

The Canary Cottage on Main Street, Rob & Heather Clark on School St., Karen & Mac Arnold, also on School St., Tom & Judy McNamara on Chapel St. and a trail of lit luminaries will greet guests up the hill to the Frog Hill end of School St to the home of Michael & Claudia Anton.

Five homes will be on the tour

- The Canary Cottage
- Rob & Heather Clark
- Karen & Mac Arnold
- Tom & Judy McNamara
- Michael & Claudia Anton

Visitors can stop by the Ca-boose to visit with town citizens who will be sharing a jolly “ho, ho, ho” and holiday cheer with those who are interested in a quick “warm-up” before heading up the hill to the Clifton Presbyterian Church.

At 7:30pm, hot cider & marshmallow roasting will be available in Ayres Square. Then, at 7:45pm, caroling will commence at the Square and at 8:00pm the town Christmas tree will be lit by a special Clifton family!

After the tour is over, there will be a Thank You “Cast Party” for all volunteers, docents and homeowners - at the Canary Cottage.

Please join us for this wonderful Clifton tradition – each year seems to be better than the past – this is our 6th year coordinating the tour!

If you are interested in docenting/being a tour guide at one of the homes or churches, please let either Lynne Garvey-Wark (703) 322-1811; lghassoc@erols.com or Jennifer Chesley (703) 830-2129; jen2beach@aol.com know – if you share your time with us, you will receive a free ticket for the tour.



Clark Home



McNamara Home



Anton Home



Care to take a guess at what our deepest snowfall will be this winter? You won't win a prize for guessing correctly, but you may see your name in the Clatter! Email your guesses by December 15th to cliftonclatter@cox.net. Measurement will be based on what amount falls at the editor's house.

The Haunted Trail

A Success Story

The woods were dark and damp, very damp. A pale full moon bathed the meadow and swirled through the trees. Fog drifted and clung to the tombstones. A heartbeat sounded and the shrieks began as more than 3,000 guests walked, and screamed, through Clifton's 7th Haunted Trail.

Plagued by a drought of several months, Clifton received 6 inches of rain on the three days preceding the Oct. 27 event, with lingering showers on the morning of. . .

"Yet, with all the elements seemingly against us, the sun broke through the clouds around noon and the temperature climbed to almost 70, giving the 2007 Clifton Haunted Trail the most successful event to date," said Lane Johnston, chairman of the Haunted Trail. Although figures are not complete, we grossed over \$20,000 and I estimate we spent about \$6,000, she said.

The Haunted Trail was not held in 2006 because of flood damage to the foot bridge. Bridge repairs were completed this October, just two weeks before the event. There is no electric power in the 8-acre park until the morning of the event when generators and thousands of feet of electrical cords are brought in, and Johnston gives special credit to Steve Howell and Mike Anton for starting work in the rain to get the park "electrified" for the night's event. We were still plugging in the witches as the first trail goers entered the park, and that was a frightening moment for me, she said.

Profits from the bake sale, combined with a gift from the Bryce Foundation founded by James and Emily Anderson, were donated to the ongoing research for neuroblastoma at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Institute in N. Y. City. That gift totaled \$889. Nick Franca, teenage son of Jim and Caryn, has been battling this deadly cancer for several years. Both the Andersons and the Francas live in Clifton.

Special Thanks To All From the Chairman – Lane Johnston

First of all, I want to thank the infrastructure team: Jim and Jan Wood, Laura Linton, Jan Schneiderman, Jo Ormesher, Randy Thompson, Steve Howell, Mike Anton, Michelle Stein, Wayne Nickum, Pat Layden, Chuck Rusnak, Donna and Jamie Netschert, Marcus Silva, Steve Howell and Tom Peterson. This team was in charge of posters, publicity, concessions, sound, lighting, set up, clean up, tickets, shuttles and parking. And, the Boy Scouts Troop 1104 who did the Trail Clean Up, led by Bob Richards.

Secondly, thanks to the skit leaders and actors, who with no dress rehearsals, brought the house down (so to speak) with rave reviews ranging from "It's better than King's Dominion" to "I couldn't stop screaming". . . Here's the trail in brief:

- **Trolls** --Starting at the beginning of the trail with Troll



Danny Albisu, in that fabulous mask loaned to him by fellow Troll Blake Colling-Hottell. Danny, who was hiding behind John Kinter's boat, stepped out into a group and actually caused an adult male to "wet his pants" (that's what I heard!);

- **Bunnyman** --ax-wielding Larry Hensle as Bunnyman had everybody screaming;
- **Gothpires** --next came the beating heart and Trish Robertson and her very popular Gothpires swinging from the trees;
- **Scarecrow Alley** -- an all-time favorite Scarecrow Alley designed and directed by Jeff and Michelle Stein;
- **Pumpkin Heads** -- Shari Bedker and Girl Scout Troop #1600 featured hanging and jumping pumpkins;
- **The Jarrendt Family** --a long and winding spiderweb tunnel inhabited by the Jarrendt Family of spiders who dropped a giant, glowing spider;
- **Chain Saw Gang** -- The teenage girls in particular screamed their way through a gang of chain saw-wielding crazies headed by Lev Buller and Bill Curry;
- **Cheney and Clinton** -- there was a brief political moment of hilarity (get it?) when Dick Cheney, waving a plastic gun, went running

after Hilary Clinton inviting her to the Texas ranch for a little shooting practice. . . parts were played by friend and police officer Mark Harrington and wife Mona;

- **Graveyard** --eerie and foggy was the graveyard designed by Larry Hensle and manned by Boy Scout Troop 1104;
- **The Ring** -- a phone ringing, a static-screen TV and an apparition-horror rising out of a well,

brought to us by Hannah Ackerman and dad, Sam;

- **Evil Clowns** --back into the meadow, 3 evil clowns personified by Eric Hencken, Raymond VanLienden and Case Hushen ;

- **Ghosts and Monsters** --also along this path were glowing eyes in the trees, Girl Scout ghosts from Lisa Graine's Troop #1822; Arlene and Paul Posner as "Screams", the always fabulous Jamie Netschert as the Grim Reaper, and, new this year, the young Dan Kelliher as a Werewolf (a real killer the girl's said);

- **The Bittner Family** -- new skit this year The Bittner Family featuring

a skeleton rising out of a coffin, really creepy in the beginning, AND even more creepy when Mike Anton crawled out of it later in the evening!;

- **Frog Hell** --two walls of terror sent us through Frog Hell, produced by Rick Peterson and neighbors of Frog Hill;



**Mial Fessenden & JD Dellinger
With Boy Scout Troop 1104**