



# Langley Oaks Newsletter

Fall 2008

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## Langley Oaks Homeowners Association

P.O. Box 681, McLean, VA 22101

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

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**LANGLEY OAKS NEEDS YOU:** Perhaps this year's historic presidential election got your wheels turning. Perhaps you feel as though you're destined for greatness, but don't quite know how to take that first step. Well, becoming a member of the Langley Oaks Homeowners Association Board of Directors may be just the launching pad you seek!

Our association is governed by a nine member Board of Directors. These neighbors, who volunteer their time and talents, are elected by the general membership, in February, to serve three-year terms.

The terms of Keith Fischler, Doug Goldhush and Andrew Hirsch end in February 2009. We thank them for their service.

Now the Board seeks YOU, a candidate with fresh ideas, to join us in ensuring that Langley Oaks remains a vibrant, thriving and desirable neighborhood.

If you are interested in being considered for a 2009-2012 term position, or know someone who would be, please contact Liz Holzapfel, Nominating Committee Chair, Specific board assignments are always made after the election at the General Membership meeting in February.

**BOARD REVIEWS VERIZON WIRELESS PROPOSAL:** The Board of Directors invited representatives of Verizon Wireless to its

quarterly meeting in September, to review a proposal by Verizon to increase area bandwidth coverage. Verizon is seeking a special exemption from the County to extend an existing pole antenna, located on top of a Langley High School sports field lighting pole, by 18 feet (from 75 to 93 feet). The new antennae will increase Verizon subscribers' coverage in the area between Dolley Madison Boulevard and the Beltway.

Wherever possible, Fairfax County encourages service providers to use existing facilities on the property of a "consenting agency" (such as LHS – which will receive an annual fee from Verizon) rather than erect new poles.

The Board had no objection to Verizon moving this proposal forward through normal vetting channels which include the MCA Planning and Zoning committee, other public hearings, and FCC licensing.

**LOHA HALLOWEEN PARADE A STRONG TRADITION:** Once again, the annual Halloween parade drew neighborhood witches and wizards, pirates and princesses of all ages. Led by the McLean Volunteer Fire Department's rescue truck, paraders and their parents walked in the warm sunshine from Heatherbrook Court to Heidi Court, where everyone gathered to enjoy refreshments and neighborly banter. A collection of more than \$100 was taken for the McLean Fire Department.



**Neighborhood children enjoy checking out the McLean Volunteer Fire Dept.'s Rescue Truck at the annual Halloween Parade.**

Many thanks go to neighbors Nina Grossman and Amy Swaak for organizing this year's parade. If you would like to get involved with planning community activities, please contact our Community Activities Chairs

**ANNUAL DUES:** The Community Association Institute to which LOHA belongs recommends that every association annually publish its collection procedures for the benefit of its members. The Oaks' collection procedure is as follows:

When purchasing a home in the Oaks, the buyer agrees via the Covenants to pay the annual assessment. On January 15<sup>th</sup>, the Treasurer mails each owner a letter stating the amount of the dues and that they are payable by the last day of February.

While almost everyone pays by the February deadline, each year some stragglers need a reminder, which is sent shortly after March 1<sup>st</sup>. For those whose payments are not received by April 1<sup>st</sup>, another reminder is sent. On or before June 1<sup>st</sup>, any accounts still unpaid are turned over to legal counsel for collection.

When necessary, LOHA has placed judgments against delinquents, liens on houses or garnished bank accounts. Obviously such action needlessly consumes time and money – so everyone's cooperation is requested.

**IF A TREE FALLS IN THE WOODS:** Well, hopefully the steps taken by LOHA Maintenance Chairs Andrew Hirsch and Craig Liddell will ensure that trees don't fall in the woods because they are unsound.

LOHA has hired an arborist, who assessed the health of trees on common property owned by the neighborhood, and on property owned by the county that borders the neighborhood. Arrangements are being made to remove several trees that should be taken down as a precaution for nearby Oaks residents; a letter will be sent to County officials to notify them about parkland area trees that should also be removed.

**MAKING CHANGES:** All property in the Oaks is subject to LOHA's Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions. This document requires that property owners obtain *written approval* from the Architectural Control Committee before constructing or altering any structure, erecting certain fences, or cutting any hardwood trees. Using the form inside the cover of this newsletter will ensure your request contains all the information needed by the ACC to consider your project. It is strongly recommended that you have the form signed by your immediate neighbors, which can expedite the review process. Mail the form to: LOHA ACC, P.O. Box 681, McLean, VA 22101-0681.

## **LANGLEY OAKS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION**

### **BOARD ASSIGNMENTS ~ March 2008 through March 2009**

(Please note that board assignments change each year, as new members are elected and as members' work preference and experience changes.)

President – Andrew Hirsch ('09)

Vice President – Doug Goldhush ('09)

Secretary – John Speicher ('10)

Treasurer – John Bender ('10)

Architectural Control Chair – Keith Fischler ('09)

Audit Committee Chair – Craig Liddell ('11)

Community Activities Committee – Suzanne Samuels ('10) and Liz Holzapfel ('11)

County and State Liaison – Doug Goldhush

Maintenance – Andrew Hirsch and Craig Liddell

McLean Citizens Association – Suzanne Samuels

Neighborhood Safety – Andrew Hirsch

Newsletter Editor – Liz Holzapfel

Website Committee – Keith Fischler

Welcome Committee – Ron Torrence ('11)

**WELCOME TO LANGLEY OAKS:** If you know a new family, or if you are a new family, please contact Board Member and Welcome Chairperson Ron Torrence so he can provide a proper "welcome to the neighborhood." He also will deliver some materials to include the latest Directory, recent

newsletters, LOHA documents, bumper ID stickers and the like. This information is also added to the directly, either directly or via updates published in the newsletter.

~~Please welcome:~~