



BARCROFT NEWS

FEBRUARY, 1988

FEBRUARY MEETING -- REPORTS FROM THE COMMITTEES ON PROGRESS IN DRAFTING THE NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION PLAN

Our February meeting will be held as always on the first Thursday of the month, February 4. The program will be a report from the committees working on the drafting of the Neighborhood Conservation Plan on their progress to date. In case you wanted to be on a committee and have not joined one yet, they are:

Neighborhood History & Demographics

Phyllis Kinsey (892-5962)

Neighborhood Inventory

Dick Carter (521-5976)

Parks & Recreation

Pope Woodard (979-6529)

Traffic & Transportation

Elinor Schwartz (920-5389)

Zoning and Land Use

Laurie Kelsch (920-9429).

Call the chairperson for the committee of your choice today. Any of them would welcome your call--there is still plenty of work to be done. Or come to the meeting to see which committee sounds most interesting to you. The broader the base for the drafting the more accurately our Plan will reflect the real views of the neighborhood.

The meeting will start at 7:30 PM, at the Barcroft Community House, 800 South Buchanan Street. Look for the reminder signs on Barcroft telephone poles on the morning of meeting day.

HISTORY AND DEMOGRAPHIC COMMITTEE WILL MEET ON FEBRUARY 11TH

The committee working on the history and demographic section of the Barcroft Neighborhood Conservation Plan will meet on Thursday, February 11th in the Virginiana Room (2nd Floor) of the Central Library at 1015 North Quincy Street. Tapes, transcripts, and student research papers on Barcroft will be available for review.

Sarah Collins, Librarian, will be available on that evening from 5:30 PM until closing to give individuals assistance with their project if they wish to stop off at the library on their way home from work.

CIVIC FEDERATION WILL NOT RECOMMEND ABOLITION OF THE OFFICE OF SHERIFF

After consideration by its Legislative Committee, the Arlington County Civic Federation has decided to postpone any recommendation on transferring the duties of the Sheriff to the Police Department and abolishing the Sheriff's office. It appears that this would require an amendment to the Virginia Constitution, a difficult task. Delegates hoped that other ways might be found to insure that the County will always enjoy the best possible level of service from the Sheriff's office.

GYPSEY MOTH SPRAYING TO BEGIN IN THE SPRING

The gypsy moth threat to Barcroft trees is "exploding" this year, and the County is proposing to spray the blocks between Arlington Boulevard, 7th St S, Taylor Street and Four Mile Run. James Bartalon of the County extension office told our January meeting that counting the egg masses on trees, walls, and rocks shows that many trees in that area will be defoliated this spring by Gypsy Moth caterpillars unless sprayed. Two years of that can kill a tree.

Bartalon gave a candid presentation on the sprays the County proposes to use, and left us literature describing the tests the sprays have passed before being certified for use. One spray contains water and a bacterium called "BT" which occurs naturally in soil and is toxic only to caterpillars. The other, more powerful, spray is a chemical which has passed tests for health effects, chronic effects, cancer-causing potential, genetic effects, reproductive effects and birth defects. The EPA even permits some of it in food. Of course, nobody wants to be sprayed with a chemical of any kind, but at least the two sprays sound as safe as anything the County could use.

If you do not want to be sprayed, you can object and your property will not be included in the spraying. Unfortunately, your neighbors' trees cannot be sprayed either, since the sprayers have to stay at least 200 feet from anyone who objects, to make sure spray will not drift. If your neighbors trees are eaten they will blame you! Last year the County sprayed 9,000 homes. Only 21 objected to having their trees sprayed. If one of your neighbors objects to the spraying you can pay a commercial service to do it. Unfortunately, most commercial services use sprays far stronger, more toxic and more harmful to the environment than the ones the County uses. The spray is supposed to be harmless if it falls on you, but the County recommends you do what you would do in rain--come in out of it. For information on the sprays, call Jamie Bartalon at 558-2475.

There is no fee for County spraying, which is paid for by your County and State taxes. If your home is in the spraying area you can expect at least two letters from the County. One will arrive by the end of February detailing the program, and the other will come shortly before the spraying starts in late April. Exact spraying dates are given for each block on a recorded message service.

Our beautiful trees in Barcroft are clearly worth some effort to save from the gypsy moth threat. Nobody likes spraying, but at least the County is doing its best to be careful and to use non-harmful pesticides. Some of us will find things to do somewhere far away on spraying day, but the Barcroftians who came to the January meeting were mostly glad to hear that the County is doing something to save their trees.

LET ME WORK FOR YOU.



Million Dollar Producer
Home: 892 6485

Ask For

PAT O'BRIEN

If you buy or sell
without calling me,

WE BOTH LOSE!*

FULL TIME REAL ESTATE
PROFESSIONAL

YEARS EXPERIENCE HELPING BUYERS AND SELLERS

* Ask about our "Neighborhoodly Discount".

Professional Real Estate Services

- Pre-purchase consultation
- Pre-sale consultation
- Free market evaluation
- Marketing
- Contract negotiation
- Settlement coordination
- International relocation service



EQUAL HOUSING
OPPORTUNITY



REALTOR®

RE/MAX®

presidential, inc.

753 2500 - 876 5324



ELINOR SCHWARTZ APPOINTED TO ARLINGTON COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Barcroft resident Elinor Schwartz has been appointed to the Arlington County Planning Commission. Among other things this citizens advisory group reviews all requests for site plan approvals and zoning variances from developers in Arlington County. Elinor chairs our Neighborhood Conservation Plan committee on Transportation. She is a professional urban planning consultant, and is well qualified for the Planning Commission. She has a thriving practice, and it is commendable that she was willing to volunteer her time for this most time-consuming of all the Arlington commissions. Congratulations, Elinor!

We have others in Barcroft who are members of citizens advisory groups. Please let Sue Sarcone (920-8131) know your name so that we can do an article on Barcroft's commission volunteers.




ANN KASSEL IS THE MISSING BLOCK CAPTAIN


As we noted last month, our December list of Block Captains for the distribution and pickup of Neighborhood Conservation Plan questionnaires had at least one missing name. It turned out to be Ann Kassel, who had served in the 9th Street S. area. Sorry we missed you, Ann, and hope this recognition of your contribution makes up for the error. Our Block Captains are important people, and we don't want to leave any of them out of the roll call!

NEWSLETTER STAFF	
<u>Advertising Manager:</u>	Talmadge Williams 920-7006
<u>Contributions Editor:</u>	Susan Sarcone 920-8131
<u>Editor:</u>	Randy Swart 521-2080
<u>Around the Neighborhood:</u>	Kathy Kerr 892-6458
<u>Mailing:</u>	Aileen & Paul Woods





ESTABLISHED 1940



MALCOLM'S AUTOMOTIVE
4601 COLUMBIA PIKE
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22204

521-7769

FOR BARCROFT RESIDENTS ONLY:

**10% DISCOUNT ON PARTS AND
LABOR WITH THIS AD!**

Expires 2/29/88

BARCROFT REQUESTS REVISION OF ARLINGTON SNOW REMOVAL PLAN

The County has published this year's snow removal plan. We took a good look at it, since snow removal was identified as a problem by people responding on the Neighborhood Conservation Plan Questionnaire.

The plan shows a much more logical and systematic approach to snow removal than you might expect just from seeing the results on your street. The County uses 70 pieces of equipment, 125 employees, "a mountain of salt" and \$500,000 annually to remove snow. While the snow is falling, the objective is to keep major arteries passable for public transportation. After the snow stops falling, the crews shift to clearing neighborhood streets. Plowing begins when the snow is deeper than 4". Below that the sun does a better job or salt works better than plowing, which has to leave a layer of snow on the street to avoid snagging the plow on manhole covers or bumps.

Barcroft has high priority streets on three of its borders: Arlington Boulevard, Columbia Pike (both cleared by the State, since they are State roads) and George Mason Drive. In addition, there are two "2nd Priority" streets: Buchanan/Pershing and Wakefield.

The BSCL discussed the snow removal plan at our January meeting and decided to ask the County for three revisions. The first is to extend the 2nd priority status of North Henderson all the way to Arlington Boulevard (it now ends at 2nd Street North). The second is to add 4th Street South and 8th Street South as 2nd Priority streets. Finally, the BSCL asks that Abingdon be added to the list of 2nd Priority streets. After the meeting we sent a letter to the County requesting those changes. For a copy of the letter call Pat Roach at 920-8131.

The County has some advice on snow removal. To avoid being plowed in after you dig out, face the street while digging and toss the snow back into your yard. If you can, park your car off the street where cars will not skid into it or splash it with salt spray. Use snow tires or chains in a Snow Emergency or you may get a ticket. Even better "Just relax and leave your car at home! Ride the subway, catch a bus, hail a taxi, try cross-country

skis or enjoy a walk in the snow. Evr car left at home reduces the number stranded vehicles that slow down snow control operations. The streets will be cleared faster. And you'll be free to enjoy the winter wonderland."

That's probably good advice if you can handle the physical part of slogging through snow and slipping on ice. It would help a lot if everyone cleared their walks after a snowfall, so the children going to school and adults going to work do not have to walk in the streets with those skidding cars.

During a snowstorm you can call the Arlington Public Works Department Operations Center at 845-7630 for information about snow control. The County official responsible for snow removal is Mr. Dennis Johnson, Chief, Operations Division, Department of Public Works, Courthouse, Arlington VA 22201. You can call or write him to support the BSCL request to add streets to the Plan. Or come to the Community House on Feb. 4 and raise the problem in your own town meeting. Your views are given more weight when they are supported by your civic association.



BETTY JANE MYERS
REALTOR®

A BARCROFT
HOMEOWNER &
REALTOR



Merrill Lynch Realty
6134 A & C Arlington Boulevard
Falls Church, Virginia 22044

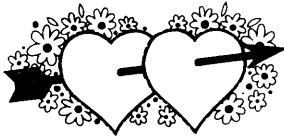
Office: (703) 536-5300
Res: (703) 521-3254



WANT ADS

NEED A HOME HANDYMAN FOR MINOR REPAIRS? Call Dick Williams, 521-0731. Free estimates.

WANTED: ADS! Bring your ad to the BSCL meeting on the first Thursday of the month. Or drop a note to the Editor at 4649 Second Street South, Arlington 22204. Want Ads are free for members of the BSCL, or \$5 for businesses. If you want jobs babysitting, shoveling snow, waxing cars, cleaning gutters or cutting grass, put your free ad here. February 10 is the deadline to get an ad in for your March yard sale or service.



BARCROFT SCHOOL AND CIVIC LEAGUE OFFICERS

President..... Pat Roach
Vice President..... Randy Swart
Treasurer..... Ira Belcher
Correspondence Secretary..... Karen Duff
Recording Secretary..... Donna Anderson
Board members..... Phyllis Kinsey
Susan Christopher
Bill Peine
Howard Mumford

NEIGHBORHOOD TIDBITS FROM KATHY KERR

Janet Kyle, on 6th St. South reports that EVERYONE on her side of the street shoveled their sidewalks after the snow in early January. Lucky mailman!

Did you know that the busiest Arlington street section lies within Barcroft boundaries? George Mason between Rt. 50 and Columbia Pike carries 25,800 cars by each day!. (Of course Rt 50 and others carry many more cars but they are State Roads.)

Don't put your bagged up newspapers out for the trash man. Rather, load them into your car and take them down to that (unsightly) container on Columbia Pike at the entrance to the W & OD trail. Pitching papers in there is great exercise and helps the recycling efforts of Arlington County. Save a tree!

New neighbors, babies, grandchildren weddings, Bar Mitzvahs, anecdotes, anniversaries, talents, memories? Help Kathy keep up-to-date in '88 with what's happening in Barcroft. Give her a call at 892-6458.



THE BARCROFT NEWS SALUTES MARK'S PRINT SHOP

In case you were curious, the Barcroft News is printed each month by Mark's Print Shop. Mark's is a small, very personal and very busy shop, located in the basement of a real estate office building at 3411 N. Washington Boulevard. The service Mark and his cheerful staff have provided for the Barcroft News has always been exemplary, with most issues printed in one day. We often leave the camera-ready copy for the News on his doorstep at 7 AM and pick up the 1350 copies that afternoon at 6 PM. That's fast turnaround for offset work. Mark's provides a full range of printing services, including calling cards, wedding invitations, bumper stickers, brochures and letterheads. And his prices are unbeatable, a key concern for a civic association newsletter! The next time you rejoice to receive your Barcroft News on time, before the monthly BSCL meeting, give some of the credit to the fast service we receive from Mark's Print Shop.



FEBRUARY EVENTS



Sundays "Arlington County Line" radio show with topics of interest to Arlington. WMZQ radio (AM 1390). 9 to 9:30 AM Sundays.

Tuesday 2nd The Groundhog's Shadow. Ages 7-9. 3:30-4:30 PM. Long Branch Nature Center (in the park) 625 S. Carlin Springs Rd. 845-7640

Feb 4 **BARCROFT SCHOOL AND CIVIC LEAGUE 7:30 PM. Neighborhood**
FIRST **Conservation Plan Progress.** Committees will report on
THURS. their progress to date in drafting the various sections
OF THE of the plan. A good place to register your views! For
MONTH information please call 920-8131.

Saturday 6th, 20th Arlington County Board Meeting. 9 AM at the Courthouse. Watch it on Arlington cable TV. Info 558-2261.

Monday 22nd Book Discussion Group - A Bend in the River by V.S. Naipaul. Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy 7:30 PM. Info 524-8662.

Fri 26 Opera Theater of N. Va. "An Incomplete Education" (a delectable little opera) and "Angelique" (a farce). Info 739-2918

Sat 27

Sat 27 Films "Castles of Clay" (life of African termites) and Walt
 Sun 28 Disney's "A World is Born" (excerpt from Fantasia). 2 PM.
 Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S Carlin Springs Rd 845-7640

TESLER AND WERBLOOD

ATTORNEYS AT LAW



- * Wills and Estate Matters
- * Personal Injury Accidents
- * Business and Commercial Law
- * Traffic Court Cases
- * Domestic Relations

During **February**, come in for a will for yourself, or for you and your spouse. Then get a **20% DISCOUNT** from our already low fee by showing this ad!

534-9300

Located in the 900 block W. Broad Street
 (Route 7) in Falls Church

**** Ample Free Parking at the Door ****



BARCROFT SNOW CAN BE FUN!

There actually are some people living in Barcroft who LIKE snow! I would suspect that the cross country skiers I have seen skiing down my unplowed street must fall into that category, along with most of the children here--especially when school is closed as a result of a blizzard.

For those willing to venture out, a few Barcroft sledding experts tell me that there are a number of good hills in Barcroft and near by.

Sonda Schwind's kids, Byron, age 18 and Stephanie, age 13, don't sled much any more but they spent many a chilly day coasting down the various size hills in Alcova Park. The Schwinds live right across the street so Sonda was able to let the children sled while she watched from inside her warm house. Sonda says that 6-8 years ago the big, steep hill on 8th St. S. just east of George Mason in Alcova (you know the one--with the stop sign at the top of the hill.....) used to be closed off during snowstorms for sledding. Now THAT would be a thrilling ride!!

Kid-at-heart Donna Anderson on S. Pershing reports that nearby S. Woodrow has a great hill. In fact, Woodrow must be one of Barcroft's shortest streets, consisting entirely of this one hill. At the bottom, one must steer around the curve onto Second St. S. where a friendly neighbor, Susan Stephanski, will understand if you overshoot into her bushes. This hill has never officially been blocked off to traffic but given Arlington's renowned inattention to plowing, Woodrow is one of the last streets in Arlington to be cleared. Also, not too many drivers are willing to tackle a snowy Mt. Woodrow.

Charlie and Natasha Lord enjoy taking their two daughters--Liza age 8 and Sasha age 6 (Happy Birthday, Sasha!!) --over to Glen Carlin Park to sled. They walk from their home on S. Abingdon St. and cut through the ravine on the path located next to 500 S. Abingdon, ending up in Arlington Forest. They turn left and enter the park at

the end of the street. The Lords find good sledding in several areas of the park. Natasha says there is a fast, popular hill near the playground and another good hill on the path leading from the "high road" (the W & OD Bikepath) to the "low road" (the Four Mile Run path). Actually, this year Liza and Sasha have taken to sledding down their driveway (with the garage door up to prevent potential damage.)

Unfortunately, many of Barcroft's best hills are actually streets, and kids really need to be careful since cars have such a hard time stopping when it is slippery out. It is amazing to me how even an unnoticeable incline can become such a great source of winter fun (for kids) and torment (for stuck drivers). For example, I don't consider my section of 4th St. South between Pershing and Abingdon to be much of a hill, but come blizzard time, sleds and stuck cars abound. Be cautious but have fun!!

DO YOU UNDERSTAND THE NEW TAX LAW AND FORMS?

or

TROUBLE WITH THE IRS?

or

STARTING A SMALL BUSINESS, NEED ACCOUNTING
ADVICE?

Ask the professionals at

SSB

SERVING SMALL BUSINESS, INC.

941 SOUTH GEORGE MASON DRIVE, ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22204

DARREL D. SHINN
PRESIDENT

892-9543

* 10% Discount on Tax Preparation *