



BCA's Family Picnic, Concord School May 16



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Picnic Photos by Edith Miles and Charles Schmitz



Bannockburn Citizens Association Board of Directors

President: Theodore Garrett
301-229-8754
tgarrett@cov.com

Vice-President and
"Banner" Editor: Charles
Schmitz
charlesaschmitz@comcast.net

Secretary: Kirt West
kirtwest@comcast.net

Treasurer: Bonnie Garrett
301-229-8754
bonnie.garrett2@verizon.net

Web Site Editor: Chris Hull
301-263-0619
chull@multum.org

Covenants Committee Chair:
Dwight Mason
DNMason@Juno.com

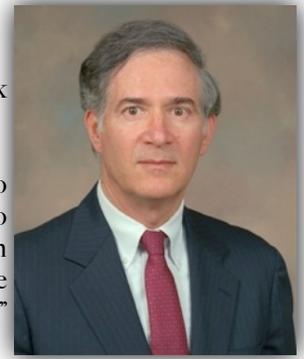
Welcoming Committee Chair:
Jane Petit
janepettit1@verizon.net

Covenants Committee:
Alan Sterling
alan.sterling@verizon.net

BCA President's Letter

I and the BCA board are continuing to work on activities to foster a sense of community. The feedback we are receiving is gratifying.

Register. The newsletter is great, but in order to move our efforts forward, the BCA board needs to communicate with you in real time about meetings, police alerts, and other important matters. I can do so using a website program that enables me to send e-mails to addresses that neighbors provide when they register on the BCA website. To register for the first time or to update your information, go to the BCA website <http://www.bannockburnweb.com/association/cahome.cfm> and click on the "register" icon near the top left corner. Your e-mail address is confidential and cannot be accessed by others. And you won't be swamped, as we send only one or two messages per month on average.



Theodore Garrett

Spring Fling Picnic. Our third annual "Spring Fling" picnic at Concord Park on May 16, 2010 was better than ever, as memorialized in the photos in the newsletter. Many thanks to Renee West and Stephanie Posner, who organized this event, and to Jo Roberts, Rebecca Kahlenburg, Edith Miles, Caitlin West, and Wendy Landres for their efforts in making this event a great success. Emily Posner did a great job of helping to judge the many nicely decorated flower pots done by our talented youth in the neighborhood! Jane Pettit headed up another popular plant exchange. It's always fun to go home with a new treasure to plant. A special thank you to all that brought a dish to share. We hope you were able to enjoy this wonderful event and meet some new neighbors along the way!

Spring Watershed Cleanup. Some thirty neighbors participated in the BCA community watershed cleanup on Saturday April 10, 2010. The focus was on Booze Creek and the Cabin John Park on our side of the creek. Charles Schmitz coordinated this effort, with able assistance from John Noble and Edith Miles, as more fully described in the article below. More than one ton of trash was removed, there was much camaraderie and good cheer, and we hope to organize a second cleanup effort next spring.

Meetings. At our BCA meeting on March 4, 2010, we had a most interesting presentation by our neighbor, Bob Balaban, who is the Director of Research at the heart institute at NIH. Bob discussed the heart attack and stroke program at the new Johns Hopkins facility at the old Suburban hospital. He showed some fascinating short video's of the new procedures being developed in conjunction with Suburban. This is important work and we all appreciated Bob's presentation.

We held our most recent BCA quarterly General Meeting on June 3 at St. Mark Orthodox Church. At the meeting, we had committee reports and elected the following officers and directors: President: Ted Garrett
Vice President: Charles Schmitz; Treasurer: Bonnie Garrett; Secretary: Kirt West; Directors: Chris Hull, Dwight Mason, Jane Petit and Alan Sterling.

Committees. Jane Petit has invigorated our welcome committee efforts. If you have suggestions and/or would like to work on this effort, or if you know of new residents in the neighborhood, please email janepettiti@verizon.net or call: 301-229-5932.

We would like to upgrade our BCA website and are looking for volunteers to help with managing and editing the information on the website. If you would like to help, contact Ted Garrett at tgarett@cov.com and/or Chris Hull at chull@multum.org
Edith Miles continues to lead our Good Neighbors committee. You can contact her for information or suggestions at ewmiles@comcast.net. Good Neighbors Committee. Edith's article below describes the work of her committee in more detail. Our covenants committee continues to monitor construction and permit applications in the neighborhood. If you have any questions, contact Dwight Mason at dnmason@juno.com or Alan Sterling at alan.sterling@verizon.net.

As usual, the BCA Board solicits your ideas and support. If you are interested in working on any of the above committees, the newsletter, or working the website, please let contact me or any board member.

Dues. Dues for 2010 were due on January 1. Thanks to those who have paid. If you forgot to pay, please use the coupon on p. 7.

Fall Festival. We will gather again at Concord Park in October for our Fall Festival. Please consider volunteering for this event. We need you! If you would like to help or have suggestions or questions, please contact Renee West at kirtwest@comcast.net or 301-229-5691.

Next general meeting: Thursday evening, September 2, 2010. Have a great summer.

Best wishes,

Ted Garrett
BCA President

April Bannockburn Creeks Cleanup Project



On April 10, thirty volunteers from the community, and a few visitors, spent most of a delightfully sunny and clear morning picking trash out of the creeks that run along the southwest corner of Bannockburn. We were a two-platoon outfit, one under John Noble's direction at the Cabin John bridge, and the other, directed by Edith Miles, at Booze Creek on Helmsdale. We were amazed at what we found: metal fence posts,



ATV tires, wall-to-wall carpeting, hammock frames, a couple of bicycles, a baby carriage, and lots of plastic bags, car parts, wrapping paper, and bottles. During the morning, we pulled out more than 2,000 pounds of trash, filling about 60 yellow trash bags and making impressive piles of hardware that would not fit into trash bags.

After our exertions, we repaired for much-needed refreshment to the back terrace of the home of Phil Frank and Vivian Schiller, from which we had a wonderful view of a (cleaner) Booze Creek. If you could not join us this year, do not despair. We left several thousand more pounds of junk in the watershed to pick up next year!



Report from the Cabin John Division: John Noble, Chief. We established our Cabin John Creek watershed HQ on the Glen Echo side of the one lane bridge on MacArthur Blvd. 19 volunteers from the neighborhood and beyond took bags,



gloves and determination and descended toward Cabin John Creek and the feeder creek that joins it at the bridge. Volunteers ranged in age from the seventies through the teens. Some were parents providing models of public service for their children.

A major eyesore that we picked up were dozens of metal fence pipes discarded when the underside of the bridge was re-fenced during its renovation several years ago. In addition we gathered bottles, cans and trash from the days that the parking lot on MacArthur was a location for fish and vegetable vendors. Picking up someone else's trash is never pleasant. Carrying it uphill out of the watershed was hard. Nonetheless, the knowledge that we created a cleaner environment and

our pleasure of working as a team generated a sense of well being.



Alice Ferguson Foundation
Trash Free Potomac
Watershed Initiative



(Continued page 5)

Report from Booze Creek Division, Edith Miles, Chief:

Volunteers congregated on Helmsdale Road near River Road at an entrance to Booze Creek. River Road passes over Booze Creek near this point (see map and article in The Bannockburn Banner, December 2009). Three volunteers were from outside BCA: Sandra from Silver Spring and a father and son team. The son goes to Pyle and was working for community service points. Volunteers obtained access to Booze Creek at several sites along Helmsdale Road. They collected about 20 bags of trash. They also pulled out a rusty bicycle, several pipes, and numerous pieces of building materials.



Clean-up Photos by Edith Miles and Charles Schmitz

Police Tips on How to Make Your House Burglar Proof

Make sure you have your house number close to the front and back doors of your house. Dark numbers on light trim are easiest to read. During an emergency, this could save precious moments.

Install a peep hole in your exterior doors if you do not have glass around the door. NEVER open the door to a stranger. Speak through the closed door. Call 911 if you are suspicious of a person.

Add deadbolt locks to all of your doors, particularly those with glass near the doorknob. Remove the key from the lock. If you want to keep a key close to the door for emergencies, make sure it is not reachable from the glass panels in the door and it is not visible.

Make sure to notify a trusted neighbor and/or family member in the area when you are going to be away. Set timers on both indoor and outdoor lights. Arrange for papers, mail and flyers to be taken in, and ask a neighbor to place some trash in your super can and wheel it to the alley on trash day. Arrange for the lawn to be mowed while you are away. These simple steps can greatly reduce your chances of becoming the next burglary victim.

Check your surroundings before getting out of your car on your way into the house, and out of the house on your way into your vehicle.

Remove all valuables from sight near windows and glass doors in your home, especially purses. Store expensive jewelry in safe deposit boxes, take pictures of the jewelry, get the jewelry appraised. If you store jewelry in your home, DO NOT store jewelry in the master bedroom.

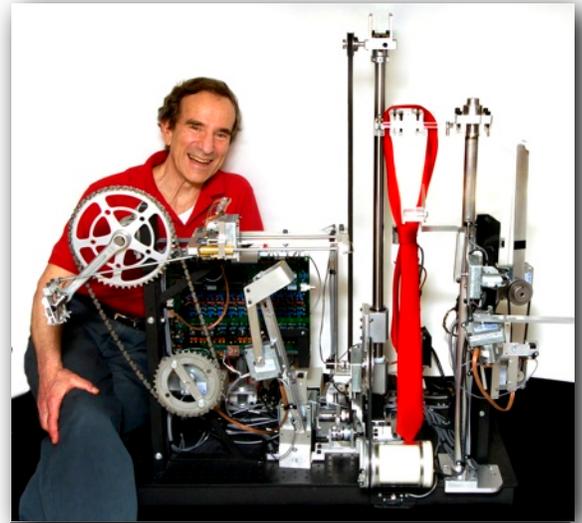
Get to know your neighbors. If you know who belongs on your block, it is easier to spot someone who does not belong. Report suspicious behavior to the police. If you suspect it is a crime, call 911. Use the words "Possible Crime in Progress." Get involved in your community.

Montgomery County Police offers FREE home security assessments by appointments. Please contact Officer Dana Stroman, Community Services Officer - 2nd District, Montgomery County Police to schedule your appointment 240-876-1277.

Seth Goldstein -- Laverock -- Kinetic Sculptures

Seth Goldstein studied Mechanical and Electrical Engineering at MIT for 8 years and worked in industry for 6 years. In 1971 he joined the National Institutes of Health and spent the next 31 years in the Biomedical Engineering Division where he was a section chief and developed bio-medical instrumentation and clinical instruments.

Since his retirement in 2002, he has created several complex kinetic sculptures, one of which, Cram Guy, is in the American Visionary Arts Museum in Baltimore. Short videos of Cram Guy and Why Knot?, a machine which ties and unties a necktie, can be seen at <http://www.youtube.com/user/kineticsculptures>. He is currently finishing a multi-year project to develop a machine which plays a violin (including vibrato



Seth with Why Knot?



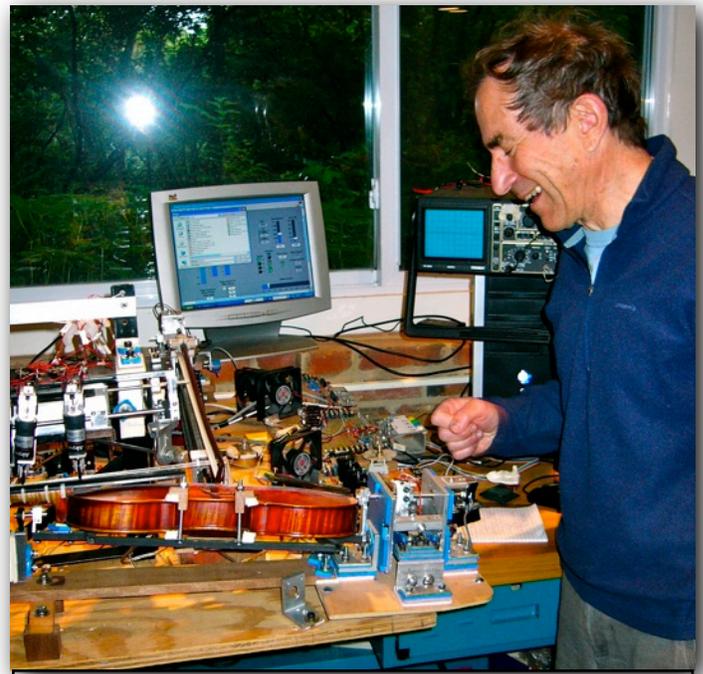
Seth's front door knocker

and pizzicato).

Seth has lived in the Bannockburn neighborhood for the last 15 years with his wife, Paula Stone, a retired engineer, who now writes plays. They collaborate to create and exhibit sculptures made of Oriental Bittersweet, a large invasive vine they cut from threatened trees.



Cram Guy by himself



Seth testing the tremolo

Profile photos by Washington Post, Dan Meyers, and Charles Schmitz

Information for BCA Seniors

BCA Good Neighbor's Committee members have sponsored several activities for seniors in our neighborhood including a holiday party (see attached photos), 2 luncheons, and a table at the Spring Fling. Several seniors also participated in the BCA Spring Watershed Cleanup and in the Booze Creek Walk.

The committee sponsored a meeting March 24 titled "Aging-in-Place Alone or with an Ailing Spouse".

Harry Rosenberg, a co-founder of Burning Tree Village and a recent widower, described his experiences of living alone. BCA seniors discussed the



challenges and rewards of continuing to live in their own homes. Advantages of aging-in-place include having good friends and neighbors and having space for possessions, hobbies, and professional activities.

Disadvantages include having to prepare food and to eat alone and having to deal with home and garden maintenance. Two seniors who lost power for 3-4 days during the storm have decided to move. Their experiences led to a discussion of the need for the Good Neighbors Committee and BCA Block Captains to do more to identify seniors with problems during storms. We also



discussed the need for back up power.

Loss of electrical power can be life threatening for seniors and others with disabilities who are dependent on electricity to power medical equipment, lifts or elevators. Loss of AC or heat can also be life threatening in hot summers or cold winters. Portable generator units are sometimes used. Stationary, outside-mounted generators are a growing alternative (Consumers Reports, Oct. 2006 p. 60). These emergency automatic backup generators are

powered by natural gas. They can provide a safe and convenient, though expensive and often noisy, solution during power failures. Smaller generators that power only part of the house are less expensive than whole house generators. Several brands of generators are available from local installers.



Bannockburn Citizens Association

Dues Payment Coupon

Enclosed is my check for \$_____, which includes \$30 for 2010 BCA Dues and my voluntary contribution of \$_____. Voluntary contributions are used for miscellaneous BCA expenditures, such as refreshment for General Meetings and our semi-annual picnics.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Send to: Bonnie Garrett, Treasurer, BCA; 6604 Broxburn Dr., Bethesda, MD 20817



The Bannockburn Banner



Bethesda, Maryland