

Sparkle Lake Association Newsletter

April 2009

From the Board

Signs of spring are finally in the air and the SLA board is eager to begin Spring projects and activities. We hope everyone had an enjoyable winter, and hopefully with the warmer weather upon us, we will see more of each other out and about. Thank you for your continued support. This has been a year of changes and uncertainty for many of us. Not only in our personal lives but also an historic presidential election, a world economic crisis, and employment stress, yet you still participate in making this a great neighborhood.

The Sparkle Lake Association Board has been planning for our 2009 season and continuing to strive to make this the most enjoyable neighborhood it can be. If you are not on our e-mail distribution list, please send an e-mail to me at SantiniR@optonline.net with "add me to SLA list" in the subject line. Much of our dialog is through this very convenient, paperless method. As for the Sparkle Lake Association and our desire to better our community, we will continue to mow the grass verge, trim overgrown weeds, clean/upkeep, and plant flowers as we always have.

We also plan to continue to provide all the favorite annual events and activities that we all look forward to each year. It's always wonderful to see so many neighbors attending our events. We thank all our members for their continued support – we are especially grateful to everyone who has also volunteered during the past year. We also encourage you to feel free to call any of us with concerns, suggestions or questions regarding the neighborhood.

All board meetings are open to any association member and we encourage you to attend and help with our future plans. A complete list of current board members' phone numbers is on page two. Please feel free to call any of us for the time and location of our next meeting.

Thanks Members and Volunteers!

It's always wonderful to see so many neighbors attending our events. Thank you to all our members for their continued support – we are especially grateful to everyone who volunteered during the past year.

A Look Back...

After last year's discussions, meetings, and planning with Town Supervisor Don Peters and Highway Department Supervisor Eric DeBartolo, there were substantial improvements and beautification projects around Sparkle Lake. We continue to keep in contact with Peters and DeBartolo as well as Jen Fava of the Recreation Department as necessary.

We held all of our annual events as usual this past year – Easter Egg Hunt, Clean-Up Day, Beautification Day, Summer Barbeque, Back-to-School Ice Cream Social, Halloween Parade and, of course, the Holiday Pot Luck Dinner. We also held our semi-annual Neighborhood Tag-Sale in June. All were once again a huge success thanks to everyone that attends and helps out. An extra thank you to Diane Drier's Girl Scout Troop #2702 which organized this year's Halloween activities.

We reaped the rewards of a great raffle at the Holiday Pot Luck Dinner, and I'd like to especially acknowledge and thank those who donated an item, namely: Yorktown Pizza & Pasta, Trademark Cinemas (JV Mall), Yorktown Stage, Solaris Sports Club, Friendly's Restaurant, plus neighbors who generously donated items: the Humphreys, Sweeneys, Santinis, Mearas, Roldans, Pedis, Hannan/O'Brians, Wrubels, DaRos family and Jennifer Bauer. It was difficult getting donations from businesses due to the poor economic climate, but personal contributions more than compensated and were truly appreciated. Everyone loves the excitement of who will win the next prize. We'd also like to thank Arthur and Isabel Lynch for their donation to the SLA children, jolly Steve Wrubel for being this year's Santa, and Kenny and Chris Bruen for donating and cooking the ham. And of course, all that attended and pitched in from set-up to clean-up and everything in between. Your generosity is truly abundant. Many hands certainly made for easy work and a wonderful night.

The SLA Board manpower has been very limited for several years and we continue to struggle to do all the things we would like to accomplish. If you could join us on the Board, or simply volunteer to help run one of our activities, it would be a huge help. With many of the board members' children getting older and outgrowing the children's activities, we are hoping to find one or two adults with younger children to help with the kid events in the coming year. We would also like to step up our beautification efforts by having a couple extra maintenance days, but this cannot be done without commitment beyond that of the current Board members.

Visit the Sparkle Lake Association web site at <http://sparklelake.org/>

E-mail:

We would like to continue to gather e-mail information. If you have an e-mail address, please email SantiniR@optonline.net so that we can get information and reminders out faster to all members.

Association Finances:

Some new neighbors may not realize that the Association maintains the lawn at the entrance to Hyatt Street, the roadside up to the dam, and the lawn at the Private Beach. Lawn care expenses alone consume a substantial amount of our annual revenue. The remaining budget enables us to fund our annual programs and efforts to beautify our community's appearance. Last year we purchased a new picnic table for the private beach prior to our barbecue last July. If finances permit after this year's annual dues collection, we would love to purchase 1 or 2 more tables. The private beach is a beautiful natural resource and an asset to our community. Please remember you can make use of it for more than our neighborhood get-togethers.

Bulk Trash Collections:

April 13 June 15 August 3 October 5

A Request for Help:

On Saturday morning, June 27th, the SLA Board committed our association to help host "children's activities" at the public Sparkle Lake beach. This event is a Recreation Dept. /SLA collaboration sand sculpture morning and has been included in the upcoming recreation brochure at our request as a means of increasing town-wide interest in our beautiful lakeside. We are looking for any adults and especially older children willing to run a game or fun activity for kids at the lake that morning. Most participants will be having sand sculpture fun, but other games and activities for the kids will make it all the more special. Perhaps dancing, limbo contests, relay races, bubble blowing, or another imaginative activity. Please encourage your teenager to help us. Your support is necessary. Call Rhonda at 245-5864 to volunteer.

Dues:

Dues for 2009 remain only \$30/family (\$10/senior household). Please see the attached form for more information. Please send in your dues in a timely manner to so we can maintain our scheduled activities. Without a sufficient bank account, beautification efforts and the activities that we all look forward to cannot take place. If paying dues is a hardship during these economic times, please join the Association anyway by remitting your membership form without a donation.

Sparkle Lake Association Newsletter

April 2009

2009 Calendar of Events

Event	Day	Date	Time	Location
Clean-Up Day/Battle of Yorktown	Saturday	April 18	9:30 AM	Private Beach
Neighborhood Beautification Day	Saturday	TBD (May)		Private Beach
Sand Sculpture Fun	Saturday	June 27	TBD	
Annual Barbecue	Saturday	TBD (Summer)	5:00 PM	Private Beach
Back to School Ice Cream Social		TBD (September)		Community Building
Halloween Parade		TBD (October)		Community Building
Holiday Pot-Luck Dinner Party	Saturday	TBD (December)		Community Building

***Additional events and details will be announced via e-mail.

Please provide your email address to Rhonda if you haven't already***

Our Website address is: <http://sparklelake.org/>

Board Members

Rhonda Santini, President	245-5864	SantiniR@optonline.net
Edwin Rolden, Treasurer	245-4556	eroldan@presidentallife.com
Rob DaRos	962-2939	robdaros21@yahoo.com
David Humphrey	962-7913	humpsta@aol.com
Patricia Sweeney	245-2658	twinb1959@aol.com
Tony Savastano, Lake Committee Chair	245-5321	tonysav11@yahoo.com

Please feel free to contact us with any suggestions or concerns.

Visit the Sparkle Lake Association web site at <http://sparklelake.org/>