



Walden Woods News

JUNE-JULY 2008

OUR CENTENARIAN

Walden Woods resident Katherine Gloster celebrated her 100th birthday on June 5th. That's quite an event and a good reason for all of us to offer her our congratulations, but if you're looking for a 100-year-old woman amidst our community, you're not going to find her. Katherine does not look, act or sound like your typical centenarian.



NEWS FROM THE BOARDS

CONSERVANCY BOARD: Because it's summer and members of the Conservancy Board of Directors deserve a vacation like the rest of us, **there will be no Conservancy Board Meeting in July.** The next scheduled Board meeting is August 27th.

COUNCIL BOARD VACANCIES: Special Meetings of the **Village and Townhome** Council homeowners will be held shortly to elect new Directors to fill vacancies. **Homeowners living in these two Councils who are interested in serving as a Director for the remainder of 2008 may have their names placed in nomination at the applicable meeting.** One new Director for each of the Councils will be elected by homeowners attending the meetings (*a proxy is enclosed for your use if you cannot attend*). **ADDITIONAL RELATED NEWS:**

Village Council – Due to an increasing number of scheduling conflicts, Mary Ciaraldi decided to resign as a Village Council Director. **The Special Meeting to elect her replacement will be held during the Village Council Board Meeting on July 28th.** In the meantime, Joe Sikora, a previous Director, has graciously volunteered to temporarily fill the vacancy so that the Village Council is adequately represented on the Conservancy Board.

Townhome Council – Edgar Rodriguez has moved out of Walden Woods and his replacement as the Townhome Council Director will be elected during a soon to be announced Special Meeting of Townhome homeowners. Shivraj Vichare, appointed by the Conservancy Board, is temporarily filling in as the Director.

Our thanks to Mary and Ed for their many contributions and sacrifices while serving as Council Directors and as their Council representatives on the Conservancy Board. And our thanks to Joe and Shiv for stepping up to volunteer their time and energy when they were needed.

Born in Brooklyn and raised on Long Island, Katherine is a retired school teacher who moved into Walden Woods with her daughter Catherine Eighmy in 2002. Until then, she lived independently in her own home and was active in several clubs, including serving as President of a Long Island garden group.

What's especially atypical about Katherine is her good health, mental agility, sense of humor and enthusiasm she exhibits for all that life has to offer. Although now slowed somewhat physically, she still maintains her love for gardening and eagerly supervises the care of the flowerbeds at her Pierce Blvd. home.

While most people her age are content with a sedentary life in front of the TV, Katherine recently decided to learn about computers and, after her marigolds and roses, it is now her second love. She uses the computer to control and monitor her financial matters, communicate with friends and relatives, and design her own greeting cards. In her spare time she's editing a book being written by her niece. And she loves to swim. Although unable to use the pool in Walden Woods, she swims almost daily during the winter months at her family's home in Puerto Rico.

Not bad for 100 huh? Heck, it's not bad for 50. Congratulations Katherine, you are a unique role model for all of us to follow.

Age is an issue of mind over matter. If you don't mind, it doesn't matter.
- Mark Twain

WALDEN WOODS NEWS is a monthly publication produced and distributed by homeowner volunteers for the edification and enjoyment of all Walden Woods homeowners. Questions, ideas and news contributions may be submitted to any member of the Communication Committee: Bob or Polly Ellis (688-5949), or Ruth Johnson (688-5128),

LEASING A HOME IN WALDEN WOODS

Walden Woods was designed and constructed with the intent of being a community of owner-occupied homes. Because we recognized the reality that, like any other community, we may occasionally have homeowners who want or need to rent their homes, our governing Declaration and Rules documents contain specific information relating to the limitations and the process involved in renting. Every homeowner agrees to abide by these governing documents before they purchase a home in Walden Woods.

The reason for this opening homily is that some homeowners are apparently **not** complying with the rental process and may be subject to fines or legal action. According to Section 1.1.5 of the RULES document, "*All rentals require advance notice to and permission from the Conservancy and require owners to file copies of written leases with the Manager (Elite Management).*"

And, according to Section 10.5 of our Declaration, "*.....to preserve the character of Walden Woods as originally established.....all leases must be in writing and filed with the Association. Failure to so file will permit the Association to bring summary process against the tenant as a default in the lease in the name of its landlord..... No Unit Owner may lease any Unit which he or she owns until he or she receives a Permission to Lease.*"

Other rules and restrictions apply and should be read before a homeowner initiates steps to rent his or her home.



BBQ PARTY REPORT

by Dianne Timpson

The flags were flying, the sky was blue and despite an occasional surprise from the water sprinkler system, our third annual Memorial Day Party was a great day for the kick off of summer in Walden Woods! We used a caterer for the first time and received many compliments on the food and service provided by Chef Sandmann. We had a huge turnout for the games and the Marathon

Trophy and 1st and 2nd place ribbons were awarded for the winning persons and groups at the pool.

One of the highlights of the games was the Water Balloon Minefield where one member of the two competing teams was blindfolded and directed by their teammates to find and smash the opposing team's water balloons without smashing their own.

The Recreation and Social Committee put in many hours preparing for the party and our reward was in seeing the Walden Woods folks enjoying the food, the company of their neighbors and having a wonderful time.

WALDEN WOODS GREEN

By Deb Giampolo

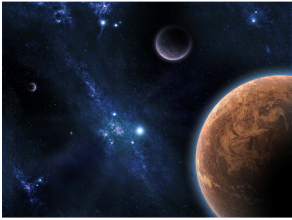
Source: greenlivingideas.com

This is the second in a series of articles devoted to looking at different ways we can all help make WW Green. Did you know, for instance, that there are products you probably already have in your cupboards that you can use to clean your house instead of using commercial products containing harmful chemicals?

- Bathtubs, drains, ovens, tile floors: Use baking soda made into a paste.
- Drain de-clogger – Try white vinegar mixed with warm water.
- Windows and glass – Vinegar and water (1/1 ratio)
- Sponges – Use natural cellulose or unbleached cotton cleaning cloths you can wash. You can use cut-up sponges at the bottom of your potted plants to retain moisture.
- Use glass bottles whenever possible.

There are other great recipes for alternatives on the greenlivingideas.com website. And if you don't feel like making up your own concoctions, always look for the Green Seal certification on products you buy. It identifies those products that meet the health and environmental standards for cleaning products.

If you are using a Green method inside your home and would like to share it, please contact dgiampolo@hotmail.com so we can share it with your neighbors. **Here's to "keeping it GREEN!"**



MOVIE NIGHT UNDER THE STARS

Our very first Movie Night will be **Friday, July 25th with the show starting at 8:30pm** on the lawn in front of the Meeting House. We'll be showing E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial. It will not rain, of course, but just in case . . . we'll try it again on Saturday, July 26th.

According to Dianne Timpson, chairperson of our Recreation and Social Committee, *"It should be a very special family night. E.T is a reminder of what good movies can and should be. Viewing this classic sitting under the stars will be something our families and friends of Walden Woods will remember for many years to come. You won't want to miss it!"*

You can bring your chairs, blankets and anything that will make you comfy to watch the show. The Social Committee will be selling candy, cold soda and hot popcorn to add to the fun.

PLAYING WITH WORDS

If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one, what do you call it? If teachers taught, why don't preachers praught? If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat?

Sometimes I think all the folks who grew up speaking English should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane. In what other languages do people recite at a play and play at a recital? We ship by truck and cargo by ship. We have noses that run and feet that smell. We park in a driveway and drive in a parkway. And how can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same; while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites?

You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out, and in which an alarm goes off by going on. And in closing, if Father is Pop, how come Mother is not Mop?

TAG SALE

Yes, it's time again to get ready for Walden Woods' annual Tag Sale event. This year's sale is scheduled for September 13th and you need to start checking your basement, attic, garage, etc to determine how many of your "will use someday" items have evolved into the "gotta get rid of this" category.

If you want to participate in the tag sale, notify Ruth Casagrande (688-9504 or rcas10@sbcglobal.net). You'll also have to send her \$10 (cash or check) to help cover the cost of advertising, signage and Ruth's lunch. *Actually, as last year, any money left over will be donated to the Windsor Food Bank*

Ruth and her committee will take care of the advertising and the preparation and placement of promotion and direction signs. All you have to do is put your "collectibles" out in your driveway the morning of September 13th and make sure you don't get trampled by the hordes of bargain hunters who will visit Walden Woods that day.

If you don't think you have enough "get rid of" items to sell, start saving your pennies to buy enough of someone else's stuff this year so that you can participate next year. And if you would like to join Ruth's committee and help her coordinate this year's event, PLEASE give her a call.

GOSSIP COLUMN

Esther Miller up on Ivy Lane tells us this story about herself and her husband Stan when they attended his 40th high school reunion.

Stan kept staring at an obviously intoxicated woman swigging down her drink, as she sat all alone at a nearby table for twelve.

When Esther asked him if she knew the woman, Stan said "Yes, she was my high school sweetheart. I understand she started drinking right after we split up those many years ago, and I hear she hasn't had a sober day since."

"Oh My Gosh!" said Esther. "You wouldn't think a person could celebrate that long!!"



POOLSIDE NEWS



In case you haven't noticed, Walden Woods has two Pool Attendants this year. Eighteen year old Rebekah Farmer (*left*), daughter of Bonnie and Win Farmer on Scarlet Lane, joins last year's attendant, 20 year old Lauren Atwater, daughter of Primrose Lane homeowner Susan Atwater.



Rebekah, A freshman at Eastern Connecticut State College monitors the use of the pool on Mondays and Wednesdays, Lauren, a junior at Baypath College handles it the rest of the week. Parents should be reminded that the Pool Attendant position is NOT that of a life guard and children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

Incidentally, log-in statistics kept by the two girls indicate there were 638 visitors (residents and guests) to the pool in June. That's a 23% increase over last year's usage.

Residents should also be reminded that you must accompany any friends or relatives visiting the pool area. Exceptions can be made to this rule but must be approved by a member of the Board of Directors so that the Pool Attendants can be properly notified.

WORST PUN CONTENDERS

There was a man who entered a local newspaper's pun contest. He sent in ten different puns, in the hope that at least one of the puns would win. Unfortunately, no pun in ten did.

In the room the curtains were drawn, but the rest of the furniture was real.

When the cannibal showed up late to the luncheon, they gave him the cold shoulder.

DATES TO REMEMBER

All meetings/events held at the Meeting House unless otherwise specified.

- Fri, July 25th** **Movie Night, 8:15PM (on the Green)**
- Mon, July 28th** Village Council Meeting, **7PM**
- Wed, Aug 13th** Duplex/Townhome Council Meeting, **7PM**
- Wed, Aug 27th** Conservancy Board Meeting, **7PM**
- Wed, Sept 10th** Duplex/Townhome Council Meeting, **7PM**
- Sat, Sept 13th** **Tag Sale, 9-3, (individual homes)**

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Sign over a Gynecologist's Office: "Dr. Jones, at your cervix."

In a Podiatrist's office: "*Time wounds all heels.*"

On a Plumber's truck: "*Don't sleep with a drip. Call your plumber.*"

At a Towing company: "*We don't charge an arm and a leg. We want tows.*"

On a Maternity Room door: "*Push. Push. Push.*"

At an Optometrist's Office: "*If you don't see what you're looking for, you've come to the right place.*"

In a Veterinarian's waiting room: "*Be back in 5 minutes. Sit! Stay!*"

At a Car Dealership: "*The best way to get back on your feet - miss a car payment.*"

At a Propane Filling Station: "*Thank heaven for little grills.*"

And don't forget the sign at a Chicago Radiator Shop: "*Best place in town to take a leak.*"

BEARS



Several months ago, we reported on several sightings of black bears in our community Barbara D'Amaddio and John Foley on Scarlet Lane offer this recent photo of a visitor in their back yard as proof the bears are still around. As previously stated, they (the bears, not Barb and John) are perfectly harmless – unless provoked. Leave 'em alone.