



# THE KNOLLS NEWS

WINSTON KNOLLS CIVIC ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 2893

SPRINGFIELD, VA 22152

Sharing News of Common Interest

February 2011



Find us on  
**Facebook**

and at [www.winstonknolls.net](http://www.winstonknolls.net)!

## Winston Knolls

Winston Knolls Civic Association membership is voluntary and offered to each of our 489 homes. We sponsor civic minded events and promote and protect the well being of our neighborhood!

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**Mark Your Calendar and Check [www.winstonknolls.net](http://www.winstonknolls.net) for calendar updates!**

Feb 1 – Membership drive begins  
March 9 - WKCA Board meeting  
March 15 – Spring Newsletter Deadline  
May 7 - Yard Sale  
May 11 – WKCA Board Meeting  
May 14 - Dumpster Day

### ..... **Website Resource for WKCA**

Check [www.winstonknolls.net](http://www.winstonknolls.net) for regular updates on community events and news of importance to Winston Knolls residents. Bookmark the site and check back regularly!

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The Knolls News is a periodic publication of the Winston Knolls Civic Association, and is distributed free to all 489 homes in the community. Classified advertisements are free to members of the Civic Association. Business advertisements are also available for a fee. We encourage you to use our advertisers, and expect that you will do your own research before employing persons to work on your home or property. For information on any article or on WK advertising rates, please contact Stephanie Pettoni, at 703-644-0240 or at [jpettoni@verizon.net](mailto:jpettoni@verizon.net).

## Annual WKCA Membership Drive - Your Form Enclosed!

*Membership Drive February 1 – March 30  
Dues still just \$15!*

Open this newsletter and pull out the 2011 WKCA Membership form enclosed – we need you to renew your membership! The WKCA can continue to provide the services, events and activities we all enjoy **only** through the continued membership of our Winston Knolls residents – both owners and those renting a home here. Be a good neighbor and support our Association! Dues are just \$15/year – a small price with a big return!

Among the activities sponsored by the WKCA are:

- **Neighborhood Watch** – every weekend...patrolling our neighborhood and notifying residents when something is amiss.
- **Knolls News** – Quarterly – Providing information on WKCA activities, home improvement tips, committee reports, neighborhood news, and more!
- **WKCA Website, Facebook page and Email Updates** – Check out [www.winstonknolls.net](http://www.winstonknolls.net) or find us on Facebook – offering 24/7 access to neighborhood resources and information.
- **Neighborhood Directory** – A wonderful resource that is published biennially. New members this year will receive a 2010 directory. 2012 will be a new directory year.
- **Social Events** – Sponsoring events like the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade Ice Cream Social, Halloween Parade and Party, Oktoberfest Community Picnic, and more.
- **Service** – Twice a year Dumpster Day saves you the time and effort of going to the dump or paying your trash service \$75 for a special pickup.
- **Beautification** – Sponsoring a Cleanup Day in the Spring, planting trees, mowing the Huntsman median and sidewalks throughout the summer, and maintaining the sign area - to help us keep up property values and support the natural beauty around us.
- **Advocacy** – Gathering information on issues of importance to WK residents, sharing it, gathering input, and representing the community when appropriate.

If you are willing to help us with the Membership Drive as a Block Captain for your street, please contact Jennifer Heinz at 703-569-5903. It's a great way to connect with neighbors, and is an easy and quick service to the Association!

**Continued from page 1 - Annual WKCA Membership Drive -**

**The Annual Membership Form is enclosed in this newsletter**, along with a return envelope to send in your form and dues. **The membership drive will run from February 1-March 30.** Even if you decide not to join the WKCA, please update the form and send it in just so your database listing is up to date. You may choose to submit the Directory form online at [winstonknolls.homestead.com](http://winstonknolls.homestead.com), but don't forget to also submit your dues by mail. If you need a new copy of the Annual Membership Form, you can download a copy at [www.winstonknolls.net](http://www.winstonknolls.net) anytime. Join us!!

## **Message from Winston Knolls President – Feb 2011**

Dear Winston Knolls Neighbors and Friends:

Happy New Year! I hope everyone was able to spend some well-deserved time with friends and family over the holidays. Are you all keeping your New Year's Resolutions?

This New Year welcomes a few changes for the Winston Knolls Board. As you probably are aware, I have moved from the Secretary position and Susan Guthrie has taken my place. Welcome Sue! We would also like to thank Beth Murray for welcoming new neighbors to the community for the past two years, and greet Kristina Reeves as our new Welcome Wagon Committee Chair. Jennifer Heinz can't seem to get enough of the action, and is assisting the Board with the Membership Drive. We are very grateful for all that Jennifer has done. We can't thank her enough for all the time and energy she has unselfishly devoted to making Winston Knolls a great place to live. She redefined the sense of community, started new traditions and set a precedent for all to follow.

The Audit Committee met in January and has declared that our books are in good order. Many thanks to Jeff Lins and the volunteers who helped with the Audit Committee!

This season, we have managed to dodge two major snowstorms and most of us continue to hope for a much milder winter. The snow that crippled our area last year will not be forgotten for years to come, and the memories that it left are truly something that will last forever. The storm brought so many neighbors out of their homes and we all worked together to dig out our streets. As I write this letter, the news flash crosses the TV screen... "Three to Six Inches of Snow Predicted..." After last year, we can handle that forecast!

Our Membership Drive is in full swing and we hope that you not only join this year, but attend the events that make us such an amazing community. How many other communities have a 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade where your children and grandchildren are the stars of the show? What other communities offer roll off dumpsters for your large trash items not once, but TWICE a year to their members? Have you been to our newest event, Oktoberfest? Do you notice in the summer that the median in Winston Knolls on Huntsman Blvd is always mowed and our community always looks well manicured? Also, our free Fall Festival is a great time to be had by all with the Cake Walk, Moon Bounce and plenty of goodies and games. All this – within walking distance of your home! The only thing missing is YOU! Please join the Winston Knolls Civic Association in 2011 and participate in all these unforgettable events.

I know 2011 will be a great year for Winston Knolls and I hope to see you around the neighborhood!

**- Oriana Raffle**

# WKCA Annual Membership Form

## January-December 2011 Membership Year

**ANNUAL DUES STILL JUST \$15!**

**Please complete this form and mail it with your fee to WKCA by March 1, 2011.**

Your dues support, among other things, the WKCA website, biennial Directory, *Knolls News*, special events like Dumpster Day, social activities like the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Ice Cream Social, Oktoberfest Picnic, Halloween Parade and Party, our Neighborhood Watch program, community beautification efforts, and more; all to benefit the Winston Knolls community. Join us!

### Resident Information

Name(s) of adult residents (last name, first name(s)) \_\_\_\_\_

Names of children/others in household \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_, Springfield, VA 22153

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Unlisted

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

### Give Back to Your Community

We invite you to get involved with any of the following activities of the Winston Knolls Civic Association. Check any/all that interest you and the committee chairperson of any you check will contact you with more information.

☐ **Neighborhood Watch** – will serve as (mark one or both) \_\_\_\_\_ Patrol \_\_\_\_\_ Base

Email address for scheduling purposes: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **Membership Committee** – help organize the membership drive, coordinate with block captains

☐ **Block Captain** for my block – help during membership drive by visiting neighbors to collect forms.

☐ **Social Committee** – help plan and setup special events

☐ **Hospitality** – bake for, or donate items, for special events like the Halloween Party

☐ **Beautification** – mow WK sign area 1 time during the summer or help during Cleanup Day with gardening

☐ **Public Service Committee** – monitor issues with service providers and report to board/community as needed

☐ **Education Committee** – monitor FCPS issues, upcoming local events, etc. and report to board and community

☐ **Home Improvement Committee** – collect contractor referrals from neighbors, provide articles based on them

☐ **Welcome Wagon** – greet new neighbors and provide local and WKCA information

☐ **Directory/Database Coordinator** – manage existing WKCA member database, produce directory every other year.

**By March 1, please mail this form along with your check for \$15.00, made out to WKCA, to WKCA, PO Box 2893, Springfield, VA 22152. Thank you!**

Do you provide a service, such as babysitting or tutoring? If so, see reverse of this form to get on our WK list!

*For treasurer use – 2011 dues*

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICE PROVIDER DIRECTORY

Interested in letting others know what you can do? The following information will be entered in the community database (maintained by sharib@erols.com) and published in *The Knolls News* as space permits. Information for services provided by adults over 18 may also be listed on the WKCA website. The names of children under 18 will not be listed on the website. Please print your name, age (or "adult") and phone number.

	Name	Age	Phone
Baby sitting:			
Pet-walker/sitter:			
Tutor:			
Lawn care/mowing:			
Seamstress/sewing:			
Music lessons:			
Childcare:			
Odd jobs:			
Other:			

### ***YOU MUST MARK ONE BELOW TO AUTHORIZE YOUR LISTING:***

- ☐ I am an adult and authorize this listing to be included on the WKCA website and in the Winston Knolls newsletter.
- ☐ Service provider is under 18, but I am the parent/guardian and permit this listing with phone number to be printed in the Winston Knolls newsletter. \_\_\_\_\_  
*parent signature required here*
- ☐ Do not print my listing; just keep it available to be provided to neighbors when they make a request directly to the WKCA database manager.

**Check below if you would like information on either or both of these other neighborhood groups:**

☐ WK Home and Garden Club

☐ WK Breakfast Club

**This form may also be submitted online at  
<http://winstonknolls.homestead.com/survey.html>,  
but dues must be paid by mail.**

## **Your Neighborhood Watch – Be Part of It!**

Whether you know it or not, the WK Neighborhood Watch program and volunteers are working for YOU every weekend. This program has been extremely successful over the years and relies on the willingness of many of our WK neighbors to do **one patrol a year** on a weekend evening. But every program must evolve and so the Neighborhood Watch is now evolving to adopt some new procedures – most significantly, the use of email and an online calendar to schedule volunteers for patrols.

If you're new to Neighborhood Watch, or have volunteered with the Watch for years, please read on to learn about the **updated** Neighborhood Watch – and then use your WKCA membership form to indicate your interest in participating as a Patrol or Base/Watch Captain. No experience is necessary – training is provided.

**What is the Neighborhood Watch Program?** Simply put, its neighbors watching out for each other's property. This is a tested method of deterring crime and has been well supported by our community over the years. In Winston Knolls, it's traditionally been a team of three members working on Friday and Saturday evenings between 9:00pm and 12:00 midnight to provide a mobile PATROL (two people) in the neighborhood to report any suspicious activity to the BASE (1 person), who may alert the police, the owner(s) at the address of the activity, or both. Either the patrol or base can log time, location, and notes of events in the Patrol Log.

**How is my Watch assignment scheduled?** In past years, we had four NW Team Leaders, and the volunteers who signed up for the Watch were divided between these four Leaders. Team Leaders had to cover one weekend a month and would use phone calls (primarily) to schedule volunteers for patrols and base. We are now transitioning to an email and online calendar system that will alert our volunteers that the calendar is out and ask them to go to the calendar and select a date for their patrol. We believe this will be a far more efficient and effective method of scheduling; reducing phoning and allowing ALL of our volunteers access to each weekend, instead of just a quarter of the group. We expect the calendar to be posted quarterly for signups. Email reminders will be sent a week before your selected patrol date. Our Neighborhood Watch Coordinator will manage the scheduling process. Anyone preferring phone contact can indicate that at signup and your contact will be made over the phone.

**What does the Patrol do?** The Patrol is always 2 people. That can be 2 people who wish to serve together, such as a husband and wife, 2 neighbors, or a parent and responsible teenage son or daughter. (This is a great way to get some service hours for school, scouts or youth groups!) Volunteers can also be paired up and get to know someone new. The Patrol members pick up their patrol materials – maps, clipboard, spotlight, signs for the car, patrol log – from the Base/Watch Captain, and receive an update on any Watch alerts or special things to watch or look for during the patrol. Contact information is exchanged. A new Watch volunteer will always be trained by the Watch Captain prior to going out, or paired with an experienced volunteer. The Patrol then drives the neighborhood, calling in to the Watch Captain (Base) as needed. Most patrols are routine, but in the event of real emergency the Patrol should first call 911, then call the Base, and then note in the patrol log any details they can obtain from a safe distance. **WE DO NOT GET OUT OF THE VEHICLE OR CONFRONT ANYONE.** Your role as a Patrol is simply to call in suspicious activity – we allow the police to investigate it. At the end of the Patrol, all materials are returned to the Base.

**What does the Base/Watch Captain do?** Instead of Team Leaders, we will now maintain a group of at least 8 regular Base volunteers who will serve as Base (now referred to as Watch Captain) for the patrols approximately 5-6 weekends/year. These Watch Captains will be able to schedule their weekends in advance to avoid conflicts with other commitments, and will be informed of those working their Patrols from the online calendar. The Watch Captain will send out the Patrol, providing the materials, training, and any needed Watch alerts, and then will serve as Base while the Patrol is out. Should the Patrol call in with a report of an open garage door or broken street lights, the Base will take note and make any needed phone calls to alert the affected neighbor. The Base/Watch Captain will collect back all the Patrol materials at the end of the night and then provide a brief report of the weekend activity to the NW Coordinator.

This is a great way for someone who is not comfortable driving at night, has small children at home, or does not wish to serve as a Patrol volunteer, to participate in the program and perform an important role for our community. If you tend to be home watching DVD's or playing with the kids on weekend evenings, you could do that AND serve the community in this role. The role of Base/Watch Captain could even be performed by a responsible teenager for service hours, provided it was overseen by a parent who is present during the Patrol.

**How can I help?** The continued success of this program does require at least 100 active volunteers each year, so please join up on the directory/membership form in this newsletter. Indicate your preference as Patrol or Watch Captain/Base. If you have any questions or want more information before you sign up, please contact Bob Hinson, NW Coordinator, at [rjka@cox.net](mailto:rjka@cox.net) or by phone at 703-451-6430. Thank you for your support of this important neighborhood program.

**--Bob Hinson, NW Coordinator**

## From the Home Improvement Desk...

The winter weather has been hard on trees in our Winston Knolls neighborhood. If you have trees that have been damaged or need to be removed or trimmed, a neighbor has had good luck with Brennan's Tree Service. Don Drees of Grass Valley Court used this company to trim several trees in his yard. He called Brennan's and talked to Shane Martin, 703-677-2303/04. Don was impressed with Shane's knowledge and advice, thought the price was reasonable, and hired the company to do the work. He was very pleased with the results, and would hire them again.

Another neighbor shared that he used A+ Heating and A.C. Co. for his heating/air conditioning, and reports "good workmanship". A+ can be reached at 703-941-7143.

Recently I've had calls asking for a referral for an electrician. Has anyone used an electrician or electrical company that they were pleased with? Let me know!



Lastly...I received a call a few weeks ago from a neighbor concerned with the sudden phenomenon of water in her basement. Her 35 year old house had never before had a wet basement, so she was puzzled...and worried. While we were working on finding a basement water-problem solver, she and her husband took a closer look at the basement. Something had changed...recently...and to their great surprise (and relief) they discovered that their brand-new furnace was leaking! A call to the installer revealed that some of the parts had been put in incorrectly. Not good. The parts were replaced and re-installed...and the water problem 'evaporated'. The moral of the story: when you have a problem, ask yourself "What has changed?" Sometimes the answer is there all along.

**-Roz Johnson, Home Improvement Chair**

## Spotlighting BGR (The *Burger Joint*)...

I don't care much for red meat. I can walk away from a rib eye steak without a second glance. But occasionally I get hungry for a hamburger. A real hamburger, not one from McDonald's or Burger King. So I was happy to see *The Burger Joint* coming to the Whole Foods Shopping Center. I'm not exactly sure what the name of that shopping center is, but *The Burger Joint* is located between Washington Sport Club- where you can burn off the extra calories before consuming the hamburger - and Whole Foods, whose healthy lifestyle will try to pull you away from *The Burger Joint*.

This eatery does not open until Friday Jan. 28th, so I was not able to give it a taste test before this edition of WK newsletter went to press. But the menu looks very interesting. In addition to standard french fries made with thick cut Yukon Gold Potatoes, they offer sweet potato fries and asparagus spears grilled and sprinkled with parmesan cheese. They have several varieties of burgers all served on a fresh toasted buttery brioche bun. They also have freshly ground and seasoned turkey burgers. In addition to sodas and milkshakes, they carry beer and half bottles of wine. They have a small area for dine in and eventually hope to offer delivery. So although I can't personally vouch for the taste of these burgers, I am definitely going to get there next week to find out first hand if this new eating place is a keeper. I'll let you know.

**- Carolyn Rapoza**



## Welcome Wagon - Round Up Your Neighbors

If you have a new neighbor move in on your street, please send an e-mail to **Kristina Reeves** so she can "Welcome" them to Winston Knolls!

Please send an e-mail with their address to [welcomewagon@winstonknolls.net](mailto:welcomewagon@winstonknolls.net).

