

Volume 13 – No. 7

October 2013

The Hickory Farms Newsletter

Board of Directors

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John Kitzmiller 503-3443

Vice President - Vacant

Treasurer

Dante Gilmer 978-0621

Secretary

Ed Wagner 425-7875

Community Grounds, Paths

& Woods – Don & Sara

Lobeda 539-8472

Architectural Control

Committee

Kirk Randall 425-0210

At Large

Kathy Sayyed 764-8716

Bruce Bernhardt 426-9446

Other Volunteers

Neighborhood Watch

John Kitzmiller 503-3443

Newsletter & Web Site

Kirk Randall 425-0210

Community Yard Sale (Fall)

Pete Scala 764-0730

Email ("Listserv")

Debbi Buchanan

Stefan Schwarz

Social Committee - Vacant

Architectural Reviews

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Garfield, Greg Gillette

Kirk Randall (Chairman)

Carole Rogers

Newsletter Delivery – John

Kitzmiller, Heather Webb

Leslie Morrisette

Dante Gilmer, Sondra

Arnold, Ed Kiechlin

Claire & Sean Coleman

Get Email addresses at

www.hickoryfarms.org

All telephone area
codes are 703-

Hickory Farms Community Association

P.O. Box 2239, Fairfax VA 22031

www.hickoryfarms.org

영문으로 된 이 뉴스레터를 읽지못하신다면 영어를
하실수있는 가족이나 친구분에게 이 뉴스레터를
드리십시오. 그들은 중요한 커뮤니티 정보가 들어있는
Hickory Farms 뉴스레터를 이메일로
받으실수있습니다.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HickoryFarms/> 를
방문하시고 "Join this group" 을 누르시고 가입하세요.

Our Annual Meeting will be held Tuesday October 15th
at 8 PM in Room 122 at Green Acres School/Center on
Roberts Road. We will consider some changes to our
Rules and Regulations, ratify a budget, and elect Board
members. We need you in person or your proxy at the
Annual Meeting in order to have a quorum. Please
submit a proxy if you can't attend in person.

Hickory Farms needs your help. Please join the Board
of Directors as an at-large member. Your time
commitment is small (just 1-2 hours/month for an at-
large member) but the rewards to your community are
large. Please call one of the Board members listed to
the left or speak up at the Annual Meeting.

Please welcome our newest advertiser, ADC
Management, owned by Hickory Farms homeowner
Arlene da Cruz of Tumbleweed Court. ADC is the one
to go to when you need a rental property manager.

Join the Hickory Farms email Group

- 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 in PDF format.

Visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HickoryFarms/> -- Click "Join
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Revised Rules and Regulations to Be Presented at Annual Meeting

At the October 2012 Annual Meeting, the Board of Directors approved and proposed revisions to the HFCA Rules and Regulations. Following debate, the proposed changes were directed to a group of volunteers for additional analysis, review, and possible revision. The Revised Rules and Regulations Subcommittee reviewed the existing HFCA founding documents and revised the Rules and Regulations to more closely align the two documents. Fairfax County records were even checked to confirm that we were using the correct versions of our founding documents.

As of October 9, no Homeowner comments have been submitted. That evening, the Board of Directors approved the proposed Revised Rules and Regulations. They will then be presented to the membership at the Annual Meeting. The proposed Revised Rules and Regulations document is available for review at www.hickoryfarms.org; just click the link at the top of the web page to view the PDF document.

The members of the Revised Rules and Regulations Subcommittee include: Pam Barrett, Bruce Bernhardt (Chairman), Rich Dudley, Mike Mehrman, and Jarrett Stark. They have contributed significant time to this project and deserve your thanks.

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This Month's Home Maintenance Checklist

Dehumidifier Shutdown – Clean out the dehumidifier bucket and vacuum the coils..

Test Water Overflow Alarms – Avoid floods by placing water overflow alarms next to your washing machine, hot water heater, etc.

Test Smoke Alarms & Carbon Monoxide Detectors – We recommend that you replace smoke detector batteries and don't wait for them to die. Press test buttons on carbon monoxide detectors. Open each unit and vacuum dust that could interfere with operation. Carbon monoxide detector batteries are usually not replaceable by the user; replace the unit when indicated on the unit's instructions. Check the date on each alarm. Most older smoke and carbon monoxide alarms should be replaced after seven years. Replace them with alarms that are guaranteed for ten years.

Water Heater Flushing – Drain the hot water heater to remove sediment that makes it run inefficiently. If gas operated: Turn the gas valve to the "pilot" setting. If electric: Turn off the circuit breaker. Shut off the cold water supply valve. Connect a hose from the water heater drain valve to the nearby floor drain or outdoors. Open a nearby hot water faucet to help the water drain freely. Open the water heater drain valve. When the water starts running cold, close the heater drain valve and remove the hose. Open the cold water supply valve. When water flows freely from the open sink faucet, turn off the faucet. Turn the gas control back to the "on" setting, or the electric circuit breaker back on.

Furnace & Heat Pump Fall Checkup – Schedule a fall service checkup.

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Neighborhood Watch Schedule

John Kitzmiller

Please volunteer for this important activity!! It only takes one three hour shift every three months on a Friday or Saturday evening. Neighborhood Watch has been proven to cut crime! It's also a great way to meet your neighbors! Call John Kitzmiller at 703-503-3443

Fri	Oct. 11	Eric Maribojoc	Clarisa Dacanay
Sat	Oct. 12	Bob Montgomery	George Rosenkranz
Fri	Oct. 18	John Coyne	Linda Coyne
Sat	Oct. 19	Pete Scala	Rose Scala
Fri	Oct. 25	Stan Lee	Jim Marshall
Sat	Oct. 26	Pam Barrett	Tom Barrett
Fri	Nov. 1	John Verheul	Tammy Verheul
Sat	Nov. 2	Zhong Cheng Wang	Tong Wang
Fri	Nov. 8	Dave Maurer	Sanjeev Munjal
Sat	Nov. 9	David Froberg	Beverly Froberg
Fri	Nov. 15	Jaime Gutierrez	Ed Wagner
Sat	Nov. 16	Dave Dempster	Dawn Dempster
Fri	Nov. 22	Susan Mulliner	Brenton Mulliner
Sat	Nov. 23	Ron Arnold	Charles Walters
Fri	Nov. 29	Harry Herchert	Ginny Herchert
Sat	Nov. 30	Chris Woody	Angela Woody

Remodeling Services

Bathroom & Kitchen Remodels – Decks
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Do You Like to Plan Activities for Kids (and Grownups)?

The informal Hickory Farms Social Committee has organized spring community picnics and children's activities such as the Halloween parade. Patty Dudley, Dawn Dempster, and Lynn Welch have moved on to other pursuits after many years of volunteer service. If you would like to keep the momentum going, please contact President John Kitzmiller at 703-503-3443.

To Report a Burned Out Streetlight

... or one that's on during daylight hours. Please call 1-888-667-3000. You'll need the address of the home nearest the streetlight as well as the number off the streetlight pole (ex. C-415 W096). (10)

Do You Have Old Photos of Hickory Farms?

A number of residents have asked what Hickory Farms looked like "in the old days." Do you have photos of the early days of the Hickory Farms area and neighborhood evens (1970s or early 1980s), or even before the community existed and this land was a farm? Maybe a photo of the children playing in front of the house during those early years? If so, Kirk Randall would like to borrow them for a few hours to copy for publication or posting on the web page. Please contact: kirk_randall@hotmail.com or 703-425-0210 (4-10)

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Directions to Annual Meeting October 15 at 8PM Green Acres Center

From Still Meadow Road, turn right on Roberts Road. At the stop sign, turn left onto Forest Avenue and then turn left onto Sideburn Road. Green Acres Center is two blocks down on the left.

Architectural Control Committee Approvals

4358 Farm House – Fence



Harry Herchert, Jennifer McCabe, Kirk Randall, Kathy Gillette, and Judy and Bob Cosgriff toured the nearby George Mason University campus on October 1st, led by sophomore communications major Courtney Hoffman. The tour was organized by Kathy, who is retired from GMU's information technology staff. Kathy and Kirk, both attended GMU in the late 1970s, when the university was "just a bit" smaller than today (Indeed, they attended some of their music and business classes at the old Fairfax High School building, before it became Paul VI High School.)

HICKORY FARMS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION			
PROPOSED FY2014 BUDGET			
To be presented at the		FY 2013 PROJECTED BUDGET FINAL	PROPOSED FY 2014 BUDGET
Oct 15, 2013 Annual Meeting			
INCOME			
Annual dues		\$29,400	\$29,700
Late Fees		200	0
Prior Year's Dues		150	300
Legal Fees/Costs		1,039	280
Advertising		648	300
Interest CDs		28	25
Total Income		\$31,465	\$30,605
EXPENSES			
Tax Preparation/Audit		\$270	\$280
Director's Insurance		1,599	1,650
Liability Insurance		297	325
Surety Insurance		250	275
Bank Charges		40	50
Legal Fees		200	750
Landscape/Maintenance		19,500	22,000
Miscellaneous		60	100
Social		200	250
Newsletter Printing		2,100	1,500
Taxes/Fees		125	125
Postage/P.O. Box		225	225
Total Expenses		\$24,866	\$27,530
Budget - Surplus / (Deficit)		\$6,599	\$3,075
Annual Dues			\$150
Submitted by Dante Gilmer, Treasurer			

Convenient Vehicle Registration Services Available at Fairfax City Hall

Limited DMV services are available 8:30-4:30 weekdays at Fairfax City Hall on Armstrong Street. Services include license plates, handicapped permits, and title and registration transactions. This office does not issue drivers licenses or identification cards. You can often get your business done in less than 20 minutes!

(4-10)

Free Consumer Newsletter from Fairfax County

Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/consumer/enewsletter/fall_2013.pdf to see the current issue. To subscribe, send an email to ycyc@fairfaxcounty.gov to subscribe to Informed Consumer.

Parking Your Boat or Trailer in Your Driveway – For *Short Term ONLY*

Article VII, Number 11 of the Hickory Farms Covenants (our “constitution”) states: No boats, trailers, tents or any structure of a portable nature, or portable vehicle other than automobiles shall stay parked forward of any dwelling for a period exceeding seven days. (10)

The Birds of Hickory Farms—Fall 2013

Bob Cosgriff

The results are in and 2013 can claim to be the best year ever for the bluebird trail. We had 10 boxes (eight donated by Girl Scout Troop 2046 and two older HFCA boxes). Of these, three boxes were actually used by bluebirds and three by tree swallows. With two boxes for each species having two successful broods each, we successfully fledged 22 bluebirds and 16 tree swallows. Two boxes were used by house wrens, with eight birds fledged. One box was installed later in the season by Rabbit Run on Cotton Farm Road and had some ‘lookers’ but no takers. One box in the upper common grounds was ‘sacrificed’ to house sparrows to keep them from driving out the more desirable native bluebirds and tree swallows in nearby boxes. We had one ‘paired’ set of boxes in the upper common grounds, visible from Farm House Lane, which attracted bluebirds to one and tree swallows to the other at the same time. These birds will tolerate each other in close proximity, but not birds of their same species. The advantage is that tree swallows are generally able to drive off House Sparrows which will evict bluebirds. I plan to use another paired set of boxes in the lower common grounds next year to see if we get the same result.

We also added another species, Louisiana Waterthrush, to our neighborhood list on July 6th, bringing our total to 110 species seen in, over, or from Hickory Farms at least once since 1979. Despite its name, this bird is actually a large warbler that typically nests in creek banks. Rabbit Run provides suitable habitat, but until now, this species has not been seen or heard here. The springtime is the best time to locate the waterthrush because it is more vocal. I saw this bird walking along the sand and rocks in the creek south of the culvert under Cotton Farm Road. I suspect this bird was beginning to move south, since this species is one of the earliest fall migrants, leaving its breeding grounds in July for its wintering territory in Cuba and farther south in the Caribbean and South America.

Speaking of the fall migration, it is beginning now, especially along the coast, with the shorebirds and waders. But that’s a topic for another time. Until then, enjoy the backyard birds of Hickory Farms, especially our beautiful bluebirds. Some of them will probably stay around during the winter, where they can be attracted to feeders by suet and mealworms.

The HF Newsletter is published January, March-May, July, and September-December. E-mail submissions to the Editor by the 25th of the prior month. For past issues and information for advertisers, see www.hickoryfarms.org --> Newsletters. The Editor, subject to review by the Board of Directors, may reject or edit any submission. Advertising in this newsletter does not constitute endorsement. The editor is Kirk Randall 703-425-0210 – kirk_randall@hotmail.com