# Copenhaver Chronicle\*

A publication of the Copenhaver Homes Corporation

February 2007

# Check our website! www.copenhaverhomes.com

# PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Another year is upon us and so, another group of neighbors has volunteered their time to help manage Copenhaver. Joining the Board are Lesley Furlong, Kathy Garcia and Ken Lovett. They have each stepped into roles vacated by our departing Board members, Guy Chamberlain, Mickey Bolmer and Hugh Mullins. Let me digress for a moment to publicly thank Guy, Mickey and Hugh. Among the 3 of them they have logged nearly 20 years on the Copenhaver Board. It was my pleasure to get to know them and I can't think of 3 kinder, gentler men who genuinely care for our community, thank you.

I am honored to be the new President of the Board (understanding that Guy left huge shoes to fill), Jane Burns is our new VP, Lesley is the new Secretary and Larry Waugh continues his role of keeping a watchful eye on our Treasury. The complete list of assignments is listed is this edition of the Chronicle. Speaking of the Chronicle, we will be adding more 'personal' features to attract more readers. (Can you believe I've heard some neighbors throw it away without reading it?) Our plans are to include 'letters to the editor' and perhaps some feature articles on the unsung heroes in our neighborhood.

A couple of items that are on my plate that I will share with you...I received a phone call from a Coldspring neighbor. He is concerned about the excessive speed of cars along Falls Chapel Rd between Copenhaver Dr. and Bentridge Rd. (from the 4 way stop sign through the power line right-of-way). Did you know that despite the posted 25 MPH speed limit more than 80% of the cars exceed 36 MPH? I will be attending a session with the County to learn more about the 'traffic calming' alternatives. If this gets your attention, then please, check your speedometer along that section and other sections of our neighborhood. I will keep you informed on what I learn. The second thing I am educating myself about is our liability regarding our private park. I have reviewed our insurance policy and will be contacting our insurance company to talk about injuries in the park from sports on the field, rope swings in trees and even ice skating on the pond. Again, I will keep you posted.

In closing, I am excited to be working for another great year for Copenhaver and look forward to meeting you in the Park!

Cindy Burns CHC President

# **Copenhaver Homes Corporation**

**Contact Information 2007** 

#### **Board members:**

Cindy Burns, President, flamingo805@comcast.net, 301-294-7954 (Dave) Jane Burns, Vice President, janeburns@mindspring.com, 301-251-2806 (Pat) Leslie Furlong, Secretary, lesleyanne.furlong@fda.hhs.gov, 301-738-6839 (Michael Lenardo) Kathy Garcia, kmargar@aol.com, 301-309-6435 (Michael) Sherry Kinikin, sherrykinikin@hotmail.com, 301-424-3844 (Pat Dragga) Ken Lovett, klovett@atmsystems.com, 301-838-4533 (Patty) Veronica Mason, okmason@comcast.net, 301-424-1588 (Orlando) Dan Myer, daniel.myer@mci.com, 301-251-5284 (Myrian) Larry Waugh, Treasurer, larrywaugh@comcast.net, 301-279-2041 (Jeannie)

#### **Copenhaver Homes Corporation Committees 2006**

Architectural Control: Dan Myer (chair), Mickey Bolmer, Pat Dragga, Michael Arabe Audit: Ken Lovett (chair), Kathy Garcia, Tom Warren Communications: Jane Burns (chair, *Chronicle* and directory), Dave Berman (webmaster) Community: Sherry Kinikin (chair & street trees), Lisa Tilley (picnic), Jane Burns (fall festival), Nora Lee (field permits) Lamplighter: Kathy Garcia Park and Entrance: Veronica Mason (chair), Dan Myer Tennis: Al Grant (chair), Sue Devesa, Lori Keefe, Lola Peres

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# **Copenhaver Community Calendar 2007**

- February 20: Board Meeting, 7:30 PM, Leslie Furlong's
- March 20: Board Meeting, 7:30 PM, Ken Lovett's
- End of March: Mini-Chronicle with 2007-8 Directory
- April 17: Board Meeting, 7:30 PM, Larry Waugh's
- May 15: Board Meeting, 7:30 PM, Kathy Garcia's
- Mid-May: Chronicle
- June: Copenhaver Picnic, TBD
- June 19: Board Meeting, 7:30 PM, Dan Myer's
- September 18: Board Meeting, 7:30 PM, Sherry Kinikin's
- End of September: Chronicle
- October 7: Sunday, Fall Festival, 2-4 PM
- October 16: Board Meeting, 7:30 PM, Jane Burns's
- Early November mailing for the election, budget, annual meeting
- November 20: Board Meeting, 7:30 PM, Veronica Mason's
- December 6: Annual Meeting, 7:30 PM, Cold Spring Elementary School

#### Copenhaver Chronicle

#### Treasurers Report Larry Waugh

With our 2006 financial cycle completed, we now look toward 2007. The budget for 2007 was approved at the annual meeting in December and is exactly the same as that of 2006. Over the past several years, our budgeting process has focused on (a) contracted and recurring park maintenance (mowing schedules, known pond and fountain maintenance, treatment of the ball field, etc.) and (b) capital improvements (such as paving of walkways and resurfacing tennis courts). Budgeting for these items has proven to be a very disciplined exercise. While capital improvements do not occur each year, they have been budgeted using a long term forecast, with funds set aside into reserves each year to cover the large cash expenditures in years in which they occur.

Some of the park maintenance is not contracted, but has been more ad hoc in nature. Certain grassy areas need to be reseeded, poison ivy overtakes the spring house, and crepe myrtles have died and need to be replaced. These are some examples, of non-contracted landscaping which occur to some degree each year. In addition to these types of items, there is another category which appears to be increasing. As our neighborhood ages, so do the trees in the park and entrance areas, many of which are original to the community. Pruning, removal, and replacement of trees can be very costly. Street front trees are being removed at a rapid pace due to the disease of the oaks that line our neighborhood. The county performs this removal and incurs the cost. The park and entrances, however, are our responsibility.

There may be a need to better understand the long term financial forecast of this tree aging and other non-recurring park landscaping needs. We will begin to assess the scope, timing, and financial impact of these items. If the analysis points to a growing expenditure in future years, then we may need to begin to budget for these items in a manner similar to how we budget for long term capital improvements. I will provide more details as the assessment progresses.

# **New Street Tree Contact**

Your attention please....Guy Tureen has left the building. Effective immediately please direct your requests for street tree pruning, removing, replacement (Querus bicolor), and stump removal to our new tree contact in the Montgomery County Government, **Brett Linkletter**, at the address or phone number below. And please remember that each step requires a separate phone call or letter!

Brett Linkletter Arborist Division of Operations and Highway Maintenance 101 Orchard Ridge Drive Gaithersburg, MD 20878 (240) 777-7631

# Missed the Annual Meeting? You're in luck...here are the minutes!

#### Copenhaver Homes Corporation Annual Meeting 12/07/06 7:30 PM Cold Spring Elementary School

In Attendance:

The board of directors:

Guy Chamberlin, President, Mickey Bolmer, Vice President, Larry Waugh, Treasurer, Cindy Burns, Jane Burns, Sherry Kinikin, Veronica Mason, Hugh Mullins, Dan Myer

#### At the meeting:

Wanda Falci, Leslie Furlong, Kathy Garcia, Lee Hall, Ken Lovett, Marie Lurquin, Tom Sherman, Gayle Smith, Eric Stewart

#### By proxy: home owner: authorized

Tim and Nadya Bartol: M. Bolmer, David Bern: G. Chamberlin, Sherrie Berrebi: V. Mason, Albert S. Bonner, Jr.: G. Chamberlin, Tom and Sharon Donahue: G. Chamberlin, Charlotte Corbet: G. Chamberlin, Robert and Judy Flynn: G. Chamberlin, Art and Lori Keefe: G. Chamberlin, Zaven and Alidz Khachaturian: G. Chamberlin, Patrick Lugenbeel & Kate Dawson : J Burns, Stanley Lugerner: Marie Lurquin, Laurence Platt: G. Chamberlin, Dorcie Sakuma: M Bolmer, Linda and Darle Short: G. Chamberlin, Scott and Cynthia Sobel: M. Bolmer, David and Ginny Walter: G. Chamberlin, Robert Weinstock: G. Chamberlin

- 1. Called to order at 7:40 PM
- 2. Guy Chamberlin introduced the board members and their chief responsibilities and thanked the board members for their hard work all through the year.
- 3. Election: Guy explained that Mickey Bolmer, Guy Chamberlin, and Hugh Mullins ended their three year terms in 2006. Lesley Furlong, Kathy Garcia, and Ken Lovett were elected to serve on the CHC Board of Directors for 2007, 8, and 9.
- 4. Guy thanked the many members who serve Copenhaver and who are not on the Board of Directors:
  - the tennis committee: Al Grant (chair), Susan Devesa, Lori Keefe, and Lola Peres
  - architectural control committee: Michael Arabe and Pat Dragga
  - community: Lisa Tilley (the picnic), Nora Lee (the Fall Festival and starting in 07, scheduling the ball field)
  - audit: Tom Warren
  - communication: Dave Berman (copenhaverhomes.com) and the block captains
  - election: Gayle Smith (counting), Sally and Sarah Bolmer (preparing the November mailing)
- 5. Guy thanked our three contractors: EAH Landscaping (park and entrance maintenance), Nature Works (pond and fountain maintenance), and Grassmaster (ball field grass improvement). Guy commented that we are very fortunate to have long term relationships with three highly skilled and responsible contractors whose rates are quite reasonable.

- 6. 2006 summary: Guy reported (inviting comments and questions as he went):
  - During the fall, the ball field was in use every day but Saturday (game day.)
  - No capital projects and we will be modestly under budget.
  - With the pin oaks dying and many large old trees in the park, we will be facing tree costs. We have money in the operating budget and will keep building the tree reserve to meet these costs which could be high.
  - The ACC was very busy. They worked to achieved a balance that allows members to enjoy their homes while keeping architectural harmony.
  - The lamp post repair is up to date. He reminded the members that CHC does not take care of the wiring from the post to the house and that if the head has been replaced with other than the original style, then CHC is no longer responsible for the lamp post.
  - The audit showed the books in good shape.
  - The picnic and fall festival were well attended and very enjoyable.
  - Having the settlement documents on copenhaverhomes.com has worked well and has helped members to get these documents quickly when they are selling their homes.
  - The County did much street tree care thanks in good part to the community's active calling and writing. He urged the community to call or write for a new tree before getting the stump removed. (Stump removal can be a 3 year wait.) Kathy Garcia said that they kept sending the letters and the care was done.
- 7. Mickey Bolmer moved that **the 2007 CHC budget be approved as presented.** Sherry Kinikin and Eric Stewart seconded.

Discussion follows: The 2007 budget is the same as the 2006 budget, dues staying at \$365 per year. Tom Sherman pointed out that the surplus looks to be large and asked if dues could be lowered. Mickey pointed out that the figures in the mailing do not include the October, November, or December bills, i.e. a quarter of the CHC bills, and that the \$8,000 budgeted for the Capital Item Maintenance/Replacement Plan is put into the reserves on 12/31/06. Larry estimated that at the end of 06, the surplus would be about \$8,000 and said that any surplus would put into the tree reserves fund. Mickey said that we might be facing some price increases because EAH Landscaping had not raised its prices in twelve years and we are in the third year of a three year fixed price contract with Nature Works.

#### Vote is taken: All in favor

- 8. The first meeting of the 07 CHC board is the 3rd Tuesday of January, 7:30 PM at Cindy Burns's home, 12609 Exchange Court North
- 9. Eric Stewart thanked the board for working so hard on his project.
- 10. Cindy, on behalf of the board of directors and the community, thanked Guy, Hugh, and Mickey and presented each with a gift certificate to Clydes.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 PM *submitted by Mickey Bolmer* 

### **New Copenhaver Directory Coming in March!**

To be added to the directory or to make a change to your listing, please contact Jane Burns via e-mail at janeburns@mindspring.com or by phone at 301-251-2806

#### by March 16, 2007!

#### Copenhaver Teens Ready to Work

#### <u>Babysitting</u>

David Baydush '91 8816 Copenhaver Drive 301-424-2051

Sarah Baydush '94 8816 Copenhaver Drive 301-424-2051

#### <u>Computer Training/</u> <u>Repair</u>

Stephen Baydush '89 8816 Copenhaver Drive 301-424-2051

#### <u>Snow Shoveling</u>

Eli Gebler '92 8901 Wooden Bridge Rd. 301-309-2348

Brad Harlan '90 9012 Willow Valley Dr. 301-294-9566

Ben Kaufman '89 1 Cold Spring Court 301-806-8004

#### Pet Sitting

Kibbie Barkley '90 12405 Copenhaver Terrace 301-340-8380

David Baydush '91 8816 Copenhaver Drive 301-424-2051

If you are a Copenhaver teen and would like to be added to our "Teens Ready to Work" list please contact Jane Burns at janeburns @mindspring.com.

#### Did You Know...

The Copenhaver Homes Corporation is responsible for the maintenance and repair of the Kettler installed lamp posts of all Copenhaver residents. That is provided that they are either the original fixtures installed by Kettler Brothers or those since replaced by the CHC. However if you, or a previous owner, replaced the lamp's head, post or sensor, on your own, the onus for fixing them falls upon the homeowner. If you're having trouble with your light please first try changing the bulb and then contact our new lamplighter, Kathy Garcia at 301-309-6435 or by e-mail at kmargar@aol.com.

As for the County Street Lights (these are the taller lights just in the from the street) please call the County Street Light phone number, 240-777-6000, to report a light that is out. Each pole has a number that is used to identify the particular pole. If you can find this number before you call, the County will have an easier time finding the pole. If the problem is a bulb, repairs are usually done quickly. Other problems may take more time.





# The ACC Gets Remodeled

Please note that **Dan Myer** is the new Chair of the Architectural Control Committee, replacing Mickey Bolmer, who has graciously agreed to remain on the committee as a member. If you are planning exterior home improvements, please, check the Architectural Control Committee *Guidelines*. As a rule of thumb, any change to your outside must be approved, but the ACC *Guidelines* give all the rules. You can find the ACC *Guidelines* on copenhaverhomes.com or call/e-mail Dan Myer.

The fastest and surest way to submit an application is to make four copies and then deliver the original and the copies to Dan Myer. If you give him a call, he will make an appointment so that you can give him the application in person. Or you may submit your application via e-mail at acc@copenhaverhomes.com or send via post to ACC c/o Copenhaver Homes Corporation, P.O. Box 4028, Rockville, MD 20850.

The committee works quickly and will try to get you an answer in a few days, but remember these are your busy neighbors volunteering their time. The more complicated the request, the more time the committee will need. Always, the more complete the application, the easier the committee's work. **Don't forget to get your neighbors' signatures.** 

# An Open Letter to Members of the Copenhaver Community

#### Reprinted from the September 2000 Copenhaver Chronicle

We and our three children have been residents of Copenhaver since 1992. We enjoy living in a beautiful community filled with good people who try hard to be good neighbors. It is against that backdrop that we wish to share a concern. The concern is about barking dogs and a small minority of dog owners here who may not fully appreciate the impact such barking has on others.

We have nothing against dogs. Some of our closest friends own them. We know they bark from time to time, no matter what you do. They bark at birds and squirrels. They bark at other dogs. They bark at people walking by. Barking dogs are part of the soundtrack of the suburbs. Although quiet is generally preferable to noise, we know we cannot expect it onehundred percent of the time.

What we can expect is that dog-owners among us will be sensitive to the rights of others to enjoy their homes in peace. That means not leaving dogs outside unmonitored for long periods of time while they bark incessantly. That means not leaving dogs inside at night next to open windows through which they bark at critters outside while people are trying to

sleep. That means recognizing that while you may have grown immune to the sound of your dog's barking or may even find it endearing, to others -- including people who do not live next to you but are hundreds of yards away -- the sound is jarring and annoying.

Our purpose here is not to harangue but to request common courtesy and the kind of good-neighborliness that has made Copenhaver such a great place to live.



- Bill Nussbaum and Maggie Riechers



You may recall the names Mike Barrowman, Dan Veatch, and Clay Britt – they were famous Montgomery County swimmers and between them they hold an Olympic gold medal, national records, and world records. They all began their swimming careers here in Potomac at the Montgomery Square Copenhaver Swim Club ("MSCSC") located on Falls Road. The Pool has seen many exciting swim meets and events and has served as a community gathering place for over 40 years. As with most 40-year-old community pools, it has begun to show its age. The MSCSC members couldn't stand by and watch such a magnificent tradition be forgotten so the effort to rebuild that Olympic history is underway. Summer of 2007 will begin another 40 years of tradition!

The plan is to bring the pool into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century with a totally new kiddy pool and a renovated main pool with a slide that even the oldest member will enjoy! Catania Construction, a local contractor with over 34 years of pool construction expertise, has been contracted to perform the improvements. Jim Baldwin, President of JHB Construction Consultants of Potomac and a MSCSC Board Member, will oversee the renovation project. The upgrades will include complete renovation of the main pool, including a deepened diving well, replacement all the concrete decking, pool tiling, perimeter fencing and lighting, new plumbing and filtration systems and most importantly a new pool heater for those chilly early morning swim meets. The exciting new wading pool will include a zero grade entry, interactive water toys and a separate filtration

system. The pool bathhouse will also be updated as part of this project.

Tom Gebler, President of the MSCSC Board, notes, "It's great to be part of this effort to extend the wonderful tradition of this great community pool. Pools such as MSCSC are an integral part of our community and are great entertainment for the kids and a fun place to come and socialize with your neighbors." A current member, Laura Glynn Case, who has three Seahawks of her own, states, "I am very excited to be participating in such a great project. The pool is a huge asset to the local community and offers our children the opportunity to participate on a swim team where they can swim in a lot of meets!"

Last summer, MSCSC also renovated its large Clubhouse, which will continue to house community parties, movie nights, bingo, dance parties and offer club members the opportunity to host private parties. MSCSC also has an exterior volleyball and basketball courts, as well as a new grill area for use by all members so you don't have to cook on those glorious summer nights.

Unlike some neighboring clubs, MSCSC has a quiet relaxing atmosphere and is currently welcoming new members to their club. Contact Trish Regan at 301.762.6292 or visit the pool website for updates and Special Membership Incentives. **www.mscswimclub.com.** 

#### DON'T MISS THE GRAND OPENING ON MEMORIAL DAY 2007!

