

The Newsletter of the Randolph Civic Association and Randolph Civic Federation

Volume 43, Issue 5 March 2000

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Upcoming Events



RCA General Meeting

Thursday, March 2, 2000 8:00 p.m.

The March General Meeting will feature two important speakers from Montgomery County Code Enforcement.

RCA Executive Meeting

Thursday, April 6, 2000 8:00 p.m.

Meetings are held at the Randolph Hills Recreation Center at the corner of Ashley Drive and Macon Road on the **first Thursday of every month at 8 p.m.**, except January, July, and August. Usually, we alternate between General and Executive meetings. All are welcome at every one.

President's Message

by Kathy Stillwell

Greetings from Macon Road. I am writing this article on behalf of my husband who is presently on an extended business trip. (Oh no, not another one!) Jack seems to plan these trips around projected weather forecasts. He's missed his opportunity, once again, to bond with the snow shovel.

When he calls for a daily accounting, I try to keep to pleasantries. He doesn't need to know that our very bright dog has digested another sock and we're still waiting on the results, or that I can't find the car keys (the second set), or that "tofu" has now become a four letter word that my girls have deemed inappropriate for use in any way, shape or form.

During a recent phone conversation, I shared with him my experiences jogging through the neighborhood. It has always been a second choice, having the bike path nearby, but for now the path is impassable. Overlooking minor incidents while on these runs (being sprayed with dirty snow slush by passing cars), I have come to thoroughly enjoy getting to know the neighborhood on foot, in a way that driving through it simply can't provide.

Each house has its own personality, its own presence, I tell him. Colorful pinwheels spin in the breeze where flowers beds lie dormant. Ceramic figures peak at me from under bushes, and festive flags billow from their holders, making me think that spring is near. Bird feeders of varying shapes and sizes sway from tree limbs or dangle from poles. Majestic pines and berry-speckled hollies add natural beauty to the land-scape. Front doors decorated with spring wreaths, sleds resting in the yards where children live and painted mailboxes, all bring on a smile.

I tell Jack that I've come to appreciate being a part of this community even more now. There's a comfort, a warmth that I sense throughout this neighborhood. From street to street, the feeling is still the same: welcome to our community, just please slow down and take notice.

The March General Meeting

will feature two important speakers from Montgomery County Code Enforcement. This is your chance to find out what's legal and what's not, so please be sure to attend!

> Thursday, March 2, 8:00 p.m. at the Randolph Hills Recreation Center Corner of Ashley Drive & Macon Road

RCA Executive Committee for 1999-2000

OFFICERS

President

Jack Stillwell 5106 Macon Road 301-231-4934

Vice President

(open)

Secretary

Kevin Kline 4808 Randolph Road 301-230-1486

Treasurer

Richard Zierdt 4707 Coachway Drive 301-881-0283

Directors

Wilbur Van der Linden 11711 Ashley Drive 301-770-7235

Matthew Shore 11230 Troy Road 310-468-1225

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Echo Editor

Eileen White 11225 Ashley Drive 301-984-2579

Echo Advertising

Mauro Biondo

11508 Monongahela Court 301-770-7590

Membership

Amy Hsu 4716 Oxbow Road 301-468-6180

Environment

Jack Stillwell 5106 Macon Road 301-231-4934

Cathy Stillwell 5106 Macon Road 301-231-4934

Education

Elinor Walker 11811 Old Drovers Way 301-468-6335

Mobile Watch (acting)

Frank Shore 11230 Troy Road 301-468-1225

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Scout Leader, Troop 1083

Brian McGahey 11805 Timber Lane 301-770-7882

Cub Master, Pack 1081

George Gadbois 4718 Topping Road 301-770-5386

Scout Liaison

Frank Rossomondo 11611 Ashley Drive 301-770-7450

Family &

Community Education Judy Fewell

5018 Macon Road 301-770-5540

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION DELEGATES

Montgomery County Civic Federation:

Scott Bailey, George Cantalupo, Matthew Shore, Richard Zierdt

North Bethesda Congress: Matthew Shore

MUNICIPAL AREAS FOR RCA

County Council District 1 (representing all of RCA):
Councilwoman: Betty Ann Krahnke
Ms. Krahnke's aides: Joy Nurmi
Carl Morgan
240-777-7965

General County Council Offices: 240-777-7900

County Executive (all of RCA):

Douglas Duncan 240-777-2500

Montgomery County Public Schools: 301-279-3000
School Board Offices: 301-279-3617
School System Information: 301-279-3391

School Board Member for District 3 (representing all of RCA):

Ms. Patricia O'Neill 301-320-7600

Maryland State Legislative District 17 -

South of Randolph Road:

 Senator:
 Jennie Forehand
 301-858-3134

 Delegates:
 Kumar Barve
 301-858-3001

 Michael Gordon
 301-858-3519

 Cheryl Kagan
 301-858-3046

Maryland Legislative District 18 -

North of Randolph Road:

 Senator:
 Christopher Van Hollen
 301-858-3137

 Delegates:
 Leon Billings
 301-858-3028

 Sharon Grosfeld
 301-858-3028

 John Hurson
 301-858-3464

Montgomery County Delegation Office: All Senators & Delegates: 301-858-3010 U.S.Congressional District 8 (all of RCA): Constance Morella 202-225-5341 email: rep.morella@mail.house.gov

U.S. Senate (all of RCA):

Barbara Mikulski 202-224-4654 Paul Sarbanes 202-224-4524

Election Precincts:

4-08 South of Randolph Rd. Vote at Rockinghorse Center.4-26 North of Randolph Rd. Vote at Montrose Baptist Church.

Montgomery Co. Board of Elections: 301-217-6450



RCA Telephone Number: 301-881-2722 (881-2RCA).

Recorded announcements of community events, 24 hours a day. Callers may leave messages.

Membership in the RCA is \$5.00 per year.

The Echo is the official publication of the Randolph Civic Association, Inc., P.O. Box 2202, North Bethesda, Maryland 20852. The Echo is published 8 times a year and distributed free to all residents of Franklin Park, Hilltop Square, Montrose Park, Randolph Hills, Randolph Farms, and Westminster. Deadline for submission of articles varies; the next deadline is noted in each issue. Copy should be sent to the Editor, Eileen White, 11225 Ashley Drive, North Bethesda, Maryland 20852, 301-984-2579, email eewhite@erols.com.

The Randolph Civic Association was formed in 1955 and incorporated in 1958. As stated in the original Articles of Incorporation, the purposes of the RCA are "to stimulate interest in all community problems and improvements that will better the general welfare of the community [and] to pay strict attention to any attempt to lessen the value of property within its borders..."

Minutes of the RCA Executive Meeting

February, 2000

On a cold and snowy night, only a few brave individuals drifted in to hear the latest RCA news. RCA Secretary Kevin Kline presided. Because of the low turnout, the tone was informal, and gave people a chance to ask questions on topics that interested them. One important subject discussed was Zoning Text Amendment (ZTA) #99018. A ZTA is a change in the County zoning code. This ZTAhas to do with the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School (CESS) that occupies the closed Randolph Jr. High. We do not mean to harp on the issue (too late), but RCA-land is still unprotected by zoning code, and CESS could expand: student enrollment, the parking lot; or erect temporary buildings (as the McLean School of Maryland, located in a Potomac closed public school, is now doing). The opposing civics surrounding the McLean school have retained a lawyer.

At the closed school Alta Vista, private religious students parking in the neighborhood is a major problem. Last year, the surrounding neighborhood agreed park land should be used to expand the religious school's parking, and this was done. This upcoming school year the private school now plans to increase enrollment!

A December 15th Gazette article quotes one private school representative: "Public schools are less attractive, the county is having a hard keeping up. There's overcrowding and modular classrooms. I think the independent schools continue to get better..." This is not a "free market economy" at work, because the County has heavily subsidized them by leasing these buildings for a song—bought with your tax dollars.

The real reason the Execs are so hot on this subject: the School Board targeted RE-OPENING Randolph Jr. High, albeit as a "temporary" public school, while other schools were repaired and remodeled! The School Board never stands up to the County Council.

The CESS school is beautiful, but the School Board would have also remodeled Randolph. Once open, we would have worked hard to keep it open for RCA-land kids. Because RCA'ers would not have to ride the bus to school, your neighborhood would be more desirable. Realtors have told us flat out the value of YOUR house would have increased by thousands of dollars!

Comments on topics concerning the neighborhood?

Call 301-881-2722 **RCA Hotline – 24 hours**

ELLIOTT C. FLICK, D.D.S.

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Don't forget to check out Randolph Civic's site at http://www.randolphcivic.org

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Treasurer's Report

by Richard Zierdt

As of February 2, 2000, combined RCA+RCF assets total \$7,308.93. A new, annual expense has been added: the RCA Web page! Check it out at *randolphcivic.org*. This will cost \$240 per year for web access, and \$35 per year for domain name registration.

Date	Num	Payee	Memo	Amount	Balance
		BALANCE 01/10/2000			7,539.52
01/13	597	Hosting Masters	1 year, RCA Web page	-240.00	7,299.52
01/18	E-xfr	Bell Atlantic	Dec 22 phone bill	-20.21	7,279.31
01/21		interest	Crestar Bank 0.75 %	4.97	7,284.28
02/02	598	Nineva Printing	Jan/Feb ECHO	-895.00	6,389.28
02/02		RCA		662.50	7,051.78
		inc:advertising	Supinski Bonding Ins.	52.50	
		inc:advertising	Parcel Plus	120.00	
		inc:advertising	Chef Theos	150.00	
		inc:membership	membership, RCF, SAM	340.00	
		BALANCE 02/02/2000	1		7,051.78

		RCF 0 1/10/200	Checking Register 00 through 2/02/2000		
Date	Num	Payee	Memo	Amount	Balance
		Balance 01/10/2000			207.01
01/15		RCFoundation	donation	50.00	257.01
01/31		interest ESTIMATE	Crestar Bank 0.70 %	0.14	257.15
		BALANCE 02/02/2000)		257.15

Total RCA+RCF cash assets	7,308.93
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Children Too Scared to Go to School?

by Richard Zierdt

A grandmother of a boy, who lives in RCA-land, called the RCA and said her grandson was too scared to go to Parkland Middle School next year, and asked what the RCA could do about it.

Answer: As much as our parents want to! There is no doubt the *perception* is that the upper schools in the Wheaton cluster are some of the worst in the County. SAT scores even support this perception. To my knowledge, Viers Mill Elementary is at least satisfactory to most parents. Parkland and Wheaton need improvement.

As in most things in County services, the squeaky wheels get the grease. How strong is the PTA at Parkland and Wheaton? Do RCA parents participate? How many parents attend PTA meetings? I believe we (the collective parents of RCA) either must improve Wheaton, or change school boundaries. The RCA's position is that all households in the RCA should be assigned to the same school district (Walter Johnson), but this not going to happen anytime soon, particularly with the present school board, and unfortunately, the present and new school superintendent. But the only way this change has a chance of happening is if enough parents push for it.

So, what to do. (1) I urge all parents to participate in their school PTAs. (2) I believe the RCA itself can play a role here, but at least one parent has to organize this. The RCAis itself well-organized, and such organization is available to any parent who wants to improve our schools. Let the RCA know.

Calls Received on the RCA Hotline

General Note: The RCA gets a

January 11, 2000 to February 2, 2000

lot of calls about code violations (untagged cars, tall grass, etc). Please note that phone numbers for agencies that handle such matters are published in the ECHO almost every month. You don't have to leave your name or phone number. The RCA is here to help everyone keep our neighborhood as orderly as possible, so please use

these numbers. Please call the RCA as well. We appreciate knowing and learning about our community.

2000-01-14 (**Fri**) **10:37 am** Anonymous, Franklin Park. There is plumbing van that parks too close to the intersection of Galena and Hunters Lane. It is difficult to see

traffic on Hunters when turning right from Galena. Please place a note in the ECHO asking that the truck be parked further from the intersection so drivers can see the intersection.

2000-01-25 (**Tue**) **4:48 pm** Anonymous, Wyaconda Road. Why did County clear (plow) Boiling Brook Parkway this morning, about 11 am, but not Wyaconda?

2000-01-26 (Wed) 11:54 am Anonymous, Olden Road. Thanks to the teenagers who offered to shovel snow after the storm.

2000-01-26 (Wed) 2:10 pm Ertter Drive. Please urge residents to clear their sidewalks, especially along Randolph Road. Also, car blocked sidewalk at 50xx Randolph (north side), forcing caller to walk in the street. Residents should be obligated to clear their sidewalks.

2000-01-26 (Thu) **2:11 pm** Randolph Hills, 1st section. Would the Association know of anyone willing to clear sidewalks? [Boy Scouts: want to make extra money? Let the RCA know.]

2000-01-29 (Sun) 6:39 pm Mary with the Excell (?) Corporation, 301-652-7308. Internet service.

2000-01-31 (Mon) 8:07 am Ashley Drive. Residents are not clearing their sidewalks. Ashley, Troy, etc. Kids need to get to their buses, residents need to walk. What can be done about this?





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Did you notice that the majority of companies who paid \$2 million for each 30 second ad during the Superbowl are Internet-based companies? Just a few years ago the majority of advertisements were for cars and beer. Why the change?

Today, 66% of American households are connected to the Internet and that number grows

daily. The National Association of REALTORS reports that 75% of homebuyers start their homesearch on the Internet. Doesn't it make sense that, in order to get the widest possible exposure when placing your home on the market, your agent needs a strong Internet presence?

The old sales techniques for real estate (open houses, broker's tours, postcards, cold-calling, etc.) are ineffective in today's world. Consumers demand instant information. Today, personal websites, Email marketing, hotlines via 800-number recorded messages are how technosavvy agents are finding buyers and supplying them with the real estate information they seek.

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RCA Has Bumper Crop in Membership

The 632 paid households for RCA membership for 1999-2000 is, if not a record, close to it! Thanks to all that contributed. Of these, 260 members gave an extra donation to the RCFoundation. These tax-deductible(!) donations help keep the RCA a better place to live. In addition, some former residents of RCA keep ties to their old neighborhood and continue to contribute. Again, thanks to all! Of course, if you haven't joined yet, you can still add your name to this distinguished group!

RCA PAID Membership 1999-2000

Ashley Drive		Nichols	*	Evers	*	Young	*
Astner	***	Patten	*	Greening	*	Zierdt	****
Austin	*	Paulson	*	Houser	*		
Ballinger	*	Paysen	*	Klain	*	Creek Shore Drive	
Bartlett	*	Phelps	*	Lee	*	Alderson	*
Bleicher	*	Polozov	*	Mendes	*	Bonner	*
Bonds	*	Rankin	*	Osborne	*	Boyarsky	*
Boston	*	Reid	*	Penafiel	**	Bray	*
Bradley	*	Rossomondo	**	Robinson	*	Burroughs	***
Breon	***	Shaw	*	Roche	*	Casciano	*
Broun	****	Sollway	**	Sanmartin	*	Christian	*
Bryant	*	Souder	***	Santoro	*	Colgain	*
Canick	*	Souder	*	Schwartz	*	Couture	*
Carawan	**	Stottlemyer	*	Slifer	*	Dempewolf	*
Carroll, Shewmake	*	Tarello	*	Street	*	Dick	*
Clarke	**	Thompson	*			Diethrich	*
Cline and	*	Tifford	*	Brentford Drive		Falcon	*
Daniels	*	Tyler	*	Basiliko	*	Gouveia	*
Dellasanta	*	Valenta	*	Brocca	*	Harmon	*
Dikel	**	Vanderlinden	*	Collins	**	Inglisa	*
Eckloff	*	Virtue	*	Kouzel	*	Jenkins	*
Evangelista	*	Walker	****	Mayen	*	King	*
Fagley	*	Walling	*	McCabe	**	Kormeluk	*
Fletcher	*	Ward	**	Mulquin	*	Leary	*
Gibbons	**	Weaver	*	Ocheni	**	Lepre	*
Greenfield	*	White & Biondo	*	Rosenstein	*	Lewis	*
Guynn	*	Wions	*	Savage	*	Madsen	*
Hammersley	*	Woitach	*	Strock	*	Marella	*
Hauser	**	Wynn	*	Trainor	*	Marques	*
Haynes	*	Zetti	*	Uston	*	Mock	*
Higdon	*					Ramsey	*
Hoffeld	*	Boiling Brook Co	urt	Coachway Drive		Sheng	**
Hudgins	*	Origaen	*	Freideman	*	Shutta	**
Ingberg	*	Weisemann	*	Gilliand	*	Snyder	*
Jackson	*			Gobleck	*	Tao	*
Jardine	****	Boiling Brook Pa	rkway	Hunsicker	***	Trinquero	*
Jones	*	Abelmann	*	Jones	**	Warren	*
Lahr	**	Amir & Beck	*	Kelly	*	Weeks	**
Laranjeira	*	Asbury	*	Kerich	**	Williams	*
Logee	*	Bertran	*	Lalos	***	Ziese	**
Mantz	*	Bowles	*	Larew & Lentz	*		
Marshall	****	Brunetto	*	Lindberg	*	Creek Shore Place	
Maschke	*	Cope	*	Morillas	*	Burns	**
Middleton	*	Cregger	*	Pasola	**	Linthicum	*
Miller & Alexandra	*	Duarte	*	Strobell	*		
Namoradze-Ruha		Eggleston	**	Tedder	*	(conti	nued)
						Conn	incu)

			**				
Ertter Drive		Bowdren, III		Ventura	*	Shiflett	*
Alvarado	*	Brooks	*	Walton	*	Singh	*
Biederman	*	Craft	*			Teachum	*
Cannon	*	Jones	*	Hunters Court		Walters	*
Cogdell	*	Kotzalas	*	Fertig	*	Watkins	*
Hermosilla	*	Nix	*	Grossman	*	Whitman	*
Hilty	****	Voisin	*	Woo	*		
Jackson	**	Wu	*			Lauderdale Drive	
Kopyto	**			Hunters Lane		Lee	*
Lane	*	Gaynor Road		Alvarez	*	McClung	*
Lim	*	Bartholome	**	Balinas	*	Roh	*
Megel	*	Lacey	**	Brown, Jr.	**	Schwartz	*
Men	*	Linares	***	Buonomo	*	Senko	*
Olson	*	Linares	***	Chism	*	Stockslager	*
Pometto	*	Reiziss	*	Correia	*	Zayas	**
Preston	*	Scherf & Cooper	**	Gjullin	***		
Rabinovitz	*			Guthrie	*	Macon Road	
Sonnenfeldt	*	Gemstone Terrace	<u>,</u>	Houseknecht	**	Alota-Tordil	*
Taylor	**	Brown	**	Jenkins	*	Amemiya	*
Turner	*	Jordan	*	Jones	*	Brandler	*
Vatter	*	Troy	**	Kwan	*	Bucher	*
		,		Lim	*	Cassel	*
Forestvale Drive		Grayling Lane		Linthicum	*	Combs	*
Arora	*	Brady	*	Miller	*	Conlon	*
Biss	**	Calderone	*	Moeller	*	Fewell	**
Cherpack	*	Gorske	*	Morlando	**	Flandrau	**
Sullivan	*	Kirsop	*	Perez	*	Gaunaurd	**
Gamvari		Leffler	**	Plaza	*	Graf	****
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Santorocco *	Wright	****
Sawyer **		
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Stillwell ****	Brown	**
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rigert	Del Priore	**
Masan Dand		*
Macon Road	Ensor	**
1015011	Garstka	
vaugnan	Goheen	
Vissari	Hahn	*
Wickum *	Knight	**
	Nottingham	*
Monongahela Court	Payne	*
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Biondo ***	Richards	*
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	Simmons	**
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Smith *	Watts	*
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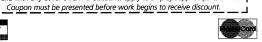
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Lewis			
Olsavsky	**	Red Fox Road	
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Turner	*	Beaver	**
VanBilliard	*	Cannon	**
		Close	*
Portree Drive		Divel	*
Gilliam	*	Gagne	*
Howard	*	Haggerty	**
Kalench	*	Minor	***
Kim	*	Murphy & Carter	*
Lopez & Wood	****	Palsgrove	*
Martin	**	Quinton	*
Zmudzka	*	Smith	*
Putnam Road		Rock Road	
Block	**	Chubb	*
Levy	*	Duncan	*

Gideon Jeanne Urciolo

Koval

Libert

Matteson

*	Tetlow
*	Trautvetter
***	Wharen
*	Winfield
	Wolfe
Road	
*	Schuylkill Road
*	Ayyildiz
*	Baith
*	Baker
**	Banks
*	Barnes
*	Bobik
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MCAFCE

by Mary Lee

We will be meeting at the home of Judy Fewell for our March 6th meeting at 7:30 p.m., with Ethel helping as hostess. We will be work-



ing on favors for Meals on Wheels.

In January our club members were invited to visit my friend Millie's beautiful Victorian-style home. She was such a gracious hostess in every way, showing us all her beautiful hand-made decorations and her nice doll collection along with her lovely hand-made dolls. We enjoyed seeing her Florida Room as it was oh-so-nice and cozy. The desserts were delicious also, and we "thank you" so very much for having us.

If you would like to join us, please call Judy Fewell at (301) 770-5540. The MCAFCE programs are open to all without regard to race, sex, handicap or religion.



We wish everyone a happy St. Patrick's Day. We have listed the following recipes, a potpourri recipe which will make our homes smell good all day, along with a Snowball Cake from Shelby, Watergate Salad from Judy and a Cranberry Punch. Enjoy!

Potpourri

12-16 oz. water

2 cinnamon sticks

4 teaspoons whole cloves

1 teaspoon nutmeg

Bring to boil and simmer all day!

"The secret of staying younger is to live honestly, eat slowly, and lie about your age."

~Lucille Ball

Cranberry Punch

1 quart cranberry juice2 cups orange juice20 oz. Sprite

Combine ingredients in punch bowl. Top with lemon slices.

Snowball Cake

2 small lemon jello

1/2 cup cold water

1 cup boiling water

1 cup white sugar

1 large can crushed pineapple

1 box Dream Whip

1 large angel food cake (purchased)

1 bag coconut

Mix jello and cold water; add boiling water and sugar (until dissolved); add pineapple with juice and chill until thickened. Prepare one package of Dream Whip, omitting vanilla. Fold into jello mixture. Break cake into small pieces. In a 9 x 13 inch baking dish make layers of cake and filling; chill. Prepare remaining package of Dream Whip; ice cake and sprinkle with coconut. Refrigerate.

Watergate Salad



1 pkg Instant Pistachio Pudding

18 oz. Cool Whip

1 20 oz. can pineapple crushed (with juice)

1 cup miniature marshmallows

1/2 cup nuts

Mix (dry) pistachio pudding with pineapple and juice, add marshmallows and nuts, fold in Cool Whip. Mix well. Refrigerate.



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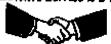
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News from Cub Scout Pack 1081

by Doneby Smith

Cub Scout Pack 1081 has kept busy these winter days working on "paws" and pins and advancing in ranks. These Tigers earned a "paw" for Big Idea #4 "Prepare for Emergencies": Nick Barron, Tony Caffi, Detrick Hoes, Matt Filer, Michael Rudy, Patrick Souder, Robbie Smith, and Blake Wyatt. Scott Talbott, James Cr owder, Hafez Taghavi, Roger Tellez, Howard Johnson, and Brian Diaz earned the Webelos Family Member and Athlete pins. Hafez Taghavi also completed the requirements for the Geologist pin. Galen Mile y and John Pitkin advanced to the rank of Bear. Scott Talbott was recognized for his assistance to the Pack in making the most popcorn sales, one of our primary fund-raisers. Thanks to all you out there who bought popcorn from the Pack.

Indoor fun is the order of the day on cold winter weekends. Duckpins had no chance against our Scouts bowling at the lanes at White Oak on Feb 19th. Pack 1081 was well represented at the Potomac District Pinewood Derby competition on March 11 by our first, second and third Cub finishers Casey Lannigan, Wesley

Melvin, and Hunter Wyatt, our Tigers first and second place Matt Filer and Detrick Hoes, and, for "best appearance," Michael Spitler. We're looking forward to getting back outside for our conservation project coming up on April 22.

Troop 1083 News

by Brian McGahey

On February 5 we had our troop annual dinner. After opening with the Pledge of Allegiance and the Philmont Grace, we had a wonderful meal brought together by two Scout moms, **Millie Murph y** and **Joann Higgins.** Thanks!!!!!

After the meal, we made some recognitions. All the participants in the Candy Cane delivery were thanked and recognized. **The Randolph Homemakers**, **Armand's Pizza**, **Lynn Russell** and the **Kensington V.F.D.** will also receive certificates.

We recognized the participants in the Klondike Derby, held at Little Bennett Regional Park on January 28, 29, and 30. Yes, there was a foot of snow on the ground. Yes, we slept in tents. And of course everyone survived just fine. Under the leadership of Senior Patrol Leader **Nachi Roper**, we competed in the Scout competition and had a great time. Because the temperature went



below freezing (almost down to 0° F. on Friday night), all the participants also received the Polar Bear Award. The Scouts recognized were: Nachi Roper, Andrew Tao, Gusta vo Hemandez, Joseph Ridesatthedoor, Alex Cassel, Steve Santos, Mr. McGahe y and Mr. Skolnik. Dave Murph y, Christmas Tree Sales chairman was recognized with a plaque. Thanks Dave!

Our new Senior Patrol Leader, Nachi Roper, was sworn in and given a certificate of office. We also recognized new Scouts and presented their mothers with ribbons to display their son's Scout rank. The new Scouts were: Steve Santos, Kevin Yaya, Alex Shtirberg, and Alex Cassel.

Our Scoutmaster, **Brian McGahe y,** talked a lot about summer camp. We watched a video of our troop at camp in 1997, recorded and edited by **Greg Skolnik.** Camp is coming soon and every Scout needs to go. We closed the dinner by reciting the Scout Law.

If you are a boy, at least 11 years old, you can join the fun of Scouting. Upcoming events for the spring include skiing, backpacking and more. We meet every Monday night when school is open at Viers Mill Elementary School. Or call Mr. McGahey at 301-770-7882.

True History

On July 20, 1969, as commander of the Apollo 11 Lunar Module, Neil Armstrong was the first person to set foot on the moon. His first words after stepping on the moon, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind" were televised to Earth and heard by Millions.

But, just before he reentered the lander he made the enigmatic remark, "Good luck, Mr. Gorsky."

Many people at NASA thought it was a casual remark concerning some rival Soviet Cosmonaut. However, upon checking, there was no Gorsky in either the Russian or American space program.

Over the years, many people questioned Armstrong as to what the "Good luck Mr. Gorsky" statement meant, but Armstrong always just smiled.

On July 5, 1995, in Tampa Bay, Florida, while answering questions following a speech, a reporter brought up the 26 year old question to Armstrong.

This time he finally responded. Mr. Gorsky had died and so Neil Armstrong felt he could answer the question.

In 1938 when he was a kid in a small Midwest town, he was playing baseball with a friend in the backyard. His friend hit a fly ball which landed in his neighbor's yard by the bedroom window. His neighbors were Mr. & Mrs. Gorsky. As he leaned down to pick up the ball, young Armstrong heard Mrs. Gorsky shouting at Mr. Gorsky, "Sex! You want sex?! You'll get sex when the kid next door walks on the moon!"



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In the event you do not receive your copy of The Echo, please call the RCA hotline (301-881-2722)and one will be delivered to you.

> The next Echo will be the April 2000 issue. Look for it in early April.

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Note to Contributors: The Deadline for the April 2000 issue of The Echo is March 3.

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