

Earlewood

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSLETTER

March/April 2010

EARLEWOOD CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

For 100 years, Earlewood has been home to generations of Columbians. Many people across Columbia grew up in Earlewood with memories of this village in the City. Earlewood is inviting all of them to come home again for the Earlewood Reunion in Earlewood Park.

Activities will fill the day with a nostalgic nod to each decade - a Maypole Dance from the early 1900's, flappers doing the Charleston and a Hula Hoop & Twist Contest. There will be performances at the Amphitheater – Double Dutch Force, Logan Steel Drum Band and a rock-reggae band, Lefty At The Washout.

Dancing Through Decades will feature all the popular dances of the last hundred years.

Some will be performed by professional dancers. The audience will be invited to do dances like the Bunny Hop, Hokey Pokey, Twist, Electric Slide, Macarena and Crank 'Dat .

A Kickball Tournament and Relay Games will be fun for both contestants and observers. Teams include the Columbia Police and Fire Departments, Earlewood residents and our neighbors who live in Cottontown, Elmwood Park and Arsenal Hill.

The History Corner will have a Photo Exhibit with pictures of Earlewood from the early 1900's to the present. Interviews with past and current residents will be video recorded giving a glimpse of what life was like in Earlewood in the past.

A History Scavenger Hunt will have a modern twist because teams will use their cell phones or digital cameras. Teams of two will scour the neighborhood and the team that has pictures of all ten items in the shortest amount of time takes home the \$100 prize.

The Earlewood Reunion also includes our four-legged residents. There will be a **Dog Parade** and **Most Incredible Dog Contest**.

If you would like to be involved, please call Fred Monk at 765-0264 or email Fred at fmonk@findnewmarkets.com You can also go to the Earlewood website at www.earlewood.org or to Facebook to see the latest on the Earlewood Reunion.



▶ **Amphitheater Entertainment**
Dancing through the Decades, Hula Hoop Contest, Double Dutch Forces, Logan Steel Drum Band

▶ **Relay Games**
Tug of War, Sack Race, Dizzy Bat and Egg & Spoon

▶ **Kickball Tournament**

▶ **Dog Parade**

▶ **History Corner**

▶ **Maypole Dance**

▶ **History Scavenger Hunt**

▶ **Disc Golf Exhibitions**

▶ **Nature Trail Grand Opening**

▶ **AND MORE!**

www.earlewood.org

EARLEWOOD REUNION

EARLEWOOD PARK • MAY 8TH • 11-6 PM





Ford Mason

Ford Mason grew up in Miami, Florida. He completed his undergraduate degree in psychology at Florida State and received his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of South Carolina. Dr. Mason worked in the SC Department of Corrections as the

Chief Psychologist and a Mental Health Coordinator. After his retirement, he developed Mason Properties, wherein he owns and manages 21 rental properties including a recently constructed 8 bedroom mountain lodge in Montreat, NC.

Ford and his wife, Martha, have lived in Earlewood for 35 years. They moved to Keenan Drive shortly after their marriage. They both have been very active in ECCO. His wife was the first president of the organization, and Ford has held the presidency twice and served in many other offices. He has been responsible for newsletter distribution for a number of years.

Ford and Martha have two children, Jonathan and Jennifer, who attended neighborhood schools, (McCants Elementary, Rhame Elementary and St. Andrews Middle) and were honor graduates at Dreher High School, and the University of South Carolina Honors College. Jonathan is pursuing a doctorate in Mathematics and Jennifer is pursuing a doctorate in Industrial Engineering.

What do you like most about living in Earlewood?

Earlewood is in the heart of the city and is close to everything, but it has a distinctly country feel. Our architecturally designed home is on an acre lot, which drops 25 feet to Smith Branch, giving us a beautiful mountain setting. We have a diverse neighborhood wherein everyone is accepted and accepting, and there are a lot of young people who are stimulating and interesting.

What makes Earlewood distinct?

We have one of the most beautiful parks in the city, with many sophisticated activities and programs for the benefit of the neighborhood. The trees and lush foliage in the neighborhood create a beautiful environment. It's a great place to walk and to meet others walking.

What is the biggest challenge facing Earlewood?

Earlewood's neighborhood association is widely recognized as one of the best and most progressive in the city. The association has taken a leadership role in bringing proper zoning, design preservation, and community policing to the neighborhood, and making major improvements to Earlewood Park. The commercialization of River Drive has been stopped and many positive decisions about the neighborhood have been accomplished and disputes resolved with ECCO support.

Unfortunately, only around 200 people are members of our association and only around 50 people are consistently active. All residents of Earlewood should be active members of the organization (\$10 per family and \$5 per individual) and we should all vote in city elections. Through these simple procedures ECCO could accomplish more and our neighborhood could gain higher levels of city support.

What change have you noticed in recent years?

More young professionals are moving to Earlewood and, like us, are not afraid to raise their children in this wonderful neighborhood.



Yard of the Month

March

3307 River Drive

Petie Bradley of Russell Jeffcoat Realtors will present Scott King with a \$25 Lowe's Gift Certificate.

April

3311 Elmhurst

Kirstin Averhoff-Gilbert of Capital Relocation Group will present Carol and Julian Watson with a \$25 Lowe's Gift Certificate.



Earlewood Centennial Pin

A lapel pin commemorating Earlewood's Centennial Celebration has been created as a souvenir of this historic event for our neighborhood. The green leaves of the ECCO logo are enameled. The cost of the pin is \$5 and all proceeds benefit the Earlewood Community Citizen's Organization.



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NOMA Nature Trail Opens May 8

The Grand Opening of the NOMA Nature Trail in Earlewood Park will be on May 8th during the Centennial Celebration. A federal recreational trail grant was awarded to build the 1.2 mile trail that meanders through the park. The surface of the trail is made of porous and recycled materials rather than concrete or asphalt.

Earlewood Park is the most natural park in downtown Columbia with rolling hills and many species of trees. The trail will make it easier for people to explore this scenic park as they exercise. Bicycles and skateboards will not be allowed as the trail will be open only to pedestrians.

Pictures of the construction of the trail can be viewed at www.earlewood.org.



NOMA Dog Park Update

The site of the proposed NOMA (North Main) Dog Park has been moved to Earlewood Park. The change in location came about because DOT denied our request to put the dog park on the ROW land that lies between River Drive and Park Street. This area is leased to the City of Columbia but has a clause that no permanent structure can be built in the ROW. As a result of the DOT decision, Parks & Recreation recommended the location of the dog park be moved to Earlewood Park. The proposed new location is located near the North Main entrance to Earlewood Park in the center of the walking trail.

The amenities at this location will include two separate areas for large and small dogs, waste stations, benches and a safety holding area at the entrance to the dog park. There is ample parking just across the bridge. The fenced area will have approximately 2 acres for dogs to run and play.

Rebecca Spratlin, the chair of the NOMA Dog Park committee, says, "We continue to push forward on the dog park and hope to have it completed by late Spring or early Summer."



FROM THE PRESIDENT

We are emerging from one of our coldest winters in recent memory – Earlewood certainly was beautiful in the snow. Fortunately, we will soon be setting our clocks forward with Daylight Savings Time and spring will be upon us.

And this will also be one of our most active springs on record – we have city elections and then our Centennial celebration – the Earlewood Reunion.

But perhaps as important as voting at the ballot box will be voting with your census form. This is the year of the Census, and the City of Columbia has challenged neighborhoods to turn out the participation in the Census.

And why is the census so important? MONEY!!!!

The City of Columbia and the state of South Carolina receive funds from the federal government based on its population. Every person counted in the Census means more money the City of Columbia receives to support the activities of the city.

And all it takes is for you and your family to spend as much time filling out a form as it would take to watch the commercials during American Idol or CSI. Not too long. In fact, the short form questionnaire is only 10 questions. You can do that in one commercial break.

Every year, the federal government allocates more than \$400 billion to states and communities based in part on the Census. Census data are used to determine locations for retail stores, schools, hospitals, new housing developments and other community facilities.

Census data determine boundaries for state and local legislative and congressional districts. Some believe that with this census we might even pick up a congressional seat beyond the six we have now. Also it could affect the boundaries for the districts for the City of Columbia.

You will soon be getting your Census questionnaire. In March and April questionnaires will be available at select public sites for individuals.

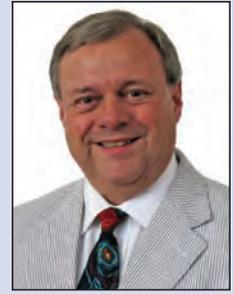
April 1 is Census Day. In May and June, Census takers will visit households that did not return a questionnaire by mail.

During the Earlewood Reunion on May 8, representatives from the Census will be on hand at Earlewood Park in case you have not filled out a census questionnaire.

And if Earlewood has the greatest participation in the Census, the City of Columbia will throw a party for our neighborhood.

So, take a minute and be counted.

– Fred Monk



FRED MONK

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2010 CENSUS

The U.S. Census counts every resident in the United States and the US Constitution requires that it takes place every 10 years. The first census was done in 1790 so the 2010 census will be the 23rd census in the history of our country. South Carolina stands much to gain – or lose – depending on the 2010 census results. It has been estimated that our state loses more than \$60 million a year because of uncounted people during Census 2000. If the 2010 census is successful South Carolina could gain an additional seat in the U.S. House of Representatives. If that happens, it would be the first time since 1930 that the state had seven representatives.



In March you will receive a 2010 census form in the mail. The form for this census is the shortest one in history with only ten questions to complete. Four of the questions have been asked on every census since 1790. The information you provide is private and can never be used against your interests.

Last month the City of Columbia announced that it would throw a party for the neighborhood with the greatest participation in the 2010 census. It would be outstanding if Earlewood could win this contest in our centennial year. Please mail back your census form!

COR in Earlewood

Columbia Opportunity Resource, better known as COR, is an organization that is dedicated to making Columbia a better place to live. We are fortunate that many of COR's leaders and members call Earlewood home. COR is involved in planning the Earlewood Centennial Celebration and will also be managing the food vendors at the Earlewood Reunion on May 8th. Greg Hilton, co-chair of the COR board and Earlewood resident, will speak at the neighborhood meeting on April 15th about the many activities and benefits of joining COR.



Showcase Your Home at BungalowFest!

BungalowFest, the home and garden tour of Earlewood homes, will be held on Sunday afternoon, September 12. This will be the second event that celebrates the Earlewood Centennial.

Our neighborhood has many wonderful Craftsman-style homes that were built in the early 1900's. We plan to feature twelve of the homes at our first BungalowFest. If you would like to show-off your home or garden (or both) by including it on Earlewood's first tour of homes, please call Fred Monk at 765-0264.

ECCO Membership Form July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

Name(s)	
Address	
Phone	
Email	
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership (\$5) <input type="checkbox"/> Household Membership (\$10)	
Please mail this form with your dues to: Earlewood Community Citizens Organization (ECCO) PO Box 30225 Columbia, SC 29230	

Neighborhood Monthly Meetings



► Reformation Lutheran Church

1118 Union Street

Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month and are open to everyone.

► Police & Safety Meeting

6:30 to 7:00 pm

The Police & Safety Meetings offer an opportunity for residents to address any safety concerns with the police. Officer Larry Walker, the Earlewood neighborhood officer, attends to answer questions. Officer Walker's cell number is 391-2391.

► Membership Meetings

7:00 to 8:00 pm

Regular membership meetings begin promptly at 7:00 and last an hour or less. These meetings provide an opportunity for residents to discuss issues important to Earlewood.

March 18th

► The 2010 Census: Why It's Important to You

Chip Land with the City of Columbia will speak about the importance of the 2010 Census.

April 15th

► Columbia Opportunity Resource: Young Professionals Propel Columbia

Greg Hilton, Earlewood resident and Co-Chair of the COR Board, will speak about COR and its activities.

EARLEWOOD EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The Executive Council (EC) includes officers and committee chairs. The EC meets monthly to discuss plans and projects for Earlewood.

PRESIDENT	Fred Monk (765-0264)
VICE-PRESIDENT	Drue Barker
SECRETARY	Martha Mason (252-4584)
TREASURER	Bill Eiwien (252-1507)
MEMBER-AT-LARGE	Susan Wilson
PAST PRESIDENT	Jim Prater

COMMITTEE

CHAIR

COMMUNICATION	John Sinclair
ELECTIONS	Scott King
GRANTS	Wes Crosby
MEMBERSHIP	Virginia Bedford
NOMINATING	Tiaa Rutherford
POLICE & SAFETY	Brenda Creson
QUALITY OF LIFE	Fred Monk
STREET CAPTAINS	Ford Mason
ZONING	Brian South