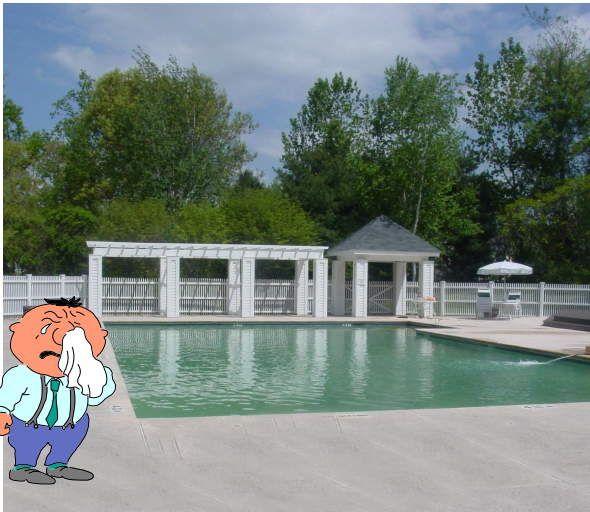


# Walden Woods News

Starting our third year of publication

# SEPTEMBER 2006



## POOL CLOSING

If you've been procrastinating about getting some use out of the swimming pool this year, you're almost out of time. **The pool closes for the season at the end of the day on Sunday, September 17th.** Take heart, however, it'll only be another 253 days before it opens again. Was this year's summer the shortest in history or what?

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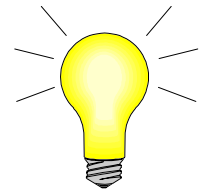
WALDEN WOODS NEWS is a monthly publication produced and distributed by homeowner volunteers for the edification and enjoyment of all Walden Woods homeowners. Questions, ideas and news contributions may be submitted to any member of the Communication Committee: Bob or Polly Ellis (688-5949), Ruth Johnson (688-5128), or Joe Sikora (219-0713).

## 2007 Budget

Believe it or not, the 2007 budget process has already begun. Our Elite Management representative, Frank Goeckler, is analyzing this year's expenses and expected capital expenditures for 2007 to develop a base for next year's budget. Also active are all of Walden Woods various committees who are beginning to identify those expense-incurring projects or activities they would like to see completed in 2007 to help improve or maintain the lifestyle we all expect in Walden Woods.

**You can help.** If you have any ideas on how to improve Walden Woods, whether they're related to landscaping, recreation facilities, social activities, publications or the environment, please contact the appropriate Committee Chairperson (*see below*) before September 30th. They'll be glad to listen. Not all ideas will be possible to implement and not all proposals presented to the Board will be approved due to budget limitations. But . . . . . who knows?

Recreation/Social committee	Jan Moller, 683-0254; <a href="mailto:moller@comcast.net">moller@comcast.net</a>
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Environmental Committee	Warren Johnson, 688-5128; <a href="mailto:warrenruth@comcast.net">warrenruth@comcast.net</a>
Standards Committee	Rick Ericson, 683-8999; <a href="mailto:richardgericson@cs.com">richardgericson@cs.com</a>
Welcome Committee	Janet Terkilldsen, 683-1239; <a href="mailto:janterk2000@yahoo.com">janterk2000@yahoo.com</a>
Communication Committee	Bob Ellis, 688-5949; <a href="mailto:pollyandbob@sbcglobal.net">pollyandbob@sbcglobal.net</a>



## TAG SALE APPEALS TO HOMEOWNERS AND VISITORS



Helen Curtis, Polly Ellis, Bette Harner and Ruth Casagrande blowing up balloons to help mark directional signs for the tag sale. Missing from the photo are volunteer helpers Bob Ellis, Shirley Freeman and Sheila Sikora.

Many kudos to Ruth Casagrande and her intrepid group of volunteers (*see photo*) for pulling off a very successful Community Tag Sale on August 12th. Thanks to their efforts in organizing the event and preparing the signs and maps used to direct visiting buyers, the thirty one homeowners who participated in the sale sold an estimated \$6,000 worth of used goods. "Besides getting rid of a lot of stuff that was collecting dust in the basement," said Alyce Lacey (Primrose Lane), "it was fun to meet and hear so many favorable comments from people who had never been to Walden Woods. They were truly impressed with our community."

Will this become an annual Walden Woods happening? The Conservancy Board of Directors is considering the possibility. If you have positive or negative comments to make about the event, please let one of your Council Directors hear from you.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

As we get closer and closer to the end of the year, the need for new volunteers becomes more and more urgent. Some of our current volunteers have been serving on multiple committees or on the Board of Directors ever since homeowners took over the running of Walden Woods almost 2 ½ years ago. It's time they were given a break and in fact some have already indicated their intention to step down from their current positions and let someone else experience the joy of serving their community.

If you are interested in having your name placed in nomination for the Village Council Board of Directors at the Annual Homeowner's Meeting in December, please contact Bob Ellis, 688-5949; [pollyandbob@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pollyandbob@sbcglobal.net) or Warren Johnson, 688-5128; [warrenruth@comcast.net](mailto:warrenruth@comcast.net).

**Homeowners in the Country Walk Duplex and Townhouse Councils will soon be eligible to have their own Boards of Directors. If you are a Country Walk resident and are interested in becoming a Council Director, contact Joe Sikora, 219-0713, [sshejo@aol.com](mailto:sshejo@aol.com).**

If you think you might be able to help one of our committees, please contact the appropriate Committee Chairperson identified in the Budget article on page 1. There's also a description of each committee's function on our website, [waldenwoodsct.com](http://waldenwoodsct.com).

### GOSSIP COLUMN

Rick and Marge Ericson up on Aster Place were asleep in bed the other night when they heard a knock on the front door.

Rick reluctantly dragged himself out of bed and went downstairs. Opening the door, he saw his next door neighbor George Hill standing there, slightly inebriated.

"Hi there," slurred George. "Can you give me a push?"

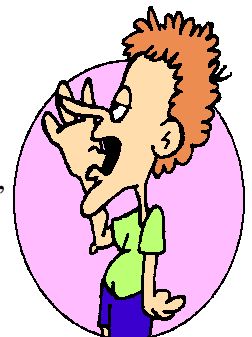
"No, get lost. It's three in the morning. I was in bed," said Rick and slammed the door. He went back up to bed and told Marge what happened.

Marge said "Rick, that wasn't very nice of you. He's our neighbor and he needs our help." So Rick got out of bed again, got dressed, and went downstairs. He opened the door, and not being able to see George anywhere he shouted, "Hey George, do you still want a push"??

And he heard a voice cry out, "Yes, please."

So, still being unable to see George, he shouted "Where are you?"

George replied, "Over here, on the swing."



## GOLF OUTING A BALL OF FUN

The weather cooperated nicely last Sunday afternoon to help make Walden Wood's very first golf outing a huge success. Sixteen residents of various skill levels (none of which remotely resemble Tiger's) took part in a four-team tournament that, while friendly in spirit and with an emphasis on comradeship, did not completely ignore the competitive nature of the game.

The "Knollwood Knockers" team of Mike Munley, Karen Mazzarella, Skip Kroll and Susan Atwater tied for first place in the Scramble formatted tournament with the "Sarge's Army" team of Judy Saxton, A.J. and Jim Collier, and guest Chris Bennett. Skip dominated the individual competition by winning the Closest to the Pin and Longest Drive contests. Susan hit a "once in a lifetime" drive to win the lady's prize and Karen won the putting contest. No prizes were awarded for best dressed, but Cristi Burnham would have won in a close battle with Barry Towers. Taller and better looking.

The 19th hole festivities on the clubhouse veranda were highlighted by a few laughs, a lot of lying about great shots almost made and some very generous door prizes that were donated by Russo Landscaping and Elite Management. Our own Lynne Gillette, owner of



l-r (top row) Mike Munley, Cristi Burnham, Karen Mazzarella, Judy Saxton, Jackie Moller, Barry Towers, Charles Wimberley, & Skip Kroll (bottom row) Bob Ellis, Bret Burnham, Jim Collier, Jan Moller, Bob Jacobs & Susan Atwater. Missing from photo A.J. Collier and guest Chris Bennett

Gillette Real Estate, and Jan Moller, head of our Recreation and Social Committee, donated a large supply of golf balls used as gifts, awards and door prizes. It really was a community event - in the spirit of those who could not play but gave and those who did and enjoyed the success of others.

It's got a tough act to follow, but next year's outing is already being planned. With all the new neighbors moving into Country Walk, it should be bigger if not better. Hope you can make it.

## DREAM FIELD NOT SO DREAMY



Our "Field of Dreams" was apparently built by a contractor who was reading the blueprints for a Lithuanian smurfball field for midgets. The field, easily seen by the naked eye as undersized and recently measured by Joe Sikora, is not only not a baseball field, it's not big enough to be a softball field nor even a Little League field.

Baseball fields measure 60'6" from the pitchers mound to home plate. It's 46' for softball and 45' for Little League. On this field, the distance is 38'. Randy Johnson could almost place the ball in the catcher's mitt without throwing it. The distance between bases is supposed to be 90' for baseball and 60' for softball and Little League. On our field, it's an amazing 45'.

So far, the field has not cost us anything other than patience. Griffin Land (Culbro), Walden Woods' original developer, is responsible for the construction and maintenance of the field until our newest "amenity" is approved by the Conservancy Board of Directors. Joe has notified Griffin of our dissatisfaction with the field's appearance and dimensions, and the developer is pursuing options with the construction contractor. They are also taking it upon themselves to do a weekly mowing of the weeds already dominating the field

Sigh. Stay tuned.



## BASEBALL OUTING

Ah, the best laid plans of mice and men. Despite much pleading to have nice weather for the Rock Cats baseball game on August 27th, Mother Nature simply wouldn't listen. Five adults and six kids from the original group of 26 Walden Woods residents who signed up to attend the event, actually braved the elements to attend the Sunday afternoon game. It was mercifully halted after five rain-filled innings. On top of it all, the home team lost.

To express their gratitude for the fan's dedication, however, the owners of the Rock Cats gave everyone free tickets to attend another game. Attempts at re-organizing another outing this year, however, are being postponed until members of the Recreation and Social Committee learn the basic steps of the Mashantucket sunshine dance.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

<b>Mon, Sept 25th</b> <b>@ 7:30</b>	Village Council Board Meeting at the Meeting House
<b>Wed, Sept 27</b> <b>@ 7:30</b>	Conservancy Board Meeting at the Meeting House
<b>Sat, Oct 14th</b> <b>7-10pm</b>	Wine Tasting Party at the Meeting House (Jan Moller, 683-0254)

## COMINGS AND GOINGS

### 144 Pierce Blvd.

**Left:** Norbert and Karen Moemeka,  
**Arrived:** Daverel Hall and Jacqueline Lightbody

### Country Walk Arrivals:

Cheryl Lescarbeau, 9 Scarlet Lane  
Barbara Ann Brown, 18 Scarlet Lane  
Daniel and Earlean Andrews, 20 Scarlet Lane  
Jacqueline Johnson, 29 Scarlet Lane

## A Hundred Years Ago

*Have you ever wished you could have lived in the "good ol' days" when life was less complicated and the pace a lot slower? Sure, we all have. Well, here's a look at life as it was a hundred years ago in 1906.*

The average life expectancy in the U.S. was 47 years.

Only 14 percent of the homes in the U.S. had a bathtub.

Only 8 percent of the homes had a telephone.

There were only 8,000 cars in the U.S., and only 144 miles of paved roads.

The average wage in the U.S. was 22 cents per hour..

More than 95 percent of all births in the U.S. took place at home.

Crossword puzzles, canned beer, and ice tea hadn't been invented yet.

Two out of every 10 U.S. adults couldn't read or write. Only 6 percent of all Americans had graduated from high school.

### ON THE OTHER HAND:

Sugar cost four cents a pound, eggs were fourteen cents a dozen and coffee was fifteen cents a pound.

There were about 230 reported murders in the entire country!!

