

October 2019

The MEADOWLARK

www.meadowbrookestates.org

Meadowbrook Estates Civic Association

P.O. Box 34303 • North Chesterfield, VA 23234

Greetings Fellow Meadowbrook Neighbors!

With the coming of Veterans Day 2019, and our November General Meeting honoring our Veterans, I have put together the following list of nicknames that describe our Marines. I hope you will find it interesting, and I look forward to seeing all of you at our November 7 meeting.

The Five Names That Define The One

Leatherneck: The nickname Leatherneck has become a universal moniker for a U.S. Marine. The term originated from the wide and stiff leather neck-piece that was part of the Marine Corps uniform from 1798 until 1872. This leather collar, called The Stock, was roughly four inches high and had two purposes. In combat, it protected the neck and jugular vein from cuts and slashes. On parade it kept a Marine's head erect. The term is so widespread that it has become the name of the Marine Corps Association monthly magazine, Leatherneck.

Gyrene: Around 1900, members of the U.S. Navy began using Gyrene as a jocular derogatory reference to U.S. Marines. Instead of being insulted, the Marines loved it. The term became common by World War I and has been extensively used since that time.

Jarhead: For roughly 50 years, sailors had little luck in their effort to insult Marines by calling them Gyrenes. So during World War II sailors began referring to Marines as Jarheads. Presumably the high collar on the Marine Dress Blues uniform made a Marine's head look like it was sticking out of the top of a Mason jar. Marines were not insulted. Instead, they embraced the new moniker as a term of utmost respect.

Devil Dog: The German Army coined this term of respect for U.S. Marines during World War I. In the summer of 1918 the German Army was driving towards Paris. The French Army was in full retreat. In a desperate effort to save Paris, newly arrived U.S. Marines were thrown into the breach. In June 1918,

in bitter fighting lasting for weeks, Marines repeatedly repulsed the Germans in Belleau Wood. Paris had been saved. The tide of war had turned. Five months later the Germans would be forced to accept an armistice. The battle tenacity and fury of the U.S. Marines had stunned the Germans. In their official reports they called the Marines "teufel hunden," meaning Devil Dogs, the ferocious mountain dogs of Bavarian folklore.

Soldiers of the Sea: A traditional and functional term for Marines, dating back to the British in the 1600's. (U.S. Marines. Warrior Culture of the U.S. Marines. By Marion Sturkey 2001)

My two favorites are Leatherneck and Devil Dog, mainly because those were the most often used, during my time on active duty. Yes, these are the Five Names that define the one that will proudly celebrate its 244th birthday this November 10th.

To all my fellow Veterans of the United States Armed Forces, "Happy Veterans Day". Thank you for your honor, courage, and commitment to our great Nation!

Semper Fideles!

Julius Huggins
MECA President

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General Membership Meeting

**Thursday, November 7 at 7 p.m. at
Meadowbrook Country Club**

***Our Guest Speaker: SFC (Ret.) Karen Ewers,
U.S. Army, and also our neighbor here in
Meadowbrook***

***Special Patriotic Musical Selections -
Performed by Mrs. Sharon Robertson***

***Special Patriotic Songs - Performed by soloist,
Miss Abigail Cordova***

***Special Rendition of Taps - Performed by our
own Dr. John Kontopanos***

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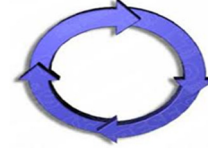
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There are 14 punctuation marks in English grammar. Can you name them?
They are: Period, Comma, Colon, Semicolon, Dash, Hyphen, Apostrophe, Question Mark, Exclamation Point, Quotation Mark, Brackets, Parenthesis, Braces, and Ellipses.

FULL CIRCLE



Gail Ragan died on September 16, 2019. She had been our neighbor on Falstone Road since June, 2014. She was originally from Florida and was retired from the nursing profession.

Jane Hawkins died on October 2, 2019. Jane was an excellent golfer for many years, winning many local tournaments as well as City and State tournaments. She lived on Monza Drive for twenty years.

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**Meadowbrook Estates Civic Association
Dues Reminder
by Ben Thorp**

Meadowbrook Estates Civic Association (MECA) is highly respected by a number of sources including Chesterfield County Police, Crime Watch, Jim Holland (our elected Supervisor), the Revitalize our Communities Committee and a survey of 423 Meadowbrook Estates residences conducted two years ago.

All that MECA does improves our property value. For most of us our home is our single largest investment. So help us to help you protect and grow your investment.

Despite all that MECA does, the 2019 dues paid has fallen behind previous years. Small numbers are important. Twenty more paid dues would "catch up". Forty more would put us where we should be.

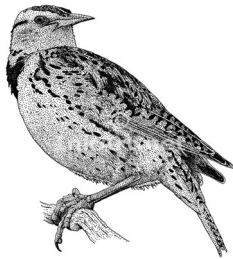
Please consider doing 3 things to help MECA help you:

- 1 - If you have not paid your 2019 dues, please do that.
- 2 - If you have paid, please ask your neighbors on each side and across the street to pay. Three checks in one envelope would be whopping progress.
- 3 - Consider volunteering one hour per week to maintain and revitalize your neighborhood. We can use all kinds of help. The main needs are patrol drivers (pick your own time) and litter patrol. Start your own litter patrol or join us every other Saturday from 9:00 am to 10:00 am to pick up trash which blows from the shopping center to the fence on the Meadowbrook side of Hopkins Road. The pay is terrible (zero for all), but the friendship is priceless.

If you have not done so already, please mail your 2019 dues to

Meadowbrook Estates Civic Association
P.O. Box 34303
North Chesterfield, VA 23234

For questions or comments, contact Ben Thorp, our volunteer Treasurer, patrol driver, and litter patrol guy, who can be reached at bathorp@comcast.net.



Welcome New Neighbors

The following have become homeowners in our neighborhood since May 15, 2019.

John C. Brogdon
Burnham Road
August 2019

Paul E. Sisson
Drakeshire Road
May, 2019

Darnecia and Rashad Lewis
Edgemere Boulevard
September 2019

Nicole Mathis
Hopkins Road
June 2019

Altamonte Hernandez
Marquette Road
June 2019

Judith Lambert
Monza Drive
September 2019

Cleveland Bey
Monza Drive
August 2019

Fareeha Chudhary
Monza Drive
September 2019

Joseph Perez
Southmoor Road
July 2019

Meadowbrook Neighbor Honored by Former ROTC Students

Cecil McNair, our neighbor on Edgemere Boulevard, was recently honored by former ROTC students at Hermitage High School. This was shown recently on Channel 12 news. Cecil is a former Marine who taught ROTC there. It was a wonderful tribute from those students, many of whom went on to join a branch of Service. Cecil and Phyllis have been fine neighbors here since 2007. Congratulations, Cecil!!

Our Neighbor, a 'WHEEL' Contestant

Greg Davis, our neighbor on Hopkins Road, was a contestant on Wheel of Fortune shown on Monday, September 23. He represented Meadowbrook well by coming in second! His Better-Half, Candace, was there with him attending the show. You have probably seen Greg and Candace and their well-behaved Boxer, Daisy, as they jog through the neighborhood. Well done, Greg!!



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Q - Did you know the police visited our MECA President, Julius Huggins?



A - Yes, this was National Night Out and the police were there to show their support. If you missed MECA National Night Out on August 6, you missed a great event! It was held at the home of Tim and Kim Davis, which is next door to Julius, Roz and Jasmine. You will not want to miss the next one. Several of the officers said, "You guys and gals in MECA really know how to do this". Tim and Kim were great hosts, their backyard was perfect for the event, and we thank them for allowing us to celebrate NNO at their place!

(Area of Concern) Appeal to Dog Owners

Dear Neighbors,

Our homes are our sanctuaries, places to relax, rejoice, and rejuvenate after a long day's work. However, when neighbors have their dogs running loose in the community, you are subjecting your fellow homeowners to undue fear and stress!

As children are waiting for their school bus, walkers are walking, and joggers are jogging, they have a legitimate trepidation of being attacked.

The majority of dog owners in our subdivision do a great job regarding their dogs and other pets. Your thoughtful and considerate efforts are much appreciated!

To all neighbors, pleased be advised that there is a leash law that must be adhered to. The County Leash Law clearly states that dogs must be on a leash at all times when not on the dog owner's property.

Julius Huggins
MECA President

MECA Board Members

President	Julius Huggins jrjhizzle@gmail.com 804.318.0643
Vice President	Kathy Donovan kedonovan@mindspring.com 804.205.4598
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MECA Standing Committees

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