



The Charleston Villager



Check out our website at <http://www.charlestonvillage.org>

Greetings From the Board of Directors

Greetings from your Board of Directors! I know you are enjoying the wonderful Tar Heel winter as we freeze one day and sweat the next. Please remember that we remain under drought conditions and Governor Easley has made a plea to all North Carolinians to conserve water usage wherever they can!

As a newly elected Board, we just wanted to share a few tidbits of information with you that you might find interesting. This Board has adopted an operating philosophy of "Building Community." Basically, we are looking for every opportunity to get residents involved, interested, and active in, and excited about Charleston Village. We want this to be more than an association of homeowners but a community of neighbors - a place where you can always find someone who can refer a good handyman, take your trash out while you are away on vacation, or keep your pets while your allergic cousin is down for the holidays! We want this community to be more than just a "place." We want it to mean something and we ask for you to volunteer on one of our numerous committees (our outstanding website lists all of our committees and provides contact information). OR, if you have a great idea for a NEW

committee, bring it up at the next Board meeting and maybe we can add it to our list. It all boils down to finding ways to build pride in the neighborhood and, at the same time, providing opportunities for neighbors to build relationships with each other. Regardless of the desires of the Board, for this Community Building approach to take hold, the residents of Charleston Village must be actively in support of this effort.



Be sure to mark your calendars!!! At the January 28th Board meeting a motion was made to go back to having Board of Directors meetings once a month on the last Monday, instead of the current once every other month schedule. Since the motion passed, the Board will be able to hear resident requests, Committee Chair recommendations, and handle business in a more efficient manner. As president, it is my preference to conduct as much business as possible, without hindrance, in open meetings so that the neighborhood is aware of what is going on, will feel comfortable bringing issues to us (we do LOVE that), and will realize that their Board is working hard on their behalf! So mark that LAST MONDAY IN EVERY MONTH AT 6:30 PM for a Board of

HOA Board:

President: Trey O'Quinn
Vice President: David Randle
Treasurer: Connie Friedline
Secretary: Michele Medlin
Member at Large: Laura Linton

Committee Chairpersons:

Architectural: Margo Bills
Clubhouse: Dawn Bradley
Communications:
 Newsletter: MaryAnn Gunshefski
 Webmaster: David Randle
Grounds: Michele Medlin
Nominating: Connie Friedline
Pool: Elizabeth Schmedding
 and Maggie Ingram
Social: Jon Hamilton
Welcome: Kristy Long

Management Company:

Beth Harvey
R.S. Fincher & Co.
P.O. Box 1117
Apex, NC 27502

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Directors'. This is being done to give residents more of an opportunity to attend and be heard. We, as a Board, cannot act on a problem if you do not let us know there is one!

The Board is ecstatic to announce that Her Excellency, Elizabeth Schmedding and Her Majesty, Maggie Ingram have agreed to be this year's pool chairs and have hit the ground running!!! I will be honest, until these two agreed to take on the job, I was concerned that we may not be able to fill the roles. For the past two years Kristine Hansen and Kelly Jaynes set such a high standard for Pool Chairs, it was hard for me to believe we would be able to replace these wonderful volunteers. Elizabeth brings an outstanding background knowledge of pools and their operation and Maggie has a plethora of experience dealing with people, children, and recreational use of the pool. ALSO, both Elizabeth and Maggie have swimmers on our Swim Team so I am certain that the Pool Committee and Swim Team will work together beautifully!

The Swim Team is also gearing up for the upcoming season. Our Crocs, under the leadership of Chair Nicole Ridout are off to a great start. As of the last meeting, the Board is hard at work preparing for the informational meeting as well as staffing their internal committees. The Swim Team has been a great success in terms of community support, bringing children and adults together, teaching children how to swim, and building community pride. Admittedly, the Swim Team does utilize a great deal of pool time and space but the positive gains are priceless. Nicole has done a wonderful job, as has her committee/board - next time you see Nicole or a Swim Team Board

member, please thank them for all they do!

As some of you may have noticed while driving by, our clubhouse is finally getting the much needed paint/drywall repair and carpeting that has been budgeted for two years now. Thanks to the patience and savvy of Clubhouse Committee Chair Dawn Bradley we were able to get everything taken care of for the cost of an amount budgeted well over a year ago. With the rise in prices, I feel Dawn has been an outstanding steward of the community's funds as well as looking out for our best interests by updating our clubhouse. I can't wait to see the finished product. Thank you and your committee on the great work!



As we struggle with North Carolina winter issues such as rain/snow lines, ice, warm fronts, arctic winds, etc. remember that the Board is here for you. You may contact any one of us, or Beth Harvey at R.S. Fincher, with any concerns. The Board is fully aware that we need YOU, the resident, involved in order to do anything meaningful. We can talk an issue to death but if it means nothing to the resident then it is pretty pointless. As your president, I want to look back on a year of change where the residents were involved and we responded by giving exactly what they wanted. I am a resident too and when my time to serve is up I want to know that the community recognizes that the role of the resident is the most important in the Charleston Village Homeowner's Association.

Stay warm and safe!

CV Resident Opportunity

The Clubhouse Committee would like to offer a **FREE** rental of the clubhouse. If you are interested in finding out how the clubhouse can be yours for the day or afternoon, please contact Dawn Bradley, Clubhouse Chair, for more information, at 303-

0064. The clubhouse has recently undergone painting and new carpet and is perfect for your upcoming party or meeting. Please call for more details! Thank you.--
Charleston Village Clubhouse Committee



Safety First!!

It's easy to lose track of how fast you are driving, when you are late, or your mind is elsewhere.

However, remember that the speed limit in our neighborhood is 25 MPH for many important reasons!



during "track outs" every day of the year. We have many families with young children, who can toddle very fast considering the size of their little legs! We must work together as a community to protect these kids. Please slow down always, but especially when you see people and kids out and about.

Please slow down when traveling through the neighborhood....lives depend on it.



There are kids waiting for school buses as early as 6 am, when it is still dark. With the year-round school calendar, we now have children home

In addition, we have many people who are active and run/jog/walk through our neighborhood. They are out early in the morning (before dawn) right through nightfall. Please watch as you exit your driveway, especially in the dark, to keep everyone safe!



Welcoming Committee

Our goal for the Welcome Committee is to make sure our new residents feel welcomed to their new home & community. We visit and distribute welcome bags (with local business and neighborhood information), once every other month (the next month will be February). If you have moved into Charleston Village after September 1, 2007, and did not receive a visit from the CV welcome committee, please email: klong9 at nc.rr.com. We want everyone to feel welcome and know that you have chosen a wonderful community to call home!

I would like to send out a HUGE "Thank You!" to all of the local businesses that have supplied items for our welcome bags. They include:

Qdoba
The Decor Coach
MartyAllen
CIAO! Osteria & Bar
Antiques on Salem Street, LTD.
Hair Body & Sole,
It's a Grind
Curves
Traditions
Savory's Bakery
Pepper Dog Salsa
Mary Kay (Connie J. Friedline)

IHOP

Martin & Mary's

Stone Creek Village

Pam Smith Pet Care

Nancy Fredette (Coldwell Banker)

Cafe Carolina Bakery,

La Rancherita

Mamma Mia's

Firehouse Subs

Panera Bread

Planet Beach in Cary

I received a wonderful response and participation from these businesses and they were excited to supply items for our new residents. I would also like to thank my committee members (you know who you are :-)) for all the help with gathering these items and distributing them to our new neighbors.

If you are interested in helping out with the welcome committee, just email: klong9 at nc.rr.com
Happy New Year! Kristy





Let's Go Crocs!!!

It's our Second Season, and the time to register *YOUR Crocodile* for the Charleston Village Swim Team is fast approaching!

**SWIM TEAM INFORMATIONAL MEETING
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH
7:00PM AT THE CLUBHOUSE**

It is necessary to attend this meeting prior to Registering your Swimmer. At this meeting you will: meet our Crocodile Coaches, be provided with an outline of the skill requirements needed to participate in your age bracket, be given an overview of what skills 4 to 6 year olds have to demonstrate in order to join the team, sign-up to assist at Meets and Practice, as well as other opportunities to help, gain with an understanding of the Triangle Swim Association guidelines, and learn the preliminary dates set by the TSA of our 2008 Swim Meets.

**SWIM TEAM REGISTRATION
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD
FIRST SESSION: 10:00AM TO 12:00NOON
SECOND SESSION: 4:00PM TO 6:00PM
AT THE CLUBHOUSE**

Swimsuit designs are the same as last year. However, kids grow and new teammates added, so KastAway Swimwear will be available during the Second Session (4:00-6:00) for anyone who may need a swimsuit fitting or would like to purchase a replacement suit.

For Additional Information, please contact Nicole Ridout at 305-5892/ nridout@nc.rr.com or Laura Linton at 303-9003/ dlinton@nc.rr.com. Or visit www.charlestonvillage.org/hoa/ct/swimteam

Neighborhood Watch



In an effort to keep Charleston Village a great place to live, we ask everyone to keep your eyes open to what is going on around you. The best way to keep this neighborhood safe is to be involved. Though we have a safe neighborhood, unfortunately we have

had some vandalism in our neighborhood in the past year. This vandalism was done to both personal property and community property, and really affects us all. Please remember that any suspicious activity should be reported to the Apex Police Department (their non-emergency number is 362-8662). No situation is too "small". They will track the reports and may find a trend that, as an individual, might not be evident. They cannot

try to fix a problem they don't know about.

Some other ways to stay involved include being familiar with the friends your children play with, especially as they become more "independent" pre-teens and teens. Say hello to your neighbors, take a walk with the dog, do some gardening....be proud to be part of a great community and help to keep it that way!



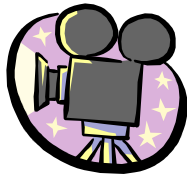
Social Committee News

This year, the Social Committee will coordinate an Easter Egg Hunt, Spring Yard Sale, Fall Festival, Halloween Parade, and a Food and Toy Drive. In addition, we hold monthly movie nights at the clubhouse, which the kids really seem to enjoy. The main event is always the Fall Festival, usually with rides and inflatables, games, arts and crafts, great food, music, and more.

With neighborhood support, we have in the past been able to add things like a Multi-Cultural Potluck, a Luau, an Adult Night Out, a Ladies Night Out, a Kids Safety Night, Back to School Bashes, Car Seat Checks, Holiday Caroling, and contests for things like best decorated house.

Social Committee members have also successfully started things like the Wine Club and are formed a Welcoming Committee to greet new residents.

All of these events are coordinated and handled by neighbors who devote their own free time and energy. If you would like to join the Social Committee or can volunteer even a small amount of your



time, please send an email to the committee through www.charlestonvillage.org. Also, if you have any ideas or feedback on events, send them along to us. We are eager to hear from you.

Social Committee Members



Jon Hamilton - Chair

Bruce Chao; Kristy Long; Allison Mosley

If you are interested in helping to promote an active social community or even would like to help with or propose a single social event, please contact the committee through www.charlestonvillage.org.

The Social Committee purchased a voice broadcast system allowing us to broadcast messages to the neighborhood via telephone. Anyone wishing to add, edit, or remove themselves from the list should send an e-mail to **cvphonemail at CharlestonVillage.org**. Our intent is to rely exclusively on voice broadcasts, quarterly newsletters, and postings to the CV website - www.CharlestonVillage.org.

Home and Yard from the ARB

Water Saving Tips

- ⇒ Turn of the water while you brush your teeth
- ⇒ Run dishwashers and washing machines only when full
- ⇒ Collect rainwater from downspouts to water outdoor plants
- ⇒ Take quick showers
- ⇒ Turn off the water while shaving. Fill the bottom of the sink with some hot water to rinse your razor
- ⇒ Capture tap water. While you wait for hot water to come down the pipes, catch the flow in a watering can to use later on plans or your garden.



Wednesday of every month and this gives the staff at Fincher time to log, copy and mail them out to everyone on the committee in time for our meeting. To not hold up the process, please make sure your submissions are complete. Remember to include the needed signatures, descriptions, samples and make sure you have a plot plan or drawing with measurements of where your change is in relationship to the house. We absolutely need this to approve your request. Also make sure you check the "green" Architectural Standards book to check to make sure your submission meets the guidelines. The Architecture Form and Book are both posted on the Charleston Village website.



Just a reminder that your completed Architectural Request Forms must be into R.S.Fincher no later than the last Wed. of the month. The ARB meets the 1st

Local Exchange Student Opportunities

Charleston Village has 2 neighbors and friends, Erin Kalbarczyk and Karen Bingham, teaming as Area Representatives for the World Heritage Exchange Student Program during the 2008-09 academic year. World Heritage is approved by WCPSS, and Apex HS can accept our students on a first come, first served basis. Both of us are happy to provide information to families who are interested in

learning about hosting a student - we are hosting this year and have hosted previously! Call or email Erin at (919) 303-8506, erinkal at yahoo.com, and/or Karen at (919) 363-1978, Karen.Bingham at durham.ppd.com.



Current Exchange Students Share Their Experiences

Hello my name is Sebastian Brandes and I am an exchange student from Germany. I have lived here in Apex since August the 17th and I am planning on staying until the end of the school year. I go to Apex High School and attend the 11th grade.

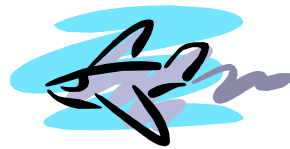
My home town is called Cologne and its population is approximately 1 million people and it is the fourth biggest city in Germany.

There are a lot of differences between Germany and the United States. In Germany I live in a townhouse, and everything is closer together than here. The school system here is different, too. In Germany we only have elementary school (1st - 4th grade) and then high school (5th - 13th grade). I had to cope with a lot of new things that I was confronted with at Apex high.

But I had a lot of people who helped me in school, so that problems didn't seem that big. And as my English got better everything seemed to become easier.

I like to play a lot of sports like basketball, soccer, volleyball, skiing and snowboarding, and I like to hang out with friends. Here I help coach a basketball team, which plays in the Apex recreational league.

I have been on some really awesome trips during the time I was here. I have been to Gatlinburg in Tennessee, to the beach in Wilmington and I saw Niagara Falls in New York State. I currently live the Bingham's on Castleburg Drive.



Hi everybody, my name is Aliya Yabekova and I'm from Almaty, Kazakhstan. I live with Allan and Erin Kalbarczyk here in Charleston Village. Two years ago I couldn't imagine that I could be here! I'm so glad that I passed everything that I had to in order to be a "flex" finalist. "Flex" is a program for students from past Soviet Union countries. If you pass the test you can come here from free to study in high school and have the experience. Its paid for by the American government. There are 100 people from my country all over the U.S.



I came here for one school year starting 5 months ago, and I'm enjoying staying here. I

have really great host parents and cool friends. It is totally different here than back home, for example we live in apartments since houses are really expensive. I've been to NYC and life in my city, Almaty, is a little bit similar, but not so busy. Schools there are not divided into elementary, middle and high school. Everyone studies in one school and for all 11 grades you study with the same people in your class. You can't choose your classes. Everyday you have a different schedule. I really like the fact that you can choose your classes here—it's really cool!

I have a lot of things to share, but I can't write them all. Thanks for reading this!

A Big Thank You To Dr. Munn!



I would like to extend a big and heartfelt THANK YOU to our neighbor, and practicing veterinarian, Dr. Scott Munn of West Cary Animal Hospital. Last summer, 3 stray kittens were found here in Charleston Village hiding behind a neighbors a/c unit. They were scared, hungry and in need of medical attention. This was during one of the hottest weeks we had last summer. We named these kittens the "CV 3." While other animal rescue organizations turned my plea for help down (due to

overcrowding already of their resources), Dr. Munn took them in to his practice without hesitation and gave them the medical care they needed. Thank you for your compassion for these strays and for finding them permanent homes. Your dedication to the safety and welfare of our animal friends is evident. Also, a big thank you to my neighbors and friends who helped out with your donations to their medical care. These funds were donated to Dr. Munn's "Little Angels Adoption." Sincerely---Dawn Bradley, CV Resident

Charleston Village Online

- Moving out of Charleston Village? Or moving to Charleston Village and checking out our Website?
- Need to get rid of those old fluorescent light bulbs, batteries, or paints?
- Planning to vote this year, but not sure who you can vote for?
- Wish you knew more about finances, like how to create a budget, how to check your credit score, what records you should keep, and how to be financially successful?

See the "You Should Know" item on CharelstonVillage.org for information about all these things and more. This portion of CharlestonVillage.org is intended to provide information residents may find helpful.

And you can post your own questions or information to our online forum.



Running Club

Interested in joining neighbors for a weekly run? Looking for other runners to help set goals and maintain motivation? Or maybe you don't like to run alone after dark (but would be willing to run in the evening with a buddy)? A neighborhood running club is a great way



to work in a little more exercise, increase fitness, and meet neighbors with similar interests. If you would like to meet other CV runners and participate in a scheduled weekly run, then contact Becky Lewis via the Charleston Village website, or give her a call at 367-2939. Beginners and experienced runners are all welcome!

Looking for a Girls Night Out? Think BUNCO!

Combine dice, food, drink and great conversation — that's what Bunko night is all about! The neighborhood bunko group meets at 7:00 pm on the 2nd Tuesday of every month in the clubhouse. Although we have 12 'permanent' members, we are always looking for more women to sub for those who can't make it. It's a great way to meet new people,

without the monthly commitment. If you are interested, or have questions, contact Margo Bills at Mbills at nc.rr.com or 303-8338.



Babysitter Directory

Some neighbors, especially those new to our neighborhood, often need to hire babysitters for their children and don't know where to look. They may need to look no further than their own street but don't know it!



The communications committee has been gathering information and put together a babysitter list for our

neighborhood. This is a flyer (distributed to our neighborhood only) includes names and phone numbers of teens in the neighborhood who are interested in babysitting. It is NOT part of the newsletter nor will it be posted on our website.

If you are interested, or have any questions, you can email CVeditor@charlestonvillage.org or call MaryAnn Gunshefski at 303-9348.

Charleston Village Wine Club

If you are looking for a great way to meet new neighbors and enjoy an "adult only" event in your own neighborhood, join the Charleston Village Wine Club. We meet once a month and each month a different Member volunteers to host the party. As the host/hostess, you get to choose the "theme" for your party. As a guest of the party, you bring a bottle of wine that goes along with the theme, and an appetizer to compliment your wine. It is a great way to meet new



neighbors and enjoy a nice evening out in the comfort of your own neighborhood. If you are interested in joining, please contact Kristy Long at 598-1716 or via email: klong9@nc.rr.com. You can also visit our website at www.charlestonvillage.org for additional information about our past parties.

*We hope to see you at the next Wine Club Gathering!
Cheers!*

Charleston Village Classifieds

Note: these can also be found on the CV Forum at www.charlestonvillage.org

To place an ad in the next newsletter email CVeditor@charlestonvillage.org

Pet Care — Quality pet care offered by CV resident. 30 minute visits with walk if needed (feeding, playing, simple meds. Optional Services: Small caged critters-pet sitting in my home *Trip to groomers/vet *Additional charge Price- \$10 per visit , \$2 extra per add. pet \$20 per day extended care (2 walks and 1 bathroom visit). Call Pam 267-5101 Neighbor references available

For Sale— I have a Fisher Price Power Wheels Jeep for sale. I'm asking \$60. It needs a new battery, but comes with the charger. I also have FP Rescue Heroes for sale. See CV Forum for contact info..



Hey Charleston Village!!

*Don't let this space go to waste!
Place your home-based business
ad here!*

*Contact CVeditor@charlestonvillage.com
for more info*



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