



# The Meadow Sweet Circular



NEWSLETTER FOR THE COTTAGES AT RIVENDELL

RIVENDELL UNIT #1 JANUARY, 2004 EDITION

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TRACY ARENDT - TECHNICAL COORDINATOR



## The Cottages of Rivendell Needs You to Vote!



Submitted by Margery Arendt,  
Nominating Committee Chairperson

February 17th is Election Day at the Annual Homeowner's meeting for Rivendell Unit #1. Your Board has 3 seats open and we have only two of our neighbors agreeing to run, so far. They are Ken Marie and Diane Fitzgerald.

Chuck Bly and I will be remaining on the board for one more year, but we need more candidates. Anyone willing to serve our community, please contact me at 918-0953.

There are several important issues on the ballot this year, and it is very important that you vote if you wish to have a say in your community. Argus will be mailing ballots and proxies soon, so you must alert Argus or a Board member if you will not be here so that these items can be sent to you wherever you are. If you will be unable to attend the meeting, be sure to give your sealed proxy to a trusted neighbor or Board member.

The important issues to be voted on are:

1 Removal of the 10 Washingtonian Palms at the

main entrance to the Cottages of Rivendell.

2 Should trees and shrubs outside of the common areas be replaced by the Association or by individual homeowners?

3a Should interior lot owners be allowed to install sidewalk extensions to the street?

3b Should the cost of sidewalk extensions be at the Homeowner's or Association's expense?

**Your vote IS important. Every vote that is not cast, counts as a NO VOTE on EVERY ISSUE!**

## Activities Fund Report



Below you will find the current monthly Activities Fund report for DECEMBER, 2003:

<b>BEGINNING BALANCE:</b>		<b>\$344.47</b>
Dec. 14 Coffee	\$12.00	\$356.47
Dec. 20 Notary Donation (Behanna)	\$4.00	\$360.47
<b>ENDING BALANCE:</b>		<b>\$317.47</b>

## Cottage Comments:

LETTERS TO  
THE EDITOR

Dear Neighbors,

This column is for your voice to be heard in our community. Send in comments, ideas, critiques and compliments UNDER 200 WORDS to MargArendt@aol.com, or type them up and deliver to 516.

*Margery Arendt*

*The following letter was accidentally omitted last month, and is published now with the sincere apologies of the Editor and Staff of the CIRCULAR:*

Dear Neighbors,

When the Declarant conveyed the land to the Association in Rivendell it was for a period of ninety-nine years plus. The Association has been in existence for only a few short years and what a rocky start it has been.

Responsible, caring people have selected this neighborhood in which to live. If we as a community do not stop the unproductive bickering, finger pointing and hearsay accusations, we will experience an exodus of those same responsible, caring people who are fed up with this imprudent behavior. Very soon this neighborhood could develop a "reputation" if we



continue on this course. (Hopefully, this hasn't yet happened.)

On the other hand, maybe some folks are so annoyed by the actions of others that other housing developments may better serve their personal wants and desires.

I would implore all homeowners/residents/ to think and act responsibly with respect and thoughtfulness for our neighbors.

Thanks to the "CIRCULAR" for allowing people an opportunity to publish their views.

*Ken Alarie 570 9408*

Dear Neighbors,

Returning to Rivendell after a Thanksgiving getaway in New York City, the Washingtonians were a welcoming and gracious sight as we turned in onto Meadow Sweet Circle. As the majority of my neighbors agree with me about these wonderful trees gracing our entry way, I cannot see why a vote must be taken about their removal. Cannot that issue be taken off the table?

*Jane B. Sellers, 494*

Dear Neighbors,

MEADOW SWEET CIRCLE DIRECTION:

During the board meeting last August (official minutes recorded), actions were taken with 'special interests' in mind. We must think about where MSC is headed and how we govern ourselves. Why tolerate disruptive & divisive board-minority mandates?



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**Rob Schloss**

- Good Neighbor policy is to act in the best interests of the MAJORITY and in keeping with the will of the community. Pushing through unpopular actions is simply unfair.

- The organized committees... Finance, Maintenance & Architectural Review Committees handle every key topic requiring board attention. No 'landscape' group is needed.

- Homeowners holding a board seat require an all-community focus. It is unreasonable for association board members to work for other homeowners while performing an authorized function.

- Going forward... Insisting on hired property management to be objective, fair-minded and even-handed on all matters is essential to serve the association properly.

Next month we vote on topics that were proposed last August, some of which are neighborhood 'hot buttons'. Removing altogether the controversial entry way Washingtonian Palms 'cut-down' issue from the ballot makes sense. Our board can act NOW to omit this item from the ballot. Why even consider changing and defacing our stately entrance and destroying these trees forever? It is unnecessary and costly

Thanks to the board leadership and it's majority members. Surely as we head into 2004 constructive things will be initiated. Let's join together and see to it.

*Mike Georgopolis 540 MSC*

Dear Neighbors,

Kudos to Marge, Allen, Margery, Tracy, Vivian, Gretchen and Chuck!!!

What a grandiose evening you provided for all who attended, Thanks so much.

This community has a plethora of wonderful, interesting, caring, thoughtful and helpful people. We are all so fortunate for that. Hopefully we can continue this course and include even more folks. Thanks again for all your work and effort to forge solid community relations and relationships.

*Ken & Connie Alarie 540 MSC*

## HANDYMAN

- Painting
- Packing/Assembly/Unpacking
- Plant Planning/Moving
- Clean Soffits/Facia
- Clean and Organize Garages
- Clean Gutters
- Change Smoke Alarm Batteries
- Walkway Pavers Installed Over Concrete
- Single Room Painting
- Clean Patios & Patio Furniture
- House/Plant/Pet Sitting
- Installing Shelves
- Installing Faucets, Deadbolts
- Spread Mulch
- Lights Changed/Dimmers Installed



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## Holiday Progressive Dinner is a Complete Success!



Gretchen Bly, Marge Chandler, Tracy & Margery Arendt, Vivian Kunkel, Allen Terman and Chuck Bly. On December 6th, 2003, The Holiday Progressive dinner was held on Meadow Sweet Circle. A total of 52 people were present for a dinner tour that began at Marge's and Allen's for appetizers. There was a delicious array of hors d'oeuvres, mulled wine and cider, and the special surprise of a harpist who played beautiful Christmas music for all to enjoy.

Next, the crowd caroled over to Margery's for the main course. Many were surprised to find that Vivian, Margery and Tracy had arranged a sit-down dinner. Guests helped themselves to a generous buffet, and then dined at tables adorned with candles, pinecones and accents of green. But the evening didn't end there.

The crowd made it's way to Chuck and Gretchen's for desserts and coffee and liquors. The atmosphere was warm and inviting, and the weather was cold, so many stayed to enjoy the camaraderie 'until nearly 11 PM. It is safe to say that a good time was had by all.

The outpouring of thank yous and kudos was heartwarming to those of us who hosted these events, and it can truly be said to have been a labor of love. However, we all had a lot of help in creating that wondrous evening, and we would like to take a moment to acknowledge them now.

Thanks to Bob and Jackie Axiom for their help with the hors d'oeuvres.

Thanks to Bill Kella for Bartending.

Thanks to David Perez, Ken Alarie, Chuck Bly, Jack Martin, Bob Axiom and Bill Kella for helping to move furniture to and from the clubhouse.

Thanks to Jack Martin for carving all of the meat on his handy-dandy slicer.

Thanks to Audrey Sweeney for her help with delivering the invitations and helping to collect the money. Thanks also for washing the dishes, and all the other help she gave to us all.



## at the Clubhouse

Sunday, January 4th,  
10:00 AM to Noon.

Vivian Kunkel & Margery Arendt, hostesses. Meet with your friends and neighbors and enjoy some sweets and treats and relaxed conversation. Donation \$1.00 appreciated. We also need volunteers to Host the upcoming Sunday coffees. Please call Barbara or Maury Tragar to sign up: 966-6291.



Submitted by Chuck Bly

Thank you to everyone who filled out the homeowner's surveys. There is still time for anyone who has not responded yet to fill them out and return them to me at 545. We are interested in the opinions of all.

**Nathan Dewey**

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## Meadow Sweet Cuisine...

Recipes Contributed by your neighbors.

White Chocolate Pumpkin  
Macadamia Cookies.  
Compliments of Tracy Arendt



2 cups all-purpose flour	1 large egg
2 teaspoons ground cinnamon	2 teaspoons vanilla extract
1 teaspoon ground cloves	1 (12 ounce) package NESTLE® TOLL HOUSE® Premier White Morsels
1 teaspoon baking soda	2/3 cup coarsely chopped macadamia nuts
1 cup butter or margarine	
1/2 cup granulated sugar	
1/2 cup packed brown sugar	
1 cup LIBBY'S® 100% Pure Pumpkin	

PREHEAT oven to 350 degrees .

COMBINE flour, cinnamon, cloves and baking soda in small bowl. Beat butter, granulated sugar and brown sugar in large mixer bowl until creamy. Beat in pumpkin, egg and vanilla extract until blended. Gradually beat in flour mixture. Stir in morsels and nuts. Drop by rounded tablespoon onto greased baking sheets; flatten slightly with back of spoon or greased bottom of glass dipped in granulated sugar. BAKE for 11 to 14 minutes or until centers are set. Cool on baking sheets for 2 minutes; remove to wire racks to cool completely.



## HOLIDAY COOKIE EXCHANGE

A big thank you to all of you who participated in the cookie exchange. Everyone brought their very best cookies to swap so that we all enjoyed a wonderful variety without ending up in the kitchen all day. This was another outstanding event for our community, which added much joy to the holiday season.

Pictured Below, left to right:

Marge Chandler, Jackie Axiom, Carolyn Ruckert, Gretchen Bly, Mildred Horne, Carolyn Georgopolis, Betty Bradich, Llwana Propst, Pat Martin, Margery Arendt, Mary Kella, Carol Costa, Audrey Sweeney & Tracy Arendt.



# JANUARY, 2004

## Calendar of Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4 Coffee at the Clubhouse 10 AM to Noon	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Coffee at the Clubhouse 10 AM to Noon	19	20 Board Meeting 7 PM at the Clubhouse	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## New Year's Resolutions

My New Year's resolutions  
 What a pleasure to describe.  
 To be more neat, watch what I eat,  
 Less frequently imbibe;  
 To be benign and patient,  
 Ever caring and polite,  
 With full aplomb, serenely calm  
 And nevermore uptight.  
 To suffer idiots gladly,  
 Cast aside pretense and pride:  
 In all I wear look debonair,  
 Genteel and dignified.  
 My New Year's resolutions,  
 How inspiring to review...  
 Spectacular! To bad they are  
 Impossible to do!

by John T. Baker

