



Manor Lake Civic Association

September 2014

Next General Meeting October 1

All residents are invited to the next general meeting of the association that will be held on Wednesday, October 1, at the Flower Valley Elementary School, 4615 Sunflower Drive, beginning at 7:30 pm in the All Purpose Room. Please note the new location as the holding school on Bauer Drive is not available.

Geri Rosenthal with the Communities for Transit will give a brief presentation on the future bus rapid transit plan. Come hear the presentation and discuss your concerns. Meet your elected board members and let them know your ideas or suggestions for improvements to our community.

Other agenda items: Approval of minutes from last meeting, treasurer's report and budget overview, old business, and any new business items raised.

Attention All Veterans & Service Members

As a convenience to our neighborhood veterans and service members, the Manor Lake Civic Association, together with the Flower Valley Citizens Association, will be locally hosting the next meeting of the Montgomery County Commission on Veterans Affairs. The meeting will take place on Tuesday, November 18 from 6-7:30 pm. We are awaiting confirmation of the exact location. We hope this will be convenient for those of you in our community who wish to attend. Watch for details to follow.

Fun Fact

Did you know that when the leaves turn colors in the fall, they actually are returning to their normal colors? During the summer months, the chlorophyll present in the leaves causes the leaves to turn green, blocking the leaves' actual colors.

Letter from the President



Welcome Fall! And a warm welcome to our new 2014 – 2015 Manor Lake Board members – Vice President – Phyllis Taylor, Treasurer – Susanne Mehlman, Secretary – Rae Kordell, At Large Board

Members - Bill Barrett, Diana Blais, Jim Brown, Don Seifert and Jeff Seifert (Don & Jeff are not related). We are all looking forward to serving the community for the upcoming year.

A quick shout out to our social committee to thank them for putting on another great National Night event with Flower Valley this past August. Our committee members in charge are JoEllen Hayes Paula Marple, Brenda Rose, Phyllis Taylor and Patty Vossler. We had a very good turnout and the event was enjoyed by many.

Upcoming this Fall - look for Manor Lake's new Facebook page which will be up and running in late October. "Like" our page and look for upcoming events and exciting neighborhood news here in addition to our website.

Supporting the Manor Lake Civic Association as President in the continuing effort to keep Manor Lake a safe and caring community is something I look forward to in the upcoming year. Please feel free to send me any feedback, comments or suggestions to keep Manor Lake a vibrant community. Manor Lake is a great neighborhood to be in and I'm glad to be part of it.

And don't forget to join us at the next General meeting which will take place on Wednesday, October 1st at Flower Valley Elementary school beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Best wishes,

Michelle

Michelle Miller Bean



Volunteer Appreciation Party

This year as in the past we will host an appreciation party for all Manor Lake residents who have volunteered their time to our community. Watch for your invitation if you were a volunteer this past year.

New Community Directory

Based on feedback from previous general meetings, we would like to produce a new community directory for the 2015 budget year. We have some volunteers but could use more and we still need a chairperson.

If you are interested, please contact Michelle Bean at 240-876-8280 or via email at mbeanx44@verizon.net.

New Landscape Contractor

Our contract for landscaping the islands at the entrances of our community expired on August 31. The MLCA Executive Board has reviewed bids from a number of landscape contractors and has signed a new contract that offers significant savings to the community for the coming year.

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

To safely dispose of your unused or expired prescription medications, take them on Saturday, Sept. 27, between 10 am and 2 pm to one of the locations listed on the flyer on our website. Go to www.manorlake.org, "External Links" or "Calendar" then click the link for the "flyer" for complete details and all locations. This is a free service.

Surrounded by Paper?

The Manor Lake Civic Association is considering holding a community shredding event sometime during the 2014-2015 fiscal year. In order to assess the feasibility of the event, we need to gauge interest. Due to the costs of bringing a shredding truck into the community, this would NOT be a free event for MLCA members, but if there is enough interest from our community, there could be special pricing for members, and we could extend the service to surrounding neighborhoods, with a sliding price scale.



If you are interested in participating, please send an email with "Shredding" in the subject line to ptmlboard@gmail.com (or call 301-460-5581 and leave a message) with the



information that you are interested in participating, and approximately how many "average" sized boxes of paper you believe you need shredded (an "average" size box is

approximately the size of a carton of paper – 10 reams – or about 20-25 pounds). If there is enough interest, we will try to time this event for after tax season in 2015.

Bullying in Schools

Montgomery County's Office of Human Rights, the Committee on Hate/Violence and Montgomery College will co-host a town hall meeting about bullying in schools on Sunday, September 28 from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Silver Spring Civic Building, One Veterans Place. For more information please call 240-777-8450.

Youth Cruiser SmarTrip Cards

Libraries and Schools partner with the Ride on Bus System to sell Youth Cruiser cards at all 21 County Libraries and 20 of the County's schools.

It's Time to Join the Manor Lake Civic Association

The Manor Lake Civic Association fiscal year is October 1st through September 30th; therefore, it's time to kick-off the 2014-2015 annual membership drive.

BENEFITS FOR MEMBERS:

The Bulk Item Collection program instituted last year was a big hit with Manor Lake Residents. Families who join or renew their membership by November 30th are eligible for a free curbside bulk item collection. The next event is being planned for the 2nd Saturday of December (12/13/14) – just in time to clear out your home to make room for holiday parties and guests. Another collection will be scheduled for members in April. (NOTE: members may use this service **only one time** during the membership year). To take advantage of this offer, pay your dues, then send your street address via email with the subject:

“Bulk Item Pick-Up” to Phyllis Taylor at ptmlboard@gmail.com or phone 301-460-5581. This is a **members' only** benefit, but paying your dues does NOT automatically sign you up for the bulk pick-up – you **MUST** sign up via email or by phone to participate.



Your Civic Association Board makes dues dollars stretch a long way, but resident participation is necessary. For less than the cost of filling up your gas tank, you can help your neighbors keep the Manor Lake community one of the most sought after addresses in the area. Your \$40 membership is the best buy around!

Civic Association dues cover a myriad of things:

- Neighborhood Watch
- Seasonal landscaping and maintenance of the two entrances
- Insurance for our entrances and common areas
- Solar lighting costs at each entrance
- Capital improvements
- Facility rental costs for general meetings
- Newsletter printing and mailing costs
- Manor Lake Social Activities
 - National Night Out Activities & Ice Cream Social
 - Biennial Meet 'n Greet
 - Neighborhood Yard Sale
 - Manor Lake Garden Tour (held periodically)
 - Volunteer Appreciation Party
- Signage for meetings and social events
- Welcome for new residents
- And more

Please complete the membership form in this newsletter and send it in today – or better yet, use the EASIEST METHOD – [click here](#) or log onto www.manorlake.org and click on the “[Pay MLCA Dues Online](#)” to make a secure payment via PayPal or credit card. Note: you don't have to be a PayPal member.

Photos from the National Night Out Social, August 5, 2014



Fall Lawn and Garden Information

It's that time of year again when many of us think about our lawns, gardens and what we need to do to help them best survive the cold winter months ahead. The following is an article that provides some guidance on the subject followed by another listing many resources available to you. We hope you find these useful.

Fall Planting/Lawn Care

Before we know it fall will be upon us so it is time to think about preparing your yards for winter, as well as adding some spring color for next year. Fall is the best time of the year to fertilize your garden and lawn, preferably with an organic fertilizer. (Remember lawn fertilization for residents is prohibited between November 15 and March 1.) For gardens, I personally recommend natural blend, low numbered, slow release fertilizers like Hollytone or Plantone. Even better is to mulch your gardens with Leafgro (a compost produced here in Maryland) instead of shredded hardwood, because it is the very best way to "grow" the soil in your garden and give plants a healthy root base and feed them naturally. Strengthening the root system in the fall is the key to helping plants survive a hard winter. It's also important to make sure they are well watered in the fall because roots need to have enough moisture stored for winter. You may also find that the fall colors in your plants will improve with this treatment, as well. *[For more information on Maryland's fertilizer law and how to fertilize lawns, see the "External Links" section at www.ManorLake.org]*



As you may know, fall is the time to get your spring and summer blooming bulbs planted. These bulbs are usually "blossom-ready" for next year and many will divide and spread. Good deer-proof bulbs are daffodils, jonquils, hyacinths, wood hyacinth (for shade), Alliums (late spring bloom), muscari (grape hyacinths), scilla siberica (a lovely small, deep blue early bloomer), snow drops, chionodoxa (small flowers in light pink, or blue in early spring), or for those who want something really

showy, there is the Crown Imperial (Fritillaria) which is also vole and rabbit proof!

Lastly, pruning out dead or diseased wood in your shrubs or trees is a must, however fall is NEVER a good time to do general pruning of shrubs except to lightly shape them or remove some branches that have grown in the way of a path or other area that requires unfettered access. Do NOT trim your hedges now; you would be removing the healthy part of the new growth which is sending energy down to the roots to prepare it for winter. Please wait to do your general trimming and shaping until next year. The general rule is to prune evergreens and other shrubs which DO NOT bloom in the spring (!) in late February or March, and prune the spring blooming plants right after they bloom in spring.



If any Manor Lake residents have questions about seasonal gardening, I'd be happy to answer them personally. Happy gardening! Pat Wainwright, Garden Designer & Consultant, Johnson's Florist & Garden Centers; Patwainwright25@gmail.com or 240-447-3740

Resources Galore!

We are so fortunate to live in an area where questions regarding trees, shrubs, perennials, annuals, fruits and veggies can be answered so readily. Depending on the time of day, need to have a specimen analyzed or your preference for face-to-face interaction, answers can be found in our area from local and regional experts.

For those who prefer talking with someone, be sure to check out the following plant clinics staffed by Montgomery County Master Gardeners:

- 1) Twinbrook Library – Saturday mornings from April – September
- 2) Olney Farmer's Market – Sunday 9AM – 1 PM from May -October
- 3) Rockville Farmer's Market – Saturday 9 AM – 2 PM from April – October
- 4) Wheaton Regional Library – Sundays 1-4 PM

The Home and Garden Information Center, a University of Maryland Extension Service, answers plant and pest questions Monday to Friday, from 8 AM to 1 PM at 800-342-2507.

For those who prefer reading, like videos and are computer savvy, check out these resources:

- 1) Home and Garden Information Center provides free, research-based, sustainable gardening information to Marylanders. Sign up for their monthly newsletter. Their website is www.extension.umd.edu/hgic
- 2) GIEI (Grow It Eat It) is a statewide initiative focused on growing fruits, veggies both summer and fall. Their website is: www.extension.umd.edu/growit
- 3) Victory Gardens , continues in a modern format at: www.montgomeryvictorygardens.org

If you like attending conferences or workshops where you can share ideas and learn from others, be sure to check out:

- 1) Brookside Gardens Experience Magazine for a list of their lectures and workshops. Details can be found at: http://www.montgomeryparks.org/brookside/documents/Xper_Fall2014.pdf
- 2) Montgomery County Master Gardeners hosts a Spring Conference in late February each year.
- 3) Grow It Eat It Open Houses take place in late Spring and early Summer.

Submitted by Vivienne Burke, Montgomery County Master Gardener and Manor Lake resident

October 2014 – September 2015
Manor Lake Civic Association Membership Application
Directory Information and Dues Form

MLCA Membership dues are collected on a fiscal year schedule (October 1 – September 30). As prescribed in the Manor Lake Civic Association By-Laws, dues payment is required for full participation in the Civic Association, including voting privileges and certain other benefits. Please complete the form below and mail it with your payment to the address below.

Manor Lake Civic Association
P.O. Box 768
Rockville, MD 20851

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____ Indicate whether New, Changed or Add'l: _____

By default, your e-mail address will NOT be included in the directory and will be only used for e-mail news and information from MLCA. Initial here if it is OK to include your email address in the directory. _____

Please exclude from future directories: My name _____ My phone number _____

How do you prefer the quarterly or semi-annual newsletters be delivered? E-mail _____ U.S. Mail _____ Both _____

Members only benefit - Free Curbside Bulk Item Collection: Planned for December 13, 2014 & April 18, 2015. Members may participate in one. To participate, pay your 2014-2015 dues and send your name, street address and desired date with subject: Bulk Item Collection, to Phyllis Taylor, email: ptmlboard@gmail.com, or call 301-460-5581

I am interested in volunteering for:

_____ Neighborhood Watch	_____ Block Captains/Membership	_____ Social
_____ Traffic/Roads/Pedestrian Safety	_____ Environmental/Zoning/Health	_____ Garden Tour
_____ Newsletter/Communications	_____ New Directory Committee	_____ Other _____

I would like to advise on: _____ Information Technology _____ Political Liaison _____ Other _____

I am interested in the following club(s):

_____ Book _____ Card/Bridge _____ Gardening _____ Other: _____
(please describe)

My family can offer these services:

Family Member's name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Service: _____
(Examples: Babysitting, Pet sitting, Lawn mowing, Snow shoveling, Tutoring, etc.)

Dues Payment

Annual Dues.....\$ **40.00** + additional contribution..... \$ _____ = **Total Remitted \$** _____

Checks should be made payable to Manor Lake Civic Association. Or, to use our secure online payment service, click [here](#), or go to www.ManorLake.org and click "[Pay Your MLCA Membership Dues Online](#)."

Not yet registered on www.manorlake.org? Registration is free and separate from MLCA membership.

Thank you for your support



PO Box 768
Rockville, MD 20851

Questions? Issues? Need Action? - Dial 311

Did you know that dialing 311 allows you to call one easy to remember number to access Montgomery County information and services.



Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. The call center is closed on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. Trained representatives who speak Spanish are available, as is a language interpretation service for other languages. Customer service representatives and the online system use a state-of-the-art database of information and services about County government that can be continually updated so the most current facts are available.

You may also access information and create or track service requests on the website at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/311

The 311 system can quickly incorporate real time information in the event of a community event/emergency, like a water main break, H1N1 flu epidemic or weather-related incident.