

# STRAUS PARK NEWSLETTER

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## The ECC - How Does It Work?

In Straus Park, the oversight of architecture and landscaping is the function of the Environmental Control Committee (ECC), whose mission is to approve all structures and exterior improvements on any lot within the community. This includes buildings, houses, signs, fences, parking areas, lighting, pools, gazebos, sports equipment and landscaping.

For the owner of an existing home, this means that any proposal for the visual alteration or addition to the structure or to the landscaping on your property must be submitted to the ECC for approval. Guidelines are spelled out in the Straus Park Design Manual, which is no longer distributed along with covenants and bylaws at closing. For questions about design criteria, such as building materials, plant materials, colors, etc., the current procedure is to call IPM Corp. at 650-6875.

The ECC consists of six members appointed by the Board of the Master Association: two professional advisers (Doug Harris, local architect, and Hutch Kerns, local landscape architect), two homeowners appointed annually (Linda Neumann and Norm Macoy), a developer appointee (Randy Baron) and an administrator (Scott McCall of IPM).

In the case of new construction, the three-tiered fee structure consists of: (1) the application fee, based on the size and scope of the proposal, covers review and inspections; (2) the impact fee, a fixed amount allocated to the long-range fund; and (3) the compliance deposit, based on square footage, which is refundable upon satisfactory completion of the project. The ECC is self-sustaining; application fees are used to compensate the professional staff, who make regular inspections of newly proposed and ongoing projects.

The ECC meets at 10:00 a.m. on the last Thursday of the month at the Lake House, and meetings are open to property owners.

## Reserving the Lake House

The new procedure for reserving the Lake House for all activities and events is to call Karen McCarthy at IPM (650-6861). She keeps a master calendar and informs the Lake House Committee of all reservations. If you call a meeting or plan an event at the Lake House, be sure to check availability first with Karen.

A committee has been appointed from the Master Association to review policies pertaining to the sponsorship of private events by Straus Park property owners. The purpose is to define the responsibilities of sponsors. The committee is comprised of Tory Elliott and Bud Lawing, Lake House co-chairmen, Mike Buck, David Calhoun and George Hord.

## Tennis, Anyone?

The Straus Park tennis courts will be open by April 1<sup>st</sup>, and the first Social Mixed Doubles is scheduled for Wednesday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:00. Tennis players of all levels are welcome.

(A timely reminder about court etiquette: Please sweep and line courts after you have played.)

## Social Calendar

Nancy Jarboe and John Graham, co-chairmen of the Straus Park Social Committee, have announced their calendar of social events for the year:

|          |         |                              |
|----------|---------|------------------------------|
| Saturday | May 7   | Kentucky Derby Wine & Cheese |
| Sunday   | May 29  | Memorial Day Picnic          |
| Monday   | July 4  | Fourth of July Barbecue      |
| Saturday | Aug. 13 | Lobsterfest                  |
| Monday   | Sept. 5 | Labor Day Picnic             |
| Saturday | Oct. 22 | Road Rallye                  |
| Saturday | Dec. 10 | Holiday Party                |

## Pot Luck

Sunday evening, April 10<sup>th</sup> is the date for the next Pot Luck, hosted by Don and Phyllis Gillette and Bud and Billie Lawing. The entrée will be London Broil. Please call Phyllis at 883-4653 by April 6<sup>th</sup> to make your reservation and let her know whether you'll bring a salad, vegetable, dessert or hors d'oeuvre. BYOB at 6:00 p.m.; soft beverages and coffee will be provided.

## Bridge Notes

To sign up for women's bridge on April 7<sup>th</sup>, call Gail McCarty at 883-2963 now. To play on April 21<sup>st</sup>, call Gerry McCain at 883-4568.

Couples bridge has been re-scheduled for the fourth Friday of the month at 7:00 p.m. To sign up for play on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, call Sue Macoy at 877-5995.

## Fun Food Nites

Advance notice! Fun Food Nites will resume on Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the Lake House. Again, the charge will be \$4 per person and no reservations will be necessary.

## Meet the Carneys

Another pair of college sweethearts who found their way to Straus Park are mid-westerners Richard and Joyce Carney who met at McPherson College in Kansas almost fifty years ago. Following graduation, they married and moved to Iowa where Richard completed his PhD in organic chemistry and Joyce taught fourth grade.

The Carneys then moved to Summit, NJ, where they lived for 42 years, Richard working in research and development with CIBA-Geigy (now Novartis) and Joyce earning a Master's degree and returning to teaching in elementary school. A sabbatical leave in Basel, Switzerland gave the Carney family, including their three daughters, an opportunity to travel throughout Europe. They have continued to enjoy traveling, on cruises in the Mediterranean and along the Yangtze River, as well as on trips to most of the 50 states, Puerto Rico, Mexico and Japan.

While researching retirement locations across the country, a friend told the Carneys, "Before you look anywhere else, look at Brevard." Since moving into their new home on Elk Mountain Trail last July, Joyce and Richard have enjoyed introducing friends and family (including seven grandchildren from Colorado, Virginia and Georgia) to the area. They're also looking forward to finding time for favorite hobbies, including woodworking, photography, genealogy and gardening for Richard and sewing, scrapbooking and reading for Joyce.

### Calendar of April Activities

|                     |            |                    |
|---------------------|------------|--------------------|
| Wednesday, April 6  | 5:00 p.m.  | Tennis             |
| Thursday, April 7   | 1:00 p.m.  | Women's Bridge     |
|                     | 7:00 p.m.  | Men's Poker        |
| Sunday, April 10    | 6:00 p.m.  | Pot Luck           |
| Wednesday, April 13 | 5:00 p.m.  | Tennis             |
| Monday, April 18    | 1:00 p.m.  | Book Club          |
| Wednesday, April 20 | 5:00 p.m.  | Tennis             |
| Thursday, April 21  | 1:00 p.m.  | Women's Bridge     |
|                     | 4:00 p.m.  | Master Association |
|                     | 7:00 p.m.  | Men's Poker        |
| Friday, April 22    | 7:00 p.m.  | Couples Bridge     |
| Wednesday, April 27 | 5:00 p.m.  | Tennis             |
| Thursday, April 28  | 10:00 a.m. | ECC                |