



VOL. VII, NO. 2

FEBRUARY 1969

**ABOUT OUR SPEAKER**

Have you ever talked to a paratrooper, a holdup man, a professional baseball player, a convicted bank robber, or a youth counselor from Fairfax House? **Mr. Charles Lankford** has accomplished all of this in a rather brief 45 years. From his unique position of having served over 20 years in various state and federal prisons and of having been associated with the Cosa Nostra, Mr. Lankford comes to us as a virtual expert on crime—from its inception, through prison, to the hope of rehabilitation.

A year ago Mr. Lankford was paroled from Clinton Federal Prison in Dannemora, N.Y., after serving 9 of a 20-year bank robbery sentence. At Clinton, he realized that, "I've made such a mess of my past life that now I'd like to help other people—especially kids," and so he began helping younger inmates. With this desire to help kids still in mind after parole, Mr. Lankford answered a newspaper advertisement for a counselor at Fairfax House, an adolescent treatment center. After competing for the post, Mr. Lankford was selected day counselor for 15 teenagers living there.

Fairfax House, a model rehabilitation institution for teenage boys, has been pointed to favorably by other speakers to our Association as one of what should be many places boys with

**FEBRUARY MEETING**

<b>DATE</b>	Wednesday, February 26
<b>TIME</b>	8:00 p.m.
<b>PLACE</b>	Devonshire School Cafetorium Graham Road and Lee Highway
<b>SPEAKER</b>	<b>Charles Lankford</b>
<b>PROGRAM</b>	Criminal on Crime

**BUSINESS MEETING  
REFRESHMENTS**

slight police records should be sent. Because Mr. Lankford has been on both sides of the program, our meeting should be of especial interest to our residents. We hope all of you will make a special effort to attend. Bring a friend and find out just what this "war on crime" is all about. Mr. Lankford will also be glad to answer your questions after his speech.

The Association takes this opportunity to welcome both Mr. Lankford and his wife to our meeting.

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Charles Helein, *President*

This article will cover two topics—the appointment of Chairmen to two very important Committees and a brief statement about the program of the forthcoming meeting.

First, some of the work which will be done by the Association in the coming year will be outlined in general terms. Much of this work will be handled by the Chairmen of the various Standing Committees authorized by the Bylaws. Because of this, I am very grateful to have the assistance of Mr. Robert Miskelly of 2825 West George Mason Road, and Mr. Frank B. Peterson of 2849 Woodlawn Avenue. Mr. Peterson, a professional mechanical engineer has accepted the post of Chairman of the Streets and Utilities Committee. Mr. Miskelly, a group representative with the Connecticut General Life Insurance Company, has taken over the reins as Chairman of the Membership Committee.

This year the Chairman of the Streets and Utilities Committee will assume responsibility for many projects designed to insure the safety and improve the appearance of our community. He will be coordinating with Mr. Henry Rodriguez in obtaining a study of the costs and other problems associated with the possible construction of curbs, sidewalks, and gutters for our streets. In addition, he will be looking into the possibility of obtaining from the county more safety reminders, including posted speed limits, for the motorists who use our streets, especially the "thru" streets connecting Lee Highway and Arlington Boulevard. The County has authorized lighting for the crosswalks and the Chairman will be primarily responsible for seeing to it that the lights are installed as soon as possible. Still another problem that Mr. Peterson will handle is the possibility of having better street lighting erected throughout our community as two very energetic and resourceful women have obtained for Woodlawn Avenue. Mr. Peterson has a full workload and could use some help. If

you would like to be a member of his Committee, give him a call (532-2005).

Mr. Miskelly as Chairman of the Membership Committee has undertaken a task that is very important to our Association. His most important task will be the annual membership drive which takes place during July and August of this year.

In addition, the Chairman will have the responsibility of establishing the "Block Representative" program and of setting up procedures to keep the Association better informed when residents move into or away from the community.

The Association can best serve the community by knowing the needs of its residents. To obtain this information, the Membership Committee will endeavor to bring present records containing generalized information about the Association's membership up to date. To do a complete job, it may be necessary to conduct a small "census" of the community. If anyone would like to assist Mr. Miskelly with his Committee, please call 534-5981.

No Chairmen have yet been appointed to the other standing committees provided for by the Bylaws. Hopefully this will be accomplished in the next few weeks. For your convenience and assistance, *The Downs* will publish the remaining appointments when made and briefly outline their duties and functions.

The second portion of my article is devoted to a few brief remarks on the program and our speaker for the forthcoming meeting. As indicated elsewhere, Mr. Charles Lankford has unique qualifications to discuss the serious problem of crime that faces each citizen of this community and communities like it across the nation. Mr. Lankford testified before the Virginia Crime Commission and according to an account of his testimony reported in the *Washington Post*, made some frank and surprising contributions to the record of that proceeding. Mr. Lankford's appearance provides us with an invaluable opportunity to understand the crime problem and what we can do about it as individual citizens. Mr. Lankford's present work with youths at Fairfax House also enables him to impart some valuable insights about today's youths and what we as parents and neighbors can do to help these young people during a difficult but very important stage in their lives. In short, Mr. Lankford's gracious consent to be

### THE DOWNS.

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with us on the 26th should prove very interesting and informative and an event I'm sure no member wishes to miss.

### OPEN ON SUNDAY

Thomas Jefferson Library, 7415 Arlington Boulevard, is now open seven days a week. The new Sunday hours are 2 to 6 p.m., in addition to Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. This is an experiment that will end June 29 for further evaluation.

Beginning the week of April 20, the County libraries will be linked with a number of libraries in the Washington area. Under the arrangement, each participating library in the area may draw on the resources of the other libraries. Through the library interloan service, County residents may obtain books which otherwise might not be available locally.

### FEBRUARY AGENDA

**Bylaws**—Enclosed in *THE DOWNS* is a copy of the proposed Bylaws which have been recently revised and updated by the hard working committee headed by Mr. Thomas Thomsen. The only change worthy of special notice is the change of the fiscal year from December to December to July 1 to June 30 with elections to be held in May instead of December. This change was recommended to conform to the school year and the year most other citizens' associations in the Fairfax County Federation of Civic Associations use. This change would allow one president to set up all the meetings in September and would give him the summer to make committee appointments as well.

At the February Executive Committee meeting, the Bylaws as updated were unanimously approved with the recommendation that they be accepted by the membership at the meeting on the 26th.

**Boy Scouts**—Two other items which must be voted on by the membership at this meeting are

### SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

The next meetings will be held on Wednesdays:

February 26

March 26

April 30

PICNIC — Saturday, June 14

### February Agenda (Boy Scouts) — continued

financial obligations relating to sponsorship of the Boy Scouts. Troop 677 has requested the Association for their yearly dues of \$3.50 per boy which comes to \$77.00. This is an annual debt which allows the boys use of the Scout House on Spring Street in Falls Church.

The other bill is for \$72.54 for renovating the Scout House two years ago. Although the boys make about \$1,000 selling Christmas trees each year, they do not feel they are financially able to assume this responsibility. The membership, which refused to accept this bill last year, will be asked to vote on it again in February.

The Executive Committee has recommended that the Association fulfill the debt of the Boy Scouts for the specific amount of \$149.54.

### NIGHT MESSAGES

The Fairfax County Government has installed an automatic tape recorder device which answers its telephone when County offices are closed and invites the caller to leave a recorded message.

The recorder is connected directly to the County's main telephone line—273-2000. It is switched on at 4:30 p.m. when the switchboard closes. Callers after that hour are invited, by a recorded message, to leave their question or request which will be relayed to the appropriate office the next day. Residents are encouraged to use this system since it was installed on a trial basis and will become permanent only if the system is used enough to warrant the cost of \$25 a month.

## SCOUT NEWS

**Girl Scouts of Troop 601** are working on their cooking badges this month which accounts for all those good smells from their homes recently. They are also working on candles. Ah-h-h, dinner by candlelight!

The Girl Scout **cookie drive** has also kept the girls quite busy. Orders taken by the Scouts will be delivered between March 21 and 30. Call Mrs. Heath, 534-2087, if you are interested in some delicious Girl Scout cookies.

On March 7, Troop 601 will make a tour of the **Harper House** on Cameron Road.

**Cub Scouts of Troop 677** are quite excited about their annual Blue and Gold Banquet on February 28. Word has seeped out that it will be the best one yet.

On **Friday, March 28, the Pine Wood Derby** will be held at 7:30 p.m. at Devonshire School. Cubs are busy making small cars out of pine wood now to be raced on tracks laid out in the school's Cafetorium. All residents of Greenway Downs are invited to attend the Derby.

### BLASTING CAP WARNING

The Fairfax County Fire Marshal's Office stated that numerous blasting caps have turned up in the hands of children throughout the County. The explosives in these caps are very sensitive. In the hands of a child or an inexperienced person, these blasting caps are extremely dangerous.

When children play with blasting caps, they are playing for keeps. These caps kill, maim, and blind children. Warn your child if he should see any of these to leave them alone—**DO NOT TOUCH**—call a fireman, policeman, sheriff, or the nearest military unit. Be sure the child knows that if he touches these blasting caps, he may never touch anything again!  
(Weekly Agenda, Vol. 5, No. 38, Dec. 23, 1968.)

**PTA CARNIVAL**—The next Devonshire PTA meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 11, at 7:30 p.m. There will be a short business meeting followed by a Carnival, including a bake sale, white elephant sale, games, grab bags, and door prizes. Lots of fun for all ages! All Greenway Downs residents are invited to attend.

**Special thanks to the boys of Troop 677** for delivering the January *DOWNNS*. Not too many are complaining of frost-bitten feet.

The delay in delivery was caused by additional illness of the printer. We hope he is fully recovered by now.

**ARTICLE XI.**

**Change in Bylaws**

These Bylaws may be amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting at a regular meeting of the membership provided notice of such change has been given the entire membership prior to the date of such meeting, and provided further that a quorum is present.

**ARTICLE XII.**

**Parliamentary Authority**

Roberts Rules of Order, Revised, shall govern in all cases where they do not conflict with these Bylaws.

—Proposed revision approved by the Bylaws Committee in December 1968.

**BYLAWS OF**

**THE GREENWAY DOWNS CITIZENS ASSOCIATION**

**ARTICLE I.**

**Name and Location**

The name of this Association shall be GREENWAY DOWNS CITIZENS ASSOCIATION. The principal office of the Association shall be the home of the President.

**ARTICLE II.**

**Objectives**

The objectives of this Association are to protect and promote the interest of the citizenry; to foster a friendly and cooperative esprit de corps among the freeholders and residents; to maintain cordial relations and collective action with all agencies—local, county, state and Federal—and any other organized group or organization having for their purpose the promotion of the public welfare.

**ARTICLE III.**

**Membership**

**Section 1.** All residents and businesses in the area shall be eligible for membership.

**Section 2.** The fiscal year shall be from July 1—June 30. Dues shall be paid yearly in advance and shall be for the fiscal year. The amount of dues necessary for the efficient operation of the organization shall be determined by the Executive Board prior to the regular May meeting and approved by the membership at the May meeting.

**ARTICLE IV.**

**Area**

The area of the Association shall include the area between Tripps Run on the east and the east boundary of the lots on the east side of Rosemary Lane which faces west, and between Lee Highway on the north and the north boundary of the lots on the north side of Chestnut Street which faces south.

**ARTICLE V.**

**Policies**

**Section 1.** The Association shall be non-commercial, non-sectarian and non-partisan. No commercial enterprise or any political candidate shall be endorsed by the Association.

**Section 2.** The Executive Board may authorize the publication of a newsletter to be made available to the residents of the area and also a directory containing information of general interest to be distributed to members.

**Section 3.** The Association shall not incur any responsibility beyond the fiscal year.

#### **ARTICLE VI. Officers and Election**

**Section 1.** The officers of the Association shall be President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer who shall be elected for a term of one year and be eligible for reelection. There shall also be six Directors, two of whom shall be elected each year for a term of three years, and three Delegates to the Federation of Fairfax County Citizens Associations, one of whom shall be elected each year for a term of three years. All the officers shall assume office at the regular September meeting and serve until new officers are installed.

**Section 2.** A Nominating Committee consisting of a chairman, appointed by the President, and four members elected at the regular February meeting shall prepare a slate of at least one nominee for each office to be filled and present this at the regular May meeting. The names of the nominees shall be published and circulated to the membership prior to the May meeting. Nominations may be made from the floor provided the nominee has agreed to serve if elected.

#### **ARTICLE VII. Duties of Officers**

**Section 1.** The duties of the officers shall be as provided in Roberts Rules of Order, and as hereinafter stated.

**Section 2.** The President shall preside at all regular Association and Executive Board meetings, be ex-officio of all committees except the Nominating and Audit Committees, appoint chairmen of standing committees and special offices or committees as authorized by the Executive Board. He may also call special meetings.

**Section 3.** The Vice-President shall act as an aide to the President and shall perform the duties of the President in the absence of that officer.

**Section 4.** The Recording Secretary shall keep accurate minutes of the regular membership meetings and the Executive Board meetings.

**Section 5.** The Corresponding Secretary shall carry on such correspondence as requested and other duties as delegated.

**Section 6.** The Treasurer shall receive all monies of the Association and pay all bills authorized by the Executive Board, keep an accurate itemized account of all receipts and expenditures and make a full report at the meetings.

**Section 7.** If a vacancy in any elected office occurs the Executive Board shall elect a member of the Association to the unexpired term, unless the office of President becomes vacant, in which event the Vice-President shall assume the office of President and a new Vice-President shall be elected by the Executive Board.

#### **ARTICLE VIII. Meetings**

**Section 1.** A regular meeting shall be held once a month, September to May, unless otherwise provided by the Executive Board. Notice of the time and place of the monthly meeting shall be furnished the members through a newsletter or flyer.

**Section 2.** The May meeting shall be the annual meeting for giving reports of the Standing Committees, the Audit Committee and special committees, and for the election of officers.

**Section 3.** The privilege of holding office, making motions, and voting shall be limited to members of the Association in good standing.

**Section 4.** Ten members shall constitute a quorum at any regular meeting.

#### **ARTICLE IX. The Executive Board**

**Section 1.** The Executive Board shall include the elected officers of the Association, the immediate past President and those members elected as set forth in Article VI, Section 1.

**Section 2.** The Executive Board is authorized to transact necessary business of the Association. Financial commitments shall not be in excess of \$50.00 for any one project. Commitments in excess thereof shall be approved by a majority vote of members present at a regular meeting, provided a quorum is present.

**Section 3.** Regular meetings of the Executive Board shall be held at the call of the President.

#### **ARTICLE X. Standing Committees**

**Section 1.** The standing committees shall be—Membership, Editor of *The Downs*, Schools, Hospitality, Streets and Utilities, Community Standards, Youth Activities, and Community Action.

**Section 2.** An Auditing Committee consisting of three members shall be appointed by the President at the April meeting to audit the Treasurer's books and report at the annual meeting.