



Walden Woods News

November 2004

Inside this Issue

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Budget Workshop Scheduled | 3 Meeting House News |
| 2 Welcome Committee Up and Runnin' | 3 Property Manager's Report |
| 3 Standards Committee News | 4 Website Concept Approved |
| 3 Pond Committee News | 4 Meet Don Henderson |

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), Ruth Johnson (688-5128), or Joe Sikora (219-0713).

BUDGET WORKSHOP SCHEDULED

Circle **Monday, November 15th** on your calendar as a very important date. It's the annual budget workshop meeting where every homeowner can put their two cents into next year's budget. Hosted by the Budget Committee and our Property Manager, Elite Management, the meeting goes a long way to establishing the proposed budget that will be presented for homeowner approval in December.



If you want to express your opinion, have some unique ideas you want to share or just want to witness the process, **please be at the Meeting House at 7PM on Monday, November 15th.** This is your community and you have every right, if not an obligation, to participate in the budget preparation process that will directly affect you and your neighbors in 2005.

Also on November 15th - The winter parking ban begins!! In case you "know someone" who parks their car(s) in the street, please remind them that from Midnight to 6 a.m. every night until April 15th, all vehicles must be removed from the road. If someone has a special function or emergency, all they have to do is call the Windsor Police Department's Non-Emergency Line @ 688-5273 to avoid a fine and/or having the vehicle towed.

WELCOME COMMITTEE UP AND RUNNIN'

Walden Woods' Board of Directors approved the formation of the community's' first Welcome Committee at its October 20th meeting and the new committee wasted no time in getting started. Polly Ellis coordinated the solicitation of at least two volunteers from each council area (*see below*) and at their first meeting, the group selected Janet Terkildsen as their chairperson.

As with any welcoming committee, the groups' focus is to make new homeowners feel welcome to their new community and to ensure they have the information they need to get acclimated to their new environment. The committee members identified what a new homeowner might need in the way of information about Walden Woods and then assembled a package of material to satisfy those needs: a copy of the Conservancy Guidebook, a description of the Standards Committee function, a list of Committees, a list of all homeowners, an AAI form, a map of the community and a copy of the most recent newsletter.



left to right: Polly Ellis, Jackie Bordonaro, Sheila Sikora, Janet Terkildsen, and Bette Harner. *Volunteers missing from photo:* Pennie and Charles Campbell, Bob Ellis, Ruth Johnson, Cathy Frechette, and Nannette Serrano.

IF YOU HAVE AN INTEREST IN JOINING THE WELCOME COMMITTEE, PLEASE CONTACT JANET TERKILDSSEN AT 683-1239. THE ONLY QUALIFICATIONS ARE A FRIENDLY SMILE AND THE ABILITY TO BAKE COOKIES. OR NOT. THE SMILE IS MANDATORY; COOKIES ARE A NICE TOUCH, BUT OPTIONAL.

Arrangements have also been made with town hall to include a package of Windsor-related material for new homeowners moving here from outside the area.

The committee also developed the logistics for ensuring that each new homeowner is visited by a neighborhood Welcome Committee "team." During the visit, the team will provide an updated copy of the Walden Woods package (and Windsor package if appropriate), will review the material with the homeowner and answer any questions the homeowner may have. If such information is requested, the team will also be able to provide the homeowner with a list of local plumbers, electricians, roofers, etc. from whom our community has received satisfactory service.

Believe it or not, there are seven "new" homeowners (September and October move-ins) in Walden Woods, all of whom have either already been visited or will be visited in the very near future by representatives of the Welcome Committee. At least two more are expected before the end of the year. **Note:** To those "less new" homeowners who would still like a copy of the Walden Woods package, please contact any committee member.

"Tis sweet to know there is an eye will mark our coming and look brighter when we come".
- Byron

**NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING IS
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH AT 7:30PM
AT THE MEETING HOUSE.**

COMMITTEE NEWS

STANDARDS COMMITTEE:

AAI Review Process Change

Effective immediately (if not before), homeowners who submit a request for addition, alteration or improvement (AAI form) to the Standards Committee will be invited to participate in the committee's next meeting where the request will be reviewed and discussed.

Holiday Reminder

The holiday season is fast approaching and many of us will be decorating the exterior of our homes.



Please keep in mind that the decorations should be in line with our community's standards. And**please remove them in a timely manner.** **Happy Holidays To Everyone!**

POND COMMITTEE: Not much in the way of actual physical changes to report, but lots of activity.

We are looking to the Department of Environmental Protection for guidance on the benefit and expense of dredging the pond. The developer (Garden Homes) is still going to install three Vortex systems around the pond before construction begins to catch sediment before it reaches the pond. The Town is working with Culbro to get the resident companies from the adjoining 110 industrial acres to develop water runoff treatment strategies.

Our Landscape Committee is also working on getting our landscaper to use low phosphate fertilizer to reduce nutrients that wash into the pond and foster algae bloom.

MEETING HOUSE COMMITTEE:

Efforts to increase the utilization of the Meeting House are beginning to reap benefits. Reservations have already been made to accommodate six different events in the next few months, including a fund raiser, a luncheon meeting, a wedding anniversary and a Christmas party.



All of these events are sponsored by Walden Woods homeowners but not necessarily for homeowner use. Each event will generate a rental fee between \$50 - \$150 that will help alleviate maintenance cost. More use is expected through the efforts of the Recreation and Social Committee as they identify activities that generate interest from homeowners and require the space and facilities offered by the Meeting House.

PROPERTY MANAGER NEWS

For those of you who are tired of tripping over sidewalks during your walks, you'll be glad to know Elite Management has contacted Russo Lawn and Landscaping to begin "rehabilitating" those pavers that have been displaced and are causing a hazard.

And for those of you complaining about being in the dark, Elite has also promised to contact the Town about replacing the burned out street lamps on "town" streets in Walden Woods and about installing a street light at the WW entrance.



JOKE OF THE MONTH

A guy walks into a dentist's office and says, "I think I'm a moth."
The dentist replies "You shouldn't be here. You should be seeing a psychiatrist..."
The guys replies, "I am seeing a psychiatrist."
The dentist says, "Well then what are you doing here?"
And the guy says, "Your light was on."

MEET DON HENDERSON

At age 94, Don Henderson doesn't move as fast as he used to move. He doesn't see as well as he used to see and his hearing may be a little off too. But he sure can think. And talk. He never needs encouragement to tell you his favorite jokes for today or his favorite memories of yesterday. All are entertaining.



Don was born in Bowdoinham, Maine and, despite moving to Connecticut in 1937, still calls himself a "Mainiac." He and Florence, his wife of 67 years, return to Maine two or three times a year to vacation and visit family. He also expects to take his final rest in the

cemetery that now occupies a portion of the 300 acre farm where he was born and raised. In the meantime, he can look back on a life that warrants a book, not a column in a newsletter.

A graduate of the University of Maine, Don holds an Electrical Engineering degree with a Masters in Business. During his pursuit of the latter, he was a classmate and friend of Margaret Chase Smith, this country's first female Senator. Name dropping? Sure, but wouldn't you? During his engineering days working for SNET, he also became friends with Elmer Bradley's family (think Bradley Airport) and

has a certificate of appreciation from Governor Thomas Meskill for his role as a member of the state's Civil Defense Advisory Council.

Don's responsibilities during his long engineering career with SNET included coordinating the disaster recovery following the hurricane of 1938 and training people on radiation detection during the cold-war era. He was also "loaned out" to Bell Laboratory in New York during World War II where he helped design the AN-APQ13 bomb sighting system used to drop the bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

A long time golf enthusiast, Don is now content to host the annual Henderson Open at the Traditions Golf Course. "Open" may be a bit of a misnomer, however, since the tournament, now in its 8th year, is limited to family members that includes Don and Florence's two sons, five grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren. Don spends a good deal of his "leisure time" at 123 Heather Way reading financial publications while constantly keeping track of the latest financial news on CNBC (with one diversion to accommodate his admitted weakness for the Guiding Light). He can't play golf anymore, but he plays Wall Street quite well.

If you see Don Henderson sometime during his daily stroll around the Knoll with his "souped-up" walker (horn, brakes and chair), stop and say hello. You'll enjoy the experience of listening to a very interesting neighbor.

WEBSITE CONCEPT APPROVED

With the unanimous, if not enthusiastic approval of the Board of Directors, work may soon begin on the development of Walden Woods own web site on the Internet. Pending budget approval by homeowners, the Communication Committee will work with local web site designer John Waiveris (*Invisible Gold*) to make the web site available to homeowners during the first quarter of 2005.



The site will provide homeowners with an easy to access, easy to use means of obtaining the very latest in Walden Woods news and information, such as rules and bylaws, newsletter archives, scheduled events, meeting house use, budget information, board and committee descriptions and use of amenities. It will also provide the homeowners access to the form and the process for obtaining approval for any addition, alteration or improvement (AAI) to his or her property, and identify who to contact to answer any question or resolve any issue.

Note: To get an idea of Mr. Waiveris' abilities and the type of web site that will be designed for Walden Woods, go to www.suffieldcc.com. It's a site designed for the Suffield Country Club, but there are similarities in the hyper-linking method we will use to access information