



THE CHARLESTON VILLAGER



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

From the Board of Directors

Friends,

Since August of 2007, I have had the distinct privilege of serving this wonderful community as president of the Board of Directors. During this time I have made wonderful friends and have grown to love and respect this neighborhood which we all share. "Home," really has new meaning for me. It is no longer just the house I own but this community where I live. Whether you believe it or not, I am fiercely defensive of Charleston Village and the residents here - because without you, my concept of "home" diminishes.

No, we all didn't agree on every issue and no, I do not expect to be considered the best president the Association has ever had. However, I hope some good was done while I was president. My main issue was to give the authority back to the residents by letting the committees make the decisions. This seems to work well. The residents can decide when and how they choose to participate.

As of February 1, 2009, I began a new chapter in my life as I moved to Cullowhee, NC to become the University Budget Director for Western Carolina University. I have agreed to continue to be president until the Board decides upon a replacement or my house sells. Well, it appears my house will close on February 25th and it saddens me to say to say goodbye.



At this bittersweet time I know you are in expert hands - the remaining Board members and my friends, Hugh Cameron, Michele Medlin, Bob Schmedding, and Laura Linton, will take great care of this Village. I know each to be passionate about the community, residents, and good stewards of the resources that are placed in their care. Also, our property manager, Beth Harvey, works each day to make our community better for each of us and I could not hand pick a better person to be the guardian of my home.

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HOA Board:

President: TBD
Vice President: Hugh Cameron
Treasurer: Bob Schmedding
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: TBD
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)

All in all, I feel that I am leaving a thriving community - one that is the envy of many! This has nothing to do with me but the volunteers who kept me and this community going like (if I miss someone, please forgive me) the Board (who also participates on several of our committees), Margo Bills, Kristy Long, MaryAnn Gunshefski, David Randal, Bill Iori, Dawn Bradley, Joe DiBari, Elizabeth Schmedding, Maggie Ingram, Nicole Ridout, Jennifer Dexter, Connie Friedline, John Dailey, and many others.

I am honored to be in a group that contains these people. I am humbled to have been able to serve you in my short time as president.

Thank you. God bless you. I am sure our paths will cross again!

With warm regards,

Trey O'Quinn, President
Charleston Village Homeowner's Association
(Term ends 2/25/09)

Angels Among Us—5K and Family Fun Walk

As many of you know, a student at Salem Elementary, Cameron Jackson, was diagnosed with a brain tumor in February of 2008. This year, on April 25, 2009, there will be a 5K and family fun walk to raise money and support for the Preston Robert Tisch Brain Tumor Center at Duke. A team will be created, Team "Action Jackson", in honor of Cameron and there are many ways you can

participate in such a worthy cause. Please contact LeAnn Jackson at lwjackson at nc dot rr dot com or visit Cameron's website <http://camjacksonupdate.blogspot.com> for more information.



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



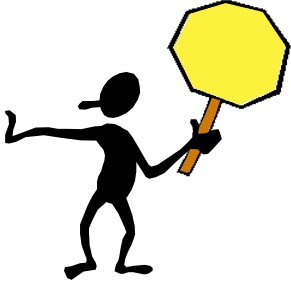
"small". They will track the reports and may find a trend that, as an individual, might not be evident. They cannot try to fix a problem they don't know about.

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



Safety First!!

Its 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!



Reasons such as:

PETS—While its true that pets are mostly on leashes when being walked through our neighborhood, there are times when they get out unexpectedly, or get spooked by something and run out into the road. They are quick to move yet cherished by our families. Slowing down gives you the chance to brake, if necessary. Our furry friends thank you!

JOGGERS—Many of us keep in shape by walking or jogging through our wonderful neighborhood. Especially with the hot daytime temperatures, these people are out in the early mornings or later in the evening. Please be careful when pulling into or out of your driveways, and while driving around our neighborhood.

And...most importantly...

CHILDREN— Remember, 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 waiting for buses or home 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 children. Please slow down always, but especially when you see people and kids out and about.

Lastly, remember that you **MUST NOT PASS** a stopped **SCHOOL BUS!** The kids are excited to get to and from school and are assuming they are clear to cross the road.

We ask that you talk to your families about this issue, *especially new drivers*, and help us keep this neighborhood the great place we have come to love.

Did you know? That "extra" 5 mph *does* make a difference!



If you hit a pedestrian:

- ⇒ At 20 mph 5% will die
- ⇒ At 30 mph 45% will die
- ⇒ At 40 mph **85%** will die

(Source: NHTSA)

Do you have any ideas that could be used to remind us all to take our time through our neighborhood? Visit the new "Working Groups" forum on our Charleston Village website to discuss it further. We value your input.



Again, please slow down when traveling through any neighborhood... lives depend on it.

Community Improvement News

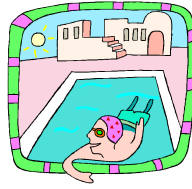
You will notice several things going on in our neighborhood to improve its look. Charleston Village is now over 12 years old and as a result some things are in need of some TLC (tender loving care).



First, we would like to welcome our new landscape company, SOS Landscapers. They will now be tending to our flower and lawn care needs. Their first big job will be cutting the hedges surrounding the pool way down. It will look a bit odd till spring, but is necessary to

keep the pool area safe for our swimmers and will enhance the look once it starts growing again. They will be replacing some other landscaping and making improvements all year long! Welcome SOS!

Also in the main entrance area you will notice that the pool will be resurfaced this spring. If you have any



questions or concerns please contact the pool committee, as they are the ones organizing this effort.

Also in the same area, our clubhouse, which has just been renovated inside this past year, will also get some additional TLC. It is in need of some outside wood repair and will then receive a new coat of paint to make it look like new!

Charleston Village has always been a great place to live. These improvements will help us continue to be a beautiful place to be!



Welcoming Committee

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!" 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.



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, L TD.

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 Needs Your Help!

Do you love to bring you kids to the Easter Egg hunt every Spring??

We need some neighbors to organize this event if it is going to happen. The current social committee chairpersons have stepped down. Please consider volunteering your time and skills to the social committee to keep these great neighborhood activities going. This neighborhood is great because of its people. These great events cannot



happen without great people to run them!

Remember, if you are not currently signed up to receive phone broadcasts, please visit the Charleston Village website today to register your home number. Otherwise, you may be missing out on some important Charleston Village event information.



Clubhouse Committee News

The cold winter months are a great time for a party! A great place to have a party is the newly renovated Charleston Village Clubhouse! It's a great place to throw a birthday party, girl's night out, or any other event that you may have.



be made through Carol at R.S. Fincher. Please see the Charleston Village website for more information.

Better yet, would you like to rent it for **FREE**? If so, please email Dawn Bradley (clubhouse at charlestonvillage dot org) and she can provide you with the details to make that happen.

As a reminder, the Clubhouse is available for full-day or half-day rentals to any CV resident. Reservations should

Thanks! CV Clubhouse Committee

A Neighbor's View

We just wanted to take this opportunity to say what a pleasure it has been moving into Charleston Village. From the warm and welcoming neighbors to the swim team where our daughter discovered a love for swimming and the impromptu football games with the neighborhood kids in our backyard, we love Charleston Village.

My wife and I were born and raised in Zimbabwe and South Africa respectively and originally came to the States in when our oldest son was 18 months old. We were invited to work for a church in Denver Colorado, heading up their Missions Program. Liesl was heartbroken to leave South Africa and I had to hide her passport so she wouldn't hop on a plane and go home. Since then we have lived and worked in Seattle and L.A. Two years ago we decided to settle down for good and spent a year looking around the States. We absolutely fell in love with North Carolina and thought it was one of the best kept secrets (well, with all

us foreigners moving in - I guess it is no longer a secret). We recently started another church and are currently meeting in Morrisville at "Carmen's Cuban Café". In addition Liesl has started teaching piano from home. One of the things we love to do is open our home for teenagers on Saturday evenings for music, food and discussions around the bible - so if you have teens who are looking for a place to hang out, send them on over! We also have three kids of our own who are 16, 11 and 3. We look forward to meeting many more of you over the next few years and after moving 17 times in 22 years of marriage, we are thrilled to be in a place we can finally call *home!*

The Grobbelaar Family
1911 Castle burg drive





Let's Go Crocs!!!



Are you ready to get started??? The Crocodiles are heading into our Third Season! The time is almost here to register YOUR Crocodile for the Charleston Village Swim Team!

Swim Team Informational Meeting
Sunday, March 1st, 7:00pm at the Clubhouse

We would like to encourage all interested Swim Team members, returning and new, to attend this meeting prior to registering your swimmer. We will be sharing information specific to the 2009 Swim Season and this will be the opportunity to get your questions answered. In addition, 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 an understanding of the Triangle Swim Association (TSA) guidelines, and learn the preliminary dates set by the TSA of our 2009 Swim Meets.

Swim Team Registration
Saturday, March 28th, At the Clubhouse
First Session: 10:00am to 12:00Noon & Second Session: 4:00pm to 6:00pm

Hold this date! This will be the time to register your Swimmer for the 2009 Season and pickup your handbook. Since Swimsuit designs are only available for two years, we are looking at new suits for 2009. We intend on having a representative from our swimsuit vendor on hand during the Second Session (4:00-6:00pm) for anyone who may need a swimsuit fitting and/or would like to purchase a new suit. Swimmers are welcome to continue to use last year's swimsuit if it still fits.

Keep your eyes peeled for information on our **Annual Spring Fundraiser!!!** We will again be selling Flowers, Bedding Plants, Veggies and Pine Straw Bales. Dates to be Announced **SOON!**

For additional information, please contact Laura Linton at 303-9003 or dlinton@ncdotrr.com. Or visit our website at www.charlestonvillage.org/hoa/ct/swimteam to download forms.

Pool Committee News

The pool committee is excited to announce that they are currently working on plans to update the pool. In the upcoming months, the pool will be drained, replastered, repaired and new tiling will be installed. There will be other maintenance issues handled as well at this time. It is our goal to have our pool looking like new for

the start of the upcoming swim season. We are still looking for members to join our committee. If interested contact Maggie Ingram at mandkgc@aol.com or Elizabeth Schmedding at schmeds@earthlink.net. Feel free to contact us with questions or concerns at any time.

Communications Committee

Spring Cleaning this Winter?

After the winter holidays, do you find that you suddenly have more "stuff" than you know what to do with? Post what you no longer want or need for sale in the *Classifieds* in the [CharlestonVillage.org](http://www.CharlestonVillage.org) online forum

Have Something To Say?

Post what's on your mind in the *General Discussion*

Visit us at www.CharlestonVillage.org

section in the [CharlestonVillage.org](http://www.CharlestonVillage.org) online forum. You will find everything from community issues to discussions about sports teams and music.

Job Networking?

Look for support, ideas, contacts for your job hunt from your neighbors. See who else is interested in networking in the *Interest Lists* section of the forum.

Cub Scouts—Is it right for your son?

Cub Scouting means, "doing." Everything in Cub Scouting is designed to have the boys doing things. Activities are used to achieve the aims of Scouting—citizenship training, character development, and personal fitness. Many of the activities happen right in the den and pack. The most important are the den meetings and the monthly pack meetings.



Apart from the fun and excitement of Cub Scout activities, the Cub Scout Promise, the Law of the Pack, and the Cub Scout sign, handshake, motto, and salute all teach good citizenship and contribute to a boy's sense of belonging. Picking a Pack that is right for you should involve a couple of things; first, you need to look at the nights of the week the Pack's have the monthly pack meeting. If that night does not work for your family,

find one that does. Second, look at the proximity to your house. Most den meetings are 2-3 times a month. Some meet in houses, others meet at the place of sponsorship like a church, school, or hall. You want the meeting place to be convenient to your house. Lastly, visit several Pack Meetings to see which Pack fits your style. Cub Scouting is an adult child partnership, so moms, grandparents, or another adult can be your child's adult sponsor who attends den meetings and pack meetings.



If you are interested in Cub Scouting please contact Wanda Hanley 303-5863 or log on to the District Homepage at www.ocscouts.org/home.html and read more information and they can provide you with Pack's near our neighborhood.

Neighborhood Directories



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.

There has also been interest in other directories, in particular pet sitting, house sitting and lawn care. The communications committee will start gathering information for these lists as well.

If you are interested in getting a copy of one of the lists, getting your name on one of the lists, or have any questions, you can email [Cveditor](mailto:Cveditor@charlestonvillage.org) at charlestonvillage.org or call MaryAnn Gunshefski at 303-9348.

Lists to be available:

- ⇒ *Babysitters*
- ⇒ *Pet sitters*
- ⇒ *House sitters*
- ⇒ *Lawn Care (mowing, edging etc)*



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 Michelle Pierzga via email: Michelle.Pierzga at charlestonvillage dot org. 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!

Looking for a Girls Night Out? Think BUNCO!



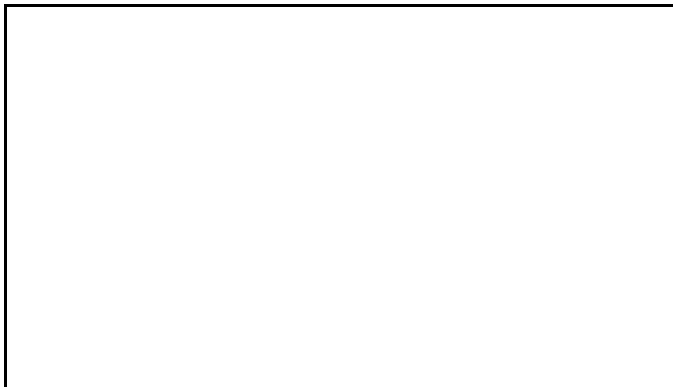

Combine dice, food, drink and great conversation — that's what Bunko night is all about! The neighborhood bunko group meets at 7:00 pm on the 2nd Tuesday of every month in the clubhouse. Although we have 12 'permanent'

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 dot rr dot com or 303-8338.

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 at charlestonvillage. Dot org](mailto:Cveditor@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*



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