



WILLOW OAKS

Willow Oaks Recreational Association • A Covenant Community

2012 Third Quarter Newsletter

Message from the President

Hello Willow Oaks Residents!

It's HOT HOT HOT in Willow Oaks! I hope you are all managing to stay cool and comfortable as we saunter through the lazy, hazy days of summer. Each year I look forward to the start of summer vacation – since the kids don't have school, I trick myself into believing that we will have a less hectic daily schedule!!! Yes, I dream of a little R & R, two months to unwind and chill a little...and then I wake up. The reality is that I am more on the go with work and kids during the summer than the rest of the year...we just don't have homework!

As President of WORA, I had a similar notion. I thought that once the pool opened, the budget was on track and pool memberships started rolling in, then my responsibilities would ease up...time for a little mental breather! Well, once again, reality kicked in! The fact is that there is so much to do in our neighborhood throughout the year...there really isn't much of a break, just time to change the focus!

Over the next few months, you are going to see some enhancements in the Neighborhood Watch and the Volunteer Coordination programs. These programs are being revamped to improve safety throughout Willow Oaks and to promote communication amongst neighbors. WORA is also in the process of planning more community events in addition to our standard social programs, including a Lowes Do It Yourself evening in the fall. We are working on ways to beautify the neighborhood through grants and tax deductible donations and investigating fundraisers for pool improvements.

To fully move ahead with these programs – we need your support. Currently, our neighborhood membership is at about fifty percent – that is the lowest in years. My interpretation is that half of Willow Oaks is somewhat ambivalent about supporting the neighborhood. That concerns me...greatly. If you pay your membership dues, please let us know what we are doing correctly and if you have not paid your \$50 membership dues, let us know how we can improve to earn your support. Join us in making Willow Oaks the best neighborhood in our area. In the meantime, stay cool, relax and I look forward to seeing you at the pool – or in passing as I am shuffling to another summertime activity!

Sincerely,

Rebecca Francese, President

What's Inside:

Pages 2 & 3 - Board Member Reports

Page 4 - Membership Drive Update

Page 5 - Proposed By-Laws Amendments

Pages 6 & 7 – Pool, Pool, and more Pool!

Pages 8 & 9 - Neighborhood Watch

Page 10 - Volunteer Opportunities

Page 11 - Neighborhood News

Board of Directors

President

Rebecca Francese
537-5401
francese3713@cox.net

Vice President

Pat Cherry
869-0345
tpc4956@cox.net

Treasurer

Lynn Butler
848-1599
plbutler18@gmail.com

Secretary

Richenda Sandlin-Tymitz
(505) 359-1887
richenda_s@hotmail.com

Membership

Melissa Savage
251-2428
melissa@melissasavage.com

Architectural Control

Bob Hudgins
851-3532
jbfrogger1@gmail.com

Grounds

Justin Barrack
532-1241

Social

Jean Manfred
851-6054
rmanfred@cox.net

The WORA Board of Directors meets monthly, usually on the first Tuesday of the month, at 6:30 p.m. in the Willow Oaks Branch Library. WORA members in good standing are welcome to attend any meeting with prior notice to the president.

Board Member Reports

Vice President

Hello Willow Oaks! I'd like to take a moment to introduce myself to all of you. My name is Pat Cherry and I have recently been elected to the post of Vice-President of WORA. I have been a Willow Oaks resident for nearly 18 years and have volunteered at the pool for a good part of that time, performing annual maintenance, repairs and restorations to the facility. I was a lifeguard and pool manager throughout college and have a sound working knowledge of our pool's operations and needs.

The pool has sustained some damage due to a storm a few weeks back that destroyed several umbrellas, chairs and one of our permanently mounted 10' x 20' canopies. We had vandals in our pool after closing that destroyed additional chairs and umbrellas last week. We recently had to replace our diving board as the existing one became unsafe and had to be removed. In the interim, the Pool Manager, David Williams worked his magic and borrowed a diving board from the Wythe Pool and he and Jeff Brady installed the borrowed diving board in the driving rain. I have been investigating ongoing issues that are impacting the operation of the pool such as inoperative underwater pool lights and pump room valves. I plan to obtain estimates and present them to the board for the work that needs to be performed to keep our facility running safely, smoothly and as economically as possible. Due to what appears to be an increase in unauthorized pool access and vandalism at night, I am also looking into installing motion activated security lights to protect our facility and reduce our liability exposure.

I look forward to seeing you at the pool and I welcome any comments, questions or concerns that you may have.

-Pat Cherry

Treasurer

After a lengthy audit process (that came back with no problems), lots of hard work, and *lots* of crunching numbers, the board unanimously approved the 2012 WORA budget. If you have any questions about the budget, please don't hesitate to contact the board. Have a good summer!

-Lynn Butler

Secretary

Hello Willow Oaks! You've probably noticed that this edition of the newsletter is a bit thicker than usual. That's because the WORA board and many dedicated volunteers have been hard at work and we have so much to report. Of particular importance in this newsletter are the proposed amendments to the Willow Oaks Recreational Association By-Laws. Please take some time to review them, as they will be voted on at the next annual meeting in October. Have a wonderful rest of the summer!

-Richenda Sandlin-Tymitz

Board Member Reports

Architectural Control Committee

Since our last newsletter our committee has approved two sheds and three fences. The board has received several complaints about pet waste being left on residents' yards. For more details on this, please see page 11.

-Bob Hudgins

Grounds Committee

Hello Willow Oaks - summer is here. Time for spending time outdoors, walking the beach, and relaxing at our pool. This past quarter we have negotiated a new grounds contract, replanted the main islands on Willow Oaks Blvd, and we are finalizing an action plan for several of the overgrown islands as well as new mulch. Another goal currently in discussion is replacing the marquees on Willow Oaks Blvd. Thanks to all who were able to contribute to the beautification fund. Next quarter we will provide details of the marquees for input as well as funding plans for action.

-Justin Barrack

Social Committee

It is summertime and the pool is looking great. The water is so clear, come on down and enjoy it. Don't forget our late night Fridays, when the pool stays open until 10 pm. The date for July is the 27th. The dates for August are the 10th and the 24th. We will be cooking on those nights, so come hungry.

The teen party will be held on Saturday, July 28, from 7 pm until 11 pm. You must be age 13 thru high school seniors. Please make sure you have a way home because you can't leave the pool until someone comes for you. If you are a member of the pool or a child of a WORA member in good standing (meaning their annual \$50 membership dues are paid for this year) your party entrance fees are free. Guests can enter for \$5. We will be selling a slice of pizza and a drink for \$3. We will also have a teen band play. Also for teens, we now have a summer WORA Teen Book Club. We'll pick a book and meet once a week to discuss. Call Jean to sign up.

Our adult party for WORA will be held on Saturday, August 18 at the pool from 7 pm until 11 pm. It will be free for all WORA members in good standing and adult pool members.

Labor Day will be the last weekend before the pool closes for the season. We will be cooking Saturday night and the pool will stay open until 10 pm. Our pool will close September 3 at 5 pm.

-Jean Manfred

Calendar of Events

Friday Late Night @ the Pool

July 27 • Noon-10 pm

August 10 & August 24 • Noon-10 pm

Enjoy extended pool hours on the second and fourth Fridays in July and August. We'll be grilling burgers and hot dogs for purchase, so come hungry!

Teen Party @ the Pool

Saturday, July 28 • 7-11 pm

Open to teens age 13 through high school seniors. See Jean Manfred's Social Report for all the details.

Adult Party @ the Pool

Saturday, August 18 • 7-11 pm

Look for more details on this popular neighborhood event soon!

Home Swim Meet Schedule

July 26 vs Elizabeth Lakes

Come out and support the Willow Oaks Stingrays! The pool will close at 4 pm for swim meets. If a swim meet has to be rescheduled due to inclement weather, the new date will be posted at the pool.

Want to know more about neighborhood events between newsletters and flyers?
Willow Oaks is online!



We're On Facebook!



You can now find us in two places.

[www.facebook.com/
FriendsofWillowOaks](http://www.facebook.com/FriendsofWillowOaks) &
www.willowoaks.org



Like Us on Facebook

2012 WORA Membership Drive

Let's ALL Pay Our Fair Share

For the last few months I have been informing our Willow Oaks residence how important paying membership is to building our community and maintaining the value of our homes. The message is getting out and about 230, or a little over 50 percent, have stepped up to the plate and paid their membership dues. The Board thanks you for your support. We could not accomplish what we have this year without your financial help.

However, there are almost as many of you who have not paid your dues. As the national political campaigns are heating up, I am reminded of a commonly voiced grievance—that 50 percent of the nation pays for the resources that support the



entire nation. Don't let that happen in our community. Let's ALL pay our fair share.

We want to hear from you. Beginning in August, those who have not yet paid their membership dues will be visited by a WORA representative. If there is a problem, we want to hear about it, to improve the situation. Not

all issues can be fixed immediately—some take volunteers, time and money.

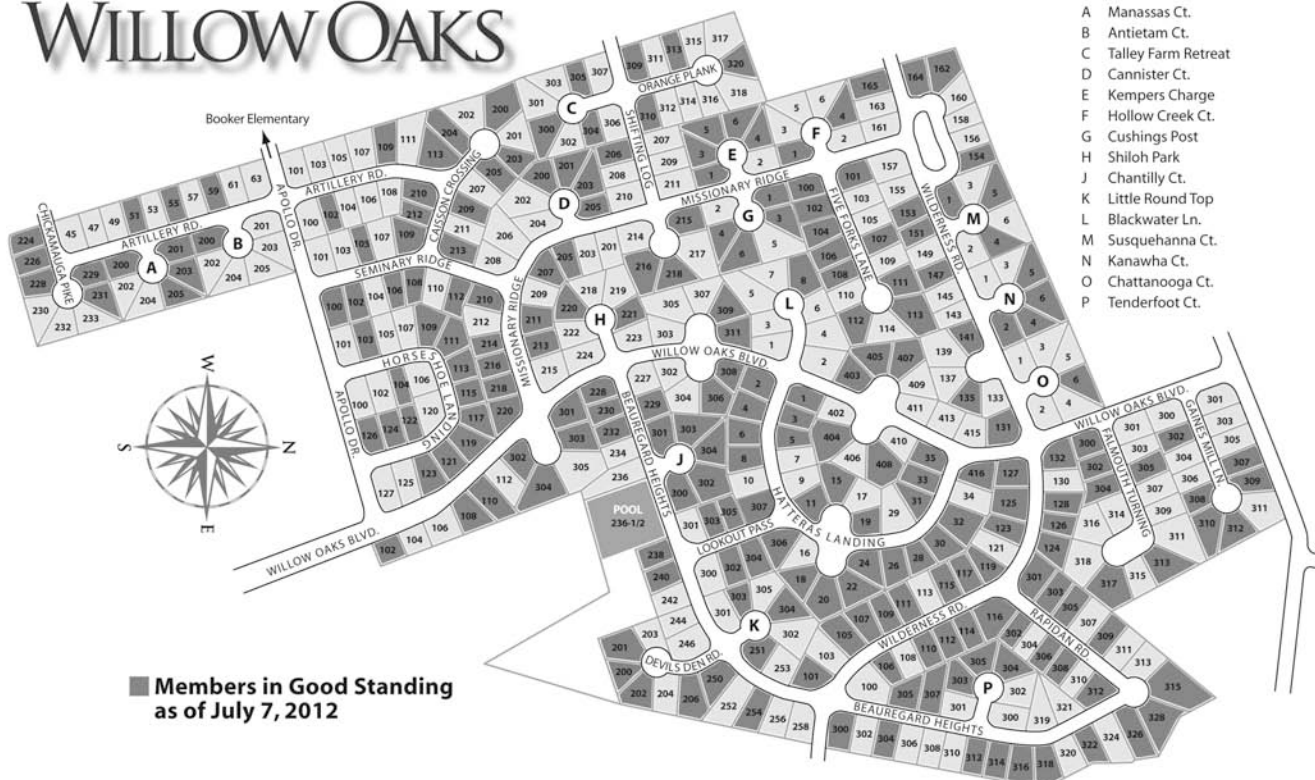
Please consider paying your membership. If you don't have a form, you can go online and download one from www.willowoaks.org, or call or email me and I will be happy to get one to you.

Dues are only \$50 per year, less than a dollar a week. Please help us reach our goal of 100% participation.

-Melissa Savage, Membership Chair
757-251-2428 • melissa@melissasavage.com



WILLOW OAKS



Willow Oaks 2012 By-Laws Proposed Amendments

On June 5, 2012, the board discussed and voted on proposed amendments to the Willow Oaks Recreational Association By-Laws. The motion to accept the three amendments was made by Jean Manfred. Lynn Butler seconded. All board members were in favor.

In order for these changes to be made to the by-laws, the proposed amendments must first be circulated to the members at least 30 days in advance of the annual meeting in October. Our members in good standing at the annual meeting can then vote on the amendments.

Below are the proposed amendments:

Amendment 1:

Full revised copy of the by-laws under the general revision rule as consistent with Robert's Rules. Changes include grammar, formatting, and removing footnotes.

Reason: There are grammar, formatting, and footnote errors in the current by-laws. The board felt the changes were too numerous to make administratively. According to Robert's Rules, "Changes of the bylaws that are so extensive and general that they are scattered throughout the bylaws should be effected through the substitution of an entirely new set of bylaws, called a revision."

Amendment 2:

ARTICLE III, Section 3.b

Class B POOL membership shall consist of members who reside outside of Willow Oaks. The term "member" is defined as the head of the respective household who is responsible for payment of the designated fee. This membership (POOL) shall be contingent upon the payment of an annual fee to be determined by the Board of Directors.

Section currently reads: "Class B POOL membership shall consist of members who reside of Willow Oaks. The term "member" is defined as the head of the respective

household who is responsible for payment of the designated fee. This membership (POOL) shall be contingent upon the payment of an annual fee to be determined by the Board of Directors, to be paid by April, 30th, of each year.

Amendment 3:

ARTICLE VI, Section 3

10 percent of members in good standing of the WORA shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any regular or special meeting.

Section currently reads: "Fifty (50) members in good standing of the WORA shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any regular or special meeting."

ALL proposed changes, including edits made under Amendment 1, can be viewed online at **www.willowoaks.org**. If you cannot access the by-laws online, please call Richenda Sandlin-Tymitz, Secretary, at (505) 359-1887, or Rebecca Francese, President, at 537-5401, and we will provide you with a paper copy. Thank you!

Facelift Completed!

The Willow Oaks website has been completely overhauled and updated with current information! Go to **www.willowoaks.org** and check us out!

The screenshot shows the Willow Oaks website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with tabs for 'Home', 'Swim Team', 'Pool Rules & Guest Policy', 'Pool Rental', and 'Membership'. Below the navigation bar, there is a search bar and a 'Seeking Volunteers' section. The main content area features a '2012 Swimming Pool Operating Hours' table and a 'Pool Management' section. The table lists operating hours for Monday through Friday, with a note that the pool will be closed on June 1st and 2nd. The 'Pool Management' section includes a list of pool rules and a photo of a child swimming.

Day of Week	May 20th to June 10th	June 10th to Sept. 3rd
Monday	8:00 am - 8:00 pm	None - 8:00 pm
Tuesday	8:00 am - 8:00 pm	None - 8:00 pm
Wednesday	8:00 am - 8:00 pm	None - 8:00 pm
Thursday	8:00 am - 8:00 pm	None - 8:00 pm
Friday	8:00 am - 8:00 pm	None - 8:00 pm

Summer Season at the Pool

Willow Oaks Pool - Record Attendance!

On Saturday, May 26 – Willow Oaks Pool opened for the 2012 summer season! The facility was open to the public for the entire weekend and more than 1,100 members and guests enjoyed three days of fellowship and fun in the sun. This Memorial Weekend marked the largest opening recorded at Willow Oaks and it went off without a hitch! Many thanks are extended to our dedicated pool manager, Dave Williams, and his expertly trained and qualified lifeguard staff.

This year, members and guests were treated to some major improvements at the facility. First, the pool, parking lot and grounds looked fantastic – thank you to ALL the volunteers that helped beautify the Pool! Patrons were also able to utilize the newly renovated bathrooms (a big shout out to Luther Gentry and Bob Hudgins for their countless hours of volunteer time, the Willow Oaks Swim Team for their generous contribution, and Kevin Spence for helping the recreational pools in Hampton obtain a City Grant). In addition, numerous colorful umbrellas decorated the pool deck and offered relief from the sun (thank you Ron Williams for providing our members with shade!). The Willow Oaks Swim Team also purchased twenty-five new commercial grade deck chairs for comfort and beautiful flowers were donated and planted to add color to the grounds (thanks to Jean Manfred, her helpers and Leigh Ann Powers.)

Membership is also up from last year, the pool has 81 resident pool memberships and 135 non-resident pool memberships. Patrons can further support efforts to improve the pool by encouraging friends to visit as either a guest or by purchasing a membership. Also, consider renting the facility for an “after hours” private party or reserve a shelter during the day. And finally – come hungry, concessions and food sales significantly contribute to the operating budget and help purchase the “extras” for your continued enjoyment of the pool.

Memorial Day Commemoration Ceremony

The annual Memorial Day Commemoration Ceremony was held on May 26 in front of the flagpole at the Willow Oaks Pool. More than 90 guests witnessed an incredibly moving ceremony honoring our military heroes. This year, the program was enhanced by a patriotic song selection performed by Staff Sergeant Patricia Conyers, TRADOC and SSG Kevin E. Stark, representing the Wounded Warrior Project delivered a very emotional keynote address. Kaitlyn Heath, a lifeguard and junior swim team coach, read a patriotic poem and representatives from local boy and girl scout troops performed the commemorative “laying of the memorial wreath” and read the names of our fallen heroes, veterans and active military personnel. After the ceremony, guests enjoyed a light reception before the pool officially opened for the season. WORA would like to thank Ken Romney and the Willow Oaks Swim Team for organizing this special event.



*2012 Memorial Day
Commemoration
Ceremony*



*The Reading of Names of our Fallen Heroes, Veterans and
Nation's Warriors by local Girl Scout and Boy Scout Troops*

Summer Season at the Pool

Willow Oaks Swim Team

The Willow Oaks swim team, the Stingrays, are off to a winning start this season! This year 86 swimmers from 56 families throughout Hampton joined the team. The swimmers have worked extremely hard to improve stroke technique and reduce time. At the end of June, the Stingrays had already won two meets and 27 swimmers had made qualifying times for the City Meet (GPSA Championship Meet). At Willow Oaks, swimming is not always about competition, but about team building, friendship and fun.

Several swimmers participated in a car wash fundraiser on Opening Day (photo below), and more than half the team enjoyed a pizza and tie dye event at the pool. Thank you to the Willow Oaks Swim Team Booster Club, the parent volunteers, the swimmers, pool management, and the terrific coaching staff (Morgan Sullivan and Jenna Napier) for their efforts in making the Stingrays an AWESOME team! The last regular season home meet will be held on July 16 against Warwick Yacht. The meet will start promptly at 6:00 pm. Come out and support your community swim team!! Go Stingrays!!



Residents enjoy food and drinks at the pool after the commemoration ceremony



A special thank you to Willow Oaks resident Virginia Hagin of Hagin Photography for all the wonderful shots of the swim team and the opening ceremony.

Neighborhood Watch

Neighborhood Watch Update

My name is Julie Parsons and I am the new Neighborhood Watch Coordinator for Willow Oaks. Karen Onks, who has served as the Neighborhood Watch Coordinator for a number of years, has had some time constraints due to her employment, so I have agreed to step in as the Coordinator along with Karen's able assistance.

While Willow Oaks has had an active Neighborhood Watch for a number of years, WORA is looking to enhance the program and make better use of our Block Captains. In the near future, WORA will be offering "Watch" training for the Captains and developing ideas on ways to engage all of our neighbors in promoting safety and community involvement throughout Willow Oaks.

The vast majority of our streets have current Block Captains but there are a couple streets where we are actively looking to fill that position. Please take a look at the following list to identify your current Block Captain or consider stepping up to fill a vacant spot. Please call either Karen or myself if you are able to help out and cover an open Block Captain slot or if you have any questions and Neighborhood Watch.

If You See Something Suspicious

- Any suspicious/illegal activity should be reported first to the Police, then to your Block Captain.
- Unusual activity, such as the scams that we experienced in Willow Oaks, should be reported to your Block Captain.
- More detailed reporting guidelines can be found at www.willowoaks.org. Awareness of what is happening on your street and in your neighborhood will keep our families and property safe.

When You're on Vacation

Before you leave on vacation, set your lights on timers (or simply leave some on) and stop your mail and/or newspapers. Also, ask a neighbor to park at your house while you're gone. It's important to make it look like someone is home!

Important Phone Numbers

Julie Parsons, Neighborhood Watch Coordinator
Home: 848-1591 • Cell: 850-774-5662

Karen Onks, Assistant Coordinator
Phone: 850-5931 or 472-0672
Email: positive.thinking@verizon.net

Hampton Police Department
Non-Emergency/Suspicious Activity Line: 727-6111

A Special Thank You to our Block Captains and to our other Neighborhood Volunteers:

Pool Prep and Work Days: Jeff and Sam Brady, Pat and Ward Cherry, Joe Kilgore, Ken Romney, Dave Williams, David and Zach Vandegrif, Luther Gentry, Monique Vandegrift, Zachary Vandegrift, Ginny Hagin, Kevin Fyfe, Cam Fyfe, Lauren Fyfe, Dequan Pauling, Jashen Pauling, Dashawn Pauling, Luke Miller, Mike Heath, Steph Heath, Hannah Heath, Katie Heath, Julie Parsons, Graham Parsons, Elliot Tsao, Van Reynolds, Jennifer Savage, Eddie Ridout, Kevin Spence, Dean Seitz, Ward Cherry, Kimberly Colson, Elizabeth Cross, David Williams, Leigh Ann Powers, Sailor Powers, Meredith Powers, Cameron Powers, Bob Hudgins, Melissa Savage, Jenna Napier, Caryl Johnson, Ken Romney, Bricanna Romney, Mike Campbell, Mikaela Campbell, Bob Manfred, Jean Manfred, Georgie Burton, Mike W. Burton, Michael C. Burton, Jordan Burton, Jeff Brady, Jeryl Lyles, Ashley Williams, Robert Kerby, Lisa Maguire, Garren Maguire, Rebecca Francese, and those who may have slipped past the sign in sheet.

Memorial Weekend Volunteers: Thank you to Kristy Fyfe, Julie Parsons, Kevin Spence, and Ward Cherry for helping to hand out flyers for our Memorial Day Service and Opening Day at the Pool. And, thank you to all who offered to help with cooking at the pool for opening weekend. We could not do it without you!

Neighborhood Watch Block Captains

Antietam Court

200-205 Stan Winarski..... 850-4413

Artillery Road

45-63 Michael Blackshear..... 810-9365

100-113 Chris Christiansen 850-2046

Beauregard Heights

227-236 Ray Holleran 850-1537

238-258 VACANT*

300-314 Nancy & Skip Gruffman-Tyler.. 850-3861

316-328 Joe Sweat..... 851-2945

Blackwater Lane

1-8 Jim McCulloch..... 851-2295

Caisson Crossing

200-213 Ann Kovacs..... 850-1240

Cannister Court

200-205 Liz Nisley 851-1968

Chantilly Court

300-304 Ray Holleran 850-1537

Chattanooga Court

1-6 Joey Bialk 850-3521

Chickamauga Pike

224-233 June Murphy..... 851-0706

Cushings Post

1-6 Joni Foulks 851-3575

Devils Den Road

200-206 Liz Foley..... 851-5166

Falmouth Turning

300-318 Virginia Hagin 785-341-3996

Five Forks Lane

100-114 Kevin Spence 342-6849

Gaines Mill Lane

300-312 Julie Parsons..... 848-1591

Hatteras Landing

1-10 Van Reynolds..... 851-4802

11-24 VACANT*

26-35 Larry Black 851-0911

Hollow Creek Court

1-6 Liz Morris 850-7996

Horseshoe Landing

100-127 Jean Manfred 851-6054

Kanawha Court

1-6 Joe Moran 851-8906

Kempers Charge

1-6 Duane Hockenbroch 850-7673

Round Top

301-305 Ray Gentry 851-7133

Lookout Pass

300-307 Liz Turnstall 851-2885

Mannassas Court

200-205 Grace Hall 851-8033

Missionary Ridge

201-212 MaryJane Johnson 851-1439

213-305 VACANT*

Orange Plank Road

309-320 Lisa Smith 851-1995

Rapidan Road

301-315 Ed Novi 728-3501

Vicki Boone

Seminary Ridge

100-112 Margaret Seitz 850-4696

Shifting Log Drive

206-218 June Williamson 851-2128

Shiloh Park

218-224 Pat Packard 851-4149

Susquehanna Court

1-6 Pat Drozd 851-1723

Tally Farm Retreat

300-307 Gerald Blankenberg 850-1871

Tenderfoot Court

300-305 Mark and Gail Platt 850-0091

Wilderness Road

100-111 Jan Michael 851-6420

112-132 John Paulus 850-0397

133-141 David Dietrich 788-8456

143-165 odd Dibba Hamilton 850-3500

154-164 even Robert Casey 851-8034

Willow Oaks Boulevard

102-112 Alice Zach 851-4202

302-311 Debbie Ready 850-3214

402-411/413-416 Cynthia Bilyj 850-1873

If you live in an area with a VACANT position and are interested in volunteering as Block Captain, please contact Julie Parsons or Karen Onks.

Volunteering in Willow Oaks: We Simply Can't Do it Alone

Have you seen the new Willow Oaks website? What about the new and improved newsletter? Have you seen how fabulous the pool looks this summer? Did you attend the Memorial Day Service on May 26? All of these community projects would not have happened without the tireless work of our Willow Oaks volunteers. We had record crowds at the pool over Memorial Day weekend! Over 400 attended our pool opening day. Thanks to the pool management, staff, and all the volunteers, it ran smoothly.

As I am sure you can see, we are on a mission to revitalize our neighborhood, increase our property values, and make Willow Oaks the best place in Hampton to live. We cannot do this without your help. We desperately need the help of volunteers like you to continue our efforts of moving forward with making Willow Oaks the best and safest neighborhood in Hampton. In this time of declining property values, it is more important

than ever that we all work together to protect our investments and build a stronger sense of community. Many hands make light work of the tasks before us. By working together, so much more can be accomplished.

We have many areas of need for volunteers. Some examples are: distributing flyers, providing baked goods for social events, work parties at the pool and on our community islands, flipping burgers at the pool, and neighborhood watch. These are just a few examples of the volunteer opportunities that will help revitalize and strengthen our Willow Oaks community.

Currently, we are composing a list of community projects where volunteers are needed. Please let us know which areas might interest you. We will add your name to the list and when the need arises, we will call upon you. We need help from everyone to make our goals a reality. It is incumbent on each of us to contribute a little time to help keep this neighborhood great! See below for more information.

WORA Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in participating in one of the many WORA volunteer opportunities, please contact **Susan Cherry** at (757) 850-8364 / slwcherry@gmail.com or fill out the form below, and mail to: **WORA Volunteers**, 236-1/2 Beaugard Heights, Hampton, VA 23669.

Thank you for supporting our neighborhood.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

- On call** – Willingness to occasionally help in any capacity, just call
- Beautification** – Work detail for the pool and other common areas
- Distribution** – Deliver flyers, newsletters, etc. to a designated section of neighborhood
- Events** – Memorial Commemoration Ceremony, Food Drive, Easter Egg Hunt, etc.
- Leadership** – Board of Directors or Committee Chair
- Pool** – Swim Team, Family and Late Night at the Pool, etc.
- Neighborhood Watch** – Help with WORA safety matters and alerts
- Other** – A professional skill that might be helpful _____

Be a Responsible Pet Owner *and* a Better Neighbor

Pet waste is becoming a *BIG* problem in the Willow Oaks neighborhood. It's not only unsightly, but it's also unsanitary. You may not think one little pile could be a problem, but multiply that by several hundred pets in the Willow Oaks area and think about all that waste on our sidewalks, grassy areas, and washing into our waterways the next time it rains.

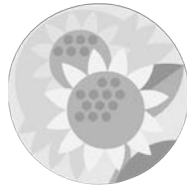
The legal factor: Under Section 5.8.1 of the Hampton city code, it is unlawful for a person who owns, keeps, or has custody or control of a dog to fail to remove immediately the dog's excrement. Violators are guilty of a Class 4 misdemeanor and may be fined \$250.

The yuck factor: Pet waste is one of the leading causes of E. Coli pollution. Each gram of fecal matter has over 20,000,000 E. Coli colonies in it. There are numerous other types of bacteria and parasites that can make humans and other animals very sick.

What to do: It sounds silly, but when you're out with your pet, simply be sure to carry bags with you. Bring a few extra in case you see another pet owner in need of one. Be sure to properly dispose the bag once it's been used—do not throw it in a gutter. Pet waste pollutes friendships and cause rifts between neighbors. So let's be responsible pet owners and clean up after our pets!

Morning Garden Club Yards of the Month

Congratulations to recipients of the neighborhood Garden Club Yard of the Month!



April 2012

Margaret Seitz
112 Seminary Ridge

May 2012

Patrick Phillips & Jamie Wolsh
209 Caisson Crossing

June 2012

Joseph & Bobbie Griffin
115 Wilderness Road

July 2012

Perry & Kelly Barber
232 Beauregard Heights

Hampton Neighborhood Development Partnership, Inc. (HNDP)

To improve our ability to raise funds and acquire neighborhood grants, WORA has recently set up an account through the Hampton Neighborhood Development Partnership (HNDP).

As a result, *WORA can now accept tax deductible donations for neighborhood programs, beautification, community education and improvements to common areas.*



If a resident would like to make a tax deductible donation to Willow Oaks, simply send us a check made out to HNDP with "Willow Oaks" and the purpose of the donation in the subject line. You can turn the check in to our Membership Chairman, Melissa Savage, at 303 Tenderfoot Court, or mail it directly to:

*Hampton Community Development Department
22 Lincoln Street
Hampton, VA 23669*

The checks will then be deposited into our tax deductible account through the City of Hampton. This account also allows WORA and the Willow Oaks Swim Team to hold fundraisers for "charitable organizations," in order to raise monies to support large ticket items currently beyond the WORA operating budget. The bucket list is growing but at the top of the wish list are new neighborhood entrance marquees and pool infrastructure improvements.

Please consider making a tax deductible donation or participating in a future fundraiser...your support will go a long way to improving Willow Oaks. If you have any questions, please contact Rebecca Francese at 537-5401.

To all our Willow Oaks Neighbors, have a wonderful summer!