

# Occoquan Landing Community Newsletter

## President's Message

I hope everyone had a happy and safe holiday season! Just as with most, the Occoquan Landing Board members have been taking it easy, spending time with family and friends. But now that the New Year is upon us it's time to reinvigorate the HOA activities. Therefore, in the spirit of openness, I am inviting all Occoquan Landing residents (renters and owners) to become active participants in future board meetings and especially the annual meeting that occurs every November. I understand we are all under time constraints (there just never seems to be enough of it!) but I want to encourage everyone to make the time to participate. If this is not possible, then please forward me, or any of the other board members, your concerns, comments, and/or suggestions.

The visitor parking decals are not available for distribution yet. We will not enforce the new sections of the revised Parking Regulations until the Board has distributed the regulations and decals. Hopefully, that will be completed in the next several weeks.

I wish you the best in 2005 and I look forward to working with you and for you to better our community.

## Occoquan Landing Community Board Members

- President - Michèle McQuigg 703-491-2294  
[mcquigg01@comcast.net](mailto:mcquigg01@comcast.net)
- VP/Architectural Control - Steve Heath 703-492-1170  
[heathroe2@yahoo.com](mailto:heathroe2@yahoo.com)

Contact before making any changes to the exterior of your home

- Secretary – Nayyar Zaidi 703-380-3982  
[nzaidiusa@yahoo.com](mailto:nzaidiusa@yahoo.com)
- Treasurer – Steve Bartram 703-494-8464  
[bartram@verizon.com](mailto:bartram@verizon.com)
- Parking - Earl Linton 703-494-3559  
[wel12@aol.com](mailto:wel12@aol.com)
- Maintenance/Grounds - Norman Howard 703-494-3904  
[howardn@ttnus.com](mailto:howardn@ttnus.com)
- Newsletter - Ximena Valdez 703-499-8810  
[ximenam@mail.stuartdean.com](mailto:ximenam@mail.stuartdean.com) or Libby Hogen-Heath  
[xwhitehouseintern@yahoo.com](mailto:xwhitehouseintern@yahoo.com)

Non-Board Member:

- Bookkeeper - Anna Longo 703-490-6802  
[alongo@covad.net](mailto:alongo@covad.net)

Contact to obtain HOA Disclosure Packet when selling your home

[www.occoquanlanding.org](http://www.occoquanlanding.org)

February 1, 2005

## Calendar of Events

Wednesday, February 2 –  
Ground Hog Day

Sunday, February 6 –  
Super Bowl  
Philadelphia Eagles vs.  
New England Patriots



Monday, February 14 –  
Valentine's Day  
Don't forget your sweetie!



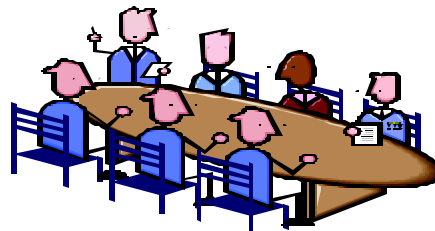
Monday, February 21 –  
President's Day

**Tuesday, March 1, 7:30 pm –  
Board Meeting (12788 Captains Cove)  
ALL WELCOME!**

November, TBA –  
Occoquan Landing Homeowner's  
Association Annual Meeting  
(Occoquan Town Hall)

## Welcome Committee

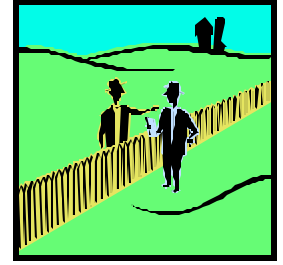
Are there any community members who may be interested in participating on a Welcome Committee? This committee would perform various "welcome" activities when new residents move into the community. Best case scenario would be to have at least one Welcome Committee member for each street in the neighborhood. If you are interested please contact Libby Hogen-Heath at 703-492-1170.



## Open Letter to the Community

### WHAT IS A GOOD NEIGHBOR?

Prologue: As I was determining how to write this letter I first looked up the word “neighbor” and the definition was not that engaging, “one living or located near another” according to Merriam-Webster online. Well, that kind of burst my bubble. How in the heck was I supposed to write a good letter based on “...living or located near another?” But Merriam-Webster provided, with all their infinite wisdom, a synonym for neighbor and lo and behold, “fellowman” defined as “a kindred human being” was something I could really sink my teeth into. Below are my personal beliefs on what it means to be a fellowman.



Dear Neighbor,

May I call you that, my fellowman? I have become increasingly distressed at the state of neighborly-ness in our neighborhood. I know we all have increasingly busy schedules but shouting out a “hello” or a friendly wave across the parking lot is surely not too much to ask. Whatever happened to the days of neighborhood block parties, BBQ’s, and community yard sales? Are they long gone? What happened to being able to trust your neighbor with a key to your house or being able to borrow some sugar or milk? Why is it that we avert our eyes when our neighbors approach rather than extend a hand of friendship? Are we really too wrapped up in our own lives that we have lost the ability to see the rewards that are reaped from interacting with our fellowman?

Some may call me a pessimist and some may call me crazy. Some may say I don’t have a clue...it’s not like that in my neighborhood, they’ll say. And they may be right. All I can do is speak from personal experience. I do have a few neighbors I’d like to say I can call “friend” but I would like to think of most of my neighbor’s as friends. I remember growing up in my childhood neighborhood knowing every single person who lived on my street; those who were my friends, those who were acquaintances, and those who used to yell at us and call our parents when we made too much noise. See? I’m not naive enough to think that everyone must be a friendly neighbor in order for a neighborhood to feel warm and inviting; no, everyone plays a role, I’m just confused as to why so many seem to have chosen the same role of apathetic neighbor?



I will freely admit I probably had delusions of grandeur when it came to the idea of owning my own house and living in a “real” neighborhood. I’m not asking for a lot here, just to think twice before calling the cops on your neighbor because they’re making a racket. Perhaps, instead, knock on the door...introduce yourself and kindly ask that they turn down the music. I’ll bet that you’ll make a friend and maybe you’ll even be invited to the party next time.

Regards,

Libby Hogen-Heath

[xwhitehouseintern@yahoo.com](mailto:xwhitehouseintern@yahoo.com) (comments regarding this issue welcome)

12772 Captains Cove (stop on by sometime)

Do you have an idea for an article for the newsletter? Feeling inspired and you’d like to write an open letter of your own? Having a yard sale that you’d like to announce? Holding a Tupperware™ or Pampered Chef™ party that you’d like to invite your neighbors to attend? Do you give lessons or tutor and you’d like to advertise with us? Please contact Libby Hogen-Heath or Ximena Valdez and they’ll be happy to post it in the next newsletter.

