

Volume 8 – No. 9

November 2008

The Hickory Farms Newsletter

Email addresses are at

www.hickoryfarms.org

Board of Directors

President – John Kitzmiller

703-503-3443

Vice President – Rich Dudley

703-503-2060

Treasurer – Jaime Gutierrez

703-425-7919

Secretary – Bilal Sayyed

703-764-8716

Community Grounds, Paths

& Woods – Rich Dudley

703-503-2060

Building Design Approvals (ACC) --

Kirk Randall (Acting)

703-425-0210

At Large – Dante Gilmer

703-978-0621 Barin

Chakrabarti 703-426-1430

Other Volunteers

Neighborhood Watch

Dave Dempster 703-503-0561

Welcome New Neighbors –

Nancy Bentley 703-978-0373

Newsletter & Web Site –

Kirk Randall 703-425-0210

Community Yard Sale (Fall) –

Pete Scala 703-764-0730

email Coordinators –

Heather Webb 703-425-1347

Ellie Coddling 703-426-4606

Social Committee –

Patty Dudley 703-503-2060

Dawn Dempster 703-503-0561

Lynn Welch 703-978-4113

ACC Members – Barin

Chakrabarti, Claire

Coleman, Keith Ferguson,

Donna Garfield,

Greg Gillette, Clair Hill,

Kirk Randall

Hickory Farms Community Association

P.O. Box 2239, Fairfax VA 22031

www.hickoryfarms.org

Our Annual Meeting has been rescheduled for Wednesday November 5 at 8 PM at the Senior Center on Sideburn Road (Green Acres School). Last month's meeting had to be cancelled due to lack of a quorum.

It is very important that you either attend the November 5 Annual Meeting in person or submit a proxy so that someone may vote for you. If you already submitted a proxy for the October meeting, you do not need to submit a new one.

After many years of excellent service, Treasurer **Jaime Gutierrez** and Neighborhood Watch coordinator **Dave Dempster** are stepping down. Please consider volunteering for one of these positions (Call Dave or Jaime to learn about what each job entails.)

**If you cannot attend the
November 5 Annual
Meeting, *please* use the
enclosed proxy.**

Join the Hickory Farms email 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 <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HickoryFarms/> -- Click "Join this Group" -- Be sure to click the "Individual Emails" option.

Neighborhood Watch Schedule – Neighborhood Security

Dave Dempster

Please volunteer for this important neighborhood activity – all it takes is one 3-4 hour Friday or Saturday evening every four months, or so. Neighborhood Watch is proven to cut crime. It's a great way to meet your neighbors. Dave Dempster 703-503-0561 ddhokies@cox.net

Fri	October 31	Pingjun Li	Wang Chan Cheng
Sat	November 1	Greg Gillette	Kathy Gillette
Fri	November 7	Dave Maurer	Sanjeev Munjal
Sat	November 8	David Froberg	Beverly Froberg
Fri	November 14	John Kitzmiller	Brand Niemann
Sat	November 15	Susan Mulliner	Brenton Mulliner
Fri	November 21	Ron Arnold	Charles Walters
Sat	November 22	Kirk Randall	Mansoor Nasim
Fri	November 28	Bob Cosgriff	Don Klingemann
Sat	November 29	Jeff Lindsay	Larry Rogers
Fri	December 5	Angel Meza	Jason Meza
Sat	December 6	Eric Maribojoc	Clarisa Dacanay
Fri	December 12	Bob Montgomery	George Rosenkranz
Sat	December 13	Mike Martin	Scott Buchanan
Fri	December 19	Pete Scala	Rose Scala
Sat	December 20	Stan Lee	Jim Marshall
Fri	December 26	Pam Barrett	Tom Barrett
Sat	December 27	John Verheul	Tammy Verheul

President's Letter

John Kitzmiller

We did not have enough attendees or proxies at the October 14 HFCA Annual Meeting to constitute a quorum. Therefore, the HFCA Annual Meeting has been rescheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 5, at 8:00 pm, at the Green Acres Community Center, 4401 Sideburn Road, in Fairfax. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please complete the proxy form included in this newsletter and give it to a neighbor that will attend the meeting or to a Board member.

If there are any topics you wish addressed at the meeting, please advise any Board member and it will be placed on the agenda.

We will be electing a few new Board members for 2009. We encourage any and all homeowners to step forward and serve a one-year term.

A Message to Dog Walkers

If you have been tossing your dog's droppings down storm drains ("sewers"), then please read this. Our storm sewers run under Roberts Road and then spill onto neighboring communities. Unfortunately, it's not just rainwater that gets dumped on these communities;

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. (11)

Treasurer's Report – Nov. 2008

Jaime Gutierrez

Enclosed is the Fiscal Year 2009 budget approved by the Board of Directors. As costs continue to increase and the cash reserves keep going down, the Board had to increase the dues \$10, therefore, the Annual Dues for this coming 2009 will be \$120.00. The 2008 numbers have been updated since a prior version was distributed to reflect actual operations. If you have any questions on the Budget, please come to the Annual Meeting.

Starting with the December newsletter, we will publish the first reminder to pay your dues. **REMEMBER, we do not send invoices for annual dues.** Dues are due on January 1, 2009 and you have until March 31, 2009 to pay them.

HICKORY FARMS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

PROPOSED FY2009 BUDGET

	FY 2008 BUDGET FINAL	APPROVED FY 2009 BUDGET
INCOME		
Annual dues	\$21,450.00	\$23,760.00
Interest - Checking VPOAA Packages	\$28.90	\$3.00
	\$250.00	\$200.00
Prior Year Dues	\$0.00	\$0.00
Late Fees	\$200.00	\$0.00
Legal Costs/Fees	\$468.51	\$0.00
Advertising	\$1,065.00	\$280.00
Other	\$135.00	\$0.00
Total Income	\$23,597.41	\$24,243.00

EXPENSES

Tax Preparation/Audit	\$265.00	\$280.00
Bank Charges	\$7.00	\$0.00
Director's Insurance	\$1,418.00	\$1,500.00
Liability Insurance	\$300.00	\$300.00
Surety Insurance	\$862.00	\$900.00
Legal Fees	\$2,083.52	\$1,000.00
Landscape/Maintenance	\$17,237.00	\$18,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$1,322.53	\$150.00
Social	\$430.50	\$500.00
Neighborhood Watch Newsletter	\$0.00	\$0.00
Printing	\$1,596.39	\$1,650.00
Taxes/Fees VPOAA	\$232.00	\$130.00
Packages	\$97.42	\$0.00
Postage	\$234.32	\$250.00
Total Expenses	\$26,085.68	\$24,660.00
Budget - Surplus / (Deficit)	(\$2,488.27)	(\$417.00)

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."

(All)

Bathroom Check – Check faucets and showers for leaks. Test toilets for leakage by placing a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Wait a few hours. If you see coloring in the bowl, you need to have your tank flapper replaced. Check caulking around bathtubs and showers for areas where water may leak and cause damage. Check for leaks under toilet and sink. Locate the Ground Fault Interrupter (usually in the electrical outlet in one of the bathrooms);

press the test/reset buttons.

Outside Water Faucet Shutdown – Turn off outside water faucets using the inside shutoff valves. Open the faucets to drain remaining water. Drain water hoses before storage.

Recent Architectural Control Committee (ACC) Actions

These applications were recently approved by the ACC, unless otherwise noted. (All)

10007 Tumbleweed – French doors and windows
4313 Still Meadow – Rear addition

Transitions

Send news regarding Hickory Farms *resident* weddings, new neighbors, births, HS & college graduations, birthdays (80, 85, 90, etc), and wedding anniversaries (55, 60, 65, etc.) to kirk_randall@hotmail.com. Be sure to name the street the honoree lives on. (All)

Born to new Still Meadow residents Megan and Ed Fay, a baby girl, Madeline Christine at 8.5 oz., 20½” long on Oct 9.

Do You Need Tree Work Done?

I will be organizing a group purchase of tree trimming and removal services in December or January, when prices are usually lower. If interested, please email me with your contact information at kirk_randall@hotmail.com or call 703-425-0210.

Holiday Tunes for Tots Concert

On Wednesday, December 3rd and Thursday, December 4th at 10 a.m., the W.T. Woodson High School Symphonic Band will present a concert of holiday music geared especially for children ages 3 – 7. Last year, Bob the Builder and Dora the Explorer narrated the show, along with audience visits by Rudolph, Frosty the Snowman, and a certain gentleman dressed in red. And who could resist giggling at the band members dancing around a giant dreidel? This year’s narrators are a surprise, so come see which fun characters will host the concert!

Tickets cost only \$3.00 per person.

Although the school is under renovation, great care and planning is being taken to ensure the safety of our guests.

If you would like to bring a group of 10 or more, please mail reservation requests to: Mrs. Lynn Hill, 3507 Alba Place, Fairfax, VA 22031, or you may call/email her at (703) 385-5561 or lynnhill@yahoo.com.

Parking on the Yard – Short Term Only

A vehicle may be parked on the front yard for **no more than 48 hours** to allow residents to unload, work on the vehicle, and/or clean it. Report violations to Fairfax County Zoning 703-324-1300 (11)

Out and About Hickory Farms Fairfax Memorial Park

Under canon law, Catholics in the 1950s had to be buried in a bishop-approved cemetery, and there was a perceived shortage of such space in Northern Virginia. Cornelius H. Doherty, Sr., attorney to Richmond Bishop Peter Leo Ireton (As in Alexandria's Bishop Ireton High School), addressed the need and purchased the 181-acre O'Roark and Taliaferro tracts near the corner of Burke Station Road and Braddock Road. Thus began Calvary Memorial Park. Although Doherty was offered a 40-acre tract at the corner of Burke Station and Braddock Roads, he decided to take a pass. (The land was purchased by another developer and eventually became Fairfax Memory Gardens cemetery.) Calvary Memorial Park was dedicated in July 1957. The initial cost of a cemetery plot was \$125 and the first deceased to be buried was one George A. Cunney, who was interred only one week after the cemetery was dedicated. By 1966, Calvary had become non-sectarian, opening its plots to persons of all faiths. Facing the financial burden of paying loan interest and property taxes on still undeveloped property, the cemetery owners in 1974 agreed to sell 95 acres in the southeast corner to Bo-Bud Construction Company, who subsequently developed the Somerset South community of homes. By 1976, having two side-by-side cemeteries didn't seem to be a good idea, and Fairfax Memory Gardens agreed to be acquired by Calvary. Calvary was interested in the property because it would be an ideal site for a funeral home (The funeral home was finally constructed in 2003). The newly combined cemetery was christened Fairfax Memorial Park. Nevertheless, over 30 years later, some road maps continue to identify the cemetery by the old names.

During the 1990s, the cemetery and funeral home industry underwent consolidation as large chains purchased small family owned properties. Fairfax Memorial resisted the temptation and, to this day, is still run by the Doherty family.

Hickory Farms and Fairfax Memorial Park are more than just neighbors. The cemetery owns 4377 Harvester Farm, where assistant superintendant Brian Munday lives.

In the aftermath of 911, Fairfax Memorial Park added a beautiful memorial to the victims of these attacks. Look for the flagpole next to the flower shop.

Fairfax Memorial Park is the final resting place for a number of notables, including:

- Tyler Bentley (son of Bob and Nancy Bentley – Cotton Farm)
- William Lloyd Scott (a N. Va. Congressman and US senator)
- Officer Michael Garbarino (Fairfax County Police Officer killed in the line of duty)
- Thomas Randall (brother of Kirk Randall – Country Squire)

- Stanley R. Hall (911 victim)
- James Lynch (911 victim)
- John Sammartino (911 victim)
- Vicki Lynn Yancey (911 victim)
- Arthur Morrisette, Sr. (founder of Interstate Van Lines)

(If you know of others, please email their names to Kirk_Randall@hotmail.com and I'll update the list for the web page version of this article, and for the next time this article appears in The Newsletter.)

Disposing of Your Leaves and Yard Debris

Please Don't Rake Your Leaves Into the Street !

Fall is leaf raking time. If we lived just a few blocks north in Fairfax City, we could just rake our leaves into the street and city workers would vacuum them up. But, alas, we live in Fairfax County, so ***please don't rake your leaves into the street !*** Here's the skinny on disposing of your leaves (and other yard debris) in our community.

- Under Fairfax County ordinance, the trash collector is supposed to remove up to six bags of leaves on a yard debris pickup day. If you put out more than six, the extras may or may not be taken. To its credit, however, AAA almost always picks up everything you leave out.
- If the trash collector doesn't take all of your leaves on your yard debris pickup day, please don't just leave them in the street or the parkway (that strip of grass between the street and sidewalk) for the next week's pickup. The bags kill the grass if left on the parkway, or block the mailman if left near the mailbox.
- Please don't put your trash, recycling, or yard debris out several days before pickup; it detracts from the nice appearance of our neighborhood. Under our [Rules and Regulations](#), refuse should be put out on the collection day or the prior evening.
- Speaking of pickups, trash collections may not occur before 6 AM. If you're awakened by the sound of trash trucks before 6 AM, please first call the trash company to report the problem. If they don't comply with your request, you may report them to the Fairfax County Zoning Enforcement office at 703-324-1300 between 8 AM and 4:30 PM.
- Under Fairfax County Ordinance, ***you should not use black plastic bags for yard debris such as leaves.*** You are supposed to use clear plastic bags. The trash collector may refuse to take black bags because its workers can't tell whether you put garbage or yard debris such as leaves in the bags.

- Place twigs and branches in a trash can or cut them to approximately four feet in length and bundle them using twine. The trash collectors may refuse to take them if they are not bundled.
- Please do not dump leaves, tree branches, and grass clippings in nearby common areas or woods. Not only is it against our [Rules and Regulations](#), but it creates a tremendous burden on the ecosystem. Wooded areas are ecologically balanced; they can decompose just about as much organic matter as the trees themselves produce. When you add your leaves, branches, or grass clippings, it overloads the ecosystem and they don't decompose. The result is a wooded area that looks and smells like a dump. Help keep our common grounds and woods beautiful by not dumping leaves, tree branches, and grass clippings there.

(11)

Advertise in the HF Newsletter

Display ads are available to businesses offering services to Hickory Farms homeowners. The newsletter is delivered monthly (except June and August) to 225 Hickory Farms residents and absentee homeowners. For more information, visit www.hickoryfarms.org and click Newsletter.

(3-7-11)

Are You New to Hickory Farms ?

(3-7-11)

Please call me to welcome you to our neighborhood.

Nancy Bentley 703-978-0373

(PS - I'm your neighbor on Cotton Farm – not a salesperson!)

Parking on the Street

Fairfax County parking regulations prohibit blocking driveway entrances. Do not park closer than 10 feet to either side of driveway entrances. Do not park closer than 15 feet to a stop sign or fire hydrant. Call the Fairfax County Police non-emergency number at 703-691-2131 to report parking violations.

(11)

If You Plan To Sell Your Home

If you are planning to sell your home in the upcoming year, keep in mind that you will need to obtain a VPOAA package from the HFCA. ***This is required by law.***

The following are the steps for obtaining a VPOAA package:

- Contact the Treasurer (see page 1 of this newsletter). Let the Treasurer know when the package is needed and where it should be sent.
- Send a \$50 check to HFCA, P.O. Box 2239, Fairfax, VA 22031-2239; or make other arrangements with the Treasurer as necessary.

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 are OK.

(3-7-11)

HISTORY OF HICKORY FARMS – Property Ownership

Bob Cosgriff

There are several questions which are of interest for the post-Civil War era up to the early 1900's. These might provide interesting lines of research for an inquisitive high school student looking for a history project:

- 1) What military units maintained a garrison in and around Fairfax Court House during Reconstruction?
- 2) What was the civilian population and how did it grow after 1865?
- 3) How did Fairfax County adjust to the new phenomenon of freed slaves? How many slaves were there? Where did they live after Emancipation? What jobs did they perform?

Did any "freedmen" work or live on Hickory Farms? What were their names?

4) What was the nature of the land? Was Hickory Farms a farm, a forest or a denuded piece of real estate?

5) Who owned this land? Recall that what is now Hickory Farms was originally part of the Ravensworth estate, which came into the Lee family from a Lord Fairfax land grant. During the Civil War, the wife of the nephew of Robert E. Lee occupied Ravensworth. At this time, did she own all the way to the original boundary (which angled across Roberts Road through modern George Mason Forest and across Braddock through the NVTC grounds) or had the land already been subdivided?

6) What does a title search of the property show? I have only gone back to 29 March, 1972, when Christian Gunder Gilbertson and his wife Muriel L. Gilbertson sold 62.2227 acres, described as being bounded on the north by the Henry Hunt property, and Fair Oaks subdivision (on Burke Station Road), the Layman Rudolph property (where the Braddock Manor cluster is today, south of the Harvester Farm Lane cul-de-sac), and the Toole property (end of Glenmere Road, along Rabbit Run) and Ridge Manor subdivision (Glenmere Road). I recall that Rudolph Layman told me in the early 1980's that his family owned the parcel of land from Burke Station Road down to the creek (this would comprise Harvester Farm Lane, Tumbleweed Court, and part of Cotton Farm Road, plus common ground along the creek. He also said (as I recall) that his family owned the land that became Fairfax Memorial Park in 1957. The Layman's lived in a brick house on Burke Station Road just south of Hickory Farms. This house was demolished when the seven-home cluster (Braddock Manor) was built in 1994. I also recall a little farm house off what is now Country Squire Lane, accessed by a lane which is now our "back path." Thus, I believe there were possibly three parcels combined to make Hickory Farms.

There were three phases to the construction of our neighborhood: Phase I (1975, with occupancy in late 1976) was Farm House Lane, Still Meadow Road and Cotton Farm Road west of the creek; Phase II was Cotton Farm Road east of the creek, Harvester Farm Lane and Tumbleweed Court; and finally, Phase III, started in 1981, which consisted of Country Squire Lane and Wheatfield Court (where the small farm house was). Also, the one property on Burke Station Road (where Phil and Jane Donnelly live) was apparently a fourth acquisition. Anecdotally, that was where the eastern entrance to Hickory Farms was supposed to be. Since the proposed entrance was too close to the curve, Fairfax County required a safer entrance -- hence Cotton Farm Road. However, a title search is needed to determine all this for certain; the Main Deed of Trust only cites the Gilbertson parcel (62 + acres). If any reader is skilled at doing title searches and would like to contribute to this history, your efforts would be greatly appreciated. Once we can put names with the ownership of the property at certain periods, it would be possible to research other records, including newspapers, to find out facts about the people who lived where we now live.

Certainly, the drama of the Civil War has never since been equaled here, yet there are undoubtedly many interesting events of local lore to report. If any reader can offer any facts, anecdotes or references about any phase of our community's history, I would be glad to receive them and blend them into the narrative. The book *Braddock's Gold*, initiated by Supervisor Bulova, contains just this type of local history, as do other general history books available at the County's bookstore in the Government Center.

Hopefully, this series has made you view our community and its surroundings in a new light. There is plenty of history in Fairfax County. A good place to start is the Fairfax City Museum on Main Street. The Virginia Room at the new library is a great resource for finding out more about our interesting past.

Bob, who lives on Cotton Farm Road, is a past President of our community.

Neighborhood Issues

There have been a number of minor issues within Hickory Farms over the past few months, some going back further than that. Some have been resolved to everyone's satisfaction, and some require additional attention.

For a brochure from Fairfax County on the most common neighborhood issues and how to deal with them, go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/faqs/concerns.htm .Or, you may call the numbers listed below for specific problems:

For grass in excess of 12 inches on residential lots of less than ½ acre, complete the Grass Height Complaint Form at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/environmental/grass_height.htm or contact the Code Enforcement Division, Public Works and Environmental Services, at 703-324-1937

For junk and debris in yards, contact the Zoning Enforcement Branch, Dept. of Planning and Zoning, at 703-324-1300

For concerns about apartments in a single family home and/or too many unrelated people residing in a home, contact the Zoning Enforcement Branch, Dept. of Planning and Zoning at 703-324-1300

For five or fewer inoperative vehicles on residential property, contact the Police Department at 703-280-0716

For five or more inoperative vehicles on private property, or vehicles parked on lawn for more than 48 hours, contact the Zoning Enforcement Branch, Dept. of Planning and Zoning, at 703-324-1300

For concerns about signs in the public right-of-way, contact Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) at 703-383-8368

For concerns about signs on private property, contact the Zoning Enforcement Branch, Dept. of Planning and Zoning, at 703-324-1300

For noise concerns about construction activity and equipment, contact the Zoning Enforcement Branch, Dept. of Planning and Zoning, at 703-324-1300

For general noise concerns and barking dogs, contact the Police Department at Non-Emergency number 703-691-2131

For building code violations, contact the Code Enforcement Division, Public Works and Environmental Services, at 703-324-1937
TTY

For:

- * hoarding task force
- * rat infestations
- * mosquitoes
- * overflowing garbage and trash
- * discarded tires
- * hazards such as open pits and excavations
- * discarded refrigerators/freezers with doors

contact the Health Department at 703-246-2300

For commercial vehicles parked in residential areas on street, contact the Police Department at 703-691-2131

For commercial vehicles parked in residential areas on private property, contact the Zoning Enforcement Branch, Dept. of Planning and Zoning, at 703-324-1300

For concerns regarding construction without required permits, contact the Code Enforcement Division, Public Works and Environmental Services, at 703-324-1937

For concerns about potential illegal home businesses (some home businesses are allowed with a Home Occupation Permit), contact the Zoning Enforcement Branch, Dept. of Planning and Zoning, at 703-324-1300

Finally, for snow removal on public streets, contact the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) at 703-383-8368

If you are directly affected by any of the issues noted in the brochure and wish to register a complaint, call the listed phone number. When calling, be prepared to describe the situation, give your name, address, phone number and the best time to contact you.

Upon receipt of your complaint, staff may:

- Contact you if additional information is needed prior to conducting the inspection.
- Take action if violations are found to gain compliance in a reasonable amount of time.

The Hickory Farms Newsletter is published every month, except for June and August. You may e-mail submissions to The Editor by the 25th 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 – 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.

Hickory Farms Annual Meeting Proxy

If you are unable to attend the Annual Meeting, please complete this proxy.

- Mail it to HFCA, P.O. Box 2239, Fairfax, VA 22031-2239 early enough that it may be received in time for the Annual Meeting; or
- Hand deliver it in a sealed envelope to a Board member in time for the Annual Meeting; or
- If you choose a neighbor as a proxy, have him or her bring it to the Annual Meeting and present it to the Secretary.

I, _____, member of the Hickory Farms Community Association, appoint Secretary of the HFCA Bilal Sayyed, or _____ to be my proxy with all of the powers I would have if I were present, and cast my vote on any matter which may arise during the HFCA ANNUAL MEETING of the members to be held on November 5, 2008; or, at any adjournment meeting thereof.

(Signature) _____

Lot #: _____ Street Address: _____