

THE LARK

July/August 2023

Meadowhill.net



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Amazing that in just a few short days, we will be celebrating the 4th of July with parades, cookouts, fireworks, and times with friends and family. These celebrations are remembrances of our freedom and our liberties as Americans, fought for by volunteers in the American Revolution and the visionary leadership of our Founding Fathers. During this holiday, I encourage all of us to remember the hard sacrifice and battles fought to secure our ability to "Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." Let the summer season begin!

The change in season from spring to summer also brings change to Meadow Hill. Our Annual Election Meeting brought new faces to the Board – Brenda Berk, Walter Brownsword, and Donna Whelan and the departure of Toni Dolan and Sandy O'Leary with the completion of their terms. We thank both Toni and Sandy for their time serving the Meadow Hill community.

Under Toni's leadership as President of the Executive Board for the last two years, much was accomplished – the completion of updating the Declaration and the By-Laws, the establishment of the Long Term Strategic Planning Committee, and the implementation of the major safety project with the Aluminum Wiring Remediation project; all of this achieved while living remotely for over a year from the complex during the rebuilding of two units, one of the units being hers, demolished by fire in January 2022. We thank you and the Board for those accomplishments.

The Clubhouse Meet and Greet at the end of May was a huge success with a strong turnout, some new faces, and over twelve volunteers signing up to join one of our many committees which are the key elements that contribute to the quality of place to live that Meadow Hill is. Great job to Sandy O'Leary, Donna Whelan, and those who supported the effort.

The Aluminum Wiring Remediation project has been steadily worked on despite the supply chain issues with the connectors. Alwire Project Management and their electrical contractor, Elite Electrical have been averaging a unit per day and have completed 50% of units as of the end of June. Unit Owners are reminded to schedule their units with Angela Heizman of Alwire Project Management. She can be reached at 860-604-9539.

The projected completion of the project is late summer/early fall. Once completed and all project expenses accounted for, the estimates provided last August will be updated and each Unit Owner provided the final Special Assessment figure to be paid to the Association. We expect this will occur before the end of the year.

Finally, the Fire Rebuild project is complete, and a gap between the insurance funding secured and the total cost of construction and all insurance proceeds available has been determined. As was reported at the Board Meeting, the insurance proceeds did not cover the full cost of the project. State law and our Declaration documents require each Unit Owner to pay to cover the gap. The cost for each Unit Owner will be sent out in July explaining the cost and the process for repayment. The information will allow each unit owner to seek reimbursement from their homeowners insurance provider, if they so choose.

Next month, I will report on the priorities of the new Board and our path forward. Your ideas and thoughts are welcome and for now, as you finish reading this message.... enjoy your summer! Happy Fourth of July.

By Jim Fuda

Congratulations to the New Meadow Hill Executive Board



The Meadow Hill Annual Meeting was held on June 13th. After clearing the usual legal requirements for an Annual Meeting as established by our bylaws, the focus turned to the outgoing and incoming Board Members.

Toni Dolan was thanked for her two years as Board President and was given flowers and the thanks of the community. Also joining Toni in retirement from the Board was Sandy O'Leary, who was also thanked for her service. Staying on the Board from prior elections are Ron King, Jim Fuda, Dave Faxon and Ed Litke.

The following MH residents were elected to the Board at the Annual Meeting: Brenda Berk (3 year term) – subsequently elected as Treasurer, Walter Brownsword (3 year term) and Donna Whalen (2 year term), subsequently elected as Secretary. Also elected by the Board as officers were Jim Fuda as President and Ed Like as Vice President. Congratulations to the newly elected Board members and thanks from all the residents at MH.

The Lark Needs One More Team Member

Our thanks go to Diane Sikorsky, Unit 97, who has joined The Lark team. In order to return to monthly publication, however, we need one more volunteer. If you would like to volunteer or talk about the role, call Gene Flynn at 860-212-7347.

The Mighty Wurlitzer

Over the Memorial Day weekend, I had the amazing luck to be invited to a theater organ concert in a private Connecticut home. This incredible pipe organ was disassembled and removed from the Lynn, MA Paramount Theatre in the 1960s by Mike Foley (whose home in Tolland, CT now holds this magnificent beast!) and Roger Davis (my ex-husband). Yes, there are stories ...

This particular Wurlitzer was three 'manuals' (keyboards) and twenty-five 'ranks' (the pipes that imitate the sounds of the orchestral instruments for which they are named). The only part the audience sees is the console

which is played by the organist. It is typical for the playlist to contain many show tunes and vintage music of the time that this instrument was popular (1914-1943).

Many members of the American Theatre Society were in attendance, while a famous theatre organist was flown in from Michigan to play the concert. These pipe organs were popular before movies became 'talkies' to accompany the silent films of the times, along with their use in churches and other venues.

All of the sound produced by the organ comes from other hidden rooms called 'chambers' that are contained behind the scenes, as the sound comes through grills that would typically be on each side of a theatre. In those chambers are all of the instruments, including percussion, piano, glockenspiel, harpsichord, sleigh bells, cymbals, etc. In other words, all of the instruments contained in a full orchestra!

The pipe organ works by having wind from an electric blower pass through the organ pipes which are actuated by selecting stop tabs from the console, and then playing keys on the keyboards/pedalboard. The pedalboard is played by the feet! As you can see the pipe organ is indeed a mighty instrument, containing even more parts than described here.

To see, hear and feel the incredible sound this instrument produced was, indeed, amazing. If you've ever visited Radio City Music Hall and listened to that Mighty Wurlitzer, you'll have an idea of what I'm trying to describe here. A real treat and step back in time. This was truly a memory to revisit on this Memorial Day. By Robyn Castano



Lazy Days of Summer Don't Have to be All Lazy



It seemed like we missed a spring again this year, jumping from cold to hot. But Summer is here now and oftentimes we avoid going out due to the heat. And the more you do that, the lazier you feel. But there is a cure for Summer Laziness – and it's called "Get Out and Do Stuff"!!

We are fortunate in Glastonbury to have an active town for seniors. Venture out and explore it. Here are some ideas:

1. If you haven't checked out **the Riverfront Community Center (RCC)** and its programs, now is the time to do so. See the link below.
2. The **Wells Turner Library** also has great events. See the link below.
3. The **Riverfront Concert Series** is held behind the RCC, beginning at 6:30pm on the following Wednesday evenings: 7/12, 7/19, 7/26 and 8/9. Bring chairs or a blanket, a picnic supper or buy from the food trucks on-site.
4. **Movies at the RCC** are held on Saturdays at 11:00am. Pre-registration is required on the RCC website. Movies are listed on the website. See link below. Here is the July lineup:
 - 1st – "Air"
 - 8th – "Call me Kate"
 - 15th – "The Lost King"
 - 22nd – "Still – a Michael J. Fox film"
 - 29th – "Book Club"
5. **Glastonbury Farmer's Market** on the Hubbard Green – every Saturday from 9-12.
6. If you feel adventurous, drive "all the way" to Hartford for the **Trinity College Summer Concert Series**, held on Wednesday evenings from June 28 – July 26 with nationally and internationally known artists. The Chapel Concert begins at 6pm and the Carillon Concert begins at 7pm on the lawn. Bring a blanket/chair and a picnic supper/adult beverage.

Come on "couch potatoes", Covid is less an issue now and the Canadian wildfire smoke is gone. It's time to venture out and enjoy the summer. Call a neighbor and make it a social as well as entertaining event while getting to experience life outside your walls!!

COMMUNITY EVENTS



The [Sharing Tree](#) is a quarterly publication that is packed with important information about Glastonbury Senior Center events, educational courses, travel and much more.

Check it out!!

For **Library Events** click [here](#).



Welcome Home Toni, Ray and Molly!!



Since our last Lark issue, Toni and Ray Dolan and Molly Perrotti have moved back to their homes, having survived over 16 months of displacement after the January, 2022 fire. We are so glad that you are back and happy in your new surroundings.



Important Reminder – Lock Your Vehicles



Meadow Hill recently experienced an unauthorized, overnight car entry (not break in) in an unlocked resident's car, parked in their garage. While crime rate in our community is low, we always need to be vigilant about locking cars – garaged or not. Also, garage owners are reminded to close their garage doors at night to avoid easier access to all garage bays in a garage building. And, of course if you see any strange activity on our grounds, report it to the Glastonbury Police Department and consider informing Imagineers as well.

Proposed New Opportunities – Step Right Up!

Monthly Billiards Night - If you have an interest in joining a Monthly Billiards Night at the Clubhouse, please contact Nancy Maloney at 860-202-9396.

Veteran's Group - Interested in participating in a newly forming Veteran's Group – for both men and women? Contact David Hogan at 860-878-8479.



Put on Your Shades, Now You're Cool....

How many times have your kids, grandkids or others used abbreviations in text messages and you look at it and go “huh?” Well now my friends, you can be cool too by knowing the top 50 acronyms used in texting. Maybe you should post it on your refrigerator for reference later.....

2nite – tonight

AFAIK – as far as I know

ASAP – as soon as possible

ATM – at the moment

B4 – before

B4N – bye for now

BBL – be back later

BRB – be right back

BTW – by the way

CYA – see ya

DKDC – don't know and don't care

EOD – end of day

ETA – estimated time of arrival

FOMO – fear of missing out

FWIW – for what it's worth

GOAT – greatest of all time

GR8 - great

HMU – hit me up (get in contact with me)

ICYMI – in case you missed it

IDC – I don't care

IDK – I don't know

IKR – I know, right?

IMHO – in my humble opinion

ISTG – I swear to God

JK – just kidding

L8R – later

LMK – let me know

LOL – laugh out loud

NGL – not gonna lie

NP – no problem

NSFW – not safe/suitable for work

OFC – of course

OMG – oh my God/goodness

OMW – on my way

OTOH – on the other hand

PIR – parents in room

POV – point of view

RUOK – are you ok?

SMH – shaking my head

STFU – shut the freak up

TBA – to be announced

TBD – to be determined

TBH – to be honest

THX – thanks

TIA – thanks in advance

TMI – too much information

TTYL – talk to you later

WTF – what the freak?

WYD -what are you doing?

YOLO – you only live once

I'm going to invent my own – GMAB – give me a break, AYFKM – are you freaking kidding me? And PUTDP – pick up the darn phone. Ok, now I'm really cool. By Gene Flynn

POOL REMINDER

Anyone entering the pool area must sign in using the log at the gate.

MEADOW HILL RESIDENT NOTES

Welcome New Residents:

Marian and Tim Reid, newly moved into Unit 93. They can be reached at 860-578-7784.
Carolle Desir, who is renting Unit 133, also recently joined us. Her telephone is 559-467-0703. Finally, this month we welcome
Eileen Swenson and David Hogan in Unit 217. Their telephone number is 860-878-8479. Stop by to welcome all of them or give them a call.

Condolences to Judy Fay on the death of her husband George Fay last month. They recently moved from Meadow Hill Unit 217.

Tennis and shuffleboard courts – Open.
Pool – Open. Please observe posted rules.

Book Club: Book Club will meet at 1:30pm in the Clubhouse on 7/11 to discuss the July selection: Death in Focus by Anne Perry. The August meeting will be August 1st at 1:30 to discuss The Rose Code by Kate Quinn.

Lark Submissions: Please contact Gene Flynn at 860-212-7347 for more information on submitting articles and notices.

Crafts and Needlework – If you enjoy knitting or crocheting and enjoy giving items to those in need, please contact Linda Fillion at 860-559-5504 for details. Items such as baby hats, booties, lap robes and prayer shawls are really appreciated by Middlesex Hospital.

Hollister House – remains closed until further notice due to use by the construction contractor.

MEADOW HILL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS (being amended this summer)

Advisory committees play an important role in Meadow Hill. They provide information and work that improves Meadow Hill beyond what the Board and Manager can do without assistance. Below are the committee chairs, liaisons from the Board and Committee members. Let's all thank these community members for their work to make Meadow Hill a great place to call home. Board president is Ex Officio on all committees.



Budget (Chair), Larry Abbott, Connie Liscomb.
Clubhouse Rental: Danielle Merritt, Imagineers
Communications: Gene Flynn, (Chair), Toni Dolan (liaison), Luther Weeks, Denise Weeks, Mike Proulx Norma Flynn, Nancy Maloney
Grounds: Darien Covert, Sandy O'Leary, (Liaison), Kathy McCarthy-Proulx, David Fillion, Pete Rothfarb, Dick Brimley
Long Term Study Committee: Jim Fuda, (chair), Larry Abbot, Dave Faxon.

Maintenance and Amenities: Jim Fuda, (Chair), Ron King (liaison), Ray Dolan, Vin Liscomb, Bob Kolwicz, **(Stables, Greenhouse, Garden as subcommittee):** Stables TBD, Greenhouse, Sandy MacGregor; Garden, Darien Covert, Manager Coordinator.
Nominating: Ed Litke, David Faxon, Connie Liscomb
Rules: Toni Dolan, (Chair); Jim Fuda, Sandy O'Leary, Kathy McCarthy Proulx, Chris Keating
Social: Sandy O'Leary, (Chair), Members as assigned
Trees: Gene Flynn, (Chair), Ron King, (Liaison), Roger Bouchard, Bob Kolwicz

MANAGEMENT COMPANY

IMAGINEERS, LLC
 635 Farmington Ave.
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 860-768-3419

Asst: Property Manager: Danielle Merritt
 860-768-3419

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT
 Jim Fuda
 860-729-0354

VICE PRESIDENT
 Ed Litke
 860-430-9611

SECRETARY
 Donna Whalen
 413-429-6323

TREASURER
 Brenda Berk
 860-463-8262

DIRECTOR
 Walter Brownsword
 860-633-0207

DIRECTOR
 Ron King
 860-983-1685

DIRECTOR
 David Faxon
 860-430-1061

To Email Management staff or Board Member click on <https://tinyurl.com/MHillContacts>

BOARD MEETINGS

Monthly Board meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 1:30pm.

REGULAR MEETING
 July 19th at 1:30 PM
 August 16th at 1:30 PM
AT THE CLUBHOUSE

Current and previous meeting minutes can be found at www.meadowhill.net
Hard copy minutes are no longer available at the clubhouse due to the coronavirus.

Lark Editor: Gene Flynn; Lark Designer: Denise Weeks