

Manor Lake Civic Association

May 2012

First Community Yard Sale

Manor Lake's first community yard sale is scheduled for Saturday May 19th from 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon At the Beverly Farm Elementary School parking lot, 15101 Bauer Drive.

If you haven't already signed up, now is your chance. Consider selling all of those things you have not been using that are taking up space around the house and in the garage. Use the time between now and then to finish your spring cleaning and get things ready.

The deadline to sign up as a seller has been removed, but may need to be reinstated later. So don't delay - sign up for your space now!

Call or email Lorraine Lorek at 301-871-8878 or LoryLory@aol.com; or JoEllen Hayes at 301-460-7763 or jolhayes@comcast.net.

If you are not sure or have questions, call one of them today. They will be happy to provide more information and answer any questions you may have.

Even if you do not have something to sell, please mark May 19, 9 AM to 12 Noon, on your calendar to stop by to browse and socialize with your neighbors. Everyone is invited. Please tell your friends as well.

Support your community by attending; even if only for a few minutes. Maybe you will find that one item you have been looking for so long.

Thanks for your support,

JoEllen Hayes and Lorraine Lorek
MLCA Yard Sale Co-Chairpersons

Letter from the President

As this is my last letter as President, I would like to thank many people for all they have done to make these two years so successful.

I would like to thank the Board for supporting me in my role as President. It was a pleasure working with you. We worked well together which made it possible to fulfill several goals.

Vivienne Burke and her committee designed and completed the Melinky memorial. They also chose a landscaper who keeps the entrances beautiful and well maintained.

Bret Lyhus is responsible for the solar lighting. This has made the entrances to our community more attractive and certainly safer.

Stan Smigel suggested that a left turn light at the Bauer Drive entrance would make the intersection safer and would help the traffic flow. This, too, has been completed and he was right.

It took two years but we managed to get street lights on the Norbeck service road, across from the shopping center. This certainly has made that a safer area. It required a lot of patience as we were told the flashing lights for the school zone had to be first. (continued on page 2)

Next General Meeting and Annual Election of Officers and Board

The next general meeting of the association will take place on May 30, 7:30 – 9:00 PM at the Recreation Center located at 14625 Bauer Drive. The annual election of the officers and board members for the next year will take place at this meeting. (See statements/biographies from candidates beginning on page 7).

It is important that as many members as possible attend this meeting, meet the nominees and vote. Remember that the by-laws require that you must have paid your \$35 dues for the fiscal year Oct. 2011 through Sept 2012 in order to vote. If you are not sure if you have paid, John Collich, our treasurer, will have the list of those who have, and will accept payments from those wishing to pay at that time.

If you have topics for discussion at the meeting, please call Rae Kordell at 301-871-6733 to put them on the Agenda.

President's Letter Continued

Tom Austin and Don Seifert have been responsible for all communication-both electronic and the Newsletter. They are constantly improving and upgrading the computer service and the Newsletter is always most informative both with the community news and local government news. Mohandes Bhat is always available, with his camera, at our different functions and Rosalie Sanchez proofs the newsletter.

Michelle Bean and her committee have planned several successful social events. The kids, especially, always enjoy the National Night out. The Meet and Greet makes it possible for us to speak with many vendors and also members of our local government. I look forward to the first yard sale!

Lori Austin and her Block Captains, as well as Bobbie Seifert and the Distribution Committee make sure the deliveries of flyers and the Newsletter go out regardless of the weather conditions.

The Neighborhood Watch is responsible for being visible to help keep our community safe. They are also reporting street lights that are out, as well as pot holes and homes for sale and those in foreclosure that are not being maintained.

Lorraine Lorek completed the new Directory which was started with Kathy Carroll's Board. It was a lot of work (just ask her), but is most

attractive with a cover photo of Lake Frank taken by her husband, Stan.

Of course, visible notices are needed at the entrance ways whenever there are meetings. So, hats off to Dave Leibow who has been doing this for many years.

These accomplishments can only happen with groups of people who care to keep our community valuable, safe and beautiful. Please, be one of these people who want to make a difference and sign up for a committee.

I need to thank my husband for putting up with me as well as all the car trips delivering Agendas and Neighborhood Watch schedules and trips to Michaels, Post Net etc.

So, to all of you, I say thank you from my heart. This has been a learning, humbling, and gratifying experience for me. I thank you and hope I have satisfied your expectations.

Rae Kordell

February 29 General Meeting follow-up

Solar Lighting - There was discussion and some concern expressed at the meeting regarding the visibility of the solar panel at the Bauer Drive entrance. Although it was installed according to our specifications, some felt that it was too high. Bret Lyhus had checked with the vendor and found they would charge \$395 to cover their time to drive to and from their office in Fairfax County and lower the panel. There was a unanimous vote

of members present not to spend more than \$300 to do the work.

After investigating further, Bret determined that no re-wiring would be required. Having already confirmed with the vendor that it would be ok, he completed the work himself at no charge.

Membership - was 49% but is now approximately 53%. Please remember you must be a paid member in order to vote.

Landscaping - Discussion regarding the theft of the Alberta spruces at both entrances ended with a unanimous vote to not replace the spruces but add more flowers. This will be accomplished in May.

Recent Changes to the Manor Lake website

If you haven't checked our website lately, please do - www.manorlake.org. We have updated the calendar, newsletter archives back to Sep. 2009; added MLCA meeting minutes, several documents and links provided by Vivienne Burke related to landscaping, gardening and protecting the environment; as well as links to zoning information, local school websites and recent advertisers in our newsletter.

There is also a special 10% discount offer for Manor Lake residents from GoApe in the document section. You must sign-in to the website to see this, the meeting minutes and the discussion topics.

Near Miss at Rocking Spring Drive Entrance

Did you notice the evidence of a vehicle going up on the island at Rocking Spring on the 23rd or 24th of April? Tire tracks, some smashed flowers, and the bent (nearly flattened) traffic sign? It appears that the vehicle may have narrowly missed, or lightly touched, the side of that wall with our Manor Lake sign. It's a good thing the Board and our community arranged and approved that insurance policy. Someday, it may come in handy!

By the way, if it happened at night, I wonder if the lighted wall may have helped save it from being struck. I'd like to think it might have made that difference, but we'll never know. Thankfully, it does not appear that we need to make a claim on any damage, at least this time around.

Bret Lyhus

A Thank You to Volunteers



WOW! What a great turnout we had at the Villa Maya for our Volunteer Appreciation party.

We had fifty-five wonderful volunteers present. Carmello at the Villa Maya prepared a delicious menu of Quesadillas (chicken, mushroom and spinach), Taquitos and Chili con Queso.

The dining room was set up beautifully and the service was beyond expectations.

And a Thank You to Merchants



Several of the merchants in our shopping center donated gifts for door prizes. We are very grateful to Caribou Coffee, Norbeck Hair Studio, Post Net, Safeway, Urban BBQ, Village Beer and Wine and Anonymous.

Thank you for supporting our volunteers!

Rae Kordell

Editor's note: The photos here show two of the three parts of a welcome/thank-you and menu card that were hand-made by Rae Kordell that awaited each volunteer at his or her plate.

Lake Frank Trail

The Maryland State Highway Administration hasn't posted an update on the Lake Frank Trail project. However, just by walking back there it looks as if the southern neck of the work is nearing completion. It looks as if it will miss the May 15 scheduled completion.

Crime Down for Fifth Consecutive Year

Montgomery County Police have announced that for the fifth year in a row, crime has decreased. Based on statistics from 2007 through 2011, there has been an 18.8% decrease in total crime over the past five years. For more information see the "Crime Down" link at ManorLake.org.

Ambulance Fee Proposal Reintroduced

See the "Ambulance Fee" link on our website for more information then email your county council and let them know your opinions Send email to county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov

Bike to Work Day

Leggett Proclaims May 18 as Bike to Work Day in Montgomery County; residents invited to celebrate at 13 county sites. There will be prizes and free gifts. See the "Bike to Work" link on our website, www.ManorLake.org for details & list of sites.

Additional photos from our Volunteer Appreciation Party



Special thanks to the Villa Maya for their wonderful service and food. Here Donald Sean pauses for the camera.



Volunteers listen as Rae thanks them for their work.



Mohandas Bhat, Dottie O'Donnell, Al Kordell, Rosalie Sanchez, Rae Kordell, Janet and Donald Sean



Rae Kordell and Carmello Velasquez (Villa Maya owner).



Amy and Gary Feger



L-R (rear) Stan & Lorraine Lorek, Michelle Bean, JoEllen Hayes, (front) Michael Bean, Jim & Paula Marple and Brenda Rose
Photos by Mohandas Bhat

Neighborhood Safety

Officer Prather reported at the last General Meeting that over the past half year we had 1 robbery, 3 burglaries, 1 home dispute and several acts of vandalism. Even with these incidents, he said we had the safest neighborhood in the area. As the summer is approaching we would like to remind the community that there are several things you can do to enhance your safety. We hope these hints will help you - all year, not just summer.

- 1- Keep garage doors closed at all times-even if you are only working in the back yard.
- 2- Keep you car doors locked and all valuable items out of sight.
- 3- If no one is home keep windows and doors locked.
- 4- It's a good idea to have a radio playing to make it sound like someone is home.
- 5- Even when you are home keep your doors locked.
- 6- If you are going away, have a neighbor take in your mail, paper and any packages that may be left on your porch — do not tell the P.O. or newspaper that you will be away.
- 7- Have deliveries made when someone is home as packages left on the porch are an invitation to a burglar.
- 8- Have GOOD door locks— some of the older locks can be opened with a credit card.
- 9- Be aware of unfamiliar faces and cars.

10- If you have a security system, do not advertise the brand in front of your house as burglars know how to break each type of system.

11- Do not let solicitors in your home as it is a way for them to see what you have and identify possible ways to enter your home.

12- Most burglaries occur in the daytime while you are at work and the kids are in school.

The Neighborhood Watch members do both day and night patrols. They have side panel decals and a flashing car roof light to be more visible. This helps deter crime.

Neighborhood Watch Findings

It was suggested at a recent meeting that we report on some of the findings entered in the Neighborhood Watch logbook. Rae Kordell reviewed the comments of the NW patrollers from April 2011 to April 2012 and found the most reported comment was "garage door open." What a great invitation to a burglar! Most garages have entry doors to the house.

Other finds include:

- 1- abandoned cars
- 2- street lights out (46)
- 3- pot holes (3) and one requiring a large section of street repair
- 4- broken curb from a snow plow mishap

5- bicycles left unattended and not secured

6- Trailway Dr. park entrance with broken lock (3) before construction was started

7- homes and lawn in disrepair (foreclosed homes)

8- speeding school buses on Rocking Spring Dr.

9- houses dark, unlit porch lights, many newspapers in driveway - "Come on in Mr. Burglar!"

These incidents are reported to the proper office or person responsible. When you are on vacation it is your responsibility to make your house safe.

Foreclosed Homes

Foreclosed homes, as well as homes for sale, are targets for crime. It is important to be aware of uncut grass and newspapers in the driveway.

If the grass is over 12 inches you should call the county at 311 and ask for Housing Code. Tell them the situation and they will come to the house and leave a notice giving the bank a certain amount of time and if nothing has been done by that date the county will cut the grass and charge the responsible party \$750.00. Some homes in foreclosure become a real eyesore and bring down the value of our community. One house in foreclosure on our block had a backyard full of trash. When it was cleared out there was a yard full of rat holes. Please don't wait for this to happen in your neighborhood.

Tips for Gardening

This edition's tips have been provided by Vivienne Burke of our landscaping committee. They are from the Virginia Extension Service.

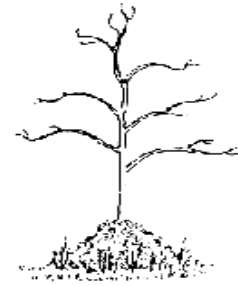
For trees and shrubs, spread mulch evenly to a depth of 2 to 3 inches. For trees and shrubs in beds, mulch the entire bed. For those in a lawn, mulch a wide ring (extending from 3 to 6 feet out from the trunk) around each plant. **Never pile mulch against tree trunks. Pull mulch back away from the trunk about an inch or so.** As organic mulches decompose, they may need to be replenished somewhat every year; but don't let mulch build up to depths greater than about 4 inches.

For flower beds, mulch can be applied up to 3 inches deep (after settling), but should be kept pulled back slightly from plant stems. Mulches should thoroughly cover an area to a uniform depth to be most effective. Low or bare spots are prone to weed problems.

For more information, see the complete article, *Mulching for a Healthy Landscape*, at: <http://pubs.ext.vt.edu/426/426-724/426-724.html>



Mulch properly applied



Mulch too deep

It's Not Too Late to Start a Vegetable Garden

Learn how at a FREE Gardening Open House: Saturday, May 19th 10 am to Noon. Where: Master Gardeners' Demonstration Garden, 18410 Muncaster Road, Derwood, MD 20855. **But first, stop by the MLCA Yard Sale at 9 am.**

The event will feature Vegetable Gardening for Beginners, a tour of the demonstration garden, a plant sale of vegetable transplants, help with planning a garden, mini-talks about growing different types of edibles, container gardening, salad tables, taking soil samples.

Manor Lake Community 2012 Neighborhood Yard Sale!

Saturday, May 19th

9 a.m. – 12 noon

The event will be held in the parking lot of
Beverly Farms Elementary School
(holding school at 15101 Bauer Drive)



- ❖ Parking spaces are \$10/space (you will need to supply your own table.)
- ❖ Deadline has been removed for now, but don't delay reserving your space.
- ❖ All reservations must be prepaid. **Please RSVP** & send payment to:
 - JoEllen Hayes 301/460-7763 , jolhayes@comcast.net , 14805 Lake Terrace, Rockville, MD 20853; or
 - Lorraine Lorek, 301/871-8878 , lorylory@aol.com, 14832 Lake Terrace, Rockville, MD 20853
- ❖ Note: No Rain Date - \$10 fee will be refunded if rained out.

Manor Lake Civic Association Elections

The following information is provided in accordance with Article 8, Section B, of the Manor Lake Civic Association By-Laws. The Nominating Committee has obtained the following statements / biographies from persons nominated to fill officer and executive board positions of the association. This information has been provided to the Secretary who has furnished it for publication and notification to each member of the association.

Nominated for President: Michelle Miller Bean

My husband, Michael, and I have lived in the Manor Lake community for the past 12 years and have two children Melissa (18) and Michael Joseph (15). Both my husband and I are lifelong Rockville residents.

I have served on the Board as Secretary for the past year, and held an At Large seat for the previous 2 years.

I work for the City of Rockville, Recreation & Parks Department. In my current position, one of my duties is planning and organizing Rockville's Hometown Holiday's weekend, where we have many non-profit organizations volunteer their efforts over the Memorial Day weekend. Working for the City of Rockville has given me the privilege of working closely with many local and state officials on the various events and groundbreaking that we host. I also serve as a staff liaison on the Recreation and Park Advisory Board for the City of Rockville.

In addition to my employment experience, eight years ago I founded a Manor Lake-based women's group where a small number of residents gather monthly. This group not only has formed deep and lasting friendships, but is also a group of neighbors that have mutual interests for a safe, friendly neighborhood that we call home.

While serving on the Board, I would like to promote fellowship among the community, continue to increase the membership, and to work closely with our local and community elected officials to enhance the welfare, and partnership in the safeguarding, of our neighborhood.

Nominated for Vice President: Linda Hansen

I have lived in Manor Lake for 27 years, married to Brian Hansen 42 years, raised five children, and have nine wonderful grandchildren. I have been a property manager for thirty years.

I would like to see more neighborhood block parties. Neighborhood gatherings give us all opportunities to socialize. Our neighborhood and neighbors are worth making time for.

It has been exciting to see young families choosing our community, and equally gratifying to observe others investing and retiring in this specially located development

Nominated for Secretary: Phil Broadbent

The Manor Lake community has been my home since 1996. I work in nearby Silver Spring and my daughter received her K-12 education in the local schools, so I have a strong interest in the community as a place to live, work, and raise a family.

My past experience will prove beneficial in helping the MLCA board accomplish its responsibilities over the next year. I have already served two terms as an MLCA board member. Previously, I served as a board member, Treasurer, and Vice President of the Capitol Hill Manor Condominium Owners Association in Washington, DC. Also, in my work as a Legislative Liaison for the U.S. Food

and Drug Administration, I have many years of experience in working with elected representatives in Congress and state government to achieve workable solutions to problems faced by citizens.

As a prospective board member and Secretary for the coming year, I look forward to supporting MLCA in making Manor Lake a better place to live. The Board has developed some important initiatives for the association over the past few years, including the new entryway lighting, updating the By-Laws, and supporting new social activities. I hope that in the coming year, we can work with our state and county government representatives on other issues important to the community, such as the Lake Frank construction, and the safety and attractiveness of Norbeck Road.

Nominated for Treasurer: John Collich

I have lived in Manor Lake for Nineteen years and have assisted as Treasure for the past four.

I graduated the University of Connecticut in 1982 with a Bachelor's Degree in Finance

It has been a pleasure serving the community and helping keep our neighborhood on track to achieve our goals

The following persons are nominated for the five board positions:

Lori Austin

Our family has lived in Manor Lake for almost 13 years now. What a gem of a neighborhood! We know the names of every household on our half of Trailway from Bauer down towards Lake Frank. Having been a substitute teacher at Flower Valley for 9 years, I know many families and their children in our community. The more people I get to know, the more endeared I become to our neighborhood. My passion is for community connectedness, especially among our blocks. I've been on the board for about 3 years now, and currently am coordinating the distribution team. It has been a privilege to serve on the board and meet some very dedicated leaders who desire and are working for the best on behalf of Manor Lake Civic Association. Consider joining the board! And if you don't know the names of your neighbors, go introduce yourselves! And by all means, welcome newcomers.

Matt Brown

My wife, Carol, and I have been residents of Manor Lake since October 2008 and I have been a Rockville resident for most of my life, having grown up in the Twinbrook area. I'm currently employed as a Training Instructor for the US Department of Energy Headquarters Protective Force. I design and conduct security related training related to firearms, defensive tactics, first aid/CPR and other subjects. Prior to joining DOE, I was an Infantryman in the United States Marine Corps Reserve and served one deployment to Iraq in 2003.

As a Board Member, issues I would like to focus on are crime prevention and below ground power lines for both beautification and reduced risk of outages during inclement weather.

Deborah Halpern

I am pleased to be nominated for an At Large position on the MLCA board.

My husband and I have enjoyed living in Manor Lake for 12 years. We appreciate the work the Civic Association does to improve safety, maintain a well-kept appearance, foster our sense of community and taking an active role to keep MLCA members informed of important matters that affect all of us as property owners.

I am a graduate of the University of Maryland. My background includes retail management as well as 8 years as manager of International Services for a large biotech company. For the past 10 years I've worked as a web designer/developer and project coordinator on a broad range of projects for military, corporate, private and non-profit web sites.

I would be honored to support the Civic Association's continuing efforts to keep Manor Lake a safe, fun and valuable place to live.

Rae Kordell

My husband Al and I moved to Manor Lake 44 years ago and are original owners. We raised our 4 children here and are the proud grandparents of 13.

I have a BSN from Georgetown University and have worked at Veterans' Hospital as Office Manager and nurse for 6 physicians with offices in Md., Va., and DC. I also created the Health Education Department at Holton Arms School and was Chairperson until retirement in 1995.

I served the MLCA as Board member one year, Vice President for one year and President for the last two years. My husband and I have coordinated the Neighborhood Watch for the past 5 years.

Future Issues are up to the next Board. However, we need to reach out to the Community better in order to increase membership, volunteers, and more social events. There should be a separate committee handling Housing Codes and foreclosed home maintenance as these issues can be very time consuming.

Patricia H. Wallace

Over the years I have been involved in many community organizations, including, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, PTAs, Church and volunteer groups and as Secretary of the Manor Lake Association when Dr. Ed Milenky was President.

My years of experience as an Administrative Assistant for a law firm, Riggs Bank and Office Manager for a National Medical Executive Search firm allowed me to wear many hats and helped me build personal and organizational skills.

My husband, Jack, and I have been residents of Manor Lake since 1987. We raised our two children here, both of whom attended the local schools. Things have certainly changed over the years, but we continue to live in a lovely, close knit neighborhood and if serving as a Board Member of the Association may help other Manor Lake families have the same experience my family has had, I would be proud to serve.

Keeping abreast of the County and State laws and regulations will be most important in the years to come. The growth and development in Rockville and Montgomery County is staggering and we need to be mindful of any changes that may affect the quality of life we now enjoy, especially with regard to the quality and safety of our local schools. The Association needs to be diligent about enforcing zoning laws to assure our fellow residents maintain their property values, and keep Manor Lake moving forward without sacrificing the wonderful environment we presently enjoy.

There is nothing more important than living in a proud, safe and friendly neighborhood and with the help of an active civic association Manor Lake will be just that.

I have enjoyed serving on the Board this past year and look forward to continuing in that position if elected.

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