



Forest Pond Homeowner Association Newsletter

City of Charlotte, NC,
USA

Volume 4, Issue 1
September 19, 2009

HOA President—Mehl Renner Question and Answer

Mehl, there are a few folks who may not know you. Tell us a little about yourself.

I am a single, senior male who has worked for the City of Charlotte as a Procurement Officer for the last 12 years. I am a boomer/child of the 60s, Vietnam Navy veteran and native of Georgia. My significant other, Gail, is an award winning author/illustrator, puppeteer and storyteller who lives in Blowing Rock, NC.

How long have you been HOA President?

Sometime in late 2005, I became President when my predecessor, Ben Ribaudo, moved to Tampa, FL.

What are some of the changes that you would like to see in the community?

Working on resurrecting our entrance area. The HOA Board tries to keep our costs for lawn maintenance, street lights, etc., as low as possible, but would love to see us be able to afford

things like speed bumps and other common benefits. Continuation of the great involvement recently by our Forest Pond Events Committee would be good. Certainly welcome more pride in maintaining our properties. Some try hard and others could care less. A spray can of pan can do wonders on a rusty mailbox. Sometimes it just means mowing the lawn. We need more vigilance due to vandals destroying our common pond park area.

What would you say are some of the biggest challenges of our community and do you have any solutions to offer in regard to addressing them?

The bad economy is taking its toll in our neighborhood with more homes going up for sale, some due to foreclosures. Many renters do not understand our important community covenants and restrictions. We all need to work hard in maintaining the pride in our community that in turn enhances everyone's prop-



Mehl Renner,

Forest Pond HOA President

erty value. Do see the "Forest" for the trees and care about all of your neighbors.

When is the next annual meeting scheduled?

Our annual meeting usually takes place sometime at the first of the year.

Enough about business, what do you like to do in your spare time?

I enjoy working in my yard.

Thanks Mehl — we appreciate your time and your responses!

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What would you like to see our community do?:

- Have a walking group?
- Have running/5k group?
- Have a block party?
- Have a family night at a local bowling alley or skating rink?
- Have a Wii Tournament?
- Have a Winter Trip to the snow?

Send your suggestions to Jeannette Moss at jbhHoward1@aol.com. Thanks!

Our Newsletter is Back!!

The Forest Pond Newsletter is back and here to serve you. We'd like to use the newsletter to inform you of upcoming events in our community as well as inform you about "homeowner-type" issues.

Johnella Walker will serve as your Editor, but is soliciting help from those of you who have the gift of

writing and/or photography in an effort to make this newsletter the most informative and fun newsletter than it can be.

If you have had previous newsletter or news writing experience or if you'd like to give newsletter preparation a try, please email Johnella Walker at johnellawalker@yahoo.com.

If you'd like to submit an article, picture or suggest a topic for an upcoming newsletter, please forward that material or information to Johnella at the email address listed earlier. (Thanks!)

Remember this newsletter is YOUR newsletter and it's what WE make it. We look forward to hearing from you!

**Community Clean Up Day — Saturday, September 26, 2009 — 9 am
Meet Ed Hullings at the corner of Moss Bank Court and Forest Pond Drive!**



"Yard-salers" viewing some of the Forest Pond residents' items. Both residents and visitors to our community had a great time!



Report: Forest Pond Community Wide Yard Sale of July 11, 2009

On Saturday, July 11, 2009, twelve families took part in our first Community Wide Yard Sale. A great time was had by all. Sean Price of 6412 Spanish Moss Lane was one of the participants and had quite of few visitors at his yard sale. Sean said, "Initially, after receiving notice of the number of participants, I wasn't sure how much traffic to expect. But I was pleasantly surprised by the volume of traffic in the neighborhood especially considering the intermittent rain we experienced earlier that morning. I like the opportunity the yard sale provided us to meet more of our

neighbors. And everyone I met was very friendly and welcoming to the neighborhood."

Jayne Williams of 6347 Pink Dogwood Lane had the following comments: "We had a blast on Saturday! Denise and David next door were a riot. We kept running back and forth to each other's yards comparing sales and tips! In addition to a TON of people coming through, our teenagers had friends stopping by and hanging out with us. They pitched in to help load items for people and it was a great service activity for them! (The yard sale was) really great

day for our neighborhood." The Forest Pond Events Committee enjoyed putting on the Community Wide Sale and hope to put at least two a year on for the Community to help residents during those "cleaning" times of the year. The Community Yard Sale is also a way to get to know your neighbors and also a way for Forest Pond to show the rest of the City what a wonderful community of neighbors that we are. If you'd like to plan and prepare for the next Community Wide Yard sale, please contact Jeannette Moss at jbhoward1@aol.com or call her at (704) 921-2406.

Report: Forest Pond National Night Out of August 4, 2009

National Night Out (NNO) is an annual nationwide campaign held in August that is designed to:

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness;
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime programs; and
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships.

The residents that attended received packets that provided information regarding identity theft prevention and were able to asked questions of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg police officers who were in attendance.

The Forest Pond Events Committee incorporated a Bike Decorating Contest into the event to give the children of the neighborhood an opportunity to take part in NNO Activities.



Residents and National Night Out Activity



Makenzi Bryant, age 9



NaTanya and Evaney Nesbitt, Forest Pond's Community Watch Leaders

We appreciate you!!

Forest Pond Residents of the Month: Evaney and NaTanya Nesbitt, Our Neighborhood Watch Leaders

NaTanya and Evaney Nesbitt have been residents of Forest Pond since February 2001. They have three sons ages 16, 10, and 6.

Evaney has been a Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Officer for 10 years. During the course of 10 years, he has worked with the Street Crimes Task Force, Bike Patrol and assisted with Undercover Operations. NaTanya has worked with the

Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office for 12 years. She is currently assigned as Sergeant over the Jail North Facility.

They've volunteered to head the Neighborhood Watch Program because they feel that they have the combination of knowledge and experience in dealing with crime which will be a definite asset in making Forest Pond a safer place. They both have received specialized training in

safety and security for over 10 years. The believe that with the help of all residents that we can stabilize and strengthened our program.

NaTanya and Evaney are planning at least two opportunities for residents to come and share their concerns. Stay tuned for meeting information. In the meantime, you may contact them at nesbitt75@aol.com.

Seasonal Flu vs. HINI Flu

The flu (influenza) is an infection of the nose, throat and lungs caused by influenza virus. There are many different flu viruses. Seasonal flu virus is a strain of influenza virus that typically begins spreading this time of year with infections peaking during the winter/early spring. Seasonal flu kills about 36,000 Americans each year and is a serious illness. HINI flu is a new influenza virus that is spreading worldwide. It was called "swine flu" at first because it has pieces of flu viruses found in pigs in the past. However, it has not been detected in U.S. pigs. Both the seasonal flu and HINI flu are

currently circulating in humans. **Both flu viruses cause illness, hospital stays and death. The signs, symptoms and treatment for both flu viruses are the same and you are unlikely to know which version of the flu you have if you become infected.**

Signs & Symptoms of Seasonal Flu and HINI Flu

Fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headaches, chills and fatigue. You may also experience vomiting and diarrhea. Those infected with either virus may be able to infect

others from 1 day before getting sick and up to 5-7 days after getting sick.

The best protection

The best way to protect yourself from HINI flu is prevention—proper hand washing and avoiding contact with others that are sick.

Healthy Habit

Take a moment today to clean all work surfaces and set yourself a reminder clean them periodically.



For more information about the HINI virus, go to the website listed below:

<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu>

Back to school — do you have time to volunteer?

Our children have started back to school and now more than ever, with budget cuts and all at most every school, the administrators and staff, need our help. Our schools need help in various ways: math and reading tutors, help in the libraries or media centers, general office help, putting classroom materials together for learning sessions, lunch buddies — just to name a few. If you have a few hours a

month, contact one our neighborhood schools — Windings Springs Elementary, Turning Point Academy, Nathaniel Alexander Elementary, Morehead Elementary, James Martin Middle School or Vance High School and ask for their volunteer coordinator or PTA Chairperson. Before doing so, please be sure to register on the volunteer website at:

<http://www.cmsvolunteers.com>

The neighborhood schools were just a suggestion if you didn't know where to go; if you want to volunteer at ANY school, please do so by contacting the school and asking for their volunteer coordinator and get start as soon as possible!

When you volunteer, our children and the community benefit. If you can't volunteer, encourage every young person to be safe and respectful scholars!

"If you're starting out or trying to get to the next level, surround yourself with people who keep you motivated and energized - people who inspire you to achieve your best every day. When you do this, you can't lose."

*Anthony Famiglietti, two-time Olympian in the steeplechase and two-time national 5-K champion
national 5-K*

Upcoming Forest Pond Events—Important Dates Mark your calendars now!!

Here's what the Forest Pond Events Committee has planned for you:

September 26—Community Clean Up — 9 am —Meet at the corner of Moss Bank Court and Forest Pond Drive

November 7— Harrah's Casino Trip, Cost \$29. Contact Theresa Braswell at akagidget@gmail.com or call her at (301) 254-9464 (cell). Pay

at least \$15 of the total cost by Sunday, September 13, 2009 to reserve your spot!

December 2009

Christmas Home Decoration Contest to be held during the month of December with final judging on December 19th. Winners will be announced at the end of **Christmas Caroling Event** on Sunday, December 20th at 6:00

p.m. Start planning your decorations and lighting and light up the Forest Pond Community!! If you are interested in being a part of the Caroling event, please contact Jeannette Moss by emailing her at jhoward1@aol.com. Be sure to put "Forest Pond Caroling" in the subject line. Thanks!!

To submit event ideas, contact Jeannette Moss at the email address listed above!

**Forest Pond HOA and
Pair of J's Tours**

**Invites you on our Luxury
Motor Coach Service to**

Harrah's Cherokee Ca-
sino

Saturday, November 7,
2009

Deadline to RSVP is Sun-
day, September 20 to

Theresa Braswell at
301-254-9464 (cell) or
email at
akagidget@gmail.com.



City of Charlotte, NC, USA

Forest Pond Homeowner's Association

Mehl Renner, President

Dove Sifers-Putnam, Secretary

John Vojtko, Treasurer

Jeannette Moss, Board Director

Raymond Thomas, Board Director

Johnella Walker, Editor
johnellawalker@yahoo.com

Special thanks to Ed and Lee Hullings for printing our newsletter for us. This saves the homeowners the expense of copying and mailing the newsletter to each homeowner. So if you see them, thank them!!

For Questions or concerns about the HOA or the community itself, please forward them to **Roger Huntley** of Cline & Company – (Now Community Association Management)

Office Phone: 704 333-9601

Email: office@clineandco.com (Include 'Forest Pond' in subject line)

About Our Association

Forest Pond Homeowners Association

The Forest Pond HOA Board currently has five active Board Members with a self-imposed limit of nine Board Members. There are four active Committees within the HOA, the Forest Pond Neighborhood Watch, the Welcoming Committee, the Events Committee and the Architectural Standards Review Board.

Forest Pond Established 1996

The By-Laws on the Forest Pond Homeonwers' Association were established on 11 December 1995 and the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions Posted on 11 January 1996.

Forest Pond Information is on the Web!! Make the link a "favorite"!

<http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/charlotte/fphoa>

Have you read the Covenants and Restrictions, a.k.a. "Rules of the Neighborhood" lately?

Take a look, they're on the Community

Are you a good neighbor? Check this list and see...

While we may not be able to change the neighborhood in which we live, we can definitely change our own experiences that we have in our neighborhood by getting more involved with those around us and taking pride in the area where we live.

Here's a few things to that we can think about as we check to see if we are truly good neighbors:

- * I welcome new neighbors with an introductory note or a friendly chat.
- * I maintain the area around my house so that it's neat and attractive.
- * I am conscientious about noises that might disturb

my neighbors, such as music, loud talk and barking dogs.

- * I end parties at a reasonable hour. While I'm at it, I invite my neighbors to come, too.
- * I return everything I borrow from my neighbor as soon as possible. I express gratitude upon return the item(s) that I have borrowed.
- * I replace anything that belongs to my neighbor that I, my children or my pets break.
- * I respect my neighbor's privacy.
- * I offer to collect mail,

water plants and watch their pet(s) while my neighbors are away on a trip.

- * I will learn from my neighbors with cultural backgrounds that are different from my own.

Knowing the people around you can bring a sense of security. If you need something whether it's a cup of sugar when you're baking cookies, or someone to call the police if you see someone who doesn't look familiar to you hanging outside their home — it's nice to know that you can depend on those around you and they can depend on you.

Local plant sales are a great place to pick-up native plants!

CPCC Fall Plant Sale

October 2-3, 2009

10 am to 3 pm

CPCC Cato Campus

www1.cpcc.edu/horticulture

UNCC Fall Plant Sale

October 9-10, 2009

Fri. 10am-4pm/Sat. 9am-3pm

McMillan Greenhouse

<http://gardens.uncc.edu>

Wing Haven Plant Sale

October 7-10, 2009

10am to 4pm

Free Daily Programs during sale

Charlotte, NC 28209

www.winghavengardens.com