

TAKING BETS...

It has been suggested that types of Alliance-sponsored social groups be expanded. John Noble has put together this tentative outline for a Poker Group. Please give it consideration and if you are interested in becoming involved in this initiative contact John jnoble43@nc.rr.com. The July newsletter will let you know the results of the feedback – if there is to be a full house or not.

Falconbridge Alliance Poker Groups

- \$20 annual group fee—goes to Alliance treasury.
- \$10 each game night: \$5 to Alliance treasury, \$5 of chips to play. Players can buy more chips (\$10 maximum) during the night if they wish.
- Dealer calls the game.
- Nickel/dime betting: biggest raise is a quarter.
- Each group has a maximum of seven people. (Seven card games x seven people = 49 of 520)
- Each member will host a game night. Host provides table, chairs, water, and their choice of snacks. Everyone brings something to nibble on and their choice of beverage.
- Alliance will provide the poker chips and the cards.
- Starts at 7:30 p.m. the third Thursday of every month and goes until whenever.
- *Cheap night out: lots of fun.*



JUNE FALCONBRIDGE CALENDAR

- Book Club: June 4
- Kaffeeklatch: June 5 and June 19 , 9:30 to 11:00. (June 5 will be at Nancy Laney house, June 19 location TBA)
- Alliance Board Meeting: June 10.
- Travelling Pubs: June 13 and June 27.
- Gourmet Dinner: June 14.
- FHA Board Meeting: Monday, June 16, 7 pm at the Clubhouse

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS!

No social events planned for June

Plan to attend the Friday, July 4 parade followed by lunch at the pool! The parade will begin at 10:30 am with lunch served at noon. More information will be in your July newsletter, on Falconbridgealliance.com, and on the Falconbridge listserv.

—LISA ANTHONY AND CONNI RIVERS

MAY SOCIAL EVENTS WERE A BIG SUCCESS!

The Social Committee and the FHA Pool Committee hosted the luncheon held during the Pool-Opening-Day festivities on Saturday, May 10. Hot dogs, hamburgers (and even veggie burgers!), and lemonade were provided, and everyone brought a favorite dish to share: salad, veggies, or dessert. The brave swimmers had a great time—and the rest of us just enjoyed eating and socializing in the beautiful weather!

The Falconbridge Garage Sale was held Saturday, May 17, and 27 households participated. Signage was put out on NC54 and Farrington Road, and the sale was also advertised on several neighborhood listservs and Craigslist. A large banner was placed at the Huntingridge entrance. Maps showing participating homes were placed at each of the five entrances to Falconbridge. Shoppers started arriving early! All participating households seemed to have had a successful sale at their house, and we were very pleased by the attendance—people were still arriving to shop after noon! Shoppers even commented on what a great neighborhood this is! (And we agree!)



*SPECIAL EVENTS OF INTEREST NEAR
AND AROUND FALCONBRIDGE*

June 20, 2014

Support Services for Aging in Place in Orange
County NC & Caregiver Support Services
in Orange County

Speakers:

Mary-Ann Weston, LCSW, Orange County Office on Aging
Pam Tillett, LCSW, Orange County Office on Aging

Mary-Ann Weston and Pam Tillett have a passion
for working with older adults and their caregivers.
They have years of experience in the field of aging
and have enriched the lives of many older adults in
Orange County NC.

To sign up: call the UNC Wellness Center & add your
name to the list 919-966-5000 OR e-mail Jan Wells for
more information at janicewells128@gmail.com

The Falconbridge Alliance Board accepted the resignation of Conni Rivers at the May board meeting. She has recently been elected to the FHA Board of Directors (town homes) where she will serve as Vice President and Facilities Chair. We look forward to working with both Conni and FHA in our continuing efforts to ensure Falconbridge is the best place to live. Taking Conni's place on the Board and as Social Co-Chair is another town home resident, Mia Prior. She looks forward to serving and sharing ideas from her previous neighborhood association.

2014 ALLIANCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

JIM CARROLL President, Neighborhood Liaison ■ jimcarrollnc@gmail.com 919-419-0519

NANCY LANEY Vice President, Membership Chair ■ nrlaney@gmail.com 919-378-1457

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MIKE MAYO Safety/Neighborhood Watch Chair ■ mikewmayo@gmail.com 973-722-4722

MIA PRIOR Social Co-Chair ■ mjcprior@gmail.com 919-906-3979





DOING GOOD WORK IN THE FALCONBRIDGE COMMUNITY

Falconbridge Friends: AGING IN PLACE IN FALCONBRIDGE

An excerpt from a note from a daughter to a Falconbridge Friends team:

"...How unbelievably fortunate we are that the next door neighbors told us about you folks. It has unequivocally been the best addition to ...dad's life. The time you all take to come for a visit and have a chat has been the most healing, nurturing and heartwarming experience. When I call...and he tells me he has had a visitor and he tells me what great people they are, you can imagine how it makes me feel....I want to thank each and every one of you for your kindness, friendship and for your time. It's been huge. He enjoys connecting with all of you so much...I have told my neighbors and friends (in California) how well you are organized and what a difference it has made."

This note was sent from the children of one of our Friends as part of our neighborhood assistance program. We continue to have requests, from individuals attempting to remain

in their own homes as long as possible to individuals with shorter term needs. This is a gratifying and fulfilling way of giving back in addition to getting the opportunity to get to know new friends in our neighborhood. The Falconbridge Friends group continues to welcome new volunteers as part of our Aging- In-Place effort.

If you are interested, please contact Paula Clarke at

paulaclarke@nc.rr.com
919-608-8560

Our next meeting of the Friends volunteer group will be July 12, Saturday morning at 11:00 am at the clubhouse. We look forward to meeting both new and old friends at that time. Any others interested in expanding our Aging-In-Place efforts by developing transportation and other assistance for our neighborhood, please join us at that time as well.

Welcome, New Neighbor

Kevin Cox recently moved into 2109 Ridgefield Drive. Originally from Lafayette, LA, and of Cajun descent, Kevin lived in the local area for about eight years before he made Falconbridge his community of choice.

A nurse practitioner in the cardiology department at Duke Hospital, Kevin earned his nursing degree at UNC-Chapel Hill, and then worked as a "traveling nurse" in an interesting program that took him to several major hospitals around the country before he returned to the area.

Kevin has discovered Falconbridge's Traveling Pub where he met some of his new neighbors. He works very long hours during the week but loves to golf in his spare time. However, his spare time is currently tied up with house renovations and yard work.

nursekevrn@yahoo.com

Please remember that 100% of Falconbridge Alliance's work is done by volunteers, and Falconbridge Alliance always needs the help of other neighbors who are willing to provide their expertise & time for the benefit of our community.

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT available for loan to Falconbridge Alliance members through Falconbridge Aging In Place and Falconbridge Friends. Includes walkers, bedside commodes, shower chairs. Please contact Claudia Stephens at 919-490-1397 | 919-489-0133



NOTES FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH COMMITTEE

Police remind us that if you are called to your door, do NOT open it, but answer through the door or let the person see you, with a cordless or cellular telephone clearly visible in your hand.

SAFETY / CRIME PREVENTION TIPS FROM MIKE MAYO

This month we're taking a break from our indefatigable crime-stopping endeavors to consider walking. Specifically, walking in Falconbridge—a subject I have become fairly experienced with in the past 18 months. (That's how long we've lived here.)

You see, being simultaneously restless and lazy, I want to log in a couple of miles on most days, but I do not care to drive to Meadowmont or the North Carolina Botanical Garden, even though they're mere minutes away. No, instead I just go out the front door to Tottenham, Shallowford, Knotty Pine and the rest. In the process, I have noticed a few—a very few—bad habits among my fellow pedestrians.

POINT ONE: The most obvious is walking on the right side of the road—with the traffic. Please don't do that! You can't see the cars behind you, and you probably can't hear them either since so many of us walk while wearing earphones or ear

buds. Or we're chatting on our cell phones or watching the Bohemian waxwings. In short, we're not paying as much attention as we should to potential problems.

Vehicular traffic has slowed down considerably since the installation of the speed bumps on Huntingridge, but not all drivers are as careful as we'd like them to be, and we can't assume that they aren't impaired by drink, texting, or general woolgathering.

So, walk on the left side of the street where, at least, you can see them coming at you, and stay close to the curb.

POINT TWO: Dogs I almost never see dogs that are not on a lead, but some of those leads are pretty long and even the most well-behaved pooch has been known to bolt in unexpected directions. At different times, I have witnessed dogs on leads go for each other or dart in front of oncoming

cars or enthusiastically introduce themselves to passing strangers. So, please keep the leads short and secure.

Also, at dusk or at night, dogs are more difficult for drivers to see, and that brings us to **POINT THREE**. When walking at night or late in the evening or early in the morning, please wear bright colors—a white shirt or jacket, or, better yet, something embarrassingly loud and reflective, like hunter's orange or that blinding chartreuse green. It really is amazing how invisible people and dogs become when the sun is down. By the way, I've seen an LED collar called "NiteDawg" at a local outdoors store. Might not be a bad idea for Rover.

So, in the immortal words of Sgt. Esterhaus,

"Let's be careful out there."

It's in the mail...but where are the mailboxes?

Because many neighbors on the Falconbridge listserv have expressed concern about the clustered group mailboxes that have served our neighborhood since its development, we investigated the possibility of changing to curbside delivery. The post office representative in charge of these matters told us that no new curbside delivery would be allowed in the Chapel Hill mail-service area, and no modifications to the current delivery style would be entertained. I was told this decision is because of the postal system's financial and manpower issues.

However, other mail issues do remain and are being pursued. Repair/replacement of boxes should be provided as needed, and accuracy of delivery should be assured as well. We continue to pursue these issues, and more information should be available by this newsletter's next issue. Please feel free to contact Paula Clarke at paulaclarke@nc.rr.com if you have any important information about this issue.





Architectural REVIEW COMMITTEE

Is It Done Yet?

The unfinished three-story, 4,400-square-foot brick McMansion at 6514 Glen Forest, that is. Godzilla? The Albatross? Nope, it's not done yet, but here's the latest info, as best we can determine:

- Construction began in 2006 and ended when the original builder/owner died.
- The project was never submitted for architectural review to the Falconbridge Community Association (now the Falconbridge Alliance), but was in compliance with all relevant zoning requirements of the City of Durham—and arguably in compliance with the covenants governing single-family homes in Falconbridge (see <http://www.falconbridgealliance.org/app/download/8919309571/Restrictive+Covenants.pdf?t=1400200258>).
- The unfinished house and property was subsequently sold and re-sold, and it was recently owned by a company called Nu-Britt, which purchases and fixes up distressed properties and then re-sells them.
- Nu-Britt is no longer in business. The property is now owned by a similar company called RTP Integrity, Inc.
- At the time of this writing (May 21, 2014), RTP Integrity is soliciting contractor bids to finish the house.
- Substantial interior work needs to be completed—probably three to six months' worth, depending on contractor arrangements (and competence).
- The Falconbridge Alliance filed a complaint with the City of Durham that triggered an inspection and issuance of a violation for the overgrown weeds. The owners promptly cut the weeds.
- City of Durham staff in the Inspections and Neighborhood Improvement Services Departments are aware of the situation, but they have only a limited amount of legal/regulatory leverage at this time. The dumpster and port-a-john are required by the City for all construction sites with active building permits.
- The Falconbridge Alliance Board has provided copies of the relevant property Covenants and Architectural Improvement Guidelines http://www.falconbridgealliance.org/app/download/8974684471/architectural_application.pdf?t=1400201861 to the current owner, who has agreed to comply.

We're hopeful that RTP Integrity will live up to its name and award a construction contract in the near future so that work can be completed as soon as possible.

—ED HOLLAND



Fifth Anniversary of the Wine Tasting Group

The Wine Tasting Group for Falconbridge residents was organized five years ago in May 2009. We decided to recognize our fifth anniversary by doing something different. Normally we taste six wines based upon a theme, and priced from \$10 to \$20. For our celebration we decided to match four much more expensive wines with small plates. We chose two wines from the Old World and two from the New World. Each wine had a story. And no one knows the rich, complex narrative of wine better than Kingsley Greene, who brought his encyclopedic knowledge, wise council in our wine choices and help in explaining what we were actually tasting.

Our hosts that evening were Anne Deloria and Bob Jackson whose property runs down to the lake. We started the evening on their patio with a glass of Niño Franco Prosecco Superiore accompanied with gravlax topped with crème fraiche and salmon roe. This prosecco was the

"LET THE WINE SHINE"

one originally served at Harry's Bar in Venice.

The next wine was from New Zealand, until recently better known for its sheep and magnificent scenery rather than wine. That all changed in the early '80s when it was discovered that this region produced outstanding Sauvignon Blanc, and the country's Cloudy Bay winery gained international recognition. This wine was beautifully paired with roasted asparagus and avocado salad with a citrus dressing.

We followed with one of California's most famous Chardonnays, Chateau Montelena. This was the wine that beat out some famous French Burgundies in a blind-tasting test by a panel of French wine experts. The event became the story behind the movie "Bottle Shock." The food pairing for this wine was creamy chicken and wild mushrooms in puff pastry.

Now back to the Old World. Our first red wine came from Tuscany, home of Chianti. This wine, based on the Sangiovese grape, has been made in this region for centuries. International taste changed in recent times due to the influence of the fruitier full-bodied wines of Australia and California. The top Chianti producers met the challenge with new blends, which they named

Super Tuscans. They blended the traditional Sangiovese with Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon to produce some outstanding wines. We chose the 2006 Dromos Maremma Toscana as an example of this new class of superb wines. It required a strong-flavored dish to go with it. Tuscan beef stew in red wine on polenta was a perfect match.

Our final (and fifth!) wine was everyone's favorite over our five years of tasting: It had earned its encore. Guigal is the premier producer of Chateaneuf du Pape, the leading wine from the Southern Rhone. The blend of Grenache, Syrah and Mourvedre plus a small amount of local varieties produces full-bodied fruity and spicy red wine of great character. It was accompanied by a cheese plate containing a wonderful variety of cheeses such as: Bucheron, Roquefort Vieux Berger, Comte, St. Andre, Fromage de Meaux, Cantal, and Pyrenees Brebis.

We completed the evening with a delicious strawberry dessert and coffee, followed by a glass of vintage port (yes! a sixth wine).

We certainly felt we met our goal of "Let the Wine Shine," and we enjoyed small plates of perfect food pairings.

—RON HUTCHINSON



FALCONBRIDGE WEB ACCESS

www.falconbridgealliance.org

Newly launched, constantly being improved, an increasingly vital source of information – progressive and historical. Do visit and often.

Town Homes – www.talismanmanagementgroup.com

Listserve – www.groups.yahoo.com/group/falconbridge

CCF – Pool & Clubhouse – www.FalconbridgeAlliance.org/pool



BY THE WAY, DID WE MENTION

Membership



Have you noticed that when you speak with people who live in Falconbridge and they don't seem current and well-informed about events and community issues that can play an important part in their daily lives there is a good chance that they have not read the latest issue of our newsletter because they are not members of the Alliance and therefore do not get these monthly updates. Problem corrected: Be a good neighbor; tell them of the many reasons to join the Alliance, not the least of which is getting the newsletter. Have them go to our website, track down the membership application form, have them send it in with their check. If indeed one is known by the company one keeps, let your friends and neighbors know that they will be traveling in good company.

Everyone wants to be a part of Falconbridge!

(And we just received this family's Falconbridge Alliance membership dues.)



Photo courtesy of Al Bugg

