



The Charleston Villager



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

Greetings From the Board of Directors

Greetings from your Board of Directors! These are the days (minus the allergies, of course) that remind us why we are so lucky to live in North Carolina! We know it is hard to believe with all the rain we've been getting but we are still under drought conditions. Make sure you closely monitor the Town of Apex website for information on water restrictions.

We have had some changes to the Charleston Village leadership since the last newsletter. Sadly, we said goodbye to Jon Hamilton as Social Committee chair. Jon has been so valuable to our community we just couldn't let him go so he has agreed to stick around on the Communications Committee doing the "all call" telephone messages. So, we did get to keep the "Voice of Charleston Village!" Thank you Jon for all you have done and all you are continuing to do.

Thankfully, Kristy Long (already Chair of the Welcoming Committee) and Allison Mosley have agreed to Co-Chair the Social Committee! Knowing and having worked with both, I am more than confident that we have been left in good hands. What the Chairs need are volunteers. For example, the Social

Committee is faced with the possibility of having to end Movie Night because no one will volunteer to organize, monitor, and be responsible for this activity. The Board even considered a capital purchase of AV equipment until we realized that Movie Night may go away because a lack of volunteers.



We are thrilled to announce that we now have Co-Chairs of the Grounds Committee. We are very fortunate to have Bill Iori as Chair of the Grounds Committee. He will be working closely and collaboratively with Chair Michele Medlin as they head one of the more popular committees in the neighborhood. They both have large jobs ahead of them as they not only deal with the normal Grounds tasks such as common area maintenance and lighting but the special projects that they have been charged with by the Board. Bill, we cannot thank you enough for your willingness to help!

I know what it's like to live with out enough time in the day. I know what it's like to rarely see your home in the daylight. I know what most people are thinking, why should I volunteer - I don't even have time for myself!

(continued on page 2)

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 and Bill Iori
Nominating: Connie Friedline
Pool: Elizabeth Schmedding
 and Maggie Ingram
Social: Kristy Long and Allison Mosley
Welcome: Kristy Long
Management Company:
Beth Harvey
R.S. Fincher & Co.
P.O. Box 1117
Apex, NC 27502
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From the Board (continued from Page 1)

Charleston Village is not just a homeowner's association, street address, covenants, bylaws, yard maintenance letters, etc. Charleston Village actually is the neighbor you see in the grocery store ... the friends on your street who watch your home and get your mail when you are away ... the place where your kids become fierce "Crocs" in the summer and think of nothing but the swim team ... YOUR home ... YOUR neighborhood. While the Board is puttering along, we are in need of volunteers for leadership positions, to serve on committees, to create new committees/teams, and to just help on a day to day basis. We will take what you're willing to give!

Think about this, what if Charleston Village had an adult softball team, how many would play? What if we had a sports committee, with an Athletic Director as Chair, with a mission to build teams and compete in as many adult leagues as possible? Would that get you excited? What about a Community/Public Service Committee with a mission to assist any community member to help them form and develop a Charleston Village effort for the charity's fund raiser (with no donations given from CV)? This would ensure that Charleston Village would have a presence in various community service events. All these things have been discussed but we can't expand until we have all of our current areas covered. I would love nothing more than to see Charleston Village provide something that every resident gets excited about!

Everyone in the Community should be receiving the 2008 Pool Rules from our Pool Committee and the annual spring Yard Maintenance Letter from the Architectural Review Board. Please read both carefully because, as I was warned, "Ignorance is no excuse!" This season the no glass and swim diaper

covered with rubber pants rules are 2 particular infractions that our Pool Committee and Pool Attendants will not take lightly. If broken, any of the rules could lead to fines. With yard maintenance, we ask for reasonableness. When you look at your yard and you see it needs some work, please do it. If for some reason you can't, call Beth Harvey at RS Fincher and explain the situation to her so you will not receive a letter.

While you are out with your children in the playground, please remember that pets are not allowed in the playground area.



Spring in North Carolina brings a wealth of different things: flowers, half dormant-half growing grass, trees waking up, POLLEN, animals stirring (including snakes), weeds, fresh vegetables, extended time outside, and open windows. All of these things are wonderful!!! Especially in Charleston Village where the yards look like gardens and the neighbors hospitality is remarkable. Make sure as we go through spring into summer and our time outside is prolonged that we remain hospitable and respectful of each other. Please be considerate of your neighbors when it comes to barking dogs, loud music, movies or television with questionable language (you can never tell when a child is in earshot), just anything loud enough to be heard behind you or next door. Good neighbors hold a neighborhood together. Charleston Village obviously has the best or more people would move!

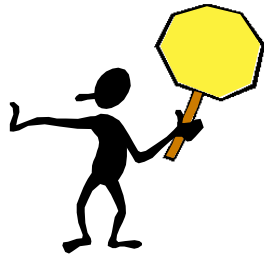
Stay warm and safe!

~~Charleston Village Garage Sale~~
~~Saturday May 10~~
See Social Committee Article for Details!

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



Spring is in the air and all the beautiful flowers are blooming in Charleston Village.

We hope everyone is enjoying the warmer weather. For those of you that don't know much about the Welcome Committee, we would like to tell you all about us! Our group has gathered

wonderful information from surrounding businesses in our area to put together some fun welcome bags. We distribute these welcome bags, every other month to our new residents. It is our way of saying, "Welcome to this awesome community, that you now call, Home!" We want everyone to feel welcomed in our community. If you have moved into Charleston Village after September 2007, and have not received a welcome bag and a visit from our committee, please let us know (contact information at www.charlestonvillage.org). Keep in mind if you are "renting", we probably don't have your name, but would love to drop off a welcome bag. If anyone has anything to include in our welcome bags, or knows of any businesses in the surrounding area that would be interested, please let us know. It is a great way for "free" advertising for your business, school, committee, club, etc.

We are always looking for new members and new ideas for our committee, so let us know if you are interested in helping. Best Wishes to All!!

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

Social Committee News

The Charleston Village Social Committee hosted an Easter Egg Hunt on March 22nd. We had great attendance and the kids enjoyed hunting eggs and a fun visit from the Easter Bunny!

Charleston Village will host their annual neighborhood garage sale on Saturday, May 10th from 8-1:00pm. If you are interested in participating, please contact Sara Huestis by May 3rd. We would like to have an estimate of the number of families participating for the ad in the N&O. In addition, when you contact Sara, please let her know your street address. To help shoppers, we will be posting directional signs throughout the neighborhood the night before the sale. Please note, this will be an annual event, rather than a semi-annual event like we did last year. There was a much better turnout in the spring than in the fall.

Please keep your eyes and ears out for future SC activities. We will be posting information on the CV

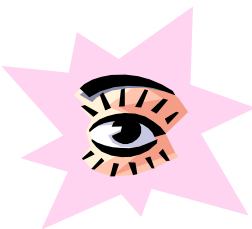
Website and also via the Voice Broadcast system. If you are not on the list to receive the voice broadcasts, please email the communications committee to get on the list. It is a great way to hear useful information about your community and up-coming events.

If you are interested in joining the Social Committee, we can always use more help. You can help out all year, or just with individual events. Suggestions for events are welcome, but we need volunteers to help us put on these events. Please keep in mind that everyone that serves on CV committees is a volunteer and your neighbor. If we all work together and pitch in a little time here and there, we can create some great activities!

Enjoy Spring and this beautiful weather!



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!



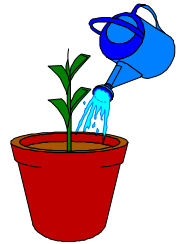
Home and Yard from the ARB

It is Spring and it is that time of year the trees and flowers are in bloom. And... so is the grass and weeds! Wish your yard had less weeds and greener grass? Not sure what to do? Need some help? It does not take a professional to keep your yard looking good. It is not too late to put down some "weed and feed" to help with both. It is easy and not expensive to do it yourself. And speaking of weeds, "Round-up" is the greatest against weeds. It will get the weeds out of the cracks in the driveway, sidewalk and curbs. It is easier than pulling weeds in large planting areas and a thin spray works great to "edge" around planting areas. Just don't spray what you don't want killed for good!

There is a lot of information available to help you. Check with a local garden center, Ace Hardware, or the neighbor who has the lawn you want on what you should do and when. Also check out these web sites I have found helpful: www.truffiles.ncsu.edu , www.scotts.com , www.ncagr.com and www.bayeradvanced.com. They all have some excellent advice!

If you are doing some improvements or changes to your property remember to check out the Architectural Standards book or Charleston Village web site to get a form and check out the guidelines and procedures. The ARB meets the first Wednesday of each month. Get your requests into Fincher's office by the Wednesday before to make sure we have it on time.

Remember, your home is your biggest investment and the resale value of it is affected by the way our entire neighborhood looks. If we all work together to keep our home, lawns and yards looking nice, then Charleston Village as a whole will look nice and be a neighborhood in which we can all be proud.



Communications Committee

The Communications Committee welcomes Jon Hamilton, the "voice" of Charleston Village, to the committee. Jon brought the voice broadcast system to Charleston Village and brings it to the Communications Committee as he transitions from chairing the Social Committee these last several years. The voice broadcast system allows us to broadcast messages to the neighborhood via telephone. Anyone wishing to add, edit, or remove themselves from the phone list should send an e-mail to cvphonemail@CharlestonVillage.org. We hope that you find this useful.

Here's a tip for you. Check out the new Homeowner Tips section of CharlestonVillage.org. We have collected tips for your home, lawn & garden, and life in general. If you have tips you would like to share, please e-mail us at webmaster@CharlestonVillage.org or submit tips in our Online Forum. Many residents are using the forum, and you will find we have a lot of expertise (and fun) right here in Charleston Village!



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.





The Crocodiles Are Ready To CHOMP into the Competition!

THE CV SWIM TEAM IS ABOUT TO ENTER INTO THEIR SECOND SEASON! ARE YOU READY?

We will have over 100 Crocodiles swashing their tails in the water this year!! It's not too late for your swimmer to join us! Contact Nicole Ridout or Laura Linton to get your children registered to swim with the Crocodiles this summer.

MEET THE COACHES!

David Ghazaleh is Head Coach of the Crocodiles this year. He is supported by a cast of exceptional Assistant Coaches: Carolyn Cuany, Barbara McKinnon and Elizabeth Schmedding. Ms. Schmedding will also serve as our Meet Manager again this year!

SWIMMERS, MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Below is the schedule for Meets and Social Events.

Friday May 16th - Our Annual Potluck Dinner from 6:00 to 7:30pm at the Clubhouse

(Rain Date: Sunday, May 18th). We will be asking each family to bring food and drinks. Look for your food item category assignment coming soon! At the Potluck Dinner, Swimmers will be able to pick up their T-Shirts, Swim Caps, and any other items that have been Pre-Ordered. Extra items will be available for purchase, but quantities are limited!!!

Monday May 19th, First Practice for *Every Swimmer* at 6:00pm

This practice will be held regardless of weather conditions. In the event of a thunderstorm, this practice will be moved to the Clubhouse. We request that ALL parents come at 6:00pm for a brief meeting at the start of practice on May 19th. All practices thereafter will be as follows:

Ages 6 & Under will practice from 6:00 to 6:30pm

Ages 7 to 10 will practice from 6:30 to 7:15 pm

Ages 11 & Up will practice from 7:15 to 8:00pm

Morning Practices will begin on or about June 10th. We will have lane closures during practice times, but the pool will be Open.

Friday June 6th, Mock Meet - At Brookstone, 5:30pm start time.

Tuesday, June 17th – Home Meet - Versus Raleigh Racquet Club, 6:00pm start

Tuesday, June 24th – Home Meet - Versus Haddon Hall, 6:00pm start

Tuesday, July 1st – Away Meet - At Garner Swim Club, 6:00pm start time

Tuesday, July 8th – Away Meet - At Holland's Crossing, 6:00pm start time

Sunday, July 13th – Invitational Meet - Raleigh Southern Wake Invitational at Sunset Ridge, start time to be determined, this is an optional meet

Tuesday, July 15th – Bye Week - No Meet Scheduled

Week of July 19th – Home Meet - Versus Carpenter Village, Day and Time of Meet to be determined

Wednesday, July 23rd – End of Season Party - To be held at Salem Baptist, 7:00pm start time.

PARKING RULES FOR HOME MEETS

We Crocodiles understand the impact hosting a Home Meet has on our community. To maximize available parking for our Visiting Team, we ask that all swimmers and their families either walk or bike to the pool for Home Meets. No Parking will be allowed on either side of the divided entry to Castleburg Drive. Overflow parking will ONLY be allowed on the pool side of the street of Castleburg Drive and on the North side of Battlewood. Please DO NOT park on both sides of the street. Please DO NOT block driveways of our neighbors. Cones and signs will be used to identify No Parking Zones for Home Meets. It is our Crocodilian responsibility to be respectful of our Charleston Village neighbors at all times. We ask that you adhere to the Parking Rules for EVERY Home Meet.

POOL CLOSINGS FOR HOME MEETS

A friendly reminder, it will be necessary to Close the pool for Home Meets. As you can see by the schedule outlined above, this should happen only three times the entire Swim Team Season. We wish to Thank You in advance for your patience and understanding.

DON'T FORGET

Don't forget to sign up for your Meet Assistance Position! We REQUIRE that every family of a Crocodile assist at Meets and/or with the Swim Team Program in some capacity. Please contact one of our Swim Team Assistance Coordinators, Tina Ruff or Sherry Worthington, to determine a position you can fill. Maybe that position is Social Activity Coordinator! If you know how to throw a party, we know the position for you!

THANK YOU!!

We want to thank **ALL** our Charleston Village Neighbors for supporting our Swim Team. We look forward to a Fun Filled Fantastic Year. We hope to see you whooping and hollering on the pool deck as our Crocodiles Rock!



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 Gunsheski 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. 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](mailto:CVeditor@charlestonvillage.org) at charlestonvillage.org



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*