

The Quaker Hill Quill

February 2009

New QHCA Board Officers

A Board meeting was held on Thursday, January 22, 2009, and officers were elected. They are:

President: Sam Hayes
Vice President: Marjorie Stein
Secretary: Susan Thomas
Treasurer: Rose Gillespie
Director: Ed Lacy

Solicitations

Please be mindful of solicitors who approach you while you are outside or those brave enough to ring your doorbell. QHCA officially prohibits solicitation in our community and has posted signs in and around to support that. QHCA encourages all homeowners to immediately relay that to solicitors and not feel obligated to listen or contribute.



Reminder

The alleyway running parallel between Dartmouth and Quaker Hill Court is a two-way street, and thus travelers should abide by common road laws when they meet another vehicle along the drive.

Letter from the Board President

During 2008, the Quaker Hill Community Association (QHCA) successfully completed a number of major projects aimed at enhancing the beauty and safety of our neighborhood. The largest of these projects, the dredging of the pond, was three years in the planning and two weeks in the execution. The Board appreciated your patience as the work was performed, and I am sure you will be happy to know that we do not anticipate having to dredge again for at least another 20 years. Other projects and contracts discussed at the 19th Annual QHCA meeting included the following:

- ✓ Major retaining wall repairs in the area behind the homes on the west side of Quaker Hill Drive.
- ✓ Adding a second drain to the pool, which is required by law.
- ✓ Removing the tot lot and recycling the fencing; trees to be planted this year.
- ✓ Repairing sidewalks and mailbox areas.
- ✓ Signing a new pool contract.
- ✓ Signing a snow removal contract.

Despite the costs associated with the above, and the economic downturn, the Association remains on a sound financial footing. That can be attributed to long-term planning, conservative investments, and controlled spending. The Board has tried very hard to limit the increase in the monthly assessment to the smallest amount necessary for the maintenance of the community and the protection of our reserves. I hope you will agree that our dues are reasonable for the amenities we enjoy as a community.

With that in mind, I would like to thank my fellow Board members, as well as those serving on the Landscape, Covenants, and Newsletter committees, for their hard work over the past year. I would also like to thank our property manager, Tim Kirchner, and his staff at Northern Virginia Management for their daily efforts to respond to the requests and concerns of our members.

Lastly, I would like to thank our members for their support as I sought re-election to the Board. I feel very fortunate to live in Quaker Hill, and I look forward to serving as president of the Association again in 2009.

Sincerely,

Sam Hayes
President
Quaker Hill Community Association





Trash Disposal

Residents of single-family detached homes and townhomes are reminded that trash containers may not be placed outside earlier than 5:00 p.m. on the evening before collection and must be returned to storage not later than 7:00 p.m. on the day of collection. Please put your trash can out of view on non-pick up days.

The regular trash collection day is Tuesday. During a week when Monday or Tuesday is a holiday, you may call the City's Office of Solid Waste at (703) 751-5872 or check the city of Alexandria Web site at <http://ci.alexandria.va.us> for information on trash collection.

TMP

Ever wonder what the Transportation Management Program (TMP) is? As a condition of approval for a multifamily development project, the City of Alexandria requires most communities



to participate in a city-wide program that promotes the use of mass transit. Part of our monthly assessment fee funds this program. As a bonafide resident of Quaker Hill, you are eligible to purchase certain mass transit media at a reduced price. The type of media, the pricing and how to obtain them are published in this newsletter. It is an excellent benefit of living in this beautiful community!

Transit media are available for half-price through the Quaker Hill TMP. The Program offers:

ITEM	COST TO YOU
\$20.00 Metrorail farecards (limit 3 per household per week)	\$10.00
Metrobus tokens (20)	\$13.50
Alexandria DASH pass (1 month unlimited rides)	\$15.00

You can place an order for these items in one of the following ways:

1. Call Northern Virginia Management at (703) 941-9002
2. Email Northern Virginia Management — NVManagement@erols.com
3. Send your order by mail to:
Northern Virginia Management
4306 Evergreen Lane, Suite 101
Annandale, VA 22003

Northern Virginia Management will send out your media, along with an invoice and stamped, return addressed envelope. Northern Virginia Management will honor resident's requests to mail media on a scheduled basis. For example, if a resident uses the Metrorail passes on a regular basis, then we can arrange to send the passes each week or every other week. Please note that all orders must be paid before subsequent orders can be processed.

Quaker Hill Community Association People You Should Know

Board of Directors

Sam Hayes, President
Marjorie Stein, Vice President
Susan Thomas, Secretary
Rose Gillespie, Treasurer
Ed Lacy, Director

Committee Chairpersons

Covenants: Sharon Crosby
Landscape: Vacant
Newsletter/Web site: Rose Gillespie

Clubhouse Telephone

(703) 823-1911/1912

Northern Virginia Management

(703) 941-9002
NVManagement@erols.com
4306 Evergreen Lane, Suite 101
Annandale, Virginia 22003
Effective March 1, 2006

The Quaker Hill Community Association Board of Directors meets at 7:00 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of every month at the Quaker Hill clubhouse. Association members who wish to bring an issue before the Board should write to the Board in advance c/o NVM, 4306 Evergreen Lane, Suite 101, Annandale, Virginia 22003, or call any Board member. Meeting date changes will be posted on the clubhouse bulletin board.

Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority (ARHA) Report

ARHA, which owns 60 units in the Quaker Hill Community, reported at the annual meeting that it will conduct major renovations to its units in 2009. The work will involve both interior and exterior work that may take between three to four weeks per unit. ARHA indicated that work will start in June 2009, and six renovations will be done per month. All ARHA renovations are expected to be completed 10 months from the start date.

Covenants Committee Report

The committee is reviewing many of the exceptions to the design standards and guidelines that are routinely approved to determine whether they should be incorporated into the standard guidelines. Some of the exceptions that are routinely approved include the installation of a full-view storm door, the use of manufactured materials (such as Trex and other similar materials) and changes to original paint colors.

What's Ahead for 2009

The business of managing and running the community's common areas and assets (like managing a home) will continue to occupy the Board this year. With the pond dredging and retaining wall work completed, the Board anticipates general repairs to the community clubhouse, work on the pool retaining wall, and the selection of new tree maintenance and landscape services contracts.

Alexandria Crime Report Website

The City of Alexandria offers a searchable online crime database through crimereports.com. The website uses a geographic information system to help residents understand where crimes are committed in our communities. Information on the website comes from the Alexandria City Police Department's Record Management System and is updated daily. You can access the site through a link on the Police Department's home page at <http://alexandriava.gov/police/default.aspx>, and click on "Crime Mapping."

Incidents Involving our Resident Ducks

Many of you may have noticed that we now have just two of our three long-time resident ducks. On December 10, 2008, a young boy attacked the ducks with items pulled from his backpack and rocks found around the pond. Unfortunately, one duck was injured, possibly suffering a broken leg or wing. A Quaker Hill resident called the Alexandria City Animal Shelter, which responded by sending out two of its employees and a City of Alexandria police officer who is in charge of animal incidents. The duck was retrieved and taken to the shelter for treatment and care.

This type of harassment has occurred many times. Several residents have confronted the children, and the activity stops for awhile. However, in recent weeks, it has become painfully clear that harassment of the ducks and other wildlife in the community continues.

The two remaining resident ducks are a domestic breed that cannot migrate or fly great distances. Thus, they are somewhat dependent upon us for protection. Please keep watch and should you witness future incidents here are a few things that you can do to help:

- Try to get information from the aggressors such as name and home address.
- Report any incidents to Officer Pete Fitzgerald at 703-838-4774 and give him the information to add to the ongoing incident file.
- If you have any information regarding these incidents that hasn't been reported, please provide it to Officer Fitzgerald. It will help the ducks live a more peaceful life.

Officer Fitzgerald is authorized to take action regarding incidents of animal cruelty and is interested in speaking with the children and their caretakers regarding this matter. Many thanks to those of you who care for the ducks and have taken action to protect them. Keep up the good work.

**Want to view past issues of our newsletter?
You can find them at www.QHCA.org.**

Open Committee Position

QHCA is still seeking a volunteer to head the Landscape Committee. The Committee provides advice on general landscape work and gives valuable input to the growth, vision, and landscape design of the community. In the past, the landscape committee has sponsored planting days, clean-up days, and other participatory activities for our neighborhood. If interested, please call or email Northern Virginia Management or a member of the QHCA Board.

Keep our Pond Clean

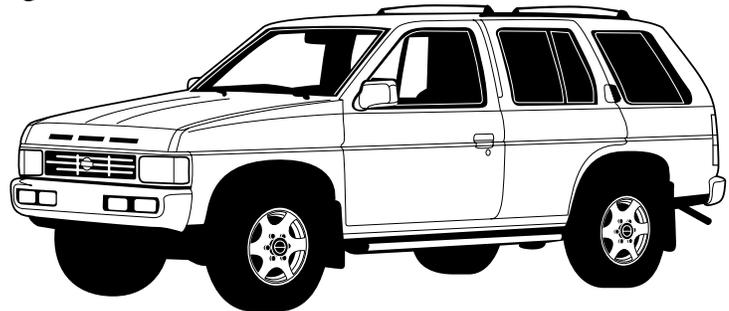
Since pond dredging has been completed, the health and appearance of our pond have greatly improved. Let's keep it that way by placing trash and waste in the receptacles located around the pond and on Yale Drive. Do not throw trash in the pond or in the drainage culverts in our community and nearby neighborhoods. Trash from nearby areas washes into our pond and is especially noticeable after a rainstorm. Encourage all who enjoy our community pond to do the right thing.

Did you Know?

Even lead-free plumbing may contain up to 8 percent lead. You can reduce the lead in drinking water by using only cold water for consumption; never use hot water from the tap, even when you want to boil water for, say, pasta. Hot water from the tap contains the most lead. When you need hot water, heat it.

Vehicle Repair and Oil Changes

Vehicle repair and oil change are not permitted anywhere in open view on residential lots or common areas within the boundaries of Quaker Hill community property.



Metro Bus Transfers

The Washington Area Metro Transit Authority (WMATA) no longer provides paper transfers from bus operators or from transfer machines in metro stations. Only riders who pay with a SmarTrip card can transfer from one bus to another for *free*. SmarTrip users also receive a discount when transferring from rail to bus and from bus to rail. WMATA initiated this policy change in order to reduce/eliminate paper-transfer abuse and to save money.



SmarTrip cards may be purchased for \$5 at 30 area Giant food stores, Metro sales offices and commuter stores, through vending machines at all Metro stations where parking is available, and online. For more information call the SmarTrip Customer Service Center at 1-888-762-7874 or visit WMATA.com.

Please...Don't Feed the Geese

Flocks of non-migrating Canada geese have become established throughout Virginia and other Atlantic flyway states. Problems develop as flocks grow and their droppings increase. One goose produces one pound of waste per day. Goose droppings make a mess of walkways, common areas, parking areas, and roadways. Other problems include over-grazed grassy areas and lawns and nutrient loading in ponds. High nutrient concentrations in ponds negatively affect water quality and are harmful to fish and other aquatic life.

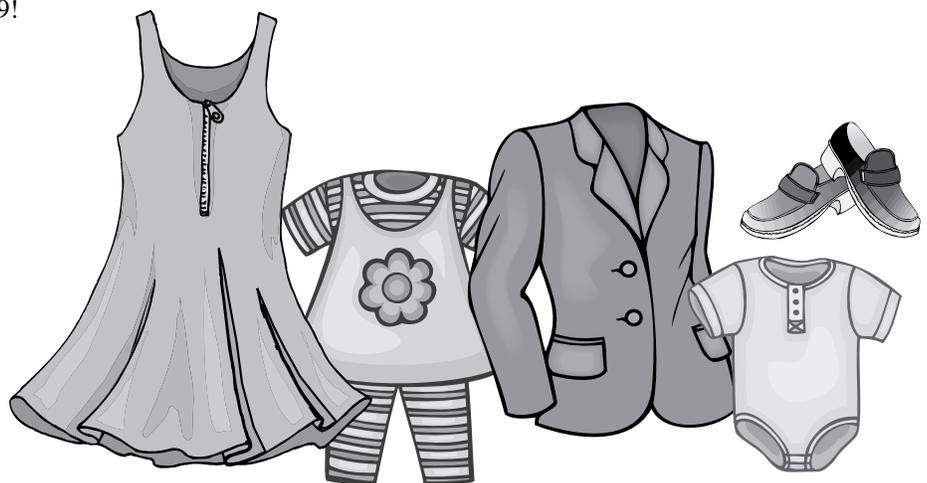
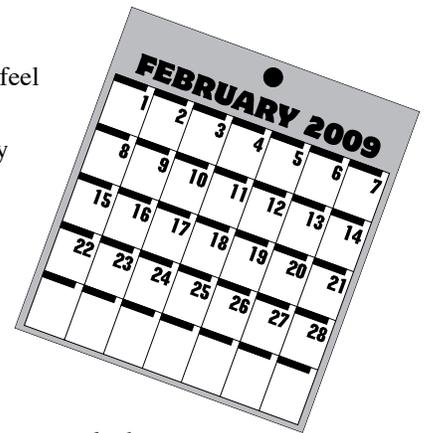
Supplemental feeding can cause large numbers of geese to congregate in unnaturally high concentrations, causing the problems mentioned above. It also teaches geese to be unafraid of people and may result in aggressive behavior. Moreover, supplemental feeding may be unhealthy for geese, especially if bread or popcorn become a large part of their diet. Geese that depend on human handouts are less likely to migrate when severe winter weather arrives, making them more vulnerable to disease. When feeding is discontinued, geese will disperse and revert to higher quality natural foods that keep them healthy and fit for flying.

Helpful Hints

In keeping with age-old new year's resolutions to lose weight, declutter our lives, and feel better, please consider these suggestions.

- ✓ To lose weight...just remember that it didn't get there over night so it won't go away overnight. The simplest way to lose weight—not a mystery—eat less and exercise more. It works.
- ✓ To declutter your life...
 - Set aside a few minutes in the morning as you walk through the house to tidy up so you come home to a welcoming space.
 - Each week, schedule your chores on your calendar so you feel more control of your life.
 - Monthly, go through mags, newspapers, kids art work, etc. and decide what to keep; recycle the rest.
 - Seasonally, donate clothing you have not worn in several seasons.
 - Twice a year, go through children's toys and donate what they no longer need or want.
- ✓ To feel better...use a cool rinse at the end of your shower to firm and tone your skin and smooth your hair. The director of a large spa says it's one of the best thing you can do for your skin and senses.

Enjoy your decluttered and thinner 2009!





Quaker Hill Community Association

c/o Northern Virginia Management
4306 Evergreen Lane, Suite 101
Annandale, Virginia 22003

Happenings in Alexandria

St. Patrick's Day Parade

Mark your calendars...the 28th annual St. Patrick's Day Parade will wind its way through the streets of Old Town on March 7, beginning at 12:30 p.m. Other festivities planned for the day include a classic car show, scheduled for 10 a.m. on North Pitt Street, between King and Cameron Streets; and a fun dog show, 10:30 a.m. at Market Square.

Visit www.ballyshanners.org for more information.

Earth Day Celebration

Alexandria's Earth Day Celebration takes place on April 25 at Ben Brenman Park (4800 Brenman Park Drive). Alternative transportation is this year's theme.

Visit www.alexearthday.org for more information.

