

THE TETRAGON

Newsletter of the Montgomery Square Citizens Association

A Community Full of Enthusiasm & Pride

www.montgomerysquare.org

February 2011



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Message from the President

Your community association remains vibrant and strong. Financially, our treasury continues to grow and we now have created a reserve fund in case we ever need it. According to our Treasurer: "MSCA began calendar year 2010 with an account balance of \$8,290. Dues in the amount of \$13,180 were collected from 264 families. Expenses of \$8,009, included: landscape maintenance (\$6,564), newsletters, dues letters, and postage (\$929), Block Party (\$346), Yard Sale (\$110), Post Office box (\$60). The account balance as of January 1, 2011 is \$13,461 with no additional expenses incurred during 2010.

Thank you to the households who paid 2010 dues. MSCA thrives because of your continued support as well as the hard work and dedication of my fellow Board members and other volunteers.

In 2010 we were pleased to host the first Ice Cream Social. Over 100 people attended and MSCA's own Elvis put on a wonderful performance.

The landscaping company that we started with in 2009 continued to do a good job watering, planting and beautifying our neighborhood.

For 2011, we hope to accomplish the following: explore a web based directory, increase community meeting participation and have more community functions.

The neighborhood and MSCA would benefit from additional volunteers. If you are interested in helping in any way, please let us know.

SAVE THE DATES – 2011!



GENERAL MEETING –
Monday February 28
7:30 - 8:30 PM
at 12013 Smoketree Rd
(All are welcome!)

ANNUAL COMMUNITY YARD SALE with
Potomac Woods Community
SUNDAY, MAY 22, 12:00 - 3:00 PM

**ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF
BOARD MEMBERS – MONDAY, MAY 16**
7:30-8:30 pm Beverly Farms Elementary

MSCA Directory & Dues



Please return the 2011 Dues and Information Form included in this mailing. 2011 Dues continue to be \$50 per year.

We fell off course with the directory project and did not print a directory for 2010. In the past we had printed the directory every two years. Then we printed a directory in 2008 and 2009. What we've noticed is that while we have changes from year to year, the amount of households returning directory and dues forms varies slightly from year to year.

At the same time, we are maintaining the database that is also used for the dues form, so while we don't save all that much time by not printing a directory (about 15 hours), we do save about \$1,000 in printing.

So this year we are looking into a couple options to improve the community's ability to get updated directory information on a timely basis and to make the administrative side of things run better.

eBulletin

MSCA currently has about 240 neighbor email addresses. The purpose of the eBulletin is to provide timely and useful neighborhood information. Please consider joining your fellow community association members in receiving this valuable service by sending back your Directory Information forms. We also have a sign up link on our web site.

General Meetings

Please feel free to come to the general meetings. The 2/28 meeting will be held at Bob Gross's house (address in Save the Dates).



On the agenda is:

- Set an activity/date for next neighborhood function.
- Discuss directory and communication issues including Facebook Page, Online directory, and Online dues paying.
- Discuss Association process when asked to provide neighborhood position for various community happenings.

Keeping it Safe



Please deter crime by keeping valuables out of sight and locking your cars.

Online Tools

Montgomery County Crime Reports are now done through www.CrimeReports.com

MD Sex Offender Registry
www.dpscs.state.md.us/sorSearch/

Animal Etiquette

Q – We love Montgomery Square and are happy that people are active and walking around the community. On occasion, dog walkers do not clean up after their pet. Can the neighborhood association do anything about this?



A – We would love it and encourage dog owners do a better job of cleaning up. In that we are simply a Citizen’s Association, we have no rules or regulations that are binding on the neighborhood. The County laws and regulations guide the actions of the neighbors. In this case, if you don’t want to approach the individual, feel free to contact the County.

For the Dog issue, the below information was excerpted from:

www.montgomerycountymd.gov
search Animal Services

Selected County Animal Control Laws

For further information, or to report an animal bite or a violation of animal control laws, call the Animal Services Division at 240-773-5960. For after-hours emergencies, call 240-773-5900.

Unwanted Contact

The pet owner must prevent unwelcome or unsolicited threatening physical contact or close proximity to a person or a domestic animal that occurs outside the owner’s property that may cause alarm in a reasonable person, such as biting, chasing, tracking, inhibiting movement, or jumping.

Penalty for Violation: \$500

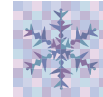
Animal Defecation (pooper scooper law)

An owner must not allow an animal to damage or defecate on property outside of the

owner's property. An animal may defecate on public property or the common area of property in which the owner shares an interest if the owner immediately removes and disposes of the feces by a sanitary method approved by the Director. Feces may be picked up in a plastic bag. If this bag is placed inside another plastic bag, it may be put out for disposal in your normal household trash.

Penalty for Violation - \$100

Snow Removal



Q - Who clears sidewalks of snow?

A - Property owners are responsible for clearing their public sidewalks, driveways and entrances within 24 hours of the end of a snowstorm. All residents are strongly encouraged to clear the sidewalks in front of their homes, as well as assisting those who may not be physically able to do so.

Need help clearing a sidewalk?

Start with our neighborhood Youth Services Directory advertisers:

William or Daniel Dorfman	301-424-1192
Jonah Dwares	301-279-9258
Jayson Hirschman	301-424-0123
Avi Kurlantzick	301-294-4806
Mark Anstead	301-762-0143

Q - Where Are The Plows?

A - Montgomery County has a link to check the progress.

<http://www5.montgomerycountymd.gov/snowmap/>

Or go to MontgomerySquare.org and we have linked to it.



**Steve, Greg, Susan Schuck,
Connie Lockwood**

The Schuck Group

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8209 Jeb Stuart Rd
Close Date 5/13 \$550,000



8203 Jeb Stuart Rd
Close Date 5/28 \$628,030



2510 Stratton Dr
Close Date 2/3 \$645,000



8306 Jeb Stuart Rd
Close Date 1/21 \$585,000



2502 Stratton Dr
Close Date 6/18 \$665,000

2010 Year End Neighborhood Sales Report

(from MRIS Reports)
Sales Price reflects adjustment for
seller-paid buyer's closing costs



8501 Aqueduct Rd
Close Date 4/19 \$622,000



2508 Stratton Dr
Close Date 11/15 \$693,550

Montgomery Square



11809 Devilwood Dr
Close Date 2/25 \$626,000



11915 Devilwood Dr
Close Date 10/20 \$640,000



4 Atwell Ct
Close Date 5/14 \$730,000

Since 1978, our family has helped people move into, out of, and around the area.

Our Success Starts With Your Success!

Steve Schuck - Montgomery Square Resident - 301-580-0177 cell