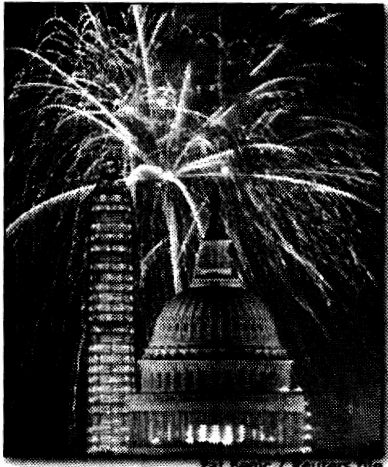


2000 Hickory Farms Newsletter Archive

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- January 2000



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Hickory Farms News

28 JANUARY 2000

HICKORY FARMS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 2239

FAIRFAX, VA 22031-2239

EDITOR, HARRY E. HERCHERT

Message from the President – By Bob Cosgriff,

It's exciting to be writing in the first newsletter of the new millennium – we know it doesn't really start until next year, but the “odometer” has clicked over from 1999 to 2000, so that's good enough. The new HFCA Board has adopted for its charter the Mission and Goals Statement that appears on page 2. We hope it captures your impression of what this neighborhood is and ought to be in the years ahead. If you don't agree, give us your thoughts as soon as possible. We have also set a few key dates for the upcoming year which are listed below.

Former Board President and current Vice President Pam Barrett will be our contact with Supervisor Sharon Bulova's office. Pam will ensure that we stay apprised of important developments affecting us. One of the main items will be to get the issue of the 3-way stop signs resolved. This may involve another poll of residents, perhaps just those near the “final” proposed signs, or perhaps the entire neighborhood. We'll keep you posted. Another priority will be to get the Roberts Road entrance safety issue resolved, if at all possible.

Because there are a lot of new residents in Hickory Farms, with *new* meaning that you moved in during the last few years or so, we hope to re-run some articles that appeared in the mid-90's on the history of the area where we now live. But we'll save that for the next newsletter so that the other members can bring you up to date on their projects.

Finally, we would like to acknowledge Pete Scala, who served an unprecedented four consecutive years as Board president. Pete and all of the other Board members who served with him during the years 1996-1999 have done a lot for the neighborhood in so many ways. On behalf of this Board, and all the residents of Hickory Farms, many thanks to you, Pete, and to all the other members of your four boards!

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Key Dates Set by the Board

HFCA Dues	15 March (To be paid by 31 March)
Late Fee Assessment	01 April, retroactive to 15 March
Spring Clean-up	6 May (rain date 13 May)
Spring Block Party	20 May (rain date 21 May)
Yard Sale	9 September (rain date 16 September)
Fall Block Party	7 October (rain date 8 October)
Fall Clean-up	21 October (rain date 22 October)

HFCFA Mission and Goals – 2000

Hickory Farms has always been, currently is, and for the foreseeable future, will remain essentially a community of young and growing families, which nonetheless comprises a variety of residents, including young unmarried professionals, occasional college (usually graduate) students, empty-nesters, and some retirees. Approximately ninety percent of the residents are homeowners, the remainder are renters, often for the long-term, who eventually buy homes here.

OUR GREATEST ASSETS

- The people who choose to live in our neighborhood.
- Our seventeen acres of common grounds, including open mowed fields, forested areas, creek habitat and a restored natural meadow with bluebird trail.
- Our placement in the Woodson pyramid, enabling our children to attend some of the finest schools in Fairfax County.
- Our central location, convenient to Metro, the City of Fairfax, the Beltway and the Fairfax County Parkway, shopping and employment centers, Washington Dulles and Reagan National Airports, and Washington, D.C.
- Our nearness to George Mason University, with its many educational, cultural and sports activities.
- The reasonable price of our homes compared to neighboring subdivisions.

OUR GOALS FOR 2000

- Maintain the physical attractiveness of this over-twenty year old neighborhood to ensure that property values continue to increase.
- Protect, preserve and, where appropriate, enhance the common grounds.
- Increase the involvement of residents in community operations and events, such as membership on the HFCFA Board, Neighborhood Watch, the Architectural Control Committee, Spring and Fall Clean-ups and social events.
- Continue our already strong working relationship with the office of the Braddock District Supervisor and our elected School Board Representative to ensure that our residents' concerns receive attention at these levels.
- Maintain the peace and safety of the neighborhood through on-going coordination with the Fairfax County Police and specifically through the Neighborhood Watch program.
- Ensure that the operation of the HFCFA Board is open, responsive and consistent with the legal requirements of our By-laws and Covenants and the Virginia Property Owners' Association Act (VPOA), without being intrusive.

TO CARRY OUT THESE GOALS, WE WILL:

- Use persuasion, example and, where necessary, the powers of the HFCFA Covenants to ensure that all homeowners show respect and courtesy for their neighbors by maintaining their properties so that all may enjoy increasing value for their major investment.
- Actively seek neighbors to assist the Board as volunteers and to take their turn as active Board members for at least one year.
- Assign one Board Member with the primary responsibility of maintaining close liaison with the office of the Braddock District Supervisor and the School Board representative.
- Continue the monthly publication of the HFCFA Newsletter to keep all residents informed of community news.
- Endeavor to maintain our annual dues at the current level.

Vice President's Corner – *By Pam Barrett*

As your new Vice President, I will be representing HFCA on the Braddock District Council. For those of you who are new to Hickory Farms, we reside in the Braddock District of Fairfax County and we are represented by Braddock District Supervisor, Sharon Bulova. The Braddock District Council meets monthly at Supervisor Bulova's office to maintain communication with, and address the concerns of, the various homeowner associations throughout the Braddock District. Please feel free to let me know of any community issue that you feel would be of particular concern to HFCA and should be addressed at the District Council level. This is our community's pipeline to the Fairfax County Government as well as an opportunity to share ideas and concerns with other associations.

My duties also include substituting for other board officers in their absence. So if you have a specific item that needs to be addressed and the appropriate board member is out of town or not available, you may contact me in the interim. I can be reached at 978-2132 or by e-mail using: pam@cmabiccw.com.

Architectural Review Notes – *By Bob and Lee Sottile*

Atached to this newsletter is a new form to use when applying for an architectural review by HFCA. Most of what you need to know is on the form. However, we would like to highlight a few of the more important items here. Remember that the HFCA has 30 days to deny or request additional information about your application. So, please get your form to us as soon as you can and well before the contractor shows up to do the job!

Also, make sure your project complies with all Fairfax County residential building codes and to the HFCA Covenants. Neither the Architectural Control Committee nor the HFCA Board of Directors can waive these requirements.

Hickory Chips – *Tidbits from the Farm*

☛ Hickory Farms resident Carrie Howard (Farm House Lane) does **housecleaning** chores. If you're interested, please contact her at 764-0598 or by email at:

CarrieAHoward@aol.com.

(Please note: this notice is provided for information only and does not constitute an endorsement by the Board.)

☛ HFCA resident Kirk Randall is interested in hearing from anyone who has solved the problem of "**smelly fireplaces**." You probably know the smell, which tends to happen when it's a bit more humid and the air pressure changes. Kirk will collect the success stories (if there are any!) and share the secrets with other residents in a later newsletter.

☛ **Congratulations** to Kathy and Mark Benson (4326 Farm House) on the birth of their daughter, Samantha, on 9 October, 1999.

☛ The Bensons are seeking a loving home for brother and sister cats called *Duke and Duchess*. D & D are 3-year old black and white "**tuxedo**" cats, very playful, well-trained, healthy indoor cats (although not declawed). They are neutered/spayed and all required shots are current. Would prefer they stay together, but would be willing to separate them if necessary. If interested, please contact Mark or Kathy at 425-0889.

☛ Watch this space and be thinking about how long you have lived in Hickory Farms. Are you an original owner?

Neighborhood Watch - *By Bill Galinis*

As many of you know, our neighborhood is part of the West Springfield Police District. The district station is located 6140 Rolling Road. This district, along with others in the area, promotes an active neighborhood watch program as a proven crime deterrent method. The program sends a signal that area residents are concerned about the safety of their community. In Hickory Farms, we currently have about 22 % of the 198 households registered on the neighborhood watch roster. We invite other residents to join the program and volunteer to help keep our neighborhood safe. Please call me or any HFCA board member to participate and help your neighborhood. I can be reached at 426-4569.

For those of you who are already helping your neighbors, thanks for your time and vigilance - you're doing a great job!

Neighborhood Watch Schedule

February 2000 through April 2000			
Fri.	February 4, 2000	Bernie Boehm	Lola Boehm
Sat.	February 5, 2000	John Verheul	John Cotner
Fri.	February 11, 2000	Tom Nicholas	Ingrid Nicholas
Sat.	February 12, 2000	Jay Kistler	John Morrison
Fri.	February 18, 2000	Ron Cruz	Louise Cruz
Sat.	February 19, 2000	Rich Pernicano	Steve Mathews
Fri.	February 25, 2000	Larry Russe	Chris Russe
Sat.	February 26, 2000	Dave McIntyre	Joyce McIntyre
Fri.	March 3, 2000	Bob Sottile	Lee Sottile
Sat.	March 4, 2000	Angel Meza	Jason Meza
Fri.	March 10, 2000	Bob Cosgriff	Don Klingemann
Sat.	March 11, 2000	Bob Wright	Donna Wright
Fri.	March 17, 2000	Sean Coleman	Claire Coleman
Sat.	March 18, 2000	David Froberg	Beverly Froberg
Fri.	March 24, 2000	Ginny Herchert	Harry Herchert
Sat.	March 25, 2000	Pingjun Li	Jin Wang
Fri.	March 31, 2000	Tom Barrett	Pam Barrett
Sat.	April 1, 2000	Bill Galinis	Diana Galinis
Fri.	April 7, 2000	Bruce Bernhardt	Nancy Bernhardt
Sat.	April 8, 2000	Jeff Lindsay	Larry Rogers
Fri.	April 14, 2000	Dave Maurer	Ed Wagner
Sat.	April 15, 2000	Alfonso Acosta	Alex Acosta
Fri.	April 21, 2000	Bob Montgomery	George Rosenkranz
Sat.	April 22, 2000	Eric Maribojoc	Clarissa Dacanay
Fri.	April 28, 2000	Robert Cooke	Leonna Cooke
Sat.	April 29, 2000	Stan Lee	Jim Marshall

Payment due: March 15, 2000

Year 2000 Assessment Notice - By Chuck Bethany

During the 1999 Hickory Farms Community Association (HFCA) Annual Meeting, the outgoing Board of Directors recommended a budget for 2000, which was approved by a majority vote of the Association. This budget will be implemented by the 2000 Board of Directors. The budget provided for an annual assessment of \$80.00.

The HFCA is committed to maintaining and improving the quality of life in Hickory Farms; to maintaining our property values; and, to resolving other issues of concern to homeowners and renters in Hickory Farms. Assessments are collected in accordance with the Bylaws to cover expenses such as common ground maintenance, the neighborhood watch program, insurance, and other costs of managing and operating your Association.

The assessment of \$80.00 is due March 15, 2000. In order to help conserve your Association's financial resources, it is important that your payment be received on time since additional notices are costly. In fairness to the majority of the homeowners who make their payments on time, the Board has approved (in accordance with the Bylaws and as in prior years) imposing a late fee of \$25.00 if dues are not paid by March 31, 2000.

Last year, three members of the association failed to pay their assessment and legal action was taken by the Board to obtain payment, not only for the dues but for fines, interest and legal fees that accrue. This is done in accordance with the HFCA Bylaws and Covenants in order to protect everyone's rights. We all hope that will not be necessary again this year!

If you are not the property owner, and are not responsible for paying the assessment, we would appreciate your forwarding this notice to the property owner promptly.

Please complete the coupon below, detach it and mail it with your check for \$80.00 to HFCA, P.O. Box 2239, Fairfax, VA 22031-2239.

HFCA ANNUAL DUES - 2000

DUES ARE PAYABLE BY MARCH 15, 2000. PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO HFCA. PLEASE MAIL TO HFCA, P.O. BOX 2239, FAIRFAX, VA 22031-2239.

Your Name: _____

Lot Number: _____

Address: _____

DELINQUENCY DATE: MARCH 31, 2000.