



THE WHEELWRIGHTER

Wheelwright Cluster Association, September 2011



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The Cluster's Annual Meeting has been scheduled.

When: December 12, 8:00 - 9:30
Where: Reston Community Center

We need a quorum to conduct cluster business including passing the annual budget. Numbers are usually close. The meeting ends promptly at 9:30 so please plan on attending.

Cluster Cleanup Scheduled!

Cluster Cleanup has been scheduled for Saturday, October 22nd, 9:00AM

In the Spring, cleanup focused on the installation of our new locking mailboxes. The Fall cleanup will focus on a wide variety of smaller activities including:

- Trash collection
- Planting a few small trees
- Storm cleanup (washed out stone by tot lot, etc)
- Removal of wood chips from lower cluster island
- Sapling removal from upper cluster island
- Miscellaneous landscaping

The Cluster BBQ will immediately follow on the lower cluster apron at approximately 12:30 when the work is complete. Food and Beverage will be provided as always.

The Wheelwrighter hopes to see all our neighbors, new and old, working together & sharing in the festivities.

Cluster Finances

Over the years, the various Boards of Directors have worked hard to keep cluster dues as low as possible. The Wheelwrighter offers special thanks to Past-President **Mary Dominiak-22xx** and the board that first instituted the Capital fund to plan for parking lot maintenance more than 25 years in advance. Because of their foresight, we have avoided any special assessments through the years to fund capital projects such as

See **FINANCES** on next page

Cluster Parking

As most residents know, parking spots in Wheelwright have, at times, been short. There is exactly one less spot than needed for each home to have 2 spots.

In order to keep spots clear for residents, the cluster Bylaws require that all vehicles have up-to-date inspection and registration tags. This prevents residents and non-residents alike from abandoning old vehicles or turning the parking lot into an "antique car show" like the one out on Olde Crafts.



To be fair, the Wheelwrighter must enforce the policy evenly and even admits to receiving a red tag or two ourselves in the past. If you've simply forgotten to get an inspection or renew your registration, please consider the tag a friendly reminder that will help avoid a police citation and fine.

facebook

Don't forget to 'Like' **WHEELWRIGHT CLUSTER** Stay up-to-date on news, events, and get instant access to special alerts as necessary.

Next Board Meeting:
Tuesday, Oct 18, 2011
8:00 p.m. at 2223

All residents welcome

Trash Only: Tuesday
Trash & Recycling: Friday

Large trash items? Call American Disposal ahead of time to arrange a pickup: 703-368-0500.

Cluster Board & Officers

Brad McLean, President
2269 703-675-3671
mcleanlandscapes@verizon.net

Shannon Welch, Vice President
2223 703-620-2005
welch@msrc.org

Scott Heckman, Secretary
2228 973-303-7723
swh114@gmail.com

Rick Fairbank, Director
2213 703-201-9128
FantasyTavvy@earthlink.net

Dave Welch, Director
2223 703-655-6174
dwelch78.dw@gmail.com

OPEN, Treasurer

FINANCES *continued*

parking lot sealing/paving, mailboxes, etc. As the cluster ages, we are incurring increased annual costs for things like concrete repair & tree maintenance, which require more & more work to keep them healthy and protect homeowners' property

Wheelwright Finance Facts:

- Wheelwright is one of the smallest clusters in Reston, yet has the lowest quarterly dues.
- **Not including Wheelwright, dues in Reston Range from \$xxx - \$xxx per quarter**
- Wheelwright has never needed to impose a special assessment on residents to pay for a capital expense.
- Fuel costs have increased prices for almost everything including snow removal, trash collection, tree work, and parking lot maintenance
- In 2000, dues were \$175 per quarter. With the increase from \$200 to \$220 this year, dues increases have remained well below inflation.
- 75% of dues go toward operating expenses and 25% fund capital improvements



Do You Want to Help?

Is there something in the cluster that is driving

you nuts? Are you willing to lead the effort to fix or improve it? Talk to a board member or come to a meeting and if there is money in the budget, we can help you tackle the project.

Reminders

Mailboxes

Help keep the Cluster's new mailboxes looking great. Please refrain from attaching posters or other solicitations on the boxes. All unauthorized postings will be removed.

Board Positions

Several Board members' terms end in December and replacements are needed. Please consider serving a term for the betterment of the cluster. Talk to a current Board Member if you are interested

Farmers' Markets

Take advantage of the remaining weeks for Reston's local farm markets

Lake Anne Plaza - Saturdays
<http://restonfarmersmarket.com>
Smart Markets - Wednesdays
<http://www.smartmarkets.org/>

Local Fall Events

Oktoberfest Reston

This popular festival features the best in fall brews with traditional Oktoberfest fare from area restaurants, live entertainment, children's rides and more.

Oct 7-9 Reston Town Center
www.oktoberfestreston.com

Fall for Fairfax Kidsfest

An interactive playground of fun w/ programs & activities emphasizing health, fitness, safety, and education.

Oct 1 Fairfax County Gov Center
www.fallforfairfax.com

Visit the Fairfax County website for a list of great fall activities & events
<http://www.fxva.com>



RA is Coming!! RA is Coming!!

Well...not just yet, but please be aware that Wheelwright is due for a full Reston Association review in late 2012 or 2013 to assess individual homeowner compliance with Reston Association and cluster guidelines. Looking around the cluster, if it occurred today, many homes would not fare so well, the Wheelwright's included. After almost 40 years, many homes have rotting wood or could use new stain, among other deficiencies. Please refer to your RA and Cluster binders for specific requirements and design guidelines.



Canine Corner

The Wheelwrighter is a lover of dogs, but we could do without the brown spots that can occur when an abundance of ammonia in their urine kills the grass.

We found a great solution for our very finicky dog who rejects all pills and tablets.

Doctors Foster & Smith offers Lawn Guard[®] biscuit treats that neutralize the ammonia, which, as an added bonus also reduces the risk of urinary tract infections for your 4-legged friends

<http://www.drfsfostersmith.com>
Item: 9N-19019

Help keep Wheelwright looking Green!