



The Kenwood Oaks Neighborhood Association



Springfield, Virginia 22152

May 1st, 2009

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Springfield, Virginia 22152

www.KenwoodOaks.org

Springtime has sprung in Springfield.

Springtime is always an incredibly picturesque time of year in Northern Virginia. Springtime is especially noteworthy in our Kenwood Oaks neighborhood in Springfield and in the greater Washington metropolitan area.

The colorful blossoms are out, the trees and grass are turning green, flowers are in bloom, and the warmth of springtime is in the air.

This is a bountiful time of year and it seems to always put a smile in our hearts to see the renewal of nature's bounty.



“Yesterday the twig was brown and bare;
Today the glint of green is there;
Tomorrow will be leaflets spare;
I know no thing so wondrous fair,
No miracle so strangely rare.
I wonder what will next be there”!

~L.H. Bailey

“The year's at the spring
And day's at the morn;
Morning's at seven;
The hillside's dew-pearled;
The lark's on the wing;
The snail's on the thorn;
God's in His heaven -
All's right with the world”!

~Robert Browning

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 KONA President's Message.

Recent KONA Board of Directors actions have resulted in some significant changes. The time period effective for KONA dues has been extended and dues are now payable on a biennial (two year) basis due in alternate years beginning on September 1st, 2010. Your current membership dues of \$10.00 will cover the two-year period September 1st, 2008 through August 31st, 2010. Tentatively, it is planned to make dues \$15.00 for the 2010-2012 period. A KONA budget has been prepared by Gene S. Bartlow, our Treasurer, and it was approved by the KONA Board. The \$15.00 dues should meet the anticipated two-year KONA expenses. We will also maintain our rainy day surplus fund (at \$3,000) to meet unexpected expenditures. One of these might be the necessity of replacing our entrance signs when Rolling Road is finally widened. Parenthetically, the funding for the widening of Rolling Road from Old Keen Mill Road to the Fairfax County Parkway has been removed from Virginia Dept. of Transportation's Six Year Plan. For the second time the residents have been through an extensive design process only to see the funds evaporate. It is too soon to tell if stimulus funding will be available to complete the project.

In addition to changing the KONA membership drive every two years vice one, the KONA Membership Directory will be published for a two-year period with the next one due for 2011-2012. During the two-year period updates will be accomplished by addendums.

Changing KONA dues can be done by KONA Board action but changing the timing of dues collection required KONA Bylaws modifications. Accordingly, the KONA Bylaws have been modified and the revised version is uploaded on our KONA website, www.KenwoodOaks.org. The revised KONA Bylaws also now indicate that KONA is a civic association without power to make mandatory financial assessments or to place other requirements on residents, as opposed to being a homeowners association with powers regarding common grounds. Also, the Bylaws now indicate that the President has the ultimate responsibility for maintenance of the KONA Website.

Finally, as you may know by now, Gene and Karin Bartlow are leaving the area June 1st; they are moving to the Houston, Texas suburbs to be near their son and daughter and their five (5) grandchildren. Consequently, effective May 1st Gene is resigning his post as KONA Treasurer, Membership Database Coordinator, KONA Newsletter Editor and Publisher, and KONA Website Manager. During his service on the KONA Board Gene prepared and coordinated the KONA Community Guidelines Checklist, prepared a major revision of the KONA Bylaws, upgraded and professionally published the first KONA electronic Newsletter, established and designed the KONA Website, prepared the

KONA Board of Directors:

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

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

*Catherine Vogel
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*



membership list for the KONA Directory, and prepared the first KONA Budget along with revision of the existing KONA Treasurer's procedures. We in Kenwood Oaks will miss the many contributions that Gene has made to his neighbors. We all wish Gene and Karin the best for their future activities.

Bill Wojanis, KONA President

A report on KONA's website.

KenwoodOaks.org. Have you looked at KONA's Website lately? From August 2nd through April 9th (thru 8 months) the KONA website has experienced 15,940 individual requests for information or successful "hits" (or visits) and served 934 hosts. This represents an average of about 1,993 "hits" per month. The KONA Newsletter page listing gets the most "hits" each month. Considering the fact that KONA does not advertise or promote the website the "hit" rate is more than satisfactory. If you were to "Google" Kenwood Oaks you will find the KONA website listed near the top of the results, again this is quite satisfactory for our purposes. Moreover, several real estate agents have advised that it is very helpful when attempting to sell your home to have a neighborhood website that describes the ambiance and environment that we live in along with the links to schools, businesses, government, swimming pools, golf courses, etc.

Help our local charity ECHO.

Ecumenical Community Helping Others, Inc. (ECHO, Inc.), located at 7205 Old Keene Mill Road, is a major charitable provider of basic human needs assistance in the Springfield/Burke area of Fairfax County. ECHO is an IRS 501(c)(3) non-profit, all-volunteer charitable organization dedicated to assisting people in need. Since its incorporation on May 2nd, 1969, 40 years ago, ECHO's members have been religious congregations in Burke and Springfield. Currently, 26 congregations appoint members to ECHO's Board and support its work with donations and work by 385 volunteers. All aid is given regardless of the religious beliefs or practices of those assisted. ECHO also receives generous support from the general public and from local schools, businesses, and civic organizations.



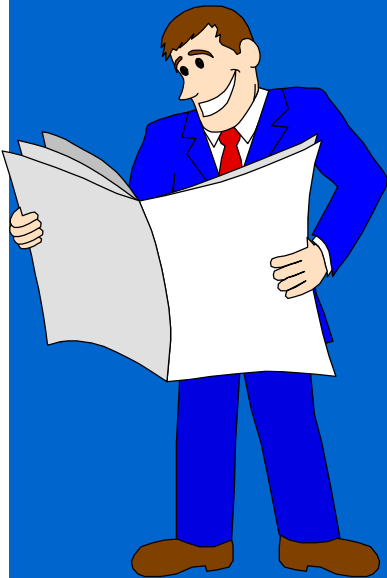
ECHO's stocks in trade are food, clothing, essential house wares, and financial assistance for housing, utilities, and vital prescriptions. Those who draw on ECHO's stocks are community residents who are living at or below or perhaps just slightly above the poverty level. In 2008, ECHO served over 1,000 families including approximately 3,000 people. There are no charges for ECHO services and the overhead is kept at a minimal 2%. This is an excellent, well run and a very important local charity worthy of your financial support. ECHO is presently in need of linens, boy's jeans (sizes 6-16), men's small clothes (sizes S, 28"-32" for pants), new work clothes, and athletic socks for children and adults. There are currently five Kenwood Oaks residents volunteering with ECHO. For more information on contributions or volunteering contact one of your neighbors who are currently volunteering at ECHO: Kathy Marchetti on Tiburon Court or Ann Marie Quinn on Lamese Court. ECHO's Phone: 703-569-9160; Website: www.echo-inc.org.

Display of the American flag.

Often we see the American flag flown from a staff on or near the front door of our Kenwood Oaks homes, which is a sight greatly appreciated by those visiting our neighborhood. However, it would appear that some families in our neighborhood are unaware of some of the important rules for displaying the American flag.

Some of the important things to remember when displaying the American flag are outlined in the attached brochure from the Disabled American Veteran's. For example, traditional guidelines call for displaying the flag in public only from sunrise to sunset. However, the flag may be displayed at all times if it's illuminated during darkness.

When the American flag is displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall, the union (blue field) should be uppermost and to the flag's right, that is, the observer's left.



Business Services Offered.

- All American Home Services, 703-492 5815, for roof gutter cleaning at \$100.
- F. H. Furr, 703-690-1133, for plumbing repairs and installation via Home Depot of new heating/air conditioning units.
- Reid's Tree Service, 540-522-1331, for tree removal and trimming.

- Professional Lawn Service, Inc. (Mark Bouchard), 703-392-9457, for lawn service.
- Angel's Landscaping & Lawn Service, 571-282-9527, for trees, mulching, mowing, seeding, cutter cleaning, trimming, etc.
- Triple T Contracting, Inc. (Ramey and Wilson Everly), 703-898-7483, for floor tile installation.
- The Tile Shop, 703-971-0169, for purchase of kitchen floor tiles.
- Landmark Computer Laboratories, Bud Stolker, 703-370-2242.
- Louis Home Improvements, drywall and painting specialists, 571-218-7552.

Editor's Notebook.

As noted above in "The President's Message" effective May 2nd KONA will need a new Editor for the KONA newsletter as this will be the last edition prepared by your current Editor (Gene S. Bartlow, Tiburon Court). The format, style, color scheme, and publishing schedule of this electronic KONA Newsletter will be retired with this issue and the new layout and schedule will be at the new Editor's discretion. It is anticipated that the new KONA Newsletters will continue to be limited to electronic distribution and that the signature of the new Editor on her/his handiwork will be apparent. Please notify the KONA President if you are interested in serving your neighbors in this volunteer position.

Taking on the duties of the KONA Treasurer will be Ms. Patricia A. Sipple, Park View Court, effective May 2nd, 2009.

My wife Karin and I have lived in Kenwood Oaks since June 1984 enjoying some of the best years of our lives here in Springfield. We will miss all of the camaraderie, the Bunko games, the progressive dinners, the friendships, and ambience of colorful Kenwood Oaks. I've enjoyed being the KONA Newsletter Editor and Publisher, since December 2006, although staring at the blank screen and working to fill the pages with photos and something marginally interesting has been a challenge (especially in such a quiet upscale neighborhood). We wish you all continued success and a happy and healthy future.

Gene S. Bartlow's new email address: Eagle85@gmail.com.

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

- Seventy-five percent (75%) of China's electrical energy comes from burning coal with few burners outfitted with clean-air scrubbers resulting in significant air pollution, which is eventually scattered around the world.

- Ten percent (10%) of the salt mined in the world each year is used to de-ice the roads in America.
- Maine is the only state in the United States whose name has one syllable.
- More water flows over Niagara Falls every year than over any other falls on earth.
- One out of every 17 households in the USA has a net worth of **at least \$1 million** not counting the value of their primary residence.
- 400,000 lives are lost each year in the US due to smoking.
- The Atlantic Ocean is saltier than the Pacific Ocean.
- The largest US city in area is Juneau, Alaska, which covers 3,108 square miles. Los Angeles covers only 458.2 square miles.
- The average full professor of American colleges earns \$103,000. The average salary is slightly lower at public colleges (\$98,000) and somewhat higher at private schools (\$122,000) (Source: American Association of University Professors).
- To rank in the **top 1% of all US taxpayers**, an individual would have to **earn \$388,806** of adjusted gross income (source: IRS, Tax Foundation).
- The **top 1% of wage earners** took home 22.1% of all national income in 2006, up from 8.5% in 1980. This same group paid 39.9% of all federal income tax in 2006.
- Americans spend approximately \$25 billion each year on beer.
- The term karaoke means “empty orchestra” in Japanese; and the karaoke machine was designed originally to provide backing tracks for solo cabaret performers.

Cinco de Mayo:
Nurse’s Day:
Mother’s Day:
Memorial Day:
Father’s Day:

May 1st.
May 6th.
May 10th.
May 25th.
June 21st.



Live Long & Prosper.