

NOVEMBER 2012

# MANSION HOUSE CLUB

*Swim ~ Tennis ~ Dive*

P.O. BOX 30, MOUNT VERNON, VIRGINIA 22121

## NOMINATIONS for MHC BOARD

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Susan Webster, approved the following slate of candidates to recommend to the general members of Mansion House Club to be approved as new officers for the 2013 Membership Year.

- 1st Vice President: Mike Hooper
- 2nd Vice President: Jodi Shlesinger
- Dive: Leslie Holt
- Treasurer : Linda Fisher
- Social: Chris White
- Membership: John Graves
- Secretary: Mary Heitman

**Mike Hooper, 1st Vice President**— Mike has been in the MHC board as the Treasurer for the past two years, managing the day to day financials of the club and delivering two years of under budget performance for Mansion House Club. In addition, Mike was the program manager for the recent major renovations to MHC club in terms of water line, sewer line, and parking lot repavement. Mike and his wife, Colleen, moved to Mt. Vernon in 1998. They have three children, and are active on the swim team. Mike and Colleen are regular timers in support of swim events and social functions at MHC. Mike's background is in the automotive sector with more than a decade working for a premium automotive brand, six years at XM Satellite Radio and the past four years as an independant consultant on telematics and infotainment for the automotive sector. Mike is also the Webelos II den leader for Cub Scout Troop 876 and has lead the same group of boys in Cub Scouts since they were Tiger Scouts.

**Jodi Shlesinger, 2nd VP**—Jodi and her husband Jim have four children who have grown up at Mansion House. All four of their children have participated on one or more of the teams throughout their family's 21 years at Mansion House. Jodi has been an active volunteer involved in many aspects of the club. She served on the MHC Board as Membership Chair for six years, and has been the 2nd VP in charge of long range planning for the past two years. Jodi has been on the Pool Operations Committee for several years and has also helped out with various swim team activities for many years. When not volunteering at Mansion House Club, Jodi is a librarian at Angelus Academy.

**Mary Heitman, Secretary**—Mary has been a member of Mansion House for more than 10 years, and has most recently served as Secretary for MHC. Her two children have been members of the swim team. Mary is a small business owner specializing in marketing, fundraising, and special events. She is a member of Christ Church and has taught Sunday school for 10 years, and also coached soccer in the Gunston Micro Soccer program for 5-6 years.

**Linda Fisher, Treasurer** – Linda is a life long resident of the Mount Vernon area. She and her family have been members of MHC for 6 years. She graduated from Mount Vernon High School in 1993, and George Mason University in 1997 with a degree in Accounting. She has worked for the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers International Headquarters in Upper Marlboro, MD for

## Annual Meeting

**MHC Annual Meeting** - December 12, 8:00 p.m., at South County Government Building, Room 221AB. The proposed meeting agenda and budget are enclosed. If you are unable to attend, you may appoint another shareholder as your proxy using the form provided on page 2. Proxies must be filed with the secretary *prior* to the start of the meeting, which begins at 8:00 p.m. Plan to arrive early to check in. The Membership Chair and the secretary will be available beginning at 7:30 p.m. to check in members and accept proxies.

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**MHC ANNUAL  
SHAREHOLDER  
MEETING  
DEC. 2, 2012 -8:00 p.m.  
South County  
Government Center  
Room 221 AB  
8350 Richmond Highway  
Alexandria, Virginia**

### *Nominations for MHC Board continued*

14 years. Her current position is Assistant Controller.

Linda has 3 children that dive on the MHC dive team, and her husband Tim coaches the dive team. She has also coached gymnastics at Terry's School of Dance and Gymnastics and Mount Vernon High School for the last 19 years.

**Leslie Holt, Dive Representative** - Leslie and her husband Chuck have been Mansion House members since 2003. They live in Mt. Vernon with their three boys, Riley (14), Nathan (12) and Brady (9). Leslie is an elementary school teacher at Washington Mill Elementary School. The family has been active members of the pool community in both swim and dive. Both Leslie and her husband volunteer at swim meets and dive meets. Leslie is looking forward to another great dive season!

**John Graves, Membership**—John is running for a second term as Membership Chairman. The Graves family have been members of Mansion House Club (MHC) for the last nine

summers where they have been active with the swim team. Their children were part of the swim team and coaching staff before graduating. John has performed a variety of roles for Mansion House including timer, stroke and turn judge and starter for our "A" meets. He is also trained and acted as the referee for several "B" meets.

John works for a Federal Enforcement Agency in its real estate division. Before coming to this area, John was a commercial real estate broker for 25 years in Phoenix, Arizona.

**Chris White, Social**—Chris is currently social chair and has served in this position for a number of years. Chris and his wife, Peggy, are long time MHC members and have 5 children, Megan, Maura, Matt, Mike and Mark, all of whom have taken advantage of the benefits that Mansion House has to offer. Chris is a realtor with Long and Foster.

Visit the Club web site at  
[www.mhswimclub.com](http://www.mhswimclub.com).

### **Proposed Agenda Annual Meeting**

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Annual Meeting
3. Presentation and Approval of Agenda
4. Officer Reports
5. Standing Committee Reports
6. Presentation and Approval of 2013 Budget
7. Unfinished Business
8. New Business

### **Proxy Voting Instructions**

If you are unable attend the annual meeting, please arrange to have another shareholder act as your Proxy and vote in your stead. Use the form provided below: enter your name and share number, the name of your Proxy, and sign and date the form in the spaces provided. Discuss with your Proxy in advance of the meeting how you would like her or him to vote on the proposed bylaws changes and nominations shown in this newsletter. Other issues may come up during the meeting, so let your proxy know if you are delegating authority to vote on other issues that may be presented.

### **Mansion House Club, Inc. December 12, 2012, Annual Meeting Member Proxy**

Shareholder Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Share #: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print)

I am (we are) a member in good standing and hereby appoint \_\_\_\_\_,  
(Please print)

who is a Mansion House shareholder in good standing, to serve as my/our proxy and tender votes on my (our) behalf at the December 12, 2012, Annual Meeting.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Shareholder signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Message from the President

We've had a great year at Mansion House. Among our many accomplishments were paving and landscaping the parking lot, replacing the water line under the parking lot, paving the area near the pavilion to accommodate the grills, and constructing fencing around the garbage bins. I'd like to give a special thanks to our many volunteers throughout the spring and summer season who gave countless hours of service to ensure that the pool, tennis courts, and parking area look better than they have in years.

We have many more improvements on the agenda for the 2013 season, including reconstruction of the railroad ties on the hillside, replacement and repair of indoor and outdoor furniture, placement of a sidewalk and fence adjacent to the parking spaces nearest to the clubhouse, and more landscaping and beautification of the property. The budget, prepared by our Treasurer and Budget Chair, Mike Hooper, outlines the projects that we have planned for 2013. In his capable hands, we have been able to complete many projects while remaining under budget for the year.

We are also working with the Board of Zoning Administrators to ensure that our tennis court lights comply with County ordinances so that they may be turned back on for night play. The MHC Board appreciates your patience as we try to work this out so that we comply with the law and also get the best use out of our tennis courts.

Finally, we'd like to thank the outgoing Board members who have tirelessly worked to make Mansion House a fun, well-run, fiscally sound pool, tennis, and dive club. Thank you Bob Drait and April Bender for your years of service to Mansion House.

Please plan to attend the MHC annual meeting on December 12th. We will be approving our initiatives and budget for the upcoming year, electing our new slate of officers, and we need the input and support of all of our members. If you cannot attend, please fill out a proxy and give it to another member who is planning to attend. If you prefer, you may drop off or mail your proxy to me at 9219 Volunteer Drive, Alexandria, VA, 22309.

As always, I appreciate having input from members on issues that are important to the club. Do not hesitate to contact me at any time with suggestions, compliments, or complaints. I may be reached at [jackiecooney2000@yahoo.com](mailto:jackiecooney2000@yahoo.com) or (703) 329-3109.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Sincerely,  
Jacqueline Cooney  
President, Mansion House Club, Inc.

## Swimming

It was a great season to be a Piranha! Thank you parents for all your support.

The return of Head Coach Mark Faherty saw more than 100 personal bests swam by our team. A Piranha frenzy was induced throughout the season with whip cream-covered pep rallies and age-group competitions. At the All Star Relay Carnival, MHC placed 18<sup>th</sup> out of 69 NVSL teams. Our 11-12 boys free relay, 13-14 boys free and medley relays, and 15-18 girls free and medley relays set new Mansion House Club records. Our very own Hellen Moffitt qualified to compete in the 100 and 200 meter backstroke at the 2012 U.S. Olympic Team Trials. Hellen also set a new individual MHC record in the 50m butterfly.

At Divisionals, six MHC swimmers qualified for the Individual All-Stars, and for the first time, our team was also awarded the Division 5 Sportsmanship Award. Our very own Jim Shlesinger presented it in one of his last acts as Vice-President of the NVSL. Next year he will reign as president. Congratulations! We want to say a final farewell to our graduating seniors: Abby, Maddie, and Molly. We wish you the best. Thank you to all of our coaches, volunteers, and swimmers for a fabulous first season.

Our winter swim program is a big success with a record number enrolled. Keep swimming and we will see you next summer!

## Tennis

### WRAP-UP NEWS

What a great summer it was on the Mansion House Tennis Courts! Both youth and adult players benefitted from the excellent instruction of the Mount Vernon Athletic Club coaches Tim Bainton and Patrick Escalambre and college tennis player Sarah Turner. Thanks coaches! Our tennis team finished with a solid 3-3 record. Lots of our team members were able to try match play for the first time, where our seasoned players improved their games quite a bit. Way to go Piranhas!

### AFTER SEASON TENNIS

The courts are available even after the Mansion House season is over. The courts will be locked up at all times with a combination lock and the main gate to Mansion House will also be locked with a key lock. For the combination to the locks and/or a key to the front gate (which is a \$20 fee that is refundable upon the key's return), please contact tennis rep Margaret Clare at [MargaretClare@verizon.net](mailto:MargaretClare@verizon.net) or 703-704-5196.

Tuesday men's night and Wednesday women's night play will take place if there is participation from interested members. Contact Les Sonnenmark at [les\\_sonnenmark@waterborne.com](mailto:les_sonnenmark@waterborne.com) for men's tennis and Jean Neitzke at [jneitzke@aol.com](mailto:jneitzke@aol.com) if you want to be added to the tennis E-mail playlist.

## Dive

### 2012 SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

The Mansion House Dive Team had another exciting season last summer competing in Division 1 for the second year. The dual meets resulted in a record of 3 wins, 1 tie, and 1 loss. The dive team had 13 divers qualify for Divisionals. Miah Fisher, Jacob Fisher, Hailey Fisher, Nathan Holt, and Maggie Pionzio placed in the top 6th ranking for their divisions qualifying four of our divers to proceed to Allstars. Jacob Fisher won 1st place at Allstars for Freshman Boys and Hailey Fisher won 1st place for Junior Girls.

Fifteen divers participated in the Cracker Jack Meet which we hosted for the first time this year. Michael Alicea placed 2nd for 11yr old boys and Jack Joyce took 1st place for 13 and up boys.

Five divers competed in the Wally Martin 3 Meter Meet. Miah Fisher placed 4th for Freshman 10&U Girls, Jacob Fisher - 1st, and Garrett Janiak - 2nd for Freshman 10&U Boys, Hailey Fisher - 1st place for Juniors 11-12 Girls, and Maggie Pionzio placed 1st for Intermediate 13-14 Girls. CONGRATULATIONS, DIVERS & COACHES!

We couldn't have accomplished all that we did without our fabulous coaches, Tim Fisher, Mitchell Ortiz, and Jack Joyce. They did a great job coaching our 41 divers, many of whom were brand new to the sport this year. Over half of our team is made up of the Freshman divers, the 10&Under age group. We bid a fond farewell to Elizabeth Schaefermeier and

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Zipporah Norton, our graduating seniors. Elizabeth and Zipporah both started diving with MHC when they were 10 and both are attending James Madison University this year. We wish them the very best and will truly miss them.

We were able to accomplish our success last season through the hard work and dedication of our divers plus their devoted parents. We especially would like to thank the membership and all the volunteers that gave their time to help host the Cracker Jack Invitational Meet. We received such great reviews from visiting teams and the NVSL-Dive committee that they have asked us to host the Cracker Jack Invitational again in 2013.

With the proceeds from last summer's meet we will be purchasing a new Record Board and large flat screen TV for the club. Thank you again volunteers!

### ALL YEAR DIVE

Interested in diving all year? Good news, you can! Our own Head Dive Coach Tim Fisher is also the founder of Alexandria Dive Club (ADC), which has a year round competitive program that offers novice through masters classes. ADC's staff provides quality diving instruction to the talented individuals of the surrounding community. With over 20 years of diving and coaching experience including AAU, US diving, High School and NVSL. ADC is big enough to compete on a National level but small enough to know each and every diver enrolled. It's not too late to sign up, sessions go on throughout the year. For additional information or questions, please contact Tim Fisher at: [dive\\_alexandria@yahoo.com](mailto:dive_alexandria@yahoo.com) or (571) 274-1973.