

The **MERION**
VILLAGER

A decorative graphic of a vine with three leaves and a complex, swirling pattern at the end, positioned to the right of the word 'MERION' and overlapping the word 'VILLAGER'.



Association Board Members

Bob Leighty, President

Tony Roell, Vice President

Kris Killian, Secretary

Edwin John Yang, Finances Manager

Mark Ponchak, Member-at-Large

The Merion Village Association conducts monthly meetings involving neighborhood and city issues. For information about the meetings, call 614-444-3144. Meetings are open to the public

MERION VILLAGE ASSOCIATION CONTACTS

Board members and committees can be contacted by visiting www.merionvillage.org. Also visit us on Facebook, and Twitter.

Association Issues and Events

614.444.3144 or info@merionvillage.org

School Issues

Bob Leighty.....rleighty@merionvillage.org

Newsletter

Joe Stefanko.....jstefanko@merionvillage.org

Safety Committee

Martin Cataline.....safety@merionvillage.org

Friends of Moeller Park

Martin Cataline.....safety@merionvillage.org

Garden Club

Ken Fultz and Michelle Gabor..... gardenclub@merionvillage.org

Trash Issues

Bob Leighty.....rleighty@merionvillage.org

Zoning Issues

Ken Fultz and Scott Fulton.....614.444.3144

Social Club

Tony Roell.....socialclub@merionvillage.org

Code Enforcement Issues

Bob Leighty.....rleighty@merionvillage.org

Website and Social Networking

Webmaster@merionvillage.org

City Services 311 or 614-645-3111

Neighborhood Liaison

Jo Anne St. Clair614-645-5220, fax: 614-645-5221
JASclair@Columbus.gov

Advertising in the Merion Villager

Our newsletter reaches more than 3,500 people at least 3 times a year via our printed version that goes into the bag. Along with the more than 200 people on our email and mailing list. That is a lot of people for just a little bit of money. For more information or to receive and advertising packet please contact Joe at jstefanko@merionvillage.org.

Throughout the year the MVA will be creating newsletters, five in all throughout 2012, that will be distributed to members and the residents in Merion Village. This is your opportunity to take advantage of our rates for 2012 and a discount for signing up early.

The rates listed below reflect single issue rates as well as the rates for all five issues in 2012. If you submit your check before January 13, 2012, you can also take an additional 10% off of the full year price. This savings is only for purchasing ads for an entire year with the Merion Villager, the neighborhood newsletter.

| Rates | Single Issue | Yearly Rate | Early Bird Rate |
|---------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Business Card | \$50 | \$225 | \$203.50 |
| Quarter Page | \$75 | \$350 | \$315 |
| Half Page | \$115 | \$550 | \$505 |

Ad Sizes

| | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Business Card | 3.833" x 2.375" |
| Quarter Page | 3.833" x 4.917" |
| Half Page | 7.833" x 4.917" |

All ads must be submitted in jpeg or pdf format.

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Merion Village Holiday Happenings

Joe Stefanko

The Holiday Season is quickly approaching and the Merion Village Association is ready to celebrate the season with all of our neighbors. Get out your cookie cutters, holiday lights and trees and join us as we spread holiday cheer throughout Merion Village.

Everything begins with our annual Holiday Cookie Sale on Saturday, Dec. 10th from 10am-2pm. Cookies can be purchased at the Merion Village Information Center located at 1330 S 4th Street with all proceeds benefitting the MVA. If you would like to donate cookies please contact Joe at jstefanko@merionvillage.org or bring to MVA Info Center by 9:30am on the day of event.

Later that evening we will be touring the streets of Merion Village to enjoy all the beautifully decorated homes and apartments during our annual Holiday Light Tour. The light tour is free to participate in and all are encouraged to decorate and come out and see what your neighbors have done to "deck their halls" for the holidays. Everyone attending has a chance to vote for their favorite in our *People's Choice Award* contest.

Gates Fourth United Methodist Church, 92 E. Gates Street., will host the starting point for the

Light Tour. The church will be open with light refreshments and sing-along Christmas music. Maps will be available at the church from 6p-10p or on the Merion Village Association website starting that day.

If you are interested in being on the light tour please complete the form below and turn in or go to our website, www.merionvillage.org to submit your online entry. Prizes are given out in six different categories. **Deadline for entering is Saturday, December 3rd at 5pm.**

The Holiday Light Tour is sponsored by: Patty Lamb (Realtor, Coldwell Banker, King Thompson), Michelle and Tom Kulewicz, Irene Offenburger Doughton Family, Hal and Al's, Hey Hey Bar and Grill and the Merion Village Association. A big thank you to each of the sponsors for their continued support of this event.

Finally on Wednesday, Dec 14th the MVA will host its Holiday Potluck. Join us at Gates Fourth UMC and bring a covered dish to share. MVA will provide tableware and drinks for the evening. Awards for the Holiday Light Tour will be given out that evening as well.

Please enter me in the following:

*You can enter as many categories as you like.
If you only want to be on the map leave this area blank.*

Best Decorated Door

*Sponsored by Patty Lamb—Realtor,
Coldwell Banker/King Thompson*

Griswold Award

Sponsored by Tom and Michelle Kulewicz

Irene Offenburger Doughton Award

Sponsored by Irene Offenburger Doughton Family

Best Holiday Spirit

Sponsored by Hal & Al's

Going Green Award

Sponsored by the Merion Village Association

People's Choice Award

Sponsored by the Hey Hey Bar and Grill

Merion Village Association

Village of Lights

Saturday, Dec 10th 6p-8p

Deadline for entry:

Saturday, Dec 3rd at 5pm

Drop this form off or mail to:

**Merion Village Association
1330 S 4th Street
Columbus, Ohio 43206**

Name _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____

For notification purposes only

**You can also complete the form online at
www.merionvillage.org**

Word on the Street

Sherry Rae

I mentioned in the last newsletter the Explorers Club restaurant would soon be opening. It already has opened and I have been twice and can't wait to go back. Had brunch there on a Saturday with Mary Ann and Laura Wiles joined us. Veggie breakfast burritos and potatoes seasoned perfectly.

I was also invited to the "dry run" opening. I had a black bean hummus appetizer served with grilled pita which was delicious. Veggie quesadilla with grilled corn and fried plantains served with some yummy dipping sauce. Both were fabulous. Orlando's flan dessert was also a delight. Just go and see for yourself and support a local business.

Our server, Tom who just moved from Seattle, was fun and attentive. Oh and they have that much hyped Yingling beer that I tasted for the first time. Go I tell you!

Can you believe how fast O'Reilly's Auto Parts store was built? I'm not thrilled that old brick house was taken down but I must admit they did a nice job for auto store architecture. Along with that comes the continued CVS'ing of America. Ground has already been broken on South High Street and Williams road for the next one, diagonally across from Walgreens.

Woodrow Ave, which appears to have a plethora of orange stickered houses, is getting a new build. That's nice to see but would be even nicer would be to see something done with the current homes.

A little research shows a house on Woodrow is owned by Serenity Street, which provides housing and support service for men in recovery. Knowing nothing of this agency, I would be interested in finding out more since they are in the neighborhood.

German Village was designated as one of the Top 10 Great Neighborhoods of 2011 by the American Planning Association. They should give an award for the stately brick house on Deshler and Fourth for keeping the Columbus economy afloat. It's such a treat to see the seasonal landscaping. This is our German Village Biltmore Estate.

Whittier Street has been paved and is now ready for winter weather. Much easier to drive now. The folks on Deshler will probably be glad to see the COTA bus resume its old route on Whittier. The folks on Morrill Avenue have been pleading with the city to pave that street for years to no avail.

The road work on Livingston and Parsons, with the islands and brick work, looks classy. Let's hope those trees are not forgotten and stay cared for. The Plant Pride on Parsons pots are also a pleasure to see. They are being well taken care of by Fisher's Greenhouse through grants and donations to the Plant Pride on Parsons project.

I have to say that I have a new crush, Hayden at the Starbucks in the Brewer's Yard. He is studying business at Columbus State but his true passion is fashion and dishing the dirt. He currently lives in New Albany but Michelle Gabor and I are trying to get him to move to Merion Village. This would be a closer drive plus he would add some spice in the hood.

Apparently Annie Glenn is one of his favorite customers. You may have heard of her husband John, who orbited the earth. Anyway, Hayden is a hoot so stop by and say hey.

That's all I got for now. If you have any news get at me slrsherry@yahoo.com.

Calendar of Events

MVA Safety Committee Meeting

November 16, Wednesday, 5:30pm
Information Center 1330 S 4th St.

MVA Crafters Night

November 23, Wednesday, 7pm
Information Center 1330 S 4th St.

MVA Holiday Cookie Sale

December 10, Saturday, 10am-2pm
Information Center 1330 S 4th St.

MVA Village of Lights Tour

December 10, Saturday, 6pm-8pm
Information Center 1330 S 4th St.

MVA Holiday Potluck

December 14, Wednesday, 7pm
Gates Fourth UMC, 92 E. Gates St.

MVA Crafters Night

December 28, Wednesday, 7pm
Information Center 1330 S 4th St.

MVA Monthly Meeting

January 4, Wednesday, 7pm
Information Center 1330 S 4th St.

MVA Safety Committee Meeting

January 18, Wednesday, 5:30pm
Information Center 1330 S 4th St.

MVA Monthly Meeting

February 1, Wednesday, 7pm
Information Center 1330 S 4th St.

Care Smarter

Martin Cataline

Growing up in the neighborhood there was never a time when care of the less fortunate was not a cyclical process. Each church had its missions outreach and St. Leo was & still is no slacker in the area of feeding and caring for the poor. My parents added to the collection basket each time a missionary priest championed the cause from our pulpit and our school was never without a program that offered students the chance to join in. The cries of the needy during my early years were most often foreign but I can remember an occasional case of neighbors and parishioners in need.

Having said that I want to urge Merion Villagers to be very careful how you respond to need. Many people today have no exposure to organized charity unless they have some payroll deduction available at work or have the desire to help. The decision to give from your pocket to someone asking can bring many problems to our community and danger to yourself.

I have had numerous meals at a particular High St. fast food interrupted by men coming to my table asking for

handouts inches from my face. The last time I gave money to one of them for food he violently accused the clerk of not giving him his change and responding police fought him all the way out of the door past my table.

Of late I have been confronted by a man at the door of another High St. eatery time after time. Finally I told the manager who is a very good guy that I would leave without ordering because they have not dealt with this man. In fact I did that twice. The manager responded by calling the police the next time the man showed up and at his direction they ran the fellow off. The manager told me later that the man flattened all four of his tires in retaliation. I call the police myself now.

Just this week I asked a homeless man on his way to the back door of a church building that kindly gives out lunch to please use the sidewalk as he was walking in the street (another increasing & dangerous behavior). He chased my car threatening me like an ill tempered dog.

Let's not stop giving if we can in these

difficult times and if you are able give more then do so as the need is great these days. There are ways to help the needy in our neighborhood and city wide without putting ourselves at risk. I believe all of the cases I mentioned above point to persons who have need but also serious issues of mental health and some of violent criminal potential. I can name off the top of my head five sources of charitable food donations to the poor in Merion Village alone and others just beyond our village borders. I am certain I am not aware of all of them.

Please do not give money directly to anyone asking but rather make regular donations to churches and organizations better suited to helping the hungry and addressing their greater needs. Practice saying no calmly & politely. Please also call the police whenever someone comes asking at your door. They often are not looking for handouts at all but an opportunity to act out crime.

For a list of places to donate please visit <http://merionvillage.org/involved/safety.html>.

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- check the website for full menu & complete listing of events



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MERION VILLAGE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM JANUARY-DECEMBER 2012

NEW **RENEWAL** (A member since _____)

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS - \$15

HOUSEHOLD MEMBERSHIPS - \$25

PATRON MEMBERSHIPS - \$25

BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIPS - \$35

SENIOR MEMBERSHIPS - \$10

NON-RESIDENT MEMBERSHIPS - \$15

More information about the rights and privileges of membership and the rules of governance of the Association is available at www.merionvillage.org/association/mvaconstitution.html or call 614-444-3144.

NEWSLETTER: **U.S. MAIL** **E-MAIL** **BOTH**

Please print clearly.

Primary Member _____
(Individual/Senior/Household)

Additional Name _____
(Household Memberships only)

Business/Organization or Patron Name _____

Address _____

City, State and Zip _____ Phone _____

E-mail #1 _____ E-mail #2 _____
(Please provide your e-mail address to receive reminders and notices by e-mail.)

Please return form with payment or bring to the next Association meeting. Make checks payable to:

Merion Village Association
ATTN: Membership Committee
1330 S. Fourth St., Columbus, OH 43206

Register your Kroger card at www.krogercommunityrewards.com then choose Merion Village Association and we will receive a donation based on your spending at Kroger.

Membership list will NOT be sold or made available to outside parties.

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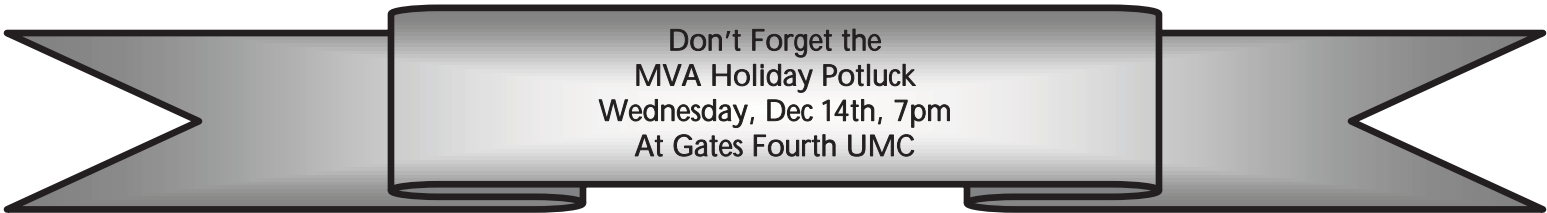
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Code:



Merion Village Association

1330 S. Fourth St., Columbus, Ohio 43206



Uncle Nathaniel (Merion) Wants You!

You can help yourself and your neighbors in making Merion Village an even better place to live. All you have to do is volunteer. Please check any of the events that interest you, and return this form to the Merion Village Information Center, 1330 S. Fourth Street, Columbus, Ohio 43207. If you prefer you can email jstefanko@merionvillage.org for more information. Planning committees are being formed now!

Upcoming events that need volunteers

- Holiday Cookie Sale, December 10
- Holiday Light Tour, December 10
- Holiday Potluck, December 14

Your name: _____
Your phone: _____ Your e-mail: _____
Your skills and interests: _____

