



THE CHARTRIDGE CHATTER

OCTOBER 2011

CHARTRIDGE TIDAL WAVES MAKE A SPLASH

In July the Chartridge Tidal Waves wrapped up another fantastic season lead by coaches Peter Kogut, Mary Bradley and Kevin Heying. The team of 75 swimmers ranging in age from 3 to 17, was moved up two divisions from the previous year to a Division 7 team in the Central Maryland Swim League. After this season's terrific performance, the team will continue to compete in the Division 7 league next year. The Tidal Waves won two meets against Woodbridge Valley and Country Club Estates Glen Burnie and lost three meets against Taylor Village, Crofton and Chartwell.

Congratulations to the many Chartridge swimmers who qualified for the divisional swim meet at the end of the sea-

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Congratulations to Amanda Schulkowski who submitted her own original design, shown above. It was selected for the Chartridge Swim Team 2011 tee-shirt handed out to all team members.

CHARTRIDGE 2011 FALL FESTIVAL - OCTOBER 29

One of the communities most highly anticipated events of the year, the Chartridge Fall Festival, will be held on Saturday, October 29th in the common area. Festivities will kick off at 2 p.m. with a moon bounce, haunted trail and pumpkin decorating for the kids. A popcorn machine and cotton candy machine will

be on hand making snacks for everyone.

Dinner will be served at 5 p.m., provided by Capri Restaurant, owned by Chartridge's very own Karen Misuraca. The social committee asks that families please bring a side dish to share.

The evening will conclude with a bonfire at dusk. This

is a great family event and the last large social committee event of the year. Don't miss it!



Fall Festival Volunteers Needed
Service credits can be earned for middle and high school students. Please contact Jill Rodenburg at social-committee@chartridge.com for more information.



The 2011 Chartridge Swim Team.

Photo courtesy of Sunset Pics by Jennifer Lee.



Swim team con't

son. The team also had three swimmers qualify for Straehle CMSL Invitational Championship Swim Meet; Ian Weiner, Kurt Klaus and Matt McKenney.

In addition to the hard work at daily morning swim practice, the Tidal Waves had fun with the traditional pre-home meet pancake breakfasts and some organized kickball games prior to the away meets. Other highlights this season included a special performance of the

National Anthem at home swim meets by sisters Victoria and Elizabeth Grier along with other members of the SPS band. Team members donned the new swim team tee-shirts, designed by team mate Amanda Schulkowski who submitted the winning design.

Each year the Chartridge swim team is coordinated by amazing volunteers that put significant time and effort into making the season run smoothly. This year the parent organizers

included Lindsay Clokey, Cheryl Carey and Sam Monsen. The team would like to extend a big thank you to them and to all the parents and community members who pitched in and helped in so many ways. These individuals also include the members of the tent team who put up and took down the tent three times in the blazing heat, Scott Carey who maintained the lane-line roller and Karen Misuraca who managed and worked the concession stand.

There were even a few Chartridge residents who did not have swimmers on the team, but decided to volunteer anyway. These people include Nick Carassanesi who ran the 50/50 raffle at our home meets and Jill and George Rodenburg who helped work at the meets. The Chartridge Swim Team now has a link on the pool page of the chartridge.com home page. Stay tuned for more information about sign-ups for next season.

Cheryl Carey serves up some after-practice pancakes for the team, while a few of the swimmers enjoy the pool-side breakfast.



SOCIAL EVENT WRAP-UP

Chartridge residents had a great time meeting new people and catching up with old friends during the **Chartridge Pub Crawl** held May 6. The evening kicked off at Ben Schwalb's house with his newly renovated basement pub, then moved on to the Pattersons' house. Despite a heavy down pour of rain the group continued to the Scotts' house where some great musical entertainment was provided. The last and longest trek of the night was to the Kastens' home where there were interesting drinks and a fantastic game of Cornhole. It was a night to remember with great neighbors and friends. Thanks to all the

gracious host and hostesses for opening up their homes.

The **Pre-Opening Pool Party** on May 21 kicked off the pool season with a nighttime dessert party under the tent. Many people attended, including some new residents who were happy to get acquainted with their new neighbors before the official opening of the pool.

On May 28th the pool opened with the **Summer Splash**. There was great weather to go along with fantastic food and friends. The Social Committee provided food and drinks with residents bringing a side dish or dessert to share.

The side dishes were delicious as usual, with many people asking for the recipes (maybe an idea for next year). It was a wonderful start to open the pool for the year.

At the **Independence Day celebration** held on July 3rd, the pool was packed with families and guests. Children enjoyed pool games including duck races, a coin toss, soda can toss and ice block race. Lawn games included a hula hoop contest and an egg toss. The highlight was the goldfish hunt that challenged all swimmers to catch the approximately 100 goldfish released into the pool. The adult relay was back with

a new twist - Uncle Sam outfits for each team. Despite some passing stormy weather, activities concluded with fireworks in the common area. Thanks to Mary Pat Bozel for all her hard work organizing and running this event.

Former Chartridge resident Jeff Hughes came back to present and emcee **Karaoke Night** on August 12. To no one's surprise, it was a packed house with "singers" of all ages. Music ranged from The Alphabet Song and Old MacDonald to Jon Bon Jovi and Amy Winehouse. It was a fun night and the Chartridge karaoke crowd looks forward to Jeff's return perhaps next year.



Photos from Chartridge summer events include Karaoke Night and the Adult Relay at the Independence Day Celebration.

Check out www.Chartridge.com

COMMON AREA

The past few years have seen the Common Area get some great upgrades. The improvements to the volley ball court, new playground equipment, new tether-ball game, new fence, trees have been planted, a new bridge has been added, pond vegetation has been cleaned up, changes were made to the parking lot and the gardens continue to be improved. New trash cans have been added to areas previously without service. These improvements and upgrades have been incremental and have been completed with much volunteer assistance. While extending thanks as usual

to the regular volunteers, it is time to spread the net and hear from other community members who are interested in being a part of the Common Area Committee. Please contact the committee at Chartridge.com.

What can residents do for our Common Area? Enjoy it as your own...it is!

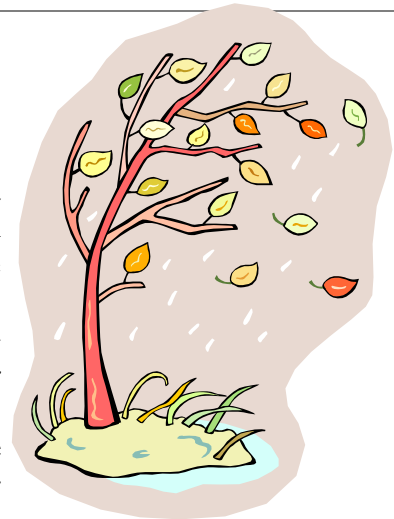
Respect the rules established in the covenants and respect your neighbors, who are also entitled to enjoy and use the common area.

Respond to posted signs for activities that you can assist in or would take pleasure in - as with all Community activities, this Committee

is responsible for organizing common area events, but we need you to help with the work and the fun.

If you have suggestions, questions or concerns, please contact the Committee either via the web or Committee members.

Even if you never walk a dog, play with your children, go swimming, play softball or volleyball, fish, fly a kite or just wander, the beauty and utility of the facilities of the common area are a central element of this Community's appeal and, therefore, impact the value of all homes in Chartridge. Bearing in mind that damage, unauthorized use, or



criminal activity may harm members of our Community or diminish the value of the common area, and we ask that you report these matters to the police immediately.

If you can take a few moments to walk or drive by the common area once a week, this will enhance the overall security of the entire Community.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

Fall is here with changing schedules and new activities. Please take a moment to consider the security of your home, family, and neighborhood.

Keep doors locked and curtains drawn when away from home.

Keep valuables out of sight in your vehicle, or better yet, bring them in.

Let a neighbor or two know when you will be away for an extended period.

Keep your speed down and watch out for children walking to and from school.

Be considerate of pedestrians, bikers, and other driver.

Despite our best efforts crime and accidents can still happen. Those around the neighborhood seeing anything suspicious or seemingly out of place in our community should report it. Vigilance doesn't necessarily mean confronting an issue if seen,

but may mean taking down a license plate number, making your presence known from afar with noise or an impromptu dog walk; even jotting down vehicle or personal descriptions could prove important in sorting things out after the fact. For emergencies we all know to dial 911, but for other concerns you can reach the police department at 410-222-8610.

The Anne Arundel County police department does have a crime report web page that

you may find beneficial to stay informed. www.aacounty.org/Police/CrimeReportsDisclaimer.cfm

Any effort we all can make to assist the safety of the neighborhood as a whole is extremely helpful. If you have ideas, concerns or comments, please feel free to send them to safety-security@chartridge.com.

HARMLESS, AND ACTUALLY HELPFUL, SNAKES

A couple of weeks back a four-foot-long snake stretched across the sidewalk near Yorkshire and Retford. It was warming itself in preparation for a day of hunting. Dogs and dog walkers alike felt their ears pin back. Eventually the reptile sinuously slid under a nearby arborvitae and disappeared.

All the wildlife in Chartridge is fascinating, but snakes evoke a strong reaction in everyone. The good news is that we really have little reason to fear snakes in Maryland. Of the more than 25 snake species found in our state, only two are venomous and one of these, the timber rattlesnake, occurs far to the west near

Frederick. That leaves us with a couple dozen non-venomous snakes and the venomous copperhead, which rarely bites humans and, even on those rare occasions, the bites are very rarely life-threatening.

The snake near Yorkshire and Retford was a friendly neighborhood black rat snake. This harmless (to humans and pets) species dines on mice and moles, as well as frogs and lizards and the occasional baby rabbit. Neighbor Ralph Mueller pointed out recently that he used to commonly see worm snakes in Chartridge, but he has not noticed them in a while. A garter snake will be seen from time to time, no doubt, but the

black rat snake seems to be our most common inhabitant these days.

What's the best thing to do if you spot a snake? Unless you are familiar with snake identification, it is advisable to watch from a distance. You should not harm what is almost certainly a harmless animal. In addition, some species of snakes are protected by state and federal laws and harming them can result in serious penalties.

One of the charms of Chartridge is our healthy environment. We have a wide variety of birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, fish, insects, trees and other plants, and about 1,000 people. The snakes of

Chartridge are a small part of our ecosystem and an encounter with one is a great opportunity for the neighborhood kids to see a marvel of nature.

Cornell University professor Harry Greene, in his book, *Snakes: The Evolution of Mystery in Nature*, eloquently describes all the reasons snakes are among the world's most fascinating animals. If you fear them, worry about them, or are fascinated by them, his book is a great place to turn for accurate information.



CHARTRIDGE VOLUNTEERS

Chartridge is a large community with a lot going on. Thank you to all our volunteers!
Not all volunteers are listed here...please let the *Chatter* know of any names missing on this list.

Board of Directors

Board-of-Directors@Chartridge.com

Mike Antoniak - President
Corey Bradley - V.P.
Victor Coward - Treasurer
Andrea Ranaghan - Secretary
At-Large Members:
Beth Acton
George Evans
Margie Kerr

Architectural Control architecture- committee@chartridge.com

Marilyn Magner - Chair
Angie Antoniak
Steve Hopkins
Lance Kasten
Dave Edwards
Linda Jablon

Bylaws and Covenants Committee covenants-bylaws@chartridge.com

Mike Antoniak – Chair
Jean Gizzi

Swim Team Swim-Team@chartridge.com

Lindsay Clokey - Chair
Gladney McKay
Cheryl Carey
Sam Monsen

Chartridge Moms Group chartridge- momsgroup@chartridge.com

Natalie Cronin – Chair

Common Area Committee common-area@chartridge.com

Mike Husslebee – Chair
Eileen and Nick Carassanessi
Sue Haney
Sherri Schubbe
Mike Antoniak
Dave and Sharon Edwards
Anne Spence
Mat Moucha
Mike Hudson

Pool Committee pool-committee@chartridge.com

Lisa Smith - Chair
Mark Wilson - Co-Chair
Mary Pat Bozel
Jaime Caisse
Nancy Davis
Fran Gray
Janis Hallet
Alice Hudson
Pat Magness
Gina Klaus
Suzi Patterson
Deborah Vandenberg
Lisa Weinstein

Rules Committee covenants-bylaws@chartridge.com

Margie Kerr - Chair

Web Site Committee

Vince Burke - Chair
Tad McGalliard
Andrea Ranaghan
Mark Wilson

Social Committee Social-committee@chartridge.com

Diana White - Chair
Jill Rodenburg - Co-Chair
Andrea Ranaghan - BoD Liaison
Jess Benton
Heide Burke
George Rodenburg
Andy White
Linda Turner
Alyse Sanders

Special Event Coordinators

Beth Acton
Mary Pat Bozel
Nick Carassanessi

Newsletter Committee chartridge- chatter@chartridge.com

Anne Ryan – Chair
Ann Marie Cucinotta
Andrea Ranaghan

Safety/Security safety-security@chartridge.com

Victor Coward – Chair
Vince Burke

Monthly Chartridge Homeowners Association meetings are held the
3rd Wednesday of every month at 7:30pm, at Oak Hill Elementary School.
All residents are strongly encouraged to attend.

The *Chartridge Chatter* is a community newsletter published four times a year. If you would like to contact the *Chatter* volunteers, send in a photo or share information, please email us at chartridge-chatter@chartridge.com.