

February 28, 2013

1st Qtr 2013

Editor: DL Parker



Inside this issue:

Page

## Stirling Forest Sign Completion

*Common Sense Crime Prevention with Commentary from I.D. Cat burglar* ~ DL Parker  
R Veitch 2

*Archdale Hall History Letter Shared by Norman McDonald* ~ N McDonald  
DL Parker 3

*President's Corner* ~ N. McDonald 4

The Stirling Forest "monument style" sign at the end of Archdale Boulevard is in the final stages of completion!

The sign was badly damaged along with the surrounding landscape, when a car plowed into the back side of it in October 2012. ACA Board members have been working diligently to stay on top of the project to ensure its timely completion, and that the impact to our community is as little

as possible.

Johnston Signs has done a wonderful job. Minor finishing touches to the sign are due along with additional shrubbery, then the final touch of laying sod will return this public green area back to its original fashion.

We appreciate the ACA Board's dedication to the safety and appearance of our neighborhood, which are key factors when determining property



*New Stirling Forest sign project almost done!*

values in Archdale. Without the Board's guiding hand, who knows when or how these things would get handled. A big "thank you" to all involved! You are unsung heroes.  
~ DL Parker

### ACA CONTACTS

**President - Norman**  
200-2035  
[President@MyArchdale.com](mailto:President@MyArchdale.com)

**Treasurer - Jennifer**  
760-0722  
[Treasurer@MyArchdale.com](mailto:Treasurer@MyArchdale.com)

**Webmaster - Robert**  
[Webmaster@MyArchdale.com](mailto:Webmaster@MyArchdale.com)

**ADDRESS**  
PO Box 41543  
Charleston, SC 29423-1543

### ACA BOARD MEMBERS

Norman McDonald  
Jimmy Hahn  
Jennifer Wallis  
Dana Parker  
Robert Veitch  
Glenda Moore  
Sharon Brice Sanders  
Janice Strete  
Glen Sweatman

## You CAN Stay Informed and Help Us Be Green

In an effort to reduce printing costs and impact on the environment, we invite you to "go green" by receiving the ACA Newsletter via e-mail. Send us a request to be added to our Archdale E-Blast at [info@MyArchdale.com](mailto:info@MyArchdale.com).

Note each newsletter is preserved online and available for viewing on our website, [www.MyArchdale.com](http://www.MyArchdale.com), which contains vital information such as Archdale street maps, covenants and restrictions by address, meeting announcements, By-Laws, board member points-of-contact, minutes of past meetings, copies of various ordinances, helpful phone numbers, etc. I encourage everyone to take advantage of this invaluable community asset. The ACA Board and I are also readily available to share information.  
~ Norman

## As Winter Ends, the Farmer's Market Begins Soon!

The Coosaw Pointe Farmer's Market will begin its 2013 season soon! Stop by every Wednesday to get your pick of fresh locally grown produce right here in Coosaw Pointe.

The Farmer's Market will be open Wednesdays from 12-6pm rain or shine through mid-October. It is located in the lot between State Farm and Jiffy Lube on Ashley Phosphate Rd. Remember, they'll

sell what's in season, so the selection will be constantly changing. If you like it fresh, then stop by early and get prime produce. For a larger selection, stop by Park Circle in Old North Charleston Thursdays between 2 and 7pm. Both sites accept EBT cards.

Call Belinda Swindler at 843-745-1028 for more info.

~ DL Parker

## Preventing Home Theft with Common Sense & Commentary from I.D. Cat Burglar - Thief Extraordinaire

Take a Bite out of  
Crime...



During a recession, hard times fall on many people, which historically results in a rise in crime rates, especially theft. Don't be surprised if the last person you would suspect makes off with some or all of your loot. Some interesting tips and advice have been compiled here for our readers by various law enforcement officials, including a commentary from a thief turned consultant to remind us to protect ourselves and our property from anyone we don't know. If this article prevents even one of our neighbors from falling victim, the effort was well worth it!

- ⊗ Always be suspicious of in-home contractors such as pest control, hvac service, plumbers, delivery people and lawn contractors. They have the opportunity to get familiar with your home without arousing suspicion ... where have I seen him before? *"Sometimes, I carry a clipboard. Sometimes, I dress like a lawn guy and carry a rake. I do my best to never, ever look like a crook."* - I.D. Cat Burglar
- ⊗ Be nice, not naïve! Keep your eyes on anyone you don't know that you have to let in your house, and check behind them when they leave. Report any suspicious behavior to their employer. *"I love it when they let me use the bathroom or don't follow me upstairs - I go in unlock a window and just come back later for payday!"* - I.D. Cat Burglar
- ⊗ As a rule, don't trust door-to-door salespeople - ask for their card and send them away. Look up the business the next day and call the number from the directory to check (report it if it's bogus). Sometimes a burglar will knock first. If you answer, they'll ask for directions somewhere or offer to clean your gutters (Don't take them up on it and report suspicious behavior to the police). *"If you don't answer when I knock, I'll try the door. Occasionally, I'll hit the jackpot and walk right in."* - I.D. Cat Burglar
- ⊗ Bring in bikes and toys when not in use - lock back yard gates and garage doors. A lot of "break-ins" are actually "walk-ins" because someone didn't lock a side or back door. Get in the habit of checking locked doors every morning and night before going to bed and leaving for work - call it making the rounds. Double-check windows on the weekend. *"It's a good sign when people leave their stuff layin' in the yard; they probably don't lock their car doors either. Them's easy pickins!"* - I.D. Cat Burglar
- ⊗ Communicate with your neighbors! Look in on each others' homes while you're gone for the day. When you're out of town, let them know when you'll be back - have them collect mail, newspapers and flyers so the home doesn't appear "Alone." Provide them with numbers to reach you so they can advise you of suspicious behavior. *"The two things I hate most: loud dogs and nosy neighbors."* - I.D. Cat Burglar
- ⊗ Avoid announcing your vacation on your **Facebook** page. *"It's easier than you think to look up your address. Save the posts until you get home, you're on VACATION!"* - I.D. Cat Burglar
- ⊗ Burglars will break a window to get in, even if it makes a little noise. If your neighbor hears one loud sound, he'll stop what he's doing and wait to hear it again. If he doesn't hear it again, he'll just go back to what he was doing - it's human nature. Report suspicious events to your Sheriff and Crime Watch.
- ⊗ A good security company alarms the window over the sink and the windows on the second floor, which often access the master bedroom and your jewelry. It's not a bad idea to put motion detectors up there too. Make sure alarm control pads are installed out of sight from windows. *"I'm not complaining, but why would you pay all that money for a fancy alarm system and leave your house without setting it?"* I.D. Cat Burglar
- ⊗ Here's a helpful hint: thieves almost never go into kids' rooms. *"Do you really think I won't look in your sock drawer? I always check dresser drawers, the bedside table, and the medicine cabinet."* I.D. Cat Burglar

If you have an  
alarm, use it!



Hope this information proves helpful. E-mail [crimewatch@myarchdale.com](mailto:crimewatch@myarchdale.com) to be added to our **ARCHDALE CRIME WATCH ALERT E-BLAST**.

## Archdale Hall Plantation

*For All the History Buffs!*



*Archdale Hall Historical Marker located at the ruins on Mansfield Dr. The Avenue of the Oaks in Archdale.*

The author of the message below has been surveying Archdale Hall Plantation House Ruins in concert with the College of Charleston and other historical organizations with the end goal of being able to construct a realistic artist's rendering of what the house actually looked like. The newsletter wanted to share this with our Archdale residents to give you insight to the history right here in our community.

~ Norman McDonald

*"Archdale is a Queen Anne style house (1702-1714), which puts it at the end of a tradition begun about 200 years before. In the 1500's brick masons in the Netherlands and England became so sophisticated that they could build structures entirely of brick without stone masons, developed the incredibly complex Tudor style, and became known as "Red Masons" in their own right as opposed to "White Masons" of stone.*

*Upon further examination of the photograph of the front, the cartouche 'positioned' over the front door was not only made of carved brick, but was amazingly elaborate and well done. The mystery is that carved brick was the height of the Red Mason's art, and sculpturally carved brick the pinnacle, but there wasn't supposed to be a mason on this side of the Atlantic who could have done it. That makes it unique and completely out of place, and very newsworthy not just to architectural historians, but historians, period.*

*The house is likely of locally-made brick, and since a brick's origin can be identified by its clay, the carved brick is of importance whether it is local or English - either way it's news.*

*There have been a few primitive small ones (cartouche) reportedly found in New England, but only one ever found in the South, from a house built in 1662 in Williamsburg. It had a primitive cartouche of 5 bricks with 3 letters and 4 numbers plus a heart shape all totaling about 9" square, and is a big deal. Archdale's was about 30" tall x 60" wide, made of likely well over 100 bricks, elegantly carved in baroque scrollwork complex enough that I'm going to have trouble just drawing it.*

*Suffice to say, I'm having fun, and the results will definitely be a lot more interesting to see and hear than they are to read.*

*I'll send some images fairly soon - so far all I have is photos belonging to others, so nothing to publish for a good while, especially until the facts are in and I'm sure we've got it all straight, but I thought you'd enjoy seeing what's come up so far.*

*After it (Archdale Hall) fell, someone fortunately saved and donated many of its bricks to the Charleston Museum long enough ago that there are no records. They've never pulled them out to look at them, but now want to. If there's enough to do even a partially complete accurate drawing, it will be pretty much of a spectacle by itself."*



**"You never know what you have, until you clean your room."**

This letter was provided by Norman McDonald, ACA President. All names have been removed, as a courtesy to the author, until his work is complete. Readers must bear in mind this is a research project in progress and this letter is merely a status update of the goings on - we will continue to update you as the project continues and the pieces come together. Stay tuned for updates in our next issue!

~ DL Parker

☞ *Left is photo of Archdale Hall Home just after Great Charleston Earthquake of 1886 (circa 9/20/1886)*

# Archdale Civic Association

PO Box 41543  
Charleston, SC 29423-41543

THANK YOU FOR BEING GREEN!!!

## 2013 General Meetings - 7pm at Ashley River Fire Dept

1st Qtr: Thursday, March 14th

2nd Qtr: Thursday, June 13th

3rd Qtr: Thursday, September 12th

4th Qtr: Thursday, December 12th



We're on the Web!!!

[www.MyArchdale.com](http://www.MyArchdale.com)

Archdale civic  
Association

## President's Corner - Assessment Liens

Working behind the scenes for the benefit of Archdale property owners is your Board of Directors. It is their leadership and guidance that brings matters to your attention at the general meetings.

Recently, a number of board members volunteered to attend a formal training session on the responsibilities of Homeowners Association and Civic Association board members. It was hosted January 22nd at a local hotel by the state chapter of Community

Institute, an organization dedicated to non-profit organizations such as ours, and I'm pleased to share we are in compliance with the majority of recommendations posed by their legal team.

Our one glaring deficiency is failing to file liens, as called for in our By-Laws. Assessments for 2013 were mailed in February, and 2nd quarter statements will be sent in April, including all arrearages to date. The Board will file liens against every

property in our community with assessments in arrears as of June 30, 2013.

There will be an opportunity to discuss this topic at our next General Meeting on March 14th. Hope to see all of you there.

~ Norman

Norman N. McDonald  
President  
Archdale Civic Association

Be a part of our newsletter - submit your suggestions, articles, points of interest or comments to [Editor@MyArchdale.com](mailto:Editor@MyArchdale.com)