

LakeWalker

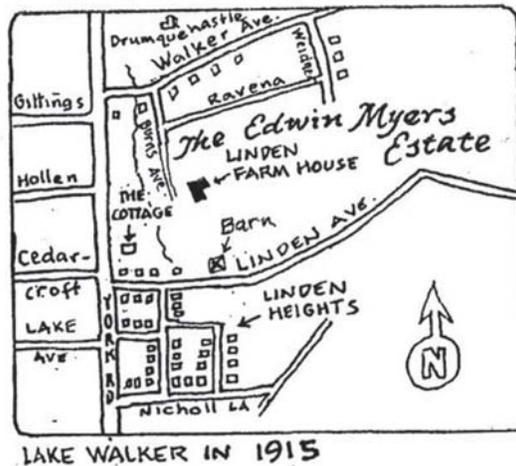
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
WINTER 2015 NEWSLETTER

LOOKING BACK

100 Years

The History of the Lake Walker Community

A century ago, our present community was mostly farmland, owned by one James Edwin Myers, whose estate was known as the Linden Farm (see map). Our northern boundary, Walker Avenue, existed, but not Lake Avenue to the south. In those days Lake Avenue extended no further east than York Road and it was in Baltimore County. Baltimore's northern boundary was in Govans, near where Bellona and York meet. In 1915, Walker Avenue didn't jibe with Gittings Avenue, but rather T-boned into York Road just to the north. There was a meandering brook (now piped underground) called Clearspring, which originated in the vicinity of what is now Wells Liquors, and flowed under a little bridge on York Road, then down through the present Walgreens parking lot, and under Walker Avenue, ending up in Chinquapin Run just south of Northern Pkwy. Now aptly named Clearspring Road, it was then called Burns Avenue. Weidner Avenue came in off of Walker, but only to the top of the hill. Gittings between Clearspring & Weidner was known as Ravana Avenue.



The first major "housing development" in our area, built at the end of the 1800s, was known as Linden Heights, many houses of which still stand today along Ready Avenue, Nicholl Lane and Cedarcroft Road, (formerly Linden Avenue). Other houses had to be demolished to make way for the extension of Lake Avenue east of York Road in the late 1920s. (Continued on pg. 2)

Calendar OF events

JANUARY

LWCA General Meeting

Thursday

January 29, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.

Arbor Oaks Meeting Room. See page 2 for the location and agenda. (Meetings occur quarterly; upcoming meetings on 3/24, 6/4, 10/22.)

Please bring a non-perishable food item for CARES.

1/21 **Northern Police District Meeting** – 7 p.m. @ the Northern District Police Headquarters, 2201 W. Cold Spring Lane (just west of I-83 on your left). If anyone has any questions, they can call Officer Doug Gibson @ 410 367-8491. *Recurring mtg on third Wed. of every OTHER month, 3/18, 5/20.*

February-May

2/2 **LWCA Board Meeting** – Meetings occur quarterly; upcoming meetings on 4/6, 8/31.

2/15 **Mardi Gras** – 4:00-7:00 p.m. at Zen West! (see page 4 for details)

3/4 **York Road Partnership Meeting** – 7:15 p.m. @ St. Mary's Church Hall, 5502 York Road, parking and entrance in the rear of the church. *Recurring mtg on first Wed. of every month: 5/6, 7/8.*

4/25 **Baltimore City Mayor's Spring Cleanup in Lake Walker** – Location/s TBA.

5/3 **The Spring Plant Exchange** (see page 4)

Check in at lakewalker.org for the full 2015 schedule!

The next and rather massive housing development took place in the mid-1920s under the name of York Park. To accommodate the planned 150 new homes, three new roads were laid out: Highwood, Hollen, and the lower part of Weidner, only to the foot of the hill. In just under four years, all the houses were built, consisting of two models,

A and B, with slight variations.

Later, around 1930, the extension of Lake Avenue east of York Road gave rise to the high quality construction of the distinctive Tudor style town homes now shaded by a sycamore arcade. As a matter of fact, one current resident, Mrs. Shirley Miller, was born in her parents' brand new Lake Ave. home 85 years ago! 🐾



The two house models planned for the 150 homes built in the mid-1920s York Park development.

New Board Member Spotlight

By VAL SIRANI

Todd Elliot, resident of Lake Walker for more than ten years, has volunteered to fill the role as Board Treasurer. He takes the position from the capable hands of Martha Palmer, who has done such a great job for the past two years. Todd moved to Lake Walker for its friendly, walkable neighborhood, after living in Charles Village for five years prior.

Todd grew up in Wilmington, Delaware, and attended Miami University (Ohio), where he earned his Bachelor of Philosophy. Todd went on to obtain his Master of Media Studies from Penn State. From there, he entered the Peace Corps.

As part of the Corps, Todd spent two years teaching English to high school students in Eastern Europe. After the Peace Corps, Todd landed in Baltimore where he began working in Adult Education. In 2001, Todd joined Greater Homewood Community Corporation as Director of Adult Education. In 2012, Todd was appointed Deputy Director focusing on Finance & Administration managing assets of more than four million dollars.

Todd is a great neighbor, always doing the neighborly thing, such as salting the corner for everyone's safety when it gets iced up, clearing the drains from leaves, as well as holding wonderful outdoor summer movie nights. Todd loves to camp, bike, hike, brew, and travel.

Say hello to Todd when you have a chance. He would love to hear from you if you would like to help with advertising sales for our newsletter! 🐾



JANUARY 29

LWCA GENERAL MEETING

Please attend the spring meeting at **7:00 p.m. (NEW TIME) on January 29, 2015**, in the Arbor Oaks Meeting Room. The address is 813 Lenton Ave., south of Lake Ave. Lenton is opposite where Highwood ends at Lake. Bear left on Lenton. The meeting room is at the far end of the apartments where there is a small parking area.

AGENDA

- Welcome
- Minutes Review
- Membership dues collection
- Directory distribution
- **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
 - President's Report (Val Sirani)
 - Treasurer's Report (Todd Elliot)
 - PayPal: Dues
 - Housing Report (Meg Zimmerman)
 - Block Captain (Jim Pickett)
 - Communication (Cy Governs)
 - Community Alert – how to sign up/how it works
 - Lake Walker car magnets/stickers
 - Community border signs to raise visibility
- Police update
- Mardi Gras
- Open Discussions 🐾

Funny Things Happen on the Lake Walker Forum

By Cy GOVERNS

The Lake Walker forum is a residents-only section of the Lake Walker website that you can use to discuss neighborhood issues. The officers of the Lake Walker Community Association have committed to using the forum to share updates and respond to resident concerns.

This is a quick tutorial on how to register for the forum. If you have questions after reading these instructions, there's information below on how to get the answers you need.

SIGN-UP INSTRUCTIONS

- 1] Visit www.lakewalker.org and click on Forum.
- 2] This leads you to the **Forum** front page. Click on **Register**.
- 3] You will be asked to read the terms of the www.lakewalker.org forums before proceeding. You must Click **"I agree to these terms"** to continue the registration process.
- 4] Enter your desired username and password, your e-mail address, etc., to get your account started.
- 5] You'll receive a confirmation email that allows access to the forums. Then you can return to the Forum page and enter your username and password. **If you're accessing the forum from a secure location (like your personal computer at home), you can check the box next to "Login" to be logged in automatically each time so that you don't have to remember your password.**
- 6] Once you log in, you will see a menu of all the forums. Forums with a **bright green balloon** have new messages since you last logged in.
- 7] Click on the balloon button to enter a forum and see all the posts. Once inside a forum, you can subscribe by clicking on **"Subscribe forum."** It is located at the top of the forum, right under the **"newtopic"** button.



NEED HELP?

Once you have access, you can subscribe to forum topics and/or a digest to get news delivered directly to your email. If you're unsure of how to use the forums, there are a few places you can go for help:

- The topic **"Forum subscription"** on the LWCA News from the Board forum gives instructions on subscribing.
- The topic **"How do I use this forum thing anyway?!"** under the Help Desk forum explains some basics.
- If you click on **FAQ** on the menu, there is a list of questions that you may have—the answers are just a click away!

When you subscribe to a forum, you will get an e-mail notifying you when that forum has a new post. If there are several more posts on that forum between when you were notified, and when you login, you will NOT receive additional e-mails. In other words, you're notified at the first new post and not notified again until the first new post after you login.

Finally, please keep in mind that while the Lake Walker website provides free information, there are costs associated with maintaining the website. Your annual membership dues help to cover these costs, so please pay your dues (information on how to do that is on the website). Thank you!

QUESTIONS?

If you have questions about the forum, or would like a version of these instructions that includes pictures, email communications@lakewalker.org.



Laissez les Bons Temps Rouler!
(Let the good times roll!)

Lake Walker Community Mardi Gras Gathering at Zen West
February 15, 2015 4 PM – 7 PM

For the past several years, our community residents have ventured out from our winter hibernation for an afternoon at Zen West to share in some laughs, spirits, & food. Last year we had more than 50 folks come to share some time together as we look forward to the first signs of spring. A great family affair!!!

Save the Date!

Plant Exchange



Don't miss this year's **Spring Plant Exchange**, an annual event held for 16 years! It will take place on **May 4th from 10 a.m. to noon** in the Picketts' backyard on the corner of Yorkshire and Cedarcroft. Bring any and all plants to swap and baked goods to share. If you are just starting out with your garden, never fear: many Lake Walker gardeners will be around to chat about gardening and share plants. Any leftover plants will be placed on the outside of the Picketts' fence.

FALL WORK PARTY

By JIM PICKETT

Seven stalwart volunteers materialized for a very productive cleanup of the parks on both sides of Walker Avenue at York Road. Many bags of debris were collected and later picked up by City sanitation workers. Hearty thanks to: **Barb Dent, Cy Governs**, past LWCA Pres. **Eileen Gwin, Deb & Jim Pickett, John Swivel** and **Brackston & Bruce Ziman**.



CALL FOR DUES! Have YOU paid your COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION DUES?

New! Pay your dues with PayPal!

Look for it on the LakeWalker.org website. If you haven't paid your 2015 dues, please do so, \$10 per household and \$5 for seniors. Dues help support many activities and provide many benefits to our community. Dues help fund our Newsletter, the Block Party, the Winter Fiesta/Mardi Gras party. Dues also support information sharing, neighborhood promotion, and advocacy with the city. Households that pay dues are entitled to receive the community directory; a new edition is now available.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Please send payments to Lake Walker Community Assn, PO Box 11391, Baltimore, MD 21239-1391 or drop off to **Todd Elliott, 600 Cedarcroft Road**. **Please make sure checks are made out to LWCA**. \$10 per household, \$5 for seniors.

RATS REVISITED



Even though it is now winter time, rats do not take time to hibernate. They still continue to thrive in some of the most harsh conditions possible. If you have a problem with rats, call 311 and request someone from the Rat Rub Out Program to come out to inspect your home. The city of Baltimore reported that they were becoming more aggressive in fighting the rat problem by doubling the number of staff for the Rat Rub Out program. They can advise you what best to do to remove the problem rats from your property in addition to everything listed below.

Here are some ways to tell if rats are on your property:

- ▶ Look for burrows anywhere on your property that has freshly disturbed soil or is free of debris.
- ▶ Look for gnawing on your trash cans; around doors, windows, plumbing and electrical outlets.
- ▶ Look for droppings and worn down paths in the grass where rats may run back and forth.

Things you can do to help deter rats:

- ▶ Use durable trash cans with tight fitting lids (especially on windy days), preferably metal. **DO NOT PUT TRASH OUT IN PLASTIC BAGS!**
- ▶ Remove leftover pet food and animal waste from the yard daily
- ▶ Remove old furniture, vehicles, appliances, and junk from your property.
- ▶ Mow tall grass and weeds.
- ▶ Seal all holes and cracks in foundation, walls, floors, and around windows.
- ▶ Raise stored materials such as lumber or firewood well off the ground. 🐾

Source: Baltimore City DPW Bureau of Solid Waste Rat Rub Out Program

LakeWalker

**Lake Walker
Community Association**
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Vice President – Martha Palmer
vicepresident@lakewalker.org,

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blockcaptain@lakewalker.org

Block Party Chair – Jim Pickett
blockparty@lakewalker.org

**Communications Committee Chair –
Cy Govers**

communications@lakewalker.org

Citizens on Patrol Chair – Patti Gruber
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Newsletter Submissions –
newsletter@lakewalker.org

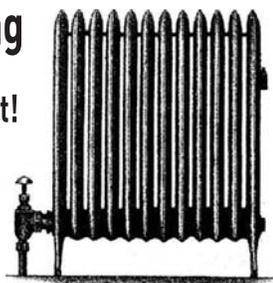
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