

The Quaker Hill Quill

Volume XIII, No. 1

Looking for our Website?

Our community website—www.QHCA.org (Quaker Hill Community Association) is up and running! It provides information and forms for our community such as Covenants rules, Bylaws, application forms for design applications, newsletters, pool hours and rules and other helpful information. We already have suggestions for improvements (direct links to the management company, the City of Alexandria and others) and we welcome your feedback and suggestions! It is a welcome addition – our only other forum for communication (besides this newsletter) has been to post flyers on the community club house!

Our New Board Members and Officers

Please note the changes to our Board! We have a new member to the Board, Dewaine Norris, who will be serving as our Secretary. Susan Thomas, who previously served as our Vice President, will now be serving as our President. Former Treasurer Sam Hayes is now our Vice President, with former Secretary Marjorie Stein now serving as our Treasurer. Elijah Johnson, currently a member of our Board, continues to serve as our fifth Director.

Mayor Responds to QHA Concerns

Due to the unsightliness and possible negative effect on real estate sales, an email concerning the vacant town homes located at Duke Street and Yale was sent to Alexandria Mayor William Euille. It specifically addressed the extent of the work that still needed to be done on the units, asked why it was taking so long to get the job done, and requested a schedule of when the units should be repaired.

A response to the email was received from William M. Dearman, Chief Executive Officer of the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority (ARHA). His response included a copy of a memorandum submitted by ARHA to the Mayor dated August 23, 2006.

The memorandum essentially defined the structurally related problems of the ARHA homes. Upon visual inspection (Phase I) by a structural engineer from Meyer Consulting Engineers (MCE) Corporation, the report noted "bowed and or undulating front brick façade; cracks in the front brick façade; cracked front foundation walls and difficulty opening / closing front doors and windows." Phase I resulted in the replacement of the retaining wall with a reinforced concrete wall designed to sustain soil loadings.

Unfortunately, during the course of Phase I construction, a gas line was hit and a stop work order was issued by the City. Residents were evacuated for their safety and the work was not completed until the end of February 2006. By that time, the units had suffered significant distress due to the structural issues and it was determined that ARHA would need to complete a revision to its Capital Fund budget in order to secure funding to do substantial rehabilitation to the units in order to bring them back on line. That has been accomplished.

Long story short, hearings were conducted with the Resident Advisory Board, budgetary approvals were received by the ARHA Board of Commissioners and HUD, and a Request for Qualifications was published to complete the construction for the "substantial" rehab required to put the units back in livable condition. Once a contractor has been identified, a six month construction duration is anticipated, meaning the units will be back on line later this year—"unless unforeseen conditions are encountered".

You too can have a voice in community concerns or activities – to do so, go to the City of Alexandria webpage, click on Citizen Government, then Mayor and Council, then email Mayor and you are ready to compose. You are guaranteed a response (but you just might not like it.)

But remember, the squeaky wheel gets the grease!



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. 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)751-5130 or check the City of Alexandria website at <http://ci.alexandria.va.us>.

TMP Program

Ever wonder what the TMP Program is? As a condition for approval for a multi-family development project, it was a requirement to participate in a city wide program that promoted mass transit. (MOST new multi-family housing developments are required to do so!) 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 it are always published in this newsletter. It is an excellent benefit to living in this beautiful community!



Just a reminder that transit media is available for half-price through the Quaker Hill TMP program. The program offers:

ITEM	COST TO YOU
\$20.00 Metrorail farecards (limit 3 per household per week)	\$10.00
Metrobus tokens (20)	\$12.00
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, we can arrange to send the passes each week, every other week etc. Please note that all orders must be paid for before subsequent orders can be processed.

Quaker Hill Community Association People You Should Know

Board of Directors

Susan Thomas, President
Sam Hayes, Vice President
Dewaine Norris, Secretary
Marjorie Stein, Treasurer
Elijah Johnson, Director

Committee Chairpersons

Covenants: Sharon Crosby
Landscape: Becky Kilgore
Newsletter Editor/Website: 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 Spring Clean Up Day

Saturday, May 5, 2007

Spring Clean Up Day for Quaker Hill!!!

How to participate:

This is a free service made available to residents who receive City of Alexandria refuse collection. Residents who receive refuse collection from private contractors do not receive spring cleanup collection.

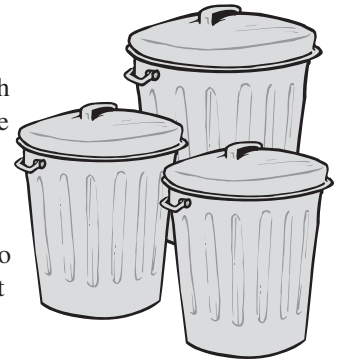
1. Place your materials at the CURB (no alley pick ups!) before 7 a.m. on your assigned collection day (May 5th for Quaker Hill).
2. Materials should be placed in containers and all brush and lumber must be tied in bundles no more than four feet long and not more than 75 pounds.

Examples of acceptable materials: Appliances, steel pipe, furniture, mattresses, brush and tires off the rim

Examples of UNACCEPTABLE materials: Concrete, hazardous waste, unbundled lumber or brush, building materials, loose yard waste

All information can be found on the City of Alexandria webpage at http://alexandriava.gov/tes/sw/spring_cleanup_page.html

The City webpage also lists Reuse and Donation Options with links to multiple sites and organizations which can use building materials, clothing, furniture, household goods and many other items.



My neighbor and I still laugh over a bench I left out for the Spring clean up. The week after the Spring clean up, I saw her refinishing a bench. When I told her that I used to have one just like it, but I set it out, she laughed! She had no idea who set it out, but saw a perfect opportunity to use her refinishing skills and now has a perfectly good bench for her patio. She wouldn't give it back, but she lets me sit on it once in awhile!

And if you notice people combing the streets in the early Saturday hours of April, they are the people with refinishing, refurbishing and recycling skills that find untold treasures during the Alexandria Spring Clean Up!

Trash schedule:

The City of Alexandria maintains its Refuse schedule on its webpage at <http://alexandriava.gov/tes>.

Go to the Transportation and Environmental Services page, Solid Waste division.

May 1 begins the summer collection hours for trash pickup. Collections start at 6 a.m. Winter collection hours, which begin October 1, have a 7 a.m. start time.

The Paws that Refreshes

We have some very special shorter neighbors who frequently can be seen leading their pack around the pond or walking around their "hood" stopping every so often to check a "p-mail". Each is so unique and has their own story. As often as possible, our publication will highlight some of the locals so that you can get to know them better.

Angus

I'm a Scotty, my full name is Angus Dubbya McClinton. I am a Knight of the Scottish Realm and serve the Lady Saffron, Queen of the whole dang town. She's not too bright and a bit of a flirt which makes my job tough. I'm constantly thwarting off a myriad of unworthy suitors—thinking they are all that!

I'll have you know it's hard out here for a Scotty. I'm not fond of cats but I love kitties. I live with three of them. Strange lot they are, always thinking I want to eat them. I just want to chase them, good sport that. Now squirrels on the other hand, that's what I'd eat, vermin they are!

I have three servants who walk with me, pick up after me, feed me; etc. They also serve the Queen Saffron. Despite my attempts to communicate, sometimes they just don't seem to get it. It seemed hopeless, but it's getting better. I rarely have to raise my voice with them anymore. If only I could do the same with all these hooligans trying to nose up to the Queen. So if you see me around the pond, you know who I am. I'm the one trying to keep Queen Saffron in line!



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Rockscape

As tempting as it may be to pick up some of the rocks around the pond and toss them in (we know it's hard to resist), please don't! We have two major issues:

- 1) The rocks have been purchased and placed to prevent erosion and to slow water drainage into the pond. They are paid for by the community and have to be replaced. (You would be amazed at what rocks cost!)
- 2) We will be paying to have the pond dredged of rocks, dirt, debris and other matter in order to keep it healthy, clean and at the proper capacity. So not only do we pay to put the rocks around the pond, now we're paying to take them out!

So while skipping rocks and making big splashes may be lots of fun, please avoid the temptation!

Pond Dredging and Clean Up

A formal engineering study has been done on the pond, and between the study and the problems we have been experiencing with the aeration pumps, the Board is moving forward with bids to complete the dredging. They are also considering the installation of an underwater "catch basin" near the intake areas which tend to trap the incoming debris. This makes it easier for future dredging and tends to trap onrushing debris on the bottom of the pond closer to the intake areas. Current pond designs generally incorporate this feature. Bids, permits and possible financial relief from the City are also being sought.

Vehicle Repair and Oil Changes

Please be aware that the performance of major repairs to vehicles, including painting and drainage of automobile fluids, is not permitted anywhere in open view on residential lots or common areas within the boundary of the property (Policy Resolution Number 7, amended March 10, 1997).

NEW PARKING FINES EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1 IN CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

Revised Schedule Brings City's Fees in Line with Neighboring Jurisdictions Council Also Raises Charges for Disability Space Violations

New parking fines went into effect in the City of Alexandria on Thursday, February 1 under a revised parking ordinance enacted by the Alexandria City Council at its January 20 public hearing meeting.

The revised ordinance increases most fines for meter, parking, and tag violations by \$5. Citations issued for meter violations increased from \$20 to \$25, while fines for most parking and tag violations increased to \$40.

The City Council also increased by \$23 the prepaid processing charge for unauthorized parking in spaces reserved for persons with a disability, from \$28 to \$51, the maximum allowed. Along with the \$150 fine, total prepaid charges for parking in a disability-reserved space are \$201, effective February 1.

The Code of Virginia authorizes the City of Alexandria to regulate parking, stopping and standing of vehicles within its limits and to establish penalties for violations.

The City Council acted to increase fines in order to facilitate business activity for City merchants by promoting greater turn-over of on-street parking spaces. While fines are meant to discourage motorists from parking illegally, City staff reported that some motorists have been willing to pay the fines because of their relatively low cost. The City's parking fines generally have not increased since 1992 and are currently lower than fines charged by neighboring jurisdictions for comparable violations.

The City issued 82,090 parking citations and collected \$2.6 million in parking fines in FY 2006.

A copy of the new schedule of fines, effective February 1, can be viewed at www.alexandria.gov/finance.

For more information on the City's fines for meter, parking, and tag violations, call Alexandria's Treasury Division at 703-838-4777.

From the Landscape Committee....



Despite the recent chill, the Quaker Hill Landscape Committee continues to take a proactive interest in the community's visual character. Initial improvements to the trickle pond, covered in last year's budget, are now complete. However, the Committee met recently and decided that more plant material would improve the overall quality and beauty of the pond. Work will begin on enhancements as soon

as a contractor is chosen.

The Committee also voted to procure "Adopt a Bed" signs for the flower beds and welcomes participation in this project by all interested parties. Anything we can do to beautify the community will benefit all of us and also make Quaker Hill attractive to prospective residents.

Although it is only February, it is not too early to think about our annual planting event that takes place around the swimming pool. For the past 2 years, a growing group of residents has met on a Saturday in the Spring and filled numerous pots with colorful plantings – another visual improvement to our community. The committee also welcomes new volunteers for this effort.

If anyone has comments or suggestions concerning the trickle pond or would like to take part in any of the other above activities, please contact Chairman Becky Kilgore. At this time, the Committee is also soliciting new members and especially a new chairman. Becky has served as chairman for many years and believes it is time for new leadership and ideas. Please come forward if you are interested in continuing the beautification of Quaker Hill!

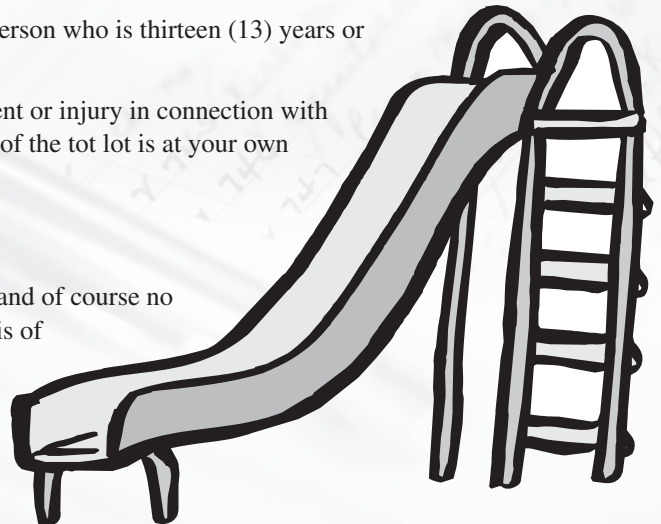
Tot Lot Rules

Spring will be here soon and our new tot lot will be welcoming our little ones! Please be aware of our tot lot rules for use. A quick summary:

1. Tot lot hours are 8 am to dusk. (Not after sunset! Lost privileges and trespassing risks apply!)
2. The tot lot is for residents and their guests, and the children should be under the age of ten (10). The equipment is not built for older children.
3. Children under the age of six (6) must be escorted by a person who is thirteen (13) years or older and guests must be escorted.
4. The Association assumes no responsibility for any accident or injury in connection with the use or for any loss or damage to personal property. Use of the tot lot is at your own risk. (A necessary precaution and rule)

General safety and conduct rules:

No smoking, no breakable objects, no intoxicants, no pets, and of course no profanity or boisterous behavior (this is a TOT lot!) Safety is of primary concern to the Association and its members and while it may seem unnecessary to state some of these rules, we do want to insure that the tot lot is safe, clean and used properly!



Quaker Hill Community Association

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

The Paws that Refreshes (continued)

Saffron

My human name is Saffron; Saffron Z of Ocean Racer. I like that better than my dog name, Nutmeg. I'm a lady I am, of royal lineage from Norway. My father King Dillon sailed the Ocean Racer into the New World landing in the wilds of Virginia where I was born. My mother was Queen Zelda and that makes me a Queen, too! I had lots of litter mates; they were all big and fat. I was small and petite and beautiful and well mannered, even as a princess puppy. I never fought with them to nurse, I would wait my turn. I was just being a lady; I knew I was destined to be a Southern Belle and a Queen. I'm beautiful; don't you think? Do you want to pet me?



I like everyone. I have a scruffy little stepbrother who thinks he's a big dog. Says he's from Scotland; whatever, I heard he's really from the Midwest. He's always getting into trouble, chasing my cats; hunting for squirrels. One day he got loose, chased the ducks and jumped into the pond. He's a silly little boy and I spend much of the day humoring him—he thinks he's a knight and needs to defend my honor.

I like being the Queen of the whole dang town. Next time you see me you can tell me how beautiful I am; I'll even let you pet me!

Lifeguards Needed

Looking for a summer job? Your neighborhood pool is hiring qualified hardworking people to become Lifeguards and Pool Managers. We provide Lifeguard and Pool Operator training, as well as placing you at a nearby pool. Have fun working outside, learning important job skills, and making money! If interested call Continental Pools Inc at (703) 321-7040 or visit our website at www.continentalpools.com.