



Walden Woods News

October 2006

UNSUNG HEROES

Our Environmental/Pond Committee is composed of a small group of volunteers who are unsung and under-appreciated but undaunted in their sometimes frustrating, proactive campaign to make Walden Woods a nicer place to live. They deserve some recognition.

The committee's basic function is to monitor environmental conditions and make recommendations to the Conservancy Board of Directors. They also encourage and coordinate the actions of the developers (both Culbro and Garden Homes), the Town of Windsor and the abutting property owners to preserve and improve the quality of our community's environment. For instance:

Walden Pond – Besides taking it upon themselves to pick up trash and debris along the shore of the ponds, the committee tracks and monitors town, developer and industry compliance with commitments to clean up the pond (both Big Walden Pond and Little Walden Pond by the pool). Those commitments include the installation and maintenance of three Vortex units, the cleaning of all the storm water catch basins throughout Walden Woods, and the installation and maintenance of devices to control the quality and rate of storm water runoff from Unisource. The committee is working through Windsor's Environmental Officer and the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection as well as the Country Walk developer to help enforce the improvements and make sure the appropriate people are made aware of the pond's current status and the efforts still required to repair it.

Vernal Pool – The committee is tracking the promised efforts of Garden Homes to reforest the wildflower meadow south of Walden Meadow Road along the existing tree line to protect the pool and its inhabitants.

Walking Trails – The committee has an ongoing project to keep the Big Walden Pond Trail (built by committee chair Warren Johnson) usable by keeping it clear, controlling the poison ivy and marking the trail with yellow paint. They are also heavily involved with making the Perimeter Trail (built by Griffin Land/Culbro) more user-friendly by cutting growth and eliminating poison ivy as well as marking the trail with blue paint.

Maybe someday, the ponds, the pools and the trails will be in such a regularly maintained, high quality state that Warren Johnson, Lynne Gillette, Marlene and Barry Towers and Penny Hermann will no longer be needed to serve on an Environmental/Pond Committee. Until then, they deserve a long round of applause for their efforts to provide the rest of us with a better environment.



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

RECREATION FIELD GETTING BETTER



Well, the baseball field is not as bad as we thought. And it's going to get better. It turns out that previously published measurements were inaccurate and the field was actually designed for both Little League and softball use. Griffin Land (Culbro), however, has made arrangements to have the pitching mound adjusted to accommodate either sport. They are also re-seeding the field and laying a 4" mix of clay and sand around the infield to make it more playable. The Country Walk developers (Garden Homes) are making a contribution by planting trees along the berm between left field and the adjoining industrial site and between the tennis court and the Beaumont family residence on Lockview.

If all goes well, this new recreation area may yet turn out to be a pleasant and useful addition to the list of Walden Woods amenities.



WHY MEN ARE HAPPIER

(written by an anonymous woman)

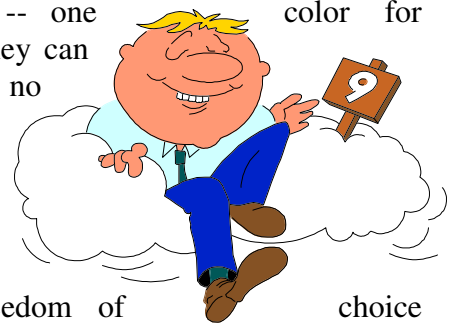
What do you expect from such simple creatures? Their last names stays put. The garage is all theirs. Wedding plans take care of themselves. Chocolate is just another snack. They can be President. They can never be pregnant. They can wear a white T-shirt to a water park. They can wear NO shirt to a water park. Car mechanics tell them the truth. They never have to drive to another gas station restroom because this one is just too icky.

They don't have to stop and think of which way to turn a nut on a bolt. Same work, more pay. Wrinkles add character. Wedding dress \$5000. Tux rental-\$100. People never stare at their chest when they're talking to them. The occasional well-rendered belch is practically expected. New shoes don't cut, blister, or mangle their feet. One mood all the time. Phone conversations are over in 30 seconds flat.

A five-day vacation requires only one suitcase. They can open all their own jars. They get extra credit for the slightest act of thoughtfulness. If someone forgets to invite them, he or she can

still be their friend. Their underwear is \$8.95 for a three-pack. Three pairs of shoes are more than enough. They almost never have strap problems in public. They are unable to see wrinkles in their clothes. Everything on their face stays its original color. The same hairstyle lasts for years, maybe decades. They only have to shave their face and neck.

They can play with toys all their life. Their belly usually hides their big hips. One wallet and one pair of shoes -- one color for all seasons. They can wear shorts no matter how their legs look. They can "do" their nails with a pocketknife.



They have freedom of choice concerning growing a mustache, and . . . they can do Christmas shopping for 25 relatives on December 24th in 25 minutes.

No wonder men are happier.



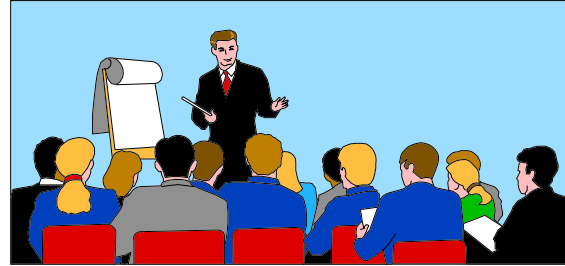
Do you realize that in about 40 years, we'll have millions of old ladies running around with tattoos and pierced navels? Sort of makes your toes curl, doesn't it?

DUPLEX HOMEOWNERS INVITED TO SPECIAL MEETING

Now that there are more than three occupied homes in the new Duplex Council in *Country Walk*, homeowners there can elect a Council Director who will also serve as their representative on the Conservancy Board of Directors.

Warren and Ruth Johnson are inviting all Duplex Council homeowners to attend a meeting at their home to learn about the governing process in Walden Woods and discuss who might be willing and able to serve as a Council Director. The invitation is open to all Duplex homeowners regardless of whether they have yet moved into Walden Woods.

The date of the meeting will be announced by Ruth as soon as she can determine when the



majority of the homeowners can attend. If you're a Duplex homeowner and have yet to be contacted about the meeting, please give the Johnsons a call at 688-5128.

A similar meeting is being planned for Townhouse Council homeowners when they become eligible to elect their first Council Director.



WALK, GAWK AND TALK

Save Sunday November 12th for participation in Walden Woods' very first Walkathon. Nope, it's not a charity event, nor a race. Just a nice social event that will help the ol' cardiovascular system while you're ogling the scenery and socializing.



Tentative plans are to follow up an hour of walking with a couple of hours recovery and refreshment time in the meeting house. Contact Genevieve Lattimer, 687-1438, for more information.

As a senior citizen was driving down the freeway, his car phone rang. Answering, he heard his wife's voice urgently warning him, "Herman, I just heard on the news that there's a car going the wrong way on 280. Please be careful!"

"Heck," said Herman, "It's not just one car. It's hundreds of them!"

2006 RESERVE SPENDING

For those of you who were unable (or unwilling) to attend the September meeting of the Conservancy Board of Directors, here's a copy of the 2006 Capital Expenditures summary (through August) that was handed out to attendees. All such expenses are paid out of the Reserve Funds. Other expenses (grass cutting, snow shoveling, utilities, etc) are paid out of the general operating fund.

Conservancy (\$81, 260 remain in Reserves):

Pond Fountain Replacement	\$ 8,036
Cabana Painting	583
Pool Bridge Deck Repair	8,952
Landscaping (incl tree pruning)	9,074
Meetinghouse Door Repair	6,949
Pool Lighting Installation	<u>1,908</u>
	\$35,502

Village (\$8,833 remain in Reserves):

Vinyl Fences	\$30,704
Road Crack Sealing	6,360
Tree Pruning	<u>17,124</u>
	\$54,188

Ridge (\$23,205 remain in Reserves):

Road Crack Sealing	\$ 2,332
Tree Pruning	<u>954</u>
	\$ 3,286

COMINGS AND GOINGS

Nobody left (*though some are trying*) and nobody arrived – not even in *Country Walk*.

GOLF OUTING

Fair Warning. Next year's outing will be held Sunday afternoon, September 16th at the Traditions Golf Course. For those of you who missed out this year because of scheduling conflicts, don't screw up again.

Holiday Party

It's a wee bit early to be thinking of the holiday season (unless you're in retail), but you might want to circle December 2nd on your calendar. That's the date for the annual Holiday Party, our most well attended and popular party of the year.

The Recreation and Social Committee does an excellent job of coordinating and hosting this event and 2006 should be no exception. Much more to come on this later as planning progresses. We do know, however, that it takes many hands (and minds) to set this up, so if you're interested in helping, contact Jan Moller, 683-0254 or moller@comcast.net.

GOSSIP COLUMN

Pierce Boulevard residents John Webber, Mike Dahlem and Jack Keenan were philosophizing during dinner at McDonalds the other night when the subject of death came up. John asked "When you're in your casket and people are mourning over you, what would you like them to say? I know I'd like my friends and family to say I was a wonderful husband and a great family man."

Mike added, "I would like mine to say I was a great leader who made a big difference in peoples lives. "

Jack said, "I'd like mine to say, 'Look! He's moving!'"

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sat, Oct 14th
7-10pm

Wine Tasting Party
at the Meeting House
(Jan Moller, 683-0254)

Mon, Oct 30th
@ 7:30

Village Council Board Meeting
at the Meeting House

Wed, Nov 1st
@ 7:30

Conservancy Board Meeting
at the Meeting House
PLEASE NOTE DATE

Sun, Nov 12th
@ 1:00

Walkathon
(Genevieve Lattimer, 687-1438)

Sat, Dec 2nd
@???

Holiday Party
(Jan Moller, 683-0254)



WINE TASTING

There's still room for you and your palate at the Wine Tasting Party on October 14th (7:00PM at the meeting house). If interested in learning more about wine while doing some sippin' and socializin' with your neighbors, contact Jan Moller, 683-0254 or moller@comcast.net. The experience should be well worth the nominal \$5 cover charge.