



The Village Crier

Monthly Newsletter for the Villages of Rivershyre, Dartmore, Brighton, Newport, and Edenton

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Architectural Control Committee Update

The primary functions of the Architectural Control Committee (ACC) are to review and approve or disapprove all plans and specifications, including but not limited to: 1) construction, 2) modifications or additions to existing property, 3) fencing, walls, and hedges, 4) removal of trees and shrubs, and 5) private pools.

In addition the Committee: 1) addresses the upkeep of existing structures and property in compliance with the Covenants, 2) resolves any disputes or questions

regarding the Covenants, and 3) interprets the Covenants.

While all that may sound confusing, the ACC performs a simple but vital function for our neighborhood. The committee works to preserve the aesthetic value and appearance of the structures and landscaping of the Villages of Rivershyre. Its goal is to maintain our neighborhood to the highest standards applicable.

BEFORE you begin construction, removal of

living trees and shrubs, or other major modifications to your property (such as a fence), you must submit a property alteration request (PAR) for approval. Urgency or a contractor's schedule should not be an excuse for not submitting a PAR. The committee frequently conducts business (i.e., approves PAR's) outside of its normal meeting whenever an urgent situation arises.

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From the Editor

Greetings all!

First let me say a very BIG Thank You to Donna Hanner for being our newsletter editor for the past 20 months. She did a wonderful job and we really appreciate her volunteering to be the editor.

This is my first attempt to edit a monthly newsletter and I'm really looking forward to it. I'd like to improve on the work that previous editors have

done by giving you information that you want. Meaningful content is what makes every newsletter a success. Please feel free to contribute articles and/or information that you think your neighbors will find of interest.

You can submit an article for the newsletter by email to newsletter@rivershyre.org or in writing by dropping it by 2032 Edenton Trail

by the 20th of each month.

You have probably also noticed that the format of the newsletter has changed a little. What do you think? Is the column format too hard to read?

Happy Fourth of July!

The Villages of Rivershyre

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(706) 854-0283

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feedback@rivershyre.org

newsletter@rivershyre.org

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.rivershyre.org

ACC Update (cont.)

Some of the more common covenants that you may not be aware of include the following:

- Article III, Section 8 – Approval of Plans. No building, fence, or other structure (including such things as tree houses) shall erected until plans are submitted to and approved by the ACC.
- Article III, Section 9 – Preservation of Trees and Vegetation. **Living trees and shrubs shall not** be removed from property without the approval of the ACC.
- Article V, Section 1 – Animals. No more than two (2) cats, dogs, or similar domestic pets may be kept on the property without the permission of the ACC.
- Article V, Section 5 – Vehicles. Campers, boats, and trailers used for purely recreational purposes may be maintained on a lot **only if** maintained in a garage or screened area where they are not visible from streets or roads.
- Article V, Section 9 – Signs and Mailboxes. Realtor (for sale) signs are only permitted on the property that is for sale. Mailboxes shall be of substantially similar design and construction as the existing mailboxes in Rivershyre.

In recent months, the ACC has been operating with just a very few dedicated members. The committee will soon be losing its chairman, Jeff Butler, who has done an excellent job with the committee over the past couple of years. If you can spare an hour a month to help review proposed modifications and to look at potential covenant violations, your help would be greatly appreciated.

The Covenants and the property alteration request (PAR) form are available in *.pdf format on the Rivershyre website. From the homepage, click on "Documents".

Website Facts

Our neighborhood website is becoming more popular. Currently we are averaging 10 to 15 visitors per day. Since the website started in December, 1999 we have had more than 4,400 visitors. A few of those daily visitors are automated web-bots that collect data about our site but most are real live visitors looking for information about our community.

People come to our website 95% of the time by typing the URL directly. However, 5% of the time, they've used Yahoo or

Google or some other search engine to locate our website.

The most popular times of the day to visit our website are 12:00pm and 10:00pm.

The top 5 pages for the month of June were: 1) the main page, 2) the Pool Committee's page, 3) the Homes for Sale page, 4) the documents page, and 5) the Homeowner's Association page.

Internet Explorer is the browser of choice – it is used 80% of the time.

If your home is for sale, you can post information about your home on the Rivershyre website. Send the information, including a picture if you desire, to forsale@rivershyre.org. We'll post the information as quickly as possible. In addition, if your realtor has a weblink to your home, you can have that posted as well.

Too Hot to Cook?

Then cool off with a cool salad dinner from the next Rivershyre Take-out Night. Mark your calendar for Tuesday July 16th because that's when the cooks will be in the kitchen at the Clubhouse. Pick up hours will be between 5:00 pm and 6:30 pm. There is a choice of two menus that evening.

Choice #1 will be Pasta Salad with oil, plus broccoli, salami, cheese, onions, and black olives. There will be breadsticks and a sweet treat too. Choice #2 will be Shrimp Salad with celery and mayo over a bed of lettuce with deli rolls and a sweet treat.

The cost will be \$10.00

for four servings and the deadline for your RSVP is Sunday, July 7th. Please make your reservation by calling Stephany at 863-5988.

The proceeds from this dinner will be used towards the purchase of new blinds for the clubhouse.

Upcoming Social Activities

The Social & Welcome Committee has been searching for an idea for a fun time for the 10 years and up crowd and have we come up with a doozy. We're planning to a neighborhood Scavenger Hunt! The details are still being worked on but the kids will search in groups and some of the items being searched for could be a challenge to find. The date is set for Saturday, September 28th and all of the details will be available in upcoming newsletters.

So if you are 10 or older, watch for more information and start spreading the word among your friends!

A few more activities being planned for the neighborhood include:

An adult Tex-Mex Party on September 14th. We hope to have this start as a catered dinner with the details still being worked on.

In early October we are planning a Family

Block Party to be held on the Clubhouse grounds. It will be an old-fashioned fun day with games for the kids and lots of good food!

Be sure to check the August & September newsletters for all of the details about these future "fun times".

Tennis *and* Basketball Anyone?

The Grounds & Lake Committee would like to know the neighborhood's opinion of replacing one of our tennis courts with a basketball court. We

would remove the net and poles and put up a basketball goal at both ends of the court. Please provide your feedback on this proposal to: hoffmanguy@bfusa.com

or call Guy Hoffman at 650-2228.

Bunco Will Return!

The next Ladies Bunco Night is tentatively being planned for mid to late August. Don't know how to play Bunco? No problem, its easy to learn. Watch for more information in next month's newsletter.

Outdoor Watering Reminder

Columbia County is under odd-even outdoor watering restrictions. You should only water on Monday-Wednesday-Friday if your address ends in an odd number and on Tuesday-Thursday-Saturday if your address ends in an even number.

Board of Directors

Randy Stone	President
Martha Kapfhammer	Vice President
Ray Jasniecki	Treasurer
Bill Clark	Secretary
Holly Bullock	Asst. Treasurer
Susan Perfect	Asst. Secretary
Denise McLain	Member
Mike Paluba	Member

The Board of Directors meets on the first Thursday of each month at 7:30pm at the Clubhouse. [Note that the July meeting has been rescheduled to July 11th because of the holiday.

Committee Chairpersons

Architectural Control	Jeff Butler
By-Laws & Nominating	Bob Lloyd
Finance	Ray Jasniecki
Grounds & Lake	Dan Johnson
Neighborhood Watch & Safety	Joyce Rabb
Pool	Mike Plankey
Social & Welcome	Martha Kapfhammer

If you are interested in joining one of our committees, please visit at our next meeting. If you have a concern or issue that falls under the purview of one of the above committees, please contact the committee chairperson or any member of that committee.

Committee Meetings

Architectural Control	4 th Monday, 7:00 pm
Board of Directors	1 st Thursday, 7:30 pm
By-Laws & Nominating	No Regularly Scheduled Meetings
Finance	2 nd Wednesday, 7:30 pm
Grounds & Lake	3 rd Monday, 7:00 pm
Pool	3 rd Wednesday, 7:00 pm
Neighborhood Watch & Safety	4 th Thursday, 7:00 pm
Social & Welcome	2 nd Tuesday, 10:00 am

All committee meetings are held at the Rivershyre Clubhouse unless otherwise noted. All committee meetings are open to homeowners. Please join a committee and help our neighborhood continue to be a wonderful place to live.

Upcoming Events

Rivershyre Tigersharks Home Swim Meet	Tuesday, July 2nd
Rivershyre Takeout Night	Tuesday, July 16 th (5:00 – 6:30pm)
Ladies Bunco Night	Mid to Late August
Tex-Mex Party	September 14th
Annual Homeowner's Meeting	September 17 th , 7:30 pm
10 & Up Scavenger Hunt	September 28th

Clubhouse Rentals

If you are interested in renting the clubhouse, please contact Ruth Lloyd at 860-3803 or Martha Kapfhammer at 650-8766. The fee is only \$50.00 plus a \$150.00 security deposit. The Clubhouse accommodates 80 people.

The Clubhouse phone number is 854-0283.

The rental agreement, clubhouse rules, and check-in/out checklist can be found on our website at www.rivershyre.org/clubhouse.

The President's Corner

Earlier this month I received a call reporting **vandalism to our neighborhood bulletin board**. It appeared that someone tried to push the bulletin board over but stopped short of pulling it out of the ground. Aside from being tilted over, the decorative knobs had been broken off. The vandalism was reported to the Sheriff's Office and an officer responded and wrote up an incident report. Another officer found some fingerprints that he was going to run through the Georgia system. The officer asked if we intended to prosecute if the offenders were found and I told him that we would.

One of our residents (Larry Beran) worked very hard to build the bulletin board a couple years ago and did a great job. He built it on a voluntary basis and was reimbursed for the materials only. The bulletin board has been very useful by providing a highly visible means to announce upcoming community events. It was very disappointing to me that someone would try to knock the bulletin board over. The Board of Directors, Committee members, and other volunteers work very hard to keep the neighborhood running and in good condition. We are starting to hire contractors to do some jobs, but most of the work in keeping up the neighborhood is still done on a volunteer basis. That someone comes behind us and tries to destroy stuff in our neighborhood upsets me very much. **If you see anyone trying to destroy or vandalize any community property please notify the Sheriff's Office immediately.** You can call the Sheriff's dispatcher at 541-2800.

Most of our committees are in dire need of help. Residents in good standing are eligible to participate on any committee.

Architectural Control Committee – This committee's chairman will be leaving us soon and we need 2 to 4 residents to strengthen the ACC to a minimum of 4 to 6 committed members. Volunteers should be fair-minded individuals with a desire to help enforce the architectural standards of our community. Please contact Bill Clark at 860-5192.

Finance Committee – We need some professional help with developing our long-term savings plan (Reserve Study) and financial strategies. Residents with a financial planning, accounting and/or business management background please consider donating a couple hours a month to help us out. We have ordered some financial guidance books from the Community Assn Institute but we could really use some professional help and guidance. Other residents with a good sense for numbers and a willingness to help out with the planning and/or some of the routine bookwork are also welcome. Please contact Randy Stone at 863-9053.

Grounds & Lake Committee – We could use a couple more handyman and/or contract administrator types that can help us see that the common areas are maintained. There are a number of things that need fixing up and we just haven't had the manpower to take care of it all. We are starting to move towards setting up maintenance contracts for some things such as lawn sprinkler service and perhaps a fence repair contractor. The committee is currently trying to get a repair contract issued to do some long needed repair work on our tennis courts. We also need someone readily available (perhaps a retired person) that can replace light bulbs, call in a plumber and take care of other minor repairs on an as needed basis. Please contact Dan Johnson at 651-1603.

Social & Welcome Committee – Individuals wishing to participate in the planning or running of neighborhood social events and activities are always welcome. We also need someone that is handy with databases and desktop publishing to help get the community directory issued and updated on a regular basis (semi-annually). Susan Perfect has been busy keeping the residential database current but we need some help getting that information distributed to the committees and getting the directory published to the residents. Please call Martha Kapfhammer at 650-8766.

Neighborhood Watch & Safety – We need to get this committee up and going again. In this day and age there is a real need to establish some emergency response plans and keep our residents aware of safety and security issues. Anyone interested in helping keep our community safe and secure please contact Mike Paluba at 651-8779.

By-Laws and Nominating – Is someone willing to help research community legal issues and help run the annual elections? If so, please contact Randy Stone at 863-9053.

Board of Directors - Some of the current Board members terms will be up this year so we are interested in getting some new nominees to serve on the Board. We will be asking for volunteers at the annual HOA Meeting on Sept 17th. Any homeowners in good standing are eligible to serve on the Board. A resident with a business management background would be a great addition to the board next year. If you have any questions about serving on the Board or Committees (or have any other concerns about our community, send an email to feedback@rivershyre.org or call me at 863-9053.

Thank you, Randy Stone