

Winter 2010

# Church Point Post

Homeowners Association Quarterly Newsletter



## President's Corner

By Steve Carnes, HOA President

### Homeowners Elect New Board Members at Annual Meeting

Two new members were elected to the HOA Board at the annual homeowners meeting Nov. 5. Paula Larkin and Quint Webb were elected to replace Neal Curtin and Justin Keenan, whose terms expired. At the meeting, Treasurer (and new President) Steve Carnes presented the budget and pointed out that there would be no increase in dues this year.

At its first meeting Nov. 30, the Board elected its officers for the coming year. Here is the new Board make-up:

President -- Steve Carnes  
Vice-President -- Edie Schlain  
Treasurer -- Quint Webb  
Secretary -- Paula Larkin  
At Large -- Eileen Gower

Email addresses for Board members are shown on the back page of the newsletter. See the article on page 4 of this issue for a summary of questions and issues raised by homeowners at the meeting.

Fellow Members, 2009 was another successful year for the Association. At our Annual Meeting last November, new Board members were installed and the 2010 Budget approved. One item of bad news we did receive was that LaTanya Cole, the Association's Neighborhood Watch Coordinator was moving and could not continue her duties. LaTanya had hoped to find a replacement, but to date, nobody has volunteered. The Board is still seeking a volunteer to assume her duties in order not to lose the fine work she accomplished in setting up the program. Please contact any of the Board members if you have an interest in being the Neighborhood Watch Coordinator.

Regarding the 2010 budget, there was no requirement to increase the quarterly assessments, but we will have to watch our programmed spending and unscheduled spending closely. As our community ages, the requirements for maintenance and replacement will increase. Although the Board does not currently anticipate any changes to the Association's multi-year service contracts, all of the contracts will be re-evaluated during our mid-year budget review for compliance and cost effectiveness.

One change to the budget over previous years is the specific allocation of funds to tree maintenance/removal. Those funds will be used to eradicate the ivy threatening many of our old growth trees and to remove fallen and damaged trees. The mistletoe infesting the Locust trees along Church Point Road is also a concern for the Board. The Board strongly encourages those members with an infected tree on their property to remove as much of the mistletoe as possible. The Board will be working with Bishop's Court and the City to address the infested trees on common property.

We are continuing to work on our lighting problem at the Gazebo, but we have not yet found a cost-effective fix to the problems. Fixing the Gazebo lights and the decorative street light will remain a priority for the Board, and we will continue to search for a guaranteed solution to the problems.

With Spring approaching, many of you may be contemplating major changes to your landscaping or to the exterior of your home. Before beginning any work, please review the application process on our website to ensure compliance with the Association's covenants. The info you need is located under the "Standards" tab on the website.

Lastly, I would like to thank both Neal Curtin and Justin Keenan for their long service on the Board as President and Vice President. They devoted a good amount of time and energy to the Association and accomplished a great deal during their five year tenure.

## Committee Recommends Not Rebuilding Pier; Board Agrees

A committee of residents presented its recommendations to the Board at the Annual Homeowners' Meeting in November, recommending that Church Point not rebuild the pier at the riverfront park. Its recommendation was based on the low homeowner interest expressed in a survey last year and on various difficult issues that would have to be overcome. While not supporting a new pier, the committee recommended several improvements that could be made to the riverfront park – cleanup and landscaping – that could make it a more useful and attractive asset to Church Point, without costing a lot of money.

The HOA Board agreed with the committee's recommendation on the pier and has been considering how to proceed on implementing the other recommendations. The Board expects to make some decisions on improvements to the park in time for action to be taken this Spring. The photos on this page illustrate the current condition of the park area.

The Board appreciates the work of Christos Kaltsonoudis, the ODU graduate student who conducted the survey and prepared a comprehensive report for the Board. Thanks also to the Church Point residents who volunteered to serve on the committee – Barb Protacio, Ray Henderson, Bela Joshi, and Greg Knepper.



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## Spring Egg Hunt Set for March 28, 2 pm

Church Point's Spring Egg Hunt at the Gazebo is scheduled for **Sunday, March 28, at 2 pm** this year. Egg Hunt honcho Kristen Carter is once again organizing the popular event, and she has reported an exciting change for this year.

This year's hunt will be a fund-raiser for the Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters, and it will be jointly sponsored with the King's Daughters Circle by the Bay, whose members reside mostly in Church Point and Chick's Beach. The circle meets monthly at The Church Point Manor House. So you can bring the young kids and have a great time, and make a donation to help a worthy cause at the same time.

RSVP: If you plan to attend, please register your kids in advance at [www.kingsdaughters.org/circlebythebay](http://www.kingsdaughters.org/circlebythebay) or by calling Kristen Carter at 313-6111 or Liane Long at 464-6286.

# Church Point Garden Club

By Laura Jacobson, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President of the Garden Club



Happy New Year!!!

Our Garden Club members would like to thank those residents who braved the cold with their families for a visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus at the Gazebo on December 6th. We hope that your holidays proved to be a joyous time with family and friends. In the photo at right, Santa and Mrs. Claus are pictured with Paula Larkin, Chair of the event.

Our club was very busy over the Holiday season decorating our City's Municipal Buildings, our own neighborhood entrances, and Historic Homes. The Church Point Manor House was on the Holiday Historic Home Tour December 12, which was the first Annual Tour done in Va. Beach. Church Point Garden Club, along with several other clubs, prepared the Manor House for Holiday Tour guests with a mixture of evergreens, berries, and other festive arrangements. We understand it was quite the "talk of the Tour."



Our year began with an informative program about trees, their impact on our environment, and proper planting and maintenance, featuring the Virginia Beach City Arborist, Kristina Salzman. We have several speakers planned for upcoming months along with a tour of the Arthur and Phyllis Kaplan Orchid Conservatory at ODU in April.

If you are interested in joining our Garden Club, or would like more information on our activities, you may contact me at 363-7524.

## Landscape of the Month Awards:

Congratulations to the following recipients for outstanding landscape design and maintenance for the Fall Season 2009:

- September -** Dave and Kristen Carter      The Mews
- October -** Donna and John Dugan      The Commons & Bishops Court
- November -** Guilio and Maureen Novarese      The Quays & Commons East

Landscape of the Month Awards, sponsored by the Church Point Garden Club, will resume its award program April - November 2010. Thank you for all your efforts in keeping Church Point a beautiful place to live.

--Mary Jane Morewitz, Chairperson

## Contractor Compliments – for a job well done!

*Church Point neighbors are always looking for contractors who perform well. If you have had particularly good service from a contractor, why not share it with the Church Point community through this newsletter. Please send your recommendations in the form below to [npchurchpoint@cox.net](mailto:npchurchpoint@cox.net).*

Contractor	Recommended by	Type of Work	Comments
Bay Professional Pet Sitting (Dawn Cone) 288-8884	Angela Miller	Pet sitting (See ad in this issue)	Professional, reliable pet sitter; provides excellent, loving care for your pets
Denise's Wallpapering Denise Smith 378-0972	Doyle Quisenberry	Wallpaper installation, removal and repair	20 years experience; quality work

# Summary of Issues Discussed at 2009 Church Point Annual Homeowners Meeting

Church Point’s annual homeowners meeting included an open forum allowing residents to pose questions to the Board and raise issues for consideration. Several issues were of significant interest to the more than 50 homeowners who attended:

1. **Speeding in Church Point** – Numerous residents raised concern about cars speeding well above the 25 mph speed limit in Church Point, especially along Church Point Road. Some said that speeds of 45-50 mph are not uncommon, and a resident even observed a school bus traveling at least 45 mph down Church Point Rd. Some of the speeding seems to be by Church Point residents, but much of it is also by outsiders, perhaps people visiting friends or relatives. All agreed that this speeding is not tolerable, given the residential nature of our streets and the numerous children in the area, as well as joggers, bikers, and skaters of all ages. The best solution may be stricter and more frequent enforcement by police. The Board will be considering other options as well. In the meantime, we’ll continue to remind residents through the newsletter, and everyone should help spread the word that speeding is not going to be tolerated in Church Point.
  
2. **Pier Study** – See the article on page 2 of this newsletter for a report on the Pier Committee’s study and recommendations.
  
3. **Mistletoe in Trees** – Residents commented on the increasing amount of mistletoe that is growing in the honey locust trees along Church Point Road. In addition to being an eyesore, the mistletoe can be deadly to the trees if it gets out of hand. Board members pointed out that these trees were planted by the developer in the early years of Church Point, and are located on city easements along the road – some on common land and some on individual homeowners lots. Technically, they are the responsibility of the city of Va. Beach, although the city has done very little to maintain them. The trees are in various conditions, with some trees fairly robust and some showing signs of deterioration. In fact, a few trees have died and been cut down. There is some thought that their condition may not merit spending much money to remove mistletoe. The Board will be gathering more facts and discussing how to proceed on these trees at future Board meetings.
  
4. **Security** – Some residents asked if we were going to hire off-duty police or a private security firm to do patrols in Church Point during the holiday season as we have in past years. The Board President explained that we only used the off-duty VB policemen for a few weeks one year; some issues arose with their use that caused the Board to look for an alternative, and we used a private firm called Citywide Protection Services the last 2 years. We chose Citywide after hearing proposals and comparing cost and services from a number of firms. The Board will be deciding on the type of coverage at its next meeting. LaTanya Cole from our Neighborhood Watch program said that the number and severity of security incidents – break-ins, vandalism, etc. – were down this year from previous years, but we still need to be vigilant and make ourselves a “hard target.” We can do this by keeping our cars locked, not storing anything valuable in our cars, and being aware of vehicles and people who don’t belong in our neighborhood. Our own vigilance is our best security program.

## Welcome, New Church Point Homeowners!

The following homeowners bought property in Church Point in the past 6 months:

<u>Address</u>	<u>New Owner</u>	<u>Seller</u>
4520 Church Point Place	Shelton B Ammons	HSBC Bank USA
4148 Church Point Road	Chuanzue Hong & Ping Kong	Reginald & La Tanya Cole
1701 Jordan’s Parish Place	Ronald G & Joanne Johansen	James & Margaret Savin (BC)
1612 Meeting House Lane	Ikshuvaku A. Barot	Michael A. Leanzo
1709 Stone Church Court	John P & Sherin R Conery	Stewart A & Angela Miller



## Check Out the Church Point Community Web Site – [www.churchpointonline.com](http://www.churchpointonline.com)

Our webmaster, John Holladay, has been working hard to update our Church Point web site. If you haven't visited the site in a while, try dropping in on [www.churchpointonline.com](http://www.churchpointonline.com) and check it out.

We had some technical problems last year that prevented updating the site, but those have been corrected now and John has been getting everything back up to date. Notably, all Church Point Post newsletters dating back to 2005 are now available on the site – in color. They can be a great source for information on the various issues the neighborhood has dealt with in the recent past.

You will also find contact information for the Board members and for our property manager The Select Group. John has also included pages for each of the "Teams" or activities in Church Point and is working with the organizations to keep those pages updated as well. You'll also find some interesting historical information and links to local Virginia Beach organizations of interest.

John is continuing to make improvements to the site. Check back frequently to see new content. If you have any suggestions for features or information that could be included on the site, please contact John using the Webmaster link on the Home page.

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## Try These New Year's Resolutions for Church Point!

By Neal Curtin

We're a month into 2010, and some of you probably made resolutions for the new year. If you're like me, you've already forgotten what they were! But how about all of us here in Church Point making the following resolutions for the rest of 2010. I think we'll feel better about ourselves and about the neighborhood.

*In 2010, I will:*

- 1. Get to know my neighbors and keep an eye on their property when they are away.*
- 2. Participate in more community activities – Garden Club, Neighborhood Watch, yard sale, Spring Egg Hunt, etc.*
- 3. Only put trash and yard debris at the curb on the night before pickup (Tuesday night).*
- 4. Pick up litter in my yard and along the street.*
- 5. Clean up after my dog!*
- 6. Keep my home and landscaping well-maintained.*
- 7. Slow down on the streets – 25 mph in Church Point.*
- 8. Observe quiet hours Saturday evenings and Sundays.*



## Church Point Neighbors in the News

Bruce Smith and Doyle Quisenberry, pictured below, are both long-time Church Point residents. This is reprinted from the newsletter of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserves (ESGR) organization.

sailors in action

### Bruce Smith signs an ESGR Statement of Support



Bruce Smith, National Football League Hall of Fame Defensive End, publicly acknowledges his support of National Guard and Reserve members by signing an ESGR Statement of Support on 13 October 2009 during Fleet Week at the Naval Station, Norfolk. ESGR Tidewater Committee member, CDR Doyle Quisenberry, USNR (Ret), observes the signed statement by "The King of Sack" (200). As guest speaker on "Teamwork," Bruce Smith said, "I am honored to be asked to speak to Sailors, who are sacrificing their own security for ours. I am humbled." His talk on traits of a successful team was an inspiration to all attendees. ↓

(L to R) Bruce Smith and CDR Doyle Quisenberry.  
(Photo credit: Harry Gerwien of *Military News*)

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2010 FREEDOM AWARD

★

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ESGR is a Department of Defense agency established in 1972. Its mission is to gain and maintain employer support for Guard and Reserve service by recognizing outstanding support, increasing awareness of the law, and resolving conflict through mediation.







## Your Church Point Babysitting Resource

Many residents have asked about the availability of babysitters here in Church Point, so we have started this feature in the *Church Point Post* as a service. Help keep the list current for future editions by updating ages and removing anyone who no longer wants to be considered. Just email me at [npcchurchpoint@cox.net](mailto:npcchurchpoint@cox.net). Here is the current list:


Name	Age	Phone	Info

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## Church Point Community Bulletin Board

- If you have recommendations for contractors' services or nominations for kudos for residents with noteworthy achievements for future newsletters, please send your recommendations to [npchurchpoint@cox.net](mailto:npchurchpoint@cox.net).
- Want to advertise your business to your Church Point neighbors? We accept ads as small as a business card up to a full page. If you are interested in placing an ad in a future newsletter for a nominal fee (to help defray the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter), please contact Gayle Pinero at Select Group or email [npchurchpoint@cox.net](mailto:npchurchpoint@cox.net). We'll send you a form with prices and other information you'll need. The form is also available at our website, [www.churchpointonline.com](http://www.churchpointonline.com) on the Newsletter page. Newsletters are currently published around the end of January, April, July, and October.
- Past issues of the *Church Point Post* are available on-line at the Church Point web site ([www.churchpointonline.com](http://www.churchpointonline.com)). You can get a PDF version in color.

### 2010 HOA Board of Directors

President:	Steve Carnes	sacarnes52@hotmail.com
Vice-President:	Edie Schlain	ediebs@cox.net
Treasurer:	Quint Webb	quintwebb@cox.net
Secretary:	Paula Larkin	larkinP@aol.com
At-Large:	Eileen Gower	elg@cox.net

### HOA Management Company

**Select Group** Phone 757 486-6000  
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**Association Manager:** Gayle Pinero  
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