

Ivy Hill Homeowner's Association Newsletter

March 2019



Banner Photo by Bill Hite

IHHA President's Message

Spring is finally here. Forest is so beautiful this time of the year; the trees are budding, the bushes are flowering, and the bulbs are shooting up and blooming. Unfortunately, this is also the yellow haze (oak pollen) season. Fortunately, we haven't seen much of that so far because of all the rain. These last two weekends were the first two in a row without rain (or snow) this year that I can remember.

Spring is also the time of the year to join the Ivy Hill Homeowner's Association. Dues are only \$40 per year. See the form on page 10 later in this Newsletter to find out where your money goes. We put down new mulch around all the entrances in the past few weeks and volunteers from the IHHA Board trimmed the crepe myrtles around the main entrance gazebo. See the article on page n. I would like to personally thank everyone who helped with the latter project.

A big project coming up this year is reroofing the gazebo at the Ivy Hill main entrance. The slate roof is about a half century old and needs to be replaced. Water is leaking through and starting to damage the wood below. We have consulted with several experts. They all told us to replace the roof and not just fix it. So your Board has decided to replace the roof with high quality architectural shingles. This will be a significant additional expense for the Association.

if we can get enough residents to join, and we can meet all of other expenses, the Board would also like to hold Oktoberfest this year. We need your help. Please join the IHHA today!

The Ivy Hill Ladies Association is holding their semi-annual meeting and wine & cheese gathering in a few weeks. See the flyer on page 2 of this Newsletter.

I would like to thank all those who voted for the Board of Directors for this year. See the article about the new Board on page 6 and the article about your 2019 officers on page 7.

See Brian Runk's letter on page 9 and the related article on page 8 for the latest good news about Ivy Lake. The lake has remained at full pond for several months now which is also great. Happy Spring!

Tom Haertel, IHHA President

IHLA Semi-Annual Meeting and Wine and Cheese Gathering



All current members of the Ivy Hill Ladies' Association,
and those interested in joining,
are cordially invited to

The home of Brenda Harvey
1221 Equestrian Ridge Circle

on

Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.

RSVP's (yes and no appreciated) by April 5 to
Jan Koch: renekjr@msn.com or 525-2935.

Ivy Hill Book Club

The Ivy Hill book club will meet Thursday, April 4, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. We will discuss *Sold On A Monday* by Kristina McMorris. All are welcome. For more information, contact Brenda Harvey at kd4cat@juno.com or 525-8247.



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INTRODUCTORY MEMBERSHIP



Spring Cleanup

We have noticed a lot of debris and overgrown plantings in neighborhood yards and especially in undeveloped lots and along the roadways in recent weeks. Now that the weather has improved and we can all get back outside, it is time to clean up Ivy Hill. So please pick up the debris in your yard and along the roadway in front of your house, trim your bushes and plantings if they need it, repair any damage from the recent wind storms, and generally fix up your property. Also, if you can, please cleanup any vacant properties adjacent to your property.

As we noted in past Newsletters, the Forest Volunteer Fire Company sometimes finds fire hydrants difficult to get to because they have become surrounded by tall weeds or overgrown bushes. Any time lost accessing a fire hydrant can be crucial in a structural fire. They urge you to “adopt” the fire hydrant that is nearest to your home. Clear the weeds and cut back any bushes during the growing season. Dig it out of the snow in the winter. Keep it accessible year round.

Also, winter has taken its toll and we see fading siding, missing shingles, and peeling paint on a number of houses. Now is the time for a general spring fixup. Our property values all go up when our neighborhood looks good and people want to move here.

Let's make Ivy Hill beautiful!

Ivy Hill History



The recent decision to reroof the gazebo at the main Ivy Hill entrance started us imagining all of the changes that old gazebo has seen in its lifetime. The photo above shows the gazebo decorated for Christmas this past December 2018. Note how it is dwarfed by the four crepe myrtles that surround it.

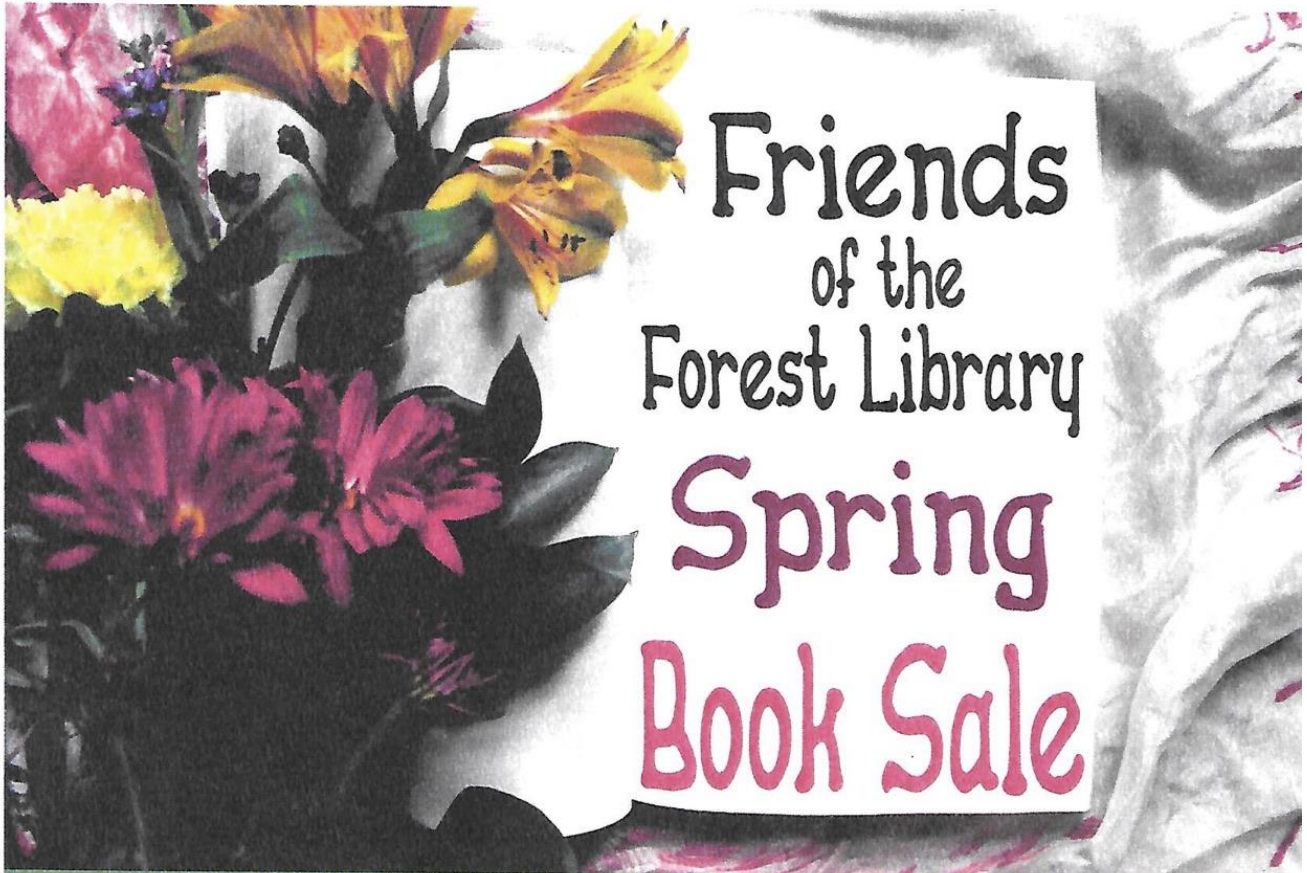
The top picture in the column to the right shows almost the same view in April 2007. One of the crepe myrtles is visible just to the left of the gazebo. It still looked more like a bush than a tree and hadn't reached the roof line yet. Note also the huge flowering trees down the middle of the "island" where the light poles now stand.

The middle picture shows the same view in 1974 when the Ivy Hill main entrance was first constructed and the gazebo was brand new. There was almost nothing around it then! The "island" was empty except for the gazebo and the little Ivy Hill Golf Club sign.

The gazebo may have been modeled on the much older gazebo shown in the bottom picture. It formerly stood on the north shore of the pond on the sixteenth hole to the right of the serpentine bridge. It's full history is unknown. It predated the construction of the golf course and the flooding of the pond by many years. It once overlooked a swimming pool that was subsequently filled in and is now at the bottom of the present water hazard.



If you have any old photos or interesting historical information about Ivy Hill and the surrounding area that you would like to share with the community, contact the Editor at IvyHillForest@gmail.com



Friends of the Forest Library Spring Book Sale

**Saturday
April 13th
9 AM to 3 PM**
(Bulk sale 2:15 PM to 3:00 PM)

**Friends Member
Preview Sale
Friday, April 12th
6:00 PM to 7:30 PM**

Find Great Deals On
Hardcover & Paperback
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Romances

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Donations are accepted during library hours only.
The Friends accept donations of items listed above that are in good
condition. We cannot accept text books, encyclopedias or any
materials that are moldy/mildewed or otherwise damaged.
For more information contact the library at 540-425-7002.
All book sale proceeds support the Forest Library directly.

Forest Library
15583 Forest Road, Forest, VA 24551

New Neighbors

Please welcome the following new neighbors to Ivy Hill:

- Joshua & Megan Hamilton – 104 Trading Block Lane
- Steve & Margaret Smith – 102 Deer Track Drive

If you know of a new resident in Ivy Hill, or a house that has changed hands recently, please contact the IHHA at IvyHillForest@gmail.com so we can update our database and arrange for them to be greeted.

IHHA 2019 Board of Directors

Twelve candidates stood for election to the IHHA Board of Directors in the last election cycle and all twelve were elected. Your IHHA Directors for 2019 are:

Barb Walton
Jeff Wishon
Susan Nicholas

Bob Harvey
Karen Schwabe
Rene Koch

Debbie Farrago
Lew Walton
Roger Lohn

Ed Schwabe
Mike Duncan
Tom Haertel

Congratulations to all of the candidates! Thank you for agreeing to serve.

Crepe Myrtles

It has been many years since the crepe myrtles that stand at the four corners of the gazebo at the Ivy Hill main entrance trees were last pruned and they had become somewhat wild. So on Saturday, March 16th, six IHHA volunteers gave them a much-needed trimming. Working with mini pole-mounted chain saws, loppers, and hand saws the volunteers cut off the branches that overhung the gazebo roof, removed several major branches that were intertwined or “crossed”, and thinned the minor branches where needed. Crepe myrtles flower primarily on new growth. The trees may look a bit “raw” for a few more weeks until the new growth kicks in. However, we can anticipate beautiful flower displays in the coming years.

A big “Thank You” goes to the volunteers: Bob Harvey, Debbie Farrago, Karen Schwabe, Lew Walton, Roger Lohn, and Tom Haertel. Well done!



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Choose from vegetable, bread, egg, and chicken options to pick up weekly for 6 months. SPACE IS LIMITED, SIGN UP NOW! For more details and to join, go to: Greatdaygardens.org/2019csa

Pick up is on Wednesday evenings at our farm stand and bakery on Thomas Jefferson Road, just one mile from the Forest Library

*Ads in the IHHA Newsletter are only \$25 per issue and reach more than 600 Ivy Hill households.
Contact the Editor at
IvyHillForest@gmail.com*

IHHA 2019 Officers

The newly elected IHHA Board of Directors met for the first time on Monday, February 11th in the Community Room at the Forest Library. One of the first orders of business was to elect the officers that will run the Association in 2019. The team that the Board selected included:

President – Tom Haertel
Vice President – Roger Lohn
Secretary – Lew Walton
Treasurer – Bob Harvey

Congratulations guys! Thank you for agreeing to serve.

Rules of the Road

The speed limit on all Ivy Hill roads is 25 mph. Please set a good example for both your neighbors and outside visitors by always obeying the speed limit. Also, be sure to come to a full stop at all stop signs and look both ways before turning onto the crossing road. There have been several near-accidents reported at Ivy Hill intersections in recent weeks.

Also, watch out for the Ivy Hill deer herd; especially around dusk and dawn. They have become very tame over the past several years and will usually just stand and watch you drive slowly by. However, they are still wild animals and may suddenly panic and dash in front of your vehicle with little warning. So you should always drive slow enough so that you can stop in time if they should bolt. Better yet, stop and let them cross the road before you drive on.



INDOOR MARKET

April 13th
8am to noon
Rustic Village Road
Forest Va. 24551

2019 OUTDOOR MARKET

April 27-October 26
8am to noon
15583 Forest Road
Forest Va. 24551

Ivy Lake Dam Recertified

The Ivy Lake dam was recertified by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation's Dam Safety and Floodplain Management & Soil and Water Conservation commission on September 30, 2018. The certification is good for 6 years.

Architectural Committee

Spring is the ideal time to start any major exterior renovations on your home. It is also the peak time for new home construction starts. The Ivy Hill Architectural Committee reminds all Ivy Hill property owners that the time to seek Architectural Committee approval of both new construction and any "building, fence, outside lighting, screen planting, or other improvements" on your property is before construction begins. It is always much more cost effective to get your plans approved before you start building than to have to make changes when work is already in progress.

Also, be sure to review both the general Ivy Hill Restrictions and any additional restrictions that are applicable for your specific neighborhood when you are drawing up your plans. Copies of the restrictions for most neighborhoods can be found on the Ivy Hill website (ivyhill-forest.org).

Contact Ivy Hill Architectural Committee Chairman Roger Lohn at 534-0604 or rogerlohn@me.com if you have any questions.



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2018 Financial Audit

The Audit Committee of Karen Schwabe, Linda Blair, and Barb Walton has completed the required annual audit of the IHHA's financial records. The Committee found that "the balance sheet and statement of income and expenses accurately reflect the financial position of the IHHA". In their report to the Board of Directors, the Audit Committee commended Bob Harvey for his continuing efforts as Treasurer of the Association and thanked him for his assistance in providing all of the financial records required for them to complete the audit.

Dear Ivy Hill Community,

We are excited to share a number of new and exciting things we have planned at the club for this upcoming golf season. On the golf course itself, we are excited that Darren Hall, our Superintendent, is beginning his first full season on our staff. The course conditions have improved tremendously since last summer when he joined our staff, and with the additional equipment and resources at his disposal, members and guests alike will see continued improvement.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

In 2019, we look forward to finding ways to give back to the Ivy community. We hope to help repair the gazebo, as well as host another fireworks display to celebrate Independence Day. Within the next two weeks, the transfer of the Ivy Lake from Liberty University's ownership to Runk & Pratt's should be complete. The wait since last year's announcement is almost over as the repairs to the dam are wrapping up and final details are being completed in the legal process. We will have further information on the lake along with other information on our community events as they are finalized. Again, we thank all of you, our neighbors, for being so welcoming to us as part of the community. We are so excited to be here.

CAFÉ

We are eager for the public to enjoy the new changes to Ivy Hill Café. We have updated the menu and extended the hours. The outside community is welcome to come in for lunch or dinner. Even if you do not plan on golfing, you are encouraged to enjoy our clubhouse, our food, and our fellowship. Whether you want a quick breakfast before a round of golf, or an evening with a burger and a beer on the patio, Ivy Hill Café is the perfect setting. Please come enjoy the food, the atmosphere, and the venue.

POOL

This season, we have launched a new pool membership drive. It is hard to believe, but Memorial Day will be here before you know it, and our pool will resume its operations for 2019. Our Pavilion renovations are complete, which means our new restrooms and indoor seating area will be available this pool season. We are planning more programs for 2019, which will include games and activities with the lifeguards for our younger members. We are also exploring the possibility of offering swimming lessons. Check with the Pro Shop for more details and ask them to add you to our Newsletter email list.

GOLF

We have had an exciting membership drive for our 2019 season. We have added over 40 new members in the past several months, and others continue to sign up daily. This season marks Tracy Newman's second full season as our Head Professional and General Manager. We are honored to have him as part of our team. Our strides forward as a golf course could not happen without his continued efforts. If you are a golfer of any skill level, we have a new Introductory Membership opportunity. We are only asking \$399 annually for this package, so take advantage of this offer! If you are not a golfer and want to give it a try, Tracy is one of the best instructors in the area and would be happy to introduce you to the game.

We are looking forward to making the Ivy Hill Golf Course and community an integral part of 2019.

**Brian Runk
Runk & Pratt
CEO/President**

Join the IHHA!

Your financial support is needed to continue the various projects of the Ivy Hill Homeowner's Association.

Your membership of only \$40 supports activities such as:

- Landscaping and mowing at entranceways
- Mulching, seeding, pruning, and weed control
- Maintenance of entranceways
- Lighting at the entranceways
- IHHA Newsletter, Ivy Hill Community Directory, IHHA Website, and IHHA Insurance
- Holiday decorations at the entranceways
- Email hot line for lost & found items, wayward pets, and community information & alerts.

We would very much appreciate your support in 2019. Also, by joining now, you will receive a copy of the 2018-2020 Ivy Hill Directory (if you did not receive one in 2018) and be entitled to vote for the 2019 IHHA Board of Directors. Paying your 2019 dues early in the year also helps the Association because it saves us the expense of mailing an invoice to you in April.

You can now pay your membership using PayPal. Follow the *IHHA Membership* link under *Planning* at <http://ivyhill-forest.org>.

You may also use the convenient "Bill Pay" feature of your on-line banking to remit your membership payment.

Lastly, your check is always welcome. Fill out the form below and mail it along with your check to the Ivy Hill Homeowner's Association at the address at the bottom.

We would also gladly accept donations in any amount at any time during the year!



Name(s)	
Address	
Phone	
E-mail	



IHHA

Please check one of the following:

- 2019 Dues \$40**
- Donation \$ _____**
- 2019 Dues \$40 + Donation \$ _____**

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Ivy Hill Website

The Ivy Hill Website (IvyHill-Forest.org) needs a spring cleaning too. Some of the content has not been updated in many years. If you would be interested in helping with the project, contact the webmaster Lew Walton at IvyHillForest@gmail.com.

IHHA Board of Directors (2018)

Tom Haertel, President

525-4229

Roger Lohn, Vice President

534-0604

Lew Walton, Secretary & Digital Media

525-0459

Bob Harvey, Treasurer

525-8247

**Mike Duncan
Susan Nicholas
Jeff Wishon**

**Debbie Farrago
Ed Schwabe**

**Rene Koch
Barb Walton
Karen Schwabe**

Lost a pet or found a stray animal? We can help. Contact IvyHillForest@gmail.com or any IHHA officer or Board member.