

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

I, Michelle Miller Bean, am seeking re-election of President for the Manor Lake Civic Association. My husband, Michael and I have lived in the Manor Lake community for the past 16 years and have two children Melissa (21) who is currently attending the University of Maryland at College Park and Michael Joseph (18) a senior at Our Lady of Good Counsel High School. Both my husband and I are lifelong Rockville residents. I have previously served on the Board as an At Large member for two years, Secretary for one year and most recently as President for the past three years.

I currently work for the Recreation & Parks Department at the City of Rockville. In my current position, one of my duties is planning and organization of Rockville's Hometown Holiday's weekend, where we have many non-profit organizations who 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 groundbreakings that we host. I also serve as a staff liaison to the Recreation and Park Advisory Board for the City of Rockville.

In addition to my employment experience, ten 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: Phyllis Taylor

I live on Lake Terrace in Manor Lake, and am running for the position of Vice President on the Manor Lake Civic Association Board. I served as an At-Large member of the MLCA Board for one year, and for the past year, I was a Vice President.

I have lived in Maryland since 1977, and in Manor Lake since 1999. I find this community to be vibrant, caring and friendly; a place that has been welcoming to my family, and extremely welcoming to new families moving in. This community seems to attract people who care about their neighbors as people, and who can be counted on in times of need.

I work in the Membership Department of the Consumer Healthcare Products Association (CHPA) where I have risen through the ranks over years, holding six different positions within the organization. My husband, Bob, works in the area of site utility construction. We have two daughters who graduated from Rockville High School and also reside in Manor Lake.

My desire to be part of the Board stems from the feeling of wanting to give back to this community, albeit in some small way. I have served as a team member on the MLCA Social Committee for the past six years; this group of residents plan and execute a variety of community events including the Community Yard Sale, National Night Out, and specific social events on "The Lakes" (Lake Drive, Court and Terrace).

One of my first ideas, which the Board wholeheartedly endorsed, was to institute a new member benefit: the member bulk item pick-up. We just held our 4th bulk item pick-up in April and has resulted in new households joining MLCA. Feedback on this program has been very positive, and the Board is hoping to institute additional new programs to benefit MCLA member households as well.

If elected to the Manor Lake Board, I will continue to work diligently to help increase involvement in Manor Lake activities. I firmly believe that the MCLA membership fee is a small price to pay so we may continue to take pride in the physical and social attributes of our neighborhood.

Nominated for Secretary: This position remains open and available.

Nominated for Treasurer: Susanne Mehlman

Susanne Mehlman has lived in Manor Lake with her family (husband and 2 children) since 1995. She has worked for the Congressional Budget Office for over 20 years specializing in housing and environmental issues. Susanne also served as the Treasurer of the Flower Valley Elementary School PTA from 2001-2003. She holds a BA from the University of Pennsylvania and an MBA from The George Washington University.

The following persons are nominated for the five At-Large board positions:

Bill Barrett

I am a lifelong Montgomery County resident having grown up in Rockville. I have lived in Manor Lake for 17 years. I have been married for 21 years and have three daughters who all attend the local public schools. I am a Federal Government employee and have coached youth sports for over 25 years. I would like to see more residents of Manor Lake be active dues paying members.

Jim Brown

I live on Lake Drive in the Manor Lake neighborhood, moving there in 2000. I am (nearly) a lifetime resident of Rockville, MD in Montgomery County, having moved to Rockville with my parents and family in 1968. I attended Montgomery County public schools from elementary thru 12th grade, and went on to graduate from Oberlin College in Oberlin Ohio, with a BS Degree in Economics. I spent my career supporting the Federal Information Technology services marketplace, as a market analyst and new business leader for numerous companies in the DC/Metro area. My wife, Kristen, and I have 3 boys, ages 22, 20 and 16. Each son attended Flower Valley Elementary School, Wood Middle School, and Rockville High School.

I've been active in a number of civic organizations, including serving on various boards and committees at my church in Silver Spring, MD. I also served for 6 years as the Cubmaster for Pack 457, here in the Manor Lake community. Kristen and I have been active for the past 5 years as drivers in the MLCA Neighborhood Watch program. I have been an active member, and current board member, for the Rockville Baseball Club, supporting the baseball program at Rockville High School. I'm currently most active with a committee at my church overseeing the planning and eventual renovation of an 1860's house and property owned by the church.

For Manor Lake, I would like to see even better participation among our neighbors in the Manor Lake Civic Association, and would also like to see a focused effort to enhance the neatness and appeal of the properties and common spaces in our neighborhood.

Kevin Gormley

Kevin moved to Manor Lake one year ago with his wife, Christine, their two young sons, and two cats. He and his family previously lived in Montgomery Village, where Kevin was in charge of a civic group for one of the Village neighborhoods, and was coach of the Montgomery Village running group. His strengths including networking with civic, government, and public service groups to ensure that community well-being is sustained and promoted.

Since moving to Manor Lake, he has been active in the SaveBlairEwing.org movement, which opposes Montgomery County Public School's plan to turn the Blair Ewing Alternative Education Center and adjacent Mark Twain Park (at Avery and Norbeck) into an enormous school bus depot, and relocate the Blair Ewing Center to an inappropriate location in Manor Woods.

Kevin enjoys spending time with family and friends, trying to figure out how to keep his pool clean, and running from time to time.

Cynthia Lakas

I have lived in Manor Lake for 13 years. In the past, I have served on the Manor Lake Association executive board and as a member of the nominating committee for the board. In 2007, I started the Neighborhood Watch program for the community. I am particularly interested in bringing more of our neighbors into the Association. An active Association is the best way to keep our community friendly and safe and protect the investment we all have in our homes. I am also interested in making sure Manor Lake has a strong voice in governmental issues that might affect the community. For example, the Montgomery County Public School proposal to put a bus depot on Avery Road that would house 400 school buses that would each traverse Norbeck Road four times per day.

Don Seifert

I grew up in Silver Spring. After serving in the US Air Force, I married Bobbie and we moved to the English Manor section of Aspen Hill. We moved to our present home in Manor Lake in 1985. Now an "empty-nester" and retired, I worked in the telecommunications field in various technical and managerial positions for over 45 years - 25 with AT&T followed by 20 with the US Government (GSA and DOJ).

My interests include computers, travel, amateur radio, aviation and history. Bobbie and I like living in the Manor Lake community because it is near our 2 children and 4 grandchildren, and because it offers convenient opportunities for walking, biking, and exploring in the park as well as several nearby playgrounds for young children. It is a pleasant, friendly and safe neighborhood for us all and we like that the MLCA helps keep it that way.

We enjoy helping out in the community when we can. I served initially on the Distribution Committee delivering our newsletters and flyers, participated in the neighborhood clean-up, worked at two of the early National Night Out events and served on the MLCA Neighborhood Watch Committee since its inception. I have been a member of the MLCA Communications Committee helping with the publication of our community newsletters and maintenance of our Website and email address list since 2010. I hope to continue to serve in those roles as time permits.

As a board member, I would hope to help ensure the community remains the good place it is to live, to improve two-way communications between residents and the board so it can better support you and the community as a whole. And to encourage and support more community activities where we can all get to know each other better.