

CHATTERLEIGH

ASSOCIATION

Summer 2012

Due to the recent power outage, some articles are missing including the President's message.
Sorry for the inconvenience, but we had to go to print!

Chatterleigh Community Association Board of Governors 2012

Officers:

President: Phil Golden goldenphil@comcast.net
Vice-President: Adrienne Hammell adrihammell@yahoo.com
Recording Secretary: Rita Solinsky rmsolinsky@comcast.net
Corresponding Secretary: Mary Sloat mconnorsloat@yahoo.com
Treasurer: Charly Gibbons charly1129@comcast.net
Sergeant at Arms: Nevitt Edwards NSEJR@aol.com

Board Members:

Chris Diehl chrisdiehl@comcast.net
Lisa Joubert lbjoubert@yahoo.com
Bob Tiano Tiano909@comcast.net
Chip Welsh

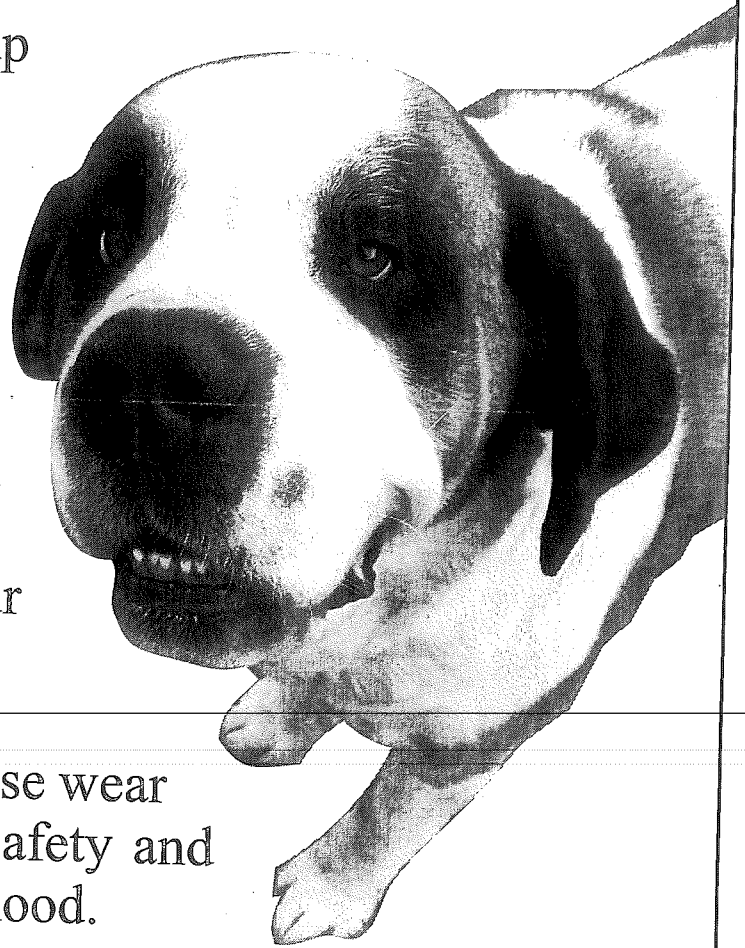
Committee/Team Coordinators:

Block Captains Erica Quagliana equagliana@bcps.org
Covenants Adrian Palazzi Apalazzi2@verizon.net
Covenants Charly Gibbons Charly1129@comcast.net
Social Team Janine Golden goldenjanine@comcast.net
Social Team Adrienne Hammell adrihammell@yahoo.com
Dumpster/Yardsale Sally Diehl sdiehl@loyola.edu
Archives Karl Kilgore Kkilgore_cai@comcast.net
Monuments/Landscaping Bob Altenburger
GTCCA Liaison Laurie Mitchell Lt Mitchell4@comcast.net
Newsletter Jon Shinnick jonathanshinnick@comcast.net
Newsletter Christy Shinnick christyshinnick@comcast.net

FROM THE COMMUNITY AWARENESS / SAFETY TEAM

It has been brought to the Board's attention that some residents are not being considerate when walking their dogs.

- ✓ Please remember to clean up after your dog!
- ✓ Please do not allow your dog to urinate on flowers and shrubs while walking them. This is a good way to kill these shrubs and flowers that residents are planting to help beautify their lawns and our neighborhood.
- ✓ While walking at night, please wear reflective gear for your own safety and that of drivers in the neighborhood.



Curb Cleanup!

Please try to maintain not only a beautiful yard, but please take the time to clean away weeds and debris along the curb in front of your home. This small job goes a long way in keeping our community looking its best!

Community News of Interest and Opportunities to Get Involved!

The Chatterleigh Community Association has covenants that run with the land and are binding (they can be legally enforced) regardless of whether you knew they existed when you purchased your home and regardless of whether you pay your dues. To avoid unnecessary hassle and hard feelings, please request a copy of the covenants for your neighborhood and submit a completed **Covenants Review Application** (found in this newsletter) before starting any fence, home addition, or structure on your property. This process is to protect all home owners and our property values. Covenants may be requested from our Covenants Team leader: Adrian Palazzi, Apalazzi2@verizon.net

THE CHATTERLEIGH ASSOCIATION SOCIAL COMMITTEE WANTS YOU!

We're looking for a few good men, women and even reliable teens looking for community service hours to join our team!

The past 5 years, we've been so happy to watch the annual events grow. Our Easter Egg Hunt, Cul de Sac Mocktail / Cocktail and Pre Trick or Treat Halloween parties have doubled and at times tripled in attendance. We appreciate all the positive feedback!

It's been fun to see new events pop up on their own, including an Ice Cream Social, Progressive Dinners and Backyard Movie Nights.

At this point, we're looking for some extra hands pitch in. In particular, someone to take over the Easter Egg Hunt and Backyard Movie nights as well as expand what's been started.

We're still here and on board. We enjoy planning things that bring our neighborhood together. We're just looking for some help.

If you're interested - please e-mail Janine Golden at goldenjanine@comcast.net
With SOCIAL COMMITTEE in the subject line or call Adrienne Hammel
at 410-825-2166.

Best,

Janine Golden, Chris Diehl and Adrienne Hammel

ADVERTISE WITH US!

If you would like to advertise your business in our annual community directory or our quarterly community newsletter, please contact Phil Maher of FATA at
(410)578-3600 or pmaher@fataonline.com.

The advertising contracts run year to year and are reasonably priced.

Dues Update

The Board would like to thank the almost 200 families that paid their association dues this year. This money will go to continued improvements to landscaping, social activities, legal issues, and these are just a few of the things your board deals with.

The Board was able to present a check to the Providence Volunteer Fire Company in the amount of \$500 this year. We truly appreciate all that they do for our neighborhood.

We would be interested to know why some families do not pay their dues. Feel free to contact our Board President, Phil Golden to express any questions or concerns you may have about this or any issue. His email is goldenphil@comcast.net.

Dumpster Day/ Yardsale Updates

Thanks to the many neighbors who participated in our Community Yard Sale day on June 2nd. We hope that it was fun and profitable!

Another successful Chatterleigh Association Dumpster Day was held on Saturday, June 9th. Thanks to our volunteers who made the day a success: Rita Solinsky, Mark Hiller, Katie Cruit, David Quagliana, Laurie Mitchell and Pat and Harry Dobyski! Over 30 households from our neighborhood utilized this free service to our community and we almost filled three dumpsters.

Thanks for your participation!



Gardening in suburbia: less lawn, more trees and native plants?

By Laurie Mitchell, Chatterleigh Association Board member

A recent article in the Baltimore Sun about "how to drive the birds away" had several ways to do that, and one of them was to mow the lawn. Green lawns look nice, but are very expensive to mow and maintain because one is always fighting nature. Grass cannot grow to its full height, all other plants must be killed off, and the bugs that could infest it must be killed off too, let alone the fertilizing. Because basically nothing can live there except for grass, it is a biological "desert" for our birds and other animals and plants.

I'm not suggesting doing away with lawns. Especially for families with children, lawns are one of the best places to play, and we were under strict orders from our son never to plant anything where he played soccer in the back yard. But he is off to college in August, and we are going to start planting trees in the old soccer field, and expand areas of shrubs and native plants. We have a life list of over 60 birds feeding, nesting, or migrating through our yard, and the drama of the insect world is almost as exciting.

Here are some easy ways to slowly reduce the amount of lawn while maintaining an attractive and more interesting yard:

1) Start small. You can put newspaper down or weed suppressor fabric (with metal or plastic stakes), and mulch (heavily) over it to create a new bed for planting next spring. No one will ever know what was under the mulch except you. Grass competes for water with your trees – you will be doing them a favor by planting something other than grass. Avoid highly invasive ground cover plants pushed by plant nurseries, such as Pachysandra, English ivy, Ajuga, and Vinca. These have all escaped into woodlands and are causing big problems. English ivy traps moisture and pests against tree trunks, and will weaken and can even smother trees.

2) You can use the sides of your yard, away from the street behind the house, as "hedges for habitat" – i.e. looser places where there are shrubs, trees, or low fences between your house and others. These places are ideal for a compost bin, spreading leaves from the fall which will break down and make compost, and the leaf litter there also absorbs water from storms

and helps to keep major runoff out of our streams. After concrete and rows of crops, short mowed grass is the worst surface for stormwater runoff. Birds make hundreds of trips to find materials for their nests, and these "rougher" places have the small bits they need.

3) Plant deer-resistant native plants wherever you can. From bitter experience with deer I can suggest that the following will not be killed (although deer will browse anything if hungry enough):

Springtime, shade: Native Bleeding Heart, Columbine, Native Ferns (Christmas ferns are very easy to grow), Virginia Bluebells (mark where you plant them because they will disappear after blooming), Wild Ginger, Foamflower

Summer and fall flowers, sun: Goldenrod, Native orange butterfly bush, Monarda (Bee-Balm), Native Geraniums (deer don't like the scent), Helenium, Obedient Plant (pink is aggressive, white less so), Ironweed (butterflies love the flowers), Black-Eyed Susan, Purple Coneflower, Liatris (Blazing Star or Gayfeather), New England Asters

Plants that will bring you eternal agony with deer damage unless you protect them with netting, a nasty repellent such as Liquid Fence (avoid spraying this before outdoor parties!) or plant them in a place deer cannot reach:

Redbud (dead in 3 days with the rootball pulled out of the ground)

Turtlehead (our lovely state butterfly, the Checkerspot, is in peril because deer eat this plant, the major host plant for the caterpillar)

Azaleas and Hostas

Tulips and Lilies

Impatiens

Hydrangeas

Most fruit trees

Yews

Rhododendrons

Arbor Vitae

Although the deer pressure is seemingly relentless in our neighborhood, there are plants that do well and will bring you a lot of visual pleasure, and will create life for other creatures.

Welcome to YOUR neighborhood

New to the neighborhood and did not receive a Welcome Packet? Oops! Please forgive us! Contact Erica Quagliana, block captain coordinator for one at 410-828-1509 or equagliana@bcps.org



Chatterleigh Association, Inc.
PO Box 42243
Loch Raven, MD 21284-2243

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