

of GREENWAY DOWNS CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

VOL. IX, NO. 6

MARCH 1971

ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

With spring here in Fairfax County come thoughts of pot holes as deep as caverns in our streets and front-end alignments for our cars. To the Virginia Highway Department which is responsible for all streets and highways in the County come thoughts of patches, repairs, and new roads.

In order that there may be an exchange of ideas, the Association has invited Mr. L. E. Brett, Resident Engineer for Fairfax County, to our March 23 meeting. Mr. Brett's topic will be the widening of Lee Highway to a 4-lane divided highway from Marshall Street to Graham Road and to 4 lanes from Cavalier Trail to Marshall St. Homeowners and businesses along this stretch of highway have been most interested in the proposed project which is slated to begin soon.

Mr. Brett will also be available for questions from the floor and will have charts with him for reference. This should give everyone an opportunity to see what is about to happen in our community.

MARCH MEETING

DATE Tuesday, March 23
TIME 8:00 p.m.
PLACE Devonshire School Cafetorium
 Graham Road and Lee Highway
PROGRAM Lee Highway Widening

BUSINESS MEETING REFRESHMENTS

NEXT EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Thursday, April 1 - 8:00 p.m.

2755 Woodlawn Avenue

Pollution Control: Burning in our area is prohibited. Leaves, undergrowth, and debris should be bagged, boxed, or wrapped in 4-foot bundles to be picked up with the trash. Help make this a clean community. Obey the law.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Elling C. Reich

To those who couldn't make the second annual Outstanding Citizen Appreciation Night, I say, "Sorry you missed an enjoyable evening. Hope you can attend the next one. We missed you." I guess your Executive Committee, in planning so far in advance, overlooked the fact that Ash Wednesday would fall on the same day. Sorry about that.

The time continues to move along rather rapidly and it is hard to realize that we will soon be having youth night, elections, dues voting, and the picnic. I would appreciate someone in the Association stepping forward to volunteer as Chairman of the Picnic Committee. I can assure you that you will have plenty of help. We need new blood and ideas to keep our picnic interesting and enjoyable.

During my meanderings through Greenway Downs, by car and on foot, I am impressed with all the "front yard" and property improvement going on. It must be that first blush of spring, terminated by a bit of snow and cold weather, that started all the activity. Keep it up and get your neighbors active in sprucing up the area. I hope this spring will put a lot of green in Greenway Downs.

NOTICE: It is illegal to ride unlicensed mini-bikes on the streets of Fairfax County. Please take them elsewhere for joyriding.

THE DOWNS

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Published by the Greenway Downs Citizens Association as a service to the community.

Editor Mrs. Elouisa Stokes
533-1392

Assistant Mrs. Mary Reich
533-1844

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Mrs. Irene Smith, was elected unanimously at our February meeting. The committee which will offer a slate of officers for 1971-72 is: Mr. Kenneth Crovo, Mrs. Doris Schaffstall, Mrs. Glenda Glammyer, and Mrs. Joan Rodriguez. If you wish to help or know someone who might help next year, please call Mrs. Smith, 532-1559.

LETTER FROM YOUR EDITOR

It is with much regret that I inform the Association of my decision to resign as editor of *The Downs* in June. Due to the expected birth of my second child at that time, I feel I will not be able to continue as well as the community deserves. In addition, after 5 years, *The Downs* needs new ideas and new blood which only someone else can give it.

I hope one of you will be able to take over this rewarding work next fall. Please call Mr. Reich, 533-1844, or me, if you have any questions or wish to volunteer.

Sincerely,

Elouisa Stokes

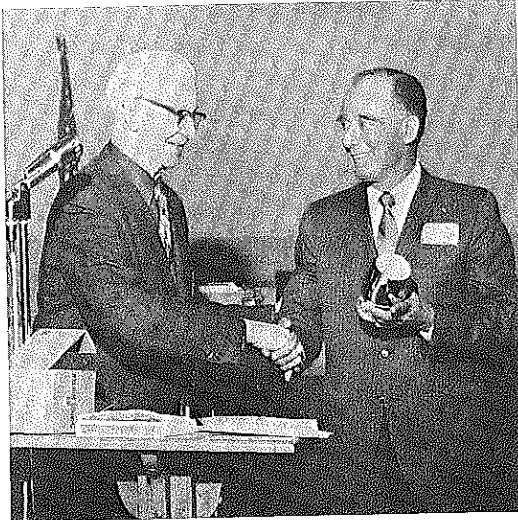
We welcome Carol and Fred North . . . who have moved into 6913 Custis Parkway with their son.

On Sunday, March 21, the Falls Church Area American Association of University Women will present the Beinhorn Marionettes in "The Cool Cat in the Purple Hat," at J. G. Whittier, 2:00 and 4:00 p.m. Tickets are \$1 with the proceeds going to the Association's scholarship fund. For further information, call Mrs. Leaf, 533-0577.

COME TO THE MEETING MARCH 23

OUTSTANDING CITIZEN

L. RAY SMART



Tommy Thomsen presents award to Ray Smart (right).

Mr. L. Ray Smart was named "Outstanding Citizen" of Greenway Downs at our second annual Outstanding Citizen Appreciation Award Night and covered dish dinner, February 24.

In presenting the silver brandy snifter to Mr. Smart, Mr. Thomas Thomsen cited Mr. Smart's continuous service to the community since moving here in 1944. During two terms as president and 19 years on the Executive Board, Mr. Smart helped the area move from a rural outpost to part of the urban metropolitan Washington area; from an area of 50 homes or so to an area of 430 homes; and, from mud roads and septic tanks to paved streets and central sewage.

During his first term in 1950, Mr. Smart and his administration persuaded area residents to help pay for lights on the streets, negotiated for regular trash removal rather than do-it-yourself methods often employed, and began working for the Fairfax County central sewage system. During his second term in 1960, Mr. Smart worked for through streets, and a solution for a severe drainage problem along Custis Parkway.

During his work in the Downs, Mr. Smart wrote the community newsletter and arranged for a column which appeared in the late 1950's in a local weekly newspaper.

In his remarks, Mr. Smart reminded everyone that there were no local schools when he moved here and that Greenway Downs women transported cinderblock and brick to the bricklayers so that Jefferson (Oak Street) School could be built. He also remarked how nice our quarters were compared to early meetings held over a beer hall at Gibson's Station (Lee Highway and Fairfax Street), and that we've much to be proud of as an Association including being leaders in setting up the Federation of Civic Associations.

In addition to his active involvement in his community, Mr. Smart was president of Madison Elementary School PTA and later president of George Mason Jr.-Sr. High PTA, and served as vice-president of the Falls Church Council of PTA's; was twice president of the Kentucky State Society and twice chairman of the Cherry Blossom Princesses Ball; and was a charter member of the Falls Church Garden Club. He, his wife, and daughter are also Kentucky Colonels.

The evening, with Charlie Reeves as chairman, ran beautifully. Mrs. Lois Owens on piano and Mr. Arne Roslund on violin played continuously during dinner. Mr. Robert Owens sang a very stirring rendition of "You'll Never Walk Alone." Mr. Henry Rodriguez won the door prize—2 tickets donated by the State Theater, and the beautiful centerpiece donated by Falls Church Florist was presented to Mrs. Smart. Mrs. Louise Henderson, Principal of Devonshire Elementary School, gave an excellent talk relating the Association's and the family's responsibility to the schools.

In addition to those mentioned above, many thanks for a lovely evening to Ben Blankenship, Thomas Thomsen, Clyde Jackson, Irene Smith, Josephine Layland, Joe and Jo Ann Goodwin, Mary Reich, Ida Roadcap, Elouisa Stokes, Paul Davis, and Henry Rodriguez.

SCHOOL DAYS

Never let it be said that *The Downs* doesn't publish good news. All Fairfax County schools will be closed for Spring Vacation April 9-12.

On April 1, J. G. Whittier will present a Spring Band Concert at 7:30 p.m.

The Devonshire PTA will meet on April 13. The PTA will sponsor the movie, "Ichadow and the Toad," on Saturday, April 17, at 1:00 p.m.

SCOUTING NEWS

Congratulations to David McCall who has moved up from Cub Scout Pack 677 to Boy Scout Troop 697.

Everyone who attended the Cub Scouts' annual Blue and Gold Banquet in February enjoyed themselves. Den 3 won the table decorating contest for its representation of the theme, American Heritage. Mr. Reich received the 1971 charter as President for Greenway Downs Citizens Association as sponsor of the

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

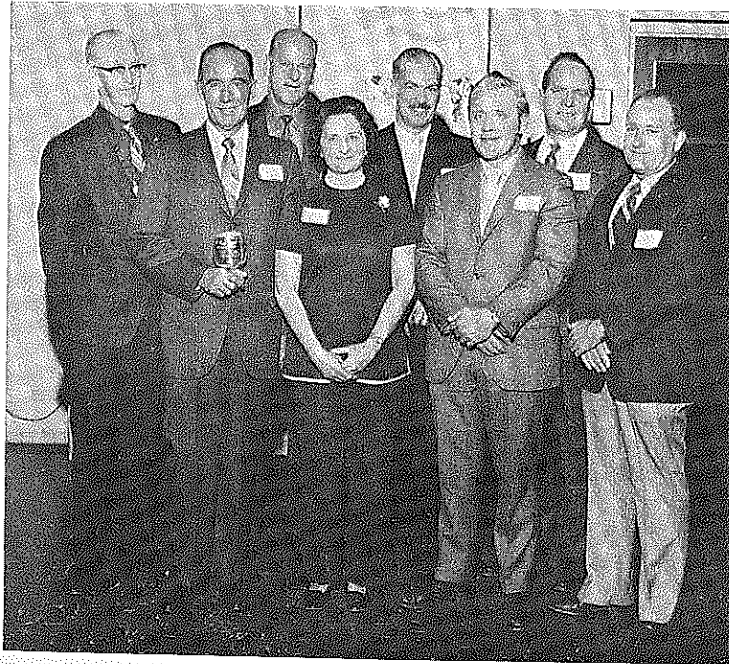
April 29 - Thursday May 25 - Tuesday
June 12 - Picnic - Saturday

Pack. Mr. Coverston was presented with a plaque in appreciation of his 6 years of service. Many thanks to Mrs. Owens who played the piano during dinner, and to Mr. Hill who presented a very interesting history of Boy Scouting.

Welcome to any Cub Scouts who have moved into the Downs. Call Mrs. Weddle, 534-0386, to join a den and make some friends.

Girl Scouts in our neighborhood have cookies for sale right now. The Brownie Troop's Father-Daughter Banquet was held in the Falls Church High Cafeteria. The program the girls put on for their fathers showed much ingenuity and was thoroughly enjoyed by the Dads.

The Brownie Troop had a game-and-party event last month with Girl Scout Troop 601. It was a great day for all the girls.



Past Presidents attending Awards Night were: (front row from left) L. Ray Smart, Irene Smith, Joseph Goodwin, Clyde Jackson; (back row from left) Tommy Thomsen, Walter Mace, Elling Reich, and Ben Blankenship.