



NEWS of GROVE PARK

July 2008

Photo courtesy of Jennifer Gilewski

Message from the Grove Park Neighborhood Association (GPNA) President

The 2008-2009 Board of Directors took office on 13 May 2008 following the elections. The Board extends their thanks to Brenda Cook for welcoming the new board with a GPNA social at her home on Tuesday 03 June 2008. It was a pleasure to see so many “new” neighbors in attendance. The board encourages all our Grove Park neighbors to attend National Night Out in August and the Black Tie Gala in October. Our strength starts with getting to know each other and the day to day activities in our neighborhood and then reaching out to our eastside neighbors. Please see the National Night Out and Black Tie Gala details included with this newsletter.

The 2008-2009 Board of Directors held their first board meeting on Thursday 05 June 2008.

President – Maureen Gilewski
Vice President – Kaye Walsh
Secretary – Debbie Tipton
Treasurer – Pat Lyke

The board set the **2008-2009 GPNA Calendar** as follows:

- 05 August 2008 – National Night Out
- 02 December 2008 – Holiday Social
- 03 March 2009 – Hickory Grove Recreation Center
- 04 May 2009 – Hickory Grove Recreation Center

Our quarterly meetings will occur on the first Tuesday of the month. Please mark your calendars. Reminders will be sent in the quarterly newsletter a few weeks before each meeting. Our success depends upon your participation.

2008 – 2009 GPNA Goals

1- Increase GPNA neighbor participation through the Communication Plan and Quarterly Meetings.

2- Develop committees to facilitate democratic citizen participation and involvement in activities which affect our everyday lives.

The 2008-2009 Board of Directors held their first meeting with the Block Captains at Hickory Grove Recreation Center, Tuesday 01 July 2008.

Communication Plan

Please funnel neighborhood communication through your block captain. This newsletter identifies your block captain with their contact details. Block captains will meet with the board in the intervals between our neighborhood meetings, distribute the quarterly newsletter and other important updates. Please pass along neighborhood news to your block captain.

Your Block Captain: _____

Contact Details: _____

The board and block captains identified the following committees who will also meet in the intervals between our neighborhood meetings.

Communications: Chair, Mary-Ellen Jones

Neighborhood Watch: Chair, Mary Kay Brennan

Neighborhood Signs: Chair, Jewel Davis

Charlotte East Community Partners (CECP):

Representatives, Kristine Fisher and Shelin Wilder

Code/Zoning: Chair is open. The purpose of this committee is to keep us informed of upcoming code/zoning changes before they happen. Please contact Maureen Gilewski at 704.568.9744 if you would like to chair this committee.

Committee Involvement

Do you desire to become better acquainted with your neighbors? Why not consider joining one of the association’s committees. We should all be able to say hello to one another by name when we meet on the street or at a local merchant.

Hickory Grove 4th of July Parade

The GPNA participated in the Hickory Grove 4th of July Parade with a small Kazoo Band. Debbie Hyland and Jennifer Gilewski carried the Band's Banner, which was crafted by Jennifer Gilewski. The band included kazoo players Ed Hyland, Judy Hall, Walter Gilewski and Maureen Gilewski. The band is recruiting currently for the 2009 parade.

A Warm Welcome

Please extend a warm welcome to Tom and Connie Howell, 6715 Terry Lane. Tom and Connie have two grown children and two granddaughters. Tom is the son of Joe and Doris Howell who lived at 6715 Terry Lane for over 40 years. It is nice to have a member of the same family living there again. Please contact your block captain if you are a new neighbor in Grove Park, or are aware of new neighbors to be welcomed.

Association Dues

Your voluntary dues will be carefully used, when necessary to help defray the costs of such expenses as printing newsletters/flyers, renting space for our meetings, signs advertising meeting time and place, as well as miscellaneous expenses to promote the well being of Grove Park neighborhood. Since Grove Park Neighborhood Association is a voluntary association, our dues are also voluntary, and for this reason all the more appreciated when you do contribute. Thus if you are so inclined, please make out a check for \$20 to the Grove Park Neighborhood Association and mail to Pat Lyke, our treasurer. Pat's address: 6332 Grove Park Blvd. Charlotte, NC 28215.

Garden Club News

The Grove Park and Ravenwood Garden Club meets the third Saturday of every month, at 10:30 a.m. Please contact Mary-Ellen Jones 704.535.5549 for further information. Prerequisite: a desire to be a part of a group of friendly neighbors committed to the well being of our community, while enjoying each other's company in the process.

Let's Keep It Clean! Our image as a neighborhood is taking a beating by the litter along our boundaries. Please volunteer a small amount of your time to help pick up this litter. All it requires is a willing heart, a pair of gloved hands, and a trash bag. Contact Lin Vickery to get on the "Keep It Clean" schedule, 704.641.6130 or

Linvickery@carolina.rr.com. A service project of the Grove Park/Ravenwood Garden Club, you do not need to be a member of the Garden Club to participate in the project.

A Little Vine

By Lin Vickery

This wispy vine?

Innocuous.

It's hardly worth the mention.

I'll make a snip,

Then give a tug,

So why the apprehension?

This sturdy vine?

Tenacious, 'tis.

A feisty little feller!

But watch, I say,

Observe the skills

Of a master weed expeller.

This wretched vine?

Insidious!

Enough to drive one wild!

It's obvious

That I was duped,

Bedeveled and beguiled.

This blasted vine?

Pernicious weed!

A demon straight from hell!

My tantrum

May be useless,

But my Roundup serves me well!

We are invited to participate in an Eastside Community Cookout Saturday 26 July 11am-2pm at the Sheffield Neighborhood Park. It will be much welcomed if you bring an item such as napkins, paper plates and/or cups, plastic utensils or hot dog buns to share with thirty people.

Shepherd's Center East is offering fall classes. This is a volunteer organization seeking to promote continued personal and spiritual growth, helping mature adults live meaningful and independent lives. Call SCE office for details, 704.338.1511.