



The Kenwood Oaks Neighborhood Association



Springfield, Virginia 22152

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Safe Disposal of Fluorescent Light Bulbs.

Today, compact fluorescent light bulbs are becoming more widely used as energy-saving and economic replacements for ordinary incandescent light bulbs. However, because these fluorescent bulbs contain a small amount of mercury, they are classified as hazardous material by Fairfax County. If you toss the bulbs in the trash, they are likely to break, potentially exposing workers to mercury or releasing it into groundwater and soil from landfills.

This means that you should not dispose of them in regular trash or recycle pickups. At present, the only site in the Fairfax County to handle disposal is at the I-66 Transfer Station Complex, 4618 West Ox Road, Fairfax, VA, phone: 703-631-1179. Fortunately, these compact fluorescent light bulbs have an estimated 6-to-7-year life, so it may be some time before you need to throw any away.

However, the more immediate concern is what to do when a fluorescent light bulb breaks in your home. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recommends the following:

- Open a window and leave the room for 15 minutes.
- Use rubber gloves to scoop up the powder and fragments.
- Wipe the area with a damp paper towel or a disposable wipe, and use tape to pick up the remaining fragments.
- Seal the materials in a small plastic bag, and place it all in a second sealable plastic bag.
- Vacuum the area, remove the vacuum's bag and double-bag it in two sealable plastic bags.
- Take the bags to the Fairfax County hazardous waste site.



It would appear that "going Green" has some hidden costs.

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

The New Kenwood Oaks Website.

We are exceptionally pleased to announce the online publication of our new KONA Website at this Internet address: <http://www.kenwoodoaks.org/>.



The new KONA Website was professionally designed in a simple 4-page (Home, Newsletters, About KONA, and Links), 4-seasons, 4-color format with a full narrative description of our Kenwood Oaks neighborhood, including multiple reference links, important phone numbers, the Bylaws, Guidelines, several ".PDF" attachments, past Newsletters, *etc.*, along with the requisite legal notices (e.g., "Terms of Service" is placed at bottom of each web page). The ads above the page headers are placed there in compensation for the no-fee hosting of our website on the Internet, which can normally cost about \$5 to \$7 *per* month in website hosting fees. This professionally designed website represents a significant new membership service/benefit. In the future, Real Estate Agents might consider referencing the new KONA website when advertising homes for sale in our subdivision as a way of illustrating the ambiance of our 90-home neighborhood. Our new KONA Website address will be prominently displayed on all future editions of our KONA Newsletter and in other KONA notices and publications. The most recent KONA Newsletters will not be posted on the KONA Website until the next two issues are published to ensure the paying membership subscribers retain a distinct advantage over the open and free access to past issues of the Newsletter posted on our KONA Website. We have also submitted our KONA Website address to the Fairfax County Community Associations (nonprofits) web page joining the 95 other neighborhood and/or community associations already listed at this address: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/internet/assoc.htm>. Please take some time to review our online efforts and visit us often. We solicit your comments and thoughts about our new KONA Website.

Rogues & Rascals During the Civil War.

During the US Civil War there were many stories written about rogues and rascals who stood out as nefarious, mischievous, and unscrupulous individuals destined for infamy. The prime example of a "rogue" or a "rascal" was Daniel E. Sickles, 1819-1914, a handsome, charismatic character who courted controversy throughout his life and held a succession of significant government posts. He studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1846, was a member of the New York Assembly in 1843, and a Democratic Congressman from New York, 1857-1861.

You may find this fellow's story hard to believe, but rest assured this narrative is absolutely true. Daniel Sickles' career was replete with

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 & Bob Walsh
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*

personal scandals. He was once even censured by the New York State Assembly for escorting a known prostitute, Fanny White, into its chambers. Daniel Sickles already had established a national reputation when the Civil War began.

His incredible story begins before the Civil War at about 2:00 p.m., on Sunday, February 27th, 1859, where at least 12 people witnessed Daniel Sickles use a handgun to murder the unarmed Philip Barton Key (the son of Francis Scott Key, author of the “Star Spangled Banner”) in Lafayette Square, Washington, DC. Earlier, Sickles had observed from a window of his mansion in Lafayette Square, his beautiful wife’s lover signaling her in broad daylight. He was tried on a charge of murder. Sickles’ attorneys argued that he went mad because of anguish over the adultery and he became the first defendant in United States history to use a “temporary insanity” defense. Despite his distress, Sickles had the presence of mind to persuade Teresa to write a detailed confession. It was ruled inadmissible in court, but nevertheless was printed in the newspapers. (His defense attorney was Edwin M. Stanton, later to become Secretary of War.) Sickles was notorious primarily because of this 20-day nationally publicized trial in which he was acquitted of murder to the cheers of a crowded courtroom.



Sickles and Key, both dapper, about 40 years old, and part of Washington’s social elite, had been friends before Key started a torrid and rather public love affair with Sickles 20-year old wife (Teresa Bagioli, 1839-1867). The beautiful Teresa (who spoke 5 languages) met the tall dashing Key (a notorious ladies man) at President James Buchanan’s inauguration about two years before the slaying. Because of the double standard of the era, the well-known fact of Daniel Sickles’ dalliances and infidelities, and his frequent absences made no difference to most of the public. Perhaps only a larger-than-life character such as Daniel Sickles could have gotten away with killing

his wife's lover in broad daylight; and he then actually reconciled with Teresa, who had asked for forgiveness (they later had a daughter together named Laura). The public was more hostile to Sickles' reconciliation with his wife after the trial than to the murder and his unorthodox acquittal.

Daniel Sickles became one of the many "political" Generals at the outset of the War because of his political influence. He was a close ally of Major General Joseph Hooker, who was his original division commander and eventually commanded the Army of the Potomac. Both men had notorious reputations as political climbers and as hard-drinking ladies' men. Accounts at the time compared their army headquarters with a rowdy bar and bordello.

At Gettysburg on day two of the battle (July 2nd, 1863), Major General Sickles' 3rd Army Corps was under the command of General Meade, and was ordered to take up defensive positions on the southern end of Cemetery Ridge. However, Sickles thought he saw a better position about three quarters of a mile to the front, and without Meade's permission, he moved his entire 3rd Corps forward and left the key high ground of Little Roundtop unoccupied and both his flanks exposed. The corrective action, taken by Major General Winfield

Scott Hancock and Brig. General G. K. Warren, to move Col. Chamberlain's 20th Maine into a defensive position on Little Roundtop later proved to be critical to the Union's success in one of the most important



engagements of the Battle of Gettysburg.

Sickles' 3rd Corps move forward was absolutely disastrous. The 3rd Corps was so badly chopped up that it would never again be employed as an entity; and the bloody fighting spread for four more hours over the entire landscape with significant Union losses. Sickles' decision had three negative impacts: (a) it greatly diluted the concentrated defensive posture of his Corps, by stretching it too thin; (b) it left the high ground unprotected, and (c) it created a salient that could be bombarded and attacked from multiple sides. Meade rode out and confronted Sickles about his insubordination, but it was too late. Sickles had lost his leg after being struck by a 12-pound cannonball putting him out of front-line action for the remainder of the war. He sent his freshly amputated limb, as well as the cannonball

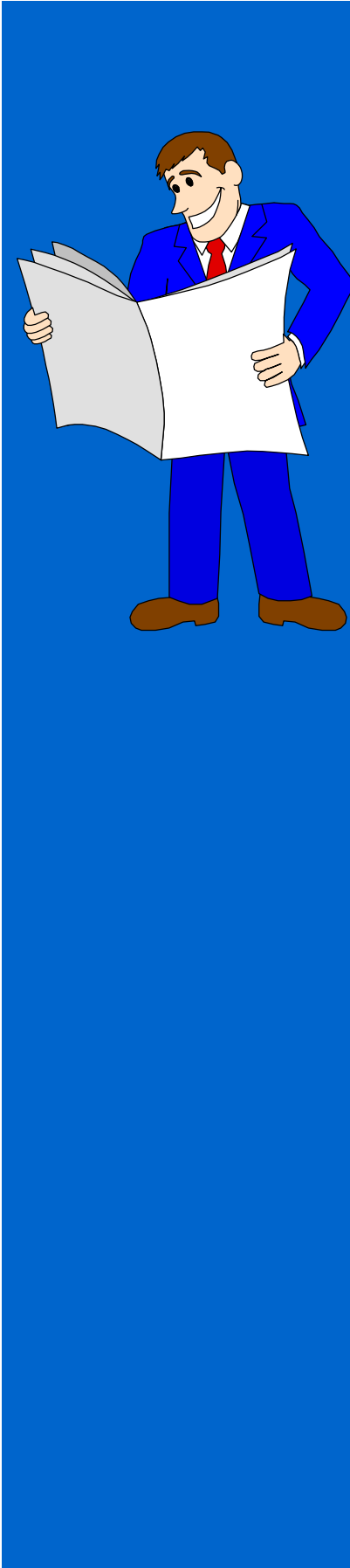
that shattered it, to the new Army Medical Museum in Washington, DC, with a visiting card reading “with the complements of Major General D.E.S.” After the war he often brought his lady friends to visit his leg in the museum. His leg is still on display at the National Museum of Health and Medicine at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Northwest Washington, DC.

Sickles was not court-martialed for insubordination after Gettysburg because he had been wounded, and it was assumed he would stay out of trouble. However, Sickles managed to get himself awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his actions, although it took him 34 years to do so. The official citation that accompanied his medal recorded that Sickles “displayed most conspicuous gallantry on the field, vigorously contesting the advance of the enemy and continuing to encourage his troops after being himself severely wounded”. Union forces lost 23,049 men at Gettysburg and the Confederate forces lost 20,451 men (e.g., the 2nd N. Carolina Regiment started with 800 men and 708 were killed), resulting in the death of 43,500 Americans in just three days of battle.



But, wait there is more to the story.

In his postbellum career, Sickles became the military governor of the Carolinas and later he was appointed Ambassador to the Court of Spain. He married Senorita *Carmina Creagh* in 1871, who was the daughter of *Chevalier de Creagh* of Madrid, a Spanish *Councillor of State*, converted to Catholicism, and fathered two more children (incredibly this rascal was also rumored to have had a romantic involvement with the deposed Queen Isabella II). After making untoward sexual advances to the then Spanish Queen he was unceremoniously declared *persona non grata* and expelled from Spain. He later became sheriff of New York County, and then served



in Congress again from 1893 to 1895. Congressman Daniel Sickles authored a law, which was passed on February 11th, 1895, establishing the Gettysburg National Military Park. Sickles was also chairman of the New York Monuments Commission from 1886 to 1912, until he was removed after accusations of embezzlement surfaced. He died at age 94 in 1914 and was buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

Incredible as the rascal Sickles' roguish life may appear, his story is absolutely true!

The KONA President's Message.

Our new KONA Website is now published on the Internet at **<http://www.kenwoodoaks.org/>**. Please bring it up, take a look, and provide any comments you may have. We owe a vote of thanks to Gene Bartlow, our Webmaster, for bringing this project to fruition.

Regarding the three-rail fence on Kenwood Avenue between Kenwood Oaks and Millwood Estates (Cardinal Management provides property management support for Millwood). When Millwood townhouses were originally constructed one of the caveats to Fairfax County approval was that a barrier fence along Kenwood Avenue separating the townhouses and Kenwood Oaks homes would be constructed by Millwood.

Currently, the existing rail fence is in a bad state of repair with many rails broken or missing and complete fence replacement is necessary. This dilapidated fence probably lowers the values of Kenwood Oaks homes. The Cardinal Management is the cognizant contact for Millwood, and Joe Whitney has passed along our concerns about the fence to the Millwood Estates Board of Directors. Dave Uhlman is now the leader of Millwood's Board. In my conversation with Dave, I learned that at Millwood's last Directors' meeting the topic of fence repair and replacement was discussed and tabled for future consideration. The reason was that about half of Millwood's Board did not understand why Millwood was responsible for fence repair/replacement between our two communities. Neither did Dave. Also, fence replacement would cost approximately \$2,100.00 and some Millwood residents would like to delay the project as long as possible.

The County of Fairfax Rezoning Application Number RZ 83-S-056 changed the Millwood property from R-1 Residential, one dwelling unit per acre, to R-8 or eight dwelling units per acre. Proffers to this document specified, among other things, that barrier requirements be included. The Site plan is Millwood Estates (Fairfax County #5792-SP-01) and the location reference is Tax Map 79-3(5), Parcels 21 through 24. I have provided this reference information and documentation to Dave Uhlman and Millwood's Board.

During my discussion with Dave Uhlman, it was agreed that he would again present our concerns about the fence at the next Millwood Estates Board of Directors meeting. We hope to get a new fence soon.

Kenwood Oaks Home Model Names and Fairfax County Real Estate Taxes.

By: Bill Wojanis

As of January 1982, the sales literature provided by Mrs. Jean Rousek, who was the Ward Corporation Project Sales Manager at that time, listed the model names for homes in Kenwood Oaks as the Quarrystone, Townley, Madison, and Ridgewell. However, current Fairfax County real estate records as of February 2nd, 2008, referring to individual properties in Kenwood Oaks, list some different model names for homes in Kenwood Oaks, e.g., Quebec, Thomasville, Model T, and Ralston.

In fact my home at 8322 Kenwood Avenue, which was sold to me as a Madison model in 1982 is listed as a Marlborough model in the current Fairfax County records. So why does all of this matter.

On February 25th Fairfax County will be providing property assessments for homes in Kenwood Oaks. My suspicion is that our assessments will remain the same as in 2007. Should homeowners wish to appeal a county assessment which they think is too high, they must provide various parameters on their homes including the model name which should be correct. A recent sale in Kenwood Oaks was for about \$60,000 below the assessed tax value. Therefore, it seems to me that our assessed values should go down about \$50-60K. So with a tax rate of 89 cents *per* \$100 which is the current rate, our real estate savings for more realistic assessed values could be as much as \$500 *per* year.

Based on the January 1982 sales literature for Kenwood Oaks, I think our model names should be Quarrystone, Townley, Madison, and Ridgewell and existing Fairfax County records should be corrected accordingly. However if anyone has evidence to the contrary I would be happy to discuss the issue.

A Tasty Recipe for Crab Dip.

This is a really simple and quite tasty recipe for crab dip:

- 1 can (6 oz.) of crab meat.
- 1 cup of mayonnaise (Miracle Whip).
- 2½ tablespoons of sugar.
- 1 crushed clove of minced garlic.

- 1 teaspoon of lemon juice.
- 4 long stem green onions, chopped and diced.
- 2 tablespoons of red palmettos.



Thoroughly blend all ingredients together in a mixing bowl. Allow time for the crab dip to chill overnight, if time permits. Serve with Wheat Thins and/or Ritz Crackers. Try it; you'll like it a lot.

Editor's Notebook.

This issue of the KONA Newsletter is the second edition of Volume 2 (our second year of official publication) and represents a planned annual schedule of six issues, published bi-monthly. The article on "Rogues and Rascals" is an extract of an article that I wrote which was published in the *Journal of Electronic Defense (JED)*, Volume 65, in the July, 2003 issue, pages 60-62, publisher Horizon House, Norwood, MA. As usual all the photos herein were taken by "Your Editor".



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

- The Euro (€), 9 years old on Jan. 4, 2008, ended 2007 valued at \$1.4603 up 11% *versus* the US dollar (\$) during the calendar year. Over the 5 year period (2002-2006) the Euro (€) gained 46% (\$0.9038 to \$1.3198) *versus* the US dollar (\$).
- The five largest economies in the world are: US, Germany, China, Japan, and India, which together make up 48% of the entire world economy.
- It takes an adjusted gross income of \$103,912 (*i.e.*, about \$2,000 per week) to rank in the top 10% of all individual US tax returns (in 2006).
- The characters Bert and Ernie on Sesame Street were named after Bert (Frank Faylen) the cop and Ernie (Ward Bond) the taxi driver in Frank Capra's 1946 movie "*It's A Wonderful Life*".

Daylight Savings Begins: March 9th.
Palm Sunday: March 16th.
St. Patrick's Day: March 17th.
Spring Equinox: March 20th.
Good Friday: March 21st.
April Fools Day: April 1st.
First Day of Passover: April 20th.
Earth Day: April 22nd.