

Ivy Hill Homeowner's Association Newsletter

May 2013



IHHA President's Message - Ed Schwabe

Spring has finally arrived in Ivy Hill! Many trees are in bloom and the early spring flowers have all blossomed and are bringing much needed color to the landscape. In addition, the birds have started staking out their territory and building nests, spring is a wonderful time of year, a new beginning!

Thanks to our Board member Roger Lohn, you will soon be seeing repairs made to the gazebo at the entrance to Ivy Hill. Roger brought to the attention of the Board that the gazebo needed repair, specifically, the repointing of mortar joints, some brick replacement and the sealing of all brickwork once the repairs are completed.

I've noticed a lot of litter along the Ivy Hill main entrance road and along Quail Ridge Drive recently. Let's all try and properly dispose of any refuse that may be in our vehicles and not create an eyesore for all to see

It has also been brought to my attention that dogs and cats have been roaming freely in our neighborhood. I would ask everyone to control their pets, so calls don't have to be made to Bedford County Animal Control.

We recently mailed out the 2013 IHHA membership invoices. The annual fee is still \$35.00 and I encourage everyone to return the form on Page 6 of this Newsletter with your payment. Mail your payment to Ivy Hill Homeowners Association, PO Box 353, Forest, VA 24551.

On behalf of the Board and myself I would like to thank you for your past support. We look forward to serving you in 2013 and the future!

Ivy Hill History

As every homeowner is aware when they pay their household bills each month, water in Ivy Hill is currently supplied courtesy of the Bedford County Public Service Authority. It was not always so. When the subdivision was first developed in the 1970's the water lines had not yet been extended down Perrowville Road to Ivy Hill. Instead, local well water was pumped up into a tall water storage tower from which it was subsequently gravity fed into the homes of the growing development via underground pipes. The decaying remains of the main pump house can still be seen in the open field behind the 15th green on the golf course. The water storage tower, which appropriately resembled a giant golf ball sitting on an equally-giant tee, formerly stood behind the 11th green. It's concrete foundations are still visible to the left of the cart path leading from the 11th green to the 12th tee boxes.



However, these were relatively modern improvements. The site was a working cattle farm for many years before Ivy Hill was developed and a working plantation as far back as the early days of the nation. Where did these earlier residents of what became Ivy Hill get their water? The answer lies in the many streams and springs on the property. These local natural water supplies also include the ancient but largely-intact "Roman Bath" style spring house that can still be found deep in the woods beyond the end of Lake Ridge Drive if you know where to look. This spring was the main water supply for the plantation house which stood on the hill above. It is made entirely of native stone and features a vaulted, grotto-style, half roof and two built-in stone "bathing benches" framing a small spring-fed pool. Water from the spring was carried up the hill to the plantation house in buckets. The spring itself is still active and the pool is full.

Crofton Duplicating Services

221 Business Center
18292 Forest Road
Forest, Virginia 24551

Phone
(434) 385-4168

FAX
(434) 385-4183

Architectural Committee

The neighborhood always begins buzzing with the whine of saws and the hammering of nail guns as the weather warms up in the spring. If you are planning to expand your house, add a garage, or build a deck or porch this year, be sure to check with the Architectural Committee first. Contact Rene Koch at renekjr@msn.com or 525-2935.

Ivy Hill Ladies Association - Beth Manns, President

The Ivy Hill Ladies' Association (IHLA) held its semi-annual membership meeting on April 9, 2013. Thirty-two ladies attended, including seven guests and new members. A delicious lunch was followed by a productive meeting. Big THANK YOU'S go to Edna Jesse, Ann Hite, Margie Miller, and Bonnie Wishon for organizing the luncheon.

I also wish to thank our speaker, Beth Wortman, who gave us an update on the status of the Ivy Hill Lake dam.

During the meeting, the membership voted to change the by-law's description of club officers to allow a committee of three to serve in place of a President, Vice President and Secretary. Therefore, the elected officers shall consist of the Treasurer and three Executive Directors.

Three women volunteered to serve as Executive Directors and they were unanimously approved. Our new Executive Directors are Debbie Farrago, Sarah Post, and Lisa Rubilar. Margaret Deist is returning as Treasurer. These ladies will begin their term of office in October.

The Ladies' Association is planning a summer ice cream social in August. We hope to invite the whole Ivy Hill community for one last bash before school begins. Please contact Debbie Farrago at debmilfar@aol.com or 525-0175, if you would like to help.

Details about the summer party and the next membership meeting in October will be forthcoming as the dates are confirmed. Ladies -don't delay in sending in your dues of \$30. They are due now for the year beginning in October. Please mail them to Margaret Deist, made out to IHLA.

If you have any questions about the IHLA contact Beth Manns at 525-2738 or bethmanns@gmail.com.

Forest Volunteer Fire Department

The FVFD spring fund drive was very successful with the result that we will begin to complete the exterior of the new fire hall at 1645 Thomas Jefferson Road within the next few weeks. Due to this construction, we are moving our Open House and Flag Pole/Brick Dedication from May 18 to October 12. This will allow all exterior construction to be complete and also allow the event to coincide with Fire Prevention Week 2013. More details to follow on this event. As always we thank the residents and businesses of our coverage area for supporting us.



New Neighbors

Please welcome the following new neighbors to Ivy Hill:

- Raymond Armes - 132 Sailview Drive
- Mike & Linda Coyle - 100 Meadowgate Drive
- Charles & Lisa Downey - 106 Lake Ridge Dr.
- Bob & Tamara Lemon - 151 Fairwinds Court

If you know of a new resident in Ivy Hill, or a house that has changed hands recently, please contact Lew Walton lw Walton@jetbroadband.com or 525-0459) so we can update our database and make sure new neighbors are greeted.

Garden Club

The Garden Thyme garden club was created in March of 2007, as an interest group of the Ivy Hill Ladies' Association. It quickly outgrew the boundaries of Ivy Hill and is no longer affiliated with the IHLA; however, more than half of our 16 members are residents of the Ivy Hill community.

We meet monthly in members' homes, have field trips, speakers, and share a common love of gardening.

In 2010, we initiated a service project: the landscaping surrounding the Forest community sign at the corner of Forest and Burnbridge Roads. We arranged to have the old overgrown bushes removed, installed the current landscaping, and we keep it maintained. We also decorate it for Christmas.

This coming December marks the fourth year of our participation in the Bedford Christmas Home Tour. Every other year, more than 500 people tour several lovely homes of Bedford, decorated by local garden clubs for Christmas. This year, the tour will be Sunday, December 1st.

If you are interested in joining, or would like more information about Garden Thyme, contact Margie Miller, 525-7845.



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Poplar Forest Craft Beer Festival

Poplar Forest hosted a craft beer festival on Saturday, April 13th to commemorate Thomas Jefferson's 270th birthday. Several thousand people enjoyed a beautiful sunny spring afternoon on the Poplar Forest grounds with beer tasting, food, live entertainment, and tours of Thomas Jefferson's unique partially-restored Palladian retreat. Six central Virginia microbreweries participated including Apocalypse Ale Works (of Forest), Blue Mountain Brewery, Devils Backbone Brewing Company, Parkway Brewing Company, Starr Hill Brewery, and Wild Wolf Brewing Company.

Ivy Lake Status - Beth Wortman

Ivy Lake shoreline owners are continuing work on finding a path to resolving to the Ivy Lake dam defect situation, including how to pay for it. Various lakeshore individuals and groups are working on the effort in accordance with their interests and talents. Items being explored include:

- surveying lakeshore owners on what their preferred options may be;
- exploring what it might take to require LU to pay the entire amount;
- exploring whether DCR could, in fact, force LU to drain the lake if the defect is not fixed;
- raising funds to retain an attorney to evaluate LU's proposal of a declaratory judgment court action as a financing mechanism for lakeshore owners to pay for 50% of the cost of repairs and what the legal obligations, responsibilities and liabilities might be for lakeshore owners.

Two Ivy Lake resident engineers met with LU's engineering firm in Roanoke at the end of April. Unfortunately, it appears that the alternatives the Ivy Lake engineers had been exploring will not solve the underlying erosion issue.

The Ivy Lake resident engineers have looked at LU's two proposed fixes for the spillway. The Ivy Lake engineers recommend that, of those two proposals, the fix using reinforced grass is the better option. It brings the spillway into compliance, it is cheaper (\$2 million instead of \$2.8 million) and it would look better since we would view grass rather than a large slab of concrete in the spillway. This is NOT a recommendation as to what residents should do. Rather, it is simply an evaluation of the two fixes that LU's engineers have laid out as possibilities for meeting the Virginia DCR requirements.

Lost Pet?

Pets seem to wander off more frequently with the return of warm weather. If you lose a pet, or find a stray dog or cat, contact Lew Walton at lw Walton@jetbroadband.com or 525-0459. Thanks to the IHHA's computerized database, we can now contact nearly 250 residents via e-mail in just a few minutes. This system helped to successfully reunite virtually every pet that became lost in the neighborhood last year with their owner. Lost and found notices are also routinely posted on the Ivy Hill website (ivyhill-forest.org).

Farmer's Markets Resume

Outdoor Farmer's Markets resumed on April 27th in the field behind the Forest Library parking lot. Farmers and ranchers from Bedford and the surrounding counties sold a wide variety of agricultural products ranging from field greens and bedding plants to meat and fish to jams, jellies, and baked goods while artisans offered unique crafts such as hand-knit scarves and blue-bird houses. A large crowd of eager buyers turned out despite a somewhat chilly start to the morning filling the library parking lot almost to overflowing. Farmer's Markets will be held every Saturday morning through the spring summer and fall months. Market hours are from 8:00 am to noon.



Help Wanted

Every year we get a number of requests from elderly residents, women living alone, or simply residents going on vacation who are looking for someone to help with cutting grass, pulling weeds, trimming bushes, and other yard chores. If your son or daughter would be interested in helping these folks out, and maybe making a little extra money this summer, please contact Lew Walton at lwalton@jetbroadband.com or 525-0459. And if you are in need of such help, please contact Lew too. We'll try to match you up. "Help Wanted" ads can also be posted on the Ivy Hill website (ivyhill-forest.org) at no cost. Contact Lew Walton for that community service as well. ("Services Offered" ads can also be posted on the website. However, that venue is limited to adults only. Minor children's names and contact information will not be posted on the internet.)

2013 Dues

Ivy Hill Homeowners Association dues are \$35/year. If you are new to Ivy Hill or have not joined for 2013, please complete the form below, enclose it with your check payable to "IHHA" and mail it to Ivy Hill Homeowners Association, PO Box 353, Forest, VA 24551.

Name(s)	
Address	
Phone	
E-mail	

Restrictions in Ivy Hill

Every year, the IHHA receives complaints from residents about violations of the Ivy Hill Restrictions. In addition to the general Ivy Hill Restrictions, many of the special neighborhoods in Ivy Hill have their own restrictions. Many of these special neighborhood restrictions are virtually word-for-word identical to the overarching Ivy Hill Restrictions. A few differ greatly, almost always in the direction of being more restrictive. The general Ivy Hill Restrictions and all of the special neighborhood restrictions are posted on the Ivy Hill Website (ivyhill-forest.org). We investigate every complaint, and if the complaint appears to be valid we attempt to get the offending party to rectify the situation.

The general Ivy Hill Restrictions and many of the special neighborhood restrictions automatically renew on a ten-year cycle. A few of the special neighborhood restrictions do not and have expired. Every now and then we have individuals in these neighborhoods take the position that this legal technicality allows them to make changes to their property that would otherwise violate the restrictions. (We bet they would argue the opposite if someone bought the lot next to them and went to install a double-wide on it!) Therefore, we are urging the residents of these neighborhoods to either renew their restrictions or adopt the general Ivy Hill restrictions. The process is simple. You basically get three-quarters of the homeowners in the neighborhood to sign a petition, attach a copy of the applicable restrictions, and file the resulting document in Bedford. (The IHHA would be glad to help you with the process.) It is in your best interest to do so because it preserves the value of your home.

In the meantime, the IHHA intends to continue to try to get everyone to comply with all applicable restrictions, including those that have expired. We will employ the powers of persuasion and peer pressure in those instances where legal remedies are no longer available.

Special Memorial Day Offer at Ivy Hill Golf Club - Eddie Moran, PGA Head Golf Pro

While I see many of you here at the golf course regularly, there are quite a few of you who drive by the club every day and seldom or never play the beautiful golf course or enjoy swimming in the pool. We would like to remedy that this year! To make it easier, we are going to invite you to join us for Memorial Day weekend. So for Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, May 25 – 27, we are giving all Ivy Hill residents member privileges. If you want to play golf, just make a tee time and you pay only the member rate cart fee of \$15 for 18 holes. You may get your own group, or we have organized golf activities for both men and women each of those days. If you want to swim, just show up at the pool during our open hours each day. We look forward to having you out here any, or all three days, on Memorial Day weekend. And hopefully we will see a lot of you out here on a regular basis all season, at the golf course and at the pool.

Sailboat for Sale

For sale. 1996 Catalina Capri 16.5 sailboat with 2006 EZ Loader EZB 14-17 1250 boat trailer. 16.5 foot sailboat equipped with main sail, roller furling jib, jib stock, hiking straps, fiberglass centerboard, kick-up rudder, teak tiller with extension, adjustable outhaul and boom vang, anodized mast and boom. All rigging included. \$2,000. Contact Wendy Greer at 382-9017 or ws.greer@verizon.net.



*Ads in the IHHA Newsletter are only \$25 per issue and reach more than 600 Ivy Hill households.
Contact Lew Walton at lwalton@jetbroadband.com or 525-0459.*

E-Newsletters

If you would like to receive future Newsletters electronically, send your e-mail address to the editor, Lew Walton, at lwalton@jetbroadband.com. A downloadable version of this Newsletter and other recent Newsletters can also be found on the Ivy Hill website (ivyhill-forest.org).



IHHA Board (2012)

Ed Schwabe, President
525-8946 - edschwabe@verizon.net
Roger Lohn, Vice President
534-0604 - rlohn@jetbroadband.com
Lew Walton, Secretary
525-0459 - lwalton@jetbroadband.com
Bob Harvey, Treasurer
525-8247 - wd4kqi@verizon.net
Barb Walton
525-0459 - bwalton@jetbroadband.com
Rene Koch,
525-2935 - renekjr@msn.com
Tom Haertel
525-4229 - haertels3@aol.com

If you received this Newsletter via the US Mail, please check the mailing label for errors. Contact Lew Walton at lwalton@jetbroadband.com or 525-0459 with any corrections.

Ivy Hill Homeowners Association, Inc.
P. O. Box 353
Forest, VA 24551