



www.glenfarms.org

MARCH 2010

GLEN FARMS & TARA

CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

4/24 Earth Day
9/12 Ice cream Social
9/18 Yard Sale
10/9 Fishing Derby

MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

The Annual meeting of the Glen Farms Civic Association was held on January 29, 2010 at the Newark Baptist Church, with approximately 30 members present. Our January meeting is where the budget is approved and officers elected. At that meeting, I was elected your new President and Sherri Haller your new Treasurer.

I hope to continue what many have done before me by stimulating interest in, and devising ways and means for, the promotion of the civic community and our general welfare. Many families who have been here a while can attest to the fact that our number one asset here in Glen Farms is decent, hardworking people. Good Neighbors! Living somewhat parallel lives, we all strive to have a nice house, raise our kids safely and successfully and have a little fun doing it. In our fast-paced society with multiple priorities and competing needs, it is paramount that we know our neighbors and are connected to our neighborhoods. I hope to continue to foster the feeling of community and enhance the aesthetics of the neighborhood and provide places of neighborly gatherings with the annual Fishing Derby, Ice Cream Social, and the newly revived Summer Picnic. Without the help of so many of you, these events would not be possible. Thanks!

KUDOS

- ◆ I would like to thank outgoing President, Earl Loomis and Treasurer, Robin Griffith, for their service to the community for the past two years.
- ◆ Thanks to Toby Ackerman for cutting down the tree in Brinton Park that was damaged.



Our Welcome chair, Amy Kovach, tries to keep track of new residents that move into Glen Farms, but it's not easy. If you see a new neighbor who moves in, let Amy know so they can be officially welcomed to Glen Farms. Each new family receives a welcome packet which contains a directory, information about GFCA, as well as maps and brochures full of information about our area. The following neighbors were welcomed during February: Mather's at 217 Rhett; Rupert's at 15 East Parkway and the Ohrel's at 24 East Parkway. If you have not been officially welcomed, please give Amy a call.

EARTH / COMMUNITY CLEAN UP DAY

Glen Farms Civic Association will once again celebrate Earth Day on April 24th by picking up the trash along Little Egypt Road, clearing brush from Lake George and perhaps planting some flowers. If you are interested in helping out, contact Kim Silva. You should be prepared to pick up refuse, and should wear working clothes and bring gloves to protect your hands. Additional information will follow as the date draws closer.



NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

Are you in need of some additional help around the yard, perhaps you are not able to or just don't have the time? Do you need someone to watch the kids? Do you need someone to water your plants or take care of your pets when you are on vacation?

Do we have anyone in the neighborhood looking to make some extra money in these tough economic times who might be interested in helping these folks out?

Attention all Babysitters – here's an opportunity to increase your baby sitting business.

If you fall in any of the categories above, send your name, contact information and specialty or your need to Kim Kilby and she will assemble the list and put neighbors in touch with neighbors.

MEMBERSHIP

The Civic Association relies on membership dues from citizens who live in Glen Farms and Tara. We understand that many people are very busy and cannot always participate actively in GFCFA organized events or meetings. Please join the Association and be a part of making your community the best place to live. The citizens who live in a community must be part of the solution to make it safe, clean, healthy, and beautiful. Do you know that dues have remained at \$20 since 1995. Membership allows for use of our facilities (Lake George and the Brinton Park tennis court), permits participation in community events (picnic, fishing derby, ice cream social) and supports collective activities representing the community to other organizations – including monitoring developments which could impact our property values and/or our quality of residential life.

COMMUNITY PROPERTY

We are fortunate in Glen Farms to own two pieces of property that the community can use for their enjoyment. Lake George and Brinton Park. But they are also maintained by GFCFA and do require certain upkeep, such as mowing, trimming, removing fallen trees, cleaning up debris, mulching, plantings, and repairs. Your civic dues help fund those projects and your manpower helps with the upkeep and we thank you!

Lake George: This small lake, located off South Parkway and the adjoining property are owned by your Civic Association. It requires the entire community's cooperation in adhering to the rules so that it remains enjoyable for all. Lake George is a valuable community amenity, and a significant attraction for many of our residents. Its existence as part of Glen Farms benefits us all, if only as a positive factor in property values. Some things to keep in mind as you enjoy Lake George:

- * We hope you will enjoy fishing at Lake George but remember – it is catch and release.
- * Power boats are not permitted in the lake, but feel free to canoe or kayak.
- * The path around the lake is for pedestrian use only. Please use it as a walking path to savor the scenery, wildlife (birds mostly), and diverse vegetation (including poison ivy). The path is NOT to be used for walking horse, riding motor bikes or any other wheeled vehicles. Non-pedestrian traffic damages the surface and leads to erosion of the berm (dam). Any repair to this berm, is done at the Association's expense.
- * "No Trespassing after Sunset" is the message posted at the Lake George parking area. This helps curtail the late-night noise (car doors slamming, vehicles and radios) and drinking that is known to take place at the Lake if this rule is not enforced. For those parents with children entering the teen years, please make sure they are aware of this policy.
- * Please also remember to take what you bring to the Lake and keep the area clean so we can all enjoy it.



Brinton Park: Tennis anyone! The tennis courts at Brinton Park, located via the pathway off North Parkway and West Parkway, have been used by Glen Farmers for many years. The entire property is owned and maintained by the Civic Association as well. Some rules we ask of guests:

- * no playing after dark, no littering, and no defacing of nets.
- * The tennis court surface is pretty fragile and easily damaged by improper use. In particular, wheels can do a lot of damage, so please ask your kids to keep their bikes, skate wheels, and especially roller blades off the court surface.

SAFETY TIP

Have you ever wondered “What would I do if someone broke into my home or attacked me somewhere else, perhaps on the job. How would I defend myself? How would I get away?” Here’s a little tip to wreck someone's evil plans for you! Use wasp spray instead of pepper spray. Wasp spray can shoot up to twenty feet away and is a lot more accurate. With pepper spray, you have to get too close and the person could overpower you. The wasp spray temporarily blinds an attacker until they get to the hospital for an antidote. You could keep a can by your bed, on your desk in the office, in the car and out in public it wouldn't attract the attention from people like a can of pepper spray would.

ROAD CONDITIONS

Do you know that we have over 6 miles of roads in our community! As you travel around, either by foot or car, and notice a particular section of road in need of some TLC due to deteriorating conditions or other safety hazards, please contact Kim Kilby and indicate the specific location (house number, intersection). The Board hopes to meet with a representative of the Roads Department during a future Board meeting to present some of the challenges our roads present and see what can be done. We look forward to receiving your comments.

SNOW DAMAGE

A drive through our community shows the damage the snow caused to the white pine trees that adorn our neighborhood. The GFCA is researching various options with vendors to assist neighbors with removal of those fallen branches. If you would be interested in learning more about this, please contact Kim Kilby.

COMMUNITY PICNIC

After a long hiatus, the neighborhood summer picnic was revived last year. It was such a success and enjoyed by all that it will be held again this year. Stay tuned for further information. If you would be interested in serving on the picnic committee, please contact Earl Loomis, the picnic chairperson. Earl can be reached at 410-398-2420.

HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT THE GLEN FARMS WEBSITE RECENTLY?

GO TO GLENFARMS.ORG

IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING YOU WANT POSTED TO THE WEBSITE,
CONTACT OUR WEBMASTER, STEVEN SILVA, AT STEVENSILVA@COMCAST.NET
