

# THE ECCHO

The Newsletter of the Country Club Hills Civic Association

Founded 1954

June 2012 [www.cchca.org](http://www.cchca.org)

## *from the President:*

Presenting your new 2012-2013 CCHCA Board of Directors:

President...**Steve Caruso**  
Treasurer...**Dia Pullen**  
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VP Social Activities...**Larisa Parsons**  
VP Publications...**Jennifer Melton**  
VP Membership...**Judy Fraser**  
VP Block Captains...**Leslie Daniels**  
VP Community Safety...**Rebecca Gregory**

Thank you all for volunteering your time, energy and creativity. My hope is that our hard work will be rewarded with an increased community awareness and greater participation at the many social events offered for neighborhood enjoyment.

Speaking of social activities our latest event featured music talent from our neighborhood. Great music motivated a sparse but generous crowd to donate over \$500.00 towards our new entry signs. To date your civic minded generosity has raised over 2/3 of the target goal.

CCHCA Board of Directors and Committee Chairs are serving up an event every month June thru December. Choose one that's right for you and your family.

Events to look forward to! - Ice Cream Social -- City Band Concert -- Waterfest -- Labor Day Picnic -- Oktoberfest -- Halloween Party -- Santa Visit -- Holiday Decorations Contest  
My door is always open -- phone always on -- and I never miss an e-mail...

Yours in service -- Steve Caruso [smcestop@msn.com](mailto:smcestop@msn.com)

## *from the Board and Committees:*

### COMMUNITY APPEARANCE COMMITTEE

Spring is in full swing—warm weather, flowers and trees in bloom, the sounds of birds everywhere—and as I've walked around the neighborhood, I've been impressed by the way so many of our fellow residents take such care in maintaining their yards. This contributes to the appearance of the whole community and is one of the many wonderful things about living in Country Club Hills.

I'm especially delighted to see all the vegetable gardens that are springing up throughout the neighborhood. What a great idea: By growing your own produce, you get the benefits of the freshest possible ingredients for your table, while reducing your impact on the environment. And from the looks of things, we'll have quite the harvest this year!

Another important aspect of community appearance is the entry signs to CCH on Old Lee Highway at Country Hills Drive, Brookwood Drive, and Old Post Road. As you know, these signs have been deteriorating over the years and need to be replaced very soon. We have identified a contractor to do that for us; all that remains is to raise the necessary funds. I am delighted to report that the recent "Mostly Acoustic" Music event at the Commons, which showcased the amazing talents of so many of our neighborhood musicians, also raised approximately \$500 for the entry sign replacement project. Combined with funds previously raised, we are now more than two-thirds of the way to our goal. In other words, we already have enough to replace two of the three entry signs! With your support, we can get all the way to the \$1,200 total. To contribute, send a check made out to CCHCA (put "Entry Signs" on the memo line) to Amy Levy, [3305 Spring Lake Court].

Thanks to the efforts of all of our residents, CCH is a truly beautiful neighborhood. Let's keep it growing! ☺

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

June 15	Ice Cream Social	5-7pm
July 22	Main Street Community Band at the Commons	4-6pm
Aug 11	WaterFest	TBA
Sep 3	Labor Day Picnic	4-7pm

### SEWER LINE REPLACEMENT

There has been much worry regarding Orangeburg sewer lines. Many people have rushed to call experts, who have been aggressive in convincing people that it must be replaced. I fear that any floor drain issue that you call plumbers for they are going to make their case. It is no secret to the local plumbing companies that we all have the fear of Orangeburg sewer lines failing. This is a real concern, however, if your floor drain is backing up and that is your only plumbing issue do not rush for line replacement. I had a drain back up and I called someone I knew who was a plumber. He directed me to an honest and fully competent individual. When I spoke with him on the phone and described my concerns, rather than take advantage of what I feared from all I had heard, he said that he believed hydro jetting my floor drain could solve the problem. To make a long story short it did. The cost was under \$500. He also told me that he had done this same fix for others who were given quotes upward of \$18,000 to replace sewer lines. I am now convinced that we are all easy targets for large plumbing firms to take advantage of Orangeburg sewer line replacement. Before you commit to a repair costing ten thousand dollars or more I urge you to call A-Atlantic Plumbing and ask for Vernon (703.560.3366). I was lucky; I did not have to replace my line as I initially believed. You might be lucky too. I live at 3503 Spring Lake Terrace and I am willing to speak with anyone who has questions.

David L Moskowitz  
703-359-4771  
[cag.mos@verizon.net](mailto:cag.mos@verizon.net)

### CCHCA WEBSITE UPDATE

**Search Box (on top of the page)** can't find what you're looking for on our website? Try entering a keyword or your name or street address just for fun and see how often your name appears on our website! There are some 550 pages on our website! Google our website!

For questions contact Ernie Klimonda

**"Homes for Sale" page** – look at the slideshow, and take a virtual tour of every house for sale. Always up-to-date! For more details contact:

Yanji Lama [yanjilama@gmail.com](mailto:yanjilama@gmail.com) 703-278-0428 or Ernie Klimonda

**"Contractors" and "Services by Residents"** now have a new page: "Masonry" by a CCH resident. "Free Hauling" under "Contractors."

**NEW!! "FORUM" (discussion)** – Use it for discussions on any topic of interest to residents. Easy and effective. Questions or comments: Ernie Klimonda [eklimonda@gmail.com](mailto:eklimonda@gmail.com) - 703-591-0696

**Directory online:** Great for when you're away from home, West Virginia or Timbuktu, Mali? Need to send a postcard or email? Staying home but misplaced your printed Directory?

You always have access to your neighborhood directory (telephone numbers, email addresses ;) it's only one click away. The online Directory is constantly updated (over 30 corrections since the printed Directory was published last November!) Current membership required. Let Judy or Ernie know to sign you up. If you aren't a member, please renew your membership. Thanks.

Ernie Klimonda, [eklimonda@gmail.com](mailto:eklimonda@gmail.com) or Judy Fraser, [jrobbfraser@gmail.com](mailto:jrobbfraser@gmail.com)

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### STREAM CLEANUP

Stream Clean Up April 2012 was a great success thanks to some dedicated work by Jim Long, Tommy Horn, Steve Caruso, Georgia Laxton, John and Judy Fraser, and Elsie, Imogen and Helen Hendricks. The group had a big haul, including a wheelbarrow and way too many plastic bottles. Tommy came with his

waders and added some very helpful extra-deep dredging capability to the team. Thanks to all who participated for taking some time out of your Saturday morning to help improve the health of our Accotink Creek. Our next stream clean up will be in the fall. If you would like to organize the next clean up event please contact Steve Caruso at [smcestop@msn.com](mailto:smcestop@msn.com)

Even if you can't make the clean up events, we can all help the stream by making sure trash stays out of the stormwater drains. Some residents, like Ed Preston, make a point of picking up trash when out walking. Good exercise and good for our habitat!



## ***New Residents***

The Civic Association welcomes new neighbors:

Raymond and Joy Williamson  
3411 Brookwood Drive  
804-921-2513  
[jaboswell@verizon.net](mailto:jaboswell@verizon.net)

David Bishop and Elizabeth Weathersbee  
3554 Old Lee Hwy  
[bishoda@yahoo.com](mailto:bishoda@yahoo.com)  
[dvnmercy08@gmail.com](mailto:dvnmercy08@gmail.com)  
202.251.7357 (D)  
240.478.3790 (E)

Matt and Noelle Toskovich  
3512 Spring Lake Terrace  
571-294-3663

Elaine Ryan and Bill Cannon  
3550 Old Lee Hwy  
703-280-8147

Bill and Olivia Alsbrooks  
3416 Country Hill Drive  
703-278-1773 © 571-332-1773  
[walsbrooks@cox.net](mailto:walsbrooks@cox.net)

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## **VICE PRESIDENT FOR MEMBERSHIP**

A big thank you to all who have joined or renewed your membership this year! 156 households have joined the Civic Association so far. If you are planning

to renew for 2012 there is still plenty of time to do so. The membership form is at the back of this newsletter as well as on our website. At the recent annual meeting the membership voted to raise annual dues to \$15 per year, \$30 for two years. An active and well-run neighborhood civic association is well worth it, so please join or renew today. -Judy Fraser, VP Membership

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## **BEAUTY SPOT – APRIL 2012**

Congratulations to the Christys for earning the April 2012 Beauty Spot of the Month.

Driving through the neighborhood is a delight for the senses this time of year: The smell of spring is in the air; insects are buzzing and birds are chirping; and trees and flowers are in glorious bloom. Color is abundantly bursting forth! And nowhere is this more apparent than at the home of Teresina and Paul Christy of 9923 Pinehurst Avenue.

Everywhere you look there is something to tantalize the eye. At the top of the driveway, against the side of a shed, are rosebushes. Flanking the driveway on the right, the bed next to the house is planted with an array of shrubs, trees, and flowers: The trees (saucer magnolia, red bud, and holly) form the structural bones of the garden and beds. The understory is full of Japanese Japonica, Hydrangeas, and Nandina. And interspersed throughout are Virginia Bluebells, New England asters, bleeding hearts, clumps of heleboris, and heuchra (coral bells).

In front of the house is a lovely bed planted with more Japonicas, a beautiful Camilla, and azaleas blooming. Lily of the valley is planted in this bed, waiting to tantalize us later in the season. The bed is covered with a lush English ivy ground cover.

In a bed surrounded by white stones are coneflowers, poppies, miniature roses, more lily of the valley, daffodils, and Black-eyed Susans. While many of these flowers are not yet in bloom, they remind us of what is to come when summer arrives.

Turn the corner onto the Brookwood side of the house and the enchantment continues: Pink and white dogwoods alongside magnolia, red bud, and azaleas are all in bloom; an arbor covered in climbing hydrangea invites the viewer in; and pachysandra,

coriopsus, and vinca minor all provide texture and color as ground covers.

And to top it all off, interspersed throughout the yard are statuary, bird houses, butterfly mobiles, and chimes—some hidden, so it's worth stopping for a look.

Congratulations to the Christys for earning the April 2012 Beauty Spot of the Month. Your yard is a wonderful display of the all the promise and abundant glory of Spring, and gives us a glimpse of what beauty is yet to come!

Jennifer Judelsohn for  
Country Hill Garden Club

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### **BEAUTY SPOT – MAY 2012**

The Beauty Spot for May 2012 has been awarded to Bob and Dot Pritz of 3401 Brookwood Ave.(corner of Spring Lake Terrace).

We looked to our left as we drove down Brookwood and were enchanted by the Pritz's property. A lovely garden runs the width of the house, and here we see rows of lavender standing straight and tall, with bunches of liriopse at each end, and other perennials scattered throughout.

Last year we noticed the Pritzses removing very old plantings, replacing them with nandina, azaleas, and more.

The Pritz's property on the Spring Lake Terrace side contains many lush red and white azaleas cascading down the side yard while impatiens in decorative barrels nod in the wind, and lend contrast to the large expanse of healthy grass.

The large lot bordering Spring Lake and Brookwood is an important corner for Country Club Hills, and the Pritz's help make it a beautiful one.

Polly Haecker and Polly Feuer for  
The Country Hills Garden Club

### **BEAUTY SPOT – JUNE 2012**

The Beauty Spot of the Month for June goes to the Thompson-Yang home at 3413 Andover Drive. CCH's Garden Club president Joyce Skoglund and I have had our eye on this yard for a couple of years now, and it was an easy choice this time—the yard is a wonderful example of balanced symmetry where different textures, shapes, and color play off of each other. You'll understand as you read on...

In the center of the front yard is a striking, tall, mature tulip poplar that provides a wonderful canopy of shade. In the circular bed around it are hosta, heuchera, Asiatic lilies, rhododendron, pulmonaria, azalea, and variegated liriopse.

On the left side of the driveway are a couple of small beds. Of particular interest is a grouping next to the carport that includes variegated grasses, flock, and a sand cherry tree with beautiful purple leaves. Also here are cleome and a couple of super-tall, "crazy" lilies, which will soon be in bloom with a plethora of white flowers.

At the very top of the driveway is a spacious bed with more tulip poplar, as well as holly trees, liriopse, hosta, and a few well-placed rocks. The overall feel is meditative.

On the right side of the driveway, flanking the house, is a bed filled with several containers full of impatiens and other colorful annuals. Nearby are dusty millers and calla lilies (which are not yet in bloom), along with peonies and rhododendron.

Chimes hanging under the carport, baskets hanging under the eaves of the house, a gourd birdhouse, and sculptured metal frogs that hold garden tools add visual interest to the area.

In a bed along the front of the house are nandina, irises with variegated leaves, encore azaleas (which bloom in the fall), white and pink hydrangeas, day lilies, pulmonaria, and sweet pea (whose white flowers are currently in bloom). A variety of ivy provides ground cover. As the bed continues around the house, we find black-eyed Susans and deep purple hydrangeas.

All of the beds are lined with either wood, stone, or brick, for a neat, finished look.

The backyard is even more delightful than the front. It is an enchanted garden, filled with variegated liriopse, red-hot poker, spirea, and flat hydrangea. In another area are white rhododendron, rose of Sharon, heuchera, pulmonaria, camellia, and climbing hydrangea. Also present are Harry Lauder's walking stick and Japanese Yoshima cedar pine.

A wooden arbor is covered in clematis and is surrounded by more rose of Sharon. Nearby are hosta and plumbago, whose lovely blue flowers provide delightful ground cover.

There's more: dwarf hydrangea with fuchsia flowers, more Asiatic lilies, gardenia, yarrow (with tiny red flowers and lacy leaves), dwarf crepe myrtle, barberry, and dwarf bamboo. Scattered throughout the yard are a variety of statuary, chimes, and birdfeeders.

Believe it or not, this doesn't even begin to describe the gamut of plantings in this amazing yard. You really have to see it to fully appreciate it.

For a beginning gardener like myself, this yard—and its owner, Jean Thompson—has some very valuable lessons to pass on to you, dear reader. Jean told us she moves things around every year, to keep things fresh and interesting, or to find new locations where things will thrive more fully. So, the lesson is: Don't be afraid to dig things up. She also splits plants so that she has them to put into other areas of the garden, without the expense of buying new plants—a great money-saving tip. It also produces a sense of flow and continuity, so that the eye is constantly drawn on to the next area and the whole remains cohesive. And, Jean outlines the beds with wood, stone, or brick to give her landscaping a professional look and eliminate the need for constantly edging the beds.

All in all, this yard is an inspirational and very appropriate choice as Beauty Spot of the Month. We are pleased to recognize it, and we encourage all of our CCH neighbors to stop by for a look sometime!

Respectfully submitted,  
Jennifer Judelson

### **GARDEN CLUB NOTES**

Country Hills Garden Club (CHGC) members have been busy these last several months. In March we had Joyce Hylton (Master Gardener) speak to us regarding our lawns and composting. She is also a Red Cross Volunteer and shared some of the disaster areas she has been to.

In April we traveled to Gainesville to visit the Merrifield Garden Center since many of us had not been there before. We had lunch at the café, had a short business meeting and then toured the facility. What an amazing place. The end of April CHGC had our annual plant sale. We had a very good turnout, even though the weather was iffy. Some of the worker volunteers dressed in their winter garb, but were not deterred. Thanks to all the neighbors who purchased plants from us. Proceeds go toward club projects to support and beautify our CCH community and to help our neighbors grow as gardeners.

May took us to The Plains for a garden tour of the noted Landscape Designer, Linda Hostetler. Linda's gardens have been featured in Southern Living Magazine and she will be featured in the August issue of Garden Gate. Make note and check it out.

CHGC is your club for CCH residents and property. If you would like to join us for a meeting, or have any questions regarding our club, you may reach me at 703-591-4017 or at [jeskoglund@verizon.net](mailto:jeskoglund@verizon.net). We are also on the CCHCA web site.

### **GARDEN TIPS**

Garden Tip: With the beautiful array of colors of the Iris, which are now blooming, a good way to keep track of the colors is to write the name of the color on the leaf while it is still blooming. This comes in quite handy when you are dividing them in the fall, and want to share with a friend.

Joyce Skoglund, President

## GUITAR AND SAXOPHONE LESSONS

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Tim is an accomplished performer and is available to play any type of Event. Visit his website [www.timcarney.net](http://www.timcarney.net) and click on **Solo Acoustic Rock**.

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# Country Club Hills Civic Association

Founded 1954

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## 2012 MEMBERSHIP FORM

*Your membership helps strengthen our community!*

☐ New Member OR ☐ Renewing Member

☐ 1 year OR ☐ 2 years

**Membership year: January 1 - December 31, 2012 Dues: \$15/year/household**

(Dues paid after November 1st will be applied to the upcoming year unless otherwise specified)

**Members are allowed to post messages on our CCH-Yahoo-Group and have access to the online CCH Directory**

Name of Resident(s):	
Street Address	Home Phone Number(s):
CCH Resident Since (Year):	Cell Phone Number(s):
Email 1: <input type="checkbox"/> Add to Yahoo Group	Email 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Add to Yahoo Group

**Please indicate if you or any member of your household would like to offer any of the following in the next CCH Directory:**

☐ Babysitting/pet-sitting/yard work services:

(specify type of work; if under 18 please include parent signature as permission and give year of birth)

☐ Other services you or your business offer:

(Name and type of service)

☐ Lessons you provide: i. e. music/instrument/language/other:

**Please let us know if you are interested in any of the following:**

☐ Volunteering your services for the CCH Civic Association Board and / or committees

☐ Joining or forming a special club or group

☐ Advertise in the CCH Directory or newsletters

☐ Join the CCHCA Yahoo Newsgroup. (Please indicate above which email(s) you would like added to the Yahoo Group)

NEW! Sign up for the online CCH Residents Directory by emailing [eklimonda@gmail.com](mailto:eklimonda@gmail.com) to request access.

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