

# MEADOWWORD

Newsletter of the Meadowood Neighborhood Assn

[www.meadowoodneighbors.org](http://www.meadowoodneighbors.org)

Jan.-Mar. 2014

## President's Message –Krista Ralston

[kralston@wisc.edu](mailto:kralston@wisc.edu) 274-2210; 577-7728

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!** I hope that 2014 will be a good year for each of you and your loved ones. The theme of my message this month is "Getting To Know You". It reminds me of a song from my childhood (about a zillion years ago) that helped me get over my shyness when meeting others. The lyrics went something like this: "Getting to know you / getting to know all about you / getting to like you / getting to hope you'll like me / Getting to know you / getting to feel free and easy / because of all the / beautiful and new / things I'm learning about you / day by day." That will be my Meadowood neighborhood mantra this year. I will make it a personal mission to walk and bike around Meadowood and meet as many of you as I can. My husband and I and our two sons moved into Meadowood in 1982, but I'm ashamed to say until recently (at the urging of my friend Sally Stix) I never made the effort to get involved in neighborhood activities or even set foot in most parts of Meadowood, let alone getting to know anyone other than my immediate neighbors. That's certainly not the way to build community spirit, and I intend to try to change that this year. So if you see me walking or biking around your neighborhood (after the snow melts) please waive and say hi. I promise I won't bite. And you're always welcome to join me on my neighborhood friendship treks.

The MNA Board of Directors is looking forward to a year marked by increased neighborhood unity and the collective purpose to make our community a safe and inviting neighborhood for all. To further these goals the MNA plans to become a non-profit organization. This will increase our potential for raising funds and getting grants to support our activities - but we need your participation and input to make this plan a reality. Becoming a non-profit organization requires some changes to our association Bylaws, which can only be made with approval of the general membership. Therefore we have scheduled a general membership meeting for the first Wednesday in February. Please read the details about this process printed elsewhere in this Newsletter. If you have questions do not hesitate to contact me or any other member of the MNA Board of Directors.

In addition to seeking non-profit status, the MNA will continue to host our popular traditional activities – the Bingo Party, the Family Golf Event, and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Bike Parade/Picnic. With the help of new funding sources we also will be able to increase our support for our newer neighborhood enhancement activities: for instance, the front yard and community gardens projects, the healthy, educational and fun activities blossoming in the Meadowood Park, the expansion of the Meadowridge Library and the Meadowood Community Center, the periodic Community Suppers, and youth-centered neighborhood programs such as Coach Assad's Mellowood Foundation and Sheray Wallace's Violence

Awareness Initiative.

It seems that events focusing on good food and camaraderie are the best vehicles for bringing neighbors together. This gives us the incentive to add entertainment and informative programs to future **community suppers the next of which will be held on February 18 at Good Shepard – stay tuned for details.** We hope the expanded format will make the suppers even more enjoyable and popular.

## MNA Winter Bingo Party

**Saturday, January 18, 2014, 7:00 p.m.**

### **Knights of Columbus Hall**

The MNA is sponsoring its annual Bingo Party. The K of C Hall is located on Anton Dr. next to Chalet Ski Shop. There will be snacks and a cash bar. This event is for ADULTS ONLY who are current MNA members. You can join that night for \$5.00. For more information contact Joyce Dingman  
*Directions: Whitney Way south to Williamsburg Way. Left on Williamsburg Way to Anton Dr. Right on Anton (M&I Bank is on the corner). The KofC bldg. is on the left. The building is handicap-accessible*

## MNA Annual Vitense Golfland Gala

Saturday, March 8, 2014, 6 - 8 p.m.

Vitense Golf Golfland, 5501 Schroeder Road

Join your neighbors at Vitense Golfland for our Annual Gala. Must be a current member of the MNA. If you haven't joined yet you can join that evening for \$5.00!

\*FREE pizza and soda

\*FREE game of golf for kids 12 and under

\$7.75 for kids over 12 and adults

\$6.50 for seniors

## **The Library Foundation Needs Contributions**

 Jenni Collins, Executive Director  
[jcollins@mplfoundation.org](mailto:jcollins@mplfoundation.org)  
608.266.6318, 201 W. Mifflin Street

Madison WI 53703, [Mplfoundation.org](http://Mplfoundation.org)

Meadowridge Library is primed for a move and expansion, and fundraising efforts are now underway. The exciting and unique trio of new spaces includes; additional 2,000 square feet of library space including areas for teens, children, computers and quiet reading, 3000 sq. ft. shared space, a community kitchen, 125-seat meeting room, and the adjacent 5,700 sq. ft. Meadowood Neighborhood Center.

The total project is expected to cost \$2.3 million, and the library's responsibility is \$1.7 million. Private support is required to make this project a reality. The Friends of Meadowridge Library, along with Madison Public Library Foundation and neighborhood volunteers, have launched a campaign to raise \$100,000 toward the new library and program funds. To get things rolling, the Friends have issued

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a challenge grant where they will match new gifts dollar-for-dollar up to \$10,000. Meadowridge Library is a true neighborhood branch library.

Meadowridge Library is a true neighborhood branch library. Each year it serves over 180,000 patrons and circulates over 300,000 items. The Madison Public Library Foundation needs support from the entire community to make the Meadowridge Campaign a success. Now is the time to make a contribution and have every dollar you contribute matched by the Friends. It is easy to make a gift...

- Give by credit/ debit card online at [mplfoundation.org](http://mplfoundation.org)
- Use donation envelopes available at Madison Public libraries
- Call the foundation office for multi-year gifts, gifts from trusts or foundations, stock gifts, or estate planning information.

### Neighborhood Renewal 2014 Needs Support!

**Meadowridge Library News** Alice Oakey, Supervisor  
These are very exciting times around the Meadowridge Branch Library. Thanks to everyone participating in our annual Thanksgiving Pie Sale. We made over \$900 that will go towards our expansion. Speaking of the expansion, the project is out for bid and we anticipate a contractor to be hired in January. We're hoping the remodel begins in January so the library can move next summer. The Fundraising Steering Committee is digging in their heels and will begin fundraising in a more earnest manner very soon.

We have a St. Valentine's Day Bake Sale coming up February 15th from 9-1, plenty of treats for everyone. Please stop by to say hello and buy treats for your sweethearts.



### University Houses Preschool

Parent Cooperative Preschool since 1968

Open House: January 11, 10-2pm

Enjoy our FREE Parent & Child Events:  
Children's Story Time, 10:30am, Saturdays  
Jan 11, Feb 8, March 8, April 12 & May 10  
All are welcome!

Now Registering for our NEW location at  
6033 Odana Road  
for Fall 2013/Spring 2014

Ages 2 - 6

Morning Class: 8:45-11:45am

5 days(MTWRF), 3 days(MWF), or 2 days(TR)

Optional Lunch Bunch: 11:45 - 12:45pm

Afternoon Class with MMSD 4K: 12:45 - 3:45pm  
5 days(MTWRF), 3 days(MWF), or 2 days(TR)

- Parent cooperative preschool with member and nonmember options.
- MMSD 4K openings in our 3-6 year old afternoon class
- Morning openings for children 2-6 years old
- Part-day program, morning or afternoon - optional lunch bunch to extend am or pm
- Mixed ages classroom
- Dynamic and gentle learning community with strong home/school partnership
- International population
- Play-based learning in a stimulating environment
- Qualified, dedicated teachers with decades of experience
- One of the first state licensed and city accredited preschools in Madison
- Convenient west side location at the intersection of Odana Road and Research Park

45 years...the neighborhood preschool  
for Madison Families!

238-3955, Karen Beck, Director

[kmbeck@uhpparentcooperative.org](mailto:kmbeck@uhpparentcooperative.org)

<http://uhpparentcooperative.org>

*UHP is a part-day program which means children can come in the morning or afternoon, not all day.*

responsibleEnergy

turn it down  
when you're not around



Save energy and money this winter. Turn back your thermostat while asleep or at work.

Each degree can save 1% on your heating bill. If we all setback 1°, we'll save enough gas for

3,100 homes. Bigger setbacks save even more.

Visit [mge.com/setback](http://mge.com/setback) to calculate your savings or call 252-7117.

**mge**

your community energy company

GS1181 12/28/2012

**Notice: Special membership meeting  
Wednesday, February 5, 2014, 7:00 pm  
Meadowood Neighborhood Center**

**Purpose: To vote on new bylaws**

This meeting is called by the MNA board of directors pursuant to the Constitution of the Meadowood Neighborhood Association to amend the Constitution & bylaws by merging them with new bylaws set forth below.

The current bylaws & constitution can be found at: <http://meadowood.readyhosting.com/index.html/473/index.html> under the "about us" drop down menu.

**DRAFT**

**Meadowood Neighborhood Association, Inc. Bylaws**

**Article I: Name**

The name of the corporation shall be the Meadowood Neighborhood Association, Inc. (MNA). Its address is P.O. Box 45528, Madison, WI 53744-5528.

**Article II: The MNA's Purpose**

The purpose of the MNA is to promote fellowship among its members, those eligible for membership, and to work for community betterment. It was organized for charitable, educational and literary purposes.

**Article III: Membership**

**3.01 Eligibility**

- A. Any adult, 18 or older, residing in a dwelling located within the area of the Meadowood Neighborhood Association (Exhibit A, attached) is eligible for membership.
- B. Dues, as fixed by the Board of Directors (board), must be paid to obtain membership. Dues may be waived by the board.
- C. Persons active in the Meadowood neighborhood but living outside it may petition the board to become non-voting members.

**3.02 Nondiscrimination**

MNA's policy is one of nondiscrimination in regards to sex, race, religion, color, national origin or ancestry, citizenship status, age, handicap/disability, marital status, source of income, arrest record, conviction record (with exceptions required by Wisconsin State Law section 48.685 and 50.065 and the City of Madison Resolution 53279), less than honorable discharge, physical appearance, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic identity, political beliefs, familial status, student status, domestic partnership status, receipt of rental assistance, or status as a victim of domestic abuse, sexual assault, or stalking.

**3.03 Rights of Members**

- A. Members have the right to vote in annual elections.
- B. Members have the right to attend any MNA meeting.
- C. Members have the right to serve on the MNA Board.
- D. Members have the right to serve on committees as established by the Board.

- E. Members have the right and are encouraged to participate in any activities or events of the MNA.

**Article IV: Structure of Board of Directors**

**4.01 The Board of Directors**

**A. Officers.**

1. President;
2. Vice-President;
3. Secretary; and
4. Treasurer.

**B. Area representatives.**

1. The MNA is divided into 15 geographic areas to foster democratic representation. (Areas are Exhibit B, attached.)
2. To the extent possible, each Area shall have an elected representative, who resides in the Area.
3. If an Area is unrepresented by a resident-member, any voting MNA member may represent that area if duly elected by the residents.
4. If possible, an Area shall not exceed 100 dwelling units.
5. The boundaries of an Area shall follow as natural a division as possible.

**C. At-large Members**

Two at-large members may be appointed to the board by majority vote of the board.

**4.02 Officers**

**A. President.** The President, subject to the board of directors' control, shall:

1. Superintend and manage the MNA's business;
2. Coordinate and supervise the work of its other officers;
3. Have authority to sign, execute and deliver in the MNA's name all instruments either when specifically authorized by the board of directors or when required or deemed necessary by the president in the ordinary conduct of the MNA's normal business, except in cases where the signing and execution of the instruments shall be expressly delegated by these Bylaws or by the board to some other officer(s) or agent(s) of the MNA or shall be required by law;
4. Have authority, in the event of a vacancy on the board of directors that occurs between annual meetings, to appoint a new member to serve the remainder of that term, the appointment being subject to the approval by the board at its next regular meeting;
5. In general, perform all duties incident to the office of the president and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him or her by the board of directors;

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6. Report to the membership at the Annual Membership Meeting on the accomplishments of the board of directors during the last year.
  7. Preside at all meetings of the board and general membership.
  8. The President, or his or her designee, shall represent the MNA in all matters of general interest to its members.
  9. Supervise the general activities of the organization.
  10. Appoint, with the board of director's approval, all committee chairpersons and advisory positions.
  11. Designate any ad hoc committees as appropriate.
  12. Prepare the agenda for board meetings.
  13. Be the primary spokesperson for the MNA unless otherwise designated.
  14. Disburse funds in the absence of the Treasurer.
- B. Vice-President. The Vice-President shall:
1. Perform all duties of the President in the absence of that officer.
  2. Perform other duties as assigned by the President or by the board of directors.
  3. Keep an accurate calendar list of events and what communications and sign-ups need to be performed for MNA activities, when sign-ups are due, and who receives the particular communications from the city or other organizations.
  4. Supervise the election process each year, taking-in nominations, managing absentee ballots, and overseeing the election process.
- C. Secretary. The Secretary shall:
1. Record the minutes for all board and general membership meetings and shall submit a copy for approval at the next meeting of the board.
  2. Distribute the minutes of the meeting of the board of directors to the board members.
  3. Keep a historical archive of the MNA and provide it to others as necessary.
  4. Prepare correspondence for the MNA as requested by the President.
  5. Maintain a list of all board members.
  6. Keep an accurate list of members, their addresses, phone numbers and email addresses.
  7. Have ultimate responsibility for the accuracy and backup protection of the membership database.
  8. Perform other duties as requested by the President.
  9. Perform all duties incident to the office of secretary and have such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him or her by the board of directors or the president.
- D. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall:
1. Maintain a record of all MNA funds.
  2. Collect and record the annual dues received from the Area Representatives and members of the MNA.
  1. Be responsible for the deposit and disbursement of all MNA funds.
  4. Maintain a bank account at a financial institution approved by the board. The account shall be placed in the name of the Meadowood Neighborhood Association, Inc. and checks will be signed by either the Treasurer or President.
  5. Present the MNA books to the board at the end of each financial year for an audit.
  6. Have charge and custody of, and be responsible for all of the MNA's funds and securities; receive and give receipts for monies due and payable to the MNA from any source whatsoever; deposit all such monies in the MNA's name in such banks, financial institutions, credit unions or other depositories selected; cause such funds to be disbursed by checks or drafts on the MNA's authorized depositories, signed as the board of directors may require; and be responsible for the accuracy of the amounts of, and cause to be preserved proper vouchers for, all monies disbursed.
  7. Keep or cause to be kept, correct records of the MNA's funds, business and transactions, and exhibit those records to any director of the MNA upon request.
  8. At each monthly board of directors meeting, furnish copies of the MNA's most current financial statement to the directors and answer questions that may be raised regarding the statement.
  9. The Treasurer shall, in general, perform all of the duties incident to the office of the treasurer and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him or her by the board of directors or the president.
- E. Area Representatives.
1. Area Representatives will be elected to the board of directors at the annual elections from each designated "Area" of the Meadowood Neighborhood. That person will represent the specific interests and concerns of the residents within each Area.
  2. Area Representatives, and block captains, if any, shall canvas their Areas annually to collect membership dues and update our confidential information for the neighborhood directory database.

3. Area Representatives will deliver money collected from residents to the MNA Treasurer.
4. The use of volunteer block captains shall be encouraged within Areas to assist Area Representatives and give a more personal "face" to the MNA.
5. Area Representatives may recruit block captains to assist them.
6. Area Representatives shall oversee the distribution of newsletters and communications.
7. Area Representatives, and/or block captains, shall deliver membership cards to their area residents who pay dues.
8. Area Representatives shall act as a "sounding board" and local contact for area issues and concerns, reporting these things to the officers and/or board of directors.
9. Area Representatives shall make a commitment to attend the meetings of the board of directors as often as possible.

F. At-large members shall perform duties as assigned by the board or president.

#### 4.03 General Powers

The MNA's business and affairs shall be managed under the direction of the board of directors. The duties of the board of directors may include but not be limited to the following:

- A. To conduct the MNA's business and establish procedures.
- B. To hold board meetings monthly at a regular time and place.
- C. To give adequate notice of the time and location of each meetings.
- D. To make all final decisions at meetings.
- E. To adopt a procedure for nominating and electing board members, and filling vacancies on the board in a fair and democratic manner.
- F. To use *Robert's Rules of Order* to conduct all business meetings of the MNA.
- G. To carry out any policies established by the members.
- H. To establish and appoint permanent committees or special committees to work on matters duly designated by the board of directors;
- I. To determine what matters the MNA should consider.
- J. To establish procedures for the wise administration of the organization including but not limited to setting dues and adopting a budget. MNA's funds shall be used by the board of directors as it sees fit provided that its purpose is met by funding, among other things:
  1. Expenses (stamps, envelopes, etc.);
  2. Neighborhood activities;
  3. The *Meadowood* newsletter (five issues a year; September, November, January, April and June);
  4. A neighborhood directory.

#### 4.04 Terms and Election of Board Members

- A. Board members shall be elected for a one year term and may be re-elected annually.
- B. Elections shall be held annually at a meeting open to the full membership; the time and place of which shall be determined by the board.
- C. Nominations of candidates for each position shall be publicized prior to the annual meeting.
- D. Officers and at-large representatives shall be elected by a simple majority of the votes cast by the MNA members.
- E. Area representatives shall be elected by a majority vote of members from their Area.
- F. All officers shall take office at the first Board meeting following the election.
- G. Persons that are currently serving as an officer may run for a different office at the end of the year.
- H. Persons who have served in one office for five consecutive years may not run for that same office until one year has elapsed
- I. Officers may also be elected as Area Representatives.
- J. Persons holding multiple Board positions still have only one vote on the Board.

#### 4.05 Meetings

- A. Quorum Requirement. Except as otherwise provided by ch. 181, Stats., the Articles of Incorporation, or these bylaws, a majority of the number of directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any board of directors' meeting.
- B. Voting Requirement. The affirmative vote of the majority of the directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the board of directors.
- C. Action Without a Meeting. In an emergency, any action required or permitted by the Articles of Incorporation, these Bylaws, or any provision of ch. 181, Stats., to be taken by the board of directors at a board meeting may be taken without a meeting if one or more written or electronic consents, setting forth the action so taken, shall be signed or communicated electronically by at least a majority of all the directors entitled to vote on the subject matter of the action and retained in the corporate records. Action taken pursuant to written or electronic consent shall be effective when the last director signs or electronically communicates the consent or upon such other effective date as is specified in the consent. A request for an electronic vote must include an end date of at least 48 hours from the request when the vote shall be called.

#### ARTICLE V: CONTRACTS, LOANS, CHECKS AND DEPOSITS

**5.01 Contracts.** The board of directors may authorize any officer or officers, agent or agents, to enter into any contract or execute any instrument in the MNA's name and on its behalf. The authorization may be general or confined to specific instruments.

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**5.02 Loans.** No indebtedness for borrowed money shall be contracted on the MNA's behalf and no evidence of such indebtedness shall be issued in its name unless authorized by or under the authority of a resolution of the board of directors. Such authorization may be general or confined to specific instances.

**5.03 Checks, Drafts, etc.** All checks, drafts or other orders for the payment of money, or notes or other evidence of indebtedness issued in the MNA's name, shall be signed by such officer or officers, agent or agents of the MNA and in such manner as shall from time to time be determined by or under these bylaws or the authority of a resolution of the board of directors.

**5.04 Deposits.** All funds of the MNA not otherwise employed shall be deposited from time to time in the MNA's credit in such banks, credit unions, or other depositories as may be selected by or under the authority of a resolution of the board of directors.

**Article VI: Indemnification: Limited Liability of Volunteers.**

Each individual (other than an employee of the MNA) who provides services to or on behalf of the MNA without compensation ("Volunteer") shall be immune from liability to any person for damages, settlements, fees, fines, penalties or other monetary liabilities arising from any act or omission as a Volunteer, to the fullest extent provided by Section 181.0670 of the Wisconsin Nonstock MNA Law or any similar successor provision thereto. For purposes of this section, it shall be conclusively presumed that any Volunteer who is licensed, certified, permitted or registered under state law and who is performing services to or on behalf of the MNA without

compensation is not acting within the scope of his or her professional practice under such license, certificate, permit or registration, unless otherwise expressly indicated to the MNA in writing.

**Article VII: Adoption and Amendment of these Bylaws.**

The board of directors or members may amend or repeal these bylaws or adopt new bylaws at any monthly, annual or special meeting at which a quorum is in attendance given that notice of intended changes are distributed to members not less than 21 days prior to the monthly, annual or special meeting.

**Dissolution.**

Upon the dissolution of the MNA, the board of directors shall, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all the liabilities of the MNA, dispose of all the assets of the MNA exclusively for the purposes of the MNA in such manner, as to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under sec. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the board of directors shall determine. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the circuit court in the county in which the principal office of the MNA is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

Passed by MNA board of directors 12/4/2013.

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Paperless

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