



# The Village Crier

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

*K.M. Kearns, Editor*  
newsletter@rivershyre.org

[www.rivershyre.org](http://www.rivershyre.org)

December, 2009



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## A Message from the Association President

Hi everyone and Merry Christmas.

I don't know about you, but it seems like the holidays can be one mad dash. Between shopping, parties, school events and decorations, sometimes it seems like there is little time to relax and reflect on the past year. When I look back over what our neighborhood accomplished this year, there are things to be proud of. We had a strong neighborhood board that guided us through the year; the Grounds and Lakes committee found a new landscaper that significantly enhanced the appearance of the neighborhood; the Safety and Watch committee sponsored events that were well attended by our neighbors; the Social and Welcome committee continued their annual parties and parades that were enjoyed by many; the Pool committee had another strong year of swimmers and Friday night floats; and the Finance committee ensured that we had some money left in the bank once all the bills were paid. And with each of these events we had numerous volunteers to ensure their success.

As you experience the upcoming Holidays with your family and friends, please remember the thousands upon thousands of Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors and Marines who are separated from their families as they continue to ensure the freedoms we all enjoy.

The neighborhood is going to kick off the new year with our second annual Polar Bear Plunge on Saturday, 2 January 2010, 10:00am at the Pool. Last year we had a number of "plungers" and a number of spectators. Everyone in the neighborhood is invited to this event which we hope will grow larger each year. Let's see how big of a "splash" we can make. Also, we'll have Hot Chocolate to warm you up afterwards.

Also at the beginning of the new year we will have a small increase to the price of renting the clubhouse. The new price will be \$75.00. For those that are interested in renting the club house, please contact Debbie at (706) 228-7314.

Thanks always to those who support, volunteer and continue to make Rivershyre a great place to live.

T.M. Weisz  
RCA President

The Villages of  
Rivershyre

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

Rivershyre Association  
& Clubhouse Phone  
(706) 854-0229

Pool Phone  
(706) 854-0283

Our E-Mail Addresses:

[feedback@rivershyre.org](mailto:feedback@rivershyre.org)

[newsletter@rivershyre.org](mailto:newsletter@rivershyre.org)

We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.rivershyre.org](http://www.rivershyre.org)

**A Reminder from the Treasurer**

Hello Rivershyre Homeowners!!

As the year end approaches your RCA Board is getting ready to install new members and implement the 2010 Budget which was approved at the 2009 RCA Community Meeting. As most of you know, we stayed within our budget this year but due to rising utility and lawn care costs our homeowner's dues will be going up to \$240.00 this year. You will be receiving an invoice at your home after the first of the year. If you pay by the due date, which is always March 15th, there are no penalty fees! Thanks again to everyone for paying promptly last year. I am hoping for another great year with the good neighbors of Rivershyre.

Sincerely,  
Holly Bullock



**COOKIES WITH SANTA**

December 12th @ 9:00 am

\*make sure and bring your camera\*

RSVP to Joanie Bryant at 706-863-2931 by December 9<sup>th</sup>.

~ **Rivershyre Yard of the Month** ~

Rivershyre's sixty-third Yard of the Month can be found at **1098 Rivershyre Drive**. This competition is sponsored by Philip Jones of Re/Max True Advantage. (706-833-4663). The monthly winners will have a very nice sign placed in their yard signifying that they have been selected as having the nicest yard in Rivershyre.

~ **Calendar of Events** ~

Cookies w/ Santa (9:00am) & Hayride, caroling and contest (7:00pm)	Saturday, December 12 <sup>th</sup>
First day of Hanukkah	Saturday, December 12 <sup>th</sup>
Columbia County schools winter holiday	December 21 <sup>st</sup> – January 1 <sup>st</sup>
Christmas Eve	Thursday, December 24 <sup>th</sup>
Christmas	Friday, December 25 <sup>th</sup>
First day of Kwanzaa	Saturday, December 26 <sup>th</sup>
New Year's Eve	Thursday, December 31 <sup>st</sup>
Polar Bear Plunge (10:00am)	Saturday, January 2 <sup>nd</sup>

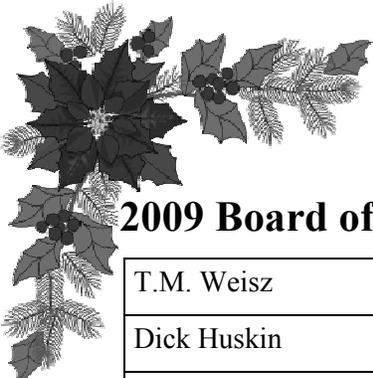
**Babysitters  
Listing**

If you would like to add your name to the list, send an email to:

[babysitter@rivershyre.org](mailto:babysitter@rivershyre.org).

Include your name, address, phone number, age, rate, and age range of children you will sit.

Newsletter articles are due by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. Drop them by 1116 Rivershyre Drive or email them to: [newsletter@rivershyre.org](mailto:newsletter@rivershyre.org).



## 2009 Board of Directors

T.M. Weisz	President
Dick Huskin	Vice President
Michael Nehlsen	Secretary
Holly Bullock	Treasurer
Kathryn and Tim Barrett, Renee Nehlsen, Bob Petty, Russ Lesesburg, Mike Amerson, Ziad Husein, Bill Rutledge and Travis Walden	Members

### Rivershyre Home Sales Update

This monthly newsletter item includes information on the homes in Rivershyre that are either currently on the market or have recently closed. This information is provided courtesy of Philip Jones of Re/Max True Advantage. If you have any questions about this information, please contact Philip at 833-4663.

#### Active Listings as of 11/16/2009

1087 Severn Drive	\$249,000
1081 Rivershyre Court	\$229,900
1212 Oakton Trail	\$259,900
1165 Oakton Trail	\$270,000
1107 Rivershyre Drive	\$249,900
1202 Newport Trail	\$224,900

#### Sold Properties 6/20/2009 – 11/16/2009

1150 Parkside Trail	\$198,000
1141 Rivershyre Drive	\$225,500
1153 Oakton Court	\$348,500

#### Pending Sales as of 11/16/2009

1151 Oakton Court  
1131 Village Court  
1158 Oakton Trail

#### Average Sales for Previous 6 Months

Average Home Size	2778 sq. ft.
Average Sales Price	\$257,333
Average Dollar per Sq. Ft.	\$92.63
Average Days on the Market	49 days

## Committee Chairpersons

Architectural Control	Open
By-Laws & Nominating	Dick Huskin
Finance	Holly Bullock
Grounds & Lake	Open
Neighborhood Watch & Safety	Kathryn Barrett
Pool	Open
Social & Welcome	Renee Nehlsen

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

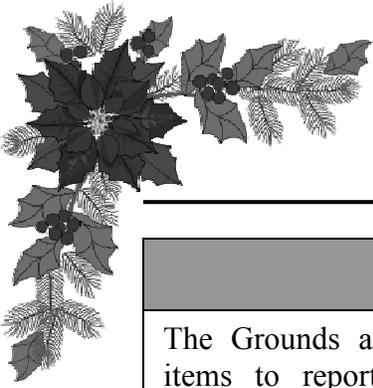
Architectural Control	4 <sup>th</sup> Monday, 7:30 pm
Board of Directors	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 7:30 pm
By-Laws & Nominating	No Regularly Scheduled Meetings
Finance	As needed
Grounds & Lake	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday, 7:30 pm
Pool	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 7:30 pm
Neighborhood Watch & Safety	4 <sup>th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

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.

## Clubhouse Rentals

If you are interested in renting the clubhouse, please contact Debbie Weisz at 706-228-7314. The fee is only \$75.00 plus a \$150.00 security deposit. The Clubhouse accommodates up to 80 people. Clubhouse rental does not include use of the pool.

The Clubhouse phone number is 854-0229. The rental agreement, clubhouse rules, and check in/out checklist can be found on our website by clicking on "Clubhouse" or "Documents".



# Committee Updates & Notes

## Grounds and Lake Committee

The Grounds and Lake Committee has several items to report this month. Another “Second Saturday” work-day was held, a BIG repair project is being planned and renovations to the clubhouse are continuing.

The most recent work-day was held Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup>. A small number of volunteers worked on several small clean-up projects. Some of the workers removed trees that had fallen across the walking trail along the riverbank. Other workers cleaned up the playground and tennis court. Addition of more wood chips, repairs to the playground equipment and cleaning of the surrounding fence will be undertaken next spring during a work-day sometime before Easter.

The next big repair project will be a complete rebuild of the small footbridge along the Nature Trail. The bridge spans the creek leading out to the river and is made of railroad ties laid on two steel I-beams. The railroad ties have deteriorated to the point they must all be replaced. This will be a major undertaking and will require several days to complete. It will also require the help of a number of volunteers to disassemble the existing bed of the bridge and replace the boards. One of the most labor-intensive parts of the job will be moving all of the required materials and equipment out to the jobsite and removing the debris after the job is finished. The bridge flooring is comprised of 50 railroad ties. These timbers typically weigh between 140 and 200 pounds each. That comes to about 4 or 5 TONS of materials! That’s why we’ll need lots of help for this project. So when you see the dates for this project listed on the neighborhood bulletin board, PLEASE lend a hand.

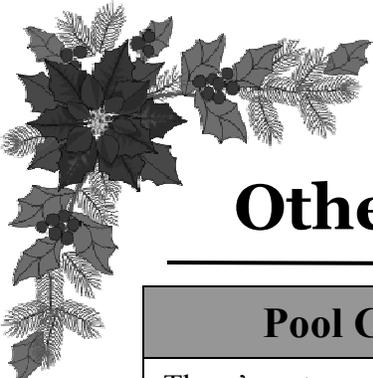
During the past several Second Saturdays, volunteers have repainted portions of the clubhouse interior. A commercial company has now completed laying new floor tile in the kitchen

and restrooms. Future work-day efforts will focus on completing the repairs and renovations.

Second Saturdays are becoming a routine here in Rivershyre. That’s the one day a month when neighbors are invited to participate in a volunteer effort to help maintain the amenities and appearance of Rivershyre. While we have a commercial lawn service to take care of such tasks, most other light repairs and neighborhood maintenance tasks are performed by members of the Grounds & Lake Committee and all of the volunteers that we can encourage to join in. Its a fun and invigorating way to maintain the neighborhood while helping to keep down the costs to the association which ultimately gets passed on to the members if annual expenses exceed annual income from members’ dues. And there’s always the fun of meeting your neighbors and making new friends. So the next time you see an announcement about Second Saturday, please set aside your Saturday morning from 8am to noon and come on down to the clubhouse and join the party.

The work of the committee and its volunteers is not limited to just the workdays. Many smaller chores such as making adjustments and minor repairs to the neighborhood sprinkler systems are handled on an as-needed basis. Other tasks include making minor repairs at the clubhouse and everyone’s favorite, emptying the trash cans at the playground, Hardy Pond and the Nature Trail.

The committee meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Rivershyre Clubhouse. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 21<sup>st</sup>. If you would like to join the committee or simply have questions, please visit or drop us an e-mail at [rca.gl@rivershyre.org](mailto:rca.gl@rivershyre.org).



## Other Committee/Activity Updates

### Pool Committee Report

There's not much going on at the pool this time of the year but come January, things will really heat up. At least that's what some brave (?) swimmers are hoping. That's right, swimmers in January! While the pool won't officially open until May, we have some Rivershyre residents that think the best time of the year to go swimming is in JANUARY. Just like last January, these "POLAR BEARS" are planning to celebrate the new year by having a dip in the pool. This time it will take place at 10am on Saturday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>. All are welcome to come and participate in this insanity, or just watch some of our more adventurous neighbors brave the chilly waters. Come on down to the pool that day and join the fun. This will be open to all Rivershyre residents. We don't know whether the temperature will be 24 or 64 degrees that day but a good time will be had by all.

SEE YOU AT THE POOL IN JANUARY!

### Architectural Control Committee

Fall and winter are times when leaves are raked and trees and shrubs are pruned. Additionally, storms may leave us with downed trees or branches. For most of us, that raises the dilemma of what to do with our yard waste. Some compost their cuttings while others bag the cuttings for the trash removal services to pick up. Some carry their debris to any local landfill that accepts such materials. Unfortunately, there are some residents that simply dispose of their yard debris in our nature areas and buffer areas. Some debris piles have been burned. However, debris fires on homeowner's property are strictly controlled by

the county and debris fires are never permitted on community property unless conducted by the association.

A walk along the nature trails and through the buffer areas of our neighborhood will too often provide the walker with the realization that some of our neighbors don't mind throwing their yard debris "over their back fence". Some may try to justify it by saying it's only grass clipping or just a few branches. Others may think because it's thrown behind their property, it's out of sight. Both cases may be true, from their prospective. However, from the perspective of the rest of the neighbors, it's someone's trash dumped in areas intended for all of us to enjoy!

This is a plea to ALL community residents. Please don't throw debris of any kind in the common areas and if you see someone do, please take some sort of action to correct the situation. If a word to the offender seems appropriate, take a moment to ask for their help in maintaining the beauty of our neighborhood. If you prefer to not challenge the person, or if you find debris some unidentified person has dumped, please report your findings to any member of the Board of Directors, the Architectural Control Committee, the Neighborhood Watch and Safety Committee or the Grounds & Lake Committee.

As always, any questions about the covenants or submitting Property Alteration Requests may be addressed to the committee either at its regular monthly meeting at 7:30 PM on the fourth Monday of each month or by e-mail to [rca.acc@rivershyre.org](mailto:rca.acc@rivershyre.org).



# Other Committee/Activity Updates

## Light up Rivershyre

The contest, hayride and caroling will be on the **12<sup>th</sup> of December.**



Hayride will start promptly **@ 7:00 pm.** (We will be Making one hot chocolate stop this year.)

We will have one light up Rivershyre contest winner this year, the category will be traditional.

Have safe and Happy Holidays.

## Baby Sitter / Yard Work List

<u>Names</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Sitter</u>	<u>Yard Wk</u>
Kristen Beasley	706-869-0223	X	
Sohailla Digsby	706-421-6168	X (day hrs)	
Ashlie Morrow	706-550-0178	X	
Nadia & Bianca Franz	706-364-4433	X	
Jason Brickey	706-863-7039		X
Tori Williams	706-854-9569	X	
Becky Sanger	706-364-7562	X	
Oscar Valentin	706-364-4082	X	X
Wesley Valentin	706-364-4082	X	X
Catherine Weisz	706-228-7314	X	
Leah Haney	706-868-7429	X	
Christy Shay	706-210-9034	X	
Paige Jarrard	706-868-7169	X	
Sarine Husein	706-650-7771	X	
Caitlen Taylor	706-855-6638	X	
Tori Williams	706-854-9569	X	



## SNOWBALL COOKIES

A favorite at Christmas time, pecan-filled cookies are scrumptious all year 'round.

Preparation time: **45 min** Baking time: **18 min**  
Yield: **3 dozen cookies**

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 cups finely chopped pecans
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1 cup butter, softened (not melted)
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- Powdered sugar



Heat oven to 325°F. Combine all ingredients **except** powdered sugar in large mixer bowl. Beat at low speed, scraping bowl occasionally, until well mixed (2 to 3 minutes).

Shape rounded teaspoonfuls of dough into 1-inch balls. Place 1 inch apart onto ungreased cookie sheets. Bake for 18 to 25 minutes or until very lightly browned. Cool 5 minutes; roll in powdered sugar while still warm and again when cool.