



# THE DOWNS

*your roots in the community since 1942*

Volume 62, Issue 2

Winter 2004

## The President's Corner

*Keil Green, 2003-2004 GDCA President*

I hope everyone in Greenway Downs is staying warm this winter! As we all await Spring, I wanted to bring you up to date on the activities of the Greenway Downs Citizens Association (GDCA).

### PARTICIPATION IN THE GDCA

First of all, I want to thank everyone who responded to our request in the last newsletter for more participation in the GDCA Board. We have elected two new Board members: Bob Mansker of Woodlawn Avenue (who is also serving as our treasurer) and Saskia Eng of Monroe Street who has taken on the duties of Custis Parkway Street Representative and Social Committee Chairperson. We have also had a strong response from people willing to participate as street representatives, volunteers, and Neighborhood Watch members. Of course we can always use more help, so if you are interested in participating in any aspect of the GDCA's activities, please contact any Board member or Committee chairperson (listed on p. 4 of this issue of *The Downs*). They will provide you with additional information on how you can get involved.

### HOLIDAY RECAP AND UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

We had another successful holiday season of social events including caroling for cans which collected several truckloads of groceries for the "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" Shelter in Falls Church (for more information on this shelter, you can find them on the Web at [www.shelter-house.org](http://www.shelter-house.org)). Likewise we are currently planning for another Senior Resident Luncheon on February 13, and, of course,

the Annual GDCA Spring Fest. The Board is also anxious to begin working with our new District Supervisor, Linda Smyth, on a variety of issues like traffic calming for Summerfield Road, removing the parking permit requirement on some of our streets, and improving the park and creek.

### BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR

Also in this issue of *The Downs* you will see a number of articles on things that you can do to be a good neighbor. While there tends to be a lot less interaction with your neighbors while we hole up in our homes during the cold winter months, there are, nevertheless, a number of steps that you can take to improve our neighborhood. Whether remembering to call for that special pickup or making sure that you clean up after your pet, these easy tasks will help keep your neighbors happy and our neighborhood attractive.

### NEIGHBORHOOD ORIGINAL PASSES

Finally, I wanted to let everyone know about the death of Jean Skillman, a long-time resident of Marshall Street. Jean was one of the most active members of the GDCA and a valuable resource for those of us younger members of the Board. I could always count on her to call with praise for a well-done newsletter or event, as well as suggestions on those things that did not measure up to her high standards for Greenway Downs. Her input will be sorely missed.

With Jean in mind, if you have a comment or concern about anything that the GDCA is doing, please contact me directly by phone at 703-868-8231 or by e-mail at [ksgreen@lafayettegroup.com](mailto:ksgreen@lafayettegroup.com).

**Interested in contacting our newly elected leaders?**

### Board of Supervisors Chairman

**Gerald (Gerry) E. Connolly**  
12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 530  
Fairfax, Virginia 22035-0079  
Telephone: 703-324-2321  
FAX: 703-324-3955  
e-mail: [chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov)

### Providence District Supervisor

**Linda Smyth**  
8739 Lee Highway  
Fairfax, VA 22031  
Telephone: 703-560-6946  
FAX: 703-207-3541  
e-mail: [provdist@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:provdist@fairfaxcounty.gov)

## *Don't miss ...*

Holiday Events Recap .....	2
GDCA Thank You .....	2
Senior Residents Luncheon	2
Good Neighbors Make Good Neighborhoods .....	3
Activities Calendar .....	3
<i>Slip Sliding Away</i> A Neighbor's Poem.....	3
GDCA Contact Information ..	4

Want to get involved—Contact a Board member! You can find our information on p. 4!

## Caroling for Cans and Holiday Events

Once again, the residents of Greenway Downs showed their giving spirit during the Holidays. Our third annual Caroling for Cans event was a huge success! The GDCA Board of Directors extends a very big "Thank you!" to Saskia Eng and Bob McFall who spent three hours collecting all the donated food! The items were delivered to the "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" shelter (www.shelterhouse.org) in Falls Church. They were extremely grateful and appreciative of our generosity. Thank you to all of the residents who graciously donated truckloads of food to help those in need during the holiday season!

A small, but enthusiastic, group of families donned hats, scarves, and mittens to brave the night air and sing holiday classics. Led along the way by the soft glow of luminaries along the streets and walkways, our carolers and the neighborhood sparkled on a chilly night.

Our holiday celebration wrapped up with warm chili and sweet desserts at the home of GDCA Vice President, Terri Lamb. Terri, thank you very much to you and your family for the post-caroling celebration! Please join us next year!!!

Congratulations to the winners of the 3rd Annual House Decorating Contest:

Most Prolific - Elan, Kathy, Edna, and Mary O'Connor (2837 Bolling Road) won dinner for two at the Italian Café.

Most Thematic - Cathy and John Thatcher (2753 Woodlawn Avenue) won a cake from Milan Bakery.

Most Traditional - Cindy and Sean Wargo (2827 West George Mason Road) won a prize from German Gourmet.

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-Jim Feagins

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## THANK YOU!

The GDCA Board of Directors would like to express our sincere gratitude and heartfelt thanks to the owners and employees of the local businesses who continue to support the activities of the GDCA and the residents of Greenway Downs. By purchasing advertising space in *The Downs* and in the Neighborhood Directory, as well as by donating prizes for GDCA contents or events, you have helped defer some of the costs of coordinating many of our neighborhood activities.

Special thanks goes to Milan Bakery, German Gourmet, and Italian Café for donating prizes to the winners of the 3rd Annual House Decorating Contest, as well as all the merchants who advertised in this issue of *The Downs*. Thank You!



## Quarterly Senior Luncheon

**Friday, February 13**

**Italian Café**

The next Senior Luncheon is scheduled for 12:00 p.m. on February 13 at the Italian Café. You may order the buffet or a la carte. The lunch will be "dutch treat", as usual. Please call Scot Walker at 703-534-3230 on or before Thursday, February 12 to make your reservation.

Are you a new senior in Greenway Downs? Join the group to share in this wonderful opportunity to discover what common interests, needs, and hobbies we share with each other.

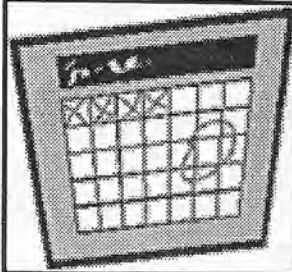
## Be a Good Neighbor

**M**any Greenway Downs neighbors have approached the Board in the past month asking about some changes in our neighborhood. Have you noticed these changes too: piles of trash that never go away; trashcans and recycling bins left in front of homes; cars blocking driveways or left on the street in disrepair; trash littering the streets; rats; dirt bike riders by the stream; neighbors playing music loudly, often with outside speakers for the benefit of all their neighbors; dog mess on the grass and in the creek.



Please, if these changes cause you concern, contact any Board member to attend the next GDCA meeting or let us know what you can do to make our community a better place in which to live. Volunteer your time to change our community for the good. Be positive! Be helpful! Volunteer! Plant flowers! Pick up the trash! Park on the right side of the street!

The neighborhood is only as good as its residents, and we encourage you to be a good neighborhood!



## GDCA 2003-2004 EVENTS CALENDAR

Be sure to mark your calendars - planning is underway for the following events!  
We hope to see you there!

### FEBRUARY 2004

#### **Seniors Luncheon**

Italian Café

Friday, February 13

12:00 p.m.

#### **Summerfield Traffic Calming Forum**

TBD

### APRIL 2004

#### **Spring Fest**

Jefferson Village Park

Saturday, April 10

10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

### MAY 2004

#### **Annual Neighborhood Yard Sale**

TBD

#### **GDCA Annual Meeting**

Devonshire Community Center

TBD

### AUGUST 2004

#### **National Night Out**

Honoring Neighborhood Watch

Tuesday, August 3

### **Slip Sliding Away**

*A Poem by a Concerned Citizen*

Get out for a jog, the fresh air against my face

Suddenly I am slipping in DOG POOP.

The sound of the nice natural creek in my ear

Suddenly I am slipping in DOG POOP

My kids and I go down to the creek to play

Suddenly we are slipping in DOG POOP

My neighbor walking her dog, I want to say hi

Suddenly her dog is pooping and on she goes

Walking your dog in our nice neighborhood,

please clean up your DOG POOP!



*Editor's note: Please remember that Virginia law requires you to pick up and dispose of your dog's fecal matter. You'll help keep our neighborhood clean and safe by doing so!*

## 2003-2004 GDCA Board of Directors

**President:** Keil Green\*  
2837 Marshall Street, 703-538-7353  
ksgreen@lafayettegroup.com

**Vice President:** Terri Lamb\*  
2818 Summerfield Road, 703-538-6065  
terri.lamb@cox.net

**Treasurer:** Bob Mansker  
2833 Woodlawn Avenue, 703-534-1516  
rmansker@aol.com

**Recording Secretary:** Scot Walker\*  
2805 Bolling Road, 703-534-3230  
scot\_walker@hotmail.com

**Corresponding Secretary:** Sara Forsyth\*  
2838 W. George Mason Rd., 703-237-1330  
jsforyth@yahoo.com

**Member at Large:** Bethany Chirico\*  
2837 Winchester Way, 703-534-8868  
beth\_chirico@yahoo.com

**Member at Large:** Saskia Eng\*  
2852 Monroe Street, 703-532-8566  
saskiaeng@yahoo.com

\*Also serve as street representatives. Saskia Eng is street representative for Custis Parkway.

### Street Representatives

**Cameron Road:** Todd and Jennifer Marks  
2845 Cameron, 703-538-5539  
toddmarks@aol.com

**Greenway Boulevard:** Maureen Kahr  
2754 Greenway, 703-534-3009  
rkahr@netzero.net

**Monroe Street:** Melanie Norton  
2837 Monroe Street, 703-752-2798

**Woodlawn Ave.:** Alex and Margie Kuczkowski  
2849 Woodlawn, 703-532-5709  
alexkdb77@hotmail.com

**Lee Highway:** VACANT

### Committee Chairpersons

Creek/Parks: Peter Chirico; 703-534-8868  
Fairfax Federation: Bob Mansker  
Membership:  
Neighborhood Watch: Paul Garcia; 703-241-2654  
Newsletter (*The Downs*): Bethany Chirico  
Social: Saskia Eng  
Welcoming: Sara Forsyth

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