

Volume 7 – No. 3

March 2007

The Hickory Farms Newsletter

Your HF Board of Directors

President – John Kitzmiller
703-503-3443

Vice President – Vacant

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
Chairmen)

Rebekah & Wesley Moore
703-286-7179

Board Members

Dante Gilmer 703-978-0621

Ellie Coddling 703-426-4606

Other HF Volunteers

Welcome New Residents – Claire

Coleman 703-425-6059 & Nancy

Bentley 703-978-0373

Newsletter & Web Site –

Kirk Randall 703-425-0210

Community Yard Sale –

Pete Scala 703-764-0730

e-mail coordinator –

Rebekah Moore 703-286-7179

Social Committee – Patty Dudley

703-503-2060 & Dawn

Dempster 703-503-0561 &

Lynn Welch 703-978-4113

ACC Members – Donna Garfield

Marc Fogleman

Kirk Randall

Claire Coleman

Bob Ambrogio

Maryle Mondschein

Hickory Farms Community Association

P.O. Box 2239, Fairfax VA 22031

www.hickoryfarms.org

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has the responsibility of snow removal and anti-icing treatment for the roads in Fairfax County, including those within Hickory Farms. The priority for VDOT is to clear interstates and high volume roads first. Once the most heavily traveled roads and emergency routes are adequately clear, snow crews move to less-traveled roads and subdivisions.

I was advised by a VDOT spokesman the morning of Feb. 14th that VDOT won't clear residential areas unless at least 2 inches of snow have fallen, or if a hazardous condition exists. I identified the hilly roads within Hickory Farms as being hazardous, and was advised that a crew would be sent out. Although I wasn't guaranteed an arrival time, a plow showed up within a half hour. If at any time you are aware of a hazardous road condition, please call VDOT at 703-383-8368.

Other than VDOT, we have no provision for snow removal or road treatment within Hickory Farms. We can explore the possibility of hiring contractors to clear the roads before VDOT can if the homeowners are interested and willing to pay the cost.

John Kitzmiller – Your President

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

Visit www.hickoryfarms.org and click e-mail service.

Neighborhood Watch Schedule – Neighborhood Security

Dave Dempster

Contact Dave Dempster at 703-503-0561 (ddhokies@cox.net) with any questions, or to volunteer for this important neighborhood activity. You can file a police report for minor (non emergency) neighborhood crimes at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police.

Fri	March 9	Pingjun Li	Wang Chan Cheng
Sat	March 10	Greg Gillette	Kathy Gillette
Fri	March 16	Dave Maurer	Sanjeev Munjal
Sat	March 17	Bob Sottile	Lee Sottile
Fri	March 23	John Kitzmiller	Brand Niemann
Sat	March 24	David Froberg	Beverly Froberg
Fri	March 30	Ron Arnold	Charles Walters
Sat	March 31	Kirk Randall	Mike Martin
Fri	April 6	Bob Cosgriff	Don Klingemann
Sat	April 7	Jeff Lindsay	Larry Rogers
Fri	April 13	Angel Meza	Jason Meza
Sat	April 14	Eric Maribojoc	Clarisa Dacanay
Fri	April 20	Bob Montgomery	George Rosenkranz
Sat	April 21	Debbi Buchanan	Scott Buchanan
Fri	April 27	Pete Scala	Rose Scala
Sat	April 28	Stan Lee	Jim Marshall

Group Purchase Deals for Hickory Farms Homeowners

Several contractors are offering deals to Hickory Farms homeowners this spring. Some of these contractors have worked in our neighborhood for many years and, therefore, have a good track record with us.

John Enos of Scenic Remodeling (whose parents live on Still Meadow) has remodeled dozens of homes in our community since 2004. Scenic is offering us deals on **decks, vinyl siding, vinyl replacement windows, gutters, and roof replacements**. Call John or brother Mike at 703-392-8391 to arrange a quote.

Mel Yudkin of MY Construction replaced nearly 20 **concrete driveways, patios, and sidewalks** in Hickory Farms four years ago. If your concrete is crumbling, call Mel at 703-207-9820 to get a price quote.

Dan Clarke of A-1 Heating and Air Conditioning, who has installed many systems in our community, is offering homeowners 20% discounts on **air conditioners, heat pumps, furnaces, humidifiers, and hot water heaters**. Please call A-1 at 703-451-1100 and identify yourself as a Hickory Farms homeowner.

Cotton Farm homeowner Sean Coleman is coordinating a group purchase of ***lawn services***, such as summer lawn mowing. If you currently use a lawn service, or plan to in the near future, please contact Sean at 703-425-6059 to get in on the savings.

Finally, Kirk Randall is coordinating a group purchase of ***tree services***, such as removing trees and grinding the stumps. Please contact him at 703-425-0210 if you're interested.

All of these group purchases are described more fully in the February newsletter, which can be read at www.hickoryfarms.org

Treasure's Report Jaime Gutierrez

As of February 25, 2007, we have received the dues from 135 homeowners, 68% of the total homes. Again, keep in mind that dues are due January 1st, 2007 and not March 31st. Enclosed with this newsletter is the FOURTH & FINAL reminder to pay your dues. Don't wait to the last day. Dues received or postmarked after March 31 will be subject to an additional \$25 late fee.

We have noticed that there are and have been several homes on sale and not all of the home owners have requested the VPOAA package. Please, remember mind that you will need to obtain a VPOAA package from the HFCA. The package is required by law, and is usually obtained by you. Your realtor may also request the VPOAA package directly if you wish, but you must request this of him or her.

The following are the steps for obtaining a VPOAA package:

1. Contact the Treasurer. Let him know when the package is needed and where it should be sent.
2. Draft a check for \$50, payable to the HFCA. The check can be mailed to HFCA, P.O. Box 2239, Fairfax, VA 22031-2239; or make other arrangements with the Treasurer as necessary.
3. Please allow 7-10 days from receipt of the check by the Treasurer to the date the VPOAA package can be released, as we must allow time for the check to clear. Should time be critical, cash payments can be accepted and a written receipt will be provided.

Finally, if you plan to rent your home, you must inform the Board and give us your mailing address in order that we can contact you if needed. If you do not provide us with a way to contact you, and in turn we are not able to inform you of any board matter relevant to you, it does not absolve you of any consequences that may affect you or your property.

Grounds

Rich Dudley

The Valentines Day and February 25th winter storms brought out a number of kids and adults to the Lower Common Area to enjoy our first-class sledding hill. The snow, sleet, and ice made for very fast and fun rides. Hope that everyone had as much fun my family did!

Before the storms hit, my sons and I cleaned up a number of low-hanging limbs and cut back several trees that were encroaching on the sledding run. We also pulled back numerous vines that were choking out several trees. I hope that our efforts to make the hill a little safer for the kids paid off. I'd ask that some of the older kids avoid placing large logs on the hill to make jumps. It's not the jumps that have me concerned but rather the large logs that stick out of the snow and represent a definite hazard to the young and older kids alike.

Though we may be nearing the end of winter snow and ice, please remember to clear your sidewalk as soon as possible after winter storms. The hard freeze the night after the Valentines Day storm made walking very hazardous for many days for those sidewalks that were not cleared. So please do your part to clean in front of your house and offer to help your neighbors who may not be physically able to take on shoveling.

I still need help in clearing trash out of the common areas. This is a particularly good project for kids who need credit for their school community service or scouting projects. But I'm not picky and will take any help I can get before the weeds start growing again this spring. You can contact me at 703-503-2060 or at dudley_richard@bah.com (that's an underscore between dudley and richard).

Youth Services

Youths who are residents of Hickory Farms may offer services to their neighbors. If you wish to offer services such as snow removal, raking leaves, lawn mowing, babysitting, general home maintenance, etc., **your parent** should e-mail or write (no phone calls, please) The Editor, Kirk_Randall@Hotmail.com, giving the youth's name/age, telephone number, and a list of services to be offered. The parent should also state that the youth has permission to be listed in the newsletter.

Name/Age	Services Offered	Telephone
Victoria Hebeisen (13)	Experienced babysitter of infants, toddlers, and school-aged children, weeknights to 10 PM and weekends to 1 AM. References available.	703-978-0045

Yard Debris Pick Ups Resume in March

Wednesday yard debris pickup resumes in March. You may no longer place your yard debris with your regular trash. You may use your container for yard debris. Otherwise, bush and limbs must be cut into four foot lengths, bundled with rope or twine and should not exceed 50 pounds. Grass clippings, leaves and twigs can be placed in paper bags or *clear* plastic bags. If you use dark plastic bags, you risk that the bag will not be taken because the trash collector assumes it contains trash. If you must use dark plastic bags, mark them with a large "X" Tree limbs no larger than 6 inches in diameter and four feet in length will not be collected. Please don't block the postman's access to your mailbox with trash or yard debris.

March 7 Braddock District Supervisor Resource Meeting for Older Adults

On Wednesday, March 7, from 1 to 3:30 p.m., Braddock District Supervisor Sharon Bulova will host the district's winter 2007 town meeting at the Little River Glen Senior Center, 4001 Barker Court, Fairfax. This year's program is a resource fair for Braddock's older adults. The meeting was previously canceled due to inclement weather.

The town meeting will begin with resource tables and displays at 1 p.m. Panel presentations will begin at 2 p.m. Presenters will discuss heart health, home safety and fall prevention, exercising your brain, foot care and the intersection improvements and pedestrian crossing at Pickett Road and Route 236.

For more information and to request reasonable ADA accommodations, contact Diane Thompson at 703-425-9300, TTY 711, or e-mail Diane.Thompson@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Free Help with Student Homework

Fairfax County Public Library's Live Homework Help offers free one-to-one online tutoring. The service is available on the library's Web site at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library for students in 4th grade through early college from 2 to 10 p.m. seven days a week. It features live tutors who can help students with math, science, social studies and English. Spanish-speaking tutors are also available and can help with math, science and social studies. Tutors include certified teachers, college professors, professional tutors, graduate students and undergraduates from well-known universities. To contact to a real-time tutor, students click on the Live Homework Help link on the library's Web site and select a subject and grade level. They will then be connected to a tutor in the Online Classroom.

E-Mail Service for Hickory Farms Residents

The Hickory Farms e-mail group is moderated by a coordinator appointed by the Board of Directors. Once you join, you should start receiving your monthly newsletter through e-mail (don't worry, you'll still receive your hand-delivered copy). The coordinator will also preview all messages before they are distributed to the members. Moreover, the e-mails that are sent only have one name on them – yours – so the other folks in the group cannot harvest the e-mail addresses to send spam. So, don't worry – we won't let anyone clog your inbox with spam!

To join the Hickory Farms e-mail group

Send any e-mail (even blank) to HickoryFarms-subscribe@yahoogroups.com – no subject line or text is needed. You will be sent a confirmation e-mail that you must reply to. Hit "Reply" and send the e-mail back to Yahoo. That's it. You are now added to the Hickory Farms group. The process takes just a few minutes.

To send an e-mail to your Hickory Farms Homeowners

Once registered, you may send an e-mail to Hickory Farms homeowners and residents by addressing the message to HickoryFarms@yahoogroups.com. However, before your e-mail is delivered, it will be screened by the e-mail coordinator, who is identified on the [Hickory Farms Home Page](#). Once the e-mail coordinator determines that your e-mail meets the criteria listed below, it will be forwarded to the Hickory Farms group.

When sending an e-mail message, be sure to include a descriptive subject line – say "Street Repairs Aug 25-26." When the e-mail is sent to your neighbors, "[Hickory Farms]" is automatically included as the first part of the subject line, with your e-mail's subject text immediately following. The group would receive "[Hickory Farms] Street Repairs Aug 25-26.'

Replies to e-mails

If someone "replies" to an email that comes from someone in the Hickory Farms group, the reply will go only to the original sender – not to the entire list. If someone "replies all," the response will be screened by the coordinator before it is forwarded to the group.

To quit the Hickory Farms group

Send a blank e-mail to
HickoryFarms-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com

To change your e-mail address

From the OLD email address, send an email to HickoryFarms-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com

This removes your old address from the list server.

From the NEW email address, send an email to HickoryFarms-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

This adds your new address to the list server. You will receive an email from Yahoo!Groups asking you to confirm the addition of this address to the list server.

The Hickory Farms Newsletter is published monthly, except June, July, and August. E-mail submissions to The Editor by the 25th of the previous month – Microsoft Word format, please. Past issues of this newsletter and information for advertisers may be found at www.hickoryfarms.org – click Newsletters.

The Editor is responsible for most of the contents of this newsletter; the major exceptions are advertisements, community service type announcements, articles with a byline, and articles which have been obviously contributed by others.

FINAL NOTICE

Hickory Farms Community Association 2007 Assessment Notice

The 2007 Hickory Farms Community Association (HFCA) annual assessment is \$100. The assessment is used for maintenance of the common grounds; insurance for the association and Board members; semi-annual neighborhood picnics; the Neighborhood Watch program; and, the costs 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 an additional \$25 late fee. In the event an owner's check is returned, the owner will reimburse HFCA for any expenses incurred for the returned check.

This year's assessment of \$100 is due no later than March 31, 2007

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 your By-laws to cover Association expenses, which are outlined and approved by the homeowners at each Annual Meeting. If you are not a property owner and are not responsible for paying the assessment, please forward this notice to the property owner promptly.

Please complete the coupon below, detach and mail it with your check to the address on the coupon.

HFCA 2007 ANNUAL ASSESSMENT

The Assessment of **\$100** is due starting January 1, 2007.
Payment received after **March 31, 2007** will be subject to a \$25.00 late fee.

Please make your check payable to **HFCA** and mail to:

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

Your name: _____

Lot Number: _____

Address: _____

