

July 2010



THE ACORN



FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

On Father's Day weekend, a group of our neighborhood Scouts from Troop 160 and their leaders refurbished the small tot lot between Ox Hill Road and Lt. Nichols Road. This was an Eagle Scout project—something to make a Dad proud! New spring toys and balance games were added for the tots, as well as a new trash can and bench seat for the expected overflow crowd. A footrest was added to another bench so your feet do not dangle when sitting. Don't miss out on what is sure to be the new neighborhood hot spot for the under-three-foot crowd.

I regret to inform the community that our Homeowners Association Director, **Peter Okoli**, had to resign his position. **Peter** accepted a job in Indiana that started immediately so he will be unable to continue. Our thanks to **Peter** for his tenure on the Board and best wishes to him and his family in their new home state.

Peter also was heading up our Traffic Calming Committee. The Committee will continue as we work toward presenting the community with a traffic control plan. During the summer, we hope to send out information about the plan and an FAQ sheet addressing some common questions that have been raised. We will make that information available in several ways to residents, so stand by.

Short and sweet this month; see you in July.

Architectural Review Board. The Architectural Review Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. on July 13th at 12549 Lt. Nichols Road to review all completed applications received at least *seven days* before the meeting. An agenda for the meeting will be posted on the FOEHA Web site (www.foeha.org) prior to the meeting.

Special Note. The ARB wishes to extend sincere condolences to the **Treiber** family. **Art Treiber** was a dedicated member of the ARB for many, many years. His knowledge and expertise were invaluable in maintaining Fair Oaks Estates as a neighborhood that families enjoy and home buyers desire. **Art** was professionally objective and meticulous, personally kind and funny, and a pleasure to work with. He will be dearly missed.

Important Note. Please be sure to submit your applications 30 days in advance. It is important that you follow the instructions closely on the application, such as providing a site plan (plat) of your property showing the locations of new decks, removal of trees, and so forth. Incomplete applications will slow the approval process.

ARB June 15th Meeting Results: Four applications were submitted—installing a koi pond; a new second deck; a replacement deck and new fence; and a new fence. All applications were approved.

The Acorn July 2010

Contact information. Sequoia Management is your primary contact for submission of ARB applications, requests for re-sale packets, and reports of ARB violations. Contact Jan Fenton, Fair Oaks Estates Homeowners Association, c/o Sequoia Management Company, Inc., 13998 Parkeast Circle, Chantilly, VA 20151-2283, 703-803-9641, 703-968-0936 (fax), or e-mail jfenton@sequoiamanagement.com.

Open Space Committee. The major event this month was the completion of the Eagle Scout project to improve the tot lot. It was a well-managed project that resulted in a big improvement. Many thanks to:

- Boy Scout Troop 160 Scouts, leaders, and parents.
- Home Depot on West Ox Road, which gave a discount on supplies.
- United Rentals in Sterling, which gave a discount on the auger rental.

- The Becker family, who let the Scouts use their water and electricity hook-ups.

Other Open Space activity included working with the landscaping contractor to “fine-tune” the mow area. We also had them remove a pile of tree limbs and debris by the dry pond near the West Ox Road entrance. In addition, there was the usual tree work.

FOEHA Flashes. Certain events arise where rapid communications are best handled electronically. Consider checking the Fair Oaks Web site for “What’s New” postings. For those of you who find e-mails helpful, we would like to compile your addresses. They would be safeguarded and used only for time-sensitive notices from the Board, such as change of date for a homeowners meeting. Recipients would not see addresses for others on the e-mail. If you would like to participate, please send a note to **Rick Oborn** at obornr@cox.net.

FROM THE PAGES OF THE ACORN

Here’s more news from *The Acorn* from 25 years ago. These items are from July 1986:

- July was to be the month that the Media General Cable company would be canvassing neighborhood residents to obtain authorization for easements to install television cable and associated equipment. Actual installation of the cable and the start of cable TV service was still months away, however.
- We noted that two new residents had “arrived” in June: **Ryan McCartney**, born on June 18th, and **Daniel Stana**, born on June 20th. Both the **Stana** and **McCartney** families still live here.
- Home sales were booming, with 12 new sales noted in June. A Monroe model with a finished basement and two decks topped the price list at \$189,500.
- A “Crime Watch” article reminded residents that successful efforts to combat crime require cooperation between police and citizens and that we all need to get involved. The article went on, “Whenever you observe a suspicious person, vehicle, or event, call the police! Never assume that someone else will do the job and don’t be worried about ‘bothering’ the police: their job is to be ‘bothered’ by law-abiding citizens trying to prevent crime.” That advice still applies today.

The Acorn July 2010

FAIR OAKS RECREATION ASSOCIATION (FORA) NEWS

With the number of houses being sold in the neighborhood and new families moving in, we thought it important to inform everyone about the nature of the pool memberships. The memberships held in the neighborhood are considered “permanent memberships.” This means that the membership must be maintained every year by either paying the annual dues or an inactive fee. If the dues or fee are not paid, the membership is considered not in good standing. In order to use the pool, the household must rejoin the pool and pay the initiation fee again. So it is important if you move into the neighborhood and think you have a pool membership to contact the FORA Board at membership@fairoaksrec.com.

Also, if residents of Fair Oaks Estates choose not to belong to the pool, they are *not* allowed as guests at the pool. This rule is in place to encourage residents to join the pool and keep up our permanent memberships.

Another rule that has been in question is when kids can be unaccompanied at the pool. Kids between the ages of 9 and 12 who have passed the swim test are allowed to come to the pool unaccompanied but must leave at 6:00 p.m.

Join the Fair Oaks Recreation Association Independence Day Celebration on *Sunday, July 4th!* Events include:

- 9:30 a.m., Parade (starting from the corner of Washington Brice Road and Charles Stewart Drive)
- 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m., Barbecue
- 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., Games
- 3:00 p.m., Snow Cones
- 4:30 p.m., Coin Toss
- 6:00 p.m., Pool Closes

Just a reminder that non-member guests (people who do not belong to the pool) will *not* be admitted to the pool during this event.

We are looking for volunteers to help make the celebration a success! Please consider donating an hour of your time to help. If you are interested, please e-mail social@fairoaksrec.com or sign up in the pool office.

FAIR OAKS SHARKS SWIM TEAM NEWS

The swim season is off to a great start! In the first A-Meet of the year, the Sharks defeated Country Club Hills by a score of 219 to 183 on June 26th. The Sharks will host additional home meets on July 5th at 6:00 p.m., July 19th at 6:00 p.m., and July 24th at 9:00 a.m. Come cheer on the team and enjoy our fabulous concession stand, the Shark Shack!

The summer practice schedule is:

- 8:00 - 9:00 a.m., 10 and Under swimmers
- 9:00 - 10:00 a.m., 11 and Over swimmers
- 10:05 - 11:50 a.m., Junior Sharks

For more information, check out www.vikaza.com/FairOaksSharks.

The Acorn July 2010

FAREWELL TO ROGER SHERMAN AND KATHY LYTLE

Egads! There are more “original” Fair Oaks Estates homeowners departing. **Roger Sherman** and **Kathy Lytle** of 12488 Alexander Cornell Drive have departed Fair Oaks Estates to take up residence at Ashby Ponds, an Erickson Living retirement community in Ashburn, Virginia. **Roger** says he and **Kathy** were feted with a fantastic surprise farewell party by their friends and neighbors and that they will truly miss them and the neighborhood they have appreciated so much these many years. Fair Oaks Estates will miss them too.

Among other neighborhood contributions, **Kathy** and **Roger** created an extensive array of Japanese gardening accents and unique evergreens to landscape their home without fencing. Their Miniature Schnauzers—first **Duchesse** and then the ‘**Tessa**—frequently greeted neighbors, and **Apollo** always had visitor rights to their biscuits. Having survived Stage 4 throat cancer and its treatment with **Kathy’s** care in 2000, **Roger** is now both a part-time consultant for Alpha Informatics Ltd and is **Kathy’s** part-time caregiver at their nearby Ashby Ponds apartment. Unfortunately, he will no longer greet you as an Election Officer at Navy Elementary School.

Kathy retired from Fairfax County Public Schools after driving school buses for more than 20 years; her last and most rewarding assignments were for Special Education students. **Kathy** also served numerous stints on the Architectural Review Board, evaluating requests for modifications from homeowners and maintaining ARB records. **Roger** retired from full-time work in 1999 as a multi-disciplined Program (Systems) Engineer/Manager with more than 40 years experience in digital data communications, automation consulting, and all phases of computer-supported information system development, integration, and enhancement for the Federal Government. His professional employment began with more than three years of active duty as a US Army Counterintelligence Corps Field Agent stationed in Japan, Korea, and the US. His Federal clients included the Department of Justice, Defense Mapping Agency, National Photographic Interpretation Center, Department of Defense, Department of Interior, Department of Commerce, and the Treasury Department, among other agencies. We wish **Roger** and **Kathy** all the best as they embark upon their new lives in Ashburn.

WATCH OUT, LANCE ARMSTRONG

Have you been wondering where some of your neighbors are headed at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday mornings? Why, it’s to the W&OD trail, of course! Four years ago, a group of Fair Oaks Estates residents formed a group affectionately known as the Fair Oaks Geezers Bike Club. The Club at this point consists of a group of men, typically over 50, who enjoy bicycling at a leisurely but respectable pace on round-trip runs from Reston Town Center to destinations such as Falls Church, Leesburg, and even Purcellville. As the season progresses and legs get stronger, the distance typically increases from about 20 to 40 miles, depending on the time of season, the mix of riders, and the weather.

The Geezers regulars from Fair Oaks Estates include **Tim Dyer**, **Rich Stana**, **Glenn Bickham**, and, until he and his wife **Makoto** moved to Richmond recently, **Ben Wharton**. **Pete Perkins**, **John Lambert**, **Pete Spreen**, **Ray Miller** (all of Fair Oaks Estates), **Johnny Babich** (Fair Woods town homes), and **Mike Catlett**, **Marco Fraina**, and **Steve Colyer** (other non-Fair Oaks Estates residents) have enjoyed the rides with the Geezers Club from time to time. Although they may not yet be as established as the Fair Oaks “Stitchin’ Time” Sewing Group, don’t be surprised if you spot some of The Geezers in the Fair Oaks Estates Fourth of July parade! If you’re interested in participating in future Geezers Club rides, contact **Tim Dyer** at tdyer1@aol.com for more details.

REMEMBERING ART TREIBER

The Fair Oaks Estates community mourns the death on Tuesday, June 22nd of one of our original residents, **Art Treiber**, who with his wife, **Mary Ann**, moved into their home on Ox Hill Road in 1982. He was 79. **Art** and **Mary Ann** were long-time Northern Virginia residents, having also lived in Falls Church and Wolf Trap. **Mary Ann** said they came to Fair Oaks to downsize after their children had left home and to escape the growing traffic congestion in the Route 7-Tyson's Corner area.

Art was born and grew up in Connecticut, and he and **Mary Ann**—a Navy brat with no fixed home—met when they both attended the University of South Carolina in Columbia, South Carolina. **Art** was in Naval ROTC and after graduation became a US Navy aviator, flying fighter aircraft off carriers—including several combat tours in the South China Sea aboard the USS Enterprise during the Vietnam War. He also served at the Pentagon and, after retiring from the Navy as a Captain (O-6), worked for the Mitre Corporation for about 10 years until he retired for good. **Art** and **Mary Ann** married in 1953 and had four children—**Linda**, who lives in Ashburn; **Martha**, who lives in Bowie, Maryland; **Mary**, who lives near London, England (she married a Brit); and **Paul**, who lives in San Diego. They also have seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Apart from being an original resident, **Art** was one of the most active and involved people in our neighborhood, doing great work for the Homeowners Association and the community in a variety of positions. **Art** served on the Board of Directors from 1999-2001 and was President in 2001. He served for a very long time on the Architectural Review Board, including up until just a month before his death, and he also had been working with the Traffic Calming Committee, a cause that was near and dear to his heart. Although he claimed not to be a geek, **Art** was the Webmeister for many years for the Fair Oaks Estates Homepage, ensuring that updates—including selected portions of *The Acorn*—were posted promptly and accurately. He also beautified the neighborhood with his well-tended yard, which, until his health began to fail several years ago, included a lovely raised rose bed garden along his pipestem.

During the past year or so, **Art** had been in and out of Fair Oaks Hospital with a variety of ailments but had always pulled through. **Mary Ann** said on the Sunday before he died—which was Father's Day—that she thought he was feeling better because, after eight days in intensive care, he was “beginning to fuss a bit,” which she took as a good sign. His “fussiness” probably had something to do with his heritage as a US Navy fighter pilot! **Art** will be buried in Arlington National Cemetery with Full Military Honors on Wednesday, October 20th. We salute **Art** for his military service and his many contributions to Fair Oaks Estates over the years. We offer our sincere condolences to **Mary Ann** and to the rest of his family.



The Acorn July 2010

AND NOW IT'S JULY—HAPPY FOURTH!

The Second Annual Firefly Festival. The Second Annual Firefly Festival will be held on Sunday, July 11th, at C.F. Smith Park, 2411 N. 24th Street, Arlington, Virginia, from 7:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. All ages are welcome to celebrate summer's natural night lights with us. We'll have lots of ways to have fun and learn all about the critters that light up the night. Events include bug hunts, games, crafts, walks, and talks about fireflies. Bring your picnic blanket and dinner to enjoy as we wait for the sun to go down and the lights to come out. Cancelled if it's raining. For information, call 703-228-6535. \$5 fee per person, \$20 maximum per family, payable on the day of the program.

Drivers Beware. Here's a good reminder for all of us who back out of our driveways onto our main roads—especially Ox Hill Road and Charles Stewart Drive, which both carry a lot of traffic—every time we leave home. In late May, a resident was backing out of the driveway into Ox Hill Road and was struck by a car driven by a cut-through driver (i.e., the driver didn't live in the neighborhood). The Fair Oaks resident thought the accident was caused because the other driver was speeding, but the police judgment was that the resident was at fault for failing to yield the right-of-way. The applicable section of the Fairfax County Code reads as follows: "The driver of a vehicle entering a public highway or sidewalk from a private road, driveway, alley or building shall stop immediately before entering such highway or sidewalk, shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles approaching on such public highway or to all pedestrians or vehicles approaching on such public sidewalks." In addition, if you are parked on the road in front of your house and are pulling away from the curb, you must use your turn signal to indicate your intention to move into traffic. Again, however, you must yield the right-of-way to approaching vehicles.

Library Service Cuts. The Fairfax County Public Library will change its hours as a result of County-wide budget reductions. The new hours will take effect on July 1st. Regional and community library branches, including the Chantilly Regional Library on Stringfellow Road, will alternate morning and evening hours four days a week. Although the change represents a reduction in the overall number of hours the library is open each week, the new schedule allows branches to extend their evening hours from 8:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. The new hours of operation are: Monday, 1:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.; Tuesday, 10:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m.; Wednesday, 1:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.; Thursday, 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.; Friday, 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday hours remain unchanged—from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays and from 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. on Sunday. The budget cuts also have required the library to eliminate 70 positions and realign library staff. Information about the County budget can be found on the [Fairfax County Web site](#). Many library transactions, such as browsing the online catalog, downloading electronic resources, conducting research, reserving a book or DVD, registering for events, booking meeting rooms, and more, can be done online.

FROM THE EDITORS

Well, if it's not one thing, it's another. Remember several months ago when we were shoveling all those feet of snow and slipping and sliding our way up and down the streets of the neighborhood? The worst winter looks like it's going to be followed by the worst summer—we've had the hottest spring on record, and we've already exceeded the number of 90-degree days that we had all last year. Get ready for July and August! Mr. Editor is patting himself on the back for deciding to rejoin the Recreation Association this season after many years away.

The outlook is grim, however. The lawn is already parched, the beautiful blue hydrangea flowers outside the breakfast nook are fried and browning on

the tops and around the edges, and the other flowers in the garden are struggling to survive. The weather extremes call to mind Robert Frost's poem, "Fire and Ice." ("Some say the world will end in fire, Some say in ice.") The poet said that he would "hold with those who favor fire," but added that "for destruction ice is also great and would suffice."

You'll notice that we've condensed the "Bulletin Board" section again this month because of the press of other news. Of particular significance, we note the passing of former Homeowners Association President **Art Treiber**, a mainstay in the community for nearly 28 years. May he rest in peace.