To My Fellow Minerva Park Residents:
"State of the Village" (from the Community Association viewpoint)

Following the tradition for this time of year, I would like to make a few comments on behalf of the Minerva Park Community Association.

We are, indeed, healthy. Due to the extraordinary efforts of Rella Kehl and her team of dedicated canvassers, our membership stands at its highest level and still growing, since we are continuing to receive dues. Our treasurer, Marty Grosh, is doing a great job with the books, presenting easily understood monthly financial reports.

And Bea Hulbert does a magnificent job in documenting our meetings with clear and concise minutes. Children's activities get inspired and loving direction from Nancy Fry, who may have the toughest job of all. Scholarship was very ably directed by Beth Birckbichler who will again recruit candidates for the Nancy Fischer Award.

Where would we be without our garage sale? The Mother of all garage sales! Despite the considerable interference from Cleveland Avenue construction and several competing sales in May 1996, Donna Marple put forth "undaunted courage" in organizing and carrying out the sale and then made her reports to the board that would do any accountant proud. Please give her help this year when she calls.

The sometimes unsung, but nevertheless absolutely essential MinervaFlora Committee, is keeping our community colorful, green and growing - reasons why we enjoy living here so much. Don't forget this when asked to volunteer some time for them.

Our 4th of July Celebration has become somewhat of a significant happening in the Northland area, since everybody loves a parade and we have the finest. However, in the interests of maintaining its quality we have elected to sponsor it every other year, fortunately coinciding with the millennium year 2000 - start planning now! In the interim our able and devoted chairperson, Lynn Eisentrout, will chair this year's event with a picnic, children's petting zoo and games at the pool.

Our presence as Northland Community Council is ably represented by Rick Phelps, who is taking an ever more active role in its activities.

We succeeded in 1996 with Carolyn Self's management, to produce an up-dated and easy to use directory - one of the staples of our community association efforts. We are hopeful to make this an annual publication since address changes in the park are more common than we realize (just ask Chris Cameron).

And though I detest the phrase, "This is what it is all about." A healthy and happy community with many dedicated residents including Rolla Wagner, who is equal to any task put to him; is what it's about.

But, perhaps at the top of the list of contributors is our "Villager" editor Betty Beatrice, who in addition to her duties as village clerk treasurer, edits, composes and publishes the newsletter - an essential part of any community.

I thank you all, and those others of our board of directors who contribute so much to our success. It is a pleasure, reporting for you and serving as your president.

Don Champney, President
Minerva Park Community Assoc.
What happens to gardeners when the snow flies? Do they immigrate to Florida and continue to embellish the land? One great gardener I know whiles away his time in front of a fire on Mackinac Island, presumably rifling through catalogues and plans. He is on stipend from the Grand Hotel. His hibernation secure. Another hibernates here in Columbus, stirring only to make soup, nap and knit. Another balances historical non-fiction with efforts to keep a strayed-domesticated rabbit alive. Minus 30° wind chill is the great equalizer - his three cats and the very large gray rabbit commune silently - barely inches apart in what little solar we have just now.

Eventually we all settle in to look at catalogues, contemplate last year's problem areas and become greatly intrigued with new ideas and projects. If you study White Flower Farm's catalogues, you could produce a perennial succession of bloom in three or four color-ways and many levels of intricacy. Although I look through the catalogues, I seldom order from them unless I'm sure I'll never find the plant locally. Mail order plants are shipped to you at the proper planting time for your zone, but most come bare-rooted, albeit packed for moisture retention. What you bring home when you buy a perennial is essentially a root system, so I prefer to look the plants over at our local sources and choose a two-three quart (or larger) plant with a good root system that may even be edging out from the pot's drainage hole. I probably get most carried away just after the P.L.A.N.T. seminar in January - at which time I pick up Baker's Acres plant list. Chris and Nancy Baker operate about the finest perennial-annual nursery in Ohio. Located in Alexandria (about twenty minute drive from New Albany), it is the place to find treasurers.

Correction: The runner-up for the Best Outdoor Tree award was at Marv and Jo Baker's house on 2824 North Bay. The Festival of Lights committee apologizes for their mistake.
Mayor's Corner
By Mayor Jack Murray

The Franklin County Engineer's office has informed me that a new railing for the Kilbourne Run viaduct is on the drawing board and should be installed when the weather is suitable to put in the posts. Also, the second light pole has been installed at our Cleveland Avenue entrance. So I believe we're gaining on most of the commitments from the county.

I was invited out to tour the just completed New Albany High School Campus. If you haven't seen it, you should; then you won't complain about the school taxes we pay for our schools! That school is about as nice as it gets.

Council passed a resolution to transfer money from our unused sewer fund in preparation for the funding required to replace more of our water supply lines. This will be another project that is dependent on our receiving a loan from the Ohio Public Works Commission. We should have a decision in March or April.

Famous last words: "When the gauge says EMPTY, there's a gallon or two left."

There have been concerns of a stray, black and white, male cat on the loose on Kerrwood procreating unwanted litters of kittens. The cat can be distinguished by a patch on its tail with no hair. If this is your cat, please have the animal neutered. The resident who called the Villager had already removed one litter from under the front porch, and now has another litter to deal with. Please be a responsible pet owner.

The Duck Award Selection Committee is now accepting nominations for this year's award. This award is given by the Minerva Park Community Association to the resident or group of residents making the greatest contributions to improving the quality of life in Minerva Park.

This award is made for achievements during the calendar year or for contributions made over several years. An individual or group may win the award more than once, but not within a five-year period.

Elected officials and paid employees as well as volunteers in the Village are eligible.

Please submit a brief statement along with your nomination of the nominee's contributions.

The Selection Committee members are Dick Busick, Rolla Wagner, and Lynn Eisentrout, all former winners.

The committee will meet Wednesday, Feb. 5th to make their selection and will then present their recommendation to the Minerva Park Community Association Board.

Please feel free to contact any of the selection committee members mentioned above.

Lynn Eisentrout
891-0895

Are your pet's teeth covered with yellow or green tartar? Are his or her gums red? Does your pet have bad breath? Periodontal disease, tooth loss, or even illness may not be far off. We can provide your pet with a dental care plan that works for both of you.

To participate in the National Pet Dental Health month of February, we are offering discounted dental prices, each pet gets a free finger brush with pet toothpaste, children 3-17 can enter a national coloring contest to win prizes, and you are automatically entered to win a free bag of T/D tooth cleaning diet by Hill's Inc. Please call 882-5092 for more details.
VILLAGE OF MINERVA PARK COUNCIL

The regular monthly meeting of council was held January 13 with all members present.

Lynn Eisentrout was elected council president.

Mary Jo Green from Warner Cable once again came before council asking for their permit renewal. After discussion, the mayor referred the matter to the legislation committee for more discussion.

The Planning & Zoning Commission at its last meeting denied a 6' chain link fence at 2811 Maplewood. Also, Narcus Tsiliacos will begin work on the necessary procedures the Village needs to do in order to declare zoning of R3 to the recently annexed homes on Minerva Lake Road.

Mayor Murray gave a presentation on the Village application with the Ohio Public Works Commission for replacement of waterlines - Phase 3. After much discussion, Pam Park-Curry made a motion to increase the water surcharge and to start procedures to transfer money from the Sewer Enterprise Fund to the Waterline Construction Fund, seconded by Lynn Eisentrout. All ayes.

Council passed legislation accepting the tax rates determined by the county budget commission for the village and a resolution to transfer money earned by the waterline checking account back into that account.

Council decided to have work sessions before each council meeting. They will start at 7 pm with the regular meeting starting at 8 pm.

Village of Minerva Park Council

Council met in special session on January 19, 1997. They met to vote on two pieces of legislation. A resolution was passed to transfer funds from the Sewer Enterprise Fund to the Waterline Construction Fund. The first reading of an ordinance to raise the water surcharge was accepted.

Note of explanation:
In order to understand the need for the above legislation, let's review a little Village history. In the summer of 1991 waterlines in about half of the south side of the park were replaced with a loan from the Ohio Public Works Commission. We have about 17 years left to pay on that loan at a cost of $11,400. That project was called Phase 1 and replaced the worst of waterlines (those with the most line breaks).

During Phase 2 waterlines were replaced in the remaining section of the south side and a few streets on the north side of the park - again doing the streets with the most breaks. Our loan is again with the Ohio Public Works Commission. We have about 19 years left to pay on the loan at a cost of about $16,300.

The waterlines on Minerva Lake Road now need to be replaced. In order to secure a loan from the Ohio Public Works Commission, we need to cover 20% of the project cost. This amounts to about $114,000. We have a little over $12,000 in the Waterline Construction Fund. Council has started procedures to transfer the balance of the Sewer Enterprise Fund into this construction fund to offset some of the costs also. The sewer fund has a little over $56,000 in it. In order to make up the difference, the water surcharge will be raised again. The flat quarterly surcharge will be raised to $30 from the current $10. The usage surcharge will be raised to make it an even $5.00 per 1000 cubic feet of water used. The usage rate was $4.60 per 1000 cubic feet. With this additional surcharge in place the Village should be able to raise $44,000 and therefore, meet its share of the project cost.

After this project is complete, the Village will then be paying off three (3) waterline replacement loans. The surcharge currently in place will pay for these loan payments.

The next waterline replacement project will then be Wildwood & Woodley.

submitted by
Betty Beatrice
Clerk treasurer
Lately, there have been some phone calls from residents seeking information as to whom to contact (i.e. which council member) with specific questions regarding safety issues, waterline breaks, street repairs, etc. For your information the Minerva Park Village Council committees along with a brief summary of each committee's responsibilities are listed below:

Community - Jeanne Blair, chair
Bob Landy, member
Dave Stahr, member
The community committee in coordination with the mayor, overviews and supervises recreational programs and playgrounds, care of Village lands (mowing, tree trimming, planting, etc.), maintenance of lakes and lake areas, care of trees on Village property other than street rights of way, celebrations (4th of July, etc.), special days (Easter, Earth Day, etc.)

Finance - Lynn Eisentrout, chair
Pam Park-Curry, member
Dave Stahr, member
The finance committee monitors revenues and disbursements in the various Village funds, draft and finalize the tax budget and annual appropriation in coordination with the mayor and Village Treasurer, recommendations for raising new revenues when required and preparation of required legislation, review with the mayor the financial status of the Village at least once each quarter

Legislative - Pam Park-Curry, chair
Bob Landy, member
Jeanne Blair, member
The legislative committee in coordination with the mayor, research, draft and finalize ordinances and resolutions proposed as being beneficial to the Village, review draft ordinances and resolutions submitted by other committees and the mayor for content, legality, enforceability and need

Safety - Jon Self, chair
Lynn Eisentrout, member
Dave Stahr, member
The safety committee in coordination with the advise and council of the mayor, overview and general staff coordination of police and emergency squad staffing and training, police and EMD operational policies, traffic control (recommend policy for traffic control, speed, parking, including recreational vehicles), report to the mayor any safety and fire hazard conditions, recommend throughout the Village area lighting needs, proper handling of hazardous materials including collection, storage, and disposal, conduct in park and lake areas

Service - Dave Stahr, chair
Jon Self, member
Lynn Eisentrout, member
The service committee in coordination with the mayor overviews refuse collections and contracts, mosquito control, matters affecting general sanitation of the Village, leaf pick up, water breaks through coordination with the Mayor's office and the City of Columbus

Streets - Bob Landy, chair
Jon Self, member
Jeanne Blair, member
The street committee with the mayor and the Village Engineer overviews and supervises street repair, construction, and maintenance programs; street name signs; snow removal; trees on street right of way; storm sewers

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact any of your council members.

Lynn Eisentrout, Council President
891-0895
February Calendar

6th - Planning & Zoning Commission
7:30 pm
10th - Village council
Work session, 7 pm
Regular meeting, 8 pm
12th - Minerva Park Community Assoc.
7:30 pm
17th - Villager deadline, noon

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GARAGE SALE

The annual garage sale has been set for Saturday, May 17th. More details to follow in upcoming Villagers.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

5th - Ted Hamilton
7th - Valerie Fritsche
9th - Alison McArthur-Laudon
13th - Barbie Best
23rd - Joshua Buckingham
24th - Jim Davis
Rick Pinney
25th - Marna Laudon

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Congratulations to George and Jo Lynne Stewart who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on December 23rd.

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The Minerva Park children's Christmas party was lots of fun this year. I would like to thank all who helped at the party. I would especially like to thank Claudette Shannon for making delicious chocolate suckers, Jenny Johnston for doing a wonderful job leading the caroling and accompanying with her guitar, and Tim and Rebecca Becker for playing the parts of Santa and Harmony the Elf. Santa was not only jolly, but he also was a great addition to the Christmas caroling, and Harmony is a wonderful face painting artist.

Our Minerva Park Easter Egg Hunt is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, March 22nd on the lawn at Hawthorne School. This year we will have four age groups, and we are going to stagger the starting times. All groups will begin hunting promptly at their starting times. DON'T BE LATE !!! The groups and starting times will be as follows:

- babies through age 2 - 10:40 am
- 3, 4, and 5 year olds - 10:50 am
- grades K, 1 and 2 - 11:00 am
- grades 3, 4 and 5 - 11:10 am

The egg hunt is the children's committee's biggest event of the year. We need help on the day of the egg hunt and also ahead of time. There will be an egg stuffing get-together at the community building on Wednesday, March 5th at 7:30 pm. Please volunteer to help because it takes a lot of people to make the egg hunt a success. Call Nancy Fry at 890-6845 if you can help.

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The Villager wishes to apologize to a number of people who were left out of last month's listing of the volunteers who collected dues for the community association. They are as follows:

Kate Fletcher, Cindy Foster, Lisa Fox, Nancy Fry and Sue Graves

A belated "Thank You" for a job well done.
NEW NEIGHBORS
2632 MAPLEWOOD DR.

JILL MCGREGOR
SANDY GOGGIN

THE TWO MET EACH OTHER AND TOM AND PEGGY DLUSKY AT A SCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH ON MORSE RD. WHEN TOM LEARNED THEY WERE LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO SHARE TOGETHER, HE INTRODUCED THEM TO MARY ROSSETTI, NEXT DOOR NEIGHBOR, WHO WANTED A BUYER FOR HER HOME, A DEAL WAS CONTRACTED AND THE TWO MOVED IN.

NOW I'VE GOT SOMETHING ELSE TO WORRY ABOUT. JILL SAYS SHE'D LIKE TO GET SOME OBJECT TO COMPLEMENT DLUSKY'S RG. WE'D BE SURPRISED TO SEE A COW GRAZING ON THE FRONT LAWN ACROSS THE STREET NEXT SPRING—NO WONDER I GET OLDER EVERY DAY.

DO YOU BELIEVE IN THE REINCARNATION OF A SOUL? OR WHAT ARE YOU HERE FOR?

I HAVE A BOX SEAT TO THE CONSTRUCTION GOING ON IN THE FIELD SOUTH OF US. THOSE BIG Diggers TEAR UP TREES LIKE GIASS. IT'S MOST INTERESTING TO SEE THE SAME MACHINE TAXING THE MEN TO LUNCH.
In December, Squad 119 made 61 runs into Blendon Township and 11 into Minerva Park. 11 patients were transported to local hospitals.

Members volunteered a total of 996.5 hours for the month, bringing the total for the year-to-date to 13115.3. Leading volunteers for the month were Frank Meredith (60.5 hours), Jack Hemmes (74.0 hours), and Tim Ohlinger (72 hours). Frank Meredith leads year-to-date with 1136.8 hours.

The January training meeting will be on cold weather emergencies.

12-2-96 false alarm in the 5100 block of Lakeland Court
12-4-96 an employee at Minerva Park Place Nursing Home was threatened by a fellow employee
12-6-96 false alarm in the 2600 block of Lakewood
12-7-96 at 2:43 am stopped a traffic violator, car had been reported stolen
12-7-96 at 9:35 am, while on routine patrol, found a broken window at 5442 Cleveland Avenue
12-9-96 resident at Minerva Park Place Nursing Home expired due to natural causes
12-9-96 false alarm in the 2600 block of Lakewood
12-11-96 between 8:55 am and 2:31 pm person(s) unknown gained entry into a residence in the 2700 block of Maplewood. Money, cologne and pagers taken.
12-12-96 at 10:45 pm unknown person(s) gained entry to a residence in the 2700 block of Jordan Rd. removing money from the resident's purse
12-15-96 a shed at the back of Hawthorne was broken into, property damage only
12-17-96 false alarm in the 2600 block of Lakewood
12-17-96 at 4:00 pm a resident in the 2700 block of Lakewood was nipped on the left leg by a neighbor's dog
12-24-96 false alarm in the 2600 block of Alder Vista
12-26-96 false alarm in the 3200 block of Minerva Lake Road
12-31-96 false alarm in the 2500 block of Jordan Road

Editor: Betty Beatrice
3201 Minerva Lake Road
899-9246

Contributors: Mary Yost Ray Beougher

Articles on community news must be submitted by the deadline. There is a drop box at the editor's address and at the Community Building. A business-card size advertisement costs $10 and must be prepaid. The Villager reserves the right to refuse publication of any item submitted. All items presented for publication must include the contributor's name and phone number.