



HISTORIC VINEVILLE

Neighborhood Association

Letter from the President

by Maureen McCullough

2016 saw us celebrate the seasons with a Cherry Blossom Party, a Summer Porch Party, Oktoberfest, and a special Christmas Gala. Additionally, we hosted several ladies' night out events in neighborhood homes. Each of these socials offers an opportunity to get to know your neighbors. Nothing builds a sense of community more than sharing a meal and a fun evening together. In addition to the parties, there were many opportunities to enhance our neighborhood. We had a monthly neighborhood clean-up where neighbors volunteered their time to pick up litter and clear debris in our community. There is now a monthly Yard of the Month award to recognize those who are working hard to beautify our area. Also, we are investing in a neighborhood park at the end of Oak Haven and using the park for community events such as the Blue and White Pop-Up Party in the Park in June and the movie night held this fall. Finally, we have been seeking ways to ensure our Vineville stays the beautiful area we love with a properties committee to monitor intrusions and façade grants for those who want to improve their property.

2017 offers a wonderful opportunity to continue the activities we have been actively pursuing: building community through socials, beautification through clean-up, establishing a park, monitoring properties and maintaining our historical integrity. Our goal is to make our Vineville Neighborhood not just a good place but the best place to live in Macon. We hope you will actively participate in what is happening in your neighborhood. Join us Thursday January 16 at 6:30 at the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer on Pierce Avenue for our annual meeting. Meet the 22 nominees for the 2017 Board and catch their enthusiasm. We need all our neighbors' participation, ideas and help. Visit with your neighbors and enjoy a great covered dish meal. Mayor Reichert will be our speaker. Please plan to be there.

2017 VNA Board Nominees

Officers

- President—
Maureen McCullough
- Vice President—
Erin Lake
- Treasurer—David Higdon
- Secretary—
Ellen Finkelstein
- Historian—
Barbara Stephens

Committee Chairs

- Social—Erin Lake
- Membership—
Yvonne Stuart
- Monthly Clean-Up—
Barbara Stephens
- Newsletter—
Cindy Glance
- Oak Haven Park—
Lars Anderson
- VineIngle Alliance—
Lars Anderson
- Properties—Ron Lemon

Members-at-Large

- Travis Blackwell
- Lynda Brown
- Brad Coman
- Michael Caputo
- Jared Cozart
- Elizabeth Hyde
- Angie Jeter
- Lee Magnum
- Bryant Pardue
- Lauren Ragusea
- Katherine Waldrop
- Janet Williams

VNA Christmas Party

Our 2016 Christmas Party was an enchanted evening as neighbors gathered at Charlotte McMullan's antebellum home on Rogers Avenue. It offered a beautiful setting to celebrate the holidays. The empty home was decorated throughout with lights, greenery and beautiful ornaments creating a truly magical atmosphere. The 150 guests were able to experience the ambiance of a party in a historic mansion, while the music, food, and conversation added the perfect recipe for a wonderful evening.



Dollars From Heaven For Oak Haven Park

by Lars Anderson

Forget “Pennies From Heaven”; Oak Haven Park has been blessed with Dollars From Heaven! In October, an anonymous donor gave \$79,000.00 to the Community Foundation with the stipulation that the money be used for the improvement of Oak Haven Park. In November, the Board Of Commissioners formally accepted the money and the stipulation. As a result, the County, the Community Foundation, and VNA will join forces to bring about Steve Lawson’s dream for a proper park in our neighborhood.

In December, Shannon Fickling met with Sam Kitchens, Director of Parks and Beautification, and they created a “short list” of initial improvements for the Park. While costs – as always – will determine how many of the items on the short list can be completed (and what, if any, money may be left over for other improvements), the initial improvements include the following:

- A paved walking path around the exterior of the Park
- A graded and sodded playing field for free play
- Permanent signage for the Park
- Benches and trash receptacles

These improvements are not all that can or should be done at Oak Haven Park. An outdoor musical station such as that manufactured by Freenotes Harmony Park (freenotesharmoniypark.com) has been identified as a feature which will complement the mission of Vineville Academy of the Arts. The cost of a significant installation of weatherproof instruments is \$25,000.00. A “free-form” climbing structure – with a gentle aesthetic presence and no molded plastic – has also been identified as a desirable feature for the Park. Such a structure can be purchased and installed for approximately \$7,500.00. It will be VNA’s task to raise the money for these elements and other improvements (i.e. bike racks, drinking fountain, additional seating areas) in the future.

Should any of our members have some pennies or dollars of their own to contribute to the improvement to the Park, please remember that we have set up the VineIngle Alliance as a §501(c)(3) to accept charitable contributions for projects such as this. In the meantime, keep an eye out for the Blue & White Party later in the Spring when we will begin to raise money in earnest for the continued improvement of Oak Haven Park.

Find out what is happening in your neighborhood by becoming a member of VNA. Members receive invitations to all events and socials. Don't miss any of the fun!



Vineville Neighborhood Association Membership Renewal/Subscription

Circle ONE: **Household (\$30)** **Individual (\$20)**

Corporate (\$100) – Includes 2 Memberships & Newsletter Ad

Date: _____

Name: _____

Spouse/Partner's name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Please mail completed form to: **VNA**
P.O. Box 2704
Macon, GA 31203



HISTORIC VINEVILLE
Neighborhood Association

ANNUAL MEETING

J A N U A R Y

26

6:30PM - LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE
REDEEMER, PIERCE AVENUE

GUEST SPEAKER:
MAYOR ROBERT REICHERT

PLEASE BRING A SIDE DISH OR DESSERT TO SHARE
HVNA TO PROVIDE MEAT AND BEVERAGES

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!
2017 MEMBERSHIPS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT MEETING