

Winter 2008 Newsletter

March 2008



From the President:



First of all, I want to take the occasion to introduce myself. It is an honor to serve such a great neighborhood, and together, I am sure we can make it even better.

My name is Greg Clark; I have had the pleasure to live with my family on Granada Lane for about 8 years now. The neighborhood has been good to my family and me. I thought it was time I gave a little something back.

SWNA, (South West Neighborhood Association, or “Swanna”), is not like most associations. Most govern things from the color of your home to how tall your grass can be! Here, there are no annoying architectural review boards, mandatory dues, and nobody telling you if you can put up a fence or not. Yes, we do have dues but ours are small, only \$10.00 per year and strictly voluntary.

SWNA is a not-for-profit organization that exists solely for the betterment of the neighborhood as a whole. We exist to give all who live in the area a strong collective voice as to what goes on here and can accomplish many things. We know that one voice will not readily be heard but many voices will be taken more seriously and can accomplish many things. One major thing we accomplished is to replace the damaged, plywood signs with new brick signs at each entrance. We have even been before the City council as a strong voice in past zoning issues that can affect us all.

As well as being a voice of strength, we are a voice of security. When neighbors do not know each other, it makes it much easier for thieves to break into our homes any time of the day.

We exist to give our area a feeling of cohesiveness and pride we wouldn't have otherwise. Do we want to be just a group of houses in one area or do we want to be a community? Our goal is the latter. Does that sound good to you? Personally, I have had the pleasure of meeting some of my closest friends who happened to live right on my street! It is a blessing to say hi to not just people we live near but friends who look after one another. That is why SWNA is here - to help facilitate. We cannot do it alone. We need you. We need members and we need leaders to help us achieve our goal of community.

We also exist to have fun. We usually have a few major events in that bring everyone out from behind the “tube” to actually talk to one another. That is where you come in. Why? Because without you, events could not happen. That is where your membership counts. Membership is not a requirement for participation, but, without it, the events would not happen.

I close in asking that each and every household become a member in SWNA. The dues are only \$10 a year, and together, we can have a great community and some fun too! The first event is the Easter egg hunt at the park. You can join by mailing in the stub on this newsletter or by dropping it by the hunt. Together, we can make this a better community for all!

Thanks and God Bless,
Greg Clark

2008 SWNA Board

President
Greg Clark
580-2295

Treasurer
Jim Wooten
xxx-xxxx

Secretary
Tami Titchner
855-7697

At-large members
?

2008 SWNA Committee Chairs

Open:
Distribution,
Membership,
Crimewatch,
Zoning,
Schools, Parks,
Traffic

Membership Drive:

It is time to bring life back into SWNA. SWNA has been a strong voice for the Beechcroft, Hickory Trace, and Oaks West neighborhoods for many years. SWNA has provided neighborhood events (Easter Egg Hunt, National Night Out), sign renovations, zoning issues, and DH Griffin issues to name a few. Membership Cost is only \$10.00 for the year (September 2007 – September 2008). SWNA needs you for committee leaders (Community Watch, Zoning, Welcome, DH Griffin, Membership, Newsletter Distribution, Parks), event coordinators (National Night Out, others?), volunteers at events, and members. Join us and meet your neighbors!

SWNA 2008 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: Jim Wooten 1300 Granada Lane, Greensboro, NC 27407. **Become a member today!**

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

Interests: Traffic Yard sales Special events Membership
 Parks Schools Zoning Newsletter Distribution
 SWNA board Crime watch Welcome Committee Other (specify)

Events for 2008!

To start this year's events off, we'll be having the annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 16 at 2:30PM in Oaks West Park (on the corner of Bracyridge Dr. and Creekwood).

Sundaes on Sunday is scheduled to be held this year on Sunday, June 22 from 3:00-4:00 PM at the park. At this event, SWNA will buy several half-gallons of ice cream to share in the heat of summer. Please bring a topping to share.

Expect a nice gathering at Oaks West Park for National Night Out on August 5 at 6:30 until about 8:30 pm. We plan to have an equipment display by the Fire Department along with visits from local police and fire officials. There will be games and a cookout, and SWNA will be providing the hotdogs and drinks. People whose last names begin with a letter from A-M, please bring a dessert to share. Those from N-Z, please bring a side dish or chips. There is fun for everybody, so walk on over!

Our SWNA Annual Meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 22 at 7:00 pm, at Seacoast Church, 2317 Stanley Rd.

We can always use volunteers, so if you would like to volunteer for any of these events, please contact Greg Clark at 580-2295.

Community Watch:

Community Watch is defined as a "Crime Prevention Program that enlists the active participation of citizens in cooperation with law enforcement to reduce crime and victimization in their communities." The basic structure of a Community Watch involves a Watch Captain, Block Captains, and members. The Community Resource Officer (CRO) holds monthly meetings with the Community Watch "delegates" of Western GSO at the Swing Road Police facility – anyone is welcomed to attend. More information on Greensboro Community Watch program can be found online under www.greensboro-nc.gov/departments/Police/Citizens.

Community Watch improves neighborhood awareness and helps neighbors to get to know each other. In the past several SWNA streets have formed Community Watches. John Marshal and I would like to start a Community Watch on the Creekwood/Pennoak circle. If you would like to be a member, please contact: Tami Titchner @855-7697 or John Marshal @292-2275. For all other SWNA residents interested in either starting or participating in a Community Watch on their street, please contact me or any other of the board members and we will get you started. Get involved in helping our neighborhood stay safe.