

UPDATE

Woodland Pond Homeowners' Association, Inc.

Spring Report Woodland Pond Homeowners' Association Report

The past year or so has brought renewed interest in the Association. While the causes for some of this activity have been unfortunate, it is hoped that this will result in people wanting to be more active in the neighborhood and willing to volunteer their time to help make this an even better place to live.

A few years ago, the Board of Directors responded to feedback from residents for greater enforcement of the Covenants and rules. It was felt that a lack of such oversight was contributing to drift, which may result in harming property values. As with most issues in the neighborhood, most people have not expressed an opinion. There are some who are happy to see a more active Board, particularly with respect to Covenant enforcement. Others feel that the Board is not thorough enough and would like to see more forceful application of the rules, and others still do not wish to have anyone tell them what can or cannot be done on their property, despite living in a covenant bound community. We have each made a substantial investment in

our homes because we like the look of the neighborhood. Covenant enforcement serves to try to maintain this aesthetic, to ensure continued appreciation of values, and allow people to have pride in our community. It is the responsibility of the Association to enforce the rules as they exist.

In doing so, there are currently two matters under litigation. Both of these stem from architectural changes undertaken without going through the required application process. Many other complaints have been resolved with a phone call or a letter. While the Association would like to have litigation as a last resort, one interpretation of the Covenants makes it appear that filing in court may be required in order to proceed with even the internal Violation-Complaint process. Until such time as we can change the Covenants this will be the case. Filing cases in court results in costly legal expenses which would either be the responsibility of the violating homeowner or the Association (which means all of us!).

I would ask for two things to avoid this. Please be con-

siderate of your neighbors and refresh your memory as to what the Covenants require – if you are not sure, ask! Compliance with the community rules avoids such problems and leaves the Association greater resources to focus on more positive things. Secondly, we will be seeking to revise the Covenants and, among other things, remove this antiquated provision which would allow for legal action to be the very last resort it should be. Changing the Covenants is no small undertaking. Not only will there be considerable time and energy expended to setting the Association on firm ground for the future, but passage requires eighty percent (80%) approval – not just eighty percent to vote. Passage of revised Covenants is seen as imperative to the functional existence of the neighborhood.

There have been ongoing questions about at least one of the court cases. At this time, as the case is pending, such disclosure is not possible. Discussion of complaints and violations is something which is thought best handled as privately as possible. While the case is pending before the court this is obviously even more the

case. If and when greater disclosure is appropriate, it will be made. In the meantime, your support is asked based on the Association's attempt to do what is in the best interests of the neighborhood. While we are experiencing some growing pains, it is hoped that we will come through this more organized and on more firm ground.

Marc Just
President

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**WOODLAND POND
HOMEOWNERS'
ASSOCIATION
INC.**

UPDATE is published quarterly by the Woodland Pond Homeowners' Association with distribution scheduled in the months of January, April, July and October. Direct correspondence to the WPHA, P.O. Box 136, Chesterfield, VA 23832, or contact any member of the Board of Directors.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

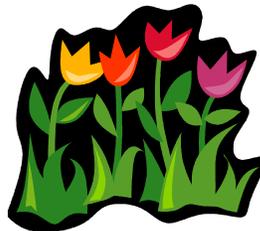
- President:** Marc Just
768-6955
- Vice President:**
Leo Johnston
796-3764
- Treasurer:** Jim Eads
768-9411
- Secretary:**
Joanne Buckley
748-9633
- Director:** Bruce Fletcher
748-7201

Lunch



The May 4th luncheon will be held at "Tara Thai" in the Short Pump Town Center. Please RSVP to Jane Zirkel at 748-4443 or jmzirkel@comcast.net by April 27th. Please look for the 2005-2006 lunch bunch schedule in the next newsletter. If you have any questions, call Charlie Turfboer at 796-2175.

**Wel-
come**



Please Recycle!

Check out our website at
www.woodlandpond.org



Woodland Pond...

A Nice Place To Live



*For information on the
Woodland Pond Bridge Group,
please contact JoAnne Marshall
at 748-5088 or Pat Roach
at 748-8512.*

Newsletter Issues???

Please check your name and address on your newsletter label. For any corrections, please call Charlie Turfboer at 796-2175.

If you know of someone who did not receive their newsletter, please notify Charlie as well.

Thanks!

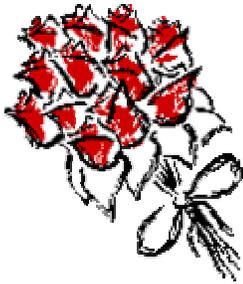


CARDS ANYONE?

There is a Bridge group in the neighborhood, but what about something for the rest of us? If anyone would like to play other card games (Hearts, Euchre, Spades, etc.) there are likely others. A fun evening of cards and socializing may be in your future! If interested, please call Marc Just at 768-6955.

Attention New Residents

Sometimes new neighbors can “sneak” in without the block captains being aware. So, if this has happened to you, please call Marcia Lee so a welcome basket can be prepared for you. When you receive your basket, please complete the information sheet and return it a.s.a.p. so that you will be recognized in the next newsletter, added to the WPHA mailing list, and be included in the next Woodland Pond Telephone Directory if you so desire. Also, if you would like to advertise your business by way of the welcome basket, please contact Marcia Lee at 768-8770.



Please keep your pets on a leash.

It's the law!

Please pick up after your pets when you are walking them. Residents have complained about remains on their lawns and in the street where everyone walks, runs, and children play.

Let's work together to keep Woodland Pond a friendly place to live!

BLOCK CAPTAINS

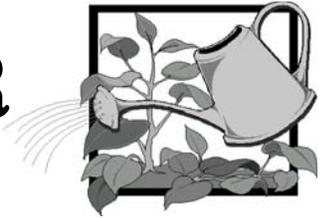
Block Captains Committee Chairperson - Marcia Lee—768-8770

Sally Brazil	9020 Waterfowl Flyway	748-3258
Linda Burseson	8931 Whistling Swan Road	796-3544
Janet Childress	8802 Whistling Swan Road	748-3199
Laura Dooley	10707 Old Squaws Lane	717-9466
Pam Enslen	9313 Banff Court	717-9313
Bruce Fletcher	10703 Gadwell Court	748-7201
Carol Goodloe	10854 Egret Court	777-9111
Lisa Herbert	9419 Park Bluff Terrace	796-5398
Isabel Jacobs	11313 Laurel Cove Lane	796-6990
Rita Johnson	9004 Canvasback Circle	748-5608
Laurie Klein	8707 Taylor Landing Place	748-8107
Kim Kohman	9000 Wigeon Way	748-4551
Jocelyn LaRocque	11330 Shorecrest Lane	768-0470
Julie Longstreet	8711 Waterfowl Flyway	796-3780
Lora Lydick	10910 Woodland Pond Parkway	706-1558
Lynn Mabe	11411 Avocet Drive	706-6223
Melanie McConville	9041 Whistling Swan Road	748-2462
Pat Merson	11231 Woodland Pond Parkway	796-1132
Melinda Miller	9410 Waterfowl Flyway	778-7794
Gloria Morelli	9124 Avocet Court	796-2042
Holly Oehrlein	9860 Waterfowl Flyway	796-5253
Kathy Peterson	9402 Gadwell Terrace	748-8536
Nancy Pugh	9340 Squirrel Tree Court	768-0092
Liz Reiber	10901 Pintail Place	796-7533
Karen Schille	9521 Waterfowl Flyway	717-5070
Linda Timte	9413 Owl Trace Drive	796-6631
Charlie Turfboer	9700 Waterfowl Flyway	796-2175
Henrietta Yaworsky	9311 Owl Trace Court	768-4693



GARDEN

CLUB CORNER



Welcome Spring!

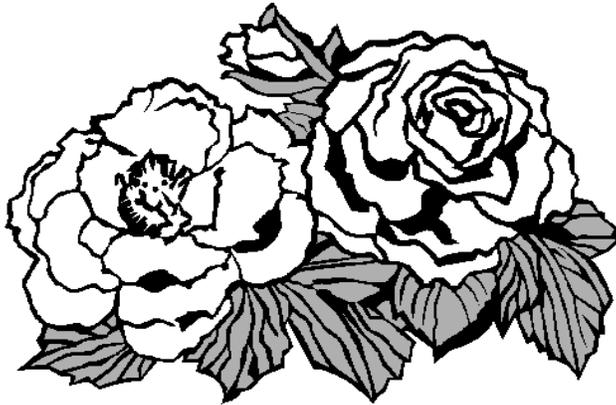
Woodland Pond is blooming with beautiful flowers and trees. Spring has arrived in our neighborhood gardens.

The Piedmont District Spring Meeting will be held on March 31st at the Holiday Inn South Koger Center. At this meeting, the Piedmont District Nature Camp Scholarship will be awarded. Ben Han, a resident of Woodland Pond, will be the recipient of the 2005 Piedmont District Nature Camp Scholarship. WPGC is proud of Ben and his accomplishment. WPGC will also sponsor two campers to attend a session at Nature Camp this summer. Ben Waterland, a resident of Woodland Pond, will be one of the campers. Congratulations to Ben and Ben!

A spring cleanup which will include planting plants, and mulching will be held at the Lucy

Corr wheelchair gardens and the knot garden. Henrietta Yaworsky will lead the project.

A spring floral workshop will be held at Lucy Corr on May 5th. Residents will make floral ar-



rangements to decorate the dining rooms for Mother's Day. Bud vases of fresh flowers, silk corsages, boutonnieres, and a bouquet for the Lucy Corr queen will be made by garden club members. Lea Wyche is the chairman for this event.

Please continue to recycle your

empty computer ink cartridges (except Epson) and your old cell phones in the recycling box at Annette Crews' home – 10700 Gadwell Court. WPGC appreciates Woodland Pond's recycling contributions. This has been a very successful project which has helped the garden club as well as our environment. Annette Crews is the chairman of this project.

Meetings

April 14 – “The Chelsea Flower Show” – Speaker – Susan Gaskill – WPSRC – 7 p.m.

May 17 – Installation Banquet – Meadowbrook Country Club

If you are interested in membership in WPGC, please contact Joy Walker (706-6452) for a membership brochure.

Something In The Air?

There have been ongoing concerns within Woodland Pond as well as neighboring communities with the activity and expansion at Shoosmith, the landfill operated fairly close by. In an attempt to address complaints of foul odors emanating from the facility, the county, state, and Shoosmith have set up a mechanism so that occurrences can be monitored. It has been asked that when people smell odors that each of the following people be contacts for EACH occurrence: Rob Timmins of the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, 527-5161, rhtimmins@deq.virginia.gov; Charles Dane,

Chesterfield County, 743-0771, danec@co.chesterfield.va.us; and Bruce Coble, Shoosmith, 748-5823, bcoble@shoosmith.com. When supplying such reports, please note your location, the time odor was noticed and weather conditions. This is an ongoing effort, so please provide this information regularly. Without a record of such events, there is no expectation that things will improve and further variances and expansion may be more easily facilitated. Please see the January board minutes on our website for some further information.



WOODLAND POND SWIM & RACQUET CLUB



As I write this article Spring has not yet sprung, but in a few weeks I'm sure the trees will be budding and the flower beds blooming (and the grass will be needing a cut). For many activities that come and go with the seasons, this is the time of year for renewal and new growth, and it is the same for the S&RC.

We are trying a slightly different structure on the board of directors this year. We have set up new team leaders for the Clubhouse, the Pool, and the outside Courts. These teams will be forming to focus on and discuss what improvements can be made in their respective areas, and also to look at what long-term issues can be expected to arise from normal operations. This way we will be better able to catch small issues before they become big ones, and to prioritize our improvement efforts according to the needs of the members.

I encourage all new and returning members to look into our new teams

at some point during the year. If you have a specific interest in one of these three areas (pool, clubhouse, or courts), if you have some improvement ideas you would like to share, or if you'd just like to offer to help, please contact one of our new team leaders. They are Marcia Lee - Clubhouse, Patton Roark - Pool, and Bob Puleo - Courts. We would love to have you involved at any level you can provide.

There are many club activities going on this spring or coming up for the summer. We are currently enjoying some wonderful ballroom dancing lessons for the adults, and I hope many of you were able to attend the Easter Egg Hunt for the kids on March 19. Upcoming summer activities include water aerobics and tennis lessons. Also be watching for flyers on our Open House, which will be open to all community residents.

We will need volunteers in May for moving the pool furniture back from

off-site storage. This activity only takes an hour with 6-8 people - we will send out a request when we fix the date. We are also setting up a new website (any advice here would be welcome!). And don't forget, the clubhouse is available for private or company rentals. Please call Marcia Lee for pricing and availability.

If you are not already a member, we would love for you to join us -- you should have received information on membership via a neighborhood flyer. As always I would be happy to answer any questions you might have about the club, membership fees, ongoing activities, finances, organizational structure, or other topics. Call me at 748-2316, or send me an email, fes9999@comcast.net.

TGIS!

Forrest Sloan

President, WPS&RC

Woodland Pond Swim Team Summer Swim Registration

The Woodland Pond Swim and Racquet Club will hold Swim Team registrations on Sunday, April 24th from 1:00 pm until 3:00 pm. All Swim and Racquet Club members from ages 4 to 18 are invited to join. We will distribute the registration forms within the next few weeks and extra forms will be available at registration. If you are not a member of the Swim and Racquet Club and are interested in joining the swim team, please contact our S&R membership director, Kathy DelGuercio, or email wpsrc@aol.com for more information.

Championships will be held on Friday and Saturday, July 29th and 30th at Beulah.

The team will be wearing the same swimsuits as last year. If your swimmers need new swimsuits, you can purchase them from Runner Bill's in Midlothian.

We are also delighted to welcome back Coach Meredith for the 2005 season!!!!

Let the fun begin! I am looking forward to a great season with fantastic swims from each of you. Look for dry-land practices to start on May 16th so don't forget your running shoes and water bottles - Coach Meredith

If you have any questions, please contact Larry Austin at 796-9752 or via e-mail at ldaustin@erols.com.

Meets are scheduled as follows:

Saturday, June 18 -	Away	Gregory's Pond
Thursday, June 23 -	Home	Hampton Park
Wednesday, June 29 -	Home	Salisbury
Wednesday, July 6 -	Home	Highlands
Tuesday, July 12 -	Away	Chester
Tuesday, July 19 -	Away	Foxcroft

Speeding in the Neighborhood

The most common complaint received from residents this year has been about cars speeding through the neighborhood, not stopping at stop signs, and violation of other traffic laws. Offenders are not limited to just teenage drivers, but actually are more frequently adults. Many people walk in the neighborhood (with and without children) and more than one person has had to jump over their minders to avoid being struck! This has not been sufficient to stop this chronic problem.



While law enforcement is beyond the purview of the Association, these dangerous behaviors are a common concern to many residents and the Board is interested in keeping neighbors safe and free to enjoy the community without such concerns. The county police have been consulted and while manpower is short, one option would be to hire an off-duty policeman to set up speed traps. This would cost the Association money, but as the level of concern and the number of complaints continue to come in, this may be what is needed to "curb" this problem. It is far more preferable that drivers obey posted speed limits and show respect for their fellow residents out of sense of community rather than fear of the

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Reserve Study Completed

Woodland Pond Financially Prepared

State law requires associations like the WPHA to complete a reserve study to ensure financial viability for the future. That entails having a review conducted to show the current resources and plan for future funds available for the maintenance and eventual replacement of tangible assets. The Phase I Association (WPHA) has completed this study in advance of the legal requirement. Inspection of assets was made and the remaining lifespan and replacement cost of each item projected. The recommendation of the study was that we set aside \$25,000 and make specified annual contributions to this account. I am pleased to say that we have done so and have already made the 2005 contribution. This means that when the fence needs to be replaced or other such projects arise, residents will not have to worry about the money being there to take care of these things.



Lakefront Association Officers and Committee Chairs

President Joshua Jeyasingh

Secretary Garry Simmons

Treasurer Jimmy Jacobs

Directors: Charlie Primm
Matt Lisagor
Russ Beck
Mike Jardina

Please direct questions to Joshua Jeyasingh at 717-8377.

The Birds of Woodland Pond

Woodpeckers are among the more recognizable birds in our neighborhood, but their interest is more than feather deep. They have some unique features and perform mostly useful roles in the balance of nature.

We are graced by the presence of seven of the eight species of woodpeckers in Virginia:

Red-headed Woodpecker

Pileated Woodpecker

Red-bellied Woodpecker

Northern Flicker

Downy Woodpecker

Hairy Woodpecker

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

Of these, the first six are resident year round; the sapsucker is a winter visitor. We have seen all seven species in our yard. The eighth woodpecker is the Red-cockaded, which is rare in Virginia and breeds only in a TNC preserve near Wakefield.

All woodpeckers have some red coloration on their heads – at least the males. A common misconception is that a woodpecker with red on its head is a Red-headed. But the Red-headed (both sexes) have completely red heads, not just a splash. (The juveniles have blotchy red-brown heads.)

Unlike most perching or song birds, woodpeckers broadcast their territorial claims to rivals by “drumming” instead of singing. Characteristically they will choose a surface that reverberates well, including siding or metal parts on our houses. You can tell which species woke you up early on a spring morning, not just by the amplitude, but also by the frequency.

Woodpeckers are well equipped with sharp, pointed beaks to chisel into wood. Not for nothing are they called “carpenters” in Spanish. Sometimes the wood-working is to make nest holes and at other times to excavate for food. Sapsuckers make a row of holes to cause sap to run, then come back to eat the insects attracted to the sap. To protect them from headaches or worse damage, woodpeckers have “shock absorbers” in their skulls. They also have very long tongues which they can unroll from a passage inside their heads to probe deeply into

crevices or holes they have made.

Woodpeckers also differ from typical perching birds in their toe arrangement. Since they spend so much time moving up and down tree trunks, they have two toes facing forwards and two back; most perching birds have three forward and one back. They also have stiffer tail feathers to brace themselves while working on vertical surfaces of trees.

Some woodpeckers are especially helpful to other bird species and more broadly to a balanced ecology. Old woodpecker nest holes are often taken over by cavity nesting birds, such as nuthatches and bluebirds (and some small mammals). They also contribute to the recycling of dead trees by accelerating the breakdown. Not least, they consume a large number of insects.

On the other hand, some of us have experienced unwelcome activity. Several years ago a pair of flickers was determined to raise a brood in the side of our house. The cedar siding evidently seemed just like a dead tree, which of course it is. We tried to deter them, but only succeeded in persuading them to carve out more holes in nearby boards. Eventually they went away and none have tried since. All of the bird scaring devices we tried were totally ineffective. Since these birds are protected by

law, it is illegal to harm any (without a special permit).

Most woodpecker species are tolerating the development and their numbers seem to be stable. The main exception is the Red-headed Woodpecker, whose numbers are dwindling locally and generally. They appear to be missing the dead tops of trees. While most people want to have “unsightly” dead trees removed, it would be a shame to effectively banish these handsome and valuable birds from our neighborhood. Most woodpeckers can be attracted to feeders, especially for suet during the winter months when natural food is scarcer and they need more fuel.

So, if we allow some habitat and food, our woodpeckers should continue as neighbors – knock on wood!

John and Wendy Ealding



**Red-headed
Woodpecker**

Service Providers Nominations from Woodland Pond Homeowners

The Woodland Pond Homeowners' Association Board of Directors published, in previous newsletters, a list of contractors and other service personnel who have provided quality work for Woodland Pond residents. Recommendations from you, the residents of this community, serve as the basis for the list. If you have nominations, use the form below. Nominations received will be published in future newsletters.

The service provider list is not an endorsement of these businesses by the Woodland Pond Homeowners' Association.

This list identifies quality services received by Woodland Pond homeowners from businesses they feel warrant recommendation to others.

The homeowner submitting the nomination will be indicated. Individuals should contact these persons for specific recommendations and details.

Please note that recommendations will be posted on the Woodland Pond website at www.woodlandpond.org.

Send nomination to: **WPHA Recommendations, P.O. Box 136, Chesterfield, VA 23832**

Company Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Phone #'s: _____

Address: _____

Description of service provided: _____

Your name and phone # as nominator: _____

Woodland Pond Homeowners' Association
Post Office Box 136
Chesterfield, VA 23832

