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On Facebook look for the “find” field at top right by the magnifying glass and type in “Converse Heights Neighborhood Association Official.” This will take you to our wall where you can click “Like.” You can also go to our website and click on Facebook under “Social Links.”



Wild Birds Unlimited has donated feeders and feed for our birds at Happy Hollow Park.

Wild Birds Unlimited is celebrating over 30 years of providing bird feed and nature products.

Thank you! Wild Birds Unlimited!



Converse Heights
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
P. O. Box 187
Spartanburg, SC 29304-0187

**Converse Heights offers Special Thanks to:
Trinity United Methodist Church for the use
of its meeting rooms and Social Hall.**

**Pine Street Elementary School for letting us have our
annual meeting there.**

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MARCH 2019

MAKING OUR NEIGHBORHOOD SAFE, BEAUTIFUL AND FUN

Contact us at: www.converseheights.org

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Vice-Chair

Open

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Secretary

Francie Little ♦ 642 Palmetto Street

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Gail Ebert, Webmaster ♦ 125 Connecticut Avenue

Iris Laudig, Newsletter Editor ♦ 621 Boyd Street

Nominations

Francie Little ♦ 642 Palmetto Street

At Large

Alex North ♦ 1051 Otis Boulevard

Anne Chapman Jeter ♦ 585 Otis Boulevard

From the Chair

As we walked to the Rail Trail last weekend, my husband and I reflected on how much we love living in Converse Heights. Talking it over, the recurring theme was community. In today’s busy world, Converse Heights’ sidewalks and front porches offer opportunities to make personal connections with neighbors.

The Converse Heights Neighborhood Association works hard to foster this sense of community and host events for neighbors to meet and visit. Those of you who join CHNA make this possible.

CHNA is a voluntary association – the minimum membership level is only \$25 a year. The dues allow us to offer the Easter Egg Hunt, 4th of July Parade, National Night Out, and Fall Social. Funds are also used for the neighborhood annual meeting, our newsletters and other communications, and special concerns like off-duty police for Halloween and liability insurance. We also manage other programs that directly contribute to our mission of “keeping Converse Heights safe, beautiful and fun.” These programs include tree replacement and care, Happy Hollow Park, and the Crystal Springs Ravine improvement project and have committed funds raised for those purposes held at the Spartanburg County Foundation.

CHNA’s Board is made up of volunteers who are dedicated to this neighborhood. Board members put in many hours – working with a landscaping company to beautify the entrances, meeting with an arborist about planting trees in the Ravine, discussing safety concerns with City officials, planning events, and much more.

We probably all know people who live in subdivisions with mandatory associations that come with mandatory dues, rules, and regulations. I love the uniqueness of Converse Heights, from quirky front door colors to the Cacti Family. I don’t think the feeling of our neighborhood could exist in a mandatory association, but it does mean we rely on voluntary membership to continue and grow.

Thank you to everyone who has renewed or joined CHNA for 2019. If you have not, please consider what makes Converse Heights special to you and whether you want to invest in our community by joining CHNA. You may join online at <http://converseheights.org/membership> or mail a check for your desired membership level to CHNA, PO Box 187, Spartanburg, SC 29304. With your support, we can continue to make Converse Heights safe, beautiful, and fun!

CHNA’s Annual Meeting is coming up on Monday, March 11, 6:00 p.m. at Pine Street Elementary. Hope to see you there,

Alyson Campbell, Chairperson

2019 Social Calendar

Annual Meeting

March 11 - 6 pm



Easter Egg Hunt
April 20 - 10 am



July 4th Parade
9:30 - meeting
Parade at 10:00 am



National Night Out
Tuesday, October 1
5:30 - 7:30



Fall Social
Date to be determined

Converse Heights Beautification

The Crystal Springs Ravine restoration effort undertaken by the Converse Heights Neighborhood Association (CHNA) is making good progress.

For the last several months, the Association has hired the Spartanburg Trees Coalition to work in the Ravine, and the improvement has been noteworthy. The removal of invasive species is the focus of the work. The effort is being funded by some \$77,000 in contributions by neighbors with the largest contribution coming from the Balmer Foundation and designated for the planting of trees.

The impact of the Balmer Foundation gift will soon be seen with the blossoming of 12 new dogwood trees planted in February along Woodburn Road at the foot of Connecticut Avenue, between the Norfolk-Southern Railroad tracks and the Crystal Drive crossover. Last year 12 dogwoods were planted along Crystal Drive in an effort to stabilize eroding soil.



Garbage and Recycling Bin Information

Garbage collection is every Thursday

It is recommended you not leave your bin out any longer than possible. Besides not being safe, BEAUTIFUL and fun, potentially dangerous refuse has been placed in bins left out on the street. Get your bins put away ASAP!

Recycling collection - 2nd and 4th Mondays

Empty metal and aluminum cans, all paper and boxboard, plastic and **flattened** corrugated cardboard. (No garbage, trash, food plastic bags, yard trimmings, hazardous waste, hardback books, paper towels, tissue/toilet paper, plastic coated paper or styrofoam.) Any recyclables in trash bags will be treated as **TRASH**.

Green Waste collection - 1st and 3rd Thursdays

Separate leaves from grass and from brush. Limbs should be under 6 feet long and 6 inches in diameter. NO dirt and stumps, mixed green waste, construction debris and NO green waste generated by a contractor. **It is recommended a 6-inch space between the green waste and the curb exist to allow drainage for rain.**

Keeping Converse Heights Green

Have you noticed?

Things are looking a little greener in Converse Heights. The Converse Heights Neighborhood Association (CHNA) in conjunction with the City each year plants new trees on public land based on requests from neighborhood residents. This year's planting was completed in early February.

The City contributes the planting and CHNA pays for the trees using the growth of endowment funds held by the Spartanburg County Foundation. Unfortunately, the requests for trees this year outstripped the size of the CHNA budget. Neighbors submitted requests for 21 trees but the budget was only enough to buy eight: four Kousa Dogwoods, three "Princeton" Elms and one Nuttall Oak.

Trying to come up with a fair way to decide which requests to honor—with one exception--CHNA gave priority to the replacement of dead trees that had been reported. The exception was a request to plant new trees in the vacant triangle of land on Glendalyn Avenue just west of Happy Hollow Park. The City and the Beautification Committee members thought it was a great idea and could provide the initial step to making the area a new mini-park. CHNA, and the City collaborated on getting eight additional trees for the area.

The Neighborhood Association is still working to resolve one request and will be meeting with neighbors this month. Requests not fulfilled this year will be rolled over to future plantings.

"While we feel good about what we were able to do this year," says CHNA Beautification Chair Everett G. Powers, "we still couldn't make our goal of fulfilling all requests." Powers says the neighborhood tree fund now stands at about \$30,000 which won't generate enough growth to meet future needs. "To do that, we'll have to raise more money," Powers said. Most of the money in the fund was generated some years ago when the neighborhood raised money to plant 1,000 trees to support the aging tree canopy. "This is what's left of that," said Powers, "although we did receive a generous contribution of \$500 late last year."

Neighbors who would like to boost CHNA's ability to plant more trees in the future, are encouraged to make tax-deductible contributions to the Converse Heights Tree Fund #0700/Spartanburg County Foundation, and sent to: Converse Heights Neighborhood Association, PO Box 187, Spartanburg, SC 29304.



Unsure if you've paid your dues for the year?

Go to converseheights.org, click on "Membership"; there is a link that says "2019 Membership List."

We already have 31 for 2019!

Membership Box Score

2018		Bronze	Silver	Gold	Platinum	Grand Total
Neighbor	\$ 3,280	\$ 3,875	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,850	\$ 2,000	\$ 18,005
Neighbor	131	75	40	28	4	278
2019		Bronze	Silver	Gold	Platinum	Grand Total
Neighbor	\$450	\$325	\$500	\$150	\$1,000	\$2,425
Neighbor	18	6	5	1	1	31

This clip-out is your official request to join CHNA for 2019. Please let us know that you care about Converse Heights as much as we do by sending in your check for membership in the enclosed envelope today. If you have already sent yours in, **thank you!**

SAFE - BEAUTIFUL - FUN - SAFE - BEAUTIFUL - FUN

Please join your Neighborhood Association today!
Neighbors working together get things done and make safer, more attractive communities with higher home values.

P. O. Box 187, Spartanburg, SC 29304-0187

These are our membership levels for January through December 2019:

Neighbor - \$25 Bronze - \$50 Silver - \$100 Gold - \$150 Platinum - \$500

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

What would you like to see CHNA work on in 2019? _____

SAFE - BEAUTIFUL - FUN - SAFE - BEAUTIFUL - FUN

Annual Meeting

Converse Heights Neighborhood Association Annual Meeting is Monday, March 11 at 6:00 in the Media Room of Pine Street School. We are pleased to have as our speaker, Donnie Love, a resident of Converse Heights and an historic preservation architect with the firm of McMillan Pazden Smith in Spartanburg.

Donnie is recognized regionally for his extensive experience in the field of historic preservation. He has devoted much of his professional and personal time gaining a comprehensive understanding of a variety of historic building types. Donnie will speak to us about what constitutes an historic home.

You won't want to miss this!



Clip this number out and put it on your refrigerator or bulletin board.

Non-Emergency
Spartanburg
Police number

596-2222

Remember:
Report any suspicious behavior