

# RADNOR GREEN NEWSLETTER

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## RGCA Board Members:

### President:

- Carol Forsythe
  - 302-798-9765

### Vice-President:

- John Pflugrad
  - 302-218-2495

### Treasurer:

- Jinni Burns
  - 302-798-8138

### Secretary:

- Michelle Canning
  - 302-792-1843

### Website Committee:

- Carl Colantuono
  - 302-798-5632

### Code Enforcement Committee:

- John Barton
  - 302-792-2339

### Welcoming/Social Committee:

- Karla Woods
  - 302-798-3737

### Community Watch Committee:

- Bob Gamble
  - 302-792-8004

Mario Fornoff

Joe Becker

John McCafferty

Billy Cole

Gregory Williams

board@radnorgreen.com

[www.radnorgreen.com](http://www.radnorgreen.com)

## 1<sup>st</sup> annual Pot Luck Dinner a huge success



The civic association would like to thank everyone who turned out on February 24<sup>th</sup> for making the potluck dinner so successful. The dinner was held at the Brandywine School District offices located on Pennsylvania Avenue.

The event was highlighted by a presentation to Walter Johnson for his years of dedicated mail service to the community.

Based on the favorable response to this event we are hoping we can build upon this to create more community events.



Some other ideas that have been presented for community events are an Easter egg hunt, and a summer picnic. If you have any additional suggestions or if you are willing to volunteer to assist with these events please contact a member of the civic association or attend a meeting and let us hear from you.

## Community Yard Sale

This year's community yard sale has been scheduled for Saturday June 23<sup>rd</sup>. The rain date if needed is Sunday June 24<sup>th</sup>.

The civic association will be advertising this event in the News Journal.



### Upcoming RGCA Meetings:

- June 26, 2007 @ 7 PM
- July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2007 @ 7PM
- August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2007 @ 7PM
- September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2007 @ 7PM
- October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2007 @ 7PM
- November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2007 @ 7PM
- December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2007 @ 7PM

All meetings are at the Brandywine School District Administration Building unless otherwise noted.

1000 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Claymont, DE 19703

### Upcoming RGCA Events:

- **Community Yard Sale:**
  - Saturday June 23<sup>rd</sup>. (Raindate Sunday June 24<sup>th</sup>).
- **RGCA Board Elections:**
  - June 26<sup>th</sup>
- **Dues Notices:**
  - September 2007
- **Fall Neighborhood Clean-Up:**
  - TBD

Check the website for any changes to the schedule above  
[www.radnorgreen.com](http://www.radnorgreen.com)

### **2006-2007 Budget Update** **(Fiscal year July 1<sup>st</sup> 2006-June 30<sup>th</sup> 2007)**

RGCA Balance as of September 26<sup>th</sup> 2006: \$ 7677.94  
Dues payments received (as of 3/12/07): \$ 9375.00  
Total amount available for 2006-2007: \$17052.00  
Expenses for fiscal year (as of 04/25/2007) \$14016.41

Balance (as of 04/25/2007) \$ 3,035.59

Budget Item	Budgeted Amount	Amount spent through 04-25-07	Balance
Snow Removal	\$10,500.00	\$11,150.00	(-\$650.00)
Communications	\$1,400.00	\$1,583.58	(-\$183.58)
Community Watch	\$1,100.00	\$0	\$1,100.00
Delmarva	\$1,000.00	\$630.00	\$370.00
Entrance Island	\$750.00	\$475.43	\$274.57
Miscellaneous	\$500.00	\$3.00	\$497.00
Cleanup	\$400.00	\$9.40	\$390.60
Contributions	\$150.00	\$60.00	\$90.00
Welcoming Committee	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Registered Agent Dues	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Janitors	\$50.00	\$15.00	\$35.00
Post Office Box Rental	\$38.00	\$40.00	(-\$2.00)
CCOBH Membership	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$0.00
Civic League Dues	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$0.00
Claymont Coalition	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
Franchise Fees	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$20.00
Totals	\$16,183.00	\$14,016.41	\$2,166.59

### **Sidewalk Maintenance and Repairs**

Chip O'Connor from New Castle County attended our January and February meeting. At the January meeting a question was brought up about who is responsible for maintaining the sidewalks in Radnor Green. Chip researched this question and found that the State of Delaware has curb to curb right-of-way in Radnor Green; however, the right of way in Claymont addition includes sidewalks.

Based on this information the Department of Transportation was contacted to clarify who was responsible for sidewalk maintenance in Claymont addition since the state's right of way included the sidewalks. According to Michael Williams who is the manager of public relations for the Department of Transportation "the maintenance of the sidewalks does fall to the adjacent property owner. The width of the R-O-W does not include the upkeep of any existing sidewalk."

## Important Phone numbers:

### New Castle County :

#### County Executive:

- Christopher Coons
- 302-395-5101

#### General Information, Complaints, Code Enforcement:

- 302-395-5555

#### County Council District 8

- John Cartier
- 302-395-8348

#### New Castle County Police:

- Emergency: 911
- Non-Emergency:
- 302-573-2800

### State of Delaware:

#### Delaware Help Line:

- 302-577-3000

#### State Senator District 5

- Catherine Cloutier
- 302-744-4137

#### State Representative District 7

- Bryon Short
- 302-744-4120

## Snow Committee Update

After a very uneventful start to the snow season in November and December our community was hit quite hard in February. Radnor Green is enrolled in the State of Delaware's Snow Removal Reimbursement Program; however, none of the storms this past season qualified for reimbursement.

For Radnor Green the state takes our "official" measurement to determine if a storm is eligible for reimbursed at the Hockessin Fire House. In order to qualify for reimbursement the snow total at Hockessin Fire House has to be at least 4 inches. Since the majority of the severe storms this past season consisted mostly of ice none of the storms reached the requisite 4 inches (see table 1 below for the state's official storm totals).

The civic association budgeted \$10,500 for snow removal this past season. We actually ended up spending \$11,150 for plowing and sanding (see table 2 below for break down per event). In order to compensate for the difference between our budgeted amount and the actual cost money had to be re-allocated from other budgeted items.

We received several complaints this past season about the lack of plowing or salting during some storms. The snow committee would love to be able to plow or salt during every weather event; however, we only have a limited budget and we need to balance the amount of money available versus the conditions and the impact of each event. **By the end of this past season there was not enough money available to plow or sand the neighborhood again had it been required.** We urge everyone to keep in mind the cost associated with plowing and sanding a neighborhood the size of Radnor Green when a storm occurs. We also want to emphasize that if the 200+ house that didn't pay their dues had we would have had an additional \$7000.00 available to keep the streets plowed and sanded during every storm.

(Table 1)

<b>"Official" measurements in inches for individual snow events (beginning with most recent)</b>				
Event date(s)	Hockessin Fire Dept. (Northern New Castle County)	Glasgow (central and southern New Castle County)	Public Safety (Kent County)	Bridgeville (Sussex County)
03/07/2007	1.1"	0.4"	1.1"	1.2"
02/25/2007	< 4.0"	< 4.0"	< 4.0"	< 4.0"
02/14/2007	< 4.0"	< 4.0"	< 4.0"	< 4.0"

{< = "Less than"}

(Table 2)

<b>Radnor Green Salting and Plowing Totals (2006-2007)</b>		
Date	Description of Service	Total Cost
January 26, 2007	Salting	\$890.00
February 7, 2007	Salting	\$890.00
February 13, 2007	Plowing and Salting	\$2,305.00
February 14, 2007	Plowing and Salting	\$2,305.00
February 16, 2007	4 ton Salting (partial)	\$600.00
February 26, 2007	Double Salting	\$1,780.00
March 7, 2007	Salting	\$890.00
March 17, 2007	10 ton Salting (1.5X)	\$1,490.00
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$11,150.00</b>

### **Community Links:**

Claymont Renaissance:  
<http://www.claymontrenaissance.org/>

Claymont Transportation Plan:  
<http://www.deldot.gov/static/projects/claymont/>

Claymont Community Center:  
<http://www.claymontcenter.org/>

Robinson House:  
<http://www.robinsonhousede.org/>

Claymont Fire Company:  
<http://www.cfc13.com/>

### **Claymont Community Events:**

**If you know of any events that would be of interest to the community in general please let us know and we will include that information in a future newsletter**

### **Community Watch Volunteers Needed**

In the last newsletter we requested volunteers to get our community watch program back up and running. As of the writing of this column we have had 1 person contact me to volunteer. The lack of volunteers means that for the foreseeable future there will not be any organized patrols of the neighborhood taking place. We will continue to try and get people to volunteer so we can at least get enough people so we can have patrols on Friday and Saturday evenings. Now that summer is upon us this is the time of year these patrols are most needed. If you would like to volunteer for community watch please contact me at [rgcacomunitywatch@comcast.net](mailto:rgcacomunitywatch@comcast.net). If you don't have email I can be contacted at 302-792-8004.

### **Vandalism Reported in Radnor Green**

On two consecutive Saturday mornings in March a resident on Osage Road awoke to find the tires on their car slashed. The civic association followed up on the resident's police report with Officer Amy Kevis who is Radnor Green's liaison with the New Castle County police. We also were able to scramble and organize a community watch patrol on March 30<sup>th</sup> using board members and officers from the civic association. Although this appears to be an isolated incident it reinforces the need to have regular patrols in the neighborhood to try and prevent these types of incidents. We would also like to be able to notify residents promptly when these types of events are happening regularly. If every resident that has an email address could provide it to us we will attempt to put together a community watch distribution list. Once we have the distribution list we will send an email to anyone interested when these types of events have been reported to us. If more people are aware of what is going on in the neighborhood we can all look out for our neighbors to supplement any neighborhood patrols we eventually organize.

### **New Castle County Police community update**

Officer Amy Kevis of the New Castle County police attended the February 28<sup>th</sup> civic association meeting to update us on police activity in our community.

Officer Kevis' report covered the period of November 2006 through January 2007. She reported that police have received several complaints about the ATV's and speeding in the neighborhood. In response to these complaints the county police have stepped up their patrols in our community and reported 19 vehicle stops in our civic assoc. boundaries for the month of January alone.

Officer Kevis encouraged anyone in the community to contact her directly for any non-emergency needs such as filing complaints or to report any concerns. Officer Kevis' phone number is 302-395-8059. For any emergency situations please call 9-1-1.

## RGCA Elections

Nominations for the RGCA board were held on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. The election will be held at our June 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. Come out and vote for the board that is going to represent you.

## Recent Speakers and Guests at the RGCA:

- Chip O'Connor
  - New Castle County
- Officer Amy Kevis
  - New Castle County Police
- Energy Services Group
  - Energysvc.com
- James Bowers
  - Candidate for State Representative District 7
- Bryon Short
  - Candidate for State Representative District 7
- Dr. James R. Scanlon
  - Superintendent Brandywine School District

## Dues Payment Update

As of March 12<sup>th</sup> 2007 we have received dues payments from 295 of the 532 homes serviced by the RGCA. We want to express our thanks to all of the residents who supported us for this fiscal year. Unfortunately the amount of money that was collected from the 295 homes only equals \$9,375.00, we spent \$11,150.00 on snow plowing and salting alone. In addition to plowing the streets there are several fixed items that must be paid such as our electric bill to Delmarva for the streetlight by the park, upkeep of the entrance island, mailing costs for sending out dues payments and newsletters, etc.

The only reason we were able to squeeze by this year was due to the reserve funds from last year. We will not have that money available to us in the upcoming fiscal year. We feel that the amount of money we request each year is reasonable for what we provide. Unfortunately if we don't get a larger percentage of the neighborhood contributing our only options are to increase the dues payments or to cut back on the services we currently provide. This would likely mean not being able to plow the streets once the money runs out.

**If you have not paid your dues for this fiscal year it is not too late!** Please remit your payment of \$35.00 to:

**RGCA  
PO Box 262  
Claymont, DE 19703**

In the last newsletter we mentioned that we wanted to publish a personal thank you to all the addresses that paid their dues this year. In order to avoid not listing anyone that had paid their dues this past year we decided to list who has paid their dues by street. In the upcoming fiscal year we will make sure our system enables us to be able to list and thank each address in our future newsletters.

Street Name	Total # of Homes	# of Homes that paid their dues	Percentage that paid their dues
Benning Rd.	24	10	41.67%
Compass Dr.	31	18	58.06%
Delaware Ave.	41	23	56.10%
Glenrock Dr.	59	34	57.63%
Harvey Rd.	11	0	0.00%
Hilldale Ct.	26	14	53.85%
Honeywell Dr.	55	33	60%
Madison Ave.	11	5	45.45%
Miles Rd.	49	29	59.18%
New York Ave.	40	22	55%
Newcomb Ct.	14	10	71.43%
Olympia Dr.	20	16	80%
Osage Rd.	45	27	60%
Pennsylvania Ave.	42	25	59.52%
Wentworth Dr.	17	7	41.18%
Woodgreen Ct.	13	6	46.15%
Woodgreen Rd.	34	16	47.06%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>55.45%</b>

## **Safety Recommendations**

There are several simple things that we can all do to make our homes and our community safer for everyone.

1. Make sure your car doors are locked. This sounds like such a simple thing but it is easy to be distracted and forget to lock up your vehicle. Don't allow your car to be an easy target.
2. Don't leave valuables in clear site in your vehicle. If you have to keep something of value in your car put it in the trunk so someone isn't "tempted".
3. Keep an outside light on or install motion lights that activate whenever there is movement.
4. Watch out for your neighbors. No one knows the neighborhood better than the people that live in it. If you see something that doesn't look right contact the police. If you don't think it's an emergency use the non-emergency number to report suspicious activity (302-573-2800)
5. Install and test your smoke detectors. Everyone should have smoke detectors in their home. Make sure you test them regularly and change the batteries when needed.
6. Slow down in the neighborhood. Another no-brainer. The Police have been actively monitoring the speed in our community and issuing citations for violations.
7. Confirm the identity of the people at your door. Recent scams have shown how easy it is for people to pretend to be utility workers or others and gain entry to someone's home.
8. Don't "advertise" that your house is empty. Stop mail and paper deliveries while you are away. Invest in some timers for lights to keep the house looking occupied.
9. Lock your doors and windows. Most of us remember to lock the front door but it's easy to leave a window unlocked or open or to forget to secure a shed after working in the yard.
10. Never give out personal information. Another favorite of scam artists. Always ask yourself why this person needs the information they are asking and make sure you know who they are before you provide any personal information.
11. Shred personal documents before discarding them in the trash. Identity theft is a growing problem and a lot of personal information can be obtained by going through the trash people place on the curb.
12. Secure your wireless Internet connection. More and more people are installing WiFi networks so they can take advantage of their broadband service from anyone in their home. Unfortunately most people don't take the necessary precautions to ensure their private networks can't be accessed by people outside their homes.

## **Signs on Front Entrance Island**

Just a reminder that the civic association has had a long standing policy against posting signs on the front entrance island. Any signs that are placed on the entrance island will be removed.

If anyone in the community has information they want to communicate to our residents they can have a notice posted in the newsletter for free. This offer is open to anyone who lives within the boundaries of the RGCA and whose dues are paid up for the current fiscal year. To submit a notice for a future newsletter please email the information to [board@radnorgreen.com](mailto:board@radnorgreen.com) or phone Bob Gamble @ 302-792-8004.

### **Claymont Steel Safety Concerns**

With all the recent talk of revitalizing the Claymont area some real concerns have been emerging regarding the Claymont Steel location. There have been reports of higher than acceptable Mercury readings and SDS (steel dust syndrome) in communities bordering the plant. Although our community is not right next to this plant we do have a vested interest in the health and safety records of our industrial neighbors.

If you have concerns regarding Claymont Steel or any other industries in our area you can contact DNREC (Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control) at 1-800-662-8802. These concerns can range from noise, fumes, SDS, etc. DNREC's website can be found at: <http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/>

### **Brookview / Renaissance Village Update**

As most of you are aware the Brookview community has been fenced off and the proposed project for that location appears to be moving forward. The company that purchased the land is currently in the process of trying to find a buyer to develop the location now that the project has been approved by the county. The civic association has been told that demolition should begin during the summer.

There are several pictures of the proposed development on the web at: [http://www.claymontrenaissance.org/rv-design\\_guidelines.html](http://www.claymontrenaissance.org/rv-design_guidelines.html)

In conjunction with the Renaissance village project DELDOT has a lot of information regarding their "Claymont Transportation Plan" posted on their website. This information can be found at: <http://www.deldot.gov/static/projects/claymont/>

### **Newsletter suggestions and submissions**

If you have any suggestions for items you would like to see in an upcoming newsletter please email them to [board@radnorgreen.com](mailto:board@radnorgreen.com) or call Bob Gamble @ 302-792-8004.

If you would be interested in volunteering to help write items for the newsletter or assist with putting the newsletter together please contact us as well.





# Fun in the Sun

**RGCA  
P.O. Box 262  
Claymont, DE 19703**

Please remember to drive carefully  
Watch our children at play

