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Alexandria, VA

December 2011

BOARD NOMINATIONS UPDATE

Due to unforeseen events, another position on the PLHA Board of Directors has opened up. There are now five seats open, so please vote for up to five candidates. We currently have five declared candidates (two candidates declared their candidacy after the annual mailing of the ballots). The current candidates are Richard Hall, Vicki McLeod, David Mugan, Warren Wesley, and Gary Woodlin. You may also vote for write-in candidates. We anticipate needing a continuation meeting to reach quorum for the election. The continuation meeting is scheduled for December 19. Biographies for all of the candidates will be included in a mailing of new ballots after our December 6 meeting and prior to December 19. Ballots will be counted on December 19. Biographies for the two new candidates are included in this issue of the Needle. If you are interested in becoming a candidate, please contact any member of the nominations committee or the PLHA office staff at 703-360-6212 or plha@verizon.net immediately. You may also declare your candidacy at the Annual Meeting on December 6. Now is your time to make a difference in our community. Please plan to attend the Annual Meeting beginning at 7:30 PM on December 6 in Room 221 AB of the South County building just off of Buckman Road.



HELLO WINTER!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



PLHA Calendar for December

Regular meetings in PLHA office @ 7:30 PM

December 6	Annual Meeting at 7:30 PM in Room 221 AB of the South County Center
December 7	Garden Club
December 12	Neighborhood Watch
December 13	ACC
December 16	Needle Deadline
December 19	Continuation of Annual Meeting at 7:30 PM in Room 221 AB of the South County Center
December 26	Office Closed for Christmas. Normal Trash Collection.
December 27	Maintenance Committee

Editor's Side-Chat

As December rolls in, I am usually filled with anticipation, not so because of gifts but curious of what may happen in the New Year. This time bring about an opportunity for reflection of the past year and how to prepare better for the future. I also love to check out the lights and creative decorations.

If you are looking for things to do, I've listed a few places/events to check out (for all ages) nearby and guess what...they're FREE!

- **Holiday Boat Parade of Lights** (Old Town Alexandria) on Saturday, Dec. 3rd at 4 PM
- **Mount Vernon Rec Center's Holiday Ice Show** on Saturday, Dec. 10th from 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM
- **Harbor Lights Festival at the National Harbor** (Runs nightly every half hour from sunset 'til 10 PM) from now through January 1, 2012.
- **ZooLights at the National Zoo** Friday-Sunday Nights (Now through December 11th) Every Night from December 16th – January 1st (except Dec. 24th, 25th, and 31st) Time: 5-9 PM
Note: Admission is free; certain activities (i.e. ice skating costs a fee.)

Please call or check online for details before making a trip. I also suggest checking out local school or community plays or church programs to slip into the mood of this wonderful season!

As I wrap up, consider those in need. There are plenty of ways to offer charity. Look up the various organizations in our area.

Hope you all enjoyed Thanksgiving. Let's continue to be grateful even if we don't receive everything (or anything) off our list this year. Have fun and be safe!

Coloring Pages Pumpkin Patch



TYLER

<http://www.crayola.com/free-coloring-pages/print/pumpkin-patch-coloring-page/>

10/12/2011

(Art picture was submitted by Tyler. Thank you.)

Neighborhood Watch

By Tricia Gosby

Holiday Greetings from the Neighborhood Watch Committee!



Holiday Shopping Hint: While you are out holiday shopping do not leave purchases in the back seat of your car: lock them in your trunk. This may deter the criminals from helping themselves to your items. As always, please continue to report ANY suspicious activity. Call 703-691-2131, the police non-emergency number. Let them decide how important the incident is.

We always need new members, why not join the Neighborhood Watch in the New Year.

Outstanding Homes of the Year Award

from the Architectural Control Committee (ACC)

While going through the nominating process last year, the ACC discovered that there were no written criteria on which to judge homes as Outstanding. So we defined the evaluation criteria and made changes to the Outstanding Homes of the Year Award. The criteria and changes were published in the June 2011 Needle. Basically, homes will be judged on the basis of being most in compliance with ACC standards and then on having curb appeal. The ACC members evaluated homes in June of this year and again in September. The reason we decided to inspect twice is to ensure that we are recognizing the homeowners who consistently keep their homes in the best condition. The biggest change to the program is in the areas we will be inspecting. Unlike years past, we inspect both the front and rear of all homes, as well as the side yards of end units. The number of awards will be limited to no more than 10% of the community.

The ACC wants to thank all homeowners who maintain their homes for your efforts to improve the appearance of our community.

2011 LIST OF OUTSTANDING HOMES

<u>AMBLEWOOD ROAD</u> 4309 Amblerwood Rd.	<u>OAKLAKE COURT</u> 8117 Oaklake Ct.
<u>ARENDALE SQUARE</u> 4511 Arendale Sq. 4513 Arendale Sq. 4518 Arendale Sq.	<u>PINELAKE COURT</u> 8100 Pinelake Ct. 8108 Pinelake Ct. 8120 Pinelake Ct. 8126 Pinelake Ct. 8130 Pinelake Ct. 8132 Pinelake Ct.
<u>BIRCHLAKE COURT</u> 4330 Birchlake Ct. 4331 Birchlake Ct. 4333 Birchlake Ct.	<u>SAINT ANNES COURT</u> 8043 Saint Annes Ct. 8058 Saint Annes Ct. 8059 Saint Annes Ct. 8062 Saint Annes Ct.
<u>CEDARLAKE COURT</u> 4317 Cedarlake Ct.	<u>CENTRAL PARK DRIVE</u> 8076 Central Park Dr.
<u>LAKE PARK DRIVE</u> 8108 Lake Park Dr. 8123 Lake Park Dr.	<u>GRAMERCY CIRCLE</u> 4302 Gramercy Cir. 4333 Gramercy Cir. 4347 Gramercy Cir.
<u>LAWRENCE STREET</u> 4327 Lawrence St.	
<u>FERNLAKE COURT</u> 8166 Fernlake Ct. 8172 Fernlake Ct. 8178 Fernlake Ct. 8180 Fernlake Ct.	

<u>SCARBOROUGH SQUARE</u> 4414 Scarborough Sq. 4416 Scarborough Sq. 4427 Scarborough Sq. 4435 Scarborough Sq.	<u>LONGWORTHE SQUARE</u> 4409 Longworthe Sq. 4413 Longworthe Sq. 4420 Longworthe Sq. 4429 Longworthe Sq.
<u>SQUIREDALE SQUARE</u> 4500 Squiredale Sq. 4505 Squiredale Sq. 4530 Squiredale Sq. 4532 Squiredale Sq.	<u>CENTRAL PARK CIR.</u> 7921 Central Park Cir. 7938 Central Park Cir. 7939 Central Park Cir. 7973 Central Park Cir. 7979 Central Park Cir.

Notes from the Maintenance Committee

The Maintenance Committee has been very busy this year. We re-paved Arendale Square as well as a portion of Lakepark Drive. We fixed several potholes and large sections of concrete sidewalks. The maintenance committee took on a project to improve Gramercy Circle Park by removing the old crumbling pavement and outdated playground equipment. We installed a new playground with equipment suitable for kids age 3-5.

Our maintenance contractor, RCR services, has been busy clearing trees, mowing grass, and plowing snow. Our part time maintenance worker, Rick, has done an excellent job addressing the electrical issues throughout the community. Next year we have several important projects in store. We will do more paving and sidewalk repair. We will work on restoring the asphalt pathways. If you have an area near your residence that needs concrete or asphalt repair, please contact the office or a Maintenance Committee member.

The committee will also be doing a restoration project in Scarborough Square. Frank Holub and Will Parks worked with the county to receive a grant for improving our committee. This project will work on filling in the depressions in Scarborough, planting new gardens, and fixing the paths. This part of our community was originally leveled using construction debris when the houses were built. This has contributed to the uneven surfaces.

The committee would like to remind residents that if you see something that needs to be repaired on our streets, lights, fences, the lake, playgrounds, or common areas, please contact the office. You can make a difference for Pinewood Lake by reporting what you see. We are always looking for new members. We meet on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7:30 pm in the community center. Help us keep Pinewood Lake looking great and have a wonderful new year.

Additional 2011 Candidates for the Pinewood Lake Homeowners Association Board of Directors

(Bios for Richard Hall, Vicki McLeod, and Warren Wesley were printed in the November Needle.)

Each candidate was asked to submit a brief biography and his/her answer to the following question: List the three most important issues facing Pinewood Lake.

DAVID MUGAN

I grew up on the streets of Grand Blanc, MI, a product of a dysfunctional home which subsequently resulted in divorce at the age of 5 and I remember my mother's tearful departure as we drove to the city of Grand Blanc with us three kids. Childhood was the best I could imagine, I had the freedom to do whatever I wanted, to play baseball, basketball or football and we even played wiffle ball in my back yard, certainly a God given privilege that I enjoyed. Fast forward, I attended Albion College, played football, was kicked out for a spell, reinstated, later earned a Masters Degree in Public Administration (i.e. Government Work) from American University and then went on to earn a Juris Doctor degree from the George Mason University School of Law. Lots of bumps, financial hardships and hard work along the way but I am the same person who beat up the bully at school when required, prefer playing baseball rather than studying "the law" or regulations, and appreciate my good friends.

The three most important issues facing Pinewood Lake:

Community Building and Outreach

In any successful organization, I think the key is building a vested interest in the community. Currently, like most, I receive the hard copy Needle, say hello to my neighbors and go about my workday always cognizant of when I need to pay the \$120 HOA fee. That's the sum total of my interaction, except that the HOA attempted, without success, to sue me for the repair of a fence that was not on my property! Without digressing, my idea is to incrementally improve community relations. The first step is to improve the PLA's website to make it interactive as a forum to better connect the community and discontinue the printing and delivery of the Needle. The PLA's website, as best that we can manage or afford, should provide a forum for dialogue and/or blogs and we should provide a forum for commercial and volunteer transactions within the community, i.e. before seeking an outside contractor, the first choice should be to keep the business in our community to establish bonified relationships. For

[Nominations Committee Note: Answer was cut off at the word number limit imposed by the Nominations Committee. Candidate requested that the extra words be cut off rather than revising his submission himself.]

GARY WOODLIN

I am a member of the United States Military where I have spent the last 17-years serving my country. Prior to joining the military, I successfully managed companies within the retail industry with annual sales of over 2 million dollars. I have had the pleasure of living in Pinewood Lake with my wife Antonia and two sons for the last 4-years. My background is extensive and varied, having served on several standing and executive committees throughout my career. My education includes a dual Masters Degree in Human Resource Management and Business Administration (MBA). I was a member of the Associations Marketing Committee where I served a little over one year, prior to being reassigned to Korea. Our community requires leaders with vision, adaptability and the ability to educate its members of what is going on throughout our neighborhood. This will further develop this community and help to make it better. I possess those qualities.

The three most important issues facing Pinewood Lake:

The three areas I believe should be the focus of our association are 1) Maintaining and increasing the values of our homes while the economy improves. This is a delicate balance which includes improving the appearance of our homes, while at the same time not overburdening owners financially. 2) We need to make our community a safe and fun place to live. With the size of our community, there is no reason we shouldn't have a community center or gym for individuals to relax and enjoy the company of fellow residents. Of course this will cost money, however, with a triple AAA credit rating this should not be an issue. 3) We must remain financially solvent. This may require adopting fair and balance processes in order to recoup monies owed to the association. Fines and assessments on individuals, who have a hard time paying their current bills, should not be seen as a means to raise capital.

PLHA TREASURER'S REPORT
PREPARED FOR THE NOVEMBER 10, 2011 BOARD MEETING
 BY JACK KAUFMAN

The following information was derived from the data included in the PLHA general ledger accounts and related accounting records and reports.

OCTOBER 2011

The total cash balance at the end of the month was \$2,165,103. An analysis of this balance and comparisons with prior periods follows.

	Oct 2011	Sept 2011	Oct 2010
In transit	\$3,923	\$5,006	\$1,029
Operations	\$160,901	\$151,399	\$175,398
Reserve	\$2,000,279	\$1,988,320	\$1,929,031
Total	\$2,165,103	\$2,144,715	\$2,105,458

DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS

The balance for the delinquent accounts on October 31, 2011 was \$100,288 (\$93,573 for dues). The current balance and comparisons with prior periods follows.

	Oct 2011	Sept 2011	Oct 2010
Balance	\$ 100,288	\$ 105,256	\$ 110,784
90 days or more	\$ 83,214	\$ 88,275	\$91,086
# of accounts over \$1,000 in 90 day or older category	25	26	25

Please Note: If you would like to access the complete version of this report, please request a copy from the PLHA office.

The Needle Advertising Policy:

- Free personal ads from Pinewood residents and absentee owners that offer "one-time" sale of goods or requests for goods/services;
- Paid commercial ads from businesses

REMINDER -

ACC will meet Dec. 13th. Normal meeting day was changed due to annual meeting.

Pinewood Lake Homeowners Association

www.pinewood-lake.com

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Alexandria, VA 22309-1209
Phone: 703-360-6212
FAX: 703-360-6771
email: plha@verizon.net

Office Hours:

12 PM - 3 PM Monday-Friday
9 AM - 12 Noon Saturday
Community Manager: Kirsten Davis
Asst Community Mgr: Karen Mestemaker
Admin Assistant: Vikki Silver

Board of Directors

President:	Bill Gleason
Vice President:	Nancy Razzino
Secretary:	Rich Hall
Treasurer:	Jack Kaufman
Members at Large:	Delna Clark
Vicki McLeod	Brian Palazzolo

The Pinewood Lake Needle Staff

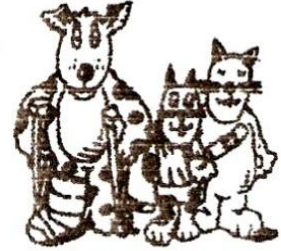
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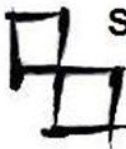
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