

# WESTERLEE COMMUNITY NEWS

Westerlee: A Proud Covenant Controlled Community

[www.westerleenews.com](http://www.westerleenews.com)



Winter 2022



Editor, Pam Jarrell

## President's Letter

Dear Neighbors,

I hope this finds you and your family doing well as we prepare to close out 2022.

I have 3 things I'd like to draw your attention to:

We are currently searching for a new Secretary position on the HOA Board. This ultimately requires a vote at the annual meeting, but would like to bring someone on more immediately to serve until that time. We are also searching for other board members to join in. Serving on the board is not time intensive, only one meeting every few months (currently virtual) and help with committees and special events is always appreciated. Please direct interest to [westerlee-hoa@gmail.com](mailto:westerlee-hoa@gmail.com)

Security Square Re-Development Project – This exciting project is underway with community engagement opportunities. Your involvement can really make a difference in an area located so close to us. Please see more information at: <https://reimaginesecuritysquare.com>

Annual Meeting – Date will be set and announced early in the year; will be around the end of April. If there are any topics, important to our community, that you would like to hear an expert talk on, let us know. If you have input on virtual vs. in person, we are open to your feedback. Please direct comments to [westerlee-hoa@gmail.com](mailto:westerlee-hoa@gmail.com)

Wishing you and yours the happiest of holidays and a prosperous new year!

Sincerely,

*John Fox*

happy  
holidays!

## WESTERLEE COMMUNITY, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: John Fox

Email: [john.fox.phd@gmail.com](mailto:john.fox.phd@gmail.com) Cell: (410)756-0543

Vice President: Wanda Richardson

Secretary: Open

Treasurer: Rizwan Mahmoodi, send checks to: 2126 Fernglen Way

Directors: Chris Goatee, John Herron, Pam Jarrell,

Jacquiline Johnson, Tonya DeSheilds, Deborah Cason.

Klaus Philippsen (Past President)

Contact the board by emailing [westerlee-hoa@gmail.com](mailto:westerlee-hoa@gmail.com)

## Next Bulk Trash Day...?

Keep your eye out for a postcard from Baltimore County Dept. of Solid Waste. They will be mailed near the end of December and will tell us the dates of 2023 bulk trash pick up.

If you don't receive a card, you can call them or go online. 410.887.2000.



**Remember,  
No Plastic Bags  
in the Recycle Bin.**

## HOA DUES

If you have not yet paid your 2022 dues, drop a check for \$40 (\$25 dues plus \$15 late fee) in the mail to Westerlee Homeowner's Assoc. c/o Rizwan Mahmoodi, 2126 Fernglen Way.

# Meeting Minutes Westerlee Community Association, Inc. November 7, 2022

Present were officers John Fox (President), Wanda Richardson (Vice President), Klaus Philipsen (Past President) and board members: John Herron, Pam Jarrell and Jacqui Johnson. Board member Deborah Cason, Tanya Deshields, Chris Goatee, and Rizwan Mahmoodi, were absent.

Call to Order 6:30 - John F.

2. Approval of Minutes - Tabled as minutes were not available for review.

## 3. Old Business

Sept. BBQ – John thanked the committee for their hard efforts. All agreed the party was a success. Recommendation for next year that we do a catered event.

## 4. New Business

- Newsletter Content - Deadline Monday, 11/28
- Holiday Light Contest Process, 12/20 Judging done by Jacqui & Pam this year
- Website - Pam is doing basic updates for newsletters and banner photo.
- Discussed compliance and financial filing requirements. Secretary position – electronic email vote for confirmation once candidate identified

## 5. Officer & Committee reports:

Klaus shared draft revision of Architectural form with Chris and John. Will complete and post to website.  
Newsletter - Pam

## 6. Other Announcements or Questions

Future 2022 Meetings - John will schedule for coming year .  
Adjourn 9:00- John F.



## Westerlee Community Association

CY 2020- Quarter 3 Treasurer's Report

July 1, 2022 - September 30, 2022

**Beginning Balance** \$18,025.56

### Income:

Other Income-Interest 0.45

Dues 265.00

Total Income + \$265.45

### Expenditures:

Community Party 152.70

Flower Arrangements 102.49

Check Printing Fee 18.41

Insurance 100.00

Total Expenses - \$2,291.78

**Ending Balance = \$17,917.41**

(Beginning Balance + Total Income-Total Expenditures)

# Westerlee Holiday Home Decoration Contest

Three of the most festively decorated homes will receive a \$20 gift card courtesy of Westerlee Homeowners Association.

**Judging Date: 12/20**

## *Finally, Rolling Road Success! By Klaus Philipsen*

Westerlee Inc. started communicating with the County Department of Public Works in 2006 about the unsafe conditions on Rolling Road, especially in the segment between Gilston Park Road and Crosby Road. After 16 years of discussion the County finally sprang into action and re-striped the road in such a way that traffic is slower and that turning in and out of unsignalized side streets has become easier and safer. While the current striping scheme is still not ideal, it has improved the conditions especially at Cedar Circle Drive where the center lane between the yellow lines makes turning in and out possible without having to fear for one's life. Westerlee Inc. is still in communication with DPW about improving the conditions when northbound traffic bunches up at the southern end of the corridor, chiefly through changing the signal timing at Chesworth Road.



# ANNUAL PICNIC, SEPTEMBER 10, 2022



*Westerlee Neighbors are the Best!!!*

We know how to end the summer right! Whether you've just moved in or been here a lifetime, everyone who attended the party had a great time. It is the perfect way to catch up with old friends and meet new folks before the holiday craziness begins and then we are all stuck in our homes cause its too darn cold. Kids took advantage of the corn hole and hoola hoops while our 4-legged neighbors got some extra petting.

Just like last year we had box lunches from Taneytown Deli in old Catonsville, they do make a mean sandwich. Fingers crossed that next year we can go back to having catered meals. For now, enjoy the chilly temperatures .





# CELESTIAL SIGHTS

By Fred Hickok, Professor Emeritus of  
Astronomy, Community College  
of Baltimore County

**December 8 - Full Moon.** This was known by early Native American tribes as the Cold Moon because this is the time of year when the cold winter air settles in and the nights become long and dark. It has also been known as the Long Nights Moon and the Moon Before Yule.

**December 13, 14 - Geminids Meteor Shower.** The Geminids is the king of the meteor showers, producing up to 120 multi-colored meteors per hour at its peak. It is produced by debris left behind by an asteroid known as 3200 Phaethon, which was discovered in 1982. The shower runs annually from December 7-17. It peaks this year on the night of the 13th and morning of the 14th. Meteors will radiate from the constellation Gemini, but can appear anywhere in the sky.

**December 21 - December Solstice.** This occurs at 4:40 pm. The Sun will be directly over the Tropic of Capricorn at 23.44 degrees south latitude. This is the first day of winter (winter solstice) in the Northern Hemisphere and the first day of summer (summer solstice) in the Southern Hemisphere.

**December 21 - Mercury at Greatest Eastern Elongation.** Mercury will be at its highest point above the horizon in the evening sky. Look for the planet low in the western sky just

after sunset.

**January 6 - Full Moon.** This was known by early Native American tribes as the Wolf Moon because this was the time of year when hungry wolf packs howled outside their camps. It has also been known as the Old Moon and the Moon After Yule.

**February 5 - Full Moon.** This was known by early Native American tribes as the Snow Moon because the heaviest snows usually fell during this time of the year. Since hunting is difficult, this has also been known by some tribes as the Hunger Moon.

**March 7 - Full Moon.** This was known by early Native American tribes as the Worm Moon because this was the time of year when the ground would begin to soften and the earthworms would reappear. It has also been known as the Crow Moon, the Crust Moon, the Sap Moon, and the Lenten Moon.

Source: [www.seasky.org/astronomy/astronomy-calendar-2022 & 2023](http://www.seasky.org/astronomy/astronomy-calendar-2022&2023)

## Free Benjamin Banneker Free Planetarium Shows

CCBC Catonsville, 800 South Rolling Road  
Math & Science Hall Room 03

**Friday, December 9, 8-9PM: *The Geminids Meteors*** Learn about one of the most prolifically observed meteor showers.

**Saturday, December 10, 10-11AM: *Are We Alone?*** Is there another planet where beings like us exist?

**Friday, December 16, 8-9PM: *What Was the Christmas Star?*** Learn about what may have been the "Star of Bethlehem".

## More Than Just Books!

by Sue the Librarian

I have heard that the Baltimore County Library has a "Library of Things." What on earth is that??

Your library has more than just books! Read on. Most of these can be delivered to our local library branch in Catonsville, at 1100 Frederick Road.

**Memories** – Each kit contains photos and other things to help seniors share their memories of earlier decades (<https://tinyurl.com/2s4a523u>).

**Chromebooks** – Small laptops. Must be checked out by an adult.

**Looms** – "Each kit includes one easel weaver, two shed sticks, one stick shuttle and one instruction sheet."

**Telescopes** – "Each kit contains a moon map, star finder and other tools that will enhance your night sky experience." Adults can request these.

**Movie Night** – Includes an inflatable screen, a video projector, and all needed accessories. Search Outdoor Activities, where you will also find **croquet** and **corn hole!** <https://tinyurl.com/muh86yzm0>

**And yes, books** – If your book club members have trouble finding enough copies, choose one of the many Book Club Kits, each with 8-12 copies of the book and a discussion guide. <https://tinyurl.com/y87sbptt>

The full list of items in the Library of Things is at <https://www.bcpl.info/books-and-more/library-of->

## HOA Architectural Review

By Klaus Philipsen

As is hopefully generally known, all alterations to properties (buildings, driveways, fences etc) need to be reviewed and approved by the HOA per the Covenants that are in place for all properties in the community. This review is in addition to whatever permits a project may require from the County.

To make the application process to the HOA (Westerlee Inc) easier for owners, we prepared an application form and placed it on our website [WesterleeNews.com](http://WesterleeNews.com) under the tab, "Documents". HOA laws in effect in the State of MD allow a HOA in a covenant protected community to use legal steps such as a court ordered injunction in a case where Owners start construction on their properties without having HOA approval. The review serves the purpose of maintaining the architectural and the design integrity of the community.

Many applications to the HOA deal with fences. The covenants state that fences cannot be erected forward from the rear corners of the house, i.e. essentially only the back yard can be fenced in. The County regulations limit total fence height and for taller fences there are additional County setback requirements. All fences over 42" height need a County fence permit. The County permit and the HOA review under the covenants are two separate processes.