



Woods' Lore

Brookside Woods' Bi-monthly Newsletter

January - February 2008

Brookside Woods Civic Association

P.O. Box 340052
Columbus, Ohio
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Board Members

Mike Boulware
President
766-2171

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

Wanda Boudinot
Treasurer
792-9052

Barb Boyd
Secretary
766-5459

Tom Phillips
Parks & Grounds

Mark Griffith
Brookside Safety
791-5922

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Mar 10, 2008 7:30 PM
The Boyd's home
7085 Lakebrook

Everyone Welcome.

www.brooksidewoods.org

President's Report

We live in a great community in an affluent area of Columbus. It is a community that is near to places we work, play or go to school. It is an area that has gone up in value over these past several years. And negative issues have been kept to a minimum or handled immediately whenever it was possible. I know we live in a great community because I have lived here for twenty years and so too have many of my neighbors.

Two things have been constant over the many I years I have lived here. One is that families that move here stay here and the other is that participating in the annual dues collection has always been an issue. I have seen dues payments as low as 59% of Brookside Woods and as strong as 73% with the recent collection this past April. It is a shame that a community with our means can not come closer to the 100% we would like to achieve. Many things are done around the area are done by neighborhood volunteers who are not paid. But until we can find volunteers for the following services, we have to either pay for them or eliminate having them:

1. Snow removal
2. Maintaining the three Brookside Woods entrances
3. Maintaining the Maplebrook Civic Park
4. Mowing the open areas along Route 161
5. Conducting the annual garage sale (no garage sale fees were collected in 2007)
6. Printing the bi-monthly Woods Lore

At this time with costs and expenses for all services rising, Brookside Woods Civic Association needs the support of those 27% who did not pay last April. If you are able to support your community now, please send your check for \$100.00, made payable to Brookside Woods Civic Association, to our Treasurer, Wanda Boudinot, 6831 Oakfair Avenue, Columbus, OH 43235. We thank you for your help.

Mike Boulware

Brookside Calendar

March 10, 2008 BWCA Board Meeting, 7:30 pm. Everyone Welcome.
at Barb Boyd's House, 7085 Lakebrook. Look for the sign.

April 20-27, 08 Annual Membership Drive

April 26, 2008 Community Garage Sale

Far Northwest Coalition

Vice President Joe Macomber

The last meeting of the year for the Far Northwest Coalition (FNWC) was held on November 28th.

Rob Meyer, from Porter, Wright, Morris and Arthur LLP, and Nick King made a follow-up presentation to the FNWC regarding the vacant land at Skyline Drive for which developer Mike Kenney and his group can get a construction variance for a five acre section. It is presently zoned commercial to build 78 condos. As a group we were not opposed to this variance. Further approval was necessary before the Columbus Development Commission on December 10. Since there have been no meetings since November 10, I do not have any further update at this time.

I think all of us have now seen the almost 8,000 square foot banners adorning the Safelite Auto Glass building that faces I-270. It is not as much of a distraction going east on 270 as it is going west. These signs were placed there to celebrate the 60 year anniversary of Safelite Glass by a company called Orange Barrel Media. These signs, which are in violation of the City's Graphics Code, were not given approval for by the Far Northwest Coalition. So representatives came to ask for the Coalition's approval for the signs to remain on the buildings until October of 2008. There are many that think these building-sized advertisements, some of which are hanging downtown, make Columbus look very cosmopolitan. Our position was that the signs are ugly and a distraction to drivers on 270. And since Safelite's 60 years and celebration ended on December 31, so should their banners.

Also attending our November meeting as an outside observer was Assistant City Attorney, Stephen Dunbar.

Handypeople Available

HANDYMAN -- Odd Jobs around the house, power washing, etc	Clyde Welch 614-571-8262
Baby Sitting and Pet Sitting	Kati McGuire 799-8625
Baby Sitting and Pet Sitting	Darby McMullen 889-1838
Baby Sitting and Pet Sitting	Emily Heskett 718-0056
Beginner's Piano Lessons	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

Safety Officer Mark L. Griffith

There have been sporadic reports of small break-ins around the area. There are also reports of cars being broken into at the neighboring apartment buildings. My opinion is most of these are crimes of opportunity by younger people. It's important to keep all your home doors and windows locked and make sure your garage door is not left open and to keep your vehicles locked if you leave them out. Young thieves will canvas an area looking for an easy score and an easy entrance to do a grab and run. A wise choice is to install security lights with motion detectors that come on automatically.

A raised level of awareness and common sense are invaluable in preventing and minimizing crime and being safe. If you have an issue, after you made your report to the police, then when you have time, send me an email (safety@brooksidewoods.org) so we can keep track of any problems.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Wanda Boudinot

Thankfully we haven't had any heavy snows recently. The improved services this year included salting the streets, which definitely seemed to improve the results, but as expected increased our expenses. We've also already required snow removal services at least twice as often as in the previous 2 years.

Soon it will be time for the annual membership drive. Once again we'll be asking for volunteers to collect from neighbors, and will coordinate it to coincide with the annual garage sale at the end of April. For those of you who would like to help in a limited way, here is a wonderful opportunity for you.

Please contact us with any ideas for improving the neighborhood. Contact information is on the front cover.