

Thalia Civic League Newsletter

Volume 29 Issue 3

November 2021

PUBLISHED AND DISTRIBUTED BY THE THALIA CIVIC LEAGUE, INC.

Thalia Residents: *Informed - Inclusive - Involved*

<https://thalianeighbors.com>

Thalia Holiday Decorating Contest!

Do you think you will have one of the best-decorated houses in Thalia this holiday season? Have you been planning your exterior illumination for months? Here is your chance to nominate your holiday house and win bragging rights in Thalia! This year the Thalia Civic League (TCL) will be conducting our Holiday Home & Yard Decorating Contest.

There will be two categories of “friendly competition”:

- Spirit of the Holidays – a traditional display that captures a classic holiday motif
- A Clark Griswold Holiday – “over the top” use of lights and decorations (“Russ, When Was the Last Time I Overdid Anything?”)

Homes eligible for judging are on the streets within the boundaries defined in the TCL Constitution. Homeowners do not have to be TCL members to participate. Complete criteria and the period for judging will be posted on the TCL website. Untangle those lights, get out those inflatables and start decorating!

- *Bruno Eddy*

Find the complete rules at: <https://thalianeighbors.com/>



“Spirit of the Holidays”
(courtesy youtube.com)



“A Clark Griswold Holiday”
(courtesy thenostalgicattic.blogspot.com)

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When will we meet again?

(Sounds like a song brought back by popular request, to me...)

In-person meetings have been a topic of many a discussion within and among the Thalia Civic League Board members, but I think I can summarize the general feeling by drawing an analogy to Lucy when she holds the football for Charlie Brown's place kick and then pulls it at the last minute.

(A link if you want the details: https://peanuts.fandom.com/wiki/Football_gag)

Your Civic League Board has been Charlie Brown and "COVID" (in its entirety) has been Lucy. Our plan for 2022 is to retire "Lucy". Our primary challenge to holding a general meeting has been and may well still be the "government's" COVID rules/guidelines and recommendations pertaining to indoor public assemblies. With the inoculation rate increasing and cases potentially going down, we are *hopeful* that in 2022 some of the rules will be relaxed, and we will move forward. However, we should not forget the flu season, which can be just as impacting. All we need to do (!) is pick the right moment in time.

To that end, then, for 2022 we are focused on keeping the same meeting day, Monday, at the same venue, New Life Church. One slight speed bump may be Monday federal holidays (January and February are examples), where we may have to "reschedule" to either the following day (a Tuesday) OR to Monday the following week. This still is to be explored with New Life Church, so feel free to drop a quick email if either or none of the alternatives make sense to you and your neighbors. (Civic League Email addresses for all Board members can be found on the next page.)

A thought from the 1800's...

"Liberty is meaningless where the right to utter one's thoughts and opinions has ceased to exist. That, of all rights, is the dread of tyrants." - Frederick Douglass

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(PAID ADVERTISEMENT)

- Love the “Thalia” natural environment and want to actively improve it?
- Have skills that can convert into teachable moments for others?
- Have a “bit” of spare time to do good things for your community?
- Comfortable with personal computers and productivity software?

Well, friends, we have the perfect opportunity for you to excel! *We want to hear from you!* Tell us what you can do to help US make Thalia even better – whether it is environmental, cultural, personal (e.g. : life-coaching of neighborhood youth or living assistance to elderly neighbors) or if you just want to point the Board in a new direction of focus. New ideas are always – always – a valued resource.

Many eyes are better than two... (Native American proverb)

THALIA CIVIC LEAGUE OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mike Dougherty	President	tclmikedougherty@gmail.com
Rick Boyles	Vice President	tclrickboyles@outlook.com
Rose Busetti	Secretary	rosebusetti@hotmail.com
Rona March	Treasurer	tclrmarch@outlook.com
Bruno Eddy	Board – At-large	tclbrunoeddy@gmail.com
Michelle Exum	Board – At-large	mexum2@gmail.com
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A HORRIBLE HOLIDAY JOKE FOR YOU (ONE YOU’RE SURE TO REPEAT):

A group of chess enthusiasts checked into a hotel and were standing in the lobby discussing their recent tournament victories. After about an hour, the manager came out of the office, and asked them to disperse. "But why?" they asked, as they moved off. "Because," he said, "I can't stand chess-nuts boasting in an open foyer."

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A BIG “THANK YOU!” FROM THE THALIA GARDEN CLUB

The Thalia Garden Club thanks everyone for their support of our annual Thalia Daffodil bulb sale. They were sold out again! Proceeds will go to the Thalia Elementary School Scholastic Book Club Program.

The Thalia Garden Club, founded March 16, 1955, is affiliated with the Council of Garden Clubs of Virginia Beach, which has 31 clubs and 850+ members.

Interested in joining the Thalia Garden Club? We welcome all residents living within the boundaries of Thalia (as defined by the Thalia Civic League Constitution and By-laws. Please contact 2nd Vice President Rose Busetti at 757-306-8901 (house number/recorder.)

- *Rose Busetti*

...and now a word about pedestrian safety and well-being:

With a significant part of our day now being dark/darker than it was, a few reminders for pedestrians and drivers whilst out and about:

1. Pedestrians should always walk facing the oncoming traffic unless in an area with sidewalks (*what are those, you say?*).
2. Pedestrians should wear reflective or at least bright clothing to enhance their nighttime visibility by vehicle drivers.
3. Pedestrians should wear reflective or at least bright clothing to enhance their nighttime visibility by vehicle drivers. (***WORTH REPEATING***)
4. Drivers - The speed limit on neighborhood streets is still 25mph.
5. Animal walkers - thank you for Picking Up the Poop (PUP).

Thalia Civic League, Inc.

JOIN THE THALIA CIVIC LEAGUE and MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Household Dues: \$20.00 – 2022 Calendar Year (through 12/31/22)

Member name(s) _____

Street address _____

PRIMARY Phone _____ **ALTERNATE** _____

e-mail for Civic League contact _____

£ **I want to receive e-mails related to Thalia Civic League activities and initiatives. I understand my e-mail information will be kept confidential and will not be shared.**

£ **I am interested in being a member of the Thalia Neighborhood Watch Program.**

£ **I would like to help in some way - Please contact me about opportunities to work with the Thalia Civic league Board**

I hereby apply for membership in the Thalia Civic League, Inc. I understand that dues are for the running calendar year and are per household.

(Signed) _____

**YOUR APPLICATION INFO IS CONFIDENTIAL AND IS *NOT SHARED*.
THANKS FOR SUPPORTING YOUR SUBURBAN VB NEIGHBORHOOD!**

**You can mail or drop off your application:
THALIA CIVIC LEAGUE, INC.
c/o Mike Dougherty, President
631 Lynn Shores Drive (drop it off in the milk box on the porch)
757-498-2857 (RECORDER)**

OPINIONS, SUGGESTIONS, OR COMMENTS?

ALL INPUTS WILL BE REVIEWED BY THE TCL BOARD