



WHAT'S HAPPENING MAY 2024

GENTLE YOGA

Every Mon • 10-11:15am
(VIA ZOOM)
sarastrassel@gmail.com

MAH JONGG

Every Mon • 1-3:00pm
@ THE CLUBHOUSE
lproctor700@gmail.com

FIT FOR LIFE

Every Tues & Fri • 9:30-10:30am
@ THE CLUBHOUSE
lsheer@nc.rr.com

CANASTA

Every Wed • 1-3:00pm
@ THE CLUBHOUSE
sylvette.lau@gmail.com

Wed May 1

2023 POOL CODES ARE
DEACTIVATED

falconbridgehoa.org/recreation/pool/

Wed May 1 & 15 • 7-9:00pm
POKER

@ THE CLUBHOUSE
jnoble3491@gmail.com

Fri May 3, 17 & 31 • 5:30-7:30pm
TRAVELING PUB

EMAIL FOR LOCATION
falconbridgepub@gmail.com

Mon May 6 • 6am-8:00pm

FALCONBRIDGE POOL OPENS
falconbridgepool@gmail.com

Tues May 7 • 7-8:00pm

ALLIANCE BOARD MEETING
@ THE CLUBHOUSE
ranicov@gmail.com

Wed May 8 • 7:00pm

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB
@ THE CLUBHOUSE
michelle.wolff1@gmail.com

Thurs May 9 & 23 • 9:30-11:00am
WOMEN'S COFFEE KLATCH

EMAIL FOR LOCATION
judyedholland@gmail.com

Mon May 20 • 6:00pm
FHA BOARD MEETING

VIA ZOOM
khenrydev@gmail.com

Wed May 22 • 7:00pm

ALLIANCE BOOK CLUB
@ THE CLUBHOUSE
robincschwartz@gmail.com

Message from the Alliance Board

It's May - Clean off Pollen & Enjoy the Outdoors

I am writing this article on April 18th and the temperature outside has reached 84°. It appears Spring just sped through here without a hard stop. As long as the pollen went with it, I'm okay!

April Was Full of Great Things. On the 13th, we held an exciting and productive meeting at the Clubhouse with several of the Falconbridge families with young children. See details on the next page.

Good News! To date, we count 230 Falconbridge Alliance member households, new and renewing, and I know there are more in the wings. The formal membership drive is over, and the 2024 directory is on its way to the printer. If the time slipped by and you wanted to join but didn't, don't worry. You can [join the Alliance](#) anytime during the year. Please do.

A Disappointment. Due to scheduling changes at Durham Police Headquarters, it became necessary to cancel the Neighborhood Watch meeting. Keep your eye out for the new date and be sure to attend.

Summer Fun in the Pool. On May 6th the Falconbridge Pool opens for the season. If you live in the single-family homes, be sure you've signed up and paid the RFC mem-



Pool opens May 6!

bership fee so you and your family will be able to relax by the pool in the summer and in the Clubhouse all year long. Our pool memberships support both the Clubhouse and pool facilities, amenities that bring enjoyment and value to our neighborhood. Good times are waiting!

Fourth of July Parade, Picnic and Free Swim: Watch for more info right here. Your Alliance dollars at work!



—Rani Covington
Alliance Co-Chair



INSIDE:

- Young Families Focus Group
- Three Pubs in May
- Fit for Life New Instructor
- July 4th Parade & Potluck
- Water Aerobics Returns
- Overnight Parking Restrictions
- Book Group Activities
- Gems & History in Hiddenite, NC



From the Editor

Plan Ahead to Publicize July Events

Our combined June/July newsletter will go out the first of June. If you have dates for groups or events that will be happening in July, be sure to send them to me by May 22nd to be included in the June/July newsletter. — Marian Cannell



Energetic Group of Young Families Meets

On April 13th, we held an exciting and productive meeting at the Clubhouse with several of the Falconbridge families with young children. Parents are very interested in planning activities that speak more to their needs and lifestyle, but also integrate with the entire community. How does this sound... **scheduled visits of an ice cream truck this summer? Story time readings at the Clubhouse for youngsters by volunteer grandparents? Swim instructor for littles with mom and dad? Bring a blanket to the grassy area and help kids find constellations on a clear night?**

There is now a committee to re-investigate design, funding, and FHA approval to install a playground near the Clubhouse. The energy for all these ideas was high, as was the willingness to work towards success. If you want to help make any of these ideas a reality, contact me at ranicov@gmail.com.

—Rani Covington
Alliance Co-Chair

Thanks to Linda Sheer and Don Basnight



The dog waste bag dispenser near the Clubhouse has been reinstated after it was removed for the sewer construction project. Thank you **Linda Sheer and Don Basnight** for doing the hard work so the dog walkers of Falconbridge have easy access to bags. Linda takes care of replenishing bags in all the dispensers. The bags are supplied by the Falconbridge Alliance to help keep our neighborhood streets clear of unsanitary waste. Dog walkers, please do your part by using the bags and disposing of them in your own trash when you get home.



Neighborhood Watch Meeting Postponed

The Neighborhood Watch meeting scheduled for April 16 had to be postponed. Because of a change in personnel at the police department, the original speaker was unable to come. We will notify neighbors of the reschedule date as soon as we get a new date from the police department. If you have questions you can contact any of the Neighborhood Watch Team Organizers listed below.

- Brent Artrip** bartrip@lenovo.com
- Don Basnight** donbasnight@yahoo.com
- Marjie Bender** mefb6825@gmail.com
- Michelle Deneke** michelle.deneke@bioventus-global.com
- Ed Holland** edholland@hotmail.com
- Carol Land** carolland888@gmail.com

—Carol Land

The Bridge
FALCONBRIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS
May 2024
falconbridgealliance.org
falconbridgenews@gmail.com

Would you like to advertise your business or an event in our monthly newsletter? Reasonable rates. Click [here](#) for more information.

Join Falconbridge Alliance

The Bridge - Falconbridge Neighborhood News is distributed monthly to all Falconbridge residents as a neighborhood service.

Falconbridge Alliance

Newsletter Editor:
Marian Cannell • falconbridgenews@gmail.com
Newsletter Designer:
Mia Prior • mjcprior@gmail.com

July 4th Parade and Potluck Return!



Are you ready for a Falconbridge Fourth? Start thinking about how you can participate in the parade: adults walking with a flag and/or red, white, and blue apparel; kids with decorated bikes, strollers or wagons; dogs – decorated or not; an audience along the parade route... The more people, the more fun it will be!

If you have one, **we also need a convertible to follow the fire truck.** And **volunteers to help cook burgers and hot dogs on the grill** for the potluck. If you and your family are getting excited about the prospect of a neighborhood parade, potluck picnic and free swim/pool games on July 4th, please contact **Jane Cocke** at jane.walbrun@gmail.com to see what you can do to help make it the best July 4th celebration yet.



Remember, every event in Falconbridge is created by volunteers. Join the July 4th Committee and help add a celebratory spirit to your neighborhood.

—Jane Cocke

Fit for Life Welcomes New Instructor!



Fit for Life classes welcomed a new instructor, **Cindy Rakowitz**, to Falconbridge in early March. Cindy moved to Durham less than a year ago from California.

Cindy shared about her classes, "My teaching format is classic senior functional fitness training. It's 50-55 minutes, incorporating strength training and aerobics. Since I'm also a licensed Zumba instructor, we use the classic Zumba Gold (for seniors) warm-up." The first 6-8 minutes we do warm-ups. In the next 40 minutes we work each major muscle group, focus on balance, and work on mats on the floor. The final five minutes include cool down exercises. (The exact time allocation may vary week to week.)

Cindy's certifications include : American Council on Exercise Group Fitness Instructor, Therapeutic Exercise (specialty certification), Brain Health Management and Senior Functional Fitness (specialty certification), Zumba® and Zumba® Gold (Also Zumba® Kids).

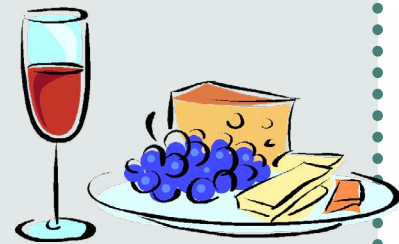


Fit for Life meets on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9:30-10:30, and the summer session goes from June 4-the end of August with some days off for holidays or teacher travels. We currently have openings for the Friday class. Class size is limited to 10 since we meet at the Falconbridge Clubhouse. If you're interested in signing up for a class, want to observe a class, or try out a class, please contact **Linda Sheer** at lsheer@nc.rr.com. You must be an Alliance member to participate in this group.

—Linda Sheer

Three Traveling Pubs in May!

Take your pick, or come to all three! On May 3, 17, and 31 you can join your neighbors for this casual end-of-the-week gathering. Drop in anytime between 5:30 and 7:30, stay for 20 minutes or the whole two hours, and relax with old and new friends. Bring your own beverage. The host provides snacks, glasses, and ice. To get on the mailing list for dates and locations, email **Barb Carroll** at falconbridgepub@gmail.com.



—Marian Cannell



FALCONBRIDGE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

FHA BOARD MEETING
Monday
May 20 - 6pm

Community Manager
Lisa Austin
Community Focus of NC
919.564.9134 ext. 106
Lisa@CommunityFocusNC.com

May 2024



Message from Kim Henry, FHA PRESIDENT

Our townhome community looks beautiful as a result of fresh pine straw neatly applied in landscaped areas throughout the neighborhood. Now that the black silt-fencing is finally down from our Huntingridge entry, we are able to once again enjoy the natural beauty that we all love about Falconbridge.

Other projects recently completed include refurbishing the Bloomsbury mail-house, repair work on the pickleball courts by the Pickleball Club, spring pruning, and a large drainage remediation contract.

Drain Lines Cleared

As a result of homeowner complaints that gutters were overflowing even after cleaning, our property manager, Lisa Austin, arranged for Southern Outdoor Restoration to jet all the drains they could locate, which ended up being 398 underground drain lines! They have provided us with a list of lines that they were unable to jet due to solid blockages, and the Board will determine how best to proceed to correct those issues.

Courtyard Walls Project Coming Soon



Our annual Front Courtyard Walls project is tentatively scheduled to begin in a few weeks. Lisa will soon be sending a "heads-up" notice to those whose walls will be done this go-round so they can make arrangements to cut back their shrubbery (2 feet of clearance is needed both inside and outside of your walls), have any hangings removed from the walls and all patio items out of harm's way. A second notice with firm dates will be emailed as soon as those dates are confirmed with the contractor. **BJ Attwood** is the Board Chair overseeing this year's project.

Successful In-Person Annual Meeting!

The 2024 FHA Annual Meeting was held April 5th in person at the Clubhouse this year. We had a tremendous turnout – perhaps due in part to the cocktail party the Board hosted just prior to the meeting!

The idea for the party was to not only show appreciation for the community's support this past year, but



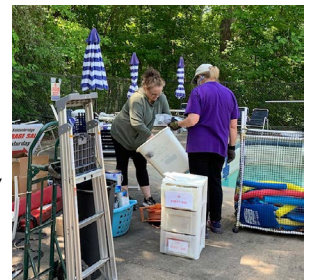
also to give homeowners a chance to share concerns with Board members one to one, something not possible during regular meetings.

The meeting itself was fairly brief with the primary order of business being the election of three new directors. Thanks were given to **Katie Lord** who had completed her Board term, and **Howard Goldberg** who served for years as the Board Treasurer. Both brought integrity, insight, and level heads to our meetings. Their work on behalf of Falconbridge is very much appreciated.

New Board members elected April 6th are **Martin Kamela, Jean Sellers, and Rachel Monroe**. We are excited to have them join our team!

Pool Season is Almost Here!

The pool opens May 6, and our fantastic pool posse of volunteers have been working to get Early-Bird RFC membership sign-ups, refurbish some of the old lie-flat loungers, and clean out the pool garage aka pool shed.



Thanks to all who have donated their time and efforts – you embody the true spirit of Falconbridge!



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Did You Know?

■ If you don't sign this year's pool waiver online by May 1 your code will be deactivated until you do, meaning no Clubhouse, pool or pickleball even if you are a club member! Ugh! It's simple and won't cost a thing for townhome members, so go ahead and get it done now.

■ Those awesome ornaments and cool yard art that you want to put out in front of your townhome need ARC approval before going out. Not a Big Brother thing, just a way to keep the neighborhood looking cohesive. Your neighbors will appreciate it.



New FHA Board:

- Kim Henry, President khenrydev@gmail.com
- Naveed Moeed, Secretary naveedmoeed@gmail.com
- Michele Miller, Treasurer mmmiller574@gmail.com
- BJ Attwood attwoodbj@gmail.com
- Kim Fahs kim.fahs3@gmail.com
- Mary Suttle mary@marysuttle.com
- Rachel Monroe rachelbmonroe@gmail.com
- Jean Sellers jean.b.sellers@gmail.com
- Martin Kamela martinkamela@gmail.com

—Kim Henry

● ● **Good to Know**



Overnight On-Street Parking Restricted by Covenant

All single-family properties in Falconbridge are subject to legally recorded restrictive covenants. These covenants pass with the title to the property and current owners are subject to them. One item in the single-family covenants restricts overnight on-street parking. The covenants limit overnight on-street parking to one week "unless a request is made for a temporary extension and approved by the Falconbridge Community Association Board."

Neighbors have requested we remind people of these covenants and this requirement in particular. Please park your cars in your driveway overnight.

Single-family covenants can be viewed on the [Alliance Website](#).



While the market keeps changing, inventory remains low. It isn't too late to benefit from the extraordinary increase in your home's value.

Call on your neighbor **Matt Levy** (6604 Falconbridge) to discuss the possibilities.

919-960-1107
MattLevyHomes@gmail.com



Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!

The donations to our neighborhood FRIENDS through the Falconbridge Village Association (FVA) are going a long way to sustaining this vital and important part of our community.

If you want to help, FRIENDS is a 501c(3) charitable organization under the name Falconbridge Village Association. Contributions are tax deductible. For more information, please visit our [website](#).

To donate, make your check out to FVA or Falconbridge Village Association and mail it to: Falconbridge Village Association, 21 Charrington Place, Chapel Hill, NC 27517.

—Robin Schwartz



Falconbridge FRIENDS

LIVING IN A CARING COMMUNITY

- Neighbors Helping Neighbors
- Help When You Need It
- Meals Delivered
- Medical Equipment Loans
- Rides to Appointments
- You are Supported!

Call 919-391-8210 or email
FalconbridgeFriends@gmail.com

Need Help?



How to Contact Falconbridge FRIENDS

Call
919-391-8210



If you would like to request help from Falconbridge FRIENDS or learn more about volunteer opportunities, email

FalconbridgeFriends@gmail.com

or call **919-391-8210**.

A FRIENDS co-coordinator will respond within a day or two to messages, which are either requesting help or asking about volunteer opportunities.

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

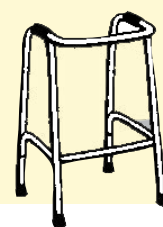
available for loan to all neighbors through the Falconbridge FRIENDS.

Supplies include

2 knee rollers, 4 wheelchairs, 4 bedside toilets, 4 shower chairs, 2 ice machines, 4 sets crutches, 5 canes, 4 rolling walkers, 4 fixed walkers, assortment of braces, 1 bed table, 1 metal ramp

Please contact **Claudia Stephens** at **919-593-5828** (leave message) or RalCStep@gmail.com.

Please leave message and call will be returned.



Gems & History in Hiddenite, NC – Wine Near Pilot Mountain

This field trip location was discovered when we were on our way back from the Aviation Museum in Hickory. Rolling down I-40 near Statesville (which is home to an excellent ice cream store) I noted a small sign that said “Hiddenite House Museum” on the side of the road. Well, as we are addicted to museums, we exited and began following signs for this place. It turned out to be in Hiddenite, NC, about 30 minutes to the north of I-40 (or 2 hours from Falconbridge), and while it is out in the sticks, it was a pleasant drive through verdant countryside.



Hiddenite Arts and Heritage Museum

We arrived at this small town, and the very pretty [Victorian era Hiddenite Arts and Heritage Museum](#), which was staffed with an enthusiastic docent. The tour is well worth the price (\$6 or \$5 Senior). This large home was built by John Paul Lucas (an international gem merchant), who was familiar with Hiddenite, NC because of the minerals and gems which are mined there. It turns out that this is the first place that emeralds were found in North America, as well as Hiddenite, which is a very rare mineral, and a greenish color.

The Hiddenite House is furnished in period pieces on the main floor, and also has an antique doll and toy collection (some dating to the 1700’s). There is a rotating art display on the second floor. When Lucas built the house, it was two stories. When he got married, his wife had other ideas, and had a new second floor added, which was done in a most unusual way. The house was sawed apart horizontally, and jacked up using railroad jacks (remember this is about 1908 – no power tools) and cribbing. They added a new second floor, and that which had been the second floor became a third floor. They also have some local crafts on sale for very good prices.

There is still a mine in Hiddenite, ([Emerald Hollow Mine](#)) which allows people, after purchasing a permit, to purchase buckets of material and have a go at finding a gem. If you don’t want to go the bucket route, you can sluice, creek, or dig. They have bathrooms. (This was noted on their website and is a feature that I find important.)

[JOLO Winery and Restaurant](#): I read a really good review of this winery, and we decided to go check it out. It is under two hours from Falconbridge, right in the shadow of Pilot Mountain, which can be viewed from the windows and patios. This winery has quite a nice restaurant which can be enjoyed for either lunch or dinner. Reservations are required. We made reservations for a tasting session at 11:30 and lunch at 12:30. The only tables remaining for lunch were on the patio. It was bright and sunny when we left home, and an hour and 45 minutes later when we arrived it was pouring rain. (Sad face). The building is nice, and the wine tasting was the best we





JOLO Winery and Restaurant

have experienced in this state. We have been to wineries where we didn’t care for ANY of the wines we tried, but that was not the case with this place. It was hard choosing which wines we wanted to buy, as we liked them all.

I asked with some trepidation what was going to happen to our lunch as eating outside was not an option. They guided us to an outdoor pavilion overlooking the fields, a pond, and Pilot Mountain. It had heat (it had gotten chilly) and heavy plastic had been lowered over the open areas allowing those of us with outdoor reservations to completely enjoy our meal in a lovely spot. This place is in a pretty location, has very good wine, excellent food, and friendly staff. It is definitely worth the drive. Yours in adventure,

—Jane Cocke

Falconbridge Calendar: MAY 2024

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1 CANASTA 1:00pm POKER 7:00pm	2	3 FIT FOR LIFE 9:30am TRAVELING PUB 5:30pm	4
5	6 POOL OPENS 6:00am-8:00pm YOGA 10:00am MAH JONGG 1:00pm	7 FIT FOR LIFE 9:30am ALLIANCE BOARD MTNG 7:00pm 	8 CANASTA 1:00pm WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB 7:00pm	9 WOMEN'S COFFEE KLATCH 9:30am	10 FIT FOR LIFE 9:30am	11
12	13 YOGA 10:00am MAH JONGG 1:00pm	14 FIT FOR LIFE 9:30am	15 CANASTA 1:00pm POKER 7:00pm	16	17 FIT FOR LIFE 9:30am TRAVELING PUB 5:30pm	18
19	20 YOGA 10:00am MAH JONGG 1:00pm FHA BOARD MTNG 6:00pm	21 FIT FOR LIFE 9:30am 	22 CANASTA 1:00pm BOOK CLUB 7:00pm	23 WOMEN'S COFFEE KLATCH 9:30am	24 FIT FOR LIFE 9:30am TRAVELING PUB 5:30pm	25
26	27 YOGA 10:00am MAH JONGG 1:00pm	28 FIT FOR LIFE 9:30am	29 CANASTA 1:00pm	30	31 FIT FOR LIFE 9:30am TRAVELING PUB 5:30pm	

* Note: the blue bin icon is a reminder of when our recycling days are this month.

● ● Board Reports

Summary of April 2, 2024 Alliance Board Meeting

Board action and discussion included the following:

- Discussed the Membership Drive, which will be extended through April.
- Directory will go to the printer at the end of April.
- First meeting of Neighborhood Watch is scheduled for April 16 at the Clubhouse with a presentation by the Durham Police NW representative. The Board voted to budget \$75 for refreshments for that meeting.
- **Sharon Meginnis** reported that FRIENDS has added two new volunteer teams to address neighbors needs. Needs being met include post-operative help, assistance with food, gathering mail, etc.
- Rani scheduled an April 13th Young Families Focus meeting from 10-11 am at the Clubhouse to talk about

Falconbridge activities. The Board budgeted \$25 for refreshments.

- Discussed planning for the July 4th neighborhood event. Plans will be detailed at the May Board meeting.
- Discussed the progress in replacing the liability insurance policy that expires in April. Rani will email Board members with the results of her discussions with the two agents currently involved.
- Next scheduled Falconbridge Alliance Board Meeting will be on Tuesday May 7 at 7 pm at the Clubhouse.
- Minutes are available [here](#).

For further details contact **Rani Covington** at ranicov@gmail.com.



WHY JOIN THE ALLIANCE?

With your Alliance Membership, you can:

- Stay up to date on neighborhood news with our newsletter and website
- Share information with your neighbors via our listserv
- Look up a neighbor in our Falconbridge directory
- Meet your neighbors at our numerous social events
- Pursue interests with a variety of sponsored social groups
- Receive discounts on some Alliance-sponsored classes and events
- Participate in special members-only events
- Be reassured that trained neighborhood volunteers can help your family with transportation, meals, and other services if you have a short-term health or other crisis
- Ensure the continued growth of programs and activities to enhance the lives of all Falconbridge residents

FALCONBRIDGE ALLIANCE-SPONSORED SOCIAL GROUPS

BOOK CLUB*	Robin Schwartz	robinschwartz@gmail.com
BRIDGE CLUB*	Naveed Moeed	naveedmoeed@gmail.com
CANASTA GROUP*	Sylvette Lau	sylvette.lau@gmail.com
FIT FOR LIFE*	Linda Sheer	lsheer@nc.rr.com
GARDEN GROUP (FIGs)*	Rosemary Ford	rosemaryford1@me.com
GAME NIGHT GROUP*	Barb Carroll	barbcarrollnc@gmail.com
GOURMET DINING GROUP*	Karen Fitzhugh	fitzhugh.karen@gmail.com
MAH JONGG*	Lawrence Proctor	lproctor700@gmail.com
THIRD TUESDAY POKER*	John Noble	jnoble3491@gmail.com
TRAVELING PUB	Barb Carroll	falconbridgepub@gmail.com
WINE TASTING GROUP*	Jim Carroll &	jimcarrollnc@gmail.com
	Bob Jackson	
WOMEN'S COFFEE KLATCH*	Judy Holland	judyeholland@gmail.com
WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB*	Michelle Wolff	michelle.wolff1@gmail.com

* Must be a member of the Alliance to participate

2022-2023 Falconbridge Alliance Board of Directors

Rani Covington (SF), Co-Chair • ranicov@gmail.com • 703-980-6063
 Kathryn Meyers (SF), Co-Chair • kmeyers52@gmail.com • 919-210-6595
 Stephanie Curtis (SF), Treasurer • stephanie.curtis83@gmail.com • 919-452-7261
 Brenda Clements (TH), Secretary • bt1clements@bellsouth.net • 305-972-5497
 Debbie Balsamo (SF) • balsamo.deborah@gmail.com • 919-818-8557
 Marian Cannell (SF) • marian@cannells.com • 919-452-5439
 Darragh Davis (TH) • darraghd56@gmail.com • 919-357-3457
 Joanne Dunn (SF) • joannedunn@gmail.com • 501-831-1789
 Sharon Meginnis (TH) • sharon.meginnis@gmail.com • 919-605-5870
 Patricia Mitchell (SF) • pgbmitchell@gmail.com • 336-307-9363

SF=Single-Family home TH=Townhome

2022-2023 FCA Board of Directors

Marian Cannell, President, Secretary • marian@cannells.com • 919-452-5439
 Stephanie Curtis, Vice President, Treasurer • stephanie.curtis83@gmail.com • 919-452-7261
 Patricia Mitchell (SF) • pgbmitchell@gmail.com • 336-307-9363

2022-2023 Falconbridge FHA Board of Directors (Townhomes)

OFFICERS

Kim Henry, President • khenrydev@gmail.com
 Michele Miller, Treasurer • mmmiller574@gmail.com
 Naveed Moeed, Secretary, Communications • naveed.moeed@gmail.com
 BJ Attwood, Pickleball • attwoodbj@gmail.com

AT-LARGE MEMBERS

Kim Fahs • kim.fahs3@gmail.com
 Mary Suttle • mary@marysuttle.com
 Rachel Monroe • rachelbmonroe@gmail.com
 Jean Sellers • jean.b.sellers@gmail.com
 Martin Kamela • martinkamela@gmail.com

WEB ACCESS

www.falconbridge.org

Falconbridge Alliance

[Constantly being improved, an increasingly vital source of information - progressive and historical. Do visit often.]

FalconbridgeHOA.org

(Townhomes)

groups.io/g/falconbridge-listserv

(Listserv)

Falconbridgehoa.org/pool/

(Pool and Clubhouse)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/153955664771981/>

(Falconbridge Families Facebook)