighbors: **Robert Zener, Peggy & John Sadler and Nancy & Kent Stansberry!**
 - **LaGoogie**, One Infant "Smart Cappy" courtesy of **Anne Pham**, LaGoogie
 - **Winner: Mina Deneva**
 - **Starbucks**, Two \$10 Gift Certs courtesy of **Jane Price**, Weichert Realtors
 - **Winners: Frankie Mulloy and Susan Post**
 - **TwinTech**, Three T-shirts courtesy of **John Glowacki**, TwinTech
 - **Winners: Patty Craley, Walter Mircea and Laura Wickline**

- Almost Winners: **Kristen Erickson** was selected for a TwinTech t-shirt but passed on her prize as she already has MANY TwinTech t-shirts from her husband, John Glowacki, co-owner of TwinTech. **Barbara Holt** was chosen for a Starbuck's prize but, unfortunately, missed her name being called by only a few minutes, leaving just after 9:00pm. Thanks to both for coming to the Annual Meeting even if they didn't get to take home prizes!
- **Voting Items** - The attendees unanimously approved the following initiatives:
 - **CWCA Fiscal Year Dues**
 - **\$20 per family, covering April 2008 - March 2009**. See attached Dues Form and please take the small amount of time and effort now to pay your Annual Dues so that CWCA does not need to spend a lot of time, effort and cost (as was done last year) trying to collect dues via multiple reminder email and postal mail notifications. The Dues Form is also on our website: <http://mcleanonline.com/duesform2008.pdf>.
 - **CWCA Officers**
 - All existing officers of past year remain in place for the year ahead:
 - Lori Boerner, President
 - Kevin Connelly, Vice-President
 - Nicki Watts, Secretary
 - Charles Hoyt, Treasurer

CWCA STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBER



Jessica and Damien Dovi

Many of you have met **Jessica Dovi**, the CWCA Welcome Committee Co-Chair. You might have met her at the CWCA Annual Meeting last year in March 2007, when she and her husband, Damien, attended that, after they moved into the neighborhood a few months prior. Or you might have met her at the Halloween Party last October when she and Damien manned the Welcome Desk. Or if you are one of the many new residents over the past year, you might have met Jessica when she did a Welcome Visit to your home, providing you with Welcome materials (CWCA Directory, Newsletter, etc.), a baked good and info on our community.

Some of you are already aware of the very difficult situation that Jessica and her family are currently enduring. We wanted to inform the neighborhood at large at this point. Last fall, Jessica found out she had melanoma and then, quickly began treatment at Hopkins. She and Damien transitioned to a temporary apartment in Baltimore during this time. Additionally, their first baby, Matthew, was born last December at five months, weighing just 1 lb., 12 oz. Matthew has since thrived (now weighs over 8 lbs.) and after many months in Hopkins NICU, he finally came home to Hardwood Lane on April 9th!

In March, Jessica began an experimental treatment at Arlington Hospital Center while simultaneously receiving hospice care at home. Unfortunately, Jessica's condition has deteriorated to the point where she can no longer pursue aggressive treatment and she currently is being kept as comfortable as possible by the Hospice team at home.

Many of you in the neighborhood have already helped the Dovis in countless ways from the Meal Delivery effort to Jessica's Baby Shower gifts to help finding a pediatrician for Matthew, etc. Damien is currently setting up a foundation in Jessica's honor to promote melanoma awareness, fund research and discovery for new melanoma treatments, and provide patient and familial support for those suffering from this devastating disease. The foundation will be an incorporated 501c3 and is looking to build a substantial grass-roots network of supporters. We will provide more details about this foundation in the months ahead.

CWCA VOLUNTEERS

At the CWCA Annual Meeting, **Jim Childress** offered to look into traffic speed/safety issues, particularly on Chesterbrook Road and on the blind stretch of Forest Lane between Woodley and Oakdale Roads. If you wish to provide information and/or ideas on street safety issues or want to work toward resolving them with CWCA, Fairfax County and Virginia Departments of Transportation, please contact Jim at JChil@JChildress.com.

In our February 2008 CWCA Newsletter, we listed the 94 neighbors that volunteered for our **Neighborhood Watch Program** in 2007 - but, we missed one neighbor, **Mary Lou Spear**, taking it to 95 total Neighborhood Watch volunteers last year. Sorry for the oversight!

CWCA BULLETIN BOARD

Chris Ukleja of Chain Bridge Forest found a large, male Black Lab dog on Sunday, April 6th around 6pm. The dog was wandering the area where River Street meets Upton Street. The dog has a red collar but no tags. Chris took the dog to two McLean Vets (Old Dominion Animal Health Center and McLean Animal Hospital) and the dog was checked out but also verified that he has not been a patient at either clinic. The dog is estimated to be 10 - 12 years old and weighs 92 pounds. Currently, Chris is taking care of the dog at his home. If you know of anyone missing a black lab or a dog that fits this description that lives in nearby vicinity, please contact Chris at 202.281.4353 (cell), 703.534.5747 (home) or Chris@Ukleja.com.

Mina Deneva has just finished her Sports & Medicine degree at the University in Sofia, Bulgaria. With her specialty in Physical Therapy as well as a Certificate for assisting people with Alzheimer's disease, Mina is now available for any residents that need physical therapy or activity or general medical assistance on a one-time or ongoing basis. If interested or to find out more, please contact Mina at 703.989.6520 or MinaDDevera@aol.com.

CWCA ANNUAL PARTIES

Annual Third of July Party - We are looking for one or more people to head up the planning of the second Annual July 4th Weekend Holiday Party (date TBD). Last year, we had 250+ neighbors (80+ families) attend this fun party in Moss Wood Lane. There was plenty of food and drink along with a Pie-Baking Contest, Moon Bounce, Balloon Man, Face Painting and Kids Bike Parade. We had 34 neighborhood volunteers come together to put on the inaugural event last year. If interested in joining the 2008 Planning Committee, please contact last year's Co-Chairs - **Rachel Deutsch** at 703.536.3269 or RDeutsch@2biondi.com or **Yvonne Mizusawa** at 703.538.5081 or Yvonne.f.Mizusawa@frb.gov.

Annual Halloween Party - **Jennifer Versaw** has stepped forward to head up the planning of this great annual tradition. We had close to 300 neighbors attending last year in Autumn Lane with most the kids and some adults (and even dogs!) in costume! Attendees enjoyed the food and drink, Moon Bounce, Face Painting, Tattoo Parlor, Kids Games and Kids Costume Parade, all run by 45 neighborhood volunteers. To join in on the planning or for more information, please contact Jennifer at 703.536.7154 or JenniferVersaw@usa.net.

BE NEIGHBORLY

CWCA has been contacted by a few residents requesting attention to the following:

- Increase in bottles/cans and dog waste found in gutters on multiple streets - please ensure that your trash and recyclables are always boxed and bagged up.
- Rise in dog barking situations for prolonged periods - please ensure that pets are not adding to noise pollution.

CWCA YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS LIST

Thanks to **Basil Zavoico** for suggesting at our CWCA Annual Meeting that we add Drivers to the Young Entrepreneurs activities list - driving neighbors to/from airport, on errands, etc. See the latest list of the 21 Chesterbrook Woods Entrepreneurs who have offered to help neighbors. This is a private list, available and to be used only by CWCA residents. If any teens want to get added to the Young Entrepreneurs List or want to update their current listing, please contact **Lisa MacArthur** at 703.534.2266 or LisaMacarthur@cox.net.

DO YOU RECOGNIZE YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?

Thanks to **Jim Talens** for sending us the Zip Skinny website (www.zipskinny.com) where you can "get the skinny on that zip." Check out 22101: <http://zipskinny.com/index.php?zip=22101>

Also, thanks to **Edie Ashton** for reminding us of this 1995 Washington Post article on Chesterbrook Woods below.

Chesterbrook Woods: Younger Families Mean Change

By Louie Estrada

Washington Post Staff Writer

May 27, 1995

A remnant of the Beall family farm still stands at the intersection of Chesterbrook and Kirby roads in McLean, but it is mostly a reminder of what once was.

In the past 40 years more than 550 homes have been built near there in a development called Chesterbrook Woods. Now, with the passage of time and a generation of residents, the neighborhood is undergoing a rebirth as new families move in.

The once heavily wooded landscape and open farmland were transformed, mostly in the 1950s but even today, into an enclave of modest ramblers and large estates with substantial yards, connected by winding roads that are free of sidewalks.

At its inception, Chesterbrook Woods attracted young families who worked in the District but wanted a solitary place to retreat after work and on weekends, said Don Baer, a retired Naval officer, who moved there with his wife and two children in 1954.

Over the past 40 years, the residents have matured along with the community. Gone are the farmlands and thick stands of mulberries and laurels that are native to the area. There still are enough towering oak and dogwood trees lining lush green lawns that give a hint of its former days, filtering the sun on a summer's day and casting webbed shadows on the children playing in the streets.

Dwindling also from Chesterbrook Woods are the area's original homeowners, opening the way for a new generation of families to enjoy the area's quietude.

Today the community is nearly filled. Construction, however, is underway at Chesterbrook Farms, a collection of custom-designed luxury estates that sell for more than \$700,000, said Lynn Ello, a sales representative at Randolph Williams Inc., one of the area's builders.

"Chesterbrook Woods is in a state of transition," said Betsy Brand, president of the Chesterbrook Woods Citizens Association. "There have been a number of new families moving in, younger couples with children."

The gradual increase in newcomers is one of the few noticeable changes. For the most part, the community has remained a bedrock of stability. It is an attractive neighborhood for move-up buyers, said Shahrzad Miller, a real estate agent with Weichert Realtors.

Miller, who lives in nearby Black Oaks, has been selling homes in the area for 10 years. "The real estate market in general is slow, but homes in Chesterbrook Woods tend to move pretty fast," she said.

The reasons behind the community's appeal remain much as they were since it was founded: proximity to the District, privacy and a family atmosphere.

As a result, Chesterbrook homes are considered pricey. Depending on whether homes have undergone upgrades, most houses in the community range from \$300,000 to \$450,000, Miller said. Some custom homes cost as much as \$1 million.

She said the community's short drive to the George Washington Memorial Parkway and the District via Chain Bridge is the repeated reason people have for moving there. Many of the residents are professionals who work in the District and want a short commute to their jobs, but also want a sense of seclusion and safety in where they live, Miller said.

The security of the area stems from the limited number of through streets, said Baer, who heads the neighborhood watch program, now in its 18th year. There are not a lot of access routes that encourage crime, and suspicious cars are easy to spot.

About 250 homes participate in the watch program, which includes patrols at night, Baer said.

Beyond security, local schools play a major role in the demand for housing at Chesterbrook Woods, Miller said.

The reputation of Chesterbrook Elementary was behind the decision of Gail Clements and her husband, Richard Elliot, to move to Chesterbrook Woods from North Arlington in 1989.

"We wanted a place where our kids could run and play," she said. "But it was more important to us that the school system have an excellent record with students and academic programs."

But with summer just about here, the community pool also is an attraction. Clements said that the pool acts as a summer magnet with its youth swim meets.

Another way to meet up with neighbors is a leisurely walk on the scenic Dolley Madison trail, so named because it is believed the wife of President James Madison fled on this path when British troops burned the White House in 1814.

"This is an area that is very family oriented," Clements said.

The citizens association, the activities of which have diminished somewhat in recent years, is trying to capitalize on the trend, organizing Halloween parties, softball games and other events.

"We're trying to do more community events," Brand said. "We heard that in years past there were block parties; we're slowly getting back to that point."

© The Washington Post Co.

CWCA CONTACT LIST

Chesterbrook Woods Citizens Association Steering Committee April 2008 - March 2009

Lori Boerner	President	538-1711	lboerner@yahoo.com
Kevin Connelly	Vice-President	855-7403	kconnelly@bbandt.com
Nicki Watts	Secretary	532-8296	nicki.watts@verizon.net
Charles Hoyt	Treasurer	534-6266	cdhoyt@aol.com
John Glowacki	Security Director	533-0717	joke4kiki@yahoo.com
Ione Braswell	Neighborhood Watch Co-Chair	536-1681	idbraswell@cox.net
Virginia Dillon	Neighborhood Watch Co-Chair	536-8729	vhdill@yahoo.com
Edie Ashton	Welcome Committee Co-Chair	534-3743	edie.ashton@gmail.com
Jessica Dovi	Welcome Committee Co-Chair	536-2375	jldovi@gmail.com
Roger Nucho	Snow Removal Co-Chair	237-3646	jessjame@verizon.net
Dave Stevens	Snow Removal Co-Chair	531-0558	karstens5@verizon.net
Sylvia Pierson	Newsletter Manager	532-1982	piersons@usa.net
Jonathan Salkoff	Email List Manager	538-1093	jonathan@salkoff.com
Ellie LeBaron	Webmaster	webmaster@mcleanonline.com	elebaron@gmail.com
Tom Stoll	McLean Citizens Association Rep	237-0026	tlstoll@cox.net

CWCA \$20 ANNUAL DUES

Covering services from April 2008 - March 2009

CWCA Dues provides the following services to you and your neighbors:

- Private Snow Removal Service Contract
- Neighborhood Watch supplies (cell phone, flash lights, signs, etc.)
- Annual CWCA Meeting
- Annual July 3rd and Halloween Parties
- CWCA Website
- Annual Directory
- Multiple printed Newsletters hand-delivered to 530+ homes
- Dues Reminder Letters (please note: we are hoping to remove this expense this year by having people pay promptly without multiple postal mail notices)
- Miscellaneous Office Supplies

Please pay \$20 now to cover your family's share for continuing these valuable neighborhood services for the year ahead.

Given the very low dues amount, each year some residents send in more than the minimum amount and CWCA thanks those residents for their generosity.

Print this form, cut below along dotted line & mail in bottom portion with your check to CWCA.

=====

CWCA \$20 Annual Family Dues Notice

Covering services from April 2008 - March 2009

Please submit a check to "CWCA" for \$20 (or more) along with this form & send to:
Charles Hoyt, CWCA, 1532 Woodacre Drive, McLean, VA 22101

If you have not yet paid last year's (2007) \$15 Dues, please add that in for a total of \$35.

NAME(S) (Please print) _____

STREET ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

EMAIL _____ DUES AMOUNTS \$ _____

a) Does your current Directory listing need to be revised with any info above? YES NO

b) If you are not in the current Directory, do you want to be added? YES NO

c) If you want separate listings for adults with different surnames, list the names above, with any different phone numbers/email addresses, etc. and check here.

d) If you want to be on the CWCA Email List only and do NOT want your email printed in the Annual Directory - check here: On Email List Only