

Truro Trails

December 2002



❧ Happy Holidays ❧

TRURO HOMES ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EMAIL

President	Dave Watts	president@trurohomes.info
Vice President	Thom Goertel	vicepresident@trurohomes.info
Director	Patty Vinall	director.patty@trurohomes.info
Director	Bob Grey	TBD
Director	Julia Ruskin	TBD

COMMITTEES

EMAIL

BOARD LIAISON

Architectural Control	Pat Halpin Mary Johnson	acc@trurohomes.info	Dave Watts
Landscape	Judy Molseed Catherine Bergstrom Muff Philipps Ann Grey	landscape@trurohomes.info	Thom Goertel
Neighborhood Watch	Heather Davies Diane DeTroye Michelle Lucas	NW@trurohomes.info	
Parkland	Hamp Oberle	parkland@trurohomes.info	Thom Goertel
Pool	Marion Yanick	Pool@trurohomes.info	Patty Vinall
Publicity	Cathy Bostak	publicity@trurohomes.info	
Social	Marleen Richlak	social@trurohomes.info	Thom Goertel
Tennis	OPEN	tennis@trurohomes.info	
Traffic Task Force	OPEN	traffic@trurohomes.info	
TCC	Tom Allen	tcc@trurohomes.info	
Web Site	Ferris Kaplan	website@trurohomes.info	

OTHER ACTIVITIES/GROUPS

Clubhouse Reserv./Rental	Carol Goertel	clubhouse@trurohomes.info	
Cub Scout Pack 1864	Bruce Summers Nancy Boehling	cubscouts@trurohomes.info	
Dive Team	Bill & Fawn Horr	dive@trurohomes.info	Patty Vinall
Record Keeper/Membership	Elaine Ferris	recordkeeper@trurohomes.info	
Swim Team	Marleen Richlak Susan Holbert	swim@trurohomes.info	Patty Vinall
Treasurer	Chuck Roper	treasurer@trurohomes.info	
Truro Trails	Michelle Lucas	trurotrails@trurohomes.info	

DEADLINE FOR TRURO TRAILS: 25th of each month

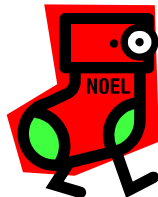
SEND INPUT TO: trurotrails@trurohomes.info

Inside this Issue...

- 1
- 2 **THA List of Names**
- 3 **THA General Membership Mtg, 11/20**
- 4 **THA Mtg 11/20 cont'd**
- 5 **THA Board Minutes, 11/14**
- 6 **VOLUNTEERS**
- 7 **Committee News / This-N-That**
- 8 **This-N-That cont'd**
- 9 **Classified / Holiday Safety Tips**

Attached to the Truro Trails as an exhibit is an important flyer on garage doors.

Please read!



DECEMBER MEETINGS

All are welcome!!

TCC, Tuesday, December 3rd at 7:00pm

ACC, Tuesday, December 10th at 8:00pm

THA BOARD, Thursday, December 12th at 6:30pm

Meetings are held at the clubhouse unless otherwise stated.

Truro Homes Association General Membership Meeting November 20, 2002

By Bob Garrett, THA Secretary

President Dave Watts called the meeting to order at 7:40pm, a quorum being present represented by 26 valid proxies and 21 persons signed in at the Clubhouse.

Cub Scout representative, Bruce Summers, discussed Cub Pack activities within the community and announced renewal of their charter under sponsorship of the THA. He thanked the assembled members and asked for suggestions on other community activities in which the Cub Scouts could engage.

Art Wells discussed community interactions with Fairfax County and the commonwealth of Virginia, especially with VDOT and their road improvement plans.

Pat Halpin discussed ACC and architectural activities, covering issues of compliance with existing architectural standards. Halpin also talked about the ADA surveys done earlier this year. He advised that ACC and TCC will work together to address specific issues and prepare a list of suggestions for improvements.

Marion Yanick discussed the recent pool season and announced that contract with Crystal will be extended another year. Watts expressed his appreciation for a job well done by Yanick.

Patty Vinall announced that Winter Swim is underway with good coaching and higher attendance than ever. She reported that our 2002 coaches will be returning this coming year and the TCC is getting bids for new lane lines and other swim apparatus.

Dave Watts applauded the Truro web site as a valuable source of information and a most complete source of up-to-date community news. Ferris Kaplan, Web Committee chair, briefly discussed

features of site and interactive capabilities of the community calendar.

Watts presented Treasurer's Report on behalf of Treasurer, Chuck Roper. \$35,000 - cash in bank \$370,000 in T-Bills @1.6% - 1.8%. It was reported that expenditures are in line with the budget and that there are no anticipated overages.

The Nominating Committee named Julia Ruskin and Bob Gray as candidates for the new 2003 Board to fill the positions of Ken Lucas and Bob Garrett, whose terms are expiring. They were approved by acclamation.

THA Budget for 2003 was approved with the assessment to be \$165. TCC Budget for 2003 was approved with the assessment to be \$310.

Watts discussed alcohol policy, stating that a banquet license was required to serve or consume alcohol on the premises of TCC and pool. Posted signs at the pool declare that alcohol is not allowed on the property and members are expected to honor that restriction. Violators are subject to a Class 6 misdemeanor. Watts also explained why TCC did not pursue other remedies such as used by Elks Club, etc.

Watts introduced Hamp Oberle, Parkland Committee chair, who proposed a new playground facility on the end of the lower TCC parking lot. Oberle discussed issues and alternatives. Elizabeth and Ossian Hall playgrounds have been completed. Installation of "bouncy animals" at each site is underway. These are suitable for the "younger set."

Oberle explained that he proposed the new pool playground because of changing safety issues and more stringent requirements both for child safety (2 years or older) and ADA compliance. Condition of old pool playground is poor with worn equipment and overgrown trees in play zones. Playground surface is sloped and no longer suitable.

Hamp suggested adapting area at far end of lower parking lot, it being level with no tree encroachment. Grounds may require up to 2500 square feet. Costs range from \$21,000 to \$24,000 including new impact absorbing surfacing material and border timbers. Julia Ruskin expressed

concerns about traffic and unattended children especially during swim and dive meets. Mary Johnson reminded of proximity to Wakefield Forest school playgrounds. Scout leader Summers spoke in favor of a playground on TCC property as an asset. Halpin expressed reservations on basis of compromising the county-required parking for TCC. Many more comments followed, suggesting a strong interest among community members. All are invited to attend TCC meeting when playgrounds are discussed.

Mary Johnson expressed appreciation for Watts efforts on the Board this year. Julia Ruskin thanked Sue Lamote and Marlene Richlak for their work on the Social Committee and for food presentation at the general meeting. Art Wells reflected on the spirit of volunteerism and its value to the community. Mrs. Gray expressed appreciation to Oberle and Parkland Committee for the excellent work done to keep the Truro parkland in fine condition.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.



Something "Cool" to Do in Your Lifetime...

Travel to New York City and go ice skating at Rockefeller Center during the holidays!



Truro Homes Association Board of Directors Meeting November 14, 2002

By Bob Garrett, THA Secretary

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 - All members present. Jeff DeTroye (Parklands) and Janice Yohai (Cub Scout Pack) attended to discuss Board business. Roper present for financial discussions; Halpin attended to discuss ACC matters.

1. **Open forum** for comments, questions and communications from THA and TCC members - no others present.

2. **Board approved minutes** of last meeting as published in the *Truro Trails* with an amendment to reflect that the Board subsequently approved rescheduling the Halloween party after the sniper was caught.

3. Review of **committee liaisons** - no changes.

4. **Financial:** Roper presented the Treasurer's Report and showed that the 2002 operating expenses are in line with the projected budget. Our bottom line is almost \$410,000 in total assets.

5. **Committee reports:**

ACC - an appeal was made by the owner of 8106 Yerkes Place, of ACC's determination of non-compliant garage doors. The owner sought a waiver of the ACC Guidelines, which forbid raised panel garage doors. The Board rejected appeal for waiver.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Insurance update:** ACC members and THA committees ARE COVERED.

2. **2003 Budget:** no changes or comments by Board members.

3. Regarding **law firms** that responded to our request for proposals **to handle THA legal work**, such as ACC compliance issues and possible

litigation; review of proposals from responsive law firms will be postponed until the new Board is seated.

4. **Volunteer party:** Committee chairs plan to set up tables, except ACC, which will have a representative present to show approved color samples and answer questions. Door prizes include a Marriott Gift Certificate and a pool membership \$100 credit, and a free Clubhouse rental.

5. **Board selection of Truro volunteer(s) of the year:**

Truro Lifetime Community Service Award:

CHUCK & JANE ROPER

Truro Outstanding Volunteers:

**MARLEEN RICHLAK
MICHELLE LUCAS
HAMP OBERLE
SUE LAMOTE
MARION YANICK
MARY JOHNSON**

6. Following the final report from the Nomination Committee, Watts thanked the committee for its work.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Parklands playground development plan:** Jeff DeTroye presented a report on our efforts to comply with Consumer Product Safety Commission Guidelines. Identified numerous problems with pool-side playground that affect safety and usability of site. Wakefield, Elizabeth, and Ossian Hall playground renovations are NEARLY completed. Recommends developing a new site on about 2500sf of the lower TCC parking lot at cost of about \$18,000 - \$20,000. Board asked DeTroye to present concept at General Membership meeting and to work with TCC Committee to coordinate and develop plans and to prepare RFP.

2. **General Membership meeting:** Board approved agenda for November 20th. Will add alcohol prohibition, playground presentation and discussion of budget to covered business.

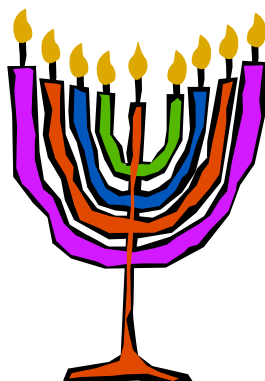
3. **Swimming pool contract:** Are there any additional terms or clarifications we need for the 2003 season? How about extra gate guard? Vinall will discuss with Marion Yanick what changes if any should be sought. Watts will have clubhouse re-keyed to improve access and security.

4. **Cub Scout Pack 1864:** Janice Yohai reported that the Cub Pack is re-chartering and asked the THA to continue its sponsorship. Board approved renewing for the coming year. Board was asked for suggestions on programs by which the Cubs can contribute to the community. Pack asked for and received permission to store their Pinewood Derby ramp at the clubhouse.

5. At 9:00am on December 9th, Watts will attend a meeting of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors where **Truro will receive an award/certificate from the County Board for being one of the "Great Places to Live" in the Washington DC Metro Area.**

6. **Landscaping concerns** expressed by grounds contractor (Professional Grounds) with regard to the new trees planted on slope below TCC's upper parking lot will be referred to the Landscape Committee for resolution.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:30pm



VOLUNTEERS

By Thom Goertel and Dave Watts

From the timers at our swim meets, to the helpers at our parties, from the members of our committees, to our newly elected Board, Truro is built upon the continuing hard work of our community's volunteers.

Realizing this, we on the Board of Directors have initiated, or more accurately have resurrected from the past, a program for recognizing our valued volunteers.

We kicked off this effort with the open house at the Truro Community Center on Saturday, November 16th. We threw the party to introduce Truro residents new and old to the neighborhood and its activities. At the event, many of our committees put up displays illustrating their activities along with requests for new committee members. We had success in encouraging more folks to get involved in many of the committees. We look forward to our Memorial Day open house where we will again highlight community activities and sign-up participants for the many programs and activities offered by the association and the community center.

In addition, we have instituted a modest recognition program. As you will note from the minutes of the November Board of Directors meeting, the Board recognized the many contributions of several of the THA and TCC members. In reviewing the many nominations we received, we discovered that the pent-up desire to show appreciation far exceeded our expectations. In this, our first effort, the Board selected six individuals from many other equally deserving folks. It was a difficult selection. Looking back, we think it is fair to say that we have a "back log" for recognition. Nonetheless, the Board had to start some place in implementing this program, risking the criticism that it failed to recognize at this moment others who are equally deserving. Rest assured that we will continue this program next fall, again asking for nominations.

We also inaugurated a "Truro Lifetime Community Service Award," which will be commemorated on a

plaque in the Clubhouse entrance hall. Here, the names of extraordinary contributors to our community will be added. We started by recognizing Chuck and Jane Roper for their many years of work with the Truro Diving Program as well as their other many contributions, including Chuck's two terms on the Board of Directors.

This is just the beginning. Specifically, the Board will be looking to community residents for other names to add to the plaque of distinguished volunteers. We would like to include on the plaque - on an annual basis - recognition of those special folks who made significant contributions to the community in the past decades - the 1970's, the 1980's and the 1990's. We need to start to remember and recognize these friends and neighbors. In the upcoming months, the new Board will initiate a process of requesting nominations from the community of individuals who now, as well as in the past, have made significant contributions of their time and talents. The people who have helped make Truro one great place to live.



Committee News

Welcome New Neighbors!

By Cathy Bostak, Publicity Chairman

NEW THA/TCC MEMBERS

RICHARD L. PROSSER
4223 Elizabeth Lane, Annandale, VA 22003

Richard: First Virginia Bank, N.A.
Children: Amy – 1971; Courtney - 1978



Dollar\$ and \$en\$e

By Elaine Ferris, Recordkeeper

Online Directory: If you wish to be included in or to update your information in the Truro Online Directory (www.trurohomes.org, password: community), please contact Elaine Ferris at recordkeeper@trurohomes.info. I have been given some new software by the Web Site Committee that should make it easier to make changes in that directory.



This-N-That

CALLING ALL BRIDGE PLAYERS

We know you're out there, but we don't know who you are. Truro has several active bridge groups, at many different levels. If you think you would like to join a bridge group, please call Cathy Bostak at 703-xxx-xxxx or send an e-mail message to roncat@juno.com. Some groups play during the day, while others play in the evening. Just let us know what your preference is and we'll find a group you might like to join. It's a great way to meet your neighbors and sharpen up your bridge skills!



Techniques for Handling Annoying or Harassing Phone Calls

Anyone can be the victim of annoying or harassing phone calls. These may include random calls by pranksters or pushy sales representatives. Most can be prevented or avoided by learning and using some simple techniques to decrease your potential for victimization.

1. Use your phone on your terms. If the caller doesn't speak or if you simply don't feel comfortable talking to the caller, hang up. You are not obligated to speak to anyone.

2. Ask for the caller's identity or affiliation. If the caller refuses, hang up. Some silent callers are looking for a response and may want you to become scared or angry. Don't give them the satisfaction.
3. If the caller asks, "Who is this?" or "What number have I reached?" don't answer. Instead ask, "Whom do you want?" or "What number were you calling?" If the call is not legitimate, that will probably end it.
4. Don't give out any information unless you positively recognize the voice. Under no circumstances should you give the names of others living with you to someone who doesn't already know them.
5. If you have children, instruct them not to talk to strangers on the phone and not to say they are home alone. Teach your children to ask for the caller's name and number so someone can return the call later.

The bottom line is if you don't feel comfortable speaking to someone, hang up. Don't give out information and don't respond to questions unless you want to. If you feel you are the victim of malicious or threatening calls, contact the Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131 (voice and TTY).



Preventing Larcenies from Vehicles

On a daily basis, people report to police that items have been stolen from inside their parked cars. In some cases, thieves smash car windows, but other times, car doors are left unlocked, making it easier to get into the car. While there is no guaranteed method of preventing theft, here are a few tips to make your car a less appealing target.

- Keep your car doors locked and windows rolled up at all times, even if you are just going into a store for a minute.

- Belongings left in the car regularly should be stored in the trunk, glove compartment, or console, out of sight (especially during the holiday season while doing all your shopping!!).
- Don't leave valuables such as money, purses, wallets or cellular phones in plain view. You are only enticing a criminal to steal your belongings.
- At night, park in well-lit areas so the criminal does not have the advantage of hiding in the shadows.
- If you see someone lingering around cars in your neighborhood, please call the police at 703-691-2131 (voice and TTY).

Most criminals look for easy targets. Following these simple steps can help prevent you from becoming a victim.



Cub Scout Pack 1864 News

By Nancy Boehling

Thank you Truro! Scouting for food was a huge success. Our Pack collected over 375 bags of food from the Truro neighborhood. Over 62 scouts and 58 parents participated in this activity delivering bags on November 9th to hundreds of homes in Truro and returning on November 16th to collect the food. The bags were then taken to a local food bank for distribution to the needy in our area. Our Pack thanks the Truro community for their generosity. In the month of December, the scouts will be undertaking our traditional holiday service project by making sandwiches for Martha's Table.

Top of Form 1

Classified

AT YOUR SERVICE:

- **NEED A BABY-SITTER?** My name is Jackie White, a Frost Middle School student. I am certified to baby-sit by Fairfax INOVA hospital. I have been a mother's helper. I am very responsible, and an honor roll student. If you are interested, please call me at 703-426-2721.

FOR SALE:

- Need a cuddly place to study? Want to personalize a dorm room? We're selling **an almost new rattan Poppa San chair** with a forest green cushion that just might fit you perfectly - \$40. Call Chris at 703-425-6273.
- **Office furniture:** Desks: computer & regular, credenza, tables, etc. Call 703-764-1436.
- **Software for sale** - Windows XP Professional with SP1 - \$75. Are you using Cox High-Speed Internet and paying \$15/month for cable modem rental? Call me for cost-saving information. Need help with home networking to share a broadband Internet connection? Bill Ulman 703-323-6496.

WANTED:

- **Computer monitor:** Poor little computer in search of a monitor; anyone who is looking to get rid of an extra monitor, please call Kenny at 703-503-7952.

FOUND:

- **Boy's bike** was found near the Truro Community Center on Wednesday, 10/16/02. Would the owner please call 703-978-6541, give a description of the bike, and if correct stop by and pick it up.

Holiday Safety Tips for All



Tip#1 - Candles

Candle lighting ceremonies during Advent, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa are beautiful traditions, but keep matches, lighters and candles away from children and never leave burning candles unattended. These simple safety tips will help prevent many of the 10,000 candle-related fires that occur each year. Stay safe this holiday season; it's the best gift you can give.

Tip#2 - Lights

- Check each set of lights, new or old, for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, or loose connections, and throw out damaged sets.
- Use no more than three standard-size sets of lights per single extension cord.
- Never use electric lights on a metallic tree.
- Before using lights outdoors, check labels to be sure they have been certified for outdoor use.
- Turn off all lights when you go to bed or leave the house. The lights could short out and start a fire.



Tip#3 - Shopping

- When shopping for Christmas or Hanukkah gifts, don't leave your packages in plain view in your car.
- Do not go to an ATM alone at night (any time of year!).
- Don't carry a lot of cash. Also, don't display cash when paying for gifts at the register. Keep money in your wallet and only pull out what you need. Using credit cards is even better.

