

The NEWCOMER



UPCOMING EVENTS – Hold the dates and read this and following Newsletters for more details

March 29 - Happy Hour
May 31 – Happy Hour

April 26 – Cocktail Party
June 7 - Tour of the Dam (Jun 8 Rain date)

May 10 - Sand Day
August 2 - Beach Barbeque (Aug 3 Rain date)

Chili (and Cornbread) Cook-off

Exotic spices, fascinating ingredients and cold beer—Google this combination and there is only one answer: **The Lake Barcroft Newcomers Club Annual Chili Cook-off and Cornbread Contest.** John and Sue Kampschor of Dearborn Drive graciously opened their beautiful house the afternoon of February 9 to about eighty of their friends and neighbors for this much-anticipated event. Eighteen proud chefs brought their creations in crock pots and dutch ovens, accompanied by everything from grated cheese to oyster crackers. Past entrants know that presentation is everything (except taste, of course) and displays included framed titles, a cardboard outhouse, and a stuffed squirrel. To go with the chili, nine cornbreads were part of the Cornbread Contest.

Since judging is by popular vote, all guests happily dug in with a great excuse to try every chili and cornbread in the kitchen. Event organizers proclaimed that bar was really raised this year, since all eighteen chilis were great! After the pots were emptied and the ballots were counted, this year's winners were announced in the following categories.



Tacie Yoon and Kevin Kampschroer, Best in show grand prize winners for “Nicole Kidman Chili...It’s to die for.”

The Best In Show, Grand Prize - Tacie Yoon and Kevin Kampschroer, “Nicole Kidman Chili...It’s to die for”

Best in Show, First Runner Up - Kevin and Jill Anderson, “Chili de Hacienda”

Most Creative Chili - Donna Black and Mike Knapp, “Outhouse Chili...A moving experience ya’ll”

Best Nontraditional Chili - Jeff and Bobbie Pratte, “A Little Heat ‘n’ a Little Sweet”

Hottest Chili - Moe Jafari, “Speed Bump Chili...It will stop you in your tracks”

Best Cornbread - John and Chrissy McManus

The Best in Show – Grand Prize winners and Best Cornbread winners were presented with chef-statue trophies.

(Additional details and pictures follow on Page 2)



Chrissy and John McManus with trophy for Best Cornbread.

Chili (and Cornbread) Cook-off (Continued from Page 1)



All of our winners are congratulated by Miranda Thomas – Lake Barcroft Newcomers Club President. { From left to right - Jill Anderson, Miranda Thomas, Moe Jafari, Chrissy McManus, Kevin Kampschroer, Tacie Yoon, Donna Black, Mike Knapp, Bobbie Pratte, and Jeff Pratte



Everyone got into the fun – and the Chili. Jerry Ellig, Todd and Sam West, and Marty Mandelberg in background. Bob and Millie Schreiber are in the foreground.



Two of the winning entries: Best Nontraditional by Jeff and Bobbie Pratte "A little Heat 'n a Little Sweet" on left and Hottest Chili by Moe Jafari "Speed Bump Chili" on the right.



Alex Torres enjoying Donna Black and Mike Knapp's "Outhouse Chili", which won in the category of "Most Creative"

Special this year, thanks to Kim Schloemer of www.kims-embroidery.com was a beautiful embroidered Chili Cook-off winner apron for the grand prize winners. All other winners in their categories received a bronze three-dimensional medal featuring a chef's hat.

Most chefs are reluctant to share their prize winning recipes with anyone, but we did find this out from Best in Show First Runner up Jill Anderson:

"The effect that I was going for was Best in Show – a chili that would be tasty to the masses (not too hot, not too unique, just right). I wanted to WIN – not just compete.

Primary Ingredients: Ground Beef & Ground Pork & Jill's Essence (aka: special ingredient)

The Origin: I was recently searching on the Internet for a recipe to make Shrimp Enchiladas. I came across a recipe that included a 'secret ingredient'. It was this 'secret ingredient' (actually a slight variation of the ingredient) that prompted me to re-enter the Chili Cook-off. P.S. The Shrimp Enchiladas were outstanding too. And, no, I can't share the Shrimp Enchilada recipe either."

Many thanks to first-time hosts the Kampschor's for hosting the event and keeping the party going well after the chili was gone. Thanks also to everyone who put their in their best effort making chili and cornbread, Kim Mills and Trish Gomersall for planning this wonderful event, Jerry Ellig for organizing the competing dishes and everyone else who pitched in to help.

{Article by Trish Gomersall}

Next Event: "Hail Spring" Happy Hour

It's been cold outside for too long. Time to come and join your friends at an event to welcome Spring. We'll provide the fine beer and white wine, you bring the appetizers and good cheer.

When: March 29 6:30 pm – 9:30pm or so

Where: Home of Seth and Diane Davidson, 3538 Pinetree Terrace

Cost: One appetizer per couple PLUS \$5 per person
Newcomers members, \$8 non members

RSVP: NewcomersRSVP@gmail.com

Questions: Trish Gomersall, coordinator.
pgomersall@cftc.gov 703-941-3322

Presidents Notes**Registering for Events**

Recently, we have been experiencing a high rate of no-shows and this can upset our plans and budget for events. So, we wanted to make sure that all Newcomers members are aware of the etiquette of RSVP'ing for our events. Newcomers' events require pre-registration, with the exception of the outdoor beach events that we cosponsor (Sand Day and the BBQ on the Beach event where pre-registration is requested but not mandatory to join in on the fun).

When you pre-register we are reserving the space for you! This concept holds true whether you pay for the event in advance, such as for the Barge Party, or you are asked to pay at the door. As many of our events fill up quickly, it is essential that you do not RSVP if you are unsure whether you can actually attend. If you have pre-registered but your plans change, please let us know immediately so that we can offer the spot to a fellow neighbor who can attend.

Please take care to follow the instructions in the announcement of how to register. Each event will have a coordinator identified and an email address and/or a phone number to call to register. Please do not automatically hit reply to the announcement email, call Newcomers Board members who are not coordinating the party, or contact the hosts of the event in an attempt to register. If you follow these tips, we can continue to have great social events that accommodate the largest number of folks at a good price.

Volunteering

Whether you are new to Newcomers/Lake Barcroft, or been around here for a while, we need your help for our events. Tell us your skills or areas of interest and we will put you to work! Do you excel at website design? Have a knack with a camera? Know how to turn a good phrase? Can you throw a good party? Do you like to welcome folks? Whatever your talent, we need you. Come to our next board meeting to share your talents and ideas – there will be wine and munchies. Tuesday, April 1, 2008 at 7pm at the Mulligans home on 6420 Waterway Drive. Please let Miranda know that you are coming randa777@yahoo.com.

Meet your Hosts for the March 29th Happy Hour, Diane and Seth Davidson, 3538 Pinetree Terrace

Newcomers interviewed the Davidson's in their lovely lakeside home, with their 5-year-old Maltese dogs, Gidget and Moondoggie by their sides. Both Seth and Diane are attorneys and actually met when Seth lobbied Diane who was working for the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Seth works as a communications attorney, focusing on copyright, cable and broadcast issues. Diane moved on from the FCC, Discovery and Disney and now works as a legal, policy and program advisor for The Ocean Foundation, which focuses on marine conservation funding. They are both avid scuba divers and have shared that passion for many years, as is evident when you walk in their home and see their marine life decorations.

1. When did you move to Lake Barcroft?

Seth: My father moved our family here when I was two years old he and my older brother still live on Waterway. The first home I owned was on Barger Drive and we moved to our home on Pinetree in 1999.

Diane: I joined Seth in the home on Barger in 1996. We saw this waterfront home on Pinetree just days before a major vacation. So we gave Seth's father power of attorney while we jetted off to the South Pacific on a scuba trip. When we returned we learned that we actually had bought the house and had to rush to conduct the home inspection!

2. What is your most memorable experience in the neighborhood?

Seth: For me it was Hurricane Agnes and waking up to find the lake missing. Another memorable experience was discovering that the woman across the street from our home on Waterway had shot her husband but I was too young to consider that the most memorable experience.

(Continued on Page 4)

Meet your Hosts for the March 29th Happy Hour - (Continued)

Diane: I recall soon after purchasing our home on Pinetree inviting friends to go out for a night cruise on the barge. But neither Seth nor I had ever piloted a party barge at all, much less at night. So we ended up coming out at night with our flashlights, and practicing how to steer and dock it in semi-darkness. I kept thinking that one of the neighbors would call the police when they saw the flashlights.

3. What is the best kept local secret?

Seth: Other than the neighborhood, I would say the Sunset Grille. It is an amazing mix of yuppies and bikers bonding.

Diane: I would say that the offering of a waterfront home in this neighborhood is a closely kept secret. For many homes, they never actually go on the market and you only hear about it after it has already sold.

4. What is your favorite restaurant?

We are still open for a favorite and would love to hear suggestions. Before it closed, Neisha was a favorite of ours.

5. What is your favorite cocktail?

Seth: Anything with rum in it. Give me a blender, ice and rum and I'm a happy guy. That is one side benefit to our scuba trips is getting lots of unique and inexpensive rums.

Diane: A really good Pina Colada or a Margarita. We both came into our marriage with multiple blenders and lots of rum!

{Interview by Miranda Thomas}

Newest Lake Barcroft Neighbors

Welcome our new neighbors!

David and Diedra Avendasora 6225 Lakeview Drive

Michael D. Hardeman 6316 Waterway Drive

We list new neighbors in The Newcomer after confirming that they have actually moved into their house – usually via delivery of a Newcomers' Club gift bag or their response to a post card mailing. If you are new in the neighborhood and have not received a gift bag from the Newcomers' Club, or know of a new arrival, please contact Winifred and Paul Mulligan at Wmulligan2002@yahoo.com, or 703-642-3914.

Newcomers' Board

Board members serve staggered (*No Jokes are welcome about any other form of staggering!*) terms to promote continuity. At-large Board membership volunteers to coordinate events or take on other important club functions.

President: Miranda Thomas
(2008) randa777@yahoo.com 703-942-5775

Vice President: Kim Mills
(2009) Onthelake63@hotmail.com 571-216-5596

Treasurer: Warren Russell
(2008) russelljw@cox.net 703-750-0596

Hospitality: Trish Gomersall
(2008) pgomersall@cftc.gov 703-941-3322

Membership: Heather Thomas
(2007) Heather@cruisingboat.com 703-309-4991

Welcome Bags: Winifred and Paul Mulligan
(2009) Wmulligan2002@yahoo.com 703-642-3914

Newsletter Editors: Martin and Lois Mandelberg
(2009) Mandelbergm@hotmail.com 703-658-7776

At Large: Joe Pisciotta
Joe@Americanspiritcc.com 703-914-1453

Matt Friedman
Friedman.matt@gmail.com 703-658-3169

Daphne Butas
Daphnelockyer236@hotmail.com
703-256-4169

FIREWORKS FUN – HELP

As most of you know, the talented and more-than-able Amon Nixon has retired as Chairperson from the Fireworks Event Committee. He will be missed as he did a spectacular job and was great fun to work under.

This is an equal opportunity volunteer opportunity without regard to sex, race, age, religion, IQ, ego or looks. Please email Kevin for the form so we can submit well before July 4th.

Do remember, without volunteers, they will not happen. This is a perfect new resident volunteer opportunity.



The new Chairpersons, Walter Cate and Brian Snee, have already begun the duties. The Lake Barcroft fireworks show is not just a one day event as planning begins in November. Recently a meeting was with the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives to review our program and all regulations.

In the past, several members of the fireworks committee (myself included) were “licensed” to handle and shoot off the fireworks – we are certified “Pyrotechnic Technicians”. The ATF reminded us that ALL firework volunteers need to be “licensed”.

It is a very simple one page form basically asking if you have ever been convicted of a felony. But the forms need to be submitted well before July 4 so we are asking early. HELP. If you wish to help this year with fireworks, please email Kevin Howe (khowel@cox.net) or Walter Cate (walter.cate@cox.net) and we can fill you in on the fun we have (legally).

{Article by Kevin Howe}

Lake Barcroft Newcomers' Club Membership Form

Dues for the fiscal year are \$20 per household for Sept 2007 - Sept 2008.

Make checks (in \$US) payable to LB Newcomers.

Members receive discounted admission to most Club events.

Mail to Heather Thomas, 3319 Stoneybrae Drive, Falls Church, VA, 22044.

Names of Household Members:

Street Address:

Falls Church, VA

Zip Code: _____

Phone(s):

E-mail(s):

Is this a new membership? Yes No

New Member Move-In Date:

Volunteers Needed!

I want to pitch in to help make the Newcomers' Club go! Please contact me about:

- Helping with drop-off of gift bags and greeting new neighbors
- Hosting an event in our home (Club brings all supplies and provides setup/clean-up)
- Coordinating an event
- Assisting with setup/cleanup and/or other logistics involved with an event
- Writing, photography, or other work on the Newcomer's Club's newsletter
- Other (Be creative! How can you help?)