

**CRIME PREVENTION AREA WATCH OF NEW CASTLE COUNTY, DE**

**Meeting of August 15, 2011**

**Call to Order & Roll Call:** Bill Wheatley, Executive Director

**Minutes of May 16, 2011 by Cheryl Manna:** accepted as written

**Guests:** Councilman Dave Tackett, Rep. Ed Osinski

**Councilman Tackett:** \*\*\*the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Community Day will be held at the Glasgow Park on Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 4pm. \*\*\*a roaming band of vandals has been burglarizing and smashing windows of vehicles; be alert to lock up. \*\*\*it's extremely important to report graffiti incidents to the police. \*\*\*the Arian Nation KKK is soliciting for volunteers via handouts in plastic bags thrown onto lawns. \*\*\*redistricting has been completed and will take effect after the Nov. 2012 elections. Visit the NCC website @ [www.nccde.org](http://www.nccde.org). We will not be in Dave's new district assignment.

**New Member:** Linda Elliott from the Minquadale Mobile Home Park, sponsored by Kathie Book. Welcome, Linda.

**FROM BILL WHEATLEY:**

**Burglary Prevention Program:** Bill presented this program at Academy Hill. 90 residents signed up for block watch. They also designed a decal identifying their community for residents to place on their vehicles, making it easier to identify visitors and or suspicious vehicles. Block Watch representatives have the authority to call suspicious vehicles in to the police. All residents are encouraged to "keep an eye" on their own communities.

**Graffiti photos:** Bill showed pictures of the Brookside area, including the community building as well as 2 boys with back packs walking through. Spray paint cans are carried in back packs, making these boys look suspicious.

**Community Safety:** The police rely on community involvement to report crimes, suspicious activity and persons. They cannot be everywhere at once. We are losing block watch volunteers due to aging and retirement. Richard Jester submitted a recruitment statement that Frank Romanelli will review and post on the CPAW website.

**Runaway boy:** Bill recently came upon a little boy in pajamas walking along Old Newark Rd. in the early morning. A woman was with the boy and had called the non-emergency police number. An SUV with 2 men had also stopped. Then the mother and grandmother drove up stating that the boy had run away. Bill called 911 and a trooper responded. The boy was discharged to Family Services. It was safer for the child to get the police and Family Services involved for proper investigation of the family dynamics.

**On a personal note:** Bill has curtailed some of his patrols and participation as a Board member of the Brookside Association due to his hearing problems. He had sustained an injury after a neighbor set off fireworks while Bill was outside and the explosion left him deaf for 4 day. He may be a candidate for a cochlear implant in the future.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

\*\*\*On August 25<sup>th</sup> Bill will be attending a "**Point of Distribution**" class sponsored by the DE Emergency Management Dept. During an emergency, distribution centers are identified and the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteers are called to staff them supplying the public with blankets, water and other essentials.

\*\*\*"**Spark in the Park**" is a children's program sponsored by Rep. Diller, which runs from September to November. Events are held on Saturdays at the Leithren Park (off Old Newark Rd.) from 10:30-12:30pm, and at Hann Park (in Scottfield) from 1-3pm. It consists of nature exploration, arts, crafts, board games and free play. It serves the 5-12 age groups and cost to cover supplies is \$5.

\*\*\*"**The Cube**" bar/restaurant, located on Marrow's Rd., has been closed.

**NEXT MEETING: ..... To Be Announced**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Cheryl Manna, Sr. Admin. Director**