

Falconbridge

ALLIANCE

NEWSLETTER

February 2014

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

We all love Falconbridge. Wide streets, wooded lots, great location, varied architecture, etc. Of course, the best part is the people who choose to live here. The demographic swing back to more young families has renewed the energy of the neighborhood. The diverse backgrounds and experiences of our residents never cease to amaze me. After 10 years, I still meet new interesting and amiable neighbors each year.

The latest expression of this spirit is the Falconbridge Alliance. It is a combination of the Falconbridge Community Association (FCA) and the Falconbridge Village Association (FVA). We've eliminated a couple of confusing acronyms and established a more energetic program of events and services for the Falconbridge community in 2014.

You are invited to participate in the Alliance programs in whatever manner suits you. You can socialize at the Traveling Pub, bring your kids to the planned youth events, volunteer to help neighbors in need, discuss interesting films, be playful at Game Night or join any of the other programs described in this newsletter.

Make the most of your life in Falconbridge by participating with your neighbors in the events and programs offered by the Falconbridge Alliance. Membership forms were sent to all residents last week. Join the Alliance now and enjoy a more active and involved community life in 2014.

Don't vegetate, participate! After all, it is your neighborhood.

Jim Carroll

INTRODUCING THE 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
Lisa Anthony, Secretary, Social Co-Chair LisaMAthony@frontier.com 919-402-1814
John Noble, Treasurer, Finance Chair jnoble43@nc.rr.com 770-313-0194
Larry Charny, Communications Chair thecharnygroup@gmail.com 914-294-6929
Paula Clarke, Neighbor Services Chair paulaclarke@nc.rr.com 919-608-8560
Ed Holland, Architecture Review/Landscaping Chair edholland@hotmail.com 919-489-9809
Mike Mayo, Safety/Neighborhood Watch Chair mikewmayo@gmail.com 973-722-4722
Conni Rivers, Social Co-Chair riverstilbury@yahoo.com 919-294-6703

NOTES FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Quite unlike the admonition Paul Newman receives in *Cool Hand Luke*: “What we’ve got here is a failure to communicate!” the Falconbridge Alliance is rich and will continue to grow richer in its effective uses of several communication portals. The community at large is best served by bringing information to its residents. This information will address both specific issues growing out of our immediate community as well as those issues addressed by the surrounding environment that has implications for us. We encourage everyone to take advantage of these resources be referencing or contributing to them on a regular basis.

These portals are presently works-in-progress and in order to maintain there relevance and vitality they will continue to be works-in-progress, becoming more refined and responsive as our needs might change and improvements are identified and incorporated. Inherent in this is the request that everyone provide feedback as well as contribute both content and technical expertise.

➤ **Falconbridge Alliance Newsletter**

To be published monthly. It is the policy of the Alliance to make the newsletter available primarily through email distribution, using regular postal service for those with no email address. However, the cost of regular mail is prohibitively expensive. We therefore ask that if you would like to continue receiving the newsletter in the future and do not have access to email let us know. If we are not notified about this choice we must assume there is no interest in receiving further mailings and, because of the cost, we will stop sending them. However, there will always be additional copies of the most recent newsletter placed at the clubhouse. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

➤ **Falconbridge Web Access:**

<http://www.falconbridgefca.org> (Alliance) – [being used until the new website is developed]

<http://talismanagementgroup.com> (Town Homes)

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/falconbridge> (Listserve)

<http://www.falconbridgefca.org/pool.html> (CCF – Pool & Clubhouse)

➤ **Falconbridge Listserv**

The Falconbridge neighborhood invites you to join our community email group. Email Listservs are a great way for residents to share information with others who live in the neighborhood. Be it yard sales announcements, contractor recommendations or lost pets, we all have something to share with our neighbors. By sending an email to the listserv all members will receive a copy. You can receive the emails individually, in a daily digest or you can choose not to receive any emails from the list, and browse the archives at your leisure on the web. The email group is for neighborhood residents only and is endorsed by the Falconbridge Alliance. When you join we ask that you provide your name and address so we can ensure you live in Falconbridge. Once you have been approved you can start using the group by sending an email to falconbridge@yahoogroups.com or submitting a post online. You do not need to display your email address if you intend to only read the messages but if you hide your email address you cannot post messages to other members.

Joining the group is simple:

1. Go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/groups/falconbridge>
2. Select the 'Join This Group' icon
3. Login with an existing Yahoo ID or create a new one.
4. Follow the simple instructions on the page. (In the 'comment to owner' section, please enter your name and address so we can ensure only neighborhood residents join.)

This email group is hosted by Yahoo and in order to join you will need to create a Yahoo account if you do not already have one. This doesn't mean messages can't be sent to your regular email address. When you join you will see a set of preferences allowing you to change your email address and email delivery options. Email Listservs have been very successful in other neighborhoods, and I hope everyone in Falconbridge will find this service to be of great benefit to our community. If you have any questions about how to join the group or how it works please email me at falconbridge-owner@yahoogroups.com.

WELCOME NEIGHBOR

Dr. Margaret A. Drickamer moved into 7008 Knotty Pine Drive last July, after spending the last 27 years in New Haven, Connecticut, where she was a professor at the Yale School of Medicine. Dr. Drickamer continues her work in her area of specialization—geriatrics and palliative care—at UNC.

A desire for change in climate and a change in atmosphere brought her to Durham. What brought her to Falconbridge, well, she says, she “lucked out.” A friend of her’s who lives here, suggested she consider looking here. She found a house she liked, and now she has come to love our community. Her neighbors on the block welcomed her with a dinner. Dr. Drickamer has been introduced to the Traveling Pub and intends to take greater advantage of our community’s riches as soon as her work demands ease up.

She has three children; Jonah (24), Nathan (22), and Adena (19).

Her interests and hobbies are reading and laughing: she believes with increasing conviction that laughter is the best medicine.

NOTES FROM THE SOCIAL EVENTS PLANNING COMMITTEE

Many social events are planned for 2014. This year should be a lot of fun for Falconbridge residents if you take advantage of all the social events planned by the Alliance. Some are for everyone in Falconbridge, while some are limited to Alliance the planned events include potlucks—some for special occasions like Good Neighbor Day or Back to School, or even a Bingo night. Some events are especially for kids: an Easter egg hunt, a Fishing Pole Workshop and Fishing Derby, and a Halloween party. There’s even a National Night Out in August when a street will be closed off and kids can sell lemonade! We’re hoping to have a food truck there too. A big event for Alliance members will be our first community-wide Yard/Garage Sale in May—with maps, yard signs, and even signage on Hwy. 54 to drivers.

There may be other “outings” planned (what Conni calls **Field Follies!**) that people can choose to go to in small groups, in cars. We keep getting suggestions with more ideas!

Of course, to make the events WORK, we need volunteers to help with each event. If you can help with even just ONE event—e.g., setting up a potluck, or helping hide Easter eggs, or helping kids learn how to make a fishing pole—please contact Conni or Lisa and we will welcome your help and participation!

Conni: 294-6703 (riverstilbury@yahoo.com) Lisa: 402-1814
(LisaMAnthony@frontier.com)

We look forward to an active and fun 2014 here in Falconbridge!

—Social Co-chairs: Conni Rivers and Lisa Anthony

➤ **Falconbridge “Field Follies”!**

Our first “Field Folly” group outing will be to the movie “**Shadowlands**” at the Seymour Center (Homestead Road, Chapel Hill), January 30 at 6:30 p.m. The movie and discussion following, led by our own Bolton Anthony, ends at 9:00; we’ll then meet for coffee at Caribou (Franklin and Estes).

Why do bad things happen to good people? Why do the innocent suffer?

“Does God want us to suffer?” C.S. Lewis (played by Anthony Hopkins in the film *Shadowlands*) asks. “What if the answer to that question is yes?” What if, Lewis argues, pain is God’s megaphone to rouse a deaf world. You see, we are like blocks of stone out of which the sculptor carves the forms of men. The blows of His chisel, which hurt us so much are what make us perfect. That’s an “answer.” And it serves until Lewis himself comes face to face with the suffering of a loved one and learns that suffering is not a “problem” with an answer.

“Why do the young die?” Zorba asks the Englishman (in *Zorba the Greek*). “Why does anyone die? What’s the use of all your damn books if they can’t answer that?” What’s the use of all our books if the best they can do is (as the Englishman says in answer) tell us “about the agony of men who can’t answer questions like yours.”

Shadowlands will be shown January 30

Zorba the Greek, February 13.

Programs begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Seymour Center, 2551 Homestead Road in Chapel Hill.

Call Conni Rivers or Lisa Anthony if you’re interested in carpooling to this fun activity. This is just a sample of various outings/day trips that Alliance members will be able to participate in this year!

Alliance-Sponsored Social Events

- **It’s YOUR Neighborhood Potluck** Sunday, January 26, 5-7 pm Clubhouse
[*The Falconbridge Alliance invites ALL residents to the first potluck of 2014. Bring your favorite meat, salad, vegetable or dessert to share. The Alliance will provide drinks and paper products. Begin 2014 by meeting some new neighbors!*]
- **Canned Food Drive Potluck**, Sunday, February 23, 5-7 pm Clubhouse
 - **St. Patrick’s Potluck**, Sunday, March 9, 5-7 pm Clubhouse
 - **Good Neighbor Potluck**, Sunday, April 6, 5-7 pm Clubhouse
 - **Easter Egg Hunt**, Sunday, April 19, 11- noon, Clubhouse
- **Members Garage Sale**, Saturday, May 17, 8 am- to noon (members only)
 - **Tropical Potluck and Bingo**, Sunday, June 20, 5-8 pm Clubhouse
- **Fishing Pole Workshop**, Saturday, July 20, 9-10 am, Clubhouse (members only)
 - **Fishing Derby**, Saturday, July 19, 10-1, Clubhouse (members only)
 - **National Night Out**, Tuesday, August 5, 6-8, on Shallowford
 - **Back to School/ Good Neighbor Potluck**, September 14, 5-7

- **Halloween Party** Friday, October 31, 5 pm
- **Luminary Party**, Sunday, December 8, 6-9 pm

Alliance-Sponsored Social Groups

- **Traveling Pub** (every other Friday 5:30-7:30 p.m.) Barb Carroll
falconbridgepub@gmail.com
- **Wine Tasting Group*** (every other month) Ron Hutchinson
roseron61@gmail.com
- **Gourmet Dinner Club*** (quarterly) Liz Hallgren Lhallgren@nc.rr.com
 - **Game Night Group*** (quarterly) Barb Carroll jimandbarb@nc.rr.com
 - **Mah Jongg Players*** Paula Clarke paulaclarke@nc.rr.com
 - **Women's Coffee Klatch*** (every other Thursday, 9:30-11:00 a.m.)
nrlaney@gmail.com
- **Book Group*** (monthly) Karen Fitzhugh , fitzhugh.karen@gmail.com
*must be a member of the Alliance to participate

THE CHILDREN'S CORNER

Calling all Falconbridge Families!

Are you interested in finding out about family friendly activities in the neighborhood?

Are there activities you'd like to have in the community that we aren't providing?

The Falconbridge Alliance would like to hear from you!

Over the years more and more families have been moving into the neighborhood. This year the neighborhood (parents and grandparents) had a wonderful July 4th parade and Halloween Pizza Party for children, supported by the Alliance. The Alliance would like to continue to support and encourage more family friendly activities. Easter egg hunts, playdates, and outdoor movies are planned or being considered. If you are interested in learning more about activities or have suggestions for events please contact Anna Beeber annabeeber@yahoo.com .

NOTES FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH COMMITTEE

All homes and town homes in Falconbridge, due to our involvement in Neighborhood Watch, are eligible for a Security Assessment. A Crime Prevention Officer from the Durham Police Department will conduct a walk-through of your residence to determine strategies to lesson your property's 'curb appeal' for the 'would be criminal'. These Security Assessments focus on physical, electronic and procedural security and the new Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CTPED). After review, you will receive a typed copy of the assessment with specific recommendations. Contact our

District 3 Crime Prevention Master Officer Jeffery Fair, Jeffery.Fair@durhamnc.gov or call [919-560-4404](tel:919-560-4404) x29417.

Did we mention this is FREE OF CHARGE! Another great reason to be part of the Falconbridge Neighborhood Watch! Questions - contact Conni Rivers, NW Coordinator, at [919-294-6703](tel:919-294-6703)

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.

NOTES FROM THE ARCHIECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

- Temporary storage containers, such as PODs, are allowed on residential property, but require a **temporary use permit** (\$50) from the Durham Inspections Department.
- Containers must be located on your driveway, but may remain in place for no more than 30 days.
- For more information, please call the Durham Planning Department at [919-560-4137](tel:919-560-4137) ext. *28250.

DOING GOOD WORK IN THE FALCONBRIDGE COMMUNITY

➤ **The PORCH Initiative**

PORCH is an all-volunteer, grassroots hunger relief organization whose mission is to collect and distribute food for families going hungry in the Chapel Hill and Carrboro community. Through monthly neighborhood food drives, PORCH stocks the shelves of eight local food pantries, and delivers food donations in other ways, too. Over 3,000 residents living in 130 neighborhoods throughout Chapel Hill and Carrboro now participate in PORCH's monthly food drives.

Donors in each neighborhood put a bag of groceries (nonperishables, no glass containers, otherwise anything goes) on their porch, or front step by 8:30am on collection day, then neighborhood volunteers come and get it and take it to a central collection point where it all gets sorted and taken to where it's going later that same day. Donors get reminded by email a few days before collection day, which is always a Monday and usually the third Monday of the month. And that's it. You don't even have to make a special shopping trip: if you can find one or two suitable items in your pantry feel free to put those out. You don't have to provide a whole bagful: anything is better than nothing. Or you may write a check to PORCH and the monies will be used to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables

Falconbridge has been participating for several years. We have 33 people on our email list at the moment, and generally have about twenty donors each month. We'd like more. It's a good and easy thing to do, especially necessary in this time of cuts in food stamps and unemployment benefits. There are going to be more hungry people in North Carolina in 2014 than there were in 2013

If this sounds like something you'd like to participate in, please contact: Paul Griffiths, 6727 Falconbridge Rd., pgriffit@gmail.com, [312-282-6155](tel:312-282-6155). I'll happily add you to the list, and answer any questions you might have. You can find out more about the program at its website: <http://porchnc.org/>.

➤ **Falconbridge Friends**

This annual meeting was attended by approximately 35 interested volunteers for our neighborhood organization that provides neighbor to neighbor assistance to individuals in our neighborhood who request help due to illness and/or family events. A report of teams over the last year indicated that the group has helped about 6 individuals. Currently, two teams are in place and a third was formed during this meeting. A need for a fourth team is potentially indicated in the foreseeable future. Additionally, 5 individuals who were unable to attend the meeting indicated their willingness to assist.

Friends is a remarkable Falconbridge neighborhood group that offers non-medical assistance to our neighbors who may need help with transportation to medical appointments, meal preparation, shopping, social visits, as well as household, pet, and yard maintenance tasks on a temporary basis until they are able to resume these responsibilities. Assistance is rendered in a team format in order to provide sustainable coverage and to allow volunteers to choose how they prefer to assist.

Both safety and confidentiality are emphasized and volunteers are encouraged to refrain from giving advice but instead to provide a listening ear.

Also discussed in this meeting were transportation needs for those with driving impairments. A committee was formed to investigate the potential of volunteer provided weekly mall and shopping trips as well as assistance with medical appointments. Other transportation options are also being investigated. Information regarding required DNR forms for individuals who require emergency assistance is also being researched. Liability for driving incidents at this time is on the responsible party; additional insurance protection is being researched.

Interested volunteers as well as those needing assistance can call or email Paula Clarke, 919-489-0133, paulaclarke@nc.rr.com; Ronit Weingarten, 489-9975; Nona

Saling, nsaling@gmail.com. New members and any request for assistance are always welcome. Donations of any kind may be made to Falconbridge Village and sent to John Noble at 2112 Ridgefield Drive.

OF INTEREST BEYOND FALCONBRIDGE...

➤ Coffee With Council

Coffee with Council in PAC 3 will be held on Saturday, February 8, 2014, at the Family Life and Recreation Center at Lyon Park, 1309 Halley Street, Durham, North Carolina, 27707. Meeting will start at 10:00 am.

The Coffee with Council provides residents an opportunity to give their input directly to the City Council on the City of Durham's 2014-2015 fiscal year budget.

If you have questions or recommendations to City Council about the budget that you would like to submit prior to the Coffee with Council Meeting, please complete the online form at: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1RFjeHev_t4Yl-qt4LQS4mDvFoW1XXygFOhzRB6aNwDI/viewform

To assist you in forming your questions or recommendations you may visit the website below: http://durhamnc.gov/ich/as/bms/Documents/FY2013-14%20Adopted%20Budget/FY13-14_section_4.pdf.

VOX POPULI

The Heronbridge Chronicles: Imagining What Might Be
THE SHARING SOLUTION

by Bolton Anthony

The challenges of home owning can reach a point where they flat overwhelm you. You find yourself rattling around in a space much too large and unsuited to your current needs. So you consider relocating: to a smaller, more compact home with a low- or no-maintenance yard. Or to a continuing care retirement facility. But what to do with all the STUFF! Years and years of stuff.

This happened to Doug and Fran who — before their recent move to Duke Forest — had lived in a large house on Huntingridge for over 30 years. Well, the stuff wouldn't fit in the new place, and the house sure wasn't going to sell with the stuff still in it.

What did they do? *They outsourced their downsizing* — with help from their neighbors, Mike and Valorie Barr, who have helped others in Heronbridge downsize and move.

Lisa and I were coming back from the Waffle House that Saturday morning, noticed the parked cars and the people on foot, and joined the early arrivals already picking over the stacks and piles of stuff sorted and spread out along the long driveway, in the empty garage, and around the yard. Doug must have been into tools, very into tools; Fran, into crafts. And wild birds. The stone fountain on the concrete apron in front of the house would have done the piazza of any small town in Italy proud, but it looked like you'd need a fork lift to haul it off. But it was the power washer that stopped me and started these thoughts and this essay. *How many of these do we need in a neighborhood of 400 homes?*

A lot of people around the country are asking similar questions: How many of these things do we need? What can we share? If you're stuck for an answer, just go out to your garage or up into your attic and look around. Many things we use only rarely. The power washer — how often do you need one? An extension ladder, a wheel barrow, camping gear, folding tables and chairs for a special family reunion? Getting the idea? And don't stop with things. Think about space: plots of land that can become common vegetable and herb gardens or children's playgrounds; garages that can be used to fix cars, support work projects, or maintain a tool-lending library. Janelle Orsi, a West Coast expert on "sharing law" (yes, there is such a field) wrote a fine, thick book, *The Sharing Solution*. Pick up a copy at Flyleaf; it will expand your sense of the possible.

And if you dig a little bit deeper, you'll discover a group of your Heronbridge neighbors have already glommed on to the idea of sharing. Claudia Stephens has a closet full of donated medical equipment — crutches, shower chairs, portable potties, and walkers (from the basic model to one with all the whistles and bells) — which she loans to anyone in the neighborhood in need of such things. (Knee replacement surgery and skiing accidents come to mind.) Claudia's closet is the equipment side of a broader effort to provide support to neighbors facing short-term emergencies — medical or otherwise. The help The Friends group gives may include meals, grocery shopping, a ride to a doctor's office, the installation of shower grab bars, or simply an afternoon visit.

Because to *things* and *space* we can add *time* — maybe the best thing we can share with our neighbors.

Janelle Orsi gave *The Sharing Solution* a subtitle: *How to Save Money, Simplify Your Life and Build Community*. Something Aristotle said comes to mind: a community comes into being for the sake of life, but it exists for the sake of the good life. So we share as a way to save money and simplify our lives, and we organize a community watch to enhance our security. We work on meeting Maslow's lower order of needs and by "some dim, dazzling trick of grace" end up *creating community*, grabbing the richest prize of all.

Bolton Anthony , who is the founder of [Second Journey](#), lives in Heronbridge with his wife Lisa.

The Sharing Solution

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

