

DOWN IN THE VALLEY

Dear Hope Valley Neighbors,

I hope that this newsletter finds you and your families well. The calendar is fast approaching June and the un-official start of Summer. That brings many things to the forefront, not the least of which is the 2.5-year mark to Hope Valley's 100th birthday. Hard to imagine that this wonderful area which we all call home is close to a century old.

At the annual meeting of the HVNA Board we talked about many things and had a nice crowd of supporters in the audience. Agenda items included such topics as accomplishments and goals. In anticipation of the Hope Valley centennial the Board is working to add more of our Historic Street signs to intersections throughout the neighborhood. These cursive style designs made from iron, placed on cedar tree posts go back to the original ones that dotted our streets. Local fabrication has begun and completion is expected in late June with installations soon to follow.

Another topic of discussion was our membership numbers; we have not been able to break the 2/3 mark in past years. Our goal this year is 75%. Many folks are unsure of the meaning of a "neighborhood association" vs a "homeowners association" or HOA. Simply, an HOA is a mandatory fee charged at different times depending on the neighborhood. Some have strict guidelines and powers they can, and do, wield. Including, but not limited to, architectural style, paint colors and landscaping. That is not what the HVNA is and not what it does.

We handle common area maintenance in specific areas like cul-de-sacs, medians, and our entrances. The city will not cover these spaces and we feel that its important to keep them looking nice and welcoming to residents and visitors. We operate the website and two email services, host the annual Halloween parade for all the children and their families and give the neighborhood a holiday feel with the Christmas decorations.

These efforts take time and money and they are put in motion by a group of volunteers who serve on the Board. The money comes from the collected annual dues, \$50 which is, in many cases tax deductible. If those of you who have not already done so would consider joining this year, we would greatly appreciate it! Everyone gets to enjoy these benefits and if we could reach the goal of 3 out of 4 homes being a member, that would be yet another item to add to the list of HVNA accomplishments.

Tommy Kinney

HVNA President

HOPE VALLEY NEIGHBORHOOD BULLETIN BOARD

A 'Craig's List' Service for Hope Valley Residents

This unmonitored email list service (supported by your HVNA Annual Dues) is a great way to:

- Recommend a service vendor like a plumber, painter, electrician, mason, etc.
- Ask your neighbors for a vendor recommendation
- Publicize your personal charity activities (Durham or Hope Valley only please!)
- Advertise babysitting, house sitting or pet sitting services
- Advertise a yard sale, house for sale or rental

This service is available to Hope Valley residents & HVNA members only.
No spam, no phishing, just Hope Valley neighbor-to-neighbor communication!

To join, or to determine whether you have paid your \$50.00 annual dues, send an email to:

donstanger@hvna.org

NOTE: This does not replace the current monitored HVNA listserv for crime, emergency, lost pets, and HVNA official business.

**PAY YOUR 2023 HVNA
ANNUAL DUES ONLINE AT:
www.hvna.org/dues**

THE 2023 HVNA ANNUAL MEETING

- Wednesday, March 22, 2023 -



This past March, the Hope Valley Neighborhood Association held its annual meeting.

The meeting began with President Tommy Kinney welcoming neighbors and guests in attendance at Hope Valley Country Club. The main agenda items included 2022 HVNA accomplishments, a legally-required business meeting, including elections of HVNA officers and directors for 2023, and 2023 planning.

President Tommy presented the current status of membership in the HVNA, followed by highlights of the HVNA/s accomplishments during 2022 (see below). Appearance Chair Katie Kalb then presented the highlight of various appearance projects during the past year. Board Member Don Stanger covered 2022 neighborhood property crime statistics and analysis. Then, President Tommy returned to the podium to conduct 2023 elections (see results on Page 4), HVNA financial condition, and concluded with 2023 initiatives (see below).

A complete copy of the meeting slides is available on the HVNA website: www.hvna.org

2022 HVNA ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **APPEARANCE**
 - ◇ **LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE**
 - ◇ **HISTORIC STREET SIGN BUILD OUT COMPLETION**
 - ◇ **ADDRESS MARKER EXPANSION**
 - ◇ **RUGBY ROAD GATE IMPROVEMENTS**
 - ◇ **LITTLE LIBRARY MAINTENANCE**
- **HVNA WEBSITE & LIST SERVICES**
- **NEWSLETTER**
- **CRIME TRACKING & REPORTING**
- **HALLOWEEN PARADE**
- **HOLIDAY DECORATIONS**

2023 HVNA INITIATIVES

- **REACH 70% MEMBERSHIP**
- **DEFEND PROPERTY COVENANTS**
- **COMPETE HISTORIC STREET SIGNS**
- **EXPAND ADDRESS MARKERS**
- **HOLD SUMMER BLOCK PARTIES**
- **MAINTAIN LITTLE LIBRARIES**
- **UPDATE HVNA WEBSITE**
- **HOST HALLOWEEN PARADE ON OCTOBER 31ST**
- **DECORATE STREET SIGNS FOR HOLIDAYS**

RUGBY ROAD LANDSAPING ENHANCEMENTS

By Katie Kalb, HVNA Appearance Chair

Hope everyone has noticed all the appearance upgrades to the Rugby Road entrance. In the past three years, lights have been installed on the sign. Of course, before this could happen, we had to work with Duke Energy and the City to bring electricity to the site. Power now comes to an electric meter hidden behind the wall from an underground line that goes under Rugby Road near Hope Valley Road.

When the beautiful but old Scotch pine located behind the sign died, it left a very large bare spot with weeds and rocks. Working with our maintenance company Rantos, we designed a landscape plan to fill in this location. Last December, loropetalum, oakleaf hollies and an October Glory Maple (red leaf) were planted. Thanks to an abundance of spring rains, it appears that everything is doing well.

During this same time period, the split rail fencing along the road had broken down due to the weight of the Lady Banks roses. Unfortunately, the old roses had to be cut down in order to repair the fence. But amazingly, these climbing roses are making a comeback and bloomed this spring.

Here's a recent photo of the entrance sign:



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