



YMVA Newsletter

Website: www.hoggshollow.net

President's Message

By: *Tim Bates*

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It is a tradition that at the start of the New Year, the President on behalf of the newly elected Board and Executive reports to you with respect to what we anticipate will come about during 2004.

We have a substantial number of new Board members and the YMVA Board is shown in the attached Board list, with areas of responsibility.

The Board met January 22, 2004 and has scheduled five more meetings before the Annual General Meeting, Saturday December 4, 2004. We expect there to be considerable activity on the part of the Board dealing with the long anticipated opening of the Miller Restaurant. Christine Melling will be the Board's liaison with The Miller and will undertake efforts to integrate this significant commercial development with the Valley such that all residents will benefit.

As well, we are nearing the "end game" with respect to the road resurfacing/planning encompassed within the storm water management initiative of the City. The Board wishes to gauge the concerns of the Valley residents with respect to the imposition of sidewalks and will lead the opposition if warranted. Frank Bowman, Roads and Traffic Chair, along with one or more other Board members will lead this initiative.

We anticipate actively working with Cliff Jenkins, the newly elected Ward 25

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List of 2004 Board of Directors

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Councillor on a number of issues concerning the Valley as he becomes more familiar with his very challenging office.

The compilation of and timely delivery to you of the Valley Directory remains a Board priority. As I stated last February, you can assist with this task. When a Board member contacts you this Spring requesting that you rejoin YMVA for the bargain fee of \$50.00 welcome him or her, sign up promptly with your up-to-date address particulars, and your e-mail address if you wish.

In closing, have you noticed that we are experiencing a “real winter”? Thanks goes to Stephen Morson and his crew, who at risk to frozen toes and fingers has created a great ice surface at the rink at Brookfield.

Soon it will be Spring and time for Valley Clean Up Day and the Valley Fair.

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE UPDATE

By: Frank Bowman

Chair, Traffic

Tel. (416) 489-2456

E-mail: frank.bowman@frasermilner.com

There was a lively discussion about traffic issues at the AGM, with overwhelming support for more enforcement of traffic regulations (stop signs and speed limits) as well as parking.

Hillcrest School issues also contributed to the discussion. There is ongoing concern over the traffic and parking problems at drop-off and pick-up times at the school. A number of good suggestions were provided to me at the meeting and subsequently on traffic calming, enforcement, Hillcrest and parking issues, and I will follow up on them in the coming weeks.

A number of areas in the Valley are asking for traffic calming measures, including

speed humps, because of excessive speed on our residential streets. Valley residents are the majority of the offenders. Please slow down and stop at all stop signs. If you see someone you know who is driving too fast or not stopping at stop signs, remind them of the overwhelming desire of Valley residents to make our streets more safe.

You will have seen the installed pedestrian barrier on the east side of Yonge Street near Loblaws, where the sidewalk is very close to the roadway. It took a bit longer than anticipated to get installed, but at least it is there for the slippery driving conditions we have been experiencing lately. Watch for the installation of an advanced green for traffic westbound on York Mills Rd. turning south on Yonge Street. Hopefully this will reduce the number of southbound drivers who feel they have to turn left onto Old Yonge or Campbell Crescent to avoid the left turn onto Yonge Street at rush hour, especially in the morning.

There will likely be additional traffic calming measures on Campbell Crescent, as part of the 45 York Mills Rd. development, to discourage excessive use of that street by residents of the new development.

Please slow down and observe stop signs. Don't be one of the aggressive drivers in the Valley!



NAG ACTIVITIES WINTER/SPRING

*By: Lisa Barney (416)487-9888
And Dale Hewat (416) 487-1039
Co-Chairs NAG*

Are you new to the neighbourhood and wondering what the NAG is all about? The Neighbourhood Activities Group (NAG) is a group of valley residents who volunteer their time and effort to organize various events year round for all residents, big and small. These events help foster the strong sense of community experienced by us all.

The NAG is headed by two co-chairs, Dale Hewat and Lisa Barney for the current year. The NAG works in tandem with the York Mills Valley Association (YMVA). Dale is the current NAG/YMVA liaison, who has the responsibility of keeping the two groups informed and coordinated. The YMVA sets a nominal budget for each of the NAG events and we strive to operate within this budget.

Michelle Hopper is our new treasurer, taking over from Helen Wong.

Daphne Strathdee is the Newsletter Editor. She has the job of putting together and publishing the YMVA newsletter that keeps you informed of the NAG events. The newsletter is published approximately three times a year and is delivered to your door. If you have any submissions or suggestions, please contact her and she will do her best to incorporate it into the upcoming newsletter.

Prior to each event, Carolyn Clark prepares two posters which are displayed at the corner of Mill Street and Old Yonge Street as well as at the Mill Stone Parkette.

The NAG typically meets at 8:00 p.m. on a weekday evening about three times a year. Relaxing over a cup of coffee or tea or, a glass of wine, we discuss and volunteer for events, review past events and suggest new ones. Most of us find this a great forum for meeting our new neighbours and getting

involved. The people that actually make all of this happen are our many event volunteers. So, please join us along with your great ideas to make 2004 a fun year all around!

Our next NAG meeting is taking place on Tuesday, February 10th at 8:00 p.m. at 27 Plymbridge Crescent. We hope to see you there.

If you would like more information about the NAG, please do not hesitate to call either of us, Dale at (416) 487-1039 or Lisa at (416) 487-9888.

Skating Rink @ Brookfield Park

The rink is up and running. We would like to extend many thanks to all those who helped with the rink start-up for 2004. Thank-you also to everyone who are helping to maintain our great rink throughout the winter months.

Everyone please feel free to lace up those skates and make use of our amazing "Country in the City" ice rink. Don't forget to take your turn and shovel whenever necessary.

Skating Party

Date: Wednesday Feb.

11

Time: 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Location: Brookfield Park

Contact: Kelly Alkier

486-1200



Calling all families! Come out for the Hogg's Hollow annual skating party at Brookfield Park. Enjoy free pizza, hot chocolate and the company of friends.

If the rink is not in skating condition, we will move the party next to the tennis courts and have our first annual tobogganing party.

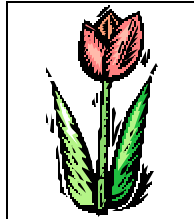
Please watch the notice boards for details and please do not forget to RSVP to Kelly Alkier .

Spring Fling

Date: TBA

Location: At the park with the swings

Contact: TBA



It's picnic time in the valley! Come out and enjoy the sunshine and kids crafts and games in the park. Pack up an old blanket and some lunch and come join us for a great afternoon.

We hope to see you there. Please watch the notice boards for further details.

Kids Sports

Activities

Date: From mid

May to the end of

June

Time: 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Brookfield Park

Contact: Paul Cira (416)487-5822



Calling all kids of any age to come out and show off their sports skills to friends and neighbours. Paul Cira has again agreed to organize kids sports night at Brookfield Park. Please contact Paul to volunteer some of your time to help him organize this weekly event.

Please note that high school kids are able to volunteer their time for this activity and in turn, can then use this time towards community service hours. This is an easy and fun way to add up those required community service hours.

Please watch the notice boards for further details. We look forward to seeing you at the park.

Dessert, Wine & Conversation

Date: Throughout the Year

Contact: Christine Melling at (416) 322-6042 or Trudy Young at (416) 481-6905



What a great way to meet new people in your neighbourhood, enjoy a coffee, glass of wine, hors d'oeuvres or dessert! Small groups of people will be placed together throughout the year to get to know one another in a relaxed and informal setting. Groups will vary as the year progresses so you can meet many new and established residents.



Wine Tour

Date: TBA

Contact: Dale Hewat (416)487-1039

Join friends and neighbours for a beautiful fall day of wine tasting and touring. Let's make this event a fall tour to remember.

If you are interested in organizing this fun event, please contact Dale Hewat at (416) 487-1039. Please watch notice boards in the spring for further information.

NAG Volunteer Luncheon

Date: TBA

Time: noon

Location: At Jill Haythornthwaite's home – 56 Plymbridge Road

We will be closing off the season with our NAG luncheon. It is open to all new, present and old NAGs. Enjoy food, wine and all around good cheer.

Please watch the notice boards for further details.

2003 Valley Fair

The Hoggs Hollow Circus Fair 2003 was a whopping success! Thanks to all those who attended our fun-filled day. It is your support that makes this day an event to remember.

Many thanks as well to everyone who contributed prizes towards our annual auction, your donations were much appreciated. To all those generous people who bid on those wonderful items – thank you, thank you, thank you! After all the expenses were paid we were able to have enough money left over to be used in enhancing our Valley. We are looking into such things as getting a storage shed in Brookfield Park, landscaping and gardening of the parkettes, funding a Foster Child and continuing the improvements to the playground. Look to the future issues of the newsletter for details.

A special thank you goes out to Janine Sheeres of Harvey Kalles Real Estate for the generous donation of our “circus” tent. It was intended to shield us from unwelcome rain, but came in handy blocking those harsh sun rays!

Paula & Vicko von Stedingk of Chestnut Park Real Estate Limited very graciously enabled Caesar to join our day. Thank you so much for allowing us to enjoy riding an elephant. For some, that was the closest they have come to a “wild” animal.

Our Fair was also supported by many local businesses including Auberge du Pommier, The Body Shop, Cadbury, Calia Salon, Cambridge Volkswagen, Dempsters, Horticultural Design on Bayview, The Four Seasons Hotel, Extreme Fitness, Mangia, Mastermind, Radisson Hotel, Roots, Simon Zucker and Assoc., Sommerville Leasing,

Spokes and Sports, Toronto Congress Centre, Trappers and Tresses. Please show your appreciation by supporting these local businesses in return and let them know that their support of the Fair is also beneficial to them.

Thank you also to Tim Bates and the YMVA for their unending support, both leading up to and during the Fair itself.

Last, but certainly not least, thank you to all our committee members for all their hard work! In no particular order: Peter Weiss, Luigi Frigerio and Jill Haythornthwaite, Deirdre and Frank Cianciotta, Nick and Paula Dhillon, Monika Stevens, Allyson Landy, Mary Harris, Perry Luprypa, Trudy Young, Deborah Sutton, Betty Ann Franssen, Norm Lamarche, Bill Somerville, Morag Fitzgerald, Andrea Knutson, Lisa Barney, Kelly Alkier, Katie McLean, Sharla and Kevin Leon, Brett LaGamba, Betty Kneis, Dale Hewat, Jan and Glenn Kosick, Alison and Joel Rochon, Michelle Mondville, Debbie Neil, Julie Rao, Sherry D’Costa, Priti Kawale, Susanne Holland, Helen Wong, Christine Melling, Michele and Christopher Hopper and Julia Viva thank you! The Fair would not have been a success without you!

Your Fair Co-Chairs
Christine Acconcia (480-0623) and Chris Rosenthal (482-6666)



2004 Valley Fair

"Beach Blanket Bingo"

Date: Saturday June 5

Location: Brookfield Park

Contact: Christine Acconcia (480-0623)
and Chris Rosenthal (482-6666)
cacconcia@rogers.com

Mark your calendars for this year's simpler celebration of our special community. We are looking for neighbours to volunteer any time possible. If you are interested, please call or email Christine Acconcia and let her know if you have a particular job in mind or how much time you'd like to work on the day of the fair. Watch out for the poster notification of our next meeting.

THANK-YOU, THANK-YOU, THANK-YOU!

As always, many thanks for the dedication from all of our volunteers. Without you the NAG would not function. All of these people donate their time, effort and resources into making all of our events successful. The NAG chairs extend a heart-felt thank-you to all who have contributed.

Deirdre Cianciotta has stepped down from her position as NAG co-chair for the past two years. We would like to thank Deirdre for all of her time and effort in keeping the NAG running so efficiently over these past two years.

Helen Wong has also stepped down as Treasurer of NAG. Helen has kept our budgets and books in line for the last four years. We would like to thank Helen as well for all of her time and effort in keeping our finances in order.

Dale Hewat and Lisa Barney
2004 NAG Co-Chairs.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST.....

Jolly Miller Restaurant

By: Christine Acconcia and Laura Lamarche



As many of you are aware, the Miller

Restaurant has been undergoing a renovation. Triggered by some concern from the community, Cliff Jenkins had a site visit with Pegasus Group on Jan. 21 and has arranged for us to join the developers on February 25th between 6:00-7:00 p.m. at the Miller Restaurant. Please come and engage in an open discussion about any possible concerns you may have. Coffee will be served.

Hogg's Hollow Wine Tasting Series Spring Session Thursday June 10 7:00 p.m.

By: Alain and Deborah Sutton

We are pleased to invite you to the first Hogg's Hollow Wine Tasters Series !!! We will be hosting the first event, on our garden balcony *under the stars*, with *Tony Aspler*.

Tony is one of Canada's leading wine educators, a wine judge and author. He created the annual Ontario Wine Awards and is co-founder of the charitable foundation 'Grapes for Humanity.' He has recommended no more than 12 people per session for a "professional" tasting with some time for serious wine discussion. He will select the wines & recommend food pairings so it will be a *first class "gourmet evening."*

The budget for this event runs; Aspler fee = \$ 750. Wine cost = 8 - 10 bottles @ \$30 - 40 per = \$ 315 Total = @ \$ 80-100 per person including food cost.

The format will be; outdoors, casual attire, a relaxed & informal tasting of each wine in conjunction with a food item ; Hors d'oeuvre, appetizer, main meal - comprised of 3 light servings each accompanied by a different wine - and then dessert.

If you are interested in joining this event, contact us at the email or phone number below.

Deborah & Alain Sutton
100 Donwoods Dr.
sutton.d@sympatico.ca
416-481-7511 [leave voicemail]



Valley Neighbourhood Crime Watch

The following are accounts of recent break-ins, thefts, etc. in our area. Please continue to be vigilant and report any such occurrences to Penny O'Rourke (416)486-5060 or e-mail at porourke21@rogers.com

May 9, 2003

Break and enter at 50 Old Yonge between 9:00 a.m.-9:45 p.m.. Entered through basement window and removed stereo equipment and a Persian rug.

May 14, 2003

Attempted abduction/break & enter. After checking through the mailbox, 2 young white males (26-30) dressed in suits came to the door requesting information regarding the children being picked up from school. The nanny checked with employer and the

police were called. It is possible that robbery was intended.

June 5, 2003

Armed home invasion and robbery attempt on Donwoods Road. The victim was confronted in the garage by 3 suspects all armed with semi-automatic handguns. She was taken into the house and handcuffed to her bed while the house was ransacked. The victim's husband arrived home and the suspects fled.

June 12, 2003

House party with 150-200 kids 14-16 year olds drinking. The police were called several times to break up the party. Neighbourhood signs, glove box and neighbour's car were vandalized.

August 18, 2003

1:30 a.m. – Attempted Robbery on N.Yonge bus. Two men with sawed-off shotguns and a knife tried to rob someone on the bus. The Victim managed to escape and alert the bus driver. Hogg's Hollow was surrounded however police dogs found them near Lorreto Abbey along with their weapons and the suspects were arrested.

November 2003

A BMW parked in the driveway was jacked up and the tires stolen at night.

January 17, 2004

A prowler was reported in a backyard on Brookfield.

The majority of break and enters are committed by youths between 13 and 18 years old. These youths are no longer in school in the summer months and if they do not have the right kind of supervision or activities to keep them out of trouble, they are likely to get involved in illegal activities.

Most people who are likely to break into your home live within 2 –3 km of your home and are familiar with your routine. Here are some suggestions: watchout for people going door to door asking for money; watchout for people sitting in cars for lengthy periods of time or going into someone's backyard; keep your garage and windows closed. When you are out in your backyard in the summer, do not leave your doors unlocked giving opportunities to have valuables stolen. Also remember to close garage doors and windows as these are often entry points into the house for keys or other items.

Abundance Holiday Charity Drive

By: Michelle Hopper

A big thank-you to those who participated in this much-needed charity drive for the holidays. Thanks to the generosity of the Barneys, The O'Brians, the Neills, The Gellefs, the Woods and the Alkiers, who were each matched up with a less fortunate family, a great Christmas was possible for all! In total, the Abundance program in the Cricket Club/Hogg's Hollow area provided close to 40 families in the downtown core with some badly needed Christmas items. Thanks also the McLeans, the Midas and the Strathdees for their contribution of food vouchers!