# Southern Oaks Newsletter

December

2013

#### 2014 Board Members

President

Erin Hayes

Vice President

Andy Haskins

Treasurer

Jon Taylor

**Grounds Keeper** 

Jeff Sinclair

**ARB** Liaison

Jim Gonyea

Secretary

Mark Lev

Member at Large

Doerte Dean

Webmaster

Ted Carlson

#### 2014 Board Meetings

December— Cancelled

January 16

February 20

March 20

Unless noted otherwise, monthly meetings are held at South County Middle School at 7pm.

## **Community Communication**

Thank you for attending the Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 20th. Between attendees and proxies, we had a quorum. The 2014 Budget was presented and approved. We re-elected Jeff Sinclair to the Board and welcome Mark Lev and Doerte Dean.

Our next meeting will be January 16 at 7pm at South County Middle

### **Community Involvement**

Several items have been brought to the attention of your Board. Please remember:

- Parking is limited and we ask that you park no more than two cars in front of your home. If you have more cars, please use parking in the circle.
- Please remember to pick up after your pets. The Board has received a number of complaints regarding pet waste that has been left along the sidewalks and grassy areas. Please utilize the pet waste stand and the bags.
- Speed limit is posted at 25 miles per hour along Southern Oaks Place. Southern Oaks Court and Linden Oaks Court are 10 mph.
- If you notice anything in the community, such as speeding or littering, and wish to report this anonymously, please send and HOA an email with as much information as you are able to provide. The Board will address the situation accordingly and with complete privacy.

## Architectural Review Board (ARB)

The ARB is looking for new members!

The ARB meets as needed to address issues related to maintaining and enhancing our community. The ARB also conducts the annual walk around to ensure "visual and aesthetic compatibility: across the community. Walk arounds take place three times between May and September.

If you are interested in

becoming a member of the ARB, please email us at arb@sohoa.org and a member of the ARB will be in touch.

#### **Board Meeting Topics and Attendance**

September— Topics: Quarterly budget review, ARB update on annual inspections, Miss Utility, AR Tech Sealant, Annual Meeting.

Attendees: All Board Members.

October—Annual Meeting Topics: Officer Reports, 2014 Proposed Budget, Election of Board Members, Open Floor for Homeowners. November—Topics: Officer reports, Documentation Retention, Grounds project, ARB Update. Attendees: Present—

Attendees: Presentfive; Absent—two Fairfax County Police Non-Emergency number: 703-691-2131

## **Parking in the Circle**

We recently have been advised by a Fairfax County Police Officer that parking in the circle that joins Southern Oaks Court and Linden Oaks Court is permissible but there are certain restrictions we must be aware of and comply with; failure to do so can result in a citation being issued to the owner of a vehicle not in compliance.

There are four basic requirements to park a vehicle on the public streets in Fairfax County, and more specifically, the Mount Vernon Parking District:

- 1. For vehicles registered in Virginia, the vehicle must display current license plates and a current safety inspection sticker. If it is parked on the public street this requirement applies whether the vehicle is currently in use or not.
- 2. All vehicles must be operable (cannot be missing any required operating

equipment such as headlights, windshields, etc.) irrespective of safety sticker dates.

- 3. Commercial vehicles are specifically prohibited from being parked on the public street except as required to perform their intended commercial use (service/delivery calls, etc.). Long term or overnight parking is not permitted.
- 4. All vehicles must be parallel or nose-in parked; back-in parking is specifically prohibited.

We have been treating the circle as an extension of our community, but it is maintained by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and is subject to state and county laws regarding motor vehicles. Because we are a relatively remote area with low traffic density we have been granted a grace period of 30-days to re-park those vehicles with a nose-in configuration. No grace period has been granted for commercial vehicles. Please review the requirements and ensure your vehicle is compliant.

The Board encourages all homeowners to remain vigilant and report all suspicious vehicles or persons to the Fairfax County Police Department Non -Emergency Line at 703-691-2131. Please remember, you can do a lot to help prevent theft in Southern Oaks simply by keeping your garage door closed, doors and cars locked, and exterior lights on.

As the year comes to an end, we'd like to wish all our old and new neighbors a Happy Holidays

> We're on the web! www.SOH0A.org