

Fall 2003 Newsletter



From the President: Signs of Commitment

I regret to inform you that the City of Greensboro has denied our request for funding of the SWNA sign restoration project. After many phone calls, much impatience, and a little bit of consternation, I received word in July that we should not expect our grant request to be funded.

Although this door has closed, I stand firm in my belief that sign restoration is our absolute best first step to preserve the character of our neighborhood. The current signs are rotted, infested, and falling apart – what does that say to everyone who enters our community from the outside? That is not the message we need to send our guests.

Because of the importance of this project, the SWNA board and I believe that we must begin to raise the funds for this project from within the neighborhood. Although many have sent donations (THANK YOU!), we need to raise a total of \$10,600 in additional funds. That seems like a big task, but I am convinced that we can do it.

Remember, there is strength in numbers. To raise these funds in a timely manner, we will need to get organized and get to work. The first planning meeting for fundraising will begin at the **SWNA Annual Meeting on September 15 at 6:30 PM at Christ Fellowship Church** on Stanley Road. Please come to this meeting if you are also concerned about the restoration of our signs. Pizza, drinks, and childcare will be provided – see details below. I hope to see you all there.

Chris Conrad, President

First Ever Neighborhood Summit!

The newly-formed Greensboro Neighborhood Congress will be holding the first annual Greensboro Neighborhood Summit on October 10-11 at the Special Events Center of the Greensboro Coliseum. Come and enjoy a dinner on Friday evening and learn how to improve our neighborhood by attending four of the break-out sessions scheduled for Saturday. Registration is \$25, which includes dinner. The first 20 neighbors to send their registrations to the SWNA treasurer, will receive a \$10 reimbursement from the SWNA. Make checks payable to The Greensboro Neighborhood Congress, Inc. and send with registration form to Donna Guinard at 1602 Pepper Hill Road. See registration form attached to this newsletter.

Annual Meeting Notice

The SWNA will be holding its **Annual Meeting on September 15 at 7:00 PM at Christ Fellowship Church** on Stanley Road and come early at 6:30 p.m. for pizza. Most important on the agenda will be discussion and planning for sign restoration fundraising. The amount of people attending this meeting will be a gauge for me to assess the importance of the sign project to you. If you believe this project is valuable, then please make every effort to come.

Also on the agenda will be a question and answer session by a representative from the Greensboro Department of Transportation (GDOT). Many neighbors expressed concerns about traffic in the spring surveys, and this is our attempt to get the answers straight from GDOT.

We also plan to have *our* school board representative, **Marty Sykes** explain the school construction bond referendum. Come and find out how this might affect what school your children will be attending and why the School Board thinks the money is needed, as well as provide your opinions on the bond and redistricting.

Since we are providing food for the meeting, please RSVP with Donna Guinard at 852-8791 by 12:00 noon on September 15, the day of the meeting. Childcare is provided, however you must call Natalie Conrad at 854-4363 by September 13 *with the number of children attending* to ensure we get enough care providers. **SEE YOU THERE!**

2003 SWNA Board

President
Chris Conrad
854-4363

Treasurer
Donna Guinard
852-8791

Secretary
Scottie King
294-3662

At-large members

Steve Moore
875-1991

Scott Edelman
852-7375

2003 SWNA **Committee Chairs**

Distribution
Steve Moore
875-1991

Membership
Donna Guinard
852-8791

Crimewatch
Chris Conrad
854-4363

Zoning
Peter Kauber
852-8791

Open: Schools,
Parks, Traffic

Neighbors Gather at the Park.

Many of the Beechcroft, Hickory Trace, and Oaks West families gathered in July for Sundaes on Sunday and in August for National Night Out. If you missed these events this year, be sure to attend them next summer!

At Sundaes on Sunday the children frolicked at the park with sticky hands and smiling faces. As they climbed and swung, the adults enjoyed conversation at picnic tables under the shade. This was a truly sweet event.

At the National Night Out, even with threatening rain clouds, many brave families trekked to the park for hot dogs grilled by Chef Peter Kauber. Many police visited our event, but Fire Station #10 stole the show by winning the water balloon toss and by operating their new truck's longggggg extension boom. It appeared that all experienced a good time.

Neighborhood Cleanup

Each year tons (literally tons) of garbage is littered onto the ground around the world. We hear so often that we should not pollute and that we should recycle, but sometimes it is difficult to do the right thing. What would happen if none of us took responsibility recycle or clean up after the litterbugs of the world? Do you know how long it takes for things to bio-degrade? I have an interesting list of "trash stats" that make you reconsider littering and not taking the time to recycle:

Orange peels	up to 2 years	Plastic film containers	20-30 years
Cigarette butts	5-10 years	Leather	up to 50 years
Plastic bags	10-20 years	Tin cans	50 years
Aluminum cans and tabs	500 years	Glass bottles	1000 years
Plastic bottles and Styrofoam INDEFINITELY!!			

Please help us clean up our neighborhood and park on **Saturday, September 27 at 10:00 a.m.** We will meet at the park, trash bags will be provided. You only need to bring yourself and maybe some work gloves. This will be a great opportunity for volunteers to gain a rewarding feeling knowing that they have made our neighborhood just a little bit cleaner and greener!

SWNA Fall Yard Sale

September 20

Sponsored by
Tom Alexander
Re/Max of Greensboro

You will need to contact Tom with your name and address by September 19 to have a directional sign to your home the morning of the yard sale.

Call 346-1252

After Yard Sale Cleanup

If you have items that you could not sell at the neighborhood sale you may be interested in donating your leftovers to the Viet Nam Veterans. They will come to your house and yard pick up household goods such as clothes and shoes, kitchen wares and furniture (no mattresses). All donations need to be in good condition. If you are interested the Vietnam Vets will be in our area on September 25. You can call them directly or call Sara Brennan-Harrell at 339-4944 to be added to the pick up list. Please call by September 23 to reserve pick up. If you have large items that are not suitable for donation you can call the Greensboro Sanitation Department at 373-2035 to arrange disposal of large items.

SWNA 2004 Membership Form

Joining the SWNA is simple. Just fill out this membership form and write a check for \$10, made out to Southwest Neighborhood Association. Forms and the check can be mailed to: Donna Guinard, 1602 Pepper Hill Road, Greensboro, NC 27407.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

- Interests: Traffic Special events Yard sales
 Parks Schools Zoning
 SWNA board Crime watch Other (specify)

SWNA Donation for the Sign Replacement Fund

Tax Deductible
Mail: Donna Guinard,
1602 Pepper Hill Road,
Greensboro, NC 27407

Name _____
Address _____

Enclosed is my donation of
_____ \$100.00 _____ \$ 75.00
_____ \$ 50.00 _____ \$ 25.00
_____ Other _____