

# CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

April 2011

*Published by the Carderock Springs  
Citizens' Association*

<i>Phil Rider</i>	<i>President</i>
<i>Georgia Petsche</i>	<i>Vice President</i>
<i>Gunnar Tomasson</i>	<i>Secretary</i>
<i>Tom Hilton</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>
<i>Barbara Ames</i>	<i>Membership</i>
<i>Jack Orrick</i>	<i>Member-at-Large</i>
<i>Mary Lou Shannon</i>	<i>Member-at-Large</i>
<i>Noëlle F. Lewis</i>	<i>Newsletter Editor</i>
<i>Doug Soe-Lin, Scott Wilets</i>	
<i>Architectural Review Committee</i>	

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, 2011. 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.

## CSCA ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, April 17

6:00 p.m. Social Networking

7:00 p.m. Annual Meeting

(see Candidates and Announcement, page 2)

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### REGULAR APRIL MEETING OF THE BOARD

Monday, April 4th, 7:00 p.m. at the club

All members of the community are welcome

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### Thanks are Due

I am pleased to say that everyone on the current CSCA Board has agreed to stay on for another term, with the exception of Tom Hilton who, sadly, will be retiring and moving to Florida. I would like to thank each of the board members (Georgia Petsche, Gunnar Tomasson, Tom Hilton, Barbara Ames, Jack Orrick, and Mary Lou Shannon) for all the time they have given to the community, both in doing the work of the Board and the various committees they have chaired. A special thanks to Tom who has given several years of his time and talent. We will miss him!

Please join us at our annual meeting on Sunday, April 17, to more "officially" thank Tom for his years of service.

Also, thanks to the following for their contribution to our community during the past year:

- The volunteers who worked on our Safety, Beautification, Welcome, Environmental, and Membership committees
- The ARC (Doug Soe-Lin, Scott Willets, Steve Kunin, Curt Hastings) for all their efforts in maintaining our covenants
- Margit Meissner for her work as ARC/community liaison
- Lisa Wilcox Deyo for taking on the role of Tree Removal Advisor/Coordinator
- Noelle Lewis for her work as our newsletter editor
- Margie Orrick for being our webmaster
- Diane Karlik for helping us keep Carderock "green"

A big "Thank You" to those who volunteered their time and talents to keep Carderock Springs alive and well.

*Phil Rider, President*

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### Why the Board?

As we approach the annual meeting of our Carderock Springs Citizens' Association, it is a good time to once again remind ourselves of the role the CSCA Board plays in our community. Those who serve on the Board believe these responsibilities are important in maintaining the architecture, natural setting, and sense of community that are unique and special to Carderock Springs. What is the role of the Board?

- To establish architectural guidelines that uphold the Covenants of our community, mainly through the work of the CSCA's Architectural Review Committee and our tree-removal coordinator
- To listen to and respond to shared community concerns. At present, most of this is being done through CSCA committees that are working on safety, beautification, a yearly membership director, making Carderock "green" and welcoming new-comers.
- To offer members of the community a forum for open discussion on shared concerns and an opportunity to be part of the process of decisionmaking that attempts to resolve these issues
- To have a way of communicating important information to all members of the community. This is currently done through a monthly newsletter sent to all homes and through the CS-chat.
- To offer occasional social gatherings as a way to better know our neighbors

The Board once again invites you to share these responsibilities by:

- Attending regular Board meetings
- Honoring and complying by the Covenants of our community
- Volunteering to serve on a CSCA committee

We look forward to seeing you at our annual meeting, Sunday April 17th, starting at 6:00 with a social gathering. The meeting will start at 7:00.

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### CSCA Annual Meeting, April 17

6:00 p.m. Social Networking Party

7:00 p.m. Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the CSCA will be held at the Club on Sunday, April 17th, at 7:00 PM. A Social Networking Party will be held before the Annual Meeting, starting at 6:00 PM. The meeting will include reports from the treasurer and the sub-committees, including a plan from the Safety Committee about how to slow down speeders on Fenway Rd. The association will also vote on a slate of officers for the 2011 board. Nominees are:

President: *Phil Rider*

Vice President: *Georgia Petsche*

Secretary: *Gunnar Tomasson*

Treasurer: *Bob Stocker*

Membership: *Barbara Ames*

Member-at-Large: *Mary Lou Shannon*

Member-at-Large: *Jack Orrick*

The Board hopes you will make every effort to attend this important meeting of our association.

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### CSCA Board Candidates

#### Jack Orrick, Member-at-Large

Jack Orrick has lived in Carderock Springs for over 20 years. He is a partner in the Bethesda law firm of Linowes and Blocher LLP where he practices business law. Jack spends a large amount of his time working for nonprofit organizations and has represented several in Montgomery County including the Carderock Swim and Tennis Club. Jack has served this past year on the CSCA Board as a Member-at-Large and has worked on adding the recorded covenants for the community, fully-indexed by property address, to the CSCA website.

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Georgia Petsche, Vice President

Our family has lived in Carderock Springs for 49 years. My husband and I bought our home before the ground was broken to build it. We love our home, community, and our wonderful neighbors.

I have been retired for four years. Before that, I was a property manager for 22 years. I managed condominiums and cooperatives in the Washington Metropolitan area.

I have served as Vice President of the Citizens' Association for the past year and formerly served as President and other positions on the Board. I am interested in preserving the quality of life in Carderock. I look forward to again working with our residents to maintain our community.

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Phil Rider, President

When our realtor drove us into Carderock Springs for the first time, I immediately fell in love with the architecture, the natural setting, and the "look" of the community. I still feel the same way after five years of living here. As a chaplain for Montgomery Hospice at Home, I travel around the county and see firsthand the many neighborhoods that make up this area. Each time I drive into Carderock, I am reminded of how unique and special our community really is. As president of the CSCA, it is my hope to continue to foster and preserve those things that most of us value as important and meaningful characteristics of our neighborhood. I look forward to serving again on our CSCA Board.

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Mary Lou Shannon, Member-at-Large

I have been a resident of Carderock since 1983 and involved in the community throughout those years. For many years I organized house tours, and this year will co-sponsor a garden tour. I have also served as "welcome chairman." I would like to continue as a member of the Board and assist in organizing social and learning events for the residents.

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Bob Stocker, Treasurer

Bob Stocker is president of Bookkeeping Express, a nationwide company offering virtual bookkeeping and accounting services to businesses. When Bob is not working, he enjoys playing golf and woodworking. Bob is excited to be able to help give back to the Carderock community that he and Linda have enjoyed living in since 1997. Bob is looking forward to serving as Treasurer and working with the Board to keep Carderock a desirable place to live and raise a family.

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Sverrir (Gunnar) Tomasson, Secretary

Our family moved to Carderock Springs two years ago, but we are long-time Montgomery County residents. We like the community feel of the neighborhood, proximity to the canal and river, the biking opportunities and the many places to walk our dogs. This would be my third year on the CSCA Board; I have enjoyed the previous two years working with our neighbors and the Board members. I am a senior project manager with Northrop Grumman Corp. supporting numerous efforts around the DC metro area. I served for several years as the Committee Chairperson on our two sons' Cub Scout Pack in Olney, MD. I have volunteered to support corporate job fairs, church activities, and youth sports organizations.

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**Air Guns and the Like**

After much discussion on the CS-chat related to the use of air guns/rifles in our neighborhoods, the Board did its own investigation as to what the laws are in our county that regulate the use of firearms. At its March meeting, the Board reviewed these regulations and would like to pass on to residents what it believes to be a clarification on this issue.

Chapter 51 "Firearms," 51-1 "General regulations concerning air guns" reads as follows:

A. Definitions. In this section, "air gun" means a small-caliber weapon, either a handgun or a shoulder weapon, from which pellets or darts are discharged by the expanding force of compressed air or gas (carbon dioxide). The term includes air guns called "air rifles," "BB guns," "gas guns," "spring-operated guns," and "air pistols."

B. Operation restricted. No person shall discharge any air gun within five hundred feet of any home or residence other than his own; any school or school grounds, whether private or public; any church or church grounds; any place of public assembly; or any public park or playground within the county. (Note - Montgomery County police also consider trails, e.g., the Cabin John trail, to be a "public park area").

Considering the above code, together with personal conversations with various Montgomery Police officers (including the person in charge of firearm control for Montgomery County), the Board believes it is clear that air guns and the like are permitted only on one's own property. The Board hopes that parents will make this clear to their children and be the means of enforcement in our community.

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## The Carder-Eco Column

### *News from the Environmental Committee*

Spring clean-ups lend themselves to composting, since matted leaves and debris have already begun to decompose. Free adjustable composting bins are available at various locations in Montgomery County ([http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/swstmpl.asp?url=/content/dep/solidwaste/store/compost\\_bins.asp](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/swstmpl.asp?url=/content/dep/solidwaste/store/compost_bins.asp)). Phone first to assure they are in stock.

The Eco-committee has received inquiries from several residents about trash and recycling etiquette. A quick check of the covenants reveals that trash cans "shall not be permitted to remain in public view except on days of trash collection." The concerns reflect not only what happens on Mondays to Wednesdays (times surrounding pickup), but also trash cans and bright blue

recycling bins kept in front of the houses all week. We ask that all households make an effort to keep the containers out of sight during the week.

*Trash pickup:* For weekly pickups, it is customary to put out containers no earlier than mid-afternoon on the day before collection and remove containers as early as possible after pickup. This would alleviate the Monday through Wednesday complaints. In the case a homeowner is going away, please ask a neighbor to put out bins and take them in as stated above. Please also be aware, the longer the trash stays at the curb before pickup, the more likely animals will get into them and cause an even uglier eyesore.

On rare occasions, it may be necessary to leave trash out for a longer time. Please be considerate to your neighbors and community and try to curtail the number of days and hours trash is left out. This will ensure we preserve the community's beauty.

*Yard debris pickup:* Understanding that we have had a terrible winter regarding downed tree limbs, please make an effort to dispose of debris in the manner requested by the county. This means placing debris in a reusable container such as a trash bin (debris decals are available at libraries or by calling the county at 3-1-1; decals not required), recyclable paper bags, or tying up with strong twine into bundles of no more than 45 pounds and 30-inch diameter, consisting of items no larger than 4-inch diameter and 4-feet long. Please do not leave them in plastic or in loose untied bundles; they will not be picked up by Solid Waste and will remain in front of your yard in view of neighbors. When collecting yard trash during the week, when possible and sensible, also keep that out of the right-of-way in front of your homes until trash day.

Check next month's newsletter for an upcoming event/information session on eco-gardening.

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## Home Security Systems

In the March newsletter, the CSCA Safety Committee addressed the issue of protecting our property from theft. Some residents expressed interest in installing a professional security system in their home. There are many good security services available in the Metro area. Washington Checkbook and Consumer Reports would be a good reference to compare the various companies. Carderock neighbors have given the following recommendations:

ADT (used for the past 14 years, technology very dependable, and the 24-hour staffing is excellent, Tel: 888-271-1823)

American Alarm, Louis Adorian (used for 10 years, master at wiring Carderock homes, very professional, always available, Tel: (301) 770-7117)

Splaine Security Service (used for 20 years, personal service, prices competitive, Tel: 301-942-6262)

Advantage Security, Inc., Kenny Klanga (301-570-3700 ext. 101)

Satellite Industries (dependable, excellent service, Tel: 301-840-5420)

One individual suggested that professional quality wireless systems can be installed yourself (a less expensive option) and can be monitored by the same monitoring services that many home security companies outsource. If you are interested in the option, you can request information on CS-Chat or Google this topic.

I hope this information is helpful.

*Cheryl Glaessner, CSCA Safety Committee*

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## 2011 Annual CSCA Dues

Everyone in the neighborhood should have received a CSCA dues statement. Don't forget to enclose any updates to the directory with your dues check. Your timely payment makes it a lot easier to plan for future activities.

If you did not receive a statement, please send your \$50 dues checks to: Carderock Springs Citizens Association, P.O. Box 237, Cabin John, MD 20818. Make sure you include a return address along with a list of all family members, and any phone and email information you wish entered in the next directory.

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## Where Do Your \$50 Annual Dues Go?

Though not an exhaustive list, here are seven major areas that CSCA dues support:

1. Printing the neighborhood directory
2. Maintaining and lighting the neighborhood entry points and signs
3. CSCA website, newsletters, and other communications to keep residents informed
4. Support for worthy volunteer activities that directly benefit residents. A small portion covers the cost of recognition awards for extraordinary volunteer work by our neighbors.
5. Insurance premiums to protect the Board and ARC members so they can serve without undue liability concerns
6. Emergent actuarial and legal fees including tax filings, advice to the board on pending decisions, as well as to defend against lawsuits over covenant enforcement and related matters. Although infrequent, suits can be very costly even when CSCA wins. Any remaining end-of-year funds help to build a reserve fund.
7. CSCA support for other civic organizations that enable cooperation in addressing problems affecting our area of the county. Included are organizations that represent us at County meetings and that help CSCA stay abreast of county-wide issues that may impact Carderock Springs, especially in the areas of zoning, highway planning, and redistricting issues.

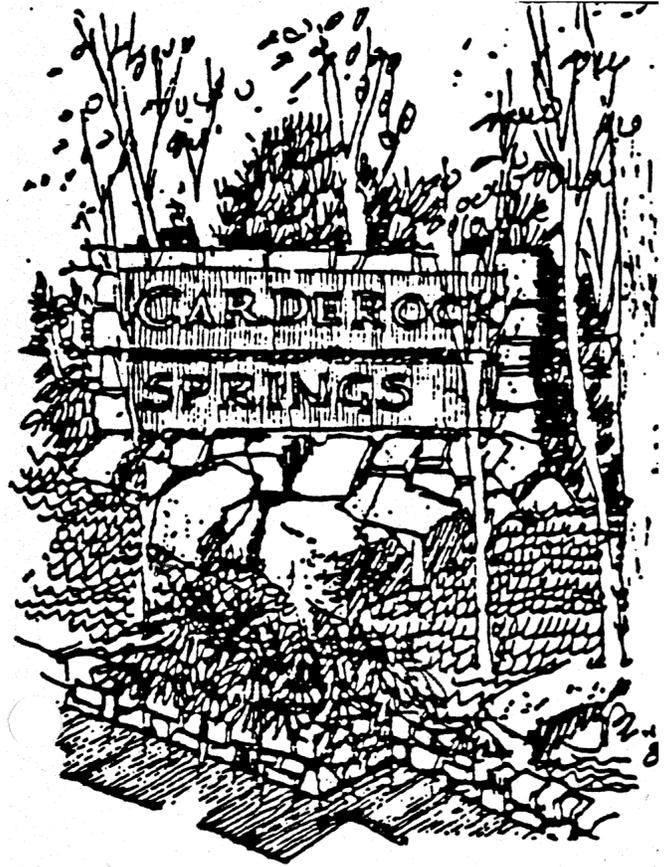
**Carderock Garden Day**  
**Saturday, May 7, 2-5 p.m.**

Visit . . . Learn ... Apply!

An opportunity to visit Carderock gardens to gather ideas and inspiration for your own garden. Please plan to join us for the very first Carderock Garden Day - we have several wonderful gardens ready for you! From woodland gardens to eco-friendly landscapes, to an English-style perennial garden, please join your neighbors to view these gardens and take away creative ideas for your own yards. See your neighbors' solutions for deer, deep shade, and steep slopes. Watch future newsletters, CS-Chat, and notices posted at the Club bulletin board for updated information on tickets and other details.

This new event is a fundraiser for the Carderock Citizens Association.

We could use some organizational help for this inaugural event (only a very few hours, we promise!) – if interested please contact Nancy Everett at [boxwooddesign@comcast.net](mailto:boxwooddesign@comcast.net) or Mary Lou Shannon at [ml@maryloushannon.com](mailto:ml@maryloushannon.com). Hope to see you!



**Citizens' Association Contact Information**

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Tom Hilton	Treasurer	<a href="mailto:CSCAtreas@gmail.com">CSCAtreas@gmail.com</a>
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Mary Lou Shannon	Welcome Packet	<a href="mailto:CSCAwelcome@gmail.com">CSCAwelcome@gmail.com</a>
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Architectural Review Board	ARC	<a href="mailto:CSCAarc@gmail.com">CSCAarc@gmail.com</a>
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