

The NEWCOMER



UPCOMING EVENTS – Hold the dates and read this and following Newsletters for more details as dates are finalized

9 February 2008 - Chili Cook-off
TBD May 2008 - Sand Day

TBD March 2008 - Happy Hour Party
TBD July 2008 - Tour of the Lake Barcroft Dam

TBD April 2008 - Dinner Out
TBD August 2008 - Beach Barbeque

December Holiday Party



Our Hosts: Jason and Izabella Iannotti



Some of the crew who worked the party: Elf Matt Friedman, Lisa Levine, Daphne Butas, and Santa Joe Pisciotta.

About 85 neighbors converged at the spacious, recently renovated home of our hosts, Jason and Izabella Iannotti on December 8, 2007 for our annual gala Holiday Party and Gift Exchange. We were treated to a wonderful spread of delicious food and drink. Special mention goes to the many extra's including shrimp, beef, ham, wonderful deserts, wine, beer, champagne and GREAT eggnog (Thanks Daphne!).

Santa (Joe P.) and Elf (Matt F.) did their usual wonderful job with the gift exchange. This wonderful tradition of bringing unique (one might say "odd", others might say depraved) gifts for the exchange goes back to the earliest recorded history of LB Newcomers, and this year's gift givers made some creative selections. Dear reader - please witness some of the modern wonders that were unwrapped, presented for all to see, and "stolen" many times in exchange for a chance at another wrapped gift, until all were distributed. A great evening of fun and friendship was had by all.



A "Talking Flyswatter??"



Kim Mills and Joanne Dale check out the "Talking Fish"

Special thanks to Jason and Izabella Iannotti - hosts, Colleen Coyle and Chris Lyons - coordinators, Joe Pisciotta - Santa, Matt Friedman -Elf, Heather Thomas, Trish Gomersall, Daphne and Aras Butas, Kim Smith and Kim Mills, Missy and Jeff Henrickson, Winifred and Paul Mulligan, Lisa Levine, Ralph Petta, Sam West and Laura Partridge.

Greetings from your new Newcomer editor(s)

Martin and Lois Mandelberg of 6303 Waterway Place are pleased to have been elected (*Some might say shanghaied by Matt after we all drank copious amounts of champagne and GREAT eggnog at the Holiday Party!*) as co-editors of the Newcomer newsletter. (*Matt - watch out – we know where you live!*) We both look forward to picking up the reins from our talented outgoing editor, Jerry Ellig, and working with many of our LB neighbors to continue to provide an informative, interesting, and (hopefully) exciting newsletter. We welcome your comments, suggestions, and help in providing items of interest for our new and "experienced" Newcomers in this wonderful Lake Barcroft community. **Jerry – Thanks for all of your help in making the transition go smoothly.**

Next Event: Chili (and Cornbread) Cook-off Contest



This annual event is so popular that registration is expected to fill our available slots early. Please check your calendars, open your recipe book, and send an email to newcomersRSVP@gmail.com to reserve your place to be one of the first 15 chili recipe contestants (limit of 15), a cornbread contestant (open to all), or just attend and sample the goodies!!! **People who want to bring chili must state so in their reservation e-mail. We can ONLY take reservations by e-mail.**

When: Saturday 9 February 2008 from 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Where: Home of John and Susan Kampschror, 6512 Dearborn Drive

What: Show off your favorite chili or cornbread recipe, or just sample the "fixings" of your LB NEWCOMER neighbors

Why: Because we like to eat chili, and it's another excuse to drink GOOD beer (as an antidote - and it's good for pain relief!)

Cost: \$8 per person member / \$10 nonmembers. Chili contestants get free admissions for up to 2 people

Bring: Chili Contestants: If you are informed that you are one of the first 15 contestants, please arrive with crock pots no later than 4:30PM. Others: Please bring cornbread, chips, a six-pack of GOOD Beer (we know the difference!), or something else to drink (wine?) if you don't drink Beer (why not?)

Wear: Casual attire (stain resistant and washable would help!)

A profile of our Chili Cook-off hosts appears on page 2.

Meet your Hosts for the 9 FEB 2008 Chili Cook-off: John and Susan Kampschorr, 6512 Dearborn Drive



John and Susan Kampschorr, hosts of the Newcomers Chili Cook-off in February, are natives of Northern Virginia but relatively new residents of Lake Barcroft. They moved into their stunningly renovated home on Dearborn Drive on Aug. 31, 2006. However, John's sister has lived in the lake since 1998 and both John and Susan knew about the neighborhood from growing up in Annandale and Arlington, respectively, and from living in Sleepy Hollow for nine years. John is a pilot for American Airlines and builds and renovates homes; Susan is a certified public accountant. They have three children, Davis, 5, Dean, 4, and Reagan, 8 months.

Why did you move to Lake Barcroft?

Susan: We always knew we'd do another house. We looked everywhere and kept coming back to this neighborhood.

John: We were looking to be on the lake, like everyone else. We would knock on doors and ask people if they wanted to sell. [One day] we were leaving the neighborhood and saw the "For Sale" sign on this house and that was it. We didn't debate it much at all.

What's your favorite local restaurant?

Sweetwater Tavern – "The food's always good," according to John.

What's your most memorable experience in the neighborhood?

Susan: Parades and the Newcomers Barge Party.

John: I hate to pick one thing. I think the gatherings, the different parties.

What's the best kept local secret?

Pizza Bazzano. "John's gone there since he was 5 years old and now it's our son's favorite pizza parlor," says Susan. (Not to give it away, but it's in Annandale where Braddock Road meets I-495.)

What's your favorite cocktail?

Susan: Dirty vodka martinis. Very dirty.

John: Heineken Light.

What convinced you to host the annual Chili Cook-off?

John: We like throwing parties. We have enjoyed all of the functions we've attended in Lake Barcroft and we felt we'd like to help out and produce a nice event.

-- Kim I. Mills

Newest Lake Barcroft Neighbors

Welcome our new neighbors!

John Barkely and Robyn Matlin 3427 Barger Drive

Pheroza and Sunit Doshi 6509 Lakeview Drive

We list new neighbors in The Newcomer after confirming that they have actually moved into their house – usually via delivery of a Newcomers' Club gift bag or their response to a post card mailing. If you are new in the neighborhood and have not received a gift bag from the Newcomers' Club, or know of a new arrival, please contact Winifred and Paul Mulligan at Wmulligan2002@yahoo.com, or 703-642-3914.

Thanks to Retiring Board Members and Welcome to New Board Members

A BIG thank-you to both Jerry Ellig and Sandy Chiong who are retiring as Newsletter Editor and Welcome Bag Coordinator. Congratulations to our new Board Members. Kim Mills will take over as Vice President from her previous At Large Board position. Winifred and Paul Mulligan will take over Welcome Bags and much more from their previous At Large Board positions. Martin and Lois Mandelberg will join the Board as Editor(s) of the Newsletter. Daphne Butas will join the Board in an At Large Position.

Newcomers' Board

Board members serve staggered terms to promote continuity. At-large Board membership volunteer to coordinate events or take on other important club functions.

President: Miranda Thomas
(2008) randaf77@yahoo.com 703-942-5775

Vice President: Kim Mills
(2009) Onthelake63@hotmail.com 571-216-5596

Treasurer: Warren Russell
(2008) russelljw@cox.net 703-750-0596

Hospitality: Trish Gomersall
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Membership: Heather Thomas
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Matt Friedman
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Results of the Festive Home Decoration Contest

This year marked the first Festive Home Decoration Contest sponsored by the Newcomers Club. Given the warmth, energy and enthusiasm our neighborhood always puts into everything they do, we look forward to this tradition growing over the coming years.

This year's competition reflected the hard work of twenty families, all passionately showing off their creativity and hard work. This presented a harder than expected challenge for our judges.

On one clear and cold evening, our intrepid judges started up their boats and cars and embarked on the task of studying the handiwork of our festive neighbors. They drove and floated hither and yon like wise men looking for a star. The time and energy our neighbors put into their displays, warmed our hearts, brought back memories and in some cases even required the use of sunglasses! There were houses festooned with lights to show off the house or dock, there were others that created fantasy lands with polar bears and elves. There were stories told in lights and others who embraced the task with such exuberance that defy description.

So, our shivering but happy judges returned from their evening jaunt with two unanimous thoughts in their mind; we live in a very happy neighborhood with tons of holiday spirit, and it was amazing how many feelings a simple string of lights can evoke.

We heartily thank all of those who participated in making this a wonderful event and for creating a mood in the neighborhood. Congratulations to everyone who participated this year! Without further ado, we are excited to announce our 2007 winners and award categories and invite you to drive by and catch these amazing sights while they last.

Thanks to George McLennan who photographed all of the homes, and Audrey Denson (of Densondesign.com in Hollywood, Florida who designed the award signs.

Best Overall: Walter Richter and Jennifer Mack, 3606 Pinetree Terrace. Displayed a combination of traits from all of the categories. This was the home that showed the most passion, creativity, and elegance while setting a holiday mood. Four pictures follow on this page for our Best Overall Winner!!!



Details of the other winners and award categories follow on the next page.

Best Use of Light: Scott Horton, Mike Newsome, and Michael Heaney, 6130 Beachway Drive. This category is focused on the best lighting design. This prize is awarded to the house that most effectively uses a diverse selection of lights to create a unique mood.



Most Wattage (otherwise known as the "Clark Griswold" award): (Tie!! – the combined effect is great!). Todd and Sam West, 6213 Waterway Drive and Donna & Tobin James, 6211 Waterway Drive. This category is focused on the lighting display that best captures the night. The prize is awarded to recognize the hard work that was endured to turn the darkness of night into a fantasy in lights.



Most Class: Rick Hastings, 3405 Fiddlers Green. This category is focused on the lighting display that shows the most class. The prize is awarded to the house that shows an elegant use of subtle lighting and color to create a tasteful display. The lighting most closely compliments that house and the yard while conveying the holiday spirit.



Most Wattage (First Half): Sam and Todd West - 6213 Waterway Drive.



Most Wattage (Second Half): Donna & Tobin James - 6211 Waterway Drive.



Most Nostalgic: Don and Ruth Christian, 6343 Waterway Drive. This category is focused on the display that best reminds us of holidays past. The prize is awarded to the house that best evokes memories of the holidays of our youth.



Please fill out your Surveys!

The Lake Barcroft Newcomers' Club board wants to find out what is on the minds of our members, and designed a very brief online survey. We want to know what annual and new events you are most interested in, your feedback on Newcomer activities, and how you can help the Newcomers' Club in 2008. If you have not already done so, please fill out the online survey at www.shrinkurl.us/NCsurvey08. The survey will remain open through the end of January 2008. We will analyze the results and put them to work in making this a stellar year. Please reply and give us your inputs now!!

Lake Barcroft Newcomers' Club Membership Form

Dues for the fiscal year are \$20 per household for Sept 2007 - Sept 2008.

Make checks (in \$US) payable to LB Newcomers.

Members receive discounted admission to most Club events.

Mail to Heather Thomas, 3319 Stoneybrae Drive, Falls Church, VA, 22044.

Names of Household Members:

Street Address:

Falls Church, VA

Zip Code: _____

Phone(s):

E-mail(s):

Is this a new membership? Yes No

New Member Move-In Date:

Volunteers Needed!

I want to pitch in to help make the Newcomers' Club go! Please contact me about:

- Helping with drop-off of gift bags and greeting new neighbors
- Hosting an event in our home (Club brings all supplies and provides setup/clean-up)
- Coordinating an event
- Assisting with setup/cleanup and/or other logistics involved with an event
- Writing, photography, or other work on the Newcomer's Club's newsletter
- Other (Be creative! How can you help?)