

# MANSION HOUSE CLUB

*Swim ~ Tennis ~ Dive*

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

## NOMINATIONS for MHC BOARD

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Amy Thompson, approved the following slate of candidates to recommend to the general members of Mansion House Club to be elected as new officers for the 2015 Membership Year.

- 1st Vice President: Keith Webster
- Treasurer: Mike Hooper
- Secretary: Keith Bea
- Social: Chris White
- Legal: Tim Battle
- Tennis: Anna Cushman
- Dive: Carrie Stankiewicz
- Membership: Milica Rojas

**Keith Webster, 1st Vice President**—Keith Webster and his family have lived in the Mount Vernon area for 22 years and have been members of MHC since 1997. Keith and his wife, Susan, have four children who participate in the MHC Swim and Dive teams and their older children participated in the MHC Tennis program. Their oldest daughter has been a MHC lifeguard and swim coach, and their oldest son has been a MHC lifeguard. Keith is an active volunteer in his children's sports activities, to include the Mount Vernon basketball program; the Woodlawn Little League baseball program; and the Fort Hunt basketball, football, and lacrosse programs. Keith has worked for the Department of Defense for over 29 years. He has served in various capacities on his neighborhood HOA boards during the last 22 years and looks forward to contributing his leadership and business skills to service on the MHC Board.

**Mike Hooper, Treasurer**—Mike and his family have lived in the Mount Vernon area for 16 years and have been members of MHC since 2007. Mike has served on the MHC board for the past four years, initially as the Treasurer and then as the 1st VP. In his time as a MHC board member, Mike successfully delivered several major MHC projects including the parking lot renovation, new sewer line, new water line, the parking lot sidewalk, and the retaining fence. Mike and his wife, Colleen, have three children who have participated in the MHC swim program in the past and look to take up the sport again in 2015. Mike currently works for Iridium Satellite Communications out of Tysons Corner, VA, where he manages the aviation business segment with revenues approaching \$100M. Mike looks forward to once again assuming the Treasurer role in order to ensure that MHC finances are in good shape for now and the future.

**Keith Bea, Secretary**—Keith Bea has been a member of Mansion House since 2009, and he retired from the Library of Congress a year later. He enjoys the beauty of the pool in his retirement and considers the facility an asset to be protected for the long-term. While he knows next to nothing about pool operations, he is familiar with budget planning and wants to work with others on that back story. As a side note, he and his wife Vikki have been happy to serve as summer hosts for the Club's swim coach, Joe Smolinske.

*Continued on page 2*

## Annual Meeting

**MHC Annual Meeting** - January 8, 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 4. 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  
JAN. 8, 2015, 8:00 p.m.  
South County  
Government Center  
Room 221 AB  
8350 Richmond Highway  
Alexandria, Virginia**

## *Nominations for MHC Board, continued from page 1*

**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 five 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.

**Tennis, Anna Cushman.** Anna and her family have been members of MHC since 2008. Anna and her husband, Jan Wold, have two children, who started tennis with Mansion House's Quick Start Program. Anna is an aerospace engineer for the Federal government and has been an active volunteer with her children's activities and school, including President of the Woodley Hills PTA from 2009 through 2011. She is a certified USA Hockey coach and has been a coach for both of her children's ice hockey teams with the NOVA Ice Dogs. Anna has also served as team manager for her son's ice hockey teams for the past four years. Anna was the MHC tennis rep last season and as a lifelong tennis player, and she hopes to bring her organizational skills to good use with the tennis program next year.

**Carrie Stankiewicz, Dive Representative**—Carrie and her family (husband Mark, children Tyler and Natalie) have been members of Mansion House since 2011. Tyler (age 12) will be in his fifth year of diving for Mansion House, and Natalie (age 8) is beginning her third year on the team. They look forward to another great year of fun with their coaches, skill-building and friendly competition.

**Tim Battle, Legal**—Tim Battle is a graduate of Bishop Ireton High School (1971), the University of Notre Dame (1975) and the University of Virginia Law School (1978). My law office is in Old Town Alexandria. I am a civil trial attorney who is admitted in Virginia and Washington, D.C. My wife Lonnell and I have been Mansion House members since 1990. At least one daughter swam at Mansion House on the team from 1990 through 2006. Annie (31) swam distance events at Georgia Tech University in Atlanta, Georgia, from 2001 to 2005. Megan (29) and Mary Kate (26) also appear in some of our 17 swim team pictures.

**Milica Rojas, Membership**—Milica Rojas and her husband Armando joined Mansion House Club last summer. They have three young children and look forward to participating in MHC activities and events again next summer.

**2014 Piranha swim coaches, from left, Meg Webster, Natalie Revers, Megan Gray, Kyle Draim, Riley Holt, Joe Smolinske, Joe Hood, Maddie Sanasak, Will Revers**

## SWIMMING

It was a great season to be a Piranha! Our swim team registrations increased by almost twenty percent! Thank you parents for all your support.

With our winning record of 3-2, we placed third in Division 7. We were led by Head Coach Joe Smolinske, Coach of the Year, and Assistant Head Coach Marye Carter. We look forward to our continued success under their direction. A Piranha frenzy was induced throughout the season with spirited pep rallies, age-group activities, and our second-annual Piranha-thon fundraiser where we raised over \$3000 for Ft. Belvoir Family Services.

At the All Star Relay Carnival, MHC had impressive results for all age groups! Our 8 & Under Girls 100M free relay placed 15<sup>th</sup>; the 13-14 Boys 200M free relay placed 12<sup>th</sup>; and the 15-18 boys 200M free relay placed 15<sup>th</sup> in 1:45.35, setting a new MHC record. You make MHC proud!

At Divisionals, three MHC swimmers qualified for the Individual All-Stars: Ian Thompson, Andrew Revers, and Annie Hood.

We want to say a final farewell to our graduating seniors: Kyle Draim, Mary Hood, Kelly Quigley, and Natalie Revers. We wish you the best. Thank you to all of our coaches, volunteers, and swimmers for a fabulous season.

Come join our winter swim program. Under the leadership of Head Coach Heather Weidner, our Polar Piranhas are fine-tuning their strokes and having fun in the water. Keep swimming, and we will see you next summer!

**Parents, it's almost time to crown a new Swim Rep. Terri and Sarah have one more summer to teach you all their secrets. If you're interested, please email [mansionhouseswimnews@gmail.com](mailto:mansionhouseswimnews@gmail.com).**



## Message from the President

Dear Mansion House Members,

Thank you for celebrating 50 years with us this past summer. It was a great year for Mansion House with many improvements, including white coating for the pool, a new pool cover, a new, well-received pool operating company, several new social events, and many new members. Some of these improvements are due to the efforts of the many members who volunteer each year for the annual clean-up, social events, team meets, and events. The Mansion House Board truly appreciates the investment of time made by so many members in 2014. In 2015, our 51st year, we hope to continue to foster this sense of community and pride in ownership among our members.

### Increase in Dues

Notwithstanding the many volunteer hours that members have invested in Mansion House, improvements to the property and well-being of our Club come with many expenses, including maintenance of our beautiful facilities and retention of a superior pool company. For this reason, as you will note in the budget, the Mansion House Board is recommending a permanent \$25 increase in membership dues. As discussed at last year's meeting, dues have not been permanently increased in many years. Expenses, however, continue to increase. Among the challenges in 2015 is the fact that the pool season is 7 days longer due to the dates of Memorial Day and Labor Day. Other maintenance issues continue to be pressing, including the need to replace the swimming pool lights, rubber mats for the bathroom, repair of a section of fence that was recently damaged by a fallen tree, and painting/maintenance of the exterior of the clubhouse. Total dues in 2015 for full members will be \$600. We hope you will support this increase, as it is absolutely necessary to meet our obligations for 2015 and beyond.

Early Payment Option—This year, the Mansion House Board will offer a discount for members who pay by January 30,

2015. Those members who pay by this date will receive a 5% discount: total dues for early payment will be \$570. Offering this early payment option will provide us with cash flow before March to help us be well-prepared for the upcoming season.

### Increase in Late Payment Fees

Per the bylaws, the Mansion House Board may assess a late fee for those members who pay their dues after the due date of March 15th. For many years, this fee has remained at \$50; however, we have found that this late fee is not a sufficient enough penalty to deter members from paying late: in 2014 more than 50 members paid after the March 15th due date. Because the dues payments are necessary for making initial payments to our pool operating company and opening the pool, the late fee will now be set at \$100. Members paying after March 15th will be required to pay \$700.

### Limitation on Use of Proxies at the Annual Meeting

Under the bylaws, "the meeting of the Corporation shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order and whatever other rules the Board may adopt." See Mansion House Club, Inc., Bylaws, Article XV, Section A. Due to the number of proxies held by single members in recent years, the Mansion House Board voted at its November meeting to limit the number of proxies that may be held by a single member at the annual meeting to 5 (five). The Mansion House Board encourages members who wish to cast their votes at the annual meeting to attend the meeting in person. It is important that all members exercise their right to be heard and to vote.

Thank you again for all of your support in the last year. We are looking forward to the 2015 season.

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

## 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 2015 Budget
7. Unfinished Business
8. New Business
  - Proposed Changes to Bylaws
9. Election of Officers

## 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.

## TENNIS WRAP-UP

It was a great summer on the Mansion House Tennis Courts! Our kids really benefitted from the excellent instruction from the Mount Vernon Athletic Club coaches Patrick Escalambre and Drew Stewart. **Thank you coaches!**

There were 76 kids that participated in the program classes this summer and 25 who played matches for MHC in the Mount Vernon Community Tennis League. Our tennis team finished with a solid 4-2 record. Congratulations go to the following MHC tennis team award recipients:

- Coach's Award: Jason Williamson
- Most Improved: Thomas Lee
- MVP: Andrew Patton
- Best Helper: Benjamin Pegher
- Rising Stars: Landon Koch, Oliver Raak, Isabelle Dominski

We were able to introduce many of the kids to match play for the first time and our seasoned players improved their games quite a bit. **Way to go Pi-ranhas!**

## ON-SITE TENNIS COORDINATOR AND TENNIS REP TRANSITION

**We need at least one more volunteer to be able to run this program next season. Just one – to help with on-site coordination** (such as, collect forms, answer questions and hand out t-shirts – *the coaches cannot do this!*). Also, the current tennis rep's term ends after next season and in order to transition someone over in 2016, it would be best to shadow the current rep next summer to learn the ropes!

## 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. The courts can be accessed by walking around the main gate (parking outside the main entrance), then unlocking the combination padlock on the court doors. For the combination to the locks, please contact tennis rep Anna Cushman at [anna.w.cushman@gmail.com](mailto:anna.w.cushman@gmail.com)

## DIVE

### 2014 SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

The Mansion House Dive Team had another great season. With a smaller team this year of 30 divers, we still had a record-breaking season. We finished with a 4 and 1 record, losing only to Truro, a team that hasn't lost a meet in over 12 years! Many of our divers won at All-Stars as well as Cracker Jack. Many thanks to our coaches Tim Fisher, Jack Joyce and Maggie Pionzio for teaching the kids how to dive and have fun at the same time! Stay tuned for more information about the 2015 season when Carrie Stankiewicz will be taking over as our Dive Team Rep.

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

### Mansion House Club, Inc. January 8, 2015, 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 January 8, 2015, Annual Meeting.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## 2015 BUDGET

	Operating 2015	Programs 2015	Special Assess 2015	Capital Exp 2015	Total 2015
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
<b>Operating Income</b>					
Interest	\$ 100.00	\$	\$	\$	\$ 100.00
Membership Income	\$ 165,400.00	\$	\$	\$	\$ 165,400.00
Pool Operations Income	\$ 3,000.00	\$	\$	\$	\$ 3,000.00
Vending Machines	\$ 150.00	\$	\$	\$	\$ 150.00
<b>Total Operating Income</b>	<b>\$ 168,650.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 168,650.00</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>					
Administration	\$ 11,650.00	\$	\$	\$	\$ 11,650.00
Buildings & Grounds	\$ 6,000.00	\$	\$	\$	\$ 6,000.00
Business Costs	\$ 38,610.00	\$	\$	\$	\$ 38,610.00
Construction Maintenance & Eng	\$ 4,500.00	\$	\$	\$	\$ 4,500.00
Membership Committee Expenses	\$ 400.00	\$	\$	\$	\$ 400.00
Pool Operations	\$ 98,400.00	\$	\$	\$	\$ 98,400.00
Utilities	\$ 13,645.00	\$	\$	\$	\$ 13,645.00
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 173,205.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 173,205.00</b>
<b>Net Operating</b>	<b>\$ (4,555.00)</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ (4,555.00)</b>
<b>Programs Income</b>					
Dive Team Committee Income	\$	\$ 5,550.00	\$	\$	\$ 5,550.00
Social Committee Events Income	\$	\$ 14,000.00	\$	\$	\$ 14,000.00
Swim Team Committee Income	\$	\$ 36,500.00	\$	\$	\$ 36,500.00
Tennis Team Committee Income	\$	\$ 11,055.00	\$	\$	\$ 11,055.00
<b>Total Programs Income</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 67,105.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 67,105.00</b>
<b>Programs Expense</b>					
Dive Team Committee Expenses	\$	\$ 8,050.00	\$	\$	\$ 8,050.00
Social Committee Events Expense	\$	\$ 16,500.00	\$	\$	\$ 16,500.00
Swim Team Committee Expenses	\$	\$ 38,675.00	\$	\$	\$ 38,675.00
Tennis Team Committee Expenses	\$	\$ 12,555.00	\$	\$	\$ 12,555.00
<b>Total Programs Expenses</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 75,780.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 75,780.00</b>
<b>Net Program</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ (8,675.00)</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ (8,675.00)</b>
<b>Capital Expenditure Income</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 17,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 17,500.00</b>
<b>Capital Expenditure Expense</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>
<b>Net Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>	<b>\$ 17,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 17,500.00</b>
<b>Special Assessment Income</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 35,000.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 35,000.00</b>
<b>Special Assessment Expense</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 35,000.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 35,000.00</b>
<b>Net Special Assessment</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>
<b>Net Total Budget</b>	<b>\$ (4,555.00)</b>	<b>\$ (8,675.00)</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>	<b>\$ 17,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,270.00</b>

### **Laptop Needed!**

If you are upgrading a laptop computer the Club is looking for a replacement for our front desk computer. Our current computer has seen better days and we would like to improve our capabilities without having to make a purchase. If you have a laptop that has Windows installed and would like to give it a good home, please consider us! Contact Membership Chair John Graves at 703-593-4020.

### **NEW MEMBERS WANTED**

Mansion House currently has a memberships for sale. If you know of anyone who might have some interest in joining the club, we would be happy to speak with them and provide them the information on purchasing a membership. Contact John Graves, Membership Chair, at jsgraves1@cox.net or 703-593-4020.

### **Note from the Mansion House Treasurer**

Thank you to all Mansion House members who paid their dues on time in 2014! With the \$75 Special Assessment for 2014, we received approximately half of the cost needed for the white coating. The Board reallocated some of the budget to recover the rest of the cost of the white coating. The Board also decided to purchase a pool cover to extend the life of the white coating another 3-5 years. The pool looks absolutely beautiful and will for the next 10 to 13 years.

There were some unexpected costs that caused us to go over our budget and, in turn, take out \$10,000 from our line of credit, which was approved including: \$3,000 for a tree/branch removal too close to the clubhouse, mandated by the insurance company, \$5,540 to replace two filter tanks and upgrade gaskets, and \$1,093 for emergency electrical work.

The enclosed 2015 budget includes a conservative estimate of membership income. This is due to the fact that, in 2014, many members chose to relinquish their memberships rather than pay the dues for the year. This caused a nearly \$20,000 shortfall in membership income. To balance that and to ensure that we can meet our obligations for 2015, the Board is proposing a modest increase in dues (\$25 per membership). We hope that you can support this increase as it will ensure that Mansion House is able to continue to provide a fun, safe, clean pool and tennis courts for its members.

Linda Fisher, Mansion House Treasurer

**MANSION HOUSE CLUB  
P.O. BOX 30  
MOUNT VERNON, VIRGINIA 22121**