



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

A new year is upon us and the 2008 pool season is rapidly approaching. I would like to take this opportunity to bring everyone up to date on the issues the Board of Directors has been working on. First, let me introduce the Board for this season.

Laura Richaudeau, President (301-681-9127)

David Kelly, Vice-President/Staffing (301-754-1786)

Lynne Kartsakalis, Secretary/Staffing (301-681-0688)

John Gunnison, Treasurer/Community Outreach/Website (301- 754-1533)

Aleks Beltran – Community Outreach (301-754-3828)

John Goggin – Swim Team Representative (240-676-1405)

John Moore – At-Large (301-681-7999)

Nanci Schaefer – Building and Grounds (301-593-1907)

John Tierney – At-Large (240-892-2392)

Please note that we are lacking a chair for our social events or, what we like to call, our “VIP of Fun”. If you are interested in this very important position, please contact any of the Board members.

We have had numerous meetings already this off-season. Under the direction of our Treasurer, John Gunnison, the budget for the upcoming season has been completed and approved. We have also been able to allocate a significant portion of our carryover funds to a 90 day Certificate of Deposit. In my experience on the Board, this is a first!

As was discussed at the August membership meeting, there are a number of upkeep and maintenance concerns due to the age of the pool which will need to be addressed in the coming years. Exploratory committees have been established which include members not currently serving on the Board volunteering their valuable time to investigate a few of the most pressing concerns: (1) the costs and logistics involved with restoring the pool’s whitecoat; (2) a pool cover; and (3) the repair of the pump room structure. Thanks go out to these members who have undertaken these responsibilities!

Another topic of discussion at our Board meetings has been membership and Community Outreach. We are always searching for ways to get the word out about the benefits that flow from being a member of Forest Knolls Pool. Advertising effectively and in the right places is a key to our continued success. Please remember to support our advertisers with your business! Newly-elected Board member Aleks Beltran is the head of our Community Outreach group and has

already been hard at work on new ways to promote the pool. He has even designed a new logo for the pool, so look for its debut soon!

In just a couple of weeks, the membership renewal packets will be sent out. Please watch for this information in your e-mail inbox! There are two important points to note. First, for the upcoming season, the Board is very pleased to announce that the membership dues structure is unchanged from last year. Secondly, we are now offering the option of paying your dues by credit card through PayPal which will be located on the pool website, **www.forestknollspool.com**. This decision was made, in part, due to the positive response to the query on the questionnaire distributed at the August meeting. For now, this option is being offered to members without an accompanying administrative fee. The Board has decided that the Pool will absorb all fees involved in completing these transactions in this first year. This decision will be reviewed on a yearly basis and is subject to change. This development makes us one of only four pools in our area to offer this convenience to its members and the only one to do so with no administrative fees to its members!

It may be cold outside, but it is never too early to begin recruiting new members for the pool. The new member applications will be available around the beginning of February. Please keep in mind that the Board has decided to continue the \$100 discount offered to new members toward their first year's dues as well as the \$75 rebate to current members who successfully refer new members to the pool.

We are all very excited about the upcoming season and look forward to seeing everyone in the spring as we prepare the pool for the opening of our 2008 season on Memorial Day weekend. This effort cannot be accomplished without the participation of all of our members and a wide range of tasks to keep us all busy from painting and gardening to more skilled work like keeping the pool's whitecoat operational. As always, if you have any questions, concerns or would like to volunteer to assist with any of the Board's working groups or our exploratory committees, please contact any of the Board members. Through the increased participation of everyone and the continued growth in our membership we look forward to another fun and successful pool season in 2008.

Sincerely,

Laura Richaudeau, President

Forest Knolls Pool, Inc. Board of Directors