

A letter from our MECA Board president:

One change that I have noticed in our membership over the years is the wide spread belief that our association acts as another form of local government body. While it is true that we enforce some rules through our Covenants, these are tightly regulated by the Virginia Property Owners' Association Act; and can be changed rather easily by a straightforward vote of the membership. Indeed there have been changes proposed almost every year at the annual meeting.

I prefer to think of MECA as a cooperative owned collectively by its 230 members for our own benefit. Each homeowner owns approximately .4% (1/230) of the assets of the association, including its common ground and recreational amenities such as the playground. As a part owner, you should want a say in how your association operates. You should want to become active in the association, either by running for the Board of Directors, or serving on a committee. Your involvement is important, as you *will* be bound by all decisions of the association and the board of directors. At the very least, you should plan to attend the annual meeting in June, just to check on your ownership share.

-Jim Zavrel

Community Events

MECA June 2015 Annual Homeowners' Meeting

Location: Fox Mill Elementary School, 2601 Viking Drive, Herndon, VA

Date: Monday, June 8, 2015

Time: 7:00 p.m.

The Monterey Estates community is subject to the provisions of the Virginia Property Owners' Association Act. Living in a community association carries with it certain rights, responsibilities and benefits.

Each year the annual meeting is held to review the activities of the association, discuss issues of interest to all members of the community and select new members to serve on the board of directors. Your involvement is important, as you will be bound by all decisions of the association and the board of directors. Therefore, every homeowner in the community is encouraged to attend the annual meeting, or give your voting proxy to another member in attendance. Each member of the association is entitled to one (1) vote on community issues.

MECA Spring Clean-up

Saturday, May 9 from 8am-12pm is our annual Monterey Estates Community Association Garage Sale. We will advertise in local publications. There is no donation site this year, so please do not bring items to the park.

Earth Day Recycling Project

MECA is proud to have worked with local Life Scout Matthew Scherger on his recycle drive to celebrate Earth Day. Matthew collected *17 truckloads* of recyclables, and it wouldn't have been possible without the help of our neighbors here in Monterey Estates.

MECA SOCIAL SAVE THE DATES

*MECA's first annual Fun Run will take place on Saturday, June 20th at 9am. More details will be provided via e-mail and Facebook in the next few weeks.

*MECA's annual fall cookout will be held on Saturday, September 12th!

The Monterey Estates Newsletter

Did you know that it costs the association nearly \$1,000 annually to distribute the MECA newsletter by mail? Help us reduce this cost by choosing email-only delivery. If you would like to opt-in for email-only delivery, please send an email with your name and mailing address to: mecaboard@gmail.com and tell us that you prefer email-only delivery of the MECA newsletter.

MECA Neighborhood Watch

The MECA Neighborhood Watch is set up as a passive organization. The Community has not had the level of crime, and consequently the impetus, to justify an active organization. By active, we mean walking or vehicular patrols with communication devices, uniforms, rosters with patrol assignments, etc. The structure of the organization consists of a Coordinator supported by Block Captains. The current areas of Block Captain responsibility are depicted on the map, dated 1/17/15, on the MECA website.

The function of the Coordinator is to interface with the Reston District Station (County Police Force for our area) and the MECA Community in support of the MECA Board of Directors. The Coordinator represents the Community, on behalf of the Board, with the Reston District Station Commander and staff. The Coordinator facilitates the flow of information between the police and the Community and between the Community and the police.

The Block Captains are key members of this volunteer organization in that they know all of the neighbors in their Block and their Block neighbors know them and what their function is. The Block Captain maintains contact information for all Block neighbors, and vice-versa, so that a Block communication network is in place to rapidly disseminate information to and from the Block Captain. The Block Captains and the Coordinator maintain the same type of communication network for the same reason. *Continued on page 4*

Continued from page 3

All MECA neighbors are encouraged to stay mentally alert for any potential crime situation. If anything appears amiss, he/she should get a description of the situation that will help clearly define the situation and immediately contact the police. Routine or non-life-threatening situations are reported to 703-691-2131; life threatening situations are reported to 911. Do not involve yourselves in trying to resolve the situation---that is what the police are for. The police want you to call them rather than not call them. They would rather prevent something than have to deal with the aftermath of a crime. A neighbor would not want to live with something they could have prevented if they had only made the call. After notifying the police, the neighbor immediately notifies the Block Captain, who, in turn notifies the Coordinator. The Coordinator assesses whether reports indicate it is a Community problem or a Block problem. The other Block Captains and the Board are notified for information purposes. The Block Captains notify their respective neighbors and assess any feedback. Information flows back and forth as necessary to address the situation.

Block Captains have crime prevention information available for neighbors, or can get it. Neighbors can access the County websites for Public Safety and Reston District Station information. Monthly meetings are held at the Reston District Station for Neighborhood Watch discussions and Citizen Advisory Committee discussions. These meetings are open to anyone interested in what is going on in the Reston District with respect to crime prevention.

The best things we all can do is report anything unusual to the police and keep our property, home and vehicles, secure. Keep your home and vehicle doors and windows locked. Keep the exterior of your property well illuminated at night. Take appropriate action when you are not at home for an extended period with your neighbor's assistance. Crime prevention is common sense and attention to detail. Please contact me if you have any questions and I'll try to answer them. If you live in an area without a Block Captain and would like to volunteer, please contact me.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all current Block Captains for volunteering to make their Community a safer and better place to live.

-Rick Foelsch, Coordinator, MECA Neighborhood Watch

Architectural Control Committee (ACC) By Dennis Fisher

As the spring season approaches please keep in mind the MECA ACC guidelines regarding storage and parking of recreational/commercial vehicles in our community:

Storage of Boats, Trailers, Campers, Mobile Homes & Commercial or Recreational Vehicles defined as

1. Any boat or boat trailer.
2. Any motor home or other self-contained camper.
3. Any camper slip-ons where the camper backs are higher than the roof line of the cab of the truck.
4. Any mobile home, trailer or fifth wheel trailer.
5. Any pop-up camp/tent trailer or other similar recreation oriented portable or transportable facility or conveyance.
6. Any other vehicle not defined above which could not normally or regularly be used for daily transportation including dune buggies or non-operative automobile collections or other automotive equipment not licensed for use on the highways of Virginia.

No recreational vehicle may be parked or stored in open view on residential property, public or private streets, or on open space. These vehicles require screening if they are to be parked on a homeowner's property. The screening plan must be submitted for approval by the ACC and must meet the pertinent requirements of the applicable criteria for fences, sheds, or major additions.

Community Advertisements

Babysitter/Mommy's Helper:

Do you have kids and need a break? I am a responsible and enthusiastic babysitter. I am very reliable. Call 703-391-1759 and ask for Katie.

Our community newsletter, the Monterey Madness, is published quarterly. We are now accepting classified advertisements. The rates areas follows:

- Advertisers aged 16 and under: ads are free and good for a year.
- Advertisers over age 16: \$5 for five lines of ad; business cards are \$25, ads are good for one issue.
- Community groups are free.

Contact Jennifer Wagner at jenjwagner@yahoo.com if you would like to place an ad.

Important Local Information Sources

Fairfax County Police Department on the web: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police

Helicopter information: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/helicopter

Police Incident Mapping: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/policeevents

Police Blog: <http://fcpdnews.wordpress.com>

Volunteers Needed for Community Special Projects

The Monterey Estates Community Association is run entirely by volunteers from within our community. As the saying goes, “**Many hands make light work.**” We encourage you to join. If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact Jim Zavrel at zavmail@verizon.net. Thank you!

Community Picnic Committee: The board is looking for members to join the Community Picnic committee that will be in charge of organizing community picnic or block parties. Please contact Carrie Mendelsohn and Cameron Eckhardt at mecahoasocial@gmail.com.

Block Captains – Monterey Estates Drive West End & New Parkland Dr West End: We need a resident of Monterey Estates Drive and a resident of New Parkland Dr. (west ends). The Block Captain serves as the crucial link between the Neighborhood Watch organization and the individual residents. The person will disseminate information relating to the safety of our neighborhood residents to the people on his/her block. Please contact Rick Foelsch at foelsch@verizon.net.

If you have any ideas for community events that you would like to coordinate, please let us know. Last summer we had a great children’s tennis class, as well as an adult running program, both run by MECA residents.

Easy Bins for all your dumpster needs!

Easy Bins is a family owned and operated dumpster rental company located in Woodbridge, VA. We specialize in driveway-sized, roll-off dumpsters. We are fast, efficient and reliable. Our pricing is guaranteed to match any national company and we are green. www.easy-bins.com

MECA Neighborhood Watch

Coordinator: Rick Foelsch 703-787-0645

Block Captains

Lyme Bay Drive

Lori Goll 703-435-3890

Monterey Estates Drive

Patti Mietla 703-435-2701

West end vacant

New Ambler Court

Pat Cosimi 703-689-3953

New Arden Court

Jack Eller 703-471-6232

New Aspen Court

Rose McIntyre 703-318-0741

New Austin Court

Christina & Robin Beach 703-471-1924

New Banner Lane

Richard & Sara Raines 481-5689

John & Amy Persil 742-3612

Terry Geffert 437-8644

New Belmont Court

Ron Ulle 703-796-0147

New Concorde Court

Jim Zavrel 703-435-9221

New Parkland Drive

Ted Stewart 703-742-9334

Jonathan Grinnon 703-945-9184

West end vacant

If you are a New Parkland Drive homeowner, and would like to receive important Neighborhood Watch news (neighborhood incidents, police activity, etc.), please send your email address to Jonathan Grinnon at Jonathan@Grinnon.com.

How to find out about MECA events and news?

Keep current with MECA activities and policies!

MECA webpages and Facebook page are the best way to stay current with what's happening in MECA. Also, join the Monterey Estates email list (see back page for details).

www.MECAHOA.org



<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Monterey-Estates-Community-Association-MECA/217796954905093>

MECA 2015 Board Members:

Position	Name	Address	E-mail	Phone
President	Jim Zavrel	2619 New Concorde Court	zavmail@verizon.net	703.435.9221
Vice President	Paul Osborn	2618 New Banner Lane	pmosborn@gmail.com	
Treasurer	Jonathan Grinnon	12811 New Parkland Dr.	Jonathan@Grinnon.com	703.945.9184
Secretary	Delores Plum	13030 Monterey Estates Drive	mecadplum@gmail.com	
ACC Chair	Dennis Fisher	13043 Monterey Estates Drive	fisherk6@gmail.com	703.437.9003
Member	Paul Shlesinger	13004 New Parkland Dr.	paul.shlesinger@gmail.com	

Mailing Label

Monterey Estates Community Email List

If you haven't already done so, please join the Monterey Estates email list. To join, please send an email to: mecaEmailList@gmail.com, with subject of 'JOIN MECA EMAIL LIST'. The MECA Board would like everyone to join this list to facilitate communication on important issues within the community. If you join, be assured that your email address will not be seen by others, and we will only send out information that is relevant to all residents of our community.