

# The Needle

Pinewood Lake Homeowners Association

[www.pinewood-lake.com](http://www.pinewood-lake.com)

January 2008

## ANNUAL MEETING

Our annual meeting was held December 3. It included discussion of the ACC recommendation on paint standards and recognition of the 2007 volunteers and Outstanding Home Awards. Each committee, the Board Treasurer, and the Board President gave reports that emphasized the progress that has been made over the past year and identified the challenges that lie ahead. Because there were insufficient homeowners represented by proxy to vote on members for the Board of Directors, that action was postponed until December 17.

On December 17<sup>th</sup> tellers Peggy Parsons and Dick Knapp and election inspectors Sidney Jenkins, Ione Knapp and Brian Palazzolo reported:

Eligible voters	453
Quorum	136
Votes cast by eligible voters	139

Ballot results:

Mark Brewer	89
Melissa French	27
Bill Gleason	76
Charles Hale	50
Richard Hall	55
David McAuley	86
Vicki McLeod	72
David Muga	4
Marllan Valerio	52

Ballots submitted by ineligible voters	1
Illegal votes cast by eligible voters	6

Elected to three-year terms: Mark Brewer  
David McAuley  
Bill Gleason

Elected to one-year term: Vicki McLeod

## WHEN IT SNOWS:

- **park** cars in your parking pad (*always do this so visitors can use street parking*);
- **do not** park cars across the end of your parking pad;
- on Amblewood, Fernlake and the squares, snow will be plowed away from the parking pads (*cars on the street may be plowed in*);
- on the courts, snow will be plowed to the end of the court and piled in corners;
- **do not** shovel snow from your parking pad into the street (*this snow may or may not be removed by the contractor*);
- sanding and "salting" (*ice melt*) will be at street corners and intersections as needed;
- Lakepark, Lawrence and Central Park Drive are state roads plowed by the county;
- **shovel** the sidewalk in front of your house.

Be considerate of your neighbors and support our contractor during snow or ice storms.

Chris Ream

703-360-1712

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**Ice & Our Lake:** It is never safe to walk on our lake – warn your children.

### Trash & Our Community:

- Community trash cans are **not** for household trash;
- Keep our community clean – pick up trash.

### Trash & You:

- Store trash/recycling containers out of sight;
- Store trash in secure containers;
- Put trash/recycling out after sunset;
- Remove trash/recycling containers from the street by midnight the day they are collected.

<b>2008 MONTHLY ASSESSMENT</b>
<b>\$112</b>

## OUTSIDE WATER FAUCETS

Now is the time to turn the water off to your outside faucets - especially the rear faucet that has burst in many Pinewood homes.

### ATTENTION DOG OWNERS

When walking around the lake – please turn to your right.

If all dog walkers travel in the same direction, you won't pass other dogs along the path.

### CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOG

Every time – everywhere you walk!

### TRASH ALERT

The crows are becoming quite active on trash days and making a mess around the community. **Please use sturdy, closed trash cans or tied thick black trash bags** in order to discourage the crows from breaking into the trash bags.

Please place your trash out as close to 7 AM on Mondays and Thursdays as possible in order to minimize the amount of time the crows can access it.

Also, during recent windy days a lot of trash has been blowing around the community. **Be sure trash bags are tied tightly.**

To honor

### Bev Card

for her dedicated service  
to our Board of Directors.

1996-2008

## OUR LAKE NEVER FREEZES SOLID

Talk with your children about the danger of our lake when it appears frozen. Moving water underneath the ice always makes walking on it unsafe.



### Pinewood Lake Homeowners Association

[www.pinewood-lake.com](http://www.pinewood-lake.com)

8159 Fernlake Court  
Alexandria, VA 22309-1209

Phone: 703-360-6212

FAX: 703-360-6771

email: [plha@verizon.net](mailto: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: Karla Duggan

### Board of Directors

President: Nancy Razzino

Vice President: Bill Kiehl

Secretary: Dave McAuley

Treasurer: Jack Kaufman

Members at Large: Mark Brewer Delna Clark

Bill Gleason Vicki McLeod

Burnette Scarboro

### The Pinewood Lake Needle Staff

Editor: Bev Card

Webmaster: Kirsten Davis

Advertising Manager: Lois Passman

Phone: 703-780-4236 Fax: 703-780-6903

The *Needle* is the official publication of the Pinewood Lake Homeowners Association. Advertising in the *Needle* does not imply approval or sanction of products or services by PLHA. Noncommercial classified ads for goods are free to residents; contact Kirsten Davis. For commercial classifieds contact Lois Passman.

## OPEN LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY

I think that all of us can agree that the past nine months have been lively when it comes to our debates about the Mosca Paint Study. In meeting after meeting - beginning late last spring with the ACC that was attended by close to 60 individuals - the community has come forward with many well stated opinions and reactions concerning both the Mosca report itself and the recommendations of the ACC. That discussion continued at the PLHA annual meeting on December 3, a well attended affair that witnessed a passionate exchange of views over the final recommendations of the ACC to the Board.

From my perspective as Chair of the ACC -- and here I speak only for myself and not for the other members of the Committee - this has been an encouraging moment in our history. It is a truism that we are a volunteer homeowners' association, and if that truism has any meaning, it means that we may sometimes disagree on important matters, as has been the case here at certain junctures. That is the nature of democracy - sometimes messy, sometimes loud, sometimes even a bit angry, but never dull. Always reflecting the human condition. It is why Winston Churchill, the famous British leader during World War II, once said - "Democracy is a terrible form of government, except for all the rest." I agree and it has been both an honor and a learning experience to be part of this process and to listen to so many of you, with many outstanding thoughts and reactions.

There is one point, however, that I hope we keep in mind as we go forward from this point in the ongoing debate - and that is need to try to keep our discussion focused on the main point of the Mosca Study (*and subsequent recommendation*). And it was and is this: **Mosca believed that the proliferation of colors across our community detracted from its value and distinction.** Consequently, the best way to restore that value was to recommend a soft color palette

that would call attention to the landscaping (*in the case of fences*) and to the architecture (*in the case of house trim*). In the end, the ACC largely agreed with the key concept of Mosca and, with a few changes, sent forward its endorsement to the Board.

It seems to me that this is exactly where the debate should go - to the question of **whether or not we want to accept what Mosca (and the ACC) regarded as a proliferation of colors in favor of a softer palette.** Or not. That is the crux of the argument, one way or another. People can honestly disagree on that issue, arguing that Mosca was wrong or overstated the case. Fair enough.

BUT - and this is the final point to be emphasized here - it is simply wrong to argue that this whole exercise is about whether or not the ACC or the Board can tell people (*homeowners*) what to do. That has never been the case, not before and not now. All meetings have been open. All meetings were announced, well in advance. The ACC meetings during which discussion took place concerning Mosca were overflowing - literally! And the recent annual meeting of PLHA was perhaps the best attended meeting during my 4 years at Pinewood. Finally - and this is important, I believe - there is nothing, absolutely nothing -- to prevent a future Board or ACC or both from recommending a whole new study or new set of recommendations.

So, to end: let's try to keep our eyes on the ball (*I love baseball, hence the reference*). That way, whatever finally is decided will be a genuine conclusion, the product of a full exchange, and one that probably will withstand the test of time across Pinewood.

Bill Gleason, ACC Chair                      703-780-2007

### THE ACC

will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 in the PLHA Office instead of Tuesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>.

Hope to see you there.

## 2007 VOLUNTEERS

Honored at the PLHA Annual Meeting.

**Thank You!**

Leilani, Elizabeth and Teddy Badley - Clean-Up  
Mike Berg - Clean-Up, Maintenance  
Fred Blanchard - Marketing, Needle Distributor  
Heidi Bopp - Clean-Up, Neighborhood Watch,  
Needle Distributor  
Gaynelle Bowden-Diaz - Clean-Up, Hospitality  
Mark Brewer - Clean-Up, Neighborhood Watch,  
Finance, Needle Distributor  
Sonney Brewer - Clean-Up, Neighborhood  
Watch  
Jim Brown - Board Member  
Bev Card - Needle Editor, Pool, Board Member  
for 12 Years!  
Jutta Caudill - Neighborhood Watch  
Delna Clark - Clean-Up, Board Member  
Geoff Clingenpeel - Clean-Up, Needle Distributor  
Jeanne Crowley - Needle Distributor  
Todd Crowley - Needle Distributor  
Grace Daniell - Clean-Up  
Dorothy Dinsmore - Clean-Up  
Bill Gee - Neighborhood Watch  
Bill Gleason - Clean-Up, ACC Chair  
Evelyn Gleason - Hospitality, Clean-Up  
Jasmin Gonzalez - Clean-Up  
Trisha Gosby - Neighborhood Watch  
Nathan Grace - Hospitality, Needle Distributor  
Zach Harman - Clean-Up  
Mayra Hernandez - Needle Distributor  
Frank Holub - Maintenance, Marketing,  
Hospitality, Pool, Clean-Up, ACC Helper  
Louise Horner - Clean-Up  
Melissa, Christopher, David Hosek - Clean-Up  
Susan Hosek - Hospitality Chair, Clean-Up  
Jennifer Hughes - Hospitality, Needle Dsistributor  
Cidney Jenkins - ACC, Clean-Up  
BJ Johnson - Hospitality  
Judy Johnson - Needle Distributor  
Robert Johnson - Needle Distributor  
Jack Kaufman - Maintenance, Finance,  
Marketing, Board Treasurer, Needle Distributor  
Bill Kiehl - Finance, Marketing, Board Vice  
President  
Dick Knapp - Marketing Chair, Clean-Up, Teller  
Ione Knapp - Marketing, Clean-Up  
Virginia Kotulak - Needle Distributor  
Evan Krauss - Clean-Up

Ginger Krup - Clean-Up, Neighborhood Watch  
Chair, Marketing  
Lynn Kurihara - Clean-Up  
Cheryl Lee - Hospitality  
Edward Leshner - Needle Distributor  
Sieglinde Leshner - Clean-Up, Neighborhood  
Watch, Needle Distributor  
Mireille Lowe - Needle Distributor  
Betty Lundy - Clean-Up, Hospitality  
Fil Martinez - Marketing  
Mary Helen Martinez - Marketing, Clean-Up  
George Matthews - Hospitality  
Dave McAuley - Board Secretary  
Vicki McLeod - Board Member  
Kathy Owen - Pool  
Tommy Owen - Pool, Hospitality  
Brian Palazzolo - Maintenance, Marketing,  
Needle Distributor, Neighborhood Watch, Clean-  
up  
Jane Palazzolo - Marketing, Needle Distributor,  
Neighborhood Watch  
Barbara Palincsar - ACC, Clean-Up  
Peggy Parsons - Needle Distributor, Teller  
Thao and Sheila Pham - Clean-Up  
Jane Quigley - Maintenance  
Nancy Razzino - Pool, Board President  
Christian Ream - Maintenance Chair, Clean-Up  
Roger Reutershan - Maintenance, Marketing  
Chair  
Brenda Rowe - Needle Distributor  
Burnette Scarboro - Board Member  
Barbara Scheeler - Hospitality  
Mike Shigley - Pool Chair, ACC Helper  
Othello Swanston - Clean-Up, Neighborhood  
Watch  
Glenn & Jamante Talbert - Clean-Up  
Gina Toro-Lugo - Clean-Up  
John Toro-Lugo - Clean-Up  
Mary Weigand - Neighborhood Watch  
Fred Whitehouse - Clean-Up  
Susan Wright - Clean-Up

There are **70 volunteers** listed – husbands,  
wives and children representing **60 families**.

There are 542 homes in Pinewood Lake.  
That means **one in every nine households**  
has volunteered this year

**Please join the list next year.  
Volunteer In your community!**

## 2008 OUTSTANDING HOMES

### **Amblewood Road**

- 4301 Dina A. Cortez
- 4309 Gary Shavlik
- 4311 Ryand & Angela Crockette
- 4321 Georgia L. Haynes

### **Arendale Square**

- 4529 Rodolfo & Silvia Portillo

### **Birchlake Court**

- 4301 Angela Stevenson
- 4310 Emmett A. Welch II
- 4313 Zhongrui Deng
- 4314 Brian & Jane Palazzolo
- 4324 Arthur & Michel Guilani
- 4326 Johnnie L. Jackson, Jr.
- 4327 M.R. Investments, Inc.
- 4328 Barbara Palincsar
- 4329 Jose A. Garcia, Teresa Bonilla
- 4330 Sandra Barbour
- 4331 William & Evelyn Gleason
- 4333 Richard Walls
- 4338 Karol B. Snyder

### **Cedarlake Court**

- 4301 Samuel & Tessa Bondurant
- 4310 Carl & Deborah Allen
- 4313 Webster & Ellen Bellfield
- 4319 Teddy D. Harlow
- 4321 Kevin & Bennita Brown
- 4323 Valentino & Gloria Sacco
- 4325 Dean & Nancy Sherick
- 4327 Curtissa L. Coleman
- 4332 James & Arnell Green
- 4334 Mark & Theresa Carter
- 4340 Larry & Maria Morgan

### **Central Park Circle**

- 7908 Mireille Lowe
- 7910 Edward & Jennifer Arquiza
- 7914 Dale L. & Linda O. Peebles
- 7916 Donald & Heather Miesle
- 7922 Shannon P. Crisp
- 7924 Teresa Van Huet
- 7934 Justin & Carmen Strickland
- 7937 Alexander & Mavis Sarpong
- 7939 Michael Berg
- 7943 Sylvia Phan
- 7951 Edward O. Burris
- 7952 R. Grande-Reyes & J. Mejia
- 7953 Minia A. Teclab
- 7959 Linda M. Barker

- 7961 Grace E. Daniell
- 7964 Jose & Elvira Urrutia
- 7967 David J. & Maria D. Valentine
- 7973 Kevin L & Pamela K Bell

### **Central Park Drive**

- 8044 Carmen Rojas
- 8050 Michael & Pamela Castellano
- 8064 Charles A. Hal

### **Fernlake Court**

- 8182 Miguel Iraheta & Maria Hernandez

### **Gramercy Circle**

- 4300 Christine A. Lozowski
- 4306 Anton K. Stocker
- 4335 Niurka Thomas
- 4341 Amy Lynn Gawne
- 4343 Lawrence W. Dickenson

### **Lawrence Street**

- 4317 Tom & Kathy Owen
- 4321 Rafael Mejia Huevo

### **Longworthe Square**

- 4401 Kwado Ameyaw Manu & Akua Otiwaa
- 4409 Cidney G. Jenkins
- 4411 Karen M. Eagle
- 4413 Edward Leshner
- 4420 Dick & Ione Knapp
- 4436 Sergio & Guadalupe Medrano
- 4440 Frank J. Holub

### **Oaklake Court**

- 8108 Mayra & Arnaldo Hernandez
- 8109 Michael Jones
- 8115 Edith & Todd MacCormac
- 8117 Benjamin & Michelle Cushwa
- 8119 John J. Baldacci

### **Pinelake Court**

- 8102 Loyd G. Coonrod, Jr.
- 8105 S. Persaud & K&S Kowlessar
- 8109 Juan Carlos & Marietta Fonseca
- 8112 Frederick E. Woods
- 8123 Orvin K. Weatherly
- 8126 Beverly M. Card
- 8131 Keith Curtis
- 8132 Gary E. & Antonia T. Woodlin
- 8134 Ronald & Nancy E. Clingenpeel
- 8136 David C. McAuley, Jr.

### **Saint Annes Court**

- 8038 Aurora Ramirez & Walter Cruz
- 8054 Lii S Doh & Ming Liu
- 8055 John Brown & Litruie Harris

- 8059 Heidi Bopp
- 8060 Charles D. Ramsey
- 8065 Demian R. Wolfe
- 8069 Jose R. Pineda

**Scarborough Square**

- 4415 Lavinia Cohen
- 4420 Jennifer Mann
- 4423 Dagnachew Abebe
- 4426 Chananan & Junrakan Mcdermott
- 4435 William & Annie Vargas
- 4437 Bounmy & Bungon Luangphinit
- 4439 Dianne B. Loving

**Squiredale Square**

- 4504 Jerry L. Williams
- 4512 Befekadu Mosa & Hannae Salim
- 4515 O'Shea R. Corbin
- 4521 Janina Plinsky
- 4525 Sylvia Dunn & Robert Baldwin
- 4530 Patricia A. Gosby
- 4531 Herman & Cheryl Lee
- 4532 Tonya Lisette Blanchard
- 4533 Frederick Blanchard

This award is based on overall curb appeal. There may be some minor ACC violations on some of these homes.

**Plan to join the list next year.  
Improve the curb appeal of your home!**

If your home was nominated to receive an outstanding home award and you have not received your plaque or certificate, please stop by the PLHA Office during business hours to receive them.

**MAINTENANCE LOG**

Park renovations continue... At the December Board Meeting, the Board of Directors accepted the recommendation of the Committee to have the playground equipment at the end of Saint Annes Court replaced. The new equipment will contain a climbing unit which has a couple of slides and other fun features; a spring toy; and a swing set with two regular swings and two baby swings. Weather permitting, the new playground equipment will be installed by spring.

Chris Ream 703-360-1712

**NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH**

For those who didn't attend the annual meeting, you missed a good one. I cannot understand why residents do not vote. How much easier can it be? The information is mailed to you at great expense, and all you have to do is vote and return your ballot. Yet, every year, not enough people vote, so more money is spent mailing a post card and time is spent scheduling another meeting. Sure isn't cost or time efficient.

Pinewood was fairly quiet this last month, for which I am grateful. The police were called for minor things however at the time they don't seem minor to those that had to call.

Be on the alert to scam artists that try to bilk you out of money for phony repair work. This new year I hope you all make a promise to better educate your children about predators and who to call when they are in trouble. I also would like to see some young people join the watch. We did have a block party and a lot of people came however it seems that the young people that were the loudest in what was wrong with Pinewood never showed up. Lets put your money where your mouth is. We are trying but you also have to make an effort for results to happen. Hope all is well with all of you and that things will be great in 08 in Pinewood.

Our watch meetings are the second Monday of the month at the PLHA office at 7:30pm and the CAC meeting is the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 at the police station. Everyone should attend one or the other. Both would be great.

Ginger Krup, NW Chair 703-780-0752

**PARKING IS AT A PREMIUM**

In order to make everyday life a bit more comfortable for all residents, if you have vehicles that you rarely drive, please park them on the state streets and leave the private street parking for guests and residents who use their vehicles every day.

## MUDDY HOLE GARDEN CLUB

A Retrospective – 2007

With one more year behind us, the **Muddy Hole Garden Club** prepares to focus on its vision for 2008. With this in mind a quick review of its objectives and purpose is in order. Having been returned from the ashes in the early 90s, the garden club is a non-profit group of garden enthusiasts. Their efforts are focused on various functions; 1) plant plus sale and 2) holiday wreath and craft fair, primarily to raise funds to provide for community landscape improvement and memorial projects. Also, the club has a seasonal banner program. This program is supported by community contributions of \$23 as well as a special donation from Jill Durante of REMAX of multiple pledges of \$100 for real estate sales in Pinewood Lake. In the fall of 2007, we had a Halloween “Great Pumpkin” excursion with Halloween treats for the kids and daffodil bulbs for community resident homeowners. Needless to say, Halloween and the Holiday wreath workshops made for a busy November to remember. Again, thanks are in order for special assistance from non-member civic-minded residents who helped in making wreaths as follows: Richard Knapp, Charles Hale, Brian Palazzolo, Mary Helen Martinez and Roger Reutershan. And certainly too all our loyal garden club members for all their hard work as work as follows: Ione Knapp, Sieglinde Leshner, Frank Holub, Stephen Papanicolas and Joyce Ramsey. And a special thanks to Courtney Dunn for keeping up the supplies of greens to make all the wreaths. And the post wreath making pizza party was a great delicious success too!!!

So what’s in store in 2008? Much of the previous year’s agenda will repeat! Hopefully, we will have some new faces and explore new perspectives to keep us even more relevant. Interested? Meetings begin on the first Wednesday of February at 7:30 in 2008 at the Frank Holub Community Center. Please be prepared to nominate and select new officers, review our finances and our 2008 budget.

Let’s get our green thumbs together and make 2008 grow. If the garden club is not your forte – there are other Pinewood Lake committees that need members also. Take some time and work in your community.

Stephen Papanicolas

703-799-7423

### TREASURER’S REPORT

	Nov 2007	Nov 2006
In transit	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500
Operations	180,378	224,734
Reserve	1,252,036	1,134,025
Total	\$ 1,433,914	\$ 1,360,259
Delinquent	\$ 52,579	\$ 20,155

Caution: This month the current delinquent balance increased by \$ 4,211. It is now \$32,424 more than it was just one year ago.

### PLHA Calendar

*Regular meetings in PLHA office @ 7:30 PM*

Jan 8	ACC
Jan 10	Board
Jan 14	Neighborhood Watch
Jan 17	Volunteer Recognition Dinner Primo’s @ 7 PM – reservations required
Jan 18	Needle Deadline
Jan 22	Maintenance
Jan 24	Marketing

### SAVE YOUR 2007 DIRECTORY

Since the 2007 directory was just recently distributed, the next directory will be published in January 2009.

### CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOG

**Every time – everywhere you walk!**

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW EMPLOYEES AND A BIG THANKS TO OUR PREVIOUS EMPLOYEES

Pinewood's new Assistant Community Manager, Karen Mestemaker, begins working January 3 from 12:00-3:00 PM.

Our new Administrative Assistant, Karla Duggan, begins January 12. She speaks Spanish and will work on Saturdays from 9:00 AM-Noon.

We will miss Carmen Nuñez, our former Assistant Community Manager, and Vikki Silver, our former Administrative Assistant.

### PAINTBALL, BB, AND AIRSOFT GUNS ARE ILLEGAL IN FAIRFAX COUNTY

The Mount Vernon Police Station recently received a complaint about a possible gun – **not in Pinewood Lake.**

Someone reported seeing a man hiding behind a tree with a handgun. Two girls approached and he pointed the gun at them causing them to scream and run away. An investigation revealed that possibly there were teenagers in the area with AirSoft guns as AirSoft rounds were located along the path.

It is very important for parents and guardians to understand that **paintball, BB, and Airsoft guns are illegal** to discharge (Class 3 Misdemeanor) in Fairfax County.

The Fairfax code can be found at:  
<http://www.municode.com/resources/gateway.asp?pid=10051&sid=46>

#### SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**Ice & Our Lake:** It is never safe to walk on our lake – warn your children.

#### Snow & Our Streets:

- Limit the cars on the street so the contractor can plow;
- DO NOT shovel snow into the street.

**Snow & Our Sidewalks:** After snow, clean the sidewalk in front of your house.

## ATTENTION DOG OWNERS

The office has received complaints about dogs barking in the neighborhood for long periods of time.

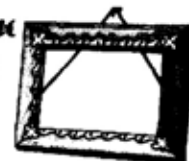
It is a violation of Fairfax County Noise Ordinance (ch. 108 of the County Code) which “forbids excessive noise from musical instruments, radios, televisions or other sound systems, as well as **disturbances by barking dogs** or other domestic animals.

**Owners are responsible for their dogs.**

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

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MATT MATHES

**I'M JILL DURANTE**  
**A Former Pinewood Lake Resident**

**I'd like to help you  
 sell your house  
 or  
 buy that smaller or bigger home  
 you're looking for!**

**Give me a call and let's talk!**



For every purchase or sale in/from Pinewood, I will make a donation to the Garden Club in your name.



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