

# The Hickory Farms Newsletter

## Board of Directors

President – John Kitzmiller  
703-503-3443  
Vice President – Rich Dudley  
703-503-2060  
Treasurer – Jaime Gutierrez  
703-425-7919  
Secretary – Dave Dempster  
703-503-0561  
Community Grounds, Paths  
& Woods – Rich Dudley  
703-503-2060  
Neighborhood Watch –  
Dave Dempster 703-503-0561  
Building Approvals  
(ACC) – Rebekah & Wesley  
Moore 703-286-7179  
Members at Large –  
Dante Gilmer 703-978-0621  
Ellie Codding 703-426-4606

## Neighborhood Volunteers

Welcome New Neighbors –  
Claire Coleman 703-425-6059 &  
Nancy Bentley 703-978-0373  
Newsletter & Web Site –  
Kirk Randall 703-425-0210  
Annual Community Yard Sale –  
Pete Scala 703-764-0730  
e-mail Coordinators –  
Heather Webb 703-425-1347  
Ellie Codding 703-426-4606  
Social Committee –  
Patty Dudley 703-503-2060  
Dawn Dempster 703-503-0561  
Lynn Welch 703-978-4113  
ACC Members – Bob Ambrogi,  
Claire Coleman, Marc Fogleman,  
Donna Garfield, Maryle  
Mondschein & Kirk Randall

**Hickory Farms Community Association**  
**P.O. Box 2239, Fairfax VA 22031**  
**[www.hickoryfarms.org](http://www.hickoryfarms.org)**

## President's Message

While conducting my recent Neighborhood Watch tour, I was pleased to see that people have begun putting up their holiday decorations. I hope I can get mine up before the snow flies!

Speaking of snow, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has the responsibility of snow removal and anti-icing treatment for our roads. VDOT's priority is to clear interstates and high volume roads first. Once the most heavily traveled roads and emergency routes are cleared, snow crews move to less-traveled roads and subdivisions. A VDOT spokesman advised me that VDOT won't clear residential areas unless at least two inches of snow have fallen, or if a hazardous condition exists. If at any time you are aware of a hazardous road condition, please call VDOT at 703-383-8368.

When snow is anticipated, park your cars in driveways, not in the street. This makes it easier for the plows to clear the roads. When clearing your driveway, pile the snow to the right (when facing the road) so that when the plow comes, it won't push your own snow back in your driveway. Please clear the sidewalks in front of your property. And while you're clearing your driveway or sidewalks, please don't throw the snow out into the streets; the whole point of plowing is to get the snow off the streets!

(Continued on Page 3)

## Join the Hickory Farms e-mail List

- Get up-to-the-minute news on neighborhood happenings
- Ask your neighbors to recommend a contractor/repairman
- Locate a lost and found item
- Get an advance copy of this newsletter

To subscribe, send a blank e-mail to  
[HickoryFarms-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:HickoryFarms-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

## Neighborhood Watch Schedule – Neighborhood Security

Dave Dempster

*Please volunteer for this important neighborhood activity* – all it takes is one three hour Friday or Saturday evening every four months, or so. Neighborhood Watch is proven to cut crime in neighborhoods that have this program. It's also a great way to meet your neighbors.

Dave Dempster at 703-503-0561 ([ddhokies@cox.net](mailto:ddhokies@cox.net)).

Sat	December 1	Susan Mulliner	Brenton Mulliner
Fri	December 7	Dave Dempster	Dawn Dempster
Sat	December 8	David Froberg	Beverly Froberg
Fri	December 14	Ron Arnold	Charles Walters
Sat	December 15	Kirk Randall	
Fri	December 21	Bob Cosgriff	Don Klingemann
Sat	December 22	Jeff Lindsay	Larry Rogers
Fri	December 28	Angel Meza	Jason Meza
Sat	December 29	Eric Maribojoc	Clarisa Dacanay
Fri	January 4	Bob Montgomery	George Rosenkranz
Sat	January 5	Mike Martin	Scott Buchanan
Fri	January 11	Pete Scala	Rose Scala
Sat	January 12	Stan Lee	Jim Marshall
Fri	January 18	Pam Barrett	Tom Barrett
Sat	January 19	John Verheul	Tammy Verheul
Fri	January 25	Bob Bentley	Nancy Bentley
Sat	January 26	Ron Cruz	Louise Cruz

(Scenic Remodeling ad Here)

## President's Message (Continued)

Please don't forget that your annual Hickory Farms Community Association fee of \$110 is due. The increase of \$10 was approved at the annual meeting held in October. The monies collected provide the funds to upkeep our common areas and support our community events.

I encourage you to get involved with the activities in Hickory Farms in 2008. Please review the list of activities and contact the Board members or committee chairmen heading up the activities in which you may have an interest. In particular, I would draw your attention to the Neighborhood Watch program. This is an activity of value to all residents of our community, and if every household participated, would require not more than one weekend evening per year. Isn't the security and safety of your neighbors and neighborhood worth that? Please feel free to contact me or any other Board members with any questions or concerns you may have about the community.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as the president of the HFCA for 2007. I look forward to serving you in 2008. On behalf of my fellow Board members, I'd like to wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

John Kitzmiller

## This Month's Home Maintenance Checklist

The complete list may be found on the [HF web site](#) under "Home Maintenance and Appearance" – "Home Maintenance Checklist." Send suggestions to [kirk\\_Randall@Hotmail.com](mailto:kirk_Randall@Hotmail.com)

(All)

<b>Heating &amp; Cooling Duct Cleaning</b> – Have a professional vacuum the accumulated dust out of the ductwork every ten years or so – if needed.
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<b>Gutter Cleaning</b> – Clean out your gutters. Overflowing gutters lead to ground erosion and wet basements. If you are surrounded by trees, you may have to do this both Spring and Fall.
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<b>Furnace Humidifier Setup</b> – If you have a furnace humidifier, make sure it is plugged in and set properly. Turn on the water supply valve. If you did not do so in the spring, scrape off mineral buildup in the water pan and replace the filter – if needed. Work the float arm back and forth to dislodge mineral deposits.
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## News for Our Dog Walkers

If you have been tossing your dog's droppings down storm drains ("sewers"), then please read this. Our neighbors in nearby Aspen Grove townhouses on Roberts Road (about a block south of the swimming pool) have alerted us that dog poop is appearing in their neighborhood. Our storm sewers run under Roberts Road and then spill onto Aspen Grove's common areas. Unfortunately, it's not just rainwater that gets dumped on Aspen Grove; it's also plastic bags filled with dog droppings. So, rather than tossing your bags into the nearest storm sewer once you've cleaned up after your dog, please use a trash can. Our Aspen Grove neighbors thank you.

## Treasurer's Report

Jaime Gutierrez

Seasons Greetings! I want to thank all of the homeowners who helped make my job as the Treasurer for the past year successful and enjoyable.

In this newsletter, you will find the first of four reminders to pay the \$110 2008 annual dues.

Your dues payment envelope must be postmarked by March 31, 2008. Payments postmarked after that date are late and will incur a *mandatory* \$25.00 penalty. The Association's By-Laws stipulate that late fees cannot be waived.

You will *not* receive a mailed bill. Your only notice is in the newsletter.

A reminder that, under Virginia law, you must obtain a Hickory Farms VPOAA package *before* you can sell your home. To obtain such a package,

1. Contact the Treasurer. Let him know when the package is needed and where it should be sent.
2. Send a \$50 check to HFCA, P.O. Box 2239, Fairfax, VA 22031-2239.
3. Allow 7-10 days for your check to clear before the package may be released. In an emergency, you may arrange with the Treasurer to pay with cash.

### Sidewalk & Driveway Maintenance Tip

*Never* use salt on the driveway or sidewalk to melt ice or snow. Salt eats away concrete in the blink of an eye. Although using salt to melt snow and ice is convenient in the short run, you'll pay for it when you have spend \$ thousands for a new driveway. If you must use an ice or snow melting chemical, make sure the package says it will not damage concrete. (12)

### Disposing of Your Xmas Tree

AAA schedules special pickups for your Christmas tree on the first and second Wednesdays in January – January 2 and 9 this year. Beginning with the third week of January, put your tree out with your regular trash. *AAA will not pick up your tree if it is in a plastic bag.* (1-12)

### Who Was that Postman?

You may have noticed the absence of a stamp on your newsletter. That's because several of your neighbors volunteer their time to hand deliver newsletters. This saves postage costs, which translates to lower annual dues for you, the homeowner. So, the next time you see one of our volunteers delivering your newsletter, please thank him or her. (12)

*Dante Gilmer*

*Rich Dudley*

*John Kitzmiller*

*Rob Mikula*

*Jaime Gutierrez*

***Sean & Claire Coleman (NEW!!)***

*Ed Kiechlin*

*Stefan Schwarz*

**Hickory Farms Community Association  
Annual Dues Notice**

**The \$110 annual dues assessment is due starting January 1, 2008.**

**Payments received after March 31, 2008 will be assessed a \$25.00 late fee.**

Dues are used to maintain the common grounds, insure the association and Board members, hold neighborhood picnics, support Neighborhood Watch, and fund all other expenses of managing and operating your Association.

You can help conserve your Association's financial resources – and your own – by submitting your payment in a timely manner. Payments postmarked after the due date will be considered late and will be charged a \$25 late fee. If a check is returned for insufficient funds, the homeowner must reimburse any expenses incurred by the HFCA.

The HFCA is committed to maintaining and improving the equality of life in Hickory Farms, to maintaining our property values, and to resolving issues of concern to our neighbors. Assessments (and late fees) are collected in accordance with the Association's By-laws to cover HFCA, which are outlined and approved by the homeowners at each Annual Meeting.

If you are not a property owner, you are not responsible for paying the assessment; please forward this notice to the property owner.

Please send the completed coupon below with your check to the address on the coupon.

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**HFCA ANNUAL DUES**

Make your check payable to **HFCA** and send it to:

HFCA  
P.O. Box 2239  
Fairfax, VA 22031-2239

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Lot Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(1-2-3-12)

The Hickory Farms Newsletter is published monthly, except for June and August. You may e-mail submissions to The Editor by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the prior month. Submissions and advertisements **must** be in Microsoft Word format. Advertisements must be prepaid. Past issues and information for advertisers may be found at [www.hickoryfarms.org](http://www.hickoryfarms.org) – click Newsletters.

The Editor is responsible for most of the contents of this newsletter; the exceptions are advertisements, submitted community service type announcements, articles with a byline, and other articles which have been obviously contributed by others. The Editor reserves the right to edit submissions for space or writing style. The Editor, subject to review by the Board of Directors, may reject any submission.