



The Village Crier

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

W. D. Clark, Editor
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www.rivershyre.org

December, 2002

**Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year!**

In This Issue

- Santa is Coming to Town!
- Ladies Night at Artsy Me

Topics of Interest

Our Address & Phone Number	2
Calendar of Events	3
Board & Committees	3
Christmas Safety	4

Let's Light up Rivershyre!

In a spirit of community fun, the Social and Welcome Committee is starting a new tradition in Rivershyre. We're introducing a Christmas Decorating Contest for the neighborhood! So many of our homes already do such a great job of decorating for the Holidays that we decided to have a contest and see just how spectacular our neighborhood can look.

The judging will be done on the evening of Sunday, December 15th and the prize will be a crisp new \$50 bill! The prize will be awarded that evening and a sign will be placed in the yard of the winning home. We will be touring the whole

Rivershyre subdivision that evening. However, if you see a home (even your own) that you feel deserves special consideration, you can send an email message to: Christmas@rivershyre.org. The email will be forwarded to the judges so they are sure to notice that particular home.

Start getting your decorating ideas together and get your lights out of the attic. Let's make Rivershyre a "de-light-ful" Holiday neighborhood.

Santa is Coming to Rivershyre!

On Sunday, December 8th the jolly fellow in the red suit will be visiting the children of Rivershyre at our Clubhouse. He'll be stopping by from 3:00 to 5:00pm to share some cookies with the little ones and to listen to their Christmas wishes. There is a small fee of \$3 per child and each one will have his/her picture taken with Santa plus they will receive a special treat. Oh yes, there will be cookies, milk, and hot cocoa for the whole family as well.

Don't delay, there isn't much time left to RSVP. Please call Jen at 860-8726 before December 6th. Santa is looking forward to seeing our Rivershyre children!



The Villages of
Rivershyre

P. O. Box 2194
Evans, GA 30809-2194

Clubhouse/Pool Phone
(706) 854-0283

Our E-Mail Addresses:

feedback@rivershyre.org

newsletter@rivershyre.org

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.rivershyre.org

? Couples ?
Bunco Night

Plans are being made for a special Valentine's Day Couples Bunco.

We'll have a wine and cheese party that night and play bunco. Watch for all the details in the January newsletter.

Ladies Night at Artsy Me

Looking for something to do after the excitement of the Holidays is over? Then plan on attending our Rivershyre Ladies Night at Artsy Me. The date will be Monday, January 6th from 6:00 to 9:00pm. There will be pizza and soda for us to eat while we paint our masterpieces. Artsy Me is located at 3639 Walton Way Extension near The Little Gym.

The cost will be \$5 and this will cover the paint that you will use plus the firing and glazing of the piece that you have painted. In addition, you will need to

purchase that evening a piece of greenware (they have a selection there in a price range from \$7 on up). The owners will instruct us in the techniques that we will need to know to do the painting.

You may RSVP with your prepaid \$5 to Ruth at 860-3803. This needs to be done before December 30th. Space will be limited at the store so make your reservation early! If you have any questions, please call Ruth. Let's start 2003 in a creative way!

Spooky to be Hungry a HUGE Success

The residents of Rivershyre showed their tremendous generosity during the 8th Annual **It's Spooky to be Hungry** food drive for the Golden Harvest Food Bank.

The 31 eager volunteers (plus Brownie troop #216) went door-to-door with decorated wagons on October 26th and collected just over 1,200 lbs. of food and baby items plus \$650, surpassing last year's donations.

This grass-roots, all-volunteer drive is held on the Saturday before Halloween every year. This year, 92 neighborhoods in 4 counties (1200 volunteers) partici-

pated. The results were nothing short of stellar: 46,230 lbs of food and \$24,280 went to the food bank, both numbers up roughly 30% from 2001.

Mike Firmin, director of GHFB, said with this kind of community support they may be in sight of their goal of no one in the CSRA having to go to bed hungry. The holidays will be so much brighter for so many because of your kindness.

Thank you, Rivershyre neighbors! --
Debbie Johnson, Kamy Hawk, and Susan Perfect, Spooky Co-captains

Editor's Note

The "Points of Contact" list, usually published in this spot, will return next month as space allows. If you have a number you would like to see added to the list, please let me know.

Also starting next month we are planning to have a "Thank You" section in the newsletter to recognize those homeowners who have made contributions to our neighborhood. If you know someone who should be recognized, please send an email with the person's name, address, and a summary of their contribution to: thanks@rivershyre.org.

Finally, I'd like to wish everyone in Rivershyre a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Please be safe.

Bill Clark, Editor

2002 Board of Directors

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

The Board of Directors meets on the first Thursday of each month at 7:30pm at the Clubhouse.

The 2003 Board of Directors will elect officers at its January meeting.

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.

Committee Chairpersons

Architectural Control	Jim McLain
By-Laws & Nominating	Vacant
Finance	Ray Jasniecki
Grounds & Lake	Dan Johnson
Neighborhood Watch & Safety	Mike Paluba
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.

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.

*** Calendar of Events ***

Santa Visits Rivershyre	Sunday, December 8 th , 3:00 to 5:00pm at the Clubhouse
Christmas Decorating Contest Judging	Sunday, December 15 th
Ladies Visit "Artsy Me"	Monday, January 6 th , 6:00 to 9:00pm
Couples Bunco Night	Coming in February

Christmas Safety

By Ray Jasniecki (Reprinted from the December, 2001 Village Crier)

Christmas – It's the most wonderful time of the year. But, it can also be one of the most *hazardous* times of the year because we are often so preoccupied with gifts, decorating our homes, and planning parties that we often overlook basic common sense safety principles. Please keep the following tips in mind amid the hustle and bustle of the season.

Outside Decorations:

Inspect the ladder for broken rungs, damaged feet or other obvious damage prior to use. Make sure the extension ladder is firmly planted with its feet one-quarter of its extended length away from the house (e.g., a twelve foot ladder should be positioned three feet away from the house). Make sure that the feet are resting on a level surface. Extension ladder sections should overlap at least three feet. Do not place a ladder in front of a door. Do not maneuver and extension ladder upright as you move it, take extra time to lower it and carry it parallel to the ground. Do not stand or climb on the top two rungs of any platform type step ladders or straight and extension ladders.

Christmas Trees:

A Christmas Tree is probably the most beautiful of decorations. Purchase only living trees with root balls or freshly cut trees when possible. Previously cut trees may have been harvested a month or more earlier and could already be dangerously dry. A simple test for freshness is to grasp the branch with your thumb and forefinger and pull towards the tip. The needles should feel soft and very few should drop to the ground. Cut at least an inch off the bottom of the trunk and place the tree in water as soon as possible. Use a stand that holds plenty of water so that the tree will not dry out. Keep fresh trees well watered. A tree can become a flaming torch with a fire so hot that it can engulf an entire room within minutes. Remember not to block doorways or exits with your tree. In a fire, seconds count and every exit should be available.

Christmas Lights:

Christmas lights should be approved by the Underwriters Laboratory as evidenced by the UL tag on the cord. Inspect the strands of lights before use – never use strings of lights that have frayed or broken cords. Do not overload electrical outlets or overuse extension cords. Typically no more than two or three strings of lights should be connected together and plugged into a single outlet. Demanding too much current from your circuits can make wiring overheat and start fires inside your walls. Make sure the extension cord is approved for its intended use. Never use indoor extension cords outside. Outside rated cords have more insulation than indoor cords.

Candles:

Candles symbolize joy, warmth, security, and light. Keep flames well away from anything that will burn – upholstered furniture, curtains, lampshades, etc.... Never leave a candle unattended and keep children and pets away from lit candles. Never use real candles on or near the Christmas tree. If a candle is used in an arrangement with greens, such as with a table centerpiece, keep the greenery moist and discard it as it becomes dry. Remember to blow out all candles after your party.

