

Ivy Hill Homeowner's Association Newsletter

March 2025



Banner Photo by Lew Walton

IHHA President's Message

Spring has come, once again early! I hope everyone is enjoying the warm weather and all the beautiful blossoms on the trees and flowers in Ivy Hill.

One of the questions that I have received from new residents is “Why should I join the voluntary Ivy Hill Homeowners Association (IHHA) when I am a member of a mandatory neighborhood HOA?”. The answer lies in the history of the Ivy Hill community and how it was developed. When Allen and Fern Harvey purchased the Ivy Hill farm in the early 1970's, they laid out the overall plan for the development and then proceeded to build the principal infrastructure; first the main entrance, golf course, club house, pool, and the original roads (Quail Ridge Drive and many of the roads that tee off it); then later Ivy Lake and the dam. This was a huge undertaking, so they sold off various parts of Ivy Hill to other developers over the years to fund the work and keep the overall project moving along. These developers then created any local infrastructure they needed. The result is what you can see by checking out the color-coded map on the Ivy Hill Website (ivyhill-forest.org). Ivy Hill today is composed of 19 or 20 separate neighborhoods. Many of those neighborhoods have their own mandatory HOAs to maintain private roads, common structures (condo communities), etc.

While all this was evolving, the voluntary Ivy Hill Homeowners Association was created by a group of residents who wanted to beautify the entire Ivy Hill subdivision. Then when Allen and Fern Harvey passed, their heirs gave the Association the title to the common areas of Ivy Hill and the responsibility of maintaining them. This remains our principal mission to this day and consumes most of our annual budget. See the article on Page 8 for a list of the other services that we provide for the betterment of the Ivy Hill community.

Membership in the IHHA remains voluntary. However, your annual dues and a small amount of money that we earn via paid advertising in the Newsletter are the only sources of income that we have to keep the lights on and fulfill these inherited obligations. (We will also gladly accept donations at any time.) Please join the IHHA for 2025 if you have not done so already. See the article on Page 8 or the Ivy Hill Website (ivyhill-forest.org) on ways that you can pay.

Per our charter, every Ivy Hill resident is eligible to join the IHHA. Our membership currently includes residents from every Ivy Hill neighborhood roughly in proportion to their population and residents representing several of these neighborhoods currently serve on the IHHA Board of Directors and the separate Ivy Hill Architectural Committee. (See the article on Page 5 about the Architectural Committee and what it does.) These positions are all voluntary. None of us get paid to do this. We donate our time to the community because we want to make Ivy Hill a great place to live and maintain our property values.

So, again, if you have not done so already, please renew your IHHA membership for 2025 or become a new member. We had to raise the membership fee this year to \$50 per year; our first increase in 10 years. Inflation has hit the IHHA just like it has impacted all of us individually. Also, ladies, don't forget to join the Ivy Hill Ladies Association for 2025. See their articles on Page 3 and Page 10.

We keep receiving complaints about dogs running loose in the Ivy Hill community. Bedford County has a subdivision-based leash law and Ivy Hill is one of those subdivisions. Please don't let your dog run loose and pick up after them when you walk them on Ivy Hill streets. Also, don't feed the wild animals, especially the foxes. Report dangerous wild animal sightings to our email address: ivyhillforest@gmail.com.



Remember that the speed limit in the neighborhood is 25 mph. Ivy Hill roads have many hills and curves, so drive responsibly. Winter is over and hopefully so are the snowstorms. However, there will still be the possibility of ice on the streets in the morning for several more weeks and even once that danger is firmly behind us the hills and curves can still get mighty slippery following a rainstorm. Also, keep an eye out for children, pets, and the Ivy Hill deer herd. They may be right around that next curve playing in or near the street. Drive safely and enjoy the season.

Tom Haertel, IHHA
President

Ivy Hill Ladies Association

Greetings to all the ladies of Ivy Hills.

Spring is right around the corner after a very cold winter. I know everyone is ready for sunshine and warmer weather.

Along with spring comes our spring meeting. It is scheduled for 10:00 am Saturday, April 12 at the clubhouse. We will meet outside on the patio weather permitting. If it's too cold, we will convene inside. I hope we have an extraordinary turnout and everyone will be able to attend, especially our new members.

Dues of \$35.00 will be collected at the meeting. And this is when volunteers step forward to sign up for our social events. So, we need all to attend so we have sufficient help for planning and implementation of the events. My hope is since this Newsletter goes out to all of Ivy Hills who have their email address in the database, anyone interested in joining will make it to our Spring meeting.

Due to budget constraints, we now have two events per year. Last year we hosted an Italian Feast, and all the food was delicious. This year we have already hosted a Saint Patrick's feast with another great menu. (See the article on Page 10.) Everyone enjoyed getting together with neighbors and friends. These were both big events with great food prepared by a handful of members.

We are now planning a big Summer Party that we will co-host with the Ivy Hill Homeowners Association; so, it will be open to the whole community. The date is Sunday, June 22nd, with the times still TBD. Mark your calendars!

Our hope is to add to our membership and have more events in coming years. So please join us on April 12 at 10:00 am for our meeting. I look forward to seeing all of you.

Vicki Sharrett
IHLA President
434-665-7861
Vckshrrt@gmail.com

Ads in the IHHA Newsletter are only \$25-\$100 per issue depending on their size and reach more than 600 Ivy Hill households. Contact the Editor at IvyHillForest@gmail.com



**SAVOR
THE HARVEST**

Forest Farmers' Market

Markets
9am to Noon
March 8 April 12

8am to Noon
15th Season Starts April 26

15583 Forest Road, Forest Va
www.Forestfarmersmarket.com

Southern Air

RESIDENTIAL



Ivy Hills Special
\$79.00
System Evaluation
per system

Let **Southern Air Residential**
take care of your home,
So You can take care of
Your Family!

SERVICES

- Heating and Air Conditioning
- FREE Second Opinions
- Home Generators
- Financing Available



SCAN ME



CONTACT US

SOUTHERN-AIR.COM/RESIDENTIAL

(434) 385-1200

Ivy Hill Architectural Committee

The Ivy Hill Architectural Committee considerably predates the Ivy Hill Homeowners Association. It was created by Allen Harvey back in 1972 when he started to develop the subdivision and filed the Ivy Hill Reservations and Restrictions with Bedford County. Its duties and responsibilities are defined by that document that remains the basis of your deeded restrictions. The Ivy Hill Homeowners Association was founded many years later by a group of Ivy Hill residents who wanted to beautify Ivy Hill and enhance its status as an upscale subdivision in order to maintain their property values. Its duties and responsibilities are defined by its charter, any amendments thereto voted by its members, and numerous subsequent legal documents and agreements.

We continue to receive questions that indicate that there is confusion in the minds of some residents, particularly residents new to the community, as to the duties and responsibilities of the two organizations. If you are one of those residents, the following table may help you:

Duties & Responsibilities

| Ivy Hill Architectural Committee | Ivy Hill Homeowners Association |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review & approve all new-build construction.• Review & approve all fencing, outdoor lighting, wall, hedges, or mass/screen plantings for location & appearance.• Assure conformity and harmony of exterior design for all improvements with existing structures in the area.• Assess location of any improvements with respect to topography, lakes, golf course, and neighboring structures. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintain common areas, signs, & lighting at Ivy Hill entrances.• Run the Ivy Hill website, publish IHHA Newsletters, Ivy Hill Directories, Ivy Hill gmail account, Ivy Hill Facebook page, community alerts, and lost & found pet service.• Represent the community in interactions with local Government and service providers.• Enforce the Ivy Hill Reservations & Restrictions in those neighborhoods that were originally developed by Allen Harvey.* |

* This responsibility was added much later by a signed agreement with Allen Harvey's heirs.

Please contact me if you are planning any major renovations, additions, improvements or mass plantings. Or if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Sharon Mahon, Chair
smahonfun@gmail.com
434-401-1846

Empower Your Home

Solar Power & Battery Backup

Take Control of Your Energy



Save Money:

Lower your utility bills with net metering, SRECs, and a 30% federal tax credit.



\$0 Down:

Start your solar journey with no upfront cost.



Stay Protected

Keep your home running during power outages.

Take control of energy costs and secure peace of mind with solar and battery backup solutions from **Earth Right**, your local and trusted partner in energy independence.



Contact
Earth Right
Today

For a no-cost
home assessment

434.661.5656

erepower.com/ivy-hill



Ivy Hill Facebook Page



Have you visited the Ivy Hill Facebook page yet? It is easy to find. Look up Ivy Hill Homeowners Association and give us a like! You can also DM (direct message) us there with neighborhood questions, lost animals, local information, activities, or photos that you feel would be of interest to the communities.

Linen & Newspaper Drive

The local animal shelters are in dire need of clean linens and newspapers to line the animal's cages. If you have old linens (towels, blankets, or sheets) or newspapers that you would be willing to contribute to this worthy cause, contact Barb Walton at either bwaltonforest@gmail.com or 525-0459. They also accept throw rugs, dog beds, and dog coats.

New Neighbors

Please welcome the following new residents to the Ivy Hill community:

- Don & Loral Sue March – 1354 Lakepointe Dr.

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.

Join the IHHA!

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

Your membership of only \$50 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 Directory
- Ivy Hill Website
- Holiday decorations at the entranceways
- Email hot line for lost & found items, wayward pets, and community information & alerts.

You can now pay your membership using PayPal, a debit card, or credit card. Click on the *Payments* tab at <http://ivyhill-forest.org>. You may also use the convenient "Bill Pay" feature of your on-line banking to remit your membership payment.

If you are paying by check, 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 | |
| Landline Cell #1 Cell #2 | |
| E-mail #1 E-mail #2 | |



IHHA

Please check one or more of the following:

- 2025 Dues \$50
 Donation \$ _____

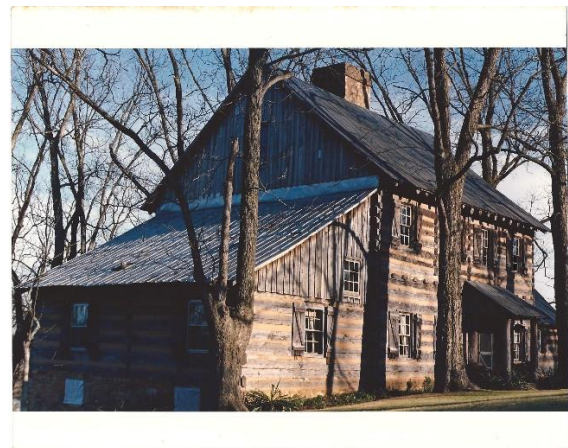
Mail to IHHA, PO Box 353, Forest, VA 24551

Ivy Hill History

As mentioned in the Ivy Hill History column in this year's January edition of the Newsletter and Tom Haertel's President's message on the front page of this issue, none of the infrastructure of a modern subdivision existed when Allen Harvey started the development back in the early 1970's. Ivy Hill was a working cattle farm with lots of old barns and outbuildings, a derelict mill, and an abandoned cabin and mansion. All the facilities that you see today had to either be created from scratch or constructed by repurposing and renovating these existing structures.

The historical photos to the right show three of the larger old farm buildings as they appeared around the time that construction began:

- Based on the obvious hayloft, the large grey barn on a low hill that is depicted in the top image was undoubtedly used to store hay at sometime during its working farm days. Its other uses are unknown but can be guessed. Cattle and cowboys both probably sought refuge inside during bad weather. This barn was repurposed and is now the Ivy Hill Clubhouse.
- The red barn in the middle image was obviously primarily a horse stable. However, some farm equipment was probably stored in it too at various times. This barn was repurposed and now houses the Ivy Hill pavilion and pool house.
- Less is known as to the original purpose of the large log structure in the lower image. It may have served as either a barn or a dwelling at various times during its existence. It is now privately owned, and its exterior appearance remains largely unchanged to this day.



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

St Patrick's Day Dinner Party



The Ivy Hill Ladies Association hosted a Saint Patrick's Day Dinner party at the Ivy Hill Clubhouse on Sunday, March 9th from 4:30 to 7:00 pm. It was a big success, almost completely filling the upper level dining area, and requiring lots of folding chairs to accommodate everyone.



The dining area was enhanced with Irish-themed decorations; shamrocks, miniature Irish flags, and even leprechauns could be spotted everywhere, and almost everyone was attired in green of course.



The member-prepared food was incredible and included numerous salads, both chicken and beef shepherd's pie, corned beef & cabbage, potatoes, Irish stew, and a wide variety of deserts including Guinness cake! Irish coffee, soft drinks and a non-alcoholic rendition of Irish punch were provided while various beers (including Guinness naturally) and wine were available for purchase from the Golf Club.





IHHA Board of Directors (2025)

Tom Haertel, President
525-4229

Susan Nicholas, Vice President
443-691-8377

Tony Simmons, Treasurer
525-5625

Mandy Hutchinson, Secretary
525-0992

Sharon Mahon, Architectural Committee Chair
401-1846

Alyssa Squires
Mark Poole
Sandi Caldwell

Barb Walton
Mary Schneeweiss

Lew Walton
Rene Koch
Stasia Kurasz

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