

# WESTERLEE COMMUNITY NEWS

Westerlee: A Proud Covenant Controlled Community

www.westerleenews.com



Fall 2021



Editor, Pam Jarrell

## President's Letter

Dear Neighbors,

As 2021 comes to a close, it's a time for holidays and spending time with loved ones (and with greater opportunities to a greater degree than 2020) and reflection of another year coming to an end. I've found myself being thankful for in-person engagement opportunities, while respecting the vigilance we must maintain for public health/safety. I hope you and your families are happy and healthy as we conclude the year.

As an HOA Board, we had a year with increased in-person engagement. We began the year with a virtual Annual Meeting and ended this Fall with the Westerlee Get-Together, our annual community gathering, with food, implementing boxed meals for COVID safety measures. In addition, we hosted Dumpster Day and successfully filled another container with bulk items. As a Board, these events and services are what make us excited to serve; to feel part of a thriving community and offering things that enhance your experience in the community.

As you plan for a successful 2022, please also remember we are a part of a larger Baltimore County community. Involvement in and tracking county legislation and initiatives is a good thing to do, particularly as we think about voice and representation. If you have not done so, a great resource is our County website: [www.baltimorecountymd.gov](http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov) to see what's being discussed. There are initiatives looking at traffic, particularly truck traffic on residential streets and redevelopment at the Security Mall, just to name a few. If there are things you wish to highlight, I encourage you to contact us, your HOA Board. This helps us understand what's on the minds of our specific community.

I wish you a wonderful close to 2021 and beginning to 2022. Peace to you and your families.

John Fox



happy holidays!

## WESTERLEE COMMUNITY, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: John Fox

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

Vice President: Wanda Richardson

Secretary: Fred Hickok

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

Directors: Chris Goatee, John Herron, Pam Jarrell,

Jacquiline Johnson, Tonya DeSheilds, Deborah Cason.

Klaus Philipsen (Past President)

Contact the board by emailing [westerleehoa@gmail.com](mailto:westerleehoa@gmail.com)

## Did You Miss Dumpster Day ?

Baltimore County's Western Acceptance Facility, the dump, is only 15 minutes south of us, off of 695. The address is: 3310 Transway Rd. in Halethorpe. They are open Monday-Saturday from 7am-4pm.

Questions? (410)887-2000

## Volunteer Needed for our HOA Website

- *Do you have any experience in managing website content?*
- *Have you ever used Word Press, or something similar?*
- *Can you volunteer a few hours, every once in a while, to help your home owners association?*

Basically, we need someone to update information and seasonal photos, upload the newsletter PDF's and post upcoming events.

If you said yes to the above questions, send an email to [westerleehoa@gmail.com](mailto:westerleehoa@gmail.com) and let us know that you are interested. Be sure to leave a phone number for us to reach out to you.

# Meeting Minutes Westerlee Community Association, Inc. November 8, 2021

Present were officers John Fox (President), Wanda Richardson (Vice President), Fred Hickok (Secretary), Rizwan Mahmoodi (Treasurer), Klaus Philipson (Past President) and board members Tanya Deshields, Chris Goatee, John Heron, Pam Jarrell and Jacqui Johnson. Board member Deborah Cason and was absent.

The meeting was called to order at 6:41 pm and the minutes of August 16, 2021, were approved.

**Community Get-Together:** John F. congratulated everyone on the very successful event. Pam commented that the 2-hour period was much better for people to see others. Jacqui remarked on the good choice of food boxes and the shortest ever cleanup time. 60 Box lunches were purchased and all were gone. John F. reported that 20 recycling bins were acquired by residents.

**Dumpster Day:** John F. said that the dumpster ended up a bit overloaded. He suggested having someone responsible for efficient loading and mentioned that Lorraine Marroulis arrived toward the end and took out a number of items to submit to a second-hand giveaway organization. He also praised the dumpster company and driver. John H. said that some residents had several loads for the rented truck to take to the dumpster. Klaus said we should limit it to one load per household but he also suggested putting an article in the newsletter with instructions on taking loads to the County's acceptance centers in Halethorpe and Cockeysville. He moved that John H. be reimbursed for the truck rental and to pay his assistant and the motion was approved. Klaus reported that the County may be going to free bulk trash collections from residences once or twice a year or more frequent bulk pickups for small fees. He also suggested an article appear in the newsletter strongly urging recycling.

**Holiday Light Competition:** Chris suggested sending pictures to board members and having them vote while Klaus suggested having residents make nominations on the Westerlee website and then having residents vote between December 15th and 30th. Pam said she doesn't know how to do that. Klaus said he would take care of it. There was discussion about using Facebook, Nextdoor and our website to engage residents more. Pam will be putting an ad in the newsletter for a volunteer to manage the website.

**Swale:** John H. described new construction in the swale behind some Fernglen properties. Klaus said that years ago Westerlee deeded the swale to the County to be kept as natural open space. He added that the current residents responsible for the recent incursion are uncooperative for maintaining the open space. John H. said that he asked the BGE arborists to pile the cuttings along the sides of the swale. Rizwan noted that the water runoff behind his property is not so strong now.

**Security Square Mall Redevelopment:** Klaus reported that the Baltimore County NAACP has strongly lobbied for a mixed-use development that would combine shopping, housing and open spaces and it is now up to the County authorities to make decisions.

**Sympathy:** Klaus reported that a neighboring wife and husband pair died recently within a short time period of each other. Wanda said that she would send a condolence card to their family.

**Newsletter:** Pam announced a November 15th deadline for submissions so that the newsletter will go out around Thanksgiving.

**Treasurer:** Rizwan remarked that we should decide how to use a good portion of the approximately \$18,600 balance or perhaps reduce the annual fees. He noted the proposal of planting small trees in the roadside spaces. Klaus said that another project that could be costly is the nature path up from Cedar Circle Drive. He also warned about having too small a balance because of the possibility of needing to cover unforeseen legal fees.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 pm.

Respectively Submitted by Fred Hickok

## Westerlee Community Association

CY 2020- Quarter 3 Treasurer's Report

July 1, 2020 - September 30, 2020

**Beginning Balance** \$18,600.23

**Income:**

Other Income-Interest 0.47

Dues 425.00

Total Income + \$425.47

**Expenditures:**

Community Party 2,279.78

Bank Fees 12.00

Total Expenses - \$2,291.78

**Ending Balance = \$16,733.92**

(Beginning Balance + Total Income - Total Expenditures)



**NEW Holiday  
Decoration Contest**  
**Log-on and Vote  
December 15-30**

**That's right folks, now you get to judge. Be sure to drive all over the neighborhood. From Chantilla, Cedar Circle, & Fernglen to our cross streets, Nuwood, Dlong, & Wisteria.**

**Once you decide, just go to [www.westerleeneews.com](http://www.westerleeneews.com) from December 15 thru 30th to cast your vote. One vote per resident please.**

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# Westerlee Neighbors Know How To Picnic!



## *Westerlee Gets Together!*

By Jacqui Johnson

The Westerlee Community Get-Together was held on Saturday, September 18, 2021, in the yard of Klaus Philpsen. Due to COVID, we thought it necessary to have a social outing, but taking into account the current CDC regulations.

We missed seeing and interacting and sharing time with our neighbors so we planned the creative outing which involved supporting local businesses. We ordered three different sandwiches from Taneytown Deli, Catonsville, MD and the vegetarian sandwiches from Panera Bread.

We shared delicious box meals with an assortment of sandwiches and treats. Most of all we shared special time with our neighbors laughing, talking and reminiscing.

We welcomed two new families to our neighborhood and we even had visits from some political dignitaries; Senator Charles E. Sydnor III and Delegates Sheila Ruth and Patrick G. Young Jr.

Although, our time together was a little different due to wearing masks and being socially distant we had a blast.

If you missed 2021, we hope to see you in 2022.

# CELESTIAL SIGHTS

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

**December 13, 14 - Geminids Meteor Shower.** The Geminids is the king of the meteor showers producing up to 120 multi-colored so-called shooting stars streaking in the sky in an hour at its peak. They are produced by rocky debris trailing an asteroid known as 3200 Phaethon, which was discovered in 1982. It peaks this year on the night of the 13th and morning of the 14th. The waxing gibbous moon will block out most of the fainter meteors this year but brighter ones are so numerous and bright that this could still be a good show. Best viewing will be from a dark location after midnight. Meteors will radiate from the constellation Gemini, but can appear anywhere in the sky.

**December 19 - 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.

**January 3, 4 - Quadrantids Meteor Shower.** The Quadrantids is an above average shower, with up to 40 meteors per hour at its peak. It is thought to be produced by dust grains left behind by an extinct comet known as 2003 EH1, which was discovered in 2003. The thin, crescent moon will set early in the evening leaving dark skies for what should be an excellent show. Meteors will radiate from the constellation Bootes.

**January 7 - Mercury at Greatest Eastern Elongation.** Mercury will be 19.2 degrees from the Sun in the western sky just after sunset.

**January 17 - Full Moon.** This was known as the Wolf Moon because this was the time of year when hungry wolf packs howled outside camps. It has also been known as the Old Moon and the Moon After Yule.

**February 16 - Full Moon.** This was known as the Snow Moon because the heaviest snows usually fell during this time of the year. It has also been known as the Hunger Moon, since the harsh weather made hunting difficult.

**March 18 - Full Moon.** This was known 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-2021&2022](http://www.seasky.org/astronomy/astronomy-calendar-2021&2022)

## Free Benjamin Banneker Planetarium Shows

CCBC Catonsville, 800 South Rolling Road  
Math & Science Hall Room 030

**Friday, December 10, 8-9PM:**  
"What Was the Christmas Star?"

There are many different explanations concerning what could have been the *Star of Bethlehem*. Come see what some of them are, based on both ancient writings and modern technology.

This show is suitable for adults and children over the age of 8. **Attendance is by reservation only.** Please call 443.840.4216 to reserve your seats in advance.



**Saturday, December 11, 10-11AM:**  
"The Last Christmas Tree on the Lot"

What happens when it's Christmas and you're one of the last trees left on the lot? This show is suitable for children and families. **Attendance is by reservation only.** Please call 443.840.4216 to reserve your seats in advance.



## Westerlee Recycles

By John Fox

I am proud to announce we provided 16 more recycling containers to Westerlee residents in our latest Fall recycling initiative. Approximately 36 residents participated in 2019 for our first round. We appreciate the attention to recycling and hope that this program feels like a good value, since HOA dues are supplementing the cost for each container.



We would like to continue this if there is continued interest; please share your feedback and interest to your board via [westerleehoa@gmail.com](mailto:westerleehoa@gmail.com)

## www.westerleenews.com

Have you ever visited [westerleenews.com](http://westerleenews.com)? Answer riveting questions such as "Who's on the board?", "What are rules for building an addition?", "Can I find an old newsletter?" What events are coming up?". Site is updated quarterly.

Don't Forget...Vote for your favorite decorated house!



From the Westerlee Board!