

# Lake Evesham News

October 2021

## Board Members

Theresa Furnari, *President*      Ryan Ahearn, *Secretary*  
Anthony Cataldo, *Vice President*      Melina Turtle, *Treasurer*

## Members at Large

Jack Fishman      Stephanie Seipp  
Andy McNeely      Steve Lingsch  
Malik Jordan      Tymoteusz Kajstura

## Farewell, Macky

We bid farewell and best wishes to Macky Ayers who moved from our neighborhood at the end of July 2021. A resident of Lake Evesham for over 40 years, for several years Macky was the treasurer of the Lake Evesham Community Association. Macky and her husband, Allen, who recently passed away, were frequent attendees at community events and Macky often led the plans for the annual crab feast. She will be missed.

With the closing of a door, a window opens. Melina Turtle, a former member at large, will take over the role of treasurer for the association for the rest of the year. Thank you, Melina.

## Treasurer's Corner

*Disbursements and Deposits for the period from March 18, 2021 to June 6, 2021:*

**Dues Deposits: \$25.00**

**Interest earned: \$0.02**

### Disbursements:

- \$32.34 renew website for two years
- \$146.00 annual fee for the P.O. box
- \$154.50 to review the records at SDAT, to become in good standing and to become current on the address of the principal office and resident agent
- \$14.58 for refreshments for the five community clean-up

**Checking account as of 3/17/21: \$1,785.97**

**Checking account as of 6/6/21: \$1,463.57, of which \$20.42 is for the community garden fund**

## Postponing the Biennial Crab Feast

The Crab Feast, scheduled for October 2021 will be postponed. The board believes there is still too much uncertainty with the safety in gathering in large numbers when considering the Delta variant. We look forward to next year.

## Annual Meeting

The annual meeting will be held November 8, 2021, beginning at 7:00 pm. Similar to last year the meeting will be held virtually over Zoom. We hope many

residents will sign on from the safety of their home. But unlike last year, the board has created a format that will allow residents to hear what is going on in the neighborhood and opportunities to get involved with what interests you. After the annual elections, each board member will describe activities in the neighborhood. Thereafter, the floor will be open to answer questions and hear from residents as to how to and what interests you. So, mark your calendars and be on the look out for more information.

## Officer and Board Nominations

The board of Lake Evesham Community Association (LECA) currently has four officers (President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary) and 6 members at large. There are currently vacancies for Vice President and one at-large seat, but all positions are subject to re-election every year. If you are interested in running for one of the positions or know someone who is, **please submit your nomination to Ryan Ahearn** at [ryan.ahearn@hey.com](mailto:ryan.ahearn@hey.com).

According to the LECA by-laws: *The nomination of officers and directors for the Association shall be made by a Nominating Committee. Nominations may also be made from the floor at the fall general meeting. The Nominating Committee shall consist of a chairperson, who shall be a member of the Board of Directors and two or more other Members who may or may not be members of the Board of Directors. The Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the President of the Association prior to the fall general meeting, to serve until the close of the fall general meeting. The Nominating Committee shall make as many nominations for election of officers and directors as it shall, in its discretion determine, but not less than the number of vacancies that are to be filled. Section 2 The election of officers and directors shall be by oral or written ballots cast in person by Members at the fall general meeting and by absentee ballots filed pursuant to Section 3 below. The persons receiving the largest number of votes for each office or Board position shall be elected. Cumulative voting is not permitted. In case of a tie, a runoff election*

*shall be held. Section 3 Absentee ballots will be available from the chairperson of the Nominating Committee. Members wishing to vote by absentee ballot must return their completed ballots to the chairperson of the Nominating Committee at least two (2) days before the fall general meeting.*

All members of the association are eligible to vote. Again, according to the by-laws: *The Members of the Association shall consist of all persons 18 years of age or older who reside in the area of the Association's activities and have paid all dues and assessments for the current year.*

## **Upcoming Greening Projects and Mayor's Fall Clean Up**

Lake Evesham frequently participates in the Mayor's Clean Up and this year we'll be out there again. If you are interested in beautifying our neighborhood, please meet at the Lake Evesham sign (located on the green space between Evesham Avenue and Northern Parkway) at 9:00 am on October 23, 2021. We will participate in cleaning up the streets in our neighborhood until 12:00 pm. If we have enough volunteers, we will also remove invasive vines from the trees in our green spaces. Because it is an outdoor event, masks are not required but we will practice social distancing. All families and children are welcome. Please bring your own gloves and tools, if you want to remove vines. If you are interested, please email Theresa at tafurnari10@gmail.com.

The fall season is the time for preparing your gardens for next year and the Lake Evesham Community Garden has two projects coming up where we will be working with Loyola University Students. Residents of Lake Evesham are needed to work with the students.

The dates are November 6 and November 13 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. We will meet at the Lake Evesham Community Garden, located on the Northwest corner of York Road and Northern Parkway. The projects will be to remove invasive shrubs and grasses and then transplant native plants. All are welcome and no experience is necessary. Please bring your own gloves and gardening tools, especially if you have a pick ax, loppers, or a grubbing hoe. It is a fun activity to work with the students and learn about native plants and their benefits. If you are interested, please email Theresa at tafurnari10@gmail.com.

Another opportunity for a greening project is a hidden gem tucked away in the middle of Govans:

## **The Govans Urban Forest, submitted by Helene Perry, Chair PS&G, YRP.**

In the 5200 block of York Road, nestled between the CVS and Govans Boundary church, is a one-half acre lot that is the Govans Urban Forest. Prior to 2012 it was basically an empty lot that attracted dumping, trash, drug dealing and where a homeless man lived for 15 or more years. Shunned by community members, it was regarded by the neighbors as a place to avoid, at best an eyesore and at night a dangerous place.

In 2012, Loyola University's Rugby Team approached the Public Spaces and Greening Committee of the York Road Partnership, asking if there was a significant project on York Road in which they could get involved. We thought of this vacant lot and proposed the Team clean it out and they agreed!

They filled to overflowing a 20 cu-ft dumpster with discarded furniture, pallets, lumber, deadwood, old clothes and uncovered a sign posted by the Department of Natural Resources stating the lot was designated as a 'protected urban forest'.

Finally getting into the cleared lot, we found adult ivy on all the trees and invasive vines and non-native trees everywhere. Over 200 trees encompassing two dozen different species were found, three of them 190 years old.

Our PS&G Committee is small, so we rely heavily on volunteer groups from schools and churches in the neighborhood and beyond. By 2015, most of the adult ivy and porcelain berry that covered almost every tree had been removed. Organizations such as Baltimore Green Space have provided advice and technical support as we learn more about what a treasure this lot is. We now have three goals:

- To enhance GUF's environmental benefits
- To have GUF serve as an educational opportunity for neighborhood children
- To make GUF a neighborhood asset where neighbors can come to relax

Do come and visit!

Loyola University undergrads have designed bird and insect houses, installed signage, and developed a 'walking tour' that is posted on iztravel.com; the Friends School students designed and painted our signature sign on York Road; AmeriCorps volunteers constructed a 'learning circle' where visitors can sit and relax, and just recently have cleared a large area where they installed native plants; hoping to provide a 'seed nursery' that will increase native ground cover as more ivy is removed.

If you are interested, please contact Helene Perry at HPerry@loyola.edu.

## Living with College Students

Lake Evesham is home to approximately 26 college houses, and it has always been the desire of community residents to welcome the students to our beautiful neighborhood. Many of these houses have been great neighbors. Unfortunately, during the many years, there have been issues with excessive noise, parking, trash, and otherwise poor behavior. For this year, the Board has implemented a process to respond to those students who are ill-behaved.

Our neighbor and board member, Tym Kajstura, has agreed to take on the role of liaison between the city government and the universities when responding to issues for college housing. We are happy to report that Loyola College and Towson University have been working with the Lake Evesham Community Association as well as the Baltimore Police Department to respond to disruptive and/or illegal behavior from college rental houses in the neighborhood. **Per the request of the BPD**, if this kind of activity occurs, please call 911 to report it (which can be done anonymously if desired). Please also send the date and time the call was made, along with details of the incident, to our College Housing

Liaison, Tym at tkajstura@gmail.com, to ensure follow-up with the colleges.

As to the behavior, it is excessive noise, underage drinking, profanity, public urination, trash, and anything else that affects your quality of life. It does not matter the time of day. When you call 911 give them the address of the home, what you are experiencing and the names of the students and school they attend if you know. As much information as possible is helpful. When the police arrive, insist that they consider issuing a citation and/or fining the students. The neighborhood nuisance law is our most effective ordinance to respond to disruptive behavior and the students as well as the landlord can be cited and fined. Specifically, the ordinance allows the city - through its Environmental Control Board - to issue citations to those acting in a "disorderly manner that disturbs the public peace" as well as to landlords allowing such conduct to occur on their property. For a first offense, the ticket is \$500. Another offense within 12 months of the first offense and the ticket is \$1,000. Owners of troublesome properties can also be fined and face up to 60 days in jail under the ordinance and if citations are not paid.

Please don't forget to shop local and support our local businesses, especially on the third week of each month.

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## 2022 Community Association Membership Form

Please attach annual membership dues of \$15 per adult, \$25 per family. Pay by PayPal at [www.paypal.me/lakeevesham](http://www.paypal.me/lakeevesham) or by check, made payable to *Lake Evesham Community Association*. You can drop off your check to 212 East Melrose Avenue; mail to P.O. Box 4692, Baltimore, MD, 21212; or bring to an association meeting.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Dues attached \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Names & ages of children \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Concerns and/or Interests \_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL OPTIONAL DONATION TOWARD THE PRUNING OF THE COMMUNITY GARDEN \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

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Join the Lake Evesham listserv on [www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com) and visit the website at <https://www.lakeevesham.org>

*The neighborhood newsletter is distributed electronically on a quarterly basis. If you have something that you wish to communicate with neighbors, please submit it to Ryan Ahearn: [ryan.ahearn@hey.com](mailto:ryan.ahearn@hey.com)*