



The Kenwood Oaks Neighborhood Association



Springfield, Virginia 22152

November 1st, 2008

Volume 2, Number 6

In This Issue

- It's the Holiday Season again....
- Opps...fooled again.
- KONA President's Message.
- The Annual KONA Picnic.
- *The Old Farmer's Almanac*, Long-Range Forecast.
- The Editor's Notebook.
- Tidbits: More totally useless information.
- Noteworthy Calendar Dates.

Contact Us

KONA President:

Bill Wojanis, email:
wswoj@aol.com.

Newsletter Editor:

Gene S. Bartlow, email:
Eagle85@cox.net.

Springfield, Virginia 22152
www.KenwoodOaks.org

It's the "Holiday Season" again....

Living in the Washington, DC, metropolitan area during the Holiday Season affords many special treats with all of the numerous local decorations and the special Christmas Trees nearby the White House and the US Capital. One way to share this special holiday spirit with family and friends is to send them a small gift as a symbol of what we experience each Holiday Season in our unique neighborhood. The White House Historical Association offers many different unique gifts. A popular holiday gift item is the annual White House Christmas Tree Ornament. Some people collect them. Check them out at this link:



<http://www.whitehousehistory.org/shop/>.

The 2008 White House Christmas ornament honors the administration of President Benjamin Harrison (1833-1901), the twenty-third president of the United States. Serving one term from 1889 to 1893, Harrison was a centennial president inaugurated 100 years after George Washington. Inspired by the Harrison family's Victorian Christmas tree, this 24-karat gold finished ornament interprets the first recorded tree to decorate the White House. The tree, laden with baubles and garland, is a canvas for all sorts of treats and toys. Beneath the tree are the presents the Harrison grandchildren received: a toy train and a wooden sled await Benjamin, Mary's rosy-cheeked doll sits on a tricycle, and nearby is Marthena's much wished for dollhouse. A Santa Claus completes the 2008 season's spectacle (\$16.95).

Useful Web Links:

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/
Link to Fairfax County Gov't.

www.geocities.com/wsca2000
Link to West Springfield Civic Association.

www.fema.gov
Link to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Important Telephone Numbers:

Police, fire and ambulance for a non-emergency:
703-691-2131

Poison Control:
800-222-1222

Power Outage:
888-667-3000

Cable Outage:
703-378-8440

Sewer Line Breaks:
703-323-1211

Animal Control:
703-830-3310

Voting Information:
703-324-4735

Traffic Tickets:
703-691-7320

Recycling Information:
703-324-5052

Fairfax Schools:
800-839-3277

Fairfax County Government:
703-324-3185

Opps...Fooled Again...A Correction Please.

It seems that the unique photo in the last KONA Newsletter, #2-5, September 1st, 2008, page 5, was a melded fake and not an actual photo. This was the fake photo of the oil rig, the tornado, the lightning bolt, and the illuminated radio tower. Fortunately, a sharp-eyed KONA member, Bob Wendling of Park View Court, spied the error and informed us offering a couple of online citations (Bob was solo in this finding). This is obviously another one of those "buyers beware" cautions regarding virtually anything that might be found on the Internet. Editorial apologies are hereby offered to our readers.

The KONA President's Message.

Our annual KONA neighborhood picnic, which is traditionally held in early September, was again a great success with over ninety of your neighbors attending. We thank the residents of Park View Court for hosting the event this year. The picnic was almost a non-happening this year because initially no one stepped up to take charge in place of the KONA President and his spouse who were traveling during most of September. Despite the calamity of rebuilding much of the O'Rourke home because of storm damage, Stacy agreed to act as general coordinator for the picnic. Thanks to my better half, Barbara, everything was put into place for the picnic prior to our departure for points west, including obtaining the county permit, paper products, condiments, and soft drinks. Also, a special thanks goes out to Henry and Yvonne Hoyle for transporting the KONA canopy and picnic supplies to and from the Wojanis' residence before and after the picnic. As usual, Dick Smith did the name tags and Carroll Hill also helped put up the canopy along with others whose names I do not have. Nor do I have the names of others who pitched in to help with other tasks. Thanks to all for a wonderful group effort and keeping up the tradition.

The KONA canopy has, however, become a challenge for handling and storage because of its bulk, size, and the need for several people to set it up. Therefore, I plan to propose to the KONA Board that we sell it and return the funds to the KONA treasury. We could then procure tents or canopies that are more user friendly for our annual picnic. Conversely, if anyone is willing to take custody of the canopy, which is ten-by-twenty feet in size and is willing to transport it, or would like to buy it, please let me know.

I plan to propose a different approach to the KONA Board regarding the annual KONA neighborhood fall clean up planned for this December. Participation at last fall's neighborhood clean up was way down and it seemed like the age bracket of those who did help was way up, like in their seventies. Many of those that showed up had diminished capacities and other maladies including sore backs, etc.

KONA Board of Directors:

*President: Bill Wojanis
Treasurer: Gene S. Bartlow
Secretary: Zoe Anagnos*

Block Captains:
*Muhammad Ahmad
Kenwood Ave. to Essex Ct.*

*TBD (Open Position)
Kenwood Ave. from Essex
Court to Lamese Court*

*Mark Susa
Kenwood Ave. from Lamese
Court to Park View Court*

*Kim Bieron
Gregory Court*

*Ulla Jackson
Essex Court*

*Leonard Kojm
Top half of Phillip Court*

*Dave Salamone
Lower half of Phillip Court*

*Kathy Marchetti
Tiburon Court*

*Dick Smith
Lamese Court*

*Nicki Johnson &
Yvonne Hoyle
Park View Court*



In any event, I'm proposing that KONA obtain the services of a local yard service to do the leaf debris pickup along Kenwood Avenue opposite Millwood townhouses. The Kenwood townhouses normally clean up their own leaf debris thru a local contractor so we need not be concerned with the upper part of Kenwood Avenue near Rolling Road. This option will ensure that we have more flexibility as to when the leaf debris is picked up should nature again provide a later leaf fall adding to the accumulation of leaf debris along Kenwood Avenue.

Let me remind you to renew your membership in KONA (\$10) for the November 2008 through October 2009 period. By now you should have an application in hand, but if you do not, please contact your KONA Block Captain or we can send you a copy *via* email.

Finally, we are still looking for a volunteer to be Block Captain for Kenwood Avenue from Essex Court to Lamese Court. Please, we really do need someone to come forward.

Bill Wojanis, KONA President

It was another wonderful KONA Picnic.

On Sunday, September 7th, KONA hosted the annual neighborhood Picnic on the *cul-de-sac* on Park View Court. The KONA Picnic Coordinator this year was Stacy O'Rourke with a lot of assistance from the neighborhood. The block-party-style festivities began around 3:00 p.m. and the last of the participants left around 6:15 p.m.



Ninety-two (92) adults including lots of children participated (by way of an actual head count, but not all at the same time) with games, lots of good food, disserts, soft drinks, *camaraderie*, etc.

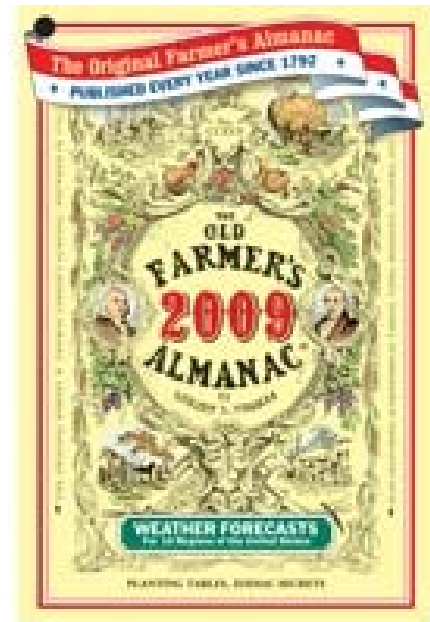
Thanks to all who assisted with the KONA Picnic planning and arrangements, assembly and disassembly; and thanks to Nickie Johnson we also have some nice digital photos of the participants and the festivities.



Old Farmer's Almanac, Long-Range Forecast.

Weather Forecast for the Mid-Atlantic Corridor, November 2008 to October 2009:

"Despite a mild November, this winter will be colder and snowier than normal, with near or above-normal precipitation. The coldest temperatures will occur in mid-December, early January, and early February. The snowiest periods will be in early and mid-December, early January, early and late February, and early March. April will be slightly cooler than normal, with near-normal rainfall. May will be very warm and dry. Below-normal rainfall will continue through the summer, with the threat of a significant drought. The one benefit from a late August hurricane would be some much-needed rainfall. Temperatures will be below normal, on average, with the hottest periods in June and mid-July. September and October will be cooler and drier than normal".



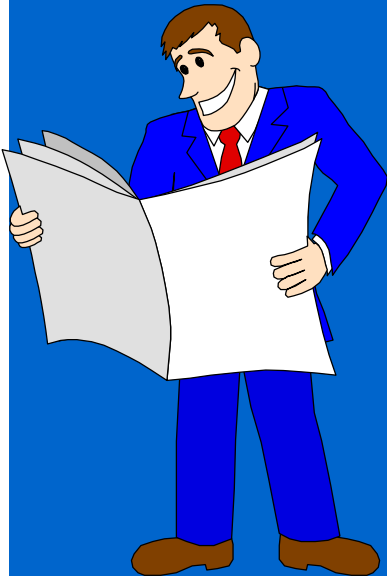
Editor's Notebook.

This issue of the KONA Newsletter is the sixth edition of Volume 2 (our second year of official publication). Accompanying this Newsletter is an article titled "Afghanistan and Pakistan: A War Story", which is an extract of an article written by "Your Editor", which was published in the *Journal of Electronic Defense (JED)*, Volume 26, No. 3, in the February, 2003 issue, pages 82 and 37, publisher Horizon House, Norwood, MA.



Tidbits: More trivial yet somewhat pleasing morsels of totally useless fun information.

- The top 1% of US taxpayers is responsible for the payment of 40% of all federal income tax (2007). Ten years ago (1998), the top 1% of taxpayers paid 35% of all federal income tax. Twenty years ago (1988), the top 1% of taxpayers paid 28% of all federal income tax (source: Tax Foundation, IRS).
- Monthly exports by US businesses set an all-time record in June 2008. The \$164 billion of US goods and services sold around the globe is a +95% increase over our nationwide export total of \$84 billion from June 2003.
- St. Augustine, Florida, is the oldest continuously occupied European-established city (since 1565) and the oldest port in the continental United States. St. Augustine was founded 42 years before the English colony at Jamestown, Virginia, and 55 years before the Pilgrims landed on Plymouth Rock in Massachusetts.
- The life expectancy of an average American was 62.9 years in 1940, 5 years after Social Security was created in 1935. Life expectancy is 78.1 years today (source: Center for Disease Control).
- A rhetorical question: Have you noticed that there aren't any blue food items?



Daylight Savings Ends:

Veteran's Day:

Thanksgiving Day:

Pearl Harbor Day:

First Day of Winter:

Hanukkah:

Christmas Eve:

Christmas Day:

New Years Eve:

November 2nd.

November 11th.

November 27th.

December 7th.

December 21st.

December 22nd.

December 24th.

December 25th.

December 31st.