

BANNOCKBURN CITIZENS ASSOCIATION



BCA's Spring Fling

Bannockburn's neighborhood park behind the Concord Center on Hidden Creek Road was the site of BCA's first Spring picnic on Sunday, June 1, to mark the start of Summer, just as the traditional BCA Fall picnic marks the end. The pictures tell the story.



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LETTER FROM THE BCA PRESIDENT



Ted Garrett

June marks the end of my first year as BCA President, and I look forward to the next year with optimism. Your BCA Board is committed to addressing matters of interest and fostering a sense of community. We welcome your thoughts about issues of concern to the community.

Spring Fling Picnic.

One of our innovations this year was the “Spring Fling” picnic at Concord Park. The event had to be rescheduled due to rain, but the folks who attended had a great time and appreciated the opportunity to get together with their neighbors. We hope to make this an annual event. Many thanks to Renee West, Jo Roberts, Stephanie Posner, John Marquardt, Shari Fisher, Wendy Landres and Ann McMillian for pulling this event together.

June Meeting. We held our BCA quarterly General Meeting on June 5 at St. Mark Orthodox Church. At the meeting, we elected the following officers and directors:

President:	Ted Garrett
Vice President:	Charles Schmitz
Treasurer:	Wendy Landres
Secretary:	Bonnie Garrett
Directors:	Chris Hull, Miriam Herman, Kirt West, and Alan Sterling.

Our guest **Speaker** at the meeting was Kathy Stevens, the Conservatory Manager at Brookside Gardens, who spoke about evaluating and planning gardens to improve a person’s satisfaction with his or her landscape. Chris Hull provided some interesting comments on BCA demographics. **Thanks to Movita Hercules, Jo Roberts and Jennifer Kawar** for their efforts in organizing and providing refreshments for the meeting. We also discussed the following matters:

Infill Task Force. At the June 5 meeting, Doug Bonner reported on developments with the County’s Infill Development Task Force. Because our BCA covenants are limited in scope, these Task Force efforts led by Council Member Roger Berliner are important. Doug has ably represented BCA on the Task Force that proposed legislation for the County, as discussed in my June 6 e-mail to the community.

Welcome committee. As discussed further in a separate article, Kirt West is heading up a committee to welcome neighbors who move into BCA by offering a welcome gift and information to new residents.

Block Captains. The block captains maintain a list of their neighbors to convey important information from the BCA board to promote a safer, more cohesive community. Please make their job easier by contacting them with your information. We also need volunteers to serve as block captains in certain areas, as discussed in Bonnie Garrett’s separate report below.

BCA website. Please register on the website and provide your e-mail address so that I may contact you concerning emergencies and important BCA news. <http://www.bannockburnweb.com/association/cahome.cfm> Your e-mail address will not be distributed. Chris Hull is updating the website.

Neighbor Care Network. Dutch Koenig has begun an effort toward establishing a Neighbor Care Network committee, assisted by Abol Pouramidi and others. Activities could include temporary house watching, helping in electrical system outages, etc. This is still at the discussion and concept stage. If you have comments or are interested in working on this effort, please contact Dutch or Abol or one of the Board members.

Next Meeting. The next BCA general meeting is scheduled for Thursday September 4, 2008 at St. Mark. As always, the meeting will be an opportunity to visit with neighbors and pass along news and comments. Please try to hold the date.

BLOCK CAPTAINS

On May 15 the BCA block captains met at the Garrett home to discuss neighborhood issues and upcoming events. The meeting also focused on three new initiatives for our community: a Welcome to Bannockburn Committee, chaired by Kirt West, to offer a welcome gift and information to new residents, a Neighbor Care Network, chaired by Dutch Koenig, and a BCA directory with optional participation. The members of these committees spoke at the meeting to facilitate their coordination with the block captains.



Back Row: Edith Myers (Nevis); Seth Goldstein (Laverock Sub); Max Roos (Wilson); Alan Sterling (Nevis); Geert Van Brandt (Selkirk)
Front row: Suzanne Duvall (Haddington); Cecile Shaya (Crail); Bonnie Garrett (Coordinator); Lauren Winkler (Hidden Creek)

turnover in families residing in Bannockburn and it would be very helpful to have everyone linked in our emergency communications network. Please email or call your block captain, utilizing the list below, if you have not yet been contacted. The publication of a directory will be based on the information collected by the block captains and sent to the coordinator. Only publicly available information, name and address and listed phone numbers, would be listed for those people requesting inclusion in the directory.

The block captains act as a conduit between the BCA board and the community, presenting concerns of individual residents to the board and disseminating important BCA warnings or social information. The captains maintain a list of their neighbors to enable BCA to reach them in case of an emergency. Please make their job easier by contacting them with your information. In recent years there has been some

The BCA block captain network was initiated about four years ago. Over the years new captains have stepped forward to volunteer to represent their blocks, extending our coverage of the community or replacing retiring block captains. As you can see from the list below, there are still some blocks not yet represented. Please consider volunteering. If you can help, please contact the block captain coordinator.

Coverage Area	Name	Telephone
Block Captain Coordinator	Bonnie Garrett	229-8754
Arandale	Diane Noble	320-3554
Ayr	Liz Ehinger	320-0230
Barra	Riki Sheehan	229-7786
Ben Avon	Jo Roberts	229-4281
Blacklock	Sylvia Lowrance	320-9601
Broxburn Court	Sue & Dwight Mason	320-9516
Broxburn Drive	Lise Bernhard	229-0393
Broxburn Drive	Sally Koenig	229-4821
Carmichael	Shari Fisher	320-1857
Crail	Cecile Shaya	320-3597
Glenriddle	Mary Jane Pates	229-3639
Haddington	Suzanne Duvall	229-9411
Heatherhill Court	Ann McMillan	320-4362
Heatherhill Road	Sari Hornstein	229-4271
Helmsdale	Marilee Fitzgerald	320-3320

Coverage Area	Name	Telephone
Helmsdale	Tim Masters	320-5046
Helmsdale	Joanne/Jim DiMeglio	263-0266
Helmsdale	Larry Gandal	320-7094
Hidden Creek	Lauren/Tom Winkler	320-2180
Hidden Creek	Miriam Herman	320-3067
Laverock	John Zinner	229-3218
Loch Lomond	Ken Sunshine	320-5577
Loch Lomond	Rebekah/Rick Kahlenberg	320-8836
Nevis (7000-7200)	Edith Miles	320-3299
Nevis (7300-7504)	Lisa Sorkin	320-8732
Nevis (7505 -)	Alan Sterling	229-3296
Nevis (6900-7000)	Janice Dreier	229-2774
River Road	Alexandra Safchuk	320-0739
River/Elgin/Selkirk	Judy Alter	229-5467
River/Elgin/Selkirk	Marc Duber	
River/Elgin/Selkirk	Sam Rogers	263-0261
Selkirk	Geert Van Brandt	320-6767
Wilson 6900	Max Roos	
Wilson 6800	Barbara Dar	229-7344

NEIGHBORHOOD WELCOME COMMITTEE

The BCA Board has authorized the formation of a committee to welcome new families to the neighborhood. Moving into a new neighborhood can be challenging. It took us months before we met any of our neighbors and more than a year before learning of the existence of BCA. Fortunately, we had from Cabin John and were already familiar with the community. The transition would have been more difficult had we arrived from out of town or another part of the county. The genesis of the Welcome Committee comes from my wife, Renee, who continued to do what she had done when we lived in Cabin John-- informally welcoming new neighbors by bringing them a plate of brownies and introducing herself to them. As a result, we have gotten to know our neighbors in our court more quickly and I think we have made them feel welcomed.

The purpose of the new Committee is to formalize what many of us have been doing informally. We want to make sure that all new neighbors are welcomed to the community quickly. The Committee has decided that we will put together a package of information about our community to the new residents. This will include information about the schools, police and fire department and Montgomery County services. We will also provide information about local businesses, Glen Echo Park, and Bethesda. At the same time, the Committee will introduce new residents to BCA and



the range of activities and services provided to BCA, and hopefully we will recruit new members.

The members of the Committee are Shari Fisher (Carmichael), Amy Dispanet (Crail Drive), Laurie Macht (Selkirk Drive), Cecily Abram (Broxburn Drive) and Kirt West (Heatherhill Court). We are collecting community information and hope to have the committee up and running by the end of June. The committee intends to work with block captains to visit new neighbors with our welcome to BCA material. We need your help to identify any new family that moves into the neighborhood. Please contact me at kirtwest@comcast.net to let me know of any new family that we should visit. Of course, please contact me if you are interested in working directly with the Committee.

KIRT WEST

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INFILL TASK FORCE

As I discussed at the BCA Meeting May 8, the Montgomery County Zoning Law Amendment covering infill development issues such as building height in R-200 and lot coverage, is scheduled for hearing before the Mo. Co. Council on June 17, 2008 at 7 p.m. at the County Council Hearing Room in Rockville.

The Legislation

Here is a link: <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/council/pdf/zta/2008/08-II.pdf>. The bill contains two principal reforms to restrain incompatible infill development in established Mo. Co. neighborhoods:

- 1) limit building height in R-200 from the current 50' height limit to 35' to roof peak for lots 15K sq. ft or less; to 40' for lots 15K-25K sq. ft.; and to 45' for lots that are 25K-40K sq. ft.; and
- 2) provide for 30% lot coverage for all established lots (recorded before Jan. 1, 1996) of less than 15K sq. ft (an increase for smaller grandfathered R200 lots of 9-10K sq. ft. currently at 25% to conform to what is currently allowed for equivalent sized lots), while reducing lot coverage for lots greater than 15K from 25% to 20% lot coverage. [The bill also reduces lot coverage from 35% to 30% for lots of less than 6K sq. ft.].

These are very reasonable and modest restrictions on Infill Development, which are

necessary to protect the privacy, access to light, and enjoyment of old growth trees that existing neighborhoods in Montgomery County cherish. Also, recent architectural building trends have shown little to no consideration or respect for compatible development within existing neighborhoods. These reasonable measures, including a mandatory neighbor notification requirement before a building permit is granted, are intended to protect existing neighborhoods from building excesses.

Doug Bonner



Doug being thanked for his many services to BCA by President Garrett at the General Meeting, November, 2007

Photos on Front Page: (All photos by Charles Schmitz)

Clockwise from the top right: 1) Dutch Koenig (Broxburn) and friend; 2) Tazuko Schmitz (Carmichael), Movita Hercules (Selkirk) and Darby (Carmichael); 3) Shan Gooptu, Thayer Nelson, Toneema Haq, and Stephanie Posner (all of Heatherhill Ct.); 4) Face-painting artist at work; 5) Obol and Margaret Pouramidi (Helmsdale), Paula Stone, and Seth Goldstein (Laverock Lane); 6) "Great Grandmother" Cynthia Rezick (Heatherhill); 6) The General throng; 7) Five Sisters; 8) and 9) The Face-painting studio al fresco.

Bannockburn Citizens Association Dues Payment Coupon

Please complete and send to BCA Treasurer Wendy Landres, 7009 Loch Lomond Dr. Annual dues are \$30 per household within Bannockburn. Voluntary contributions for more than the dues amount are welcome and are used for miscellaneous BCA expenditures, such as refreshments for General Meetings and the Summer Festival.

Name: _____ Address: _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____, which includes \$30 for 2008 BCA Dues and my voluntary contribution of \$ _____. Many thanks for your support of your community.

BANNOCKBURNER PROFILES



**BANNOCKBURN'S FIRST COUPLE,
DECORATING MACHU PICCHU DURING A
RECENT TRIP**

Bonnie and Ted Garrett of Broxburn Drive

If you have made it this far in the Newsletter, you already know that Ted Garrett is the President of the BCA and that Bonnie is our Secretary, so it is appropriate that this prominent couple lead off the Newsletter's new Bannockburner Profiles section. Here is a transcript of Ted and Bonnie's recent interview with Newsletter staff:

How long have you lived in Bannockburn?

Ted: Since 1985.

What do you like best about our community?

T: Location near the Canal and Glen Echo park; great schools; friendly neighbors.

Bonnie: Intelligent neighbors.

What do you think is a prime candidate for improvement in Bannockburn?

T: Increased neighborly interaction and sense of community.

How do you spend your time (i.e., employment)?

T: Partner in a major law firm.

B: I am a retired economist. I do volunteer work for Democratic candidates.

How do you like to spend your time (i.e., weekends and holidays)?

T: Tennis, Woodworking, Gardening, Jazz Piano, reading.

B: Tennis, running and hiking; glass fusion, draping and molding, gardening, reading.

What are your hobbies?

T: Tennis, Woodworking, Gardening, Jazz Piano.

B: Cooking, sewing, math puzzles.

What book have you read recently that you liked?

T: "The Botany of Desire," by Michael Pollan; and "Imperium," by Robert Harris.

B: "Crossing to Safety" by Wallace Stegnum, "Heat" by Bill Buford, "I Will Bear Witness" by Victor Klemperer.

What good movie have you seen in the last year?

T: "There Will Be Blood"

B: I don't recollect any good new movie. I liked the DVD "Rome", the best for visual entertainment.

Which sport do you most like to play?

T&B: Tennis

Which sport do you most like to watch?

T: Tennis, Football

B: Tennis only

Thanks, Ted and Bonnie, for taking time out from the Andes to talk with Newsletter staff.

Montgomery County's website has a link to a 30-page history of the county.

http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Content/PIO/pdfs/mc_history.pdf <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Content/PIO/pdfs/mc_history.pdf>

The following is a link to the County's "safe speed" program, which includes the locations of red light and speed cameras:

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/poltmp1.asp?url=/content/pol/ask/speed.asp> <<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/poltmp1.asp?url=/content/pol/ask/speed.asp>>

COUNTY'S SENIOR CENTERS AND PROGRAMS

"I've found new friends and stimulating programs."

"I enjoy the informative seminars, with subjects from elder law to healthy eating. There is always something new to learn!"

"I have traveled to places I didn't even know existed on day trips!"

What are these folks all talking about? They each describe their experiences being involved with senior centers and senior programs located in Montgomery County. The County offers a wide variety of energizing and enjoyable activities for adults 55 years or over. As diverse as the people they serve, these activities challenge each individual to grow physically, intellectually, socially and creatively.

Every day, you'll find senior centers brimming with activity and spirit. Senior and community centers offer a wide selection of daily events including fitness classes, computer education, art activities, and more.

Get involved, and discover community at its best. Exploring the County's senior programs often leads to new friendships. Take advantage of the opportunity to share knowledge and talents, to learn and to grow.

Make the most of every day. There are countless crafts to master, places to explore, languages to speak. The County's senior programs help you discover parts of yourself you've never had a chance to explore.

How can I take advantage of these programs?

(See Next Column)

Call the numbers provided below to learn more about the organizations and opportunities just waiting for you. Call 240-777-4925 for information about the 12 neighborhood programs offered by the Senior Programs team of the Montgomery County Recreation Department (MCRD).

Find out which of the programs is closest to you, and which offer transportation and lunch. Tell yourself you'll try getting involved at least *twice*. Chances are, you'll end up hooked!

Holiday Park Senior Center, Wheaton 240-777-4999

Long Branch Senior Center, Silver Spring 301-431-5708

Margaret Schweinhaut Senior Center, Silver Spring 301-681-1255

Bethesda Vital Living Center 301-395-0915

Chinese American Senior Services Association 301-530-4880

Chinese Culture and Community Service Center 240-631-1200

Gaithersburg Upcounty Senior Center 301-258-6380

Jewish Community Center (301) 881-0100

Jewish Community Center's Adult Center for Education (ACE) 301-348-3864

Korean American Senior Citizen Association 301-438-7304

OASIS (Lifelong Learning for Mature Adults) 301-469-6800

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Johns Hopkins University, Rockville Campus 301-294-7058

Rockville Senior Center 240-314-8800

Senior Source of Holy Cross Hospital 301-754-3404

Sibley Senior Association (in N.W. Washington, close to many Montgomery County residents) 202-364-7602

Tuesday Senior Program (for Russian-speaking adults) 301-348-3876

Vietnamese Senior Association of Maryland

301-384-4249

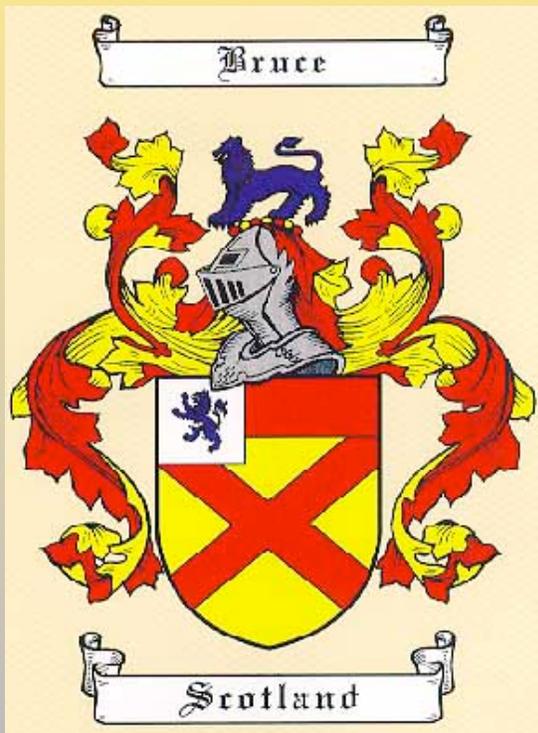
Editor's corner: How about a real name for this noble publication?

"Newsletter" is certainly a boring title for a newsletter. We don't have to put up with that! How about something more evocative, or at least, interesting? "The Bannockburn Banner"? or how about any of these time-tested monikers: Intelligencer Gazette Journal Bugle Trumpet Tribune Post Herald Independent Telegraph Star Sun Towpath Current? Or maybe something Scottish ("The Bagpipe?") or Scotch (Single Malt?) Or since Bannockburn is not only a burned clearing in the forest ("The Clear Cutter", "Smoke Signal?") but also a battlefield, maybe "The War Cry", "The Shout", or "The Complete Victory" (over the hated English)?

And what about a motto for the rag? "All the News that's Fit to Flaunt"? "We flaunt all we've got"?

Clearly, your Editor needs help. Please send your suggestions to Editor, at Charlesaschmitz@comcast.net. Entries will be judged by a blue ribbon, all-Bannockburn committee and the winner announced at the next BCA General Meeting on September 4, 2008. A Valuable Prize will be awarded to the lucky and talented winner! Enter now! Achieve everlasting fame!





*THE BANNOCKBURN
NEWSLETTER*



BETHESDA, MARYLAND