

CountryPlace

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Spring 2008

www.countryplaceca.ca

AGM

Date: Wednesday, May 14th

Time: 7PM

Place: St. Monica's Church

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Rocco Romeo

And then there was Spring. I am sure everyone is glad that the winter is over. This year we had the snowiest winter in over 35 years, which presented new challenges for our community, as roads became increasingly narrow, snow removal crews could not keep up blocking roadways leading to stalled cars. Numerous calls and emails were made to the City resulting in some action although never as fast as we would want.

As some of you may know, Country Place was developed in the early 1970's. With some 400 homes in the vicinity, a group of concerned residents decided to create the Association to proactively deal with issues that affect members of the community at large.

**The Country Place Community Association
Our Mandate to You**

- 1. To maintain and improve the residential character, environment and quality of life within the Country Place community,**
- 2. To foster neighbourhood recreation and social events, and**
- 3. To promote the interests of all residents and represent their concerns to various levels of government.**

As a result of the hard work of your Association, the following matters have been dealt with over recent years:

- Annual social events such as Community Fun Day and the Fall Social,**
- Park play structures were installed and replaced,**
- A sidewalk was installed on Amberwood Crescent after extensive consultation with the residents and the City,**
- A Neighbourhood Watch Program was started,**
- The Ice Rink is financed by the City of Nepean and run by the Association, and**
- Liaising with municipal officials on urban planning, traffic and speeding issues, care of parklands and the environment, as well as noise and pet control**

We will continue to offer the popular activities of the past, to represent the community on issues affecting us and to listen to suggestions from community members. Of course, the Association would not be possible without the Street representatives who deliver newsletters, help with the membership drive, and communicate your concerns. A big Thank You for their efforts.

Country Place is a wonderful community to live in and is unique in this City. Everyone should be proud of the Community they live in.

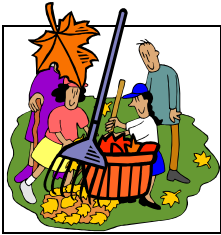
UP-COMING EVENTS

AGM Wednesday, May 14th, St. Monica's Church

It is time for The Country Place Community Association Annual General Meeting. Please come out and meet your neighbours, hear about community concerns and initiatives. Have your say, cast your vote for a new executive or volunteer for a position.

It's your neighbourhood get involved.

Annual Park and Community Clean-Up May 10th



Every year in early May, we ask people to help and clean-up around the neighbourhood. The park and the grounds around the entrance signs on Amberwood take a beating over the winter and need a little sprucing up. The city supplies us with garbage bags and gloves and we supply the cold drinks. Clean-up Day is scheduled for May 10th; meet at the park at 9AM with your rake in hand. Come out for a couple of hours of fresh air

and help keep our neighbourhood looking good. Supervised children and teenagers welcome.

Annual Community Garage Sale May 24-25



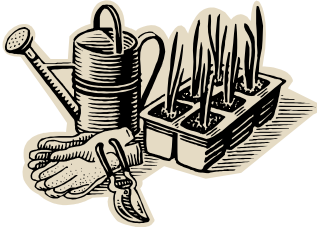
It has become a tradition in Ottawa for neighbourhoods to set aside one day a year to hold one big Garage Sale and Country Place is no exception. Setting aside one day ensures that everyone gets a better chance at selling his or her items as the traffic flow is greatly increased. There will be signs at both entrances and advertising in local papers and this year we have teamed up with Pine Glen, which should increase the traffic even more! Note that the serious shoppers often are out as early as 7 AM hoping to snatch up the best bargains. Don't miss your chance to clean out that basement, or empty that garage. Remember, "One Man's Trash is another Man's Treasure"!

Community Fun Day June 14th

Once again, it is almost time for our Annual Community Fun Day. As always, there will be a multitude of things to do and see, including Pony Rides, Castle Bounce, Moon Slide, Double Decker Bus Tour, Face Painting, Fish Pond,

Games, French Café, BBQ Beef Hot Dogs and more. Volunteers are always needed to help run these activities so if you want to help please call Rocco Romeo at 613-6532.

Plant Exchange and Garden Tour Toni Chéné



Hollyhocks, heliotropes and hostas. Are any of these perennials simply too plentiful in your garden? Or do you think you would like to make space on your front or back lawn for some new perennials?

Here is an opportunity either to thin out or to obtain new plants for your garden.

The Country Place Community Association will host its first perennial plant exchange at the park. If you would like to contribute plants or exchange them with your neighbours, bag and identify the plants, jotting down such information as their maximum height, the amount of space they need, and whether they thrive in sun or shade. On Saturday May 31st at 10 AM bring your plants to the Country Place Park for a trade-in.

As a follow-up to the plant exchange, we would also like to organize a Country Place Garden Tour for early June 2008. If you are interested in having your garden included in such a Tour, please contact me, Tonie Chéné, at antoinette.chene@opera.ncf.ca.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY



Fall Social November 10, 2007

Carole Sutherland-Bégin

It was the second year that the Fall Social was held at the Ottawa Hunt and Golf Club and what a great time it was. The new Chef out did himself and as usual the service was impeccable. We had the Vegetarian Strudel and it was truly a feast for both your eyes and the palate. The Rosemary Chicken Supreme looked wonderful and I was told that it tasted just as good.

A quick speech by our President Rocco Romeo to thank the Fall Social Committee, Barb Armstrong and myself and, the Street Reps and a special thanks to Jill and Steve Nimmo that over see the running of the Ice Rink every year. Next were the door prizes that were graciously donated by the following:

**HLS Linen Services – Rocco Romeo
Fleetway Inc. - Carole Sutherland-Bégin
Royal LePage Team Realty – Tara Graff
Master Mark Pewter – The Wright Family
Corks Winery Woodward Dr. - Marco & Barbara Campagna
The Country Place Community Association**

After the door prizes, the DiscJockey started to spin his tunes and dance floor was never empty. We were asked to leave at 1PM. Overall, a great time was had by all!

My Snow Banks Are Bigger Than Yours Are

Carole Sutherland-Bégin

No matter what the calendar said, winter started the third week of November and as I write this on April 3rd, it is still here, with the temperature at -5. That first snowfall was a killer and it was obvious that with the amount, winter was here to stay. We waited patiently for the streets to be cleaned and we waited and then we waited some more. The plows finally cleared a single path down our streets, but that was it. For weeks, even Amberwood was just a lane and half. My Father took to saying we obviously didn't pay our taxes. We sure do pay taxes, quite a bit of taxes! After the neighbours called the city to no avail on December 21st, I e-mailed our City Counsellor, Gord Hunter.

On December 29th, Amberwood was finally cleaned so that there were almost two lanes. And not long after they did my street. I'm sure it is because my neighbour kept calling the city.

However, as we all know, this was only a start, the snow just kept coming, and coming, things got worse and worse in our neighbourhood. With snow and melting, the roads became tank tracks and my Father stopped coming over because he couldn't get his Cadillac out of my laneway once he got in, the snow bank across the street was too big. Besides he was fond of the under carriage of his car. So Easter was in jeopardy, and heaven forbid if there was an emergency, cause there was no way a fire truck could get down the street. I watched a mail truck give up and back down the street. I called the city and I e-mailed Mr. Hunter's office again, attached pictures of my street, and invited him to tour our neighbourhood for himself. Two days later, they cut back the banks on our street but nowhere else in the neighbourhood. At this point, I was fed up and selfish as at least my street was done and I could celebrate Easter with my family. It was here that Rocco took up the fight and most of the streets were finally passable by the end of March but by that time things were starting to melt anyway.

Through all this, there was one wonderful constant, ***Classic Interlock***. They kept my laneway clean no matter how much snow there was. They started in the wee hours of the morning and worked tirelessly to keep the driveways and walks clear. They helped many of my neighbours that were stuck and on the day after the last big storm, they even plowed part of our street to get one neighbour to Amberwood so that they could get to the airport. Cheers to you Carm Romano and Joe Richichi and all your workers at Classic Interlock!

Ice Rink Jill Nimmo



Thank you to everyone that helped make this season another great one at the rink. We were ready to go just after Christmas but lost our first ice to a January thaw. We finally got going the middle of January and manage to enjoy every day that we could through all the snow and some really cold nights. The Community rink would not be possible if we did not have such a group of dedicated workers who earn their money keeping the ice in top notch condition. Thank you goes out to Riley Norris, Maxim Menyhart, Patrick Lavell, Stephen Graves, Andrew Nimmo, Andrea Nimmo, Michael Nimmo, Kevin Berry, David Cruikshank and John Mostert. Adult volunteers are always needed if you would like to volunteer to help next year don't hesitate to contact Jill and Steve Nimmo @ 228-0702.

Neighbourhood Watch

There is no doubt that Country Place is the best place to live in Ottawa, but we still have our problems, the main one being speeding. As police officer Ray Lamarre says, it is the people that live here that speed, not the look-e-loos. Ray Lamarre 613-236-1222 ext 2179
LamarreR@ottawapolice.ca

PLEASE SLOW DOWN

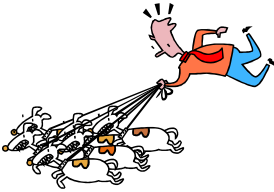
Speeding in the community is a continuing issue. All residents can help by doing the following:

1. Please monitor your own speeding.
2. Please politely remind your neighbours, friends and relatives of their excessive speeding.

3. **Please survey your property to ensure that there are no objects such as shrubs, trees, or man made structures, obstructing the view of drivers. If so, please take measures to rectify this situation.**

Thank you for your contribution in keeping our streets safe.

Stoop and Scoop



Pet owners are reminded and encouraged to do the right thing and clean up after your pet does their business. Thanks for keeping the community clean and being sensitive to others.

Event Ideas

If you have ideas for any of the events please free to give your Street Rep or the president a call and get involved. We'd love to have your input; we love to have your help even more!

Glens Tennis Club Ken Simpson



After a long, long winter, can there be a better way to enjoy the warmer weather and sunshine than to play outdoor tennis? The members of the Glens Tennis Club don't think so and we're hoping that if you haven't already joined, this advertisement may inspire you to do so.

The Club offers:

- **Two courts at the corner of Mayo and Tennyson in Pine Glen and an additional two courts in Grenfell Glen at Avonlea and Pratt Avenue. All courts have excellent lighting for night play.**
- **Our club professional offers training programs for juniors after school and during the summer months. Adult lessons are also offered either privately or as part of a small group at reduced rates.**
- **Fun tournaments throughout the summer.**
- **Weekly evening activities where members meet and enjoy the game.**
- **The membership fees are very affordable and a family can join for only \$75.00 for the season.**

For more information, contact Ken Simpson 613 823-2170 or Amie Lee 613 224-3096.

This is your community tennis club and we hope that you will take advantage of it.

How To Be A Good Neighbour Rocco Romeo

- 1. Welcome new neighbours with an introductory note or a friendly chat.**
- 2. Maintain the area around your home so that it's neat and attractive.**
- 3. Be conscientious about noises that might disturb your neighbours, such as vacuum cleaners, music, loud talk and barking dogs.**
- 4. End parties at a reasonable hour. While you're at it, invite your neighbours to come, too.**
- 5. Return anything that you borrow from your neighbour, such as tools or appliances, as soon as possible. Express your gratitude when you do so.**
- 6. Replace anything that belongs to your neighbour that you, your children, or your pets break or soil.**
- 7. Respect your neighbour's privacy.**
- 8. Offer to collect mail, water plants and watch the pets while your neighbours are away on a trip.**
- 9. Learn from neighbours with cultural backgrounds different from your own.**
- 10. Invite your neighbour over for a leisurely cup of coffee to discuss any problems you may have, or to share good news.**
- 11. Throw a house party once a year on a weekend or holiday to socialize with your neighbours.**

The Wild Life That Makes Us Go Ahhh.... Toni Chéné

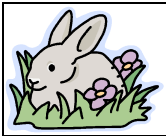


Last spring, while out for my evening constitutional with Tawny, my neighbour's yellow lab, I heard the hoot of an owl on Fifeshire Crescent. I searched the tall trees, as I wanted to discover what type of owl was calling out in such a mournful manner. The bird's call consisted of a few notes that were easy enough to mimic. "Who's awake? Me, too", called the bird. I echoed the call and the owl replied. We repeated this exchange a few times, and I was able to determine where the owl was perched, high atop a maple tree. It was a huge Horned Owl, known as Le Grand Duc in French.

As Tawny and I moved closer to the tree, the owl took flight. I was amazed by the owl's wingspan. It appeared to be over a meter, something that my bird book confirmed as falling well within the realm of the possible. Adult Horned Owls can be 60 cm tall. They have bright yellow eyes and two feathered tufts (or horns) on their heads. Before 9:00 p.m. on a similar outing a few days later,

Tawny and I again spotted the owl on Fifeshire. It was another magical moment, with the owl silhouetted by the light of the moon in the night sky.

More recently, at four o'clock one October morning, my husband awoke me from a deep sleep to have me listen to the call of another owl, this one located somewhere near our bedroom window at the eastern end of Amberwood. The call had many more notes than that of the horned owl. I recognized its cry, "Who cooks for you, who cooks for you all?" as that of the Barred Owl. It is a much smaller bird than the horned owl, but is easily identified by its striped plumage and distinctive call.



This past summer, many of my neighbours have commented on the apparent increase in the population of rabbits on their lawns and in their gardens. I, myself, have happily observed at least three generations of rabbits in our back yard, but they have been uncommonly well-behaved bunnies who seem to nibble only at the proliferating weeds. While I know that not all are as accepting as I am of rabbits, I suspect that the nocturnal activities of the owls I have seen and heard will bring the rabbit population of Country Place under control, rapidly and effectively. Squirrels, chipmunks, field mice and moles, who scavenge in the vicinity of our bird feeders, are also at risk. Nocturnal cats who lurk in backyards had also better beware...Mother Nature has a way of maintaining a regime of environmental checks and balances. And as Martha would say, that's a good thing.

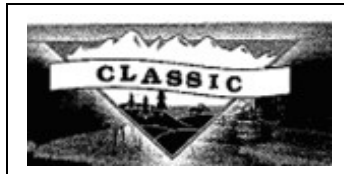


...And The Wild Life That Makes Us Go Uhm

Carole Sutherland-Bégin

The cute little bunnies and adorable chipmunks are not the only wildlife that I've seen in the neighbourhood. The racoons that peer in the patio door at night and leave their paw prints all over the glass can give you quite a start. They can make a mess of your attic if they take up residence. My husband has to be careful when he goes for his 4:30 AM run on those mornings when the pungent smell of skunk is in the air. They can ruin your lawn as they dig up and eat the white grubs. The eerie cry of the coyotes certainly sends a shiver up my back. All these animals are scavengers and especially like the smorgasbord, that garbage day brings. So remember if you can, put your garbage out in the morning and use sturdy lidded containers. Advertise with us. e-mail CSBegin@rogers.com for info and rates.

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Memberships

Once a year your Street Rep knocks on your door to ask if you want to be a member of The Country Place Community Association. For just 10 dollars, you get; representation in Neighbourhood Watch, we sponsor and help manage the Skating Rink, Community Day, Community Garage Sale, Park Clean-Up, Fall Social, this newsletter and association members that will represent your concerns with City Hall and as we did last year with the NCC. Come to the AGM and find out what has been happening this year. If you haven't signed up yet please call your Street Rep. See the last page of this newsletter for the name of you Street Rep. Please support us. Your contribution shows you care about this community and recognize the effort the Community Association makes on your behalf.

As well, we always welcome more volunteer street reps. If you would be willing to distribute flyers as well as help with the membership drive, please contact Julie Biggs, Barb Armstrong or Rocco Romeo.

Advertise with us. e-mail CSBegin@rogers.com for info and rates.

ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVES

President	Rocco Romeo
Secretary	Lina De Socio
Past Presidents	Bruce Armstrong
Vice President	Carole Sutherland-Bégin CSBegin@rogers.com
Treasurer	Charlie Inglis
Street Reps	Julie Biggs / Barb Armstrong
Newsletter	Carole Sutherland-Bégin
Rink	Steve and Jill Nimmo
Neighbourhood Watch	Marilyn Harrold
Signs	Bruno Bégin & Carole Sutherland- Bégin

If you have any comments, suggestions or an article for the next newsletter please feel free to e-mail me at CSBegin@rogers.com.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Gord Hunter Councillor Knoxdale- Merivale Ward 110 Laurier Avenue West Ottawa, ON K1P 1J1 Ph: 613-580-2479 Fx: 613580-2519 Gord.Hunter@ottawa.ca	Pierre Poilevre M.P. Nepean- Carleton 250-B Greenbank Road, 2nd Level Nepean, Ontario Ph: 613-990-4300 Fx: 613-990-4333 http://www.fightingforyou.ca PoiliP@parl.gc.ca	Lisa MacLeod M.P.P. Nepean-Carleton Progressive Conservative 10 Green St, Ground Fir Nepean ON K2J 3Z6 Tel : 613-823-2116 Fax : 613-823-8284 lisa.macleod@pc.ola.org
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COUNTRY PLACE STREET REPRESENTATIVES

The following is a list of the people you can expect to see to come knocking on your door from time to time to inform you of Association news. If you want to become a Street Rep or just help out please call Julie Biggs at 613-226-2033.

STREET	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE
15-28 Amberwood Cres	Julie Biggs	46 Amberwood Cres	226-2033
29-43 Amberwood Cres	Lissy Woboditsch	61 Amberwood Cres	224-6470
44-61 Amberwood Cres			
62-77 Amberwood Cres	Vicki Bas	75 Amberwood Cres	228-2869
86-98 Amberwood Cres	Rocco Romeo	88 Amberwood Cres	226-6532
102-132 Amberwood Cres	Angelina Pontone	143 Amberwood Cres	723-2150
135-143 Amberwood Cres	Tonie Chene	137 Amberwood Cres	226-4417
Broad Oaks Court	Dana Petrie	19 Broad Oaks Court	224-8955
Calias Court	Tim & Tam Lethbridge	Calais Court	237-6642
Campfield Court	Louise Staranczak	5 Campfield Court	224-3660
Charnwood Court	Virgina Caputo	21 Charnwood Court	723-4561
Chesswood Court	Tina Lloyd	7 Chesswood Court	225-9374
Cordell Court	Jill Nimmo	33 Tennyson Street	228-0702
18-26&27-43 Denewood	Marilyn Harrold	35 Denewood Cres	226-7333
2-16&3-25 Denewood	Sarah McCaughern	25 Denewood Cres	226-5487
Edenbrook Court	Shirley Fullarton	18 Edenbrook	226-5325
Erinlea Court	Charlie Inglis	7 Erinlea Court	226-6276
2-28 Fifeshire Cres	Hillary Curran-Allen	22 Fifeshire Cres	225-3492
29-57 Fifeshire Cres	Tara Graff	32 Fifeshire Cres	225-2230
Lacewood Court	Tam DeGiovanni	5 Lacewood Court	226-9454

