

Easter Egg Hunt



The Easter Bunny will be returning to Country Club Hills this year. He will be hopping down the bunny trail on Saturday the 29th of March. Look for him at 3502 Old Post Rd at 10 am. Please bring egg hunters from toddler through grade 3. Eggs will be color coded and hidden by age group so we can have controlled chaos. Please call Patrice Earley (385-9817) by 28 March so the Easter Bunny will bring enough eggs. We look forward to seeing you. (Parental Supervision required)

January General Meeting



A general membership meeting was held on 15 January 1997. A complete copy of the minutes from this meeting are available from the CCHCA secretary (Jill Butterfield 352-8854). Issues of note included the presentation and approval of the 1997 CCHCA Budget, Amendments to the CCHCA by-laws, election of the 1997 Board of Directors, and results of the CCH's survey to assess opinions on the future of Old Lee Highway.

1997 Board of Directors

Jim Muccio - President (h)359-4284

e-mail: JimMuccio@aol.com

Jill Butterfield - Secretary (h) 352-8854

e-mail: jmb3@msn.com

John Lacey - Treasurer (h) 273-6440

Ted Davies - Civic Affairs (h) 273-2533

e-mail: daviest@bah.com

Patrice Earley - Social Activity (h) 385-9817

Arthur Hall - Membership (h) 359-6742

e-mail: Hall@gwis2.circ.gwu.edu

Sue McKenzie - Block Captains (h) 352-3817

Membership Drive

The 1997 membership drive will be conducted in March. Delivery of this News Letter begins the drive. The drive will continue through the end of April 1st. An addendum to the CCHCA directory will be published during the month of April for distribution at the General Membership meeting in May. Dues for membership will be \$8.00 per household for 1997. This is up \$3.00 over last year. Block Captains will also be coming by to

meet with you to explain how the Association works and how you can help. Please fill out the attached membership application and return it with your dues payment to your block captain.

News Letter



We will continue to publish the CCHCA news letter four times per year. The News Letter will continue to provide updates about Association activities and issues that are of mutual concern to Country Club Hills residents. If you have suggestions or would like to help put this news letter together please call Jim Muccio (359-4284)

Advertisement/Marketing Plan

The Association is permitted to raise operating funds through the solicitation of advertisers for the CCHCA directory. The Board of Directors is putting together a marketing plan to go out to local merchants in order to solicit these funds. We are interested in hearing from you if you are interested in advertising your own business or know someone else who is interested. If you have any ideas for this advertising campaign please indicate your ideas on the 1997 membership form.

General Meeting

A general membership meeting will be held in May. The time and location of this meeting will be announced in April.

Best Decorated House Award



The award for best decorated home during the holiday season goes to Bob and Shirley Prost at 10121 Farmington Drive. Not only did their house exemplify the spirit of the holiday season, it looked as if each decorative light bulb had been hand placed in its exact location. It was obvious that a lot of care went into decorating their home. Congratulations Bob and Shirley.

The best street award goes to Brookwood. Cheers to the residents who live on this festive street.

Civic Affairs

Comprehensive Plan - Fairfax City's Comprehensive Plan was approved by City Council in late February. This plan lays out the vision for future development in the City.

One item of particular interest to CCH was the expansion of Old Lee Highway. Original language within the Comprehensive Plan called for adding a median and turn lanes to Old Lee Highway. Council was convinced by Old Lee Hills and CCH input that the community did NOT want Old Lee Highway traffic flow "improvements"

and the language was struck from the plan. At that time it was premature for our Association to take a position opposed to this language. It was premature because the results of the CCHCA survey had yet to be tabulated.

The results of the survey were tabulated and met with some debate at the general meeting in January. Of the sixty surveys returned (out of 325) 30 were for expansion of Old Lee Highway and 30 were against expansion. Of the 30 opposed, only 5% expressed views that no improvements to Old Lee Highway should ever be made.

Therefore, in light of the mixed survey results, I authorized a telephone survey of residents to be conducted on 9 March 1997. The telephone survey was to weigh residents response to one simple question. "Are you for or against improvements being made to Old Lee Highway?"

The City Council meets on Tuesday night, 11 March 1997. The Civic association will either take no official position on the proposed issue of improvements to Old Lee Highway, update it's original position based on the results of the written survey and the telephone survey, or stand behind its original position.

This newsletter went to press prior to the results of the telephone survey being complete. Citizens of CCH are invited to attend the Council meeting to give their personal views. The meeting starts at 8:00pm.

A second issue for the Comprehensive Plan deals with the Farr Tract. After extensive wrangling, language was included to allow development at 4 houses per acre. Language was soft enough to allow more homes under the right set of circumstances. This is one issue we'll continue to follow as the actual development plan for the Farr property begins the review process at the Planning Commission this Spring.

Elementary School Task Force

While it has been advertised that the ETF "recommended" two new schools, in fact there was a wide range of opinions on the task force and minimal concurrence on this topic. The task force did agree that something needs to be done to improve the educational facilities which support our children. To do nothing would be terribly detrimental to our children's education. It is now up to the City School Board to sort out the issues.

Fire Detector Check

The Fairfax Fire and Rescue Department will be coming door to door in the Spring providing voluntary, free checks of all City resident's fire detectors. More details to follow on this program.



Hilton Head Time Share

Red Week

R.C.I. Gold Crown Resort

\$7,695.00

Includes: Golf & Tennis Package; Plus a bonus week every 6th Year

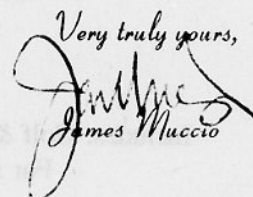
For sale by John Towse please call 273-2076

We made it through the 1996. In January an enthusiastic Board of Directors was elected to lead us into 1997. Financially, the Association is in the black. The future of our neighborhood is where we must fix our attention. Many issues will come before the Fairfax City Council this year and the decisions the council makes will have a profound effect on our future. I believe having a viable and energetic civic association plays a critical role in helping to build this future. Therefore I volunteered to serve and help lead this association in 1997. As a volunteer, I will do what I can with what I know to aid the association in building this future. My belief is that this association can help bind us together as friends who share a common lot in life. It is this same lot that separates cities, states, and countries. It's not ideology, theology, or sociology but simply geography that brings us together. We share the most rudimentary form of political division. Our boundaries are nothing more than street names but what we share geographically we all have a vested interest in protecting. We are interested in protecting the safety of our streets (both crime and traffic), the value of our property, and the quality of our surroundings. If some of you do not wish to protect these things please spend some time talking with one of your neighbors. The experience may enlighten you. Regardless, we are all residents of Country Club Hills - in citizenry about the size of the most numerous group of cities in America, cities under 1,000. But unlike most of these small groups, we have a significant ability to influence a City of 19,000, which in turn has a unique ability to influence one of the wealthiest and most educated counties in the world. I invite you to think about the possibilities.

With these grand possibilities there is precious little time to argue over truly insignificant sums of money. Specifically I am referring to the small amount the Civic Association will charge each household to become an active member this year. The dues will be \$8.00. This is up \$3.00 from last year. This is not the end of the world. Our salvation has always been written into our by-laws. The Association is permitted to raise funds through selling advertising space in our phone directory. If the advertising campaign we are currently planning goes well (see page 3), membership dues will be reduced or become a thing of the past and there will no longer be a distinction between active and non-active members. But this is one of our goals for 1998. Our goals for 1997 are not so aggressive. This year we intend to continue publishing an informative newsletter, we will complete the 1997 membership drive, we will publish an addendum to the CCH's phone directory, and we will develop a marketing plan to solicit advertisers for our 1998 directory. In addition we will have several social activities (see page 2) that we hope will grow in participation. Finally, we will conduct two general meetings.

My wife Lisa and I chose Country Club Hills as place to begin our family together. We would enjoy meeting as many of you as possible over the next year. Please remember we are only volunteers. We are as busy as all of you and will try to limit our mistakes. If you believe you are as busy as I am, lets sit down, have breakfast, and commiserate together. I suggest 6 am at The Manhattan Bagel Bakery, my treat, please call 359-4284.

Please get active in the Association this year. The simplest way to get involved is to wave to all your neighbors when you see them on the street. Be looking for me because I'll be waving at you.

Very truly yours,

James Muccio