



# Woods' Lore

Brookside Woods' Bi-monthly Newsletter

March - April 2007

## Brookside Woods Civic Association

P.O. Box 340052  
Columbus, Ohio  
43234-0052

### Board Members

Arthur Pellegrini  
*President*  
761-8547

Joe Macomber  
*Vice President / Far  
Northwest Coalition*  
792-2300

Steve/Wanda Boudinot  
*Treasurer*  
792-9052

Barb Boyd  
*Secretary*  
766-5459

Doug Kruest  
*Parks & Grounds*  
889-9271

Mark Griffith  
*Brookside Safety*  
791-5922

### NEXT BOARD MEETING

May 14, 2007 7:30 PM  
The Macomber's Home

[www.brooksidewoods.org/](http://www.brooksidewoods.org/)

All neighbors welcome!

## President's Report

This is the last Wood's Lore before the neighborhood garage sale on Saturday, 28 April and the first annual dues collection. We have made a case for the increase in Brookside Wood's dues and the once yearly collection in the last news letters. We hope that everyone will consider helping by volunteering as a dues collector, manning the garage sale, being a cheerful contributor or being respectful in declining to pay dues. There will be an opportunity to return the dues collection form by mail. Alternatively, you will receive a visit by the dues collector. 100% return of the dues collection form will help smooth our collection efforts.

Mark Griffith has made a substantial improvement in our web site. Check out:  
[www.brooksidewoods.org/](http://www.brooksidewoods.org/)

Otherwise things seem quiet. Nice to have warm weather.

## Brookside Calendar

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| April 28, 2007 | Brookside Woods Neighborhood Garage Sale<br>Scott Fair, 2007 Chairman |
| May 14, 2007   | BWCA Board Meeting, 7:30 pm, Joe Macomber's House                     |

**FOUND:** A binder with pictures in the street in front of our house at 7085 Lakebrook Blvd. The binder has been run over but the pictures are good. If this belongs to you, please call Barb or Sue at 766-5459.

# Far Northwest Coalition

The Far Northwest Civic Association met on January 31 with a very light agenda. As a group, we discussed whether the Far Northwest Coalition (FNWC) should be a member of the Community Oversight Foundation of Southern Delaware County. This group has been actively blocking any attempts by WalMart to open a super store on Sawmill Road. Annual dues of \$500.00 are required to join this group. At this time FNWC feels that membership did not fit our budget or our plans.

John Best reported that after two years of negotiation Columbus finally acquired the land near Sawmill and Summitview Roads for park space. Ribbon cutting is expected in June.

Continuation of the 2006 Northwest Columbus Planning meeting scheduled for February and March of this year have been cancelled. No makeup dates have been announced.

Gary Harrington from the Ohio Department of Transportation announced some major road projects over the next three years. Route 315 expansion should start February of 2008. The widening of Route 23 near York Temple is scheduled for 209. The Linworth Road portion over I-270 will need repair and widening by 2010. No changes to Rte 161 were in the present plans.

On February 8, I attended the Ohio State University Airport Advisory Committee meeting. Many in Worthington feel that the new noise data collection system currently being used has many accuracy issues. OSU position is to give the new system more time since it had been in place for only a few weeks.

There was no Far Northwest Civic Association meeting held in February.

Joe Macomber

## Handypeople Available

HANDYMAN -- Odd Jobs around the house, power washing, etc  
Baby Sitting and Pet Sitting  
Baby Sitting and Pet Sitting  
Beginner's Piano Lessons

Clyde Welch 614-571-8262  
Kati McGuire 799-8625  
Darby McMullen 889-1838  
Kelly Dahn 889-5260

Have a skill to share – send information to Barb Boyd to be listed.

## Play Group

Neighborhood Playgroup

When: Select Tuesdays from 9:30-11:30 am

Who: Infants to 5 year olds and a parent

Please call Lisa Leonard at 798-8357 or more information.

# Neighborhood Safety

It's been quiet as far as I'm aware over the winter. We did have an issue with someone leaving their car outside and open and someone removed some items in the middle of the night (last month). With the warm weather and summer coming up, the following are suggestions to improve awareness and minimize your risk.

- If you leave your automobiles outside overnight or at night, then keep the automobiles locked. Most thieves are lazy so they look for the unlocked car or unlocked door.
- Many of you open your windows during the day or at night. Consider closing and locking up all the doors and windows on the first floor at least. Don't count on "Fido" to bark and wake you up.
- Consider keeping your outside lights on at night. Consider installing motion detector lights that will automatically snapped on.
- Many of you will take vacations. Consider getting a timer for some of your inside lights to turn off at your normal bedtime. The professional thief will not be deterred by leaving lights on all night and may actually be a signal to them that no one is home.
- When you go on vacation, let your neighbors know and ask them to look after your house. So if they see anything suspicious, they can call the police for you.

The garage sale is coming up. We are asking all neighbors to leave their outside lights on for the night before.

Also with the warm weather, many more people are outside. Many people take walks at night and there are even "joggers". Remember to not leave items on the sidewalks where people may stumble. Inspect your sidewalks for repairs. Many people may assume the city is supposed to repair sidewalks but it is actually the homeowner's responsibility. And the city may issue a citation to you for dangerous uneven sidewalks.

A raised level of awareness and common sense are invaluable in preventing and minimizing crime and being safe.

Mark L. Griffith

# Treasurer's Report

The heavy snows hit our finances a bit more than in past years. Hopefully now that we're into April the snow is all behind us. We're looking to rebuild our bank balance with the upcoming membership drive. Please remember the increase in dues will allow us to enhance the appearance of our entrances. We may also look into options for improved snow removal next year, depending on the status of our finances.

Thanks to everyone who supports Brookside Woods Association!

Wanda Boudinot

Sample Dues Collection Letter:

Dear Neighbor,

I am collecting dues in our area for our civic association. The dues are \$100.00. No dues have been collected since those due in the fall of 2005. The association now plans to collect dues annually at the time of the garage sale to make it simpler on everyone. The dues will be used to put the functions of the board on a sound economic basis. Those functions include maintenance of the common areas like the entry ways and Maplebrook Park, with care of the grounds and plantings on a contract basis. The dues are used to provide snow removal as much as possible. We hope this year to have sufficient funds to upgrade the snow removal services. Monies will also be directed to repair, where possible, deteriorating infrastructure.

The target date for collection is the day of the garage sale, April 28, 2007. You can return the dues to me during the week of April 28 by mail. Alternatively, I will come by your house sometime on the day of the garage sale or at a time that is convenient for you.

If you are sending me your dues (or choose not to pay dues) please return the enclosed form.

Sincerely,

Signature  
Address, Phone

**DUES FORM**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Street:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed are my dues of \$100.00 for 2007. Please make checks payable to Brookside Woods Civic Association.

\_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed is an additional contribution for capital improvement in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_. Please have the president call me. I would like to sponsor the following project: \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ I choose not to support the neighborhood through the payment of dues.

Suggestions/Comments:

# Parks

Spring has sprung... and the parks committee is awakening from neighborhood hibernation too. But before heading indoors for the winter, several improvements to our community green spaces were begun.

At Maplebrook Park neighbor Sue Downey cleaned up the north flower bed and spread mulch. As can already be seen, the perennials are starting to come back to life. Sue's care of the park is already bearing fruit...so to speak.

At the 161 entrance both large beds had suffered from huge bare spots due to the loss of plants that did not survive over the years and others that grew just too well and needed a lot of trimming. For example, the roses on the east side of the entrance all died and on the west side needed monthly trimming. Spirea on the east grew well, frequently covering the light but were barely staying alive on the west. Junipers on both side had little left but brown dry branches. Based on the plans from about 9 years ago, the only plant that did equally well on both sides were a couple fountain grass plants. After discussion with several professionals it was decided the only good solution was to clear out all the plants by the roots. To complete the cleanup, the trees and shrubs east and west of the entrance were professionally trimmed.

This year the Brookside parks and entry ways need to complete the revitalization that was started last fall. Specifics of the plants for the entry way are being proposed by several landscapers but we're favoring use of larger tufted grasses and ever-blooming day lilies with a few slow growing non-deciduous plants for year round green. At Maplebrook Park there are still the raised beds to be redone. The light on the flag needs to be repaired or replaced.

Another thing the parks need this year is regular care. I've helped out for several years along with a couple other people and inherited the position of chairman by default when the previous chairperson found too many family demands on her time. We've lived in Brookside for three years. During that time the craftspeople who are longer term neighbors have never been able to recruit more than a few people to assist with the park care. I don't hold a lot of hope for a lot of volunteers this year.

So, where do we get some help for the work to be done this year? Fortunately there are a lot of people out there who do landscape work for a living. Thus, a solution - hire the grounds care in addition to the mowing that is already done. I guess that leaves all of us with a decision to make - do we want to spend several hours each month doing "yard work" for the neighborhood or pay the dues during the membership drive the last week of April. I hope you choose to pay the dues so I don't have to organize a lot of work parties this year.

Doug Kruest

## **2007 – Garage Sale**

Preparations are underway for the **Brookside Woods Garage Sale**. Mark your calendars for **Saturday, April 28th**, from 9 am to 2 PM.

We have elected to **not** sponsor a Friday night “pre-sale” event for the neighborhood. Too many outsiders create dangerous conditions with no traffic controls in place. Please help keep the neighborhood safe by waiting until Saturday.

A **CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS** flier is attached to this newsletter. To make this event successful, we need as many people as possible to donate an hour or two of their time. We provide a safe environment by using cones & barrels, directional signage, and maps of the one-way street patterns. Traffic directors are critical to keeping things flowing and assisting our customers.

Due to the congestion on Saturday, we urge all residents to avoid scheduling deliveries, lawn service, and other events hampered by the limited access. A small price to pay to avoid garage sales throughout the year, which would bring outsiders in to our neighborhood on a regular basis.

As noted in the previous Woods’ Lore, April 28th will also be the day the BWCA will be collecting annual dues. All costs for this event are covered through sponsorship. Volunteers keep our costs at a minimum, and will be scheduled for specific time slots. A safety meeting/social hour will be held Friday evening (April 27<sup>th</sup>) at Scott and Pamela Fair’s house, with refreshments provided. It’s a great way to meet some new neighbors.

If you are interested in volunteering (see flier for details), or have any questions regarding the garage sale, please contact Scott Fair at 761-3175, or e-mail at [sfair@deloitte.com](mailto:sfair@deloitte.com)

We look forward to sunny weather, a safe day and strong sales.

**NOTE: This is the only Wood's Lore issue that will address the Garage Sale. Mark your calendars.**

# 2007 – GARAGE SALE

## CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!

Saturday, April 28, 2007

Volunteers are needed to help keep the annual garage sale a safe and enjoyable event. Six intersections need traffic directors for 1 1/2 hour shifts from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM. It's easy. It's fun. But most importantly, it provides a valuable service in keeping our children and others safe during this busy time. We can also use volunteers for initial set up and clean up of traffic cones and barrels, before and after garage sale hours on that day.

Join volunteers on Friday April 27<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. for a short planning meeting at Scott and Pamela Fair's home located at 7155 Lakebrook Blvd, refreshments provided.

REMINDER TO ALL: Once again, due to the overwhelming concern for safety and security in our neighborhood, there will be no "Pre-Sale" on Friday night. With no traffic controls in place, traffic jams and accidents create unnecessary risks. Please consider the safety of your neighbors and do not open up your garage Friday night. Thank you.

To volunteer for the garage sale:

- Call Scott Fair at 761-3175
- E-mail Scott with below information – [sfair@deloitte.com](mailto:sfair@deloitte.com)
- Complete form below and drop it off to Scott, 7155 Lakebrook Blvd.

Please contact Scott by April 14<sup>th</sup> to volunteer.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Preferred time slot, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thanks for keeping our neighborhood safe!**

**Brookside Woods Civic Association**