



# Carter's Cove Chronicle

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A publication of the Carter's Cove Homeowners' Association

May 2004

## *A Note From The* **PRESIDENT**

by Tonya Taylor

Greetings,

The Board is always seeking volunteers to share the duties associated with operating a homeowners association. If you are interested in volunteering for the Board or a committee, please send an email to [president@carterscove.info](mailto:president@carterscove.info) or call the property manager at 410-312-5507. Leave your contact information so someone can easily reach you to discuss your interests.

Please take the time to visit the community web site at [www.carterscove.info](http://www.carterscove.info).

Community information is readily available in an instant. Options available include a monthly calendar of events, reference information (meeting minutes, newsletters, HOA documents), links to other useful county sites, a forum, and frequently asked community questions.

I encourage you to sign on today.

## Treasure Chest

by Marcus Honarvar, Treasurer

HOA dues are our community's only source of income.

As a privately owned community these funds are necessary to pay for maintenance expenses like sidewalk and asphalt repairs, as well as lesser-



known expenses such as electricity and snow removal.

So far this year we have expended funds for removing snow, advertising our yard sale, spraying trees to reduce fruit production, maintaining common lawn areas, removing dead trees, etc.

Our ability to pay for these and other expenses depends on all members of the community paying their dues on a timely basis.

When a member doesn't pay their dues, the Board is forced to refer their delinquent account to an attorney to pursue the collection of these funds, which is costly to the association and the owner in additional attorney fees.

The Board of Directors has just approved a new collection policy with the firm of Michael H. Mannes, P.A. Unlike the arrangement with the previous legal firm, all fees and costs will be the responsibility of the delinquent owner to pay.

Activating the new collection policy will save the association money in the future. This is an example of the Board exercising its fiscal duties and responsibility to the membership.

Those members currently in the collection process with Davis, Agnor, Rapaport & Skalny will remain with this attorney. Any new delinquent owners will be sent to the new firm of Michael Mannes. The Board hopes that everyone will assume their financial responsibility to pay on a timely basis.

A copy of the collection policy will be mailed out to each member in the near future. I encourage each of you to review it so that

you are fully aware of how late payments are to be handled.

As of April 30<sup>th</sup>, we had 7 owners who still owed dues for March, February, and January, as well as 9 owners who still owe funds from 2003 and prior years. These shortages handicap the association's ability to service the community. The failure to pay assessments can lead to liens being filed on your home, and possibly even foreclosure.

Again, please familiarize yourselves with the new collection policy when you receive it so



these legal actions won't become necessary.

sary.

## DID YOU KNOW?

**Did you know:** The effectiveness of a police department's crime prevention efforts is enhanced by the active participation from community residents.

**Did you know:** A vehicle theft occurs every 14 minutes in Maryland.

**Did you know:** When residents and police work together, they can build a wall against crime.

It is with great pleasure that the Board announces the

implementation of the Neighborhood Watch Program.

The Board has purchased two-way radios and searchlights for those members willing to patrol the neighborhood. We are looking **D** for 100% community participation for this program to work effectively.

Members who wish to volunteer are encouraged to email Carl at [vicepresident@carterscove.info](mailto:vicepresident@carterscove.info) to leave word of your interest to participate. If you do not have email access, contact the property manager at 410-312-5507. Please leave your contact information and someone from the committee will be in touch.

Remember, this is **YOUR** community and it is up to **YOU** to help keep it safe.

### Community Updates

**H**oward County offers dumpsters free to neighborhoods twice a year for the Community Clean Up Program. Each community receives one dumpster per each 100 homes. Thus, we had two dumpsters delivered. One was on Hidden Cove and one was placed on Pirates Cove.

The Board hopes that all members understand that having dumpsters delivered is a privilege and that everyone needs to be responsible when discarding their unwanted items. The association must pay if they are over filled to have excess debris taken off the top and hauled away.

In the fall, when the dumpsters arrive, please be sure not to overload them. Consider utilizing the not-so-popular dumpster on Hidden Cove, if necessary.

The Yard Sale was a big success; we had many participants from the community. If you would like to have a

community yard sale in the fall before the next dumpster delivery, please let the property manager know at 410-312-5507.

### TRASHY TALK

Did you miss out on using the dumpster in April? Don't worry - there are other ways to get rid of your excess unwanted large items. Howard County residents can purchase an annual pass for access to the Alpha Ridge Landfill in Marriottsville, MD. For a \$12 permit fee, available for purchase at the landfill gate, you are allowed unlimited trips to the landfill from July 1 through June 30 each year. Here you can dispose of unlimited quantities of trash and bulky items.

Another suggestion is to call a company that specializes in hauling debris. The property manager has had great success with a company called Wise, Inc. There is a minimum charge of \$45 and that may be higher depending on the amount of debris to be removed. Mr. Wise can be reached at 301-596-9700. He will be happy to provide a bid.

Now that the spring growing season is upon us, remember to utilize your designated recycle day (Wednesday) for disposal of grass clippings, leaves and other light brush. Place these items in open paper or plastic bags, or trashcans (with the lid off).

If you trim or prune your trees, please cut them into 4-foot lengths and bundle them together. **Do not** leave large uncut limbs at the curb! They will not be collected by the trash or recycle trucks.

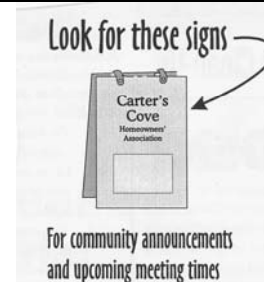
If an owner has been identified as leaving large limbs at the curb, they will be notified and expected to pay for the removal.

If you have problems with collection, please call 410-313-6444.

### Just a few Reminders:

1. Trashcans should not be placed at the curb before 6:00 p.m. the night before scheduled pick up and must be brought back from the curb by 6:00 p.m. the day of pick up.
2. Speaking of trash, please take a few moments to pick up any trash that has blown onto the front or back of your property. It has been rather windy and the neighborhood has collected quite a bit of trash. Please take a moment to help keep our community clean!
3. Please be kind to your neighbors and always remember to pick up after your dog, especially from the sidewalks where children play and people walk!
4. Howard County Non-Emergency Telephone number is: 410-313-3700.
5. **Be sure to cut your front and back yards on a regular basis.**

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS:



The next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at Guilford Elementary School at 7:00 p.m.

Summer meetings will be held at the East Columbia Branch Library at 7:00 p.m. Those dates are June 17<sup>th</sup>, July 15<sup>th</sup>, and August 19<sup>th</sup>.

Residents are welcome to attend.

**CARTER'S COVE HOA**  
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**Columbia, MD 21045**

[www.carterscove.info](http://www.carterscove.info)

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Tonya Taylor, President**

**Carl Adolph, VP**

**Marcus Honavar, Treasurer**

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**Ray Bougiorni, Director**

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**PROPERTY MANAGER**

**Susan Poole**

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