

Letter from the President

This is my last letter to the neighborhood as President. If you recall, I had identified four goals for the Civic Association upon becoming the CCHCA President. They were to create a Safe, Fun, Welcoming and Informed neighborhood. I'd like to take this opportunity to publish my Thank You list, expressing my gratitude to the other members of the board of directors and various volunteers who supported me in making these goals come to life.

SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD:

- Our Safety Liaison, **Katie Baxter-Gagen**, spear-headed an association fundraiser to offer residents a low cost option to have their house numbers repainted at the curb.

- Her husband, **Chris Gagen**, provided all the manual labor for the four digit homes that signed up, and will be leading the crew out to complete the five digit homes with the warmer weather.

FUN NEIGHBORHOOD:

- Dia Pullen** and **Lee Faber** have done a fantastic job of organizing and planning the year's fun filled social events for kids and adults. Most recently – 1st Annual Wine and Cheese party! Great fun was had by all who attended...hope to see you at the 2nd Annual party.

- The Pavilion Saga continues, the good news is that the pavilion color scheme and 50 foot set back have been approved. The bad news is that the timing of construction has been severely hampered by the vendor's ability (or lack thereof) to meet his self imposed deadlines. **Mike Cadwallader**, Director of Parks and Recreation, is still hopeful that the contractor will come through and that we'll have our pavilion built sooner (late spring) rather than later (late fall). In the worst case scenario, the job will have to be re-contracted, and in doing that, we would probably have to add another three to four months to the completion date.

- A big thank you to **Ernie Klimonda** for serving as our "unofficial" photographer. As the chair of our Historic Committee, he's doing a stellar job of putting his camera to work and memorializing our neighborhood activities.

WELCOMING NEIGHBORHOOD:

- I'd like to thank **Hildie Carney** and **Courtney Ashmore** for their commitment and dedication to serving as our Welcoming Committee.

CCHCA Annual Meeting May 17

Tuesday, May 17 at Fairfax High School Library at 7:00pm. Please bring your concerns and suggestions regarding our neighborhood to the annual meeting. All residents welcome!

Nominating Committee Needs YOU!

Would you like to be part of the decision making at CCHCA? Being an officer is not that demanding and it's fun! Elections for new officers for 2006 CCHCA Board will be held at the general meeting on May 17.

Openings are: VP Membership, VP Publications, and Welcoming Committee Chair.

Although we have had response to the other positions, members may nominate from the floor on May 17th.

Running are:

President: Lisa Whetzel

VP Civic Affairs: Paul Sullivan

VP Block Captains: Ernie Klimonda

VP Social Activities: Katie Gagen-Baxter and Jill Toth

VP Neighborhood Crime Watch: Scott Adamson

Secretary: Olivier Long

Treasurer: Dia Pullen

If you have questions or would like to know more about the position, feel free to contact a member of the Nominating Committee: Ernie Klimonda at 703-591-0696: eklimonda@cox.net; Paul Sullivan at 703-293-9774: p.sullivan29@verizon.net; Hildie Carney at 703-591-5305: hilcarn31@aol.com.

INSIDE

CCHCA Website.....	2
CCH Home Sales.....	2
CCH Pool.....	4
CCHCA Membership.....	9

A Note of Thanks

Letter continued...

If you're new to the neighborhood, you should know these women by now...hopefully you will meet the rest of us in short order.

INFORMED NEIGHBORHOOD:

- A big, heartfelt thanks to **Paul Sullivan** for representing CCH at the city council meetings. His passion for and interest in local politics has certainly benefited our community.
- Kudos to **Marty Pullen** and **Ernie Klimonda** for developing our new communication piece: www.cchca.org. If you've not had the time to visit to our website, please do so soon! They've done a *tremendous* job with developing the look, feel and content of the site!
- **Lisa Whetzel** deserves a huge pat on the back for all her work with publishing the newsletters and the directory addendum.
- A round of applause for our VP, Block Captains, **Courtney Ashmore**, and all our block captains (**Cindy Allbright, Ingrid Annibale, Courtney Ashmore, Barbara Barnes, Katie Baxter-Gagen, Jean Benneche, Hildie Carney, Chris Cumming, Irene Denhardt, Polly Feuer, Billie James, Livingston Johnson, Nancy Jones, Kathy Keitt, Debbie and Steven Lane, Steve Lescure, Peg Martin, Sue McKenzie, Chris Mullen, Susan Pepin, Martin and Dia Pullen, Mary Roper, Toby Sorenson, Bob Willard, and Patrice Winter**) all of whom volunteer their time and legs to distribute all the flyers, newsletters, directories.

Lastly, please accept this as a personal invitation to attend our Semi-Annual General Membership Meeting on May 17 at 7:00 pm in the Fairfax High School Library. We have a great agenda planned. We'll have representatives from the Fairfax Renaissance Housing Committee on site to discuss their release of a remodelers "idea book" for CCH homeowners. Tom Sparks will give a short presentation on home sales and the trends within CCH.

- Jill Toth

www.cchca.org!

CCHCA has her own website. Thanks to the outstanding know-how, efforts and hard work of Marty Pullen, we have a professional website that will benefit all residents of Country Club Hills. Check it out. We are planning to show the Directory (street addresses, telephone numbers & email addresses) in our website soon. *If you have changed your email address or telephone number in the past year* or if you do not wish to show either of them please let us know soon by contacting one of the residents below. If you have other ideas for the website or would like to post something, contact us by emailing webmaster-cchca@cox.net or calling Marty Pullen at 703-352-8670.

New Home Sales



Source The City Assessment Office, City of Fairfax

NOTE: Records for home sales are filed first with Fairfax County and then fed over to Fairfax City. The City Assessment Office updates their database on a monthly basis - hence the gap in the sales dates.

For the period of 01/2004 to 12/2004:

Address	List Date	Price
10005 Boxford Ct	2/06/04	\$385,000
10012 Morningside Ct	2/27/04	389,000
10119 Farmington Dr	3/23/04	380,000
3433 Brookwood Dr	4/20/04	440,000
3513 Spring Lake Terr	4/21/04	366,000
10102 Capeway Ct	4/22/04	425,000
3407 Andover Dr	5/06/04	407,000
10018 Morningside Ct	5/21/04	440,000
10103 Cornwall Rd	6/02/04	455,000
3417 Newbury Rd	6/03/04	340,000
10109 Farmington Dr	6/22/04	450,000
3416 Park Hill Pl	7/20/04	445,000
3510 Old Post Rd	7/22/04	425,000
9919 Pinehurst Ave	7/26/04	413,000
3510 Pinehurst Ave	9/28/04	448,000
3410 Park Hill Pl	10/04/04	390,000
10118 Cornwall Rd	11/05/04	420,000
3421 Brookwood Dr	11/10/04	440,000
3404 Country Hill Dr	11/10/04	415,000
9916 Farr Dr	11/23/04	456,000
3417 Newbury Rd	12/01/04	461,000
10104 Farmington Dr	12/21/04	440,000



Foreign Legion sergeant Klimonda

CCH Profile: Ernie Klimonda

- written by Steve Lane

Ernie Klimonda – long-time CCH resident, photographer, historian, and all-round good neighbor – has become a familiar face at almost every CCH event lately, though that face is often obscured behind a camera. As well as being official historian for the CCH civic association, Ernie also serves as its unofficial photographer, diligently recording Easter egg hunts, Halloween parties, Santa visits, tree plantings, and barbecues. (Check out the new CCH Web site at www.cchca.org to see some of his work.)

He can still be seen occasionally walking the neighborhood in his familiar blue porkpie hat, though perhaps less often than he did before his beloved dog, Neska, died last year. Apart from photography, his great passions these days are his family – wife Dolores, daughters Veronique and Christine, and 14-year-old grandson Max – and bridge, which he plays three times a week, having recently cut down from four. He also has a really nice lawn.

But his life has not always been so tranquil.

His father lived his whole life in the same small Eastern European town where he was born, yet managed to live in five different countries.* Ernie has lived in that many and more, though has had to travel rather further afield to do it. In fact, he has made a living at it, with a career spent working for the Thomas Cook travel agency (the world's oldest agency – they got their start organizing tours of the Crimean War in 1857) and later in the travel and administration department of the International Monetary Fund. Ernie also ran a flying school in Leesburg for a time, rode a BMW motorcycle, and until about 10 years ago taught flying and gliding on the weekends. Moving and traveling have always been part of his life.

continued on page 6

CCHCA Offers Curbside Painting

CCHCA volunteer, namely Chris Gagen, will conduct curbside painting for a mere \$15. \$15! And all proceeds go to CCHCA. Chris did 4 digit numbered houses this past fall - don't they look fabulous! - and will finish up 5+ digit numbered houses this spring. Please contact Katie Baxter-Gagen at 703-385-7737 or katiepbg@yahoo.com if you are interested in either volunteering your time and skills painting and/or you would like to have your house numbers painted on your curb.



Paul Sullivan, Rob Lederer, Hildie Carney, and Jill Toth

CCHCA Wine and Cheese Social

Just wanted to say thanks to all that came to the 1st annual Spring Fling party that Lee and I organized at Old Town Hall in April. For those that missed the evening – you missed a good time!! We had a band, cases of wine, good yummys to nosh – dips, cheese, fruit, chocolate covered strawberries and plenty of desserts. If you have never been in Old Town Hall – the site is beautiful – hardwood floors, chandeliers, floor to ceiling windows - adding in the flowers and candles on each table – it was a very pretty evening. As most of the social activities for the community are held in the grass at the Commons – this party was a nice upgrade. Even the mayor showed up for a bit! So thanks again for coming and if we hold a 2nd annual hopefully even more of the neighborhood will join us!

- Dia Pullen

CCHCA Community Clean up

OK. So, a front loader wasn't really necessary...but, if we'd had more volunteers and all day, we could have easily made a few loads!



On April 23, Katie Baxter -Gagen organized a community cleanup that included cleaning our newly adopted spot, the Accotink Steam bed that runs along the northwest portion of our neighborhood.

Although the neighborhood clean up was sparsely attended, we did manage to fill several large garbage bags with debris collected from the creek at the Commons and the path to Fairfax HS. More helpers are needed for future events, as there is lots of trash scattered in obscure places in our lovely neighborhood. Thank you to all those that helped! And thank you to the Pullens who both helped clean and provided donuts and koolaid and the Whetzels for the yummy muffins! Thanks to Katie Baxter-Gagen for her efforts in organizing this useful event. The environment thanks you too!

CCH-OLH Babysitting Co-op



If you're a parent and need to get something done without your kids in tow, or you just have to get out of the house once in a while, the Sitters Club may be your answer. This organization has existed for almost 40 years and includes members from the Old Lee Hills and Country Club Hills neighborhoods.

They operate by sitting for one another, using play money (or scripts) instead of real money. You choose who you want to sit for and who will sit for you. The sits are mostly, but not restricted to, weekdays when spouses are at work.

They have monthly meetings in the evening held at a member's home on a rotating basis. They also have various playdates throughout the month to get better acquainted. For more information, call Janis Murray at 703-383-3436; janice_downey@att.net or call Alexis Adamson at 703-278-9636;

anra5667@hotmail.com.

Join the CCH Yahoo Group

If you would like to receive e-mail updates about happenings in CCH, please consider joining the CCHCA Yahoo Group. To subscribe, send an email (from the e-mail account you wish to subscribe) to CCHCA-subscribe@yahoo.com. In the body of the e-mail, state your name and address (street number and name only). Once subscribed, you will receive notices regarding CCH events – like the annual picnic, membership meetings, holiday festivities, etc. Please be assured that all addresses are protected. Your e-mail address will not be sold for SPAM. If you have any questions about the intent or usage of the CCHCA Yahoo Group, please forward them by e-mail to Jill Toth at jilltoth@yahoo.com.



Pool Time FUN is Just Around The Corner

Do you need a place to wear out the kids this summer? Do you need a place to relax and enjoy the lazy days of summer with your friends? Join the Country Club Hills Pool! CCH is our community pool and the home of the CCH Sharks swim team. CCH Pool is scheduled to open on Saturday, May 28th at noon, weather permitting. Memberships are available now for families and individuals. If you are interested in receiving more information about "the place to be this summer," email Tami Verheul at JWVerheul@aol.com

Swimming Lessons at CCH Pool

Maureen McCarthy will be providing swimming lessons again this year at the CCH Pool. Lessons will begin in July. New this year, she is forming a preschooler class in the afternoons in June while school is still in session. All classes run 30 minutes a day for 2 weeks. If you are interested, call Maureen at 703-385-3893. 'Hurry, classes fill up quickly!

Pet Policies of Fairfax City

Please note the following:

- Owners should try to keep their dogs from barking too much during the day and not at all after 10 p.m.
- Dog owners must annually purchase Fairfax City dog licenses for all dogs 4 months or age or older. They can be purchased at the Office of the Treasurer in City Hall at 10455 Armstrong Street.
- The number of pets allowed by a household in the city of Fairfax is determined by lot size.
- Owners must register dogs found by a court to be dangerous and euthanize dogs found by a court to be vicious.
- Dog owners must pickup waste deposited by their pets on others' property or on common ground.
- Our CC&Rs state specifically that no animals may be raised, bred or kept for commercial purposes.
- Owners must have all dogs and cats 4 months or older vaccinated against rabies.
- Impounded animals are kept at (contact city police first!):

Town & Country Animal Hospital
9870 Lee Highway
Fairfax, VA 22030
Tel: 703-273-2110



HOMES TOUR, APRIL 30

Sponsored by Historic Fairfax City, Inc.

Come and see how "suburbia" has progressed in Fairfax through the century! This tour will feature 6 privately owned homes each highlighting a different decade from 1900 to 2000.

The 1950's era will be one our Country Club Homes. Come see what Teresa Peduzzi has done to her home since it was built. It's spectacular!

Tickets are available at the Museum and Visitors Center. Advance tickets are \$15 and \$20 the day of the tour. Buses leave every 15 minutes from The Museum and Visitors Center on Main St.

For more information and tickets call CCHCA Board Member Hildie Carney at 703-591-5305.

BLenheim

Thank you all who came out to the meeting in January to give your views on the master plan for Blenheim. All of your suggestions have been taken into consideration and plans are ongoing.

It's not too late to email or call the Mayor and Council persons at www.ci.fairfax.va.us, to encourage them to make a decision to move ahead with the Interpretative Center so that we can all enjoy the site.

Go on over and see the beautiful 200 year old cherry tree that is now in bloom.

I was happy to respond to many of your questions after the meeting. And if anyone else would like to call please do so.

Hildie Carney at 703-591-5305 or hilcarn31@aol.com.

Handyman?

We are about to create a HANDYMAN category on our website. If you would like to offer your services in any of the following areas, please email webmaster-cchca@cox.net



- Handyman
- electrician
 - plumber
 - electronics
 - computer
 - gardener
 - mechanic
 - painter
 - wallpaper hanger
 - other services

continued from page 3...

His earliest travels were born out of necessity. Born in 1926, Ernie grew up in Czechoslovakia, much of which became formally part of Germany when Hitler annexed the Sudetenland in 1938. In 1944, as the Russians began to break through into Eastern Europe, Ernie saw the writing on the wall and fled, not east toward the liberators, but west, to Austria. "I had heard about Stalin," he said. Getting out of Czechoslovakia and making his way across wartime Europe was "not easy," Ernie said, with characteristic understatement.

By the end of the war, he had fetched up in France, and at 19 joined the French Foreign Legion, based in Algeria. For five years Ernie fought for the Legion in Indochina as the French tried to defend that piece of their fraying empire against the communist Viet Minh, a precursor to the Vietcong. This was in Viet Nam before it was "Nam," when Ho Chi Minh was a young man and Dien Bien Phu was still years away.

In 1950, Ernie was discharged from the Legion and decided to take his three months' service leave in Casablanca. "I'd heard it was beautiful," he said. He ended up loving it, stayed there eight years, and in 1952, met French native Dolores, who he married in 1956. It was in Casablanca that he first started working for Thomas Cook. He also conducted overland tours of Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia for cruise ship passengers who would leave their ships in Casablanca and rejoin them in Tunis. Ernie's five languages – French, German, Czech, English, and Spanish – were helpful in this line of work. The Klimonda's first daughter, Veronique, was born in Casablanca in 1957.

In 1958, Ernie and Dolores were caught

up in the turmoil as another piece of the French empire sought its independence – Morocco. Like most Europeans at the time, Ernie and Dolores decided to get out, and took ship for America, where they have lived ever since.

Still working for Thomas Cook, Ernie moved his family around the DC area for a few years – living in the District, Alexandria, and Springfield. A couple of years were spent in Cleveland, Ohio, where Ernie opened a new branch office. Their second daughter, Christine, was born in 1959.

On January 1, 1969, the Klimondas moved to Country Club Hills, paying \$30,000 for their house on Andover Drive. Fairfax was then the "boondocks," Ernie recalled. "I'd tell people at work where I lived and they'd say, 'Where?'"

Not much has really changed since those days, Ernie said. People went to work, raised kids, mowed their lawns. Traffic was bad back then, too. Ernie used to spend an hour plowing down Route 50 into town, in the days before 66 and the beltway. *Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose.*

But things were undeniably a little slower back then. Ernie remembers a time when he was preparing to land a plane at the new Dulles airport and talking to the tower to schedule a landing time. This was at 10:30 in the morning.

"Take your time," said the tower, "We're not expecting any other flights until three o'clock this afternoon."

* The town – Cesky-Tesin in Czech, Teschen in German, Cieszyn in Polish – began the 2000 century as part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, was then part of Czechoslovakia after WWI, briefly became part of Poland in early 1938, was German during the war, returned to Czechoslovakia after WWII, and since 1990 has been in the Czech Republic.

The Historian's Corner



More of the same in our next Newsletter. – Residents who would like to borrow these old documents for a few days should contact the Historian.

As the new CCHCA Historian, I am asking readers (and especially any original owners) to look for any old documents, newspaper articles, newsletters, directories and/or pictures that you think might preserve the history of our neighborhood. If you have any such items or if you have any questions please call, write or email me today. Ernie Klimonda at 703-591-0696 or eklimonda@cox.net.

Pictures of CCHCA events can now be viewed on the CCHCA-Yahoo-Group site or at the following website: <http://www.klimonda.com/gallery/> Recently we have acquired a great amount of invaluable documentation regarding CCHCA's past such as Newsletters from the 1950's as well as correspondence (complaints) between the residents, the builders and their lawyers.

We would like to thank particularly Ms. Armistice Turtora (CCHCA President in 1963), Ms. Polly Feuer for her pictures of the 1950's, and Ms. Lisa Whetzel and many other residents who have contributed to our archives.

Here are some excerpts from a few "Bulletins."
October 14, 1958 - *FOUND* - Green parakeet – Call Mrs. Whiteside – Cr.3-4749

October 31, 1958 – Dog loving members of the Community ask that they be given a chance to rectify any nuisance caused by their pets before "ringing for a net."

The "not so" dog loving members of the community join the postman in requesting owners to confine their pets according to the rules of reason, law and safety. The pets have no vote in the matter.

January 16, 1959 - *House Decorating Report.*
Second Prize: Mr. And Mrs. Lou Carducci, 205 Brookwood Drive. They received a wrought-iron lamp post (courtesy of CCHCA and CHGC) and a three-dollar certificate (courtesy of Blackie's Atlantic Service Station.)

June 5, 1959 – *Membership.* If you don't want to be bothered by personal calls, telephone calls, knocks on the door – Please send in your \$2.00 dues to – Treasurer, Toni Kellogg - 601 Springlake Terrace.

Bonjour

H

H

Foreign Languages at Country Club Hills

Spanish Club: Meets once a month. A two-hour friendly conversation evening open to residents of any level of knowledge. For more information contact Nina Prescott at 703-278-1008 : ninaprescott@verizon.net.

French Club: Meets once a month. A two-hour friendly conversation evening open to residents of any level of knowledge. For more information contact Olivier Long at 703-359-6383:
Counsel@EZJustice.com.

German Club: Is anybody interested in forming this club and brush up on his/her German? Contact Ernie Klimonda at eklimonda@cox.net.

Lessons: One-hour lessons of basic/intermediate French, Spanish or German for \$15.00 – payable to "Treasurer – CCHCA" (Fund-raising program). Open to all residents age 5 to 90. Location: Your place or mine. Contact Ernie Klimonda at eklimonda@cox.net.

Other foreign languages; Are there any residents willing to teach Arabic, Chinese or other languages to our residents and donate the proceeds to CCHCA? Please contact us.

2004-2005 Board of Directors

President	Jill Toth 9934 Pinehurst Avenue 703-383-1965; jilltoth@yahoo.com
VP, Civic Affairs	Paul Sullivan 3302 Spring Lake Court 703-293-9774; p.sullivan29@verizon.net
VP, Block Captains	Courtney Ashmore 3420 County Hill Drive 703-277-2831; Courtney_Ashmore@hotmail.com
VP, Membership	Olivier Long 3423 Brookwood Drive 703-748-0600; counsel@ezjustice.com
VP, Publications	Lisa Whetzel 3406 Park Hill Place 703-383-5989; whetzelink@cox.net
VP, Social Activities	Lee Faber 10017 Spring Lake Terrace 703-273-0829; leef@cox.net Dia Pullen 10004 Boxford Court 703-352-8670; diapullen@hotmail.com
VP, Neighborhood Crime Watch	Katie Gagen-Baxter 3508 Pinehurst Avenue 703-385-7737; katiepbg@yahoo.com
Secretary	Steven Lane 10019 Morningside Court 703-352-6217; lane.link@verizon.net
Treasurer	Ryan Abate 10144 Spring Lake Terrace 703-278-0148; rabate@checkagain.com
Committee Chairs Welcoming	Hildie Carney 3512 Old Post Road 703-591-5305; hilcarn31@aol.com
Historian	Ernie Klimonda 3411 Andover Road 703-591-0696 eklimonda@cox.net
Webmeister	Marty Pullen webmaster-cchca@cox.net

Welcoming New Neighbors

Please help us welcome new neighbors!
Call Hildie Carney, Welcoming Chair, at 703-591-5305 or email her at hilcarn31@aol.com with the name and/or address of the new moved in neighbor (they can also be renters).

Need a babysitter or pet-sitter?

Need a babysitter or pet-sitter?
For a full list of available sitters visit your CCHCA website: www.cchca.org

CCHCA on DVD Available

A DVD on CCH events of 2003/2004 is now available for \$10 payable to "Treasurer CCHCA". Get your copy by calling 703-591-0696 or emailing webmaster-cchca@cox.net.

COMING EVENTS

CCH CALENDAR

May 17	CCH Annual Meeting
June 23	Ice Cream Social
July	Commons Campout
Sept 10	Fairfax City Family Fun Fest

For more information on CCHCA related activities, visit www.cchca.org. For any city-sponsored event, or on any of the city's programs and services, visit the City of Fairfax Web site at www.ci.fairfax.va.us.

From the Editor:

Have questions or comments about the newsletter? This newsletter belongs to you. We accept ads for services or items for sale or donation. Contact Lisa Whetzel, Eccho editor, at whetzelink@cox.net or 703-383-5989.