



Kensington Downs Newsletter
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46815
April 2009

Board of Directors

**President: Bill Stiles (749-7114), Vice President: Dave Ritenour,
Secretary: Nancy Louraine, Treasurer: Keith Morrison, Tim Bastress,
Werner Dierks, Pat Johnstone, Arlene Klapes, Joan Lewis, Sharon Mowrer
Newsletter Editor: Sharon Mowrer (493-8803)
Association Website: www.neighborhoodlink.com/ftwayne/kd**

Annual Garage Sale

Friday & Saturday, May 8 & 9

President's Letter

I must start with some thank you's. First, thanks to the people who pick up trash when they walk. It's nice to see people take pride in their surroundings. It's a shame that people still litter. Second, thanks again to those people who have called the city to report pot holes. You are helping all of us! Third, thanks to Board Vice-President Dave Ritenour and Director Tim Bastress for removing the salt barrels after the city picked up the unused salt. Dave has arranged to store the barrels for the summer and is saving the association hundreds of dollars in storage costs. Finally, a special thanks to the person(s) who gathered up the broken limbs from the pines trees in the common area along Welshire. That saved the association from having to pay someone to haul those away.

As noted above, our association garage sale is May 8 and 9. That is a week before Arlington's, so we won't compete with their sale. And it's the same sale dates as Kensington East and Shannonside. Watch out for the increased traffic and please be considerate of everyone's needs on the road, especially that weekend. Welcome to Spring!!!

Bits and Pieces

Keith Morrison has agreed to be the new treasurer for the Kensington Downs Homeowners Association. He replaces John Ivins who passed away in December.

Our First Annual Meet Your Neighbor Ice Cream Social is being planned for August. If you would like to help, contact Joan Lewis.

Requests for approval of any proposed lot improvements such as fences must be submitted to the Architectural Control & Review Committee. The approval request form can be downloaded from the KD website. Committee members will be glad to answer any questions. They are Pat Johnstone (749-6978), Bill Blue (748-4725) and Lyman Lewis (749-4917).

If you place your house on the market, please let Keith Morrison know. This will help us keep our records up-to-date.

Dogs running the neighborhood without being on a leash are becoming a problem. Anyone who experiences such a problem can call for Animal Control at 311.

The City of Fort Wayne is encouraging residents to plant rain gardens to help control runoff. If you would like information on how to create a beautiful one, you can find it on the web at catchingrainfw.org or use the link on the Kensington Downs website.

A hot link also exists on the KD website to find the program details on the City of Fort Wayne subsidizing the planting of a street tree on public property adjacent to your home lot. Applications must be completed before July 1, according to Arlene Klapes.

If you are interested in storm drain marking, contact Jackie Chen (749-6955).

In the last newsletter I failed to mention Brian Schackow who also helped with the holiday lights at the entrance to our neighborhood. Thank you, Brian.

The remaining regular KD Board meetings in 2009 are scheduled for June 10, August 12, October 14, and December 8. All meetings will be held in the meeting room at the fire station on Lahmeyer Road beginning at 7 pm. All homeowners are invited to attend.

We extend our condolences to Joe and Rita Squadrito on the death of their granddaughter, Marissa Marie Squadrito, on January 22.

Meet Your Directors

This newsletter we begin a new feature, Meet Your Directors, by interviewing Bill Stiles, President of the Kensington Downs Board of Directors.

Q Bill, how many years have you lived in Kensington Downs? And why do you like living here?

A: 16 years ago, we decided to move from the south side of town. We couldn't find a house that met our needs or tastes without doing some sort of remodeling. So, we worked with Carl Ward with Colonial Delagrange to design our home. We are still very pleased with the house. Besides that, you could hardly arrange for a better set of neighbors. We've met so many great people here in those 16 years.

Q I know you're involved with your family, i.e. installing kitchen cabinets for a Christmas gift. Tell us about them.

A We have 4 children, 2 still in Fort Wayne, but none at home. We like to help them out whenever possible. One of our sons bought an old house, which needed lots of work. We have been giving time and materials, instead of "normal" gifts. My wife, Carol, enjoys decorating and she has her own window treatment business. So, all the kids have access to custom window coverings when they move. They seem to like that. There are 4 grandchildren, which take time, too. Two girls live nearby and get as much attention as they allow us to give. A boy and girl in Delaware are harder to spend time with, but we're heading there, soon, for baptism.

Q When did you become a Board member? What do you find most satisfying about being on the Board?

A I've been on the board for 3 years. It's been a learning experience. I do enjoy volunteering, and I've also been involved with the United Way and the Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne for 8 years. Being on the KD board has been another way to return to my community.

Q What else should we know about the Stiles family?

A We're do-it-yourselfers. Between the two of us, we've tackled nearly every type of home project imaginable, both inside and out. Also, Carol is a soloist, singing for many weddings and special events. In addition, she leads a Praise group at Concordia Lutheran Church.

Nominating Committee Search

by Nancy Louraine

My husband and I chose to build our home here 20 years ago and have never regretted our decision. We love this community. And it's even better than it was twenty years ago because of the work of the residents who have served as directors on its board.

The Association is always in search of residents who are interested in lending their time and talent as a Board member. Representation from all areas of the community is needed. Next year, there will be several vacancies on the Board as the terms of some of the current directors come to an end. The Board has established a Nominating Committee to begin work on recruiting nominees and preparing for the election of directors that will take place at the annual membership meeting in November.

If you would like to assist in this project and/or wish to become involved in your

Association by serving on its Board, please contact me at 749-1140 or nancy@turnstone.org.

Consider giving of your time to help Kensington Downs remain one of the best neighborhoods in northeast Fort Wayne in which to live and raise your children.

Meet your Neighbors

One snowy day earlier this year, I had fun chatting with Derrick and Jenni Gingery who live at 7424 Bent Willow. Derrick and Jenni were married 9-29-07 after meeting at a house-warming party, and they moved into KD in March, 2008. They really sneaked in, because I go by that house every day and never saw a moving truck (because there wasn't one, they said)! Derrick grew up in suburban Chicago and is now a reporter for the Greater Fort Wayne Business Weekly. Jenni grew up in Midland, Michigan and writes for the Journal-Gazette under the byline of Jenni Glenn. Both came to Fort Wayne because they wanted to work for a different newspaper. We're glad you're here!