



Walden Woods News

May 2007

POOL OPENS MAY 26TH PARTY ON 28TH

It can't be. Not already. YESSSSSSS!!! It's Pool Time again!!! It probably seems like just yesterday when you were straining your neck looking out the front window for any sign of a snow plow and now tonight you'll be standing in front of a full-length mirror with your bathing suit on, looking for any sign of the body you had ten years ago – or even last summer.

All Walden Woods Residents and their friends are invited to our third annual Memorial Day Pool Party on Monday May 28th from 11 - 3:00. The pool will actually open on Saturday, May 26th so for those of you who are sticklers for accuracy, the party is not to celebrate the opening of the summer swim season. It is, however, a celebration of the good life and good neighbors we all enjoy here in Walden Woods.

Hosted by our tireless Social Committee, this year's party will once again feature barbecued hamburgers, hot dogs, snacks, drinks, bathing beauties, red-faced guys trying to hold their bellies in for three hours, and activities for the kids. **To make sure there is enough food and beverage to go around, the committee needs you to let them know if you'll be attending and how many guests you'll be bringing.** Contact event coordinators Janet Terkildsen, 683-1239 or janterk2000@yahoo.com. **Also let Janet know if you're willing to help.** The Committee can use people to help set up the tents, cook or serve. The only qualifications for any of the tasks is the ability to smile and take directions.

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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),

POOL ATTENDANT POSITION FILLED

Our Pool Attendant this year will be 19 year old Lauren Atwater, daughter of resident and Village Council Board member Susan Atwater. You'll see Lauren down at the pool from 10 to 6 every day. Her services will include greeting visitors, measuring the pool's chlorine level and monitoring the use of the pool. 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..

Overheard at last year's Pool Party:
"Her gene pool could use a little chlorine."

Positive proof of global warming.



ODDS AND ENDS

RETURN OF THE TAG SALE



Start digging through those boxes in the attic, basement, garage and closets. Find those long forgotten lime green leisure suits, Barry Manilow records and birthday gifts you oohed and aaahed over but never used. Walden Woods is having their third annual tag sale

Saturday, August 11th from 9am - 3 pm.

As with last year's event, each homeowner who wants to participate will be able to set up their own tag sale on their own driveway - or front yard if you're a Woodmoor resident. In addition to posted signs, maps identifying the location of all participants will be provided to buyers.

If interested (as a seller), contact Ruth Casagrande, 688-9504. There's a \$10 fee to help pay for advertising, copywork and signage. . Checks should be made out to Ruth. Cash is also good.

VILLAGE BOARD VACANCY

There's a vacancy on the Village Council Board of Directors. Kathy Kroll, who was elected to the board in December, has had to resign due to family and work commitments that made it difficult for her to devote the time she felt was needed to be an effective board member. We thank Kathy for her past efforts and her intent to continue to be involved with the community as much as her schedule permits.

A volunteer from among Village Council homeowners is now needed to replace Kathy. If you or someone you know may be interested in the job, please contact Joe Palladino, 298-9337 or Susan Atwater, 688-3669 for more information.

NOTE: Because of the Memorial Day holiday, **there will be no Village Council Board meeting in May.** The next board meeting will be at the Meeting House on June 25th at 7PM.

GOLF OUTING TO BE CANCELLED??

Due to the underwhelming response to the recent invitation to participate in this year's Walden Woods Golf Outing, organizers are considering the cancellation of the event due to lack of interest. Last year, millions of golf committee hours and association dollars were spent in preparing for the outing and everyone had a good time. It was assumed the 2007 event would be equally successful if not bigger and better. So far, **seven** residents have signed up for the September 16th outing and the organizers are not thrilled.

To save the outing and guarantee yourself an afternoon of immeasurable delight (either enjoying your own game or laughing at others), contact Bob Ellis, 688-5949, pollyandbob@sbcglobal.net. If there continues to be evidence that Walden Woods homeowners prefer an armchair to a golf cart, cancellation of the outing will be announced in next month's newsletter.

PONDERISMS

Why don't you ever see the headline "Psychic Wins Lottery"?

Why is lemon juice made with artificial flavor, and dishwashing liquid made with real lemons?

Why is the man who invests all your money called a broker?

Why isn't there mouse-flavored cat food?

Why didn't Noah swat those two mosquitoes?

Why do they sterilize the needle for lethal injections?

Why don't sheep shrink when it rains?

If con is the opposite of pro, is Congress the opposite of progress?

EARTH DAY A PICK ME UP



Beautiful day, nice neighbors, ample food and a cleaner neighborhood. What better incentives to encourage volunteers to sacrifice two hours of their time on a Sunday afternoon in April? That's how 16 Walden Woods neighbors felt when they volunteered to help clean up Walden Meadow Road and the hiking trails on Earth Day, April 22nd. Organized by Warren and Ruth Johnson who provided the tools, gloves and bags as well as the nourishing grinders and sodas, the Earth Day "party" was a huge success.

Everything from bottles and cans to tires to car seats to general trash was collected by the participants, deposited in bags by the roadside and picked up by the town the following day.

Our hats off to Warren and Ruth and to all the volunteers: Jackie Bordonaro and her son James, Linda Dinucci, Bob Ellis, Michelle Dahlem (Mike and Lauri's daughter), Katherine Dunlavy (Tim and Johanna's daughter), Marylou Fleissner, Shirley Freeman, George Hill, Karen Mazzarello, Kim Reid, Pat and Connie Sidley, and Marlene Towers. And a special thanks to Bill Heath and his daughter Julianne (age 4) for getting involved with our community so quickly after just moving here (Mercer Lane) the previous week.



USING OUR AMENITIES

Our tennis courts, baseball field and swimming pool are for the exclusive use of Walden Woods residents and their guests. The tennis courts are available during daylight hours only and are secured with a combination lock on their gates. The swimming pool is available for use 8AM-8PM every day, but is also secured with a combination lock before and after the Pool Attendant's normal work hours (10AM-6PM).

Security reasons prevent the publication of the combination to the locks, but **homeowners wishing to use the tennis courts, or use the pool prior to 10AM or after 6PM, may contact any member of the Conservancy Board of Directors or the Property Manager. They will be glad to provide the combination to either lock once you've identified yourself as a Walden Woods resident.**

Deb Giampolo, 298-8782

Joe Palladino, 298-9937

Barry Towers, 298-9050

Charles Wimberley, 285-8293

Anna Marie Brown, 688-5258

Susan Atwater, 688-3669

Frank Goeckler, at Elite Management, 888-666-8300.



PLAYING WITH WORDS

The Washington Post has published the winning submissions to its yearly contest, in which readers are asked to supply alternate meanings for common words. The winners are:

Flabbergasted: appalled over how much weight you have gained.

Abdicate: to give up all hope of ever having a flat stomach.

Willy-nilly: impotent.

Negligent: describes a condition in which you absent-mindedly answer the door in your nightgown.

Lymph: to walk with a lisp.

Balderdash: a rapidly receding hairline.

Flatulence: an emergency vehicle that picks you up after you are run over by a steamroller.

Gargoyle: olive-flavored mouthwash

FEWER VOLUNTEERS = ADDITIONAL HOMEOWNER EXPENSE?

Editorial by Bob Ellis



The governing of and budgeting for Walden Woods depends in large part upon volunteers to lead and staff our various committees and boards. This newsletter doesn't get published without volunteers. We don't have our annual tag sale, golf and baseball outings, or holiday parties without volunteers. No Environment Committee to monitor the quality of our ponds and no Building and Grounds Committee to monitor the condition and use of our amenities. That dependency upon volunteers rolled over on its ugly side this year with the breakup of the Standards Committee. Composed entirely of volunteers, the committee reviewed all homeowner requests for external property changes to ensure all such changes were in compliance with the documented aesthetic standards that we all agreed to when we moved here. With the "retirement" of its chairperson Rick Ericson and the departure of others, the committee simply did not have the leadership nor the staffing required to sustain its viability.

When no other homeowners responded to requests for replacements, the Conservancy Board of Directors had no choice but to replace the Standards Committee function with a process utilizing the Property Manager and the individual Council Boards. Other than initiating requests by sending the Addition, Alteration or Improvement (AAI) request form to Elite Management, the change was transparent to most homeowners. What may not be transparent, however, is the possible impact on our monthly association fee. The involvement of Elite in the standards review process is not something included in their contracted list of services. If the time required by Elite to provide the additional service proves to be excessive, it will probably require an updated contract and impact our 2008 budget. The same thing could happen with the departure of other understaffed committees. Time, as they say, is money. So are volunteers. **GIVE ME A CALL (688-5949) TO FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN HELP.**

MEETING HOUSE SIDING DELAYED

For those of you who think the new meeting house siding that we said was to have been installed in April looks strangely like the old siding, do not despair. The project has simply been delayed due to some untimely weather.

The April start date was forecast earlier this year when it looked like we were going to have a favorable winter and work could begin early. Alas, one way to make Mother Nature laugh is to tell her you have plans. As soon as the contractor completes another back-logged project, he will begin work on our meeting house – probably in mid-June

NEW ARRIVALS

Welcome to:

David Morfit & Robin Nicolai, 42 Last Leaf Circle
Lussian Nedialkova, 49 Last Leaf Circle

DATES TO REMEMBER

ALL HOMEOWNERS ARE INVITED TO EACH EVENT

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|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sat, May 26th | Opening day of swimming pool season |
| Mon, May 28th,
11:00-2:00 | Memorial Day Pool Party
(contact Janet Terkildsen, 683-1239 or janterk2000@yahoo.com .) |
| Wed, May 30th
@ 7:00 | Board of Directors Meeting at the Meeting House |

LOCAL CHARITY EVENT

Walk for Chance is a fundraising dog walk, fair and show being held at Northwest Park on Saturday, June 2 from 9 – 4. It's a 4-H family event that offers contests, demonstrations, food, games, entertainment and a silent auction. Proceeds go toward the purchase and training of a service dog to be placed with a local disabled adult. Last year's event raised \$13,000 and enabled the 4-H group to place a wonderful golden retriever called "Chance" who was trained to open doors, turn on lights, pick up items from the floor and fetch items from the refrigerator among other things. More information is available on the 4-H website "dogwalk.org". Sounds like a good time and a worthy cause.

