



## NEWSLETTER

JUNE 1958

### A COMMUNITY SERVICE OF THE PIMMIT HILLS CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

PHCA Officers 1957-58:

John P. Shacochis, President

Robert Printzenhoff, Vice President

Alise Wahl, Secretary

Gerald Thompson, Treasurer

Mark Enger, Sgt-At-Arms

#### RECAP OF ASSOCIATION PROGRESS AND A LOOK AHEAD

With new officers of the Citizens Association elected, the old Association year nearly ended, and a new one about to begin, we thought it might be well to sit back a bit now and take stock of ourselves--to take a look back at the high hopes and plans we had when we entered the year last July, at the accomplishments and failures we experienced in the months of hard work that followed, and at some of the challenges, new and old, still before us.

Our main plans, expressed in our 1958-59 program, were these: (1) to complete the project for installation of street improvements, curbs, and gutters in Sections 1 through 5; (2) to investigate the possibility of installing sidewalks  
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#### ALL THE DEAD BEETLES YOU CAN USE. . .

If enough of us are interested, the community's Green Thumb Garden Club plans to sponsor a Japanese Beetle Control Drive. The drive will be of particular benefit to residents of the area's newer subdivisions.

Liquidation of the pests is done through application of "milky spore" powder to the yard. The spores multiply and attack the beetle grubs in the ground, but leave grass and plants unharmed. Full effectiveness is attained about the third season but depends also on treatment of at least half the yards in a  
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#### ASSOCIATION MEETING

The tenth and last general meeting in the current session of the Pimmit Hills Citizens Association will be held at 8:00 p.m. TUESDAY, JUNE 3 in the PIMMIT HILLS SCHOOL.

One of the main items to be covered at the meeting is a special report by Mr. Julius Meier, Chairman of our Public Utilities Committee. The report will describe actions taken on Wednesday, May 28 by the Board of County Supervisors on a request by George Offutt to permit development of 42 lots on land formerly occupied by the Army's anti-aircraft battery along Magarity Rd.

With the Board's permission, homes to be located on these lots would be served by Mr. Offutt's Pimmit Service Corp. sewage plant.

Background and possible implications of this proposal are outlined under "Recap of Association Progress," next column.

#### PHCA ELECTION RESULTS

New officers of the Pimmit Hills Citizens Association for the 1958-59 year were elected in the Association's May meeting. They are--

President - Mr. Douglass E. Glass, 409 Lisle Ave. (TW 3-9527)

Sr. V. Pres. - Mr. Gail A. Wilson, 218 Burfoot St. (TW 3-9311)

Secretary - Mrs. Frederick E. Chapman, 404 Fisher Dr. (TW 3-7759)  
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## ASSOCIATION PROGRESS (Cont'd from p. 1)

and streetlights in appropriate sections; (3) to revise the Association's Constitution and By-laws; (4) to develop a more effective program to promote favorable publicity for the area; (5) to publish a 1958 Pimmit Hills Directory; (6) to continue action toward development of a community center.

We thought last Fall that the end was in sight for our long-lived curbs and gutters project and looked forward in November to a referendum to approve the tax program so that construction could start this Spring. But wouldn't you know it, a legal snag discovered by bonding attorneys required action by Virginia's General Assembly to plug the loophole. Most recent reports indicate the needed legislation was pushed through, and, like the Dodgers, we're once again looking with hope to the future.

A study of the sidewalks and streetlights project was made only to discover that groundwork laid by former Association officers had completely missed one small section of the community whose residents' desires for these facilities may be critical to success of the entire project. Further action, therefore, was withheld pending completion of an opinion survey of the residents involved.

Revision of our Constitution and By-laws was completed in draft form by a tireless committee headed by Mr. DeForest Rathbone, and will be presented to the Association for consideration early next Fall. Efforts of the Public Relations Committee have brought residents what we hope were gradual improvements in the monthly newsletter and considerably greater (and more favorable) lineage in several weekly and one daily newspaper covering the Northern Virginia area.

The 1958 Pimmit Hills Directory (1000 copies) was a complete sell-out within six weeks from the date of publication. Our only regret here is that we relied on sales figures of 750 copies for the '56 edition in estimating this year's sales potential.

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## ELECTION RESULTS (Cont'd from p.1)

Treasurer - Mr. Robert E. Dickson, 2210 Storm Dr. (EL 6-4027)  
Sgt-At-Arms - Mr. Edward H. Lane, Jr., 510 Lisle Ave. (TW 3-9646)

Regional Vice Presidents are:

Region A - Mr. John J. Barnes, 311 Pimmit Dr. (TW 3-7957)  
Region B - Mr. William F. Hearne, 1934 Anderson Rd. (TW 3-8538)  
Region C - Mr. Mark R. Enger, 300 Kilgore Rd. (TW 3-7769)  
Region D - Ens. David L. Woods, 312 Fisher Dr. (TW 3-8005)  
Region E - Mr. Joseph Lihlar, 505 Stanley Pl. (TW 3-7738)  
Region F - Mr. DeForest Z. Rathbone, Jr., 2314 Anderson Rd. (EL 6-4179)

The new Executive Committee will hold office from July 1, 1958 through May 31, 1959. New business brought up at this month's meeting, however, will be turned over to the new officers.

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## BEETLES (Cont'd from p. 1)

given area. The value of the powder is recognized by the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture and can certainly be endorsed by many of us who had it applied to our properties several years ago.

Cost of the "milky spore" treatment is between \$5.60 and \$11.20 per home. Interested residents should call Mrs. Gerald Thompson on EL 6-3975.

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## GARDEN CLUB MEETS

The Green Thumb Garden Club announced it will hold its next regular meeting on Wednesday, June 11 at 8:00 p.m. in the Pimmit Hills School.

Featured at the meeting will be a talk on travel and vacation resorts in Virginia by the Club's program chairman, Mrs. D. A. Thomson. All residents are cordially invited to attend.

ASSOCIATION PROGRESS (Cont'd from p. 2)

Last but not least, we plugged away-- and are still plugging--at our community center project, which is perhaps the most challenging, important, and elusive of all the tasks we face. Several properties suitable to our purpose seemed momentarily within our grasp only to be snatched away at the last hour when our hopes were highest. Preliminary details were also worked out to permit incorporation for the purpose of purchasing and managing an appropriate site and facilities. And an invitation was sent the National Recreation Association to assist us in developing detailed plans for needed facilities. We hope next year's officers and membership will be undaunted by our misfortunes in this direction and will move forward where we leave off with renewed vigor and determination to make yesterday's aspirations tomorrow's reality.

In addition to programmed projects, the Association sponsored, co-sponsored, or assisted on such special projects as distribution of the Fairfax County Directory and Map; the Green Thumb Garden Club's Christmas home decoration contest; the PTA appeal which resulted in improved traffic safety for our children; two successful dances; and a profitable merchandise auction. We also sponsored a number of forums as part of our monthly meetings on topics ranging from county recreation and school reorganization to police service and proposals for establishment of a metropolitan county.

Many projects will face us in the year ahead. Beside those carried over from last year's program and others which doubtless develop, we appear even now to be faced with a new (or aggravated) and serious problem in connection with our utility service. Specifically, we mean Pimmit Service Corporation's request for County approval for forty-two additional homes to be tapped on to what appears to be an already overloaded (or inefficiently operated) sewage treatment plant on Pimmit Drive.

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MIMEOGRAPH MACHINE FOR SALE

As a result of the purchase of new equipment capable of heavier production, the Association wishes to dispose of its old mimeograph machine at nominal price.

The machine is a simple open-drum, automatic-feed, hand-operated model. Its condition is fair, and it is quite effective for small jobs (up to about 1000 copies).

The mimeograph will be sold to the highest bidder and may be inspected by calling Mr. James Herby on EL 6-3073. Bids must be received by Mr. Herby not later than Saturday, June 7.

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HELP WANTED

Assistance is still needed to staff the Association's Public Relations Committee for next year's activities. Organization of the committee must be completed during the Summer months in order to put the public relations program in operation in the Fall.

Skills or interest in all fields including advertising, writing, editing, and production are needed. A teen-age boy who is mechanically inclined and interested in learning something of the print-process would be especially welcome to assist in production of the Newsletter on our new equipment.

Please call Newsletter Editor, Jim Herby on EL 6-3073 for further details.

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ASSOCIATION PROGRESS (from next column)

Mr. Offutt's request for a hearing on this subject by the County Board reached the Association's attention only days before the scheduled hearing May 14th. Mr. Julius Meier, Chairman of the Association's Public Utilities Committee and a number of interested residents, through concerted efforts, were able to prepare for and attend the meeting. Upon the appearance of the Pimmit Hills group, how-

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ASSOCIATION PROGRESS (Cont'd from p. 3)

ever, we understand the attorney for the applicant requested and was granted a postponement until Wednesday, May 28. \*\*\*

Most of us are already aware of the reports of airborne sewage and nauseating odors emanating from this plant. Perhaps few of us, however, are aware of the full implication of these reports as it may affect all of our property values and, indeed, even our health. It behooves us all, therefore, to hear a fuller explanation of this problem by Mr. Meier at Tuesday's general meeting so that we may be better equipped to understand and to cope with it effectively in the days and perhaps months ahead.

These are only typical of the type and importance of the tasks to which community organization must respond. But organization to meet these challenges does not occur over night--hence the continuing need for an effective citizens association built on a large, active, and representative membership. We have the leadership in our new Association Executive Committee, which, with our assistance and support, will be capable of any task before it.

In conclusion--if there's anything on which we of this year's Executive Committee would probably agree we have learned through our experience in the Association, it is that each of us has become profoundly impressed by the need for and the power of a well informed, vigilant, and active citizenry. Too often, we're sorry to say, our impression has been gained by seeing the lack rather than the presence of these attributes here in our community. Too often when the call went out for assistance in handling problems of pressing importance to us all, the response was one of apathy, indifference, and pre-occupation with personal pleasures.

This is not merely self-righteousness, for our experiences are tinged with a good degree of personal shame at opportunities lost and progress thwarted for want of a few hours of our time and our  
(Cont'd - next column)

energies which we so willingly poured down the rat-hole watching second-rate TV shows and the like. Neither would we belittle the active interest and selfless cooperation of the more than one-hundred members of our fifteen-hundred home community who turned out at meetings or contributed so actively to our programs through committee work and other tasks. We only regret, though, that so much had to be done by so few for so many. And we only hope that, in the year ahead, many more will come to a very personal realization, as we have, that the requirements for free, democratic, and fruitful community life are not fulfilled by simply paying taxes and voting in an annual election.

\*\*\*The following resulted from the public hearing on Wednesday, May 28:

The Board of Supervisors denied the Pimmit Service Corporation's request for additional tap-ins on the sewage plant; plans to draft an appropriate ordinance that would provide for the licensing of plant operators and inspection by the County; and to immediately investigate the possibility of the County removal of the Pimmit Hills sewage treatment plant and/or by-pass the system.

Mr. J. Meier and Mr. D. Glass deserve credit for the excellent presentation of the Association's stand on this matter.

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FHCA FINANCIAL STATEMENT

A copy of the Association's statement of Revenue and Expenditure for the period June 17, 1957 to May 15, 1958 is attached. A complete financial statement will be rendered when the Association year ends June 30, 1958. The present statement necessarily does not include receipts to be turned in, such as from the dance on May 23, 1958, and expenditures required in order to complete the year's operations.

