

M A R C H 2 0 1 2

CARDEROCK SPRINGS CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the CSCA will be held on April 22nd, beginning at 6 PM with wine and cheese, followed by the meeting, all at the club. The Annual Meeting will include a report of the business conducted during the past year, a financial report, future plans, and a nomination report presenting the new Board for 2012-2013. The Nomination Committee is pleased to report that all current board members are willing to serve another term. The official nominations are: (other nominations can be made at the meeting during the time of elections)

President: Phil Rider

Vice President: Georgia Petche

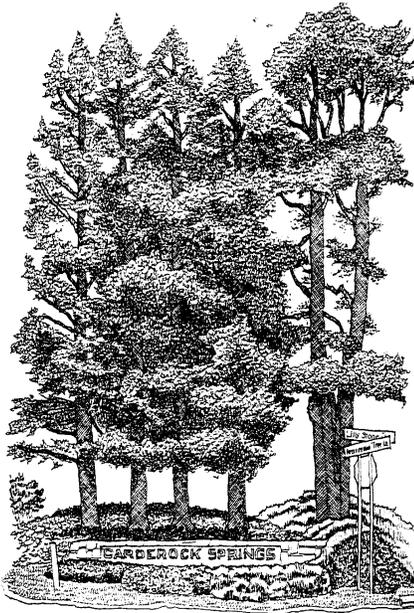
Secretary: Gunnar Tomasson

Treasurer: Robert Stocker

Membership: Barbara Ames

Members at Large: Jack Orrick and MaryLou Shannon

The Board is also working on getting a speaker who will share some early memories of Carderock Springs to kick off our 50th anniversary. Details to follow. Please mark and save the date. **As a member of the association, it is important that you attend the annual meeting.**



Carderock Springs Board Members

Phil Rider

Georgia Petsche

Gunnar Tomasson

Bob Stocker

Barbara Ames

Jack Orrick

Mary Lou Shannon

Noëlle F. Lewis

Doug Soe-Lin, Scott Wilets

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Membership

Member-at-Large

Member-at-Large

Newsletter Editor

Architectural Review Committee

Residents of Carderock Springs and surrounding areas may join the Citizens Association for an annual due of \$50 for a membership year ending December 31, 2012. Dues and family information for the Carderock Springs telephone directory may be mailed to the Carderock Springs Citizens' Association at P.O. Box 237, Cabin John, MD 20818-0237. Our Association represents the Carderock Springs community and implements its land covenants.

50th Anniversary

This year is the 50th anniversary of Carderock Springs. The CSCA Board is in the process of planning events that will make this a memorable celebration. In order to make this happen, volunteers are needed. If you would like to volunteer to plan ways we will celebrate our 50th, please let Phil know as soon as possible.

Safety Committee

With a renewed interest in controlling speed on Lilly Stone AND Fenway, the Safety Committee is looking for more members to join in continuing our efforts to resolve these issues. If you are interested in being on the committee, please let Phil Rider know as soon as possible. Thank you

CSCA Newsletter

As most folks know, the club newsletter will no longer contain non-club information, nor personal/classified ads. This was, in part, due to their decision to have the Club Newsletter focus solely on club matters. The CSCA Board has discussed how this might impact our own newsletter and has decided the following:

* The CSCA Newsletter will continue to be published and sent to each household. This will be the "official" means of communication between the Board and the Association. The chat and website will also be used for communication, but the "hard copy" newsletter will be the official means of communication for items such as annual meeting notices, all community forums, Carderock events, etc.

* The CSCA Newsletter will include all events/issues/concerns related to the Association. This means "picking up" some of the monthly articles previously in the Club Newsletter, such as community changes (new members, graduations, deaths), a calendar of association meetings/events, etc.

* The CSCA Newsletter will soon no longer be green. It will soon be white to better accommodate pictures and other changes.

* The CSCA Newsletter will allow personal advertisements with some qualifications. First, college-aged and younger students may advertise their services (e.g., yard work, baby sitting, pet care, etc.) in each newsletter, free of charge. Second, other residents who have personal ads may place them in the CSCA newsletter at a cost of \$10.00 per month. The Board decided that if we were going to take up the role of advertising in our newsletter, the added cost would have to be covered in some way. The Board felt a cost to those wanting to place an ad was fairer than increasing the annual dues to the whole association. Finally, to recommend services, e.g., housecleaners, landscapers, etc., the Board would like to encourage everyone to use the current recommended list on our CSCA website and to submit any updates and new recommendations to a board member who will see that it gets posted.

THE BOARD IS ALSO LOOKNG FOR A VOLUNTEER WHO WOULD BE WILLING TO COORDINATE THE ADS FOR THE NEWSLETTER EACH MONTH. PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU ARE WILLING TO DO THIS.

Throughout this newsletter transition, the board will evaluate the effectiveness of these changes to make sure we are serving the community needs. Please send us your feedback. Your opinions are important.

Thanks, Phil Rider, President

Why You Should Pay Your Home Owners Dues

The 2012 Dues notices have gone out, and you should know where these funds go. The Board of Directors of Carderock Springs Citizens' Association have approved a budget for this year that provide many services to make our neighborhood a safer and more enjoyable place.

A new neighborhood Directory will be published and distributed in the fall; this is done every two years to update, in print the information that is available through the CSCA website www.carderocksprings.net. Many homeowners who live on Fenway or Lilly Stone were actively involved in discussions concerning speeders and the safety factors of speeding through our neighborhood. The entryway lighting, landscaping and drainage at the sign into Carderock from River Road were redone, enhancing visitors' first impression of our neighborhood.

Recently there was a rash of break-ins in cars parked in our driveways. The CS-chat was used to notify CS-chat members that it happened and what we should do to both report it, and help prevent it from happening again. The CS-chat service is part of your dues. The CSCA newsletter is also paid for through your dues. The Club newsletter is changing its format to be only about club news and being sent in electronic format. The Board has agreed to have the CSCA newsletter provide some of the information that we found useful in the Orange letter.

In total, 75% of our dues go to operating expenses such as the website, the newsletter, directory, maintenance of the common area signage, utility bills for the lighting at the entrances, and events to strengthen our community rapport and meet new neighbors. The remaining 25% is used at the discretion of the Board, or interested neighbors, to enhance our neighborhood. This year a celebration of 50 years as a neighborhood will be something we will all want to share in and enjoy.

While the dues are voluntary, the Board wants you to feel that \$50 is a very fair price for what you receive. Over 62% of our neighbors paid in 2011, and our goal is to reach 70% participation in 2012.

By Bob Stocker, Treasurer; and Barbara Ames, Membership

Carderock Springs Elementary School Mosaic Project

This spring, Carderock Springs Elementary School will be embarking on a tile mosaic mural project for the outdoor front walkway of the new school building. Staff member and Artist in Residence Kristina Valencia, along with one of Carderock Spring's art teachers, will begin working with the students on a science themed tile mosaic mural that will reflect the science curriculum taught in school. The theme of the mural will cover the natural sciences that the students study, including earthworms, rocks, plants, butterflies, the Chesapeake Bay, flowers, weather and outer space. ALL Carderock students will have a hand in creating a relevant mosaic piece for the installation.

In the effort to Go Green, we are asking for donations of old, extra, even broken tiles (ceramic, glass or stone). We are reaching out beyond the school community to neighborhood communities and will be asking local businesses for donations as well. We will need an assortment of colors, and patterns will work too. This will truly be a "community" project!

There is a bin in the front office at Carderock Springs Elementary School (7401 Persimmon Tree Lane) for any tile you would like to donate, or you can contact Kristina Valencia for pickup (301-767-9738) or kristina_valencia@yahoo.com.

The Carder-Eco Column

News from the Environmental Committee

It has come to our attention that several CS residents are contemplating contracting with a local firm to have a regular pick-up of kitchen waste along with compost delivered in return. Although it is an environmentally friendly way to dispose of organic materials that might ordinarily be disposed of along with the regular trash into landfills, we have several reservations that we would like neighbors to be aware of before entering into such agreements.

We have explored reliable research, as well as anecdotal information from farmers, that unless compost is certified by the national organization that assures quality control, users might inadvertently import a variety of toxic/harmful substances into their yards, gardens and community, many of which may remain in the compost for long, if not unknown periods of time.

For example, pesticides are most frequently in the peelings of various fruits and vegetables, a major source of kitchen waste, and have been linked to various physical and mental disorders. (see link [eartheasy](#))

If one should use compost contaminated by long-lasting herbicides, the material would kill whatever grows where it is applied, and one might have to leave that area for several years before it disintegrates. (anecdotal story of strawberry farmer who killed all of his plants, and could not re-plant for two years after)

Some of these unwanted materials include: herbicides; pesticide; fungicides; metals and chemicals such as arsenic, mercury; salmonella, listeria and other bacteria (see NIH link below); seeds of weeds, invasive, plants not desired; oils, meats, dairy products that should not be placed into compost but may have from others' kitchen trash. Errant pieces of other materials, such as glass and plastics that do not bio-degrade

Therefore, as an informed and concerned committee, we suggest that you may want to dispose of kitchen waste in this manner, but that you refrain from requesting or accepting any compost from sources without the quality control mandated by the national organization.

For further information, you can check the links below:

<http://www.rachelcarsoncouncil.org/index.php?page=killer-compost-new-problems-a-new-chemical>

<http://www.beyondpesticides.org/gateway/>

<http://compostingcouncil.org/tmecc/>

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1265932/>

http://eartheasy.com/eat_pesticides_produce.htm

Of course, we encourage homeowners to compost on their own in a neighborly and environmentally safe way, either by using open containers for lawn and yard waste (provided that does not contain the above list of herbicides, pesticides, etc.) or by using closed containers in which one can also place kitchen waste.

<http://www.ask.com/questions-about/Making-Compost-with-Kitchen-Scraps>

<http://cwmi.css.cornell.edu/compostbrochure.pdf>

Diane Karlik

It is About Time

It is about time to look around your property to see what the strong winter winds deposited in your yard. These winds have brought down tree limbs, branches, and lots of leaves. They have deposited trash throughout the neighborhood. It is time to clean up your yard. Help to keep Carderock the beautiful community it is. *Georgia Petsche*

HELP !@!!!

The CSCA needs your help in the following areas. If you're interested, please contact Phil Rider asap. **Please** consider volunteering for an important need in our community. Your help is really needed.

50TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE: Will plan a special celebration for our 50th anniversary this fall.

SAFETY COMMITTEE: Continues to work on the issue of speeding in Carderock and trying to find a means of dealing with this major concern.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE: Support others as they find ways to keep Carderock a beautiful community.

GREEN COMMITTEE: Help Diane (who has done a great job) continue to bring to our neighborhood great "green" ideas and information.

WELCOME COMMITTEE: Join MaryLou and her great efforts to reach out to new neighbors to make them feel more welcomed and supported.

We are also in need of a volunteer to coordinate:

ADS FOR THE NEWSLETTER

DISTRIBUTION OF THE NEWSLETTER

None of these volunteer positions are a major time commitment. They are, however, important roles that need to be filled. Again, thanks for your willingness to help. Phil

New to the Neighborhood

Please welcome the following new residents:

* Katherine and Tony DiGiovanni and their children Camille (2) and Peter (4 months) to 8211 Lilly Stone Drive. (Ellen Schweiger moved to a condo in Mt. Pleasant.)

* Solid Perez and Rodrigo Rivera to 8320 Fenway Road. (Pauline Rabin and Mort Miller are now living year-round in Florida.)

* Chad English and Emily Pidgeon and their children Bronwyn (4) and Kieran (2) to 8004 Park Overlook Drive. (Grace Lazorchick moved to North Carolina where her son Michael and his family live. Dan passed away recently.)

* Natalya Beisenova and her two children Kamilla (15) and Timur (10) to 8211 Stone Trail Drive. Their grandmother, Inna Bessarabowa, will be living with them. (Moya Suchet will be retiring and moving to England)

* Polly and Joe Samsok and their two children Christina (8) and Joey (6) to 8116 Lilly Stone Drive.

Naina and Aneesh Singla and their daughter Ariyana (4) to 8209 Stone Trail Drive.

Women of Carderock Thursday, March 15, 2012

The March meeting of the Women of Carderock will be an excursion to lunch at the Gadsby Tavern in Alexandria followed by a visit to the Foundry. We will meet at 12:00 noon at the clubhouse parking lot and carpool from there. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Marilyn Mayerfeld at 301-469-6004 or email her at: mayerfeldme@verizon.net earlier in the week as she will need to make reservations at the tavern.

Green Neighbors New Website

If you haven't seen the new website designed and coordinated by several people in Cabin John, check it out. There is a lot of good and new information, plus many links that you may find useful. <http://greenneighbors.org/>

Toxins In and Around the home

Even the most health-conscious homeowners can overlook toxins found in everyday products that can pollute our homes and property. We can all make efforts to curb use of these toxic invaders.

COAL TAR DRIVEWAY SEALANTS contain PAHs, which studies suggest can be carcinogenic, toxic and mutagenic, and enters our local water via rain/runoff. Pick asphalt-based (rather than coal-tar based) sealant, some of which have already been banned by various retail hardware stores.

ANTIBACTERIAL SOAP is believe to disrupt thyroid function and hormone levels, and overuse can also lead to overly resistant bacteria. Use soap and warm water which is equally effective, and avoid triclosan in products, using alcohol-based hand cleaners when necessary.

HOUSEHOLD CLEANING PRODUCTS often contain carcinogens and the ammonia in some provoke asthma attacks. Replace with Eco-friendly alternatives with natural rather than chemical ingredients. Dispose of what you no longer want at the hazardous waste section of the transfer station or during special pick-ups at satellite locations.

SYNTHETIC FRAGRANCES are in so many products we use for personal, household, and beauty use. Many are carcinogenic, are endocrine disruptors, or reproductive toxicants. Try to go the "unscented" route and set out a bowl of baking soda or a bowl of white vinegar to absorb offending household and cooking odors.

HERBICIDES AND INSECTICIDES have been linked to various forms of cancer, including non-Hodgkins lymphoma and brain damage in children has been traced to insecticide use. Many products enter the water system via runoff and travel down our roads via the swales along our front yards. Replace sod with native plants. Remove weeds by hand or via organic methods . Beware of products with the word "natural" since "natural" can be toxic and non-organic as well. Tolerate those dandelions (better yet...eat the clean early -spring foliage) and buttercups in your lawn areas.

Check the library for books by Annie Bond (Rodale Press) or check the Organic Gardening News website.

Diane Karlik