

AN INVITATION TO NEIGHBORLINESS

Whether you have lived here for a few weeks or a few years, we the Community of Glacier Hills, are pleased to have you as neighbors. As such, you may wish to know more about your neighbors and why some of us joined together to form not just another community group, but a special kind of civic and social force; The Glacier Hills Association.

Our name stems from a glacial deposit formed some 10,000 years ago. The many pools, sand pits, barrows and terminal moraines (rock piles to the uninitiated) are mute reminders of our unique geological origin.

In the not too distant past, our lands were part of the area known as Littleton Comets, a small settlement at the crossroads of Littleton Road (now known as Route 202) and Mt. Pleasant Avenue (Route 10). Here was a small group of stores, rural post office, and a cluster of modest homes. Just beyond this, north on Route 202, was the great Ballantine estate, employing many local residents whose wagon trails are still clearly marked in certain areas. Abounding our land were fox, deer, mallards, flying squirrel, muskrat, opossum, and raccoon. Some of these woodland denizens can still be spied by the wary naturalist. Tinker's Pond in Section 6 was the scene of many a duck hunt and deer hunting here was renowned, for the hillocks and water holes provided an ideal habitat for game. This was the setting for the pioneers of modern Glacier Hills in 1945.

The first homes to be built were six in number and were located in Section 1. For five years building languished while the original builder, the Ecloss Company, thrashed about trying to solve problems of finance, political road blocks, and inadequate water supply from, believe it or not, a water company with its own well in Glacier Hills. This well is still operable and adjacent to the Section 1 and 2 park area. The builder, a quaint character, finally started to build again in 1951 on promises and half-hearted cooperation from the town and a few unenlightened Mr. Blandings. This time he started in Section 6 with the promise of bridle paths and a stable for your steed, an airport for the flying enthusiasts, a lake with boating and fishing, and finally for the winter sports minded, a ski run and toboggan slide. An actual excerpt from a sales contract pointedly admonishes "On Lake Front properties, no docks or summer houses of any kind may be constructed or maintained." This suburban Mecca was promised in the contract and was guaranteed, for a small fee, to be included in the price of your home, with very nominal monthly dues for the purpose of supporting the Glacier Hills Club. The club was to operate the facilities and also provide a suitable club house for social activities. In short, this grandiose scheme was envisioned as a middle class Smoke

With the downfall of the grand design and the demise of the Ecloss Company, the crestfallen residents left behind banded together to salvage as much of the original plan as seemed practical.

Residual assets were several pieces of park land none of which, in its present wild state, led to Mecca. With these lands as the only asset, the Glacier Hills Association was

begun with the purpose of promoting better civic enlightenment in a town which at the moment was in political ferment over a new form of government, Council-Manager, Type A, under the New Jersey Faulkner Act. The association also attempted to resolve its collective difficulties with the builder and the town. Resolve them it finally did, be it ever so many years later.

The Glacier Hills Association has continued to take an active interest in town affairs and at one time supplied a councilman who later became Mayor for a short period. We have also had members. elected to the school board and other township commissions and conu-nittees. Our record for percentage of residents voting in town and national elections is one of the highest in the township. Members have also taken an active part in the support of the first town-wide library; we have volunteer firemen, civil defense members and members of the police organizations. The Association vigorously supports and promotes all these activities. '

Lest it be thought that all work and no play makes us dull, we hasten to point out that we maintain an active social and recreational program throughout the year. Among our annual events are a children's. Christmas Party, an Easter Egg Hunt and a Labor Day family clam bake; and these are augmented from time to time by block parties, dinner-dances and various other social events. Nor do we neglect the sound mind in a sound body bit. There are many bowlers, golfers, joggers, walkers, and other sports enthusiasts in the area.

Foremost among our physical assets is an Olympic size swimming pool which easily accommodates 200 families. There is a children's wading pool, along with courts for basketball and volley ball. In 1988, we added our beautiful covered pavilion which serves as "host" for a multitude of events. And 1996 saw the upgrade of our children's playground area.

In addition to the swimming pool parklands, we maintain two additional parks, one used primarily for baseball and football in Section 1 - 2, and a retreat type area in Section 6. Both of the parks offer ice skating in winter months.

If this sounds like fun, take it from us, it is. Hope you would like to meet us, because we certainly want to meet you!