



BARCROFT NEWS

Volume 94, No. 9

May 1997

New BSCL Officers Up For Election in May

The May BSCL meeting will involve a lot of voting. All BSCL members are eligible to vote at the meeting, which takes place at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 1.

First, there will be an election of BSCL Officers and Board of Directors. The slate includes David Michaelson for president; Mark Wigfield for vice president; Gary LeFebvre for treasurer; and Bill Huddleston for corresponding secretary. Michaelson and Wigfield currently serve on the board, in other capacities.

Then the membership will be asked to approve funding for the first phase of the Community House renovation at a cost of about \$55,000.

We will then have an update on the Hi Cue shooting and a discussion of long term strategies on how to address the situation. There will also be a discussion about the status of the Demeter House situation.

Project to Include Air Conditioning, Furnace

After two years of planning, the BSCL renovation committee is ready to move forward with the first major phase of the planned renovation. This will include replacing the furnace in the kitchen with one located in the attic, adding air conditioning, a handicapped accessible bathroom, all new electrical service and wiring, and new walls and floor in the kitchen.

We have obtained multiple quotes from the various trades and plan to coordinate the work ourselves to save money. The cost will be around \$55,000. We hope for less, since a safety margin is included for contingencies. The BSCL currently has about \$69,000 in savings.

In later phases, we plan to make the building handicapped accessible, remove the false ceiling in the main hall to expose the original wood ceiling, install new drywall on the main hall walls, and replace the roof.

Service Luncheon Crew Merits Barcroft Thanks

Thanks to all the Barcrofters who contributed food and helped out at our annual Service Luncheon honoring the people who provide us neighborhood services throughout the year. We always appreciate this occasion to honor our postal carriers, police, firefighters, newspaper carriers, librarians and Barcroft Elementary School teachers and staff. This year the County staffers were few, but weather was warm and sunny, making for a fine occasion.

Thanks to those who helped serve: Sally Breeden (who volunteered to chair the Luncheon Committee next year), Jim Kerr, Phyllis Kinsey, Maureen Locke, Ann Reed (whose lovely flower arrangements graced the tables), Sarah Sarracino and Randy Swart. They all contributed a dish or two, with more food prepared by Margaret Brown, Claire Hunkin, Kathy Kircher, Froma Lippmann, Cathy Moreno, Jane Roning, Carole Amy Rosen and Barbara Swart. The Uptown Bakers on Washington Boulevard gave us a generous donation of baked goods of all kinds. Pines of Naples made our vegetarian lasagna. As usual, leftovers were contributed to the women's safehouse.

Call the Barcroft Neighborline

521-1116

Get the latest information

Barcroft on the Internet: <http://www.bscl.org>

Trout Caught in Polluted Four Mile Run

The last trout we saw this year was fished out of Four Mile run on Monday, April 7. We hope it was cooked carefully, since the Friends of Four Mile Run estimate that 5,000 pounds of pet droppings flush into the stream every day, raising bacteria counts to the point where wading in the stream is not recommended.

Barcroft News Staff

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
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| <i>Neighborhood News</i> | Kathy Kerr, 892-6458 |
| <i>Contributions Ed.</i> | |

Deadlines: 1st (ads) or 10th (editorial material) day of the month preceding the issue month.

BSCL Officers for 1996-97

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| <i>President</i> | Jim Kerr, 892-6458 |
| <i>Vice President</i> | David Michaelson, 553-3953 |
| <i>Recording Secy.</i> | Lisa Palance, 979-8366 |
| <i>Treasurer</i> | Dave Voorhees, 979-8287 |
| <i>Corres. Secy.</i> | Mark Wigfield, 979-0339 |
| <i>Membership Secy.</i> | Peg Lefebvre, 521-0184 |
| <i>Board Members</i> | Scott Allard, Scott Brinitzer, Tom Palance, Randy Swart |

Community House

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>Facility Mgr.</i> | Tom Palance 979-8366 |
| <i>Restoration</i> | Jim Kerr, 892-6458 |
| <i>Fundraising</i> | Bill Huddleston 920-2011 |
| <i>Landscaping</i> | Scott Brinitzer, 892-0308 |
| <i>Crime Resistance</i> | Chris Monek, 920-1287 |
| <i>Neigh. Conserv.</i> | David Michaelson, 553-3953 |
| <i>Signs Manager</i> | Jack Turner |
| <i>Traffic</i> | Elaine Squeri, 920-7014 |
| <i>Parade</i> | Carol & Andy Hunter, 979-8247 |

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Homicide at Hi Cue Subject of BSCL Talks

At the April meeting of the BSCL, Scott Brinitzer's presentation was shortened to allow for discussion about the recent shootings outside the Hi Cue pool hall at the corner of S. George Mason Drive and Columbia Pike.

Lt. Panther of the Arlington County Police informed us that a man was shot in the head and killed just outside the Hi Cue pool hall on Monday, March 23 around 2 a.m. Two nights earlier on Saturday morning around 12:30 a.m. a man was seriously wounded by gun fire at the same location.

After the first shooting the police increased their presence in the parking lot. The second shooting took place during a five minute window when an Arlington police officer was away on a bathroom break. The police were scheduled to maintain a night time presence at the location until April 7. Lt. Panther said that police have temporarily installed a high quality video camera inside Hi Cue. Videos taken the night of the shooting were of very low quality and not useful by the police. The owners of Hi Cue plan to replace their system with a high quality video system.

Andy Lowe, property manager for the shopping center for the last 12 years, was on hand to relate what the property owners' response has been. The property owners are planning to enforce the 2:30 a.m. closing of the Hi Cue per the rental agreement with the owners of the pool

hall. Previously the Hi Cue had been lax about closing and were open well past 2:30 a.m. on weekends.

Second, the property owners will hire an off-duty Arlington Police officer who will be in uniform, with patrol car, and armed. Previously the shopping center owners hired an unarmed security guard who was present the night of the shootings. Third, the lights will remain on all night long instead of being on only during business hours.

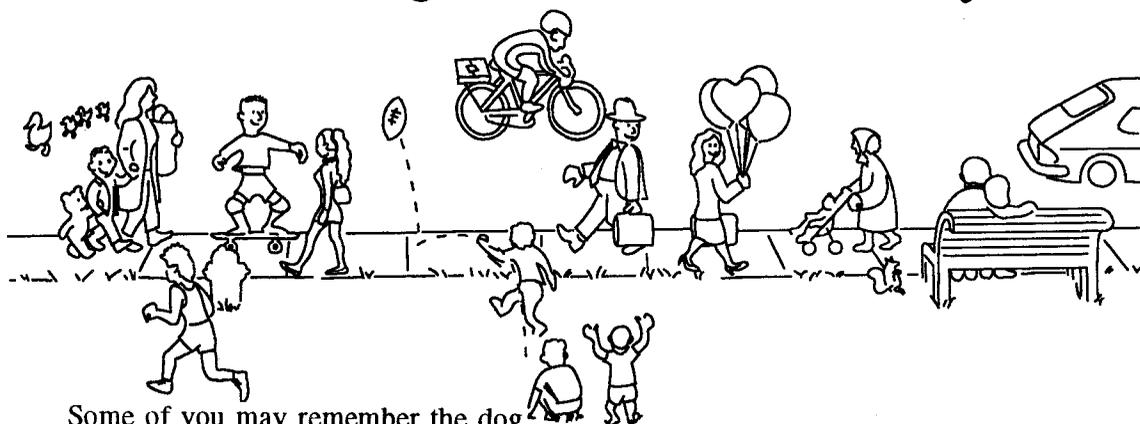
Arlington County Board member Chris Zimmerman was on hand to present the County's actions. Earlier, County Board member Paul Ferguson had asked the County manager to find a way to close the Hi Cue in light of the continuing murders taking place there. Mr. Zimmerman said the manager's report had not been completed but that it did not look like the County could do much. Hi Cue does not operate under Use Permit or have a liquor license which could be revoked.

Hi Cue Shootings: Deja Vu, All Over Again

Four years ago, in March 1993, we wrote in the News: "In response to continuing Barcroft community concerns about crime in the neighborhood, the February BSCL meeting again focused on the subject of crime. The area of primary concern was the 900 block of South George Mason Drive, particularly in and around the shopping center and the Hi Cue Billiard Hall..

"Reactivation of the Crime Resistance Committee...described actions
(continued on page 6)

Around the Neighborhood with Kathy Kerr



Some of you may remember the dog attack last November that critically injured a Barcroft canine named Fluffy while she was out walking on a leash with her owner, Michael Stoil of 6th St. South.

Fluffy, who only weighs about 10 pounds, was attacked by a much larger dog. Her injuries were very severe and she had a very poor prognosis. The latest news is that Fluffy is now having a miraculous recovery, astounding even her veterinarian. The dog who attacked her is no longer alive so it should be safer these days for dogs on leashes.

When did the first telephone arrive in Barcroft? What was it like when neighbors stood in their nightclothes in February watching as the old Arlington Mill burned down? How about that fire in Glen Carlyn caused by the steam train? How did they put the fire out? Why might we be living in "Corbett" instead of "Barcroft?"

The answers can be found in a small booklet, "Barcroft, Arlington County,

Virginia, A Village Metamorphosis." Author Mildred Handy Ritchie, a professional genealogist, lived in Barcroft all of her life and wrote the lovely and concise history of our neighborhood.

Adaline Marye Robertson of 9th St. S wanted to make sure that all Barcrofters and any other interested people would have access to this information. She had 500 copies of the booklet printed and donated them to the BSCL to distribute. This wonderful little book is available at BSCL meetings and will be on hand at the 4th of July Parade. You could also get a copy by contacting Jim Kerr at 892-6458.

Mildred Handy passed away in 1986 but her work lives on. Thank you to Mrs. Robertson for printing the booklet and to Betty Handy for helping with all of these efforts. The Handys and Mrs. Robertson's family, the Maryes, are longtime family friends, going back several generations. Mrs. Robertson, whose family home on S. Wakefield was built in 1892, has traced her family in Virginia as far back as 1730.

Hunters To Coordinate Fourth of July Parade

Carol and Andy Hunter have volunteered to coordinate the July 4th parade this year. They will take over from veteran parade organizer Mary Anne O'Rourke. The Hunters, who live on 8th Road South, will be counting on everyone else in Barcroft for lots of help on this annual event. Call them at 979-8247 to volunteer to help out or to pass along ideas for this year's parade.

Landscaping Advice Given to Barcrofters

One of our most active BSCL board members, Scott Brinitzer, gave a presentation at our April meeting on the use of landscaping design plans to provide

a framework for improving your lawn.

He demonstrated the technique with three different design concepts for the Community House grounds. In brief, a plan lets you add or move plants while keeping a sense of where you want to go with your yard, with fewer mistakes and replantings. It helps you decide what to do next, or where to put that azalea that Aunt Minnie gave you for Easter or you saw on sale and bought on impulse.

Scott, who lives on 8th Street, planted the perennials you see blooming at the Community House now, and circulated the petition for the new street lights along Buchanan. Call him at 892-0308 if you are interested in upgrading the lights on your street.



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(continued from page 3)

being taken by the Arlington County Police Department to reduce the level of crime-related incidents in the 900 block. ... (including) the new "No Trespass Program" being implemented at the shopping center in cooperation with the merchants, including Hi Cue."

That describes our April 1997, meeting almost exactly. The No Trespass Program had just been implemented after four years. Hi Cue's lease was renewed in December for seven more years. A new and important element was a promise by the shopping center that they would hire off-duty Arlington policemen to provide security, which the County is now providing at taxpayers' expense.

The County Board representative was Chris Zimmerman, who lives just blocks from Hi Cue and is as concerned as we are, but did not offer any hope of closing the

business. The most helpful new note was the involvement of the Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization, whose Conchita Mitchell skillfully brought many parties together in a series of productive meetings terminating in a very fine letter laying out what everyone had agreed to.

Call Chris Monek at 920-1287 to volunteer for the Crime Resistance Committee, or to get a copy of the CPRO letter if you can't access it on our Web page at www.bscl.org.

Time forced postponement of the rest of the discussion to our May meeting, where Barbara Swart will outline her ideas for long-term solutions to the Hi Cue problem. Otherwise, we are saving this article to run again in 2001.

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Plant Sale on May 3 to Benefit BSCL, AIDS

Are you ready to plant your flowering annuals or start your herb garden? Looking for a few more perennials for the yard? Then we have the place to get them while helping the community too!

On Saturday, May 3, Peter Wood will be selling annuals, herbs and perennials to benefit the Barcroft Community House and the Washington AIDS Ride. The plant sale will be held at the Community House from 9 a.m. until the plants are gone.

Peter, who lives on South Second Street, will be selling plants from his

Barcroft Exchange

FOR SALE. Older Hammond electric organ. \$250. Large black metal, government-style desk with office chair, \$100. Mahogany corner cabinet, \$250. Barbells, \$20. Call Barbara, 685-1157.

LAWN MOWING. Prices negotiable. Call Colin, 979-0339.

FOR SALE. Little Tykes car riding toy, \$20. Call 892-6458.

FOR SALE. Upright piano, antique German "Ibach." Beautiful wood with carving on front. Ivory keys. Recently tuned. \$800. Call 892-6458.

DOG WALKING. Prices negotiable. Call Cara, 979-0339.

brother's greenhouse operation on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Part of the proceeds will be donated to the Barcroft Community House and part will go towards Peter's fundraising efforts for the AIDS Ride which will take place in June. Contact Peter Wood, at 892-1692 if you have any questions.

Squeri Tapped to Head Barcroft Traffic Panel

After a brief absence, Elaine Squeri has volunteered to take over the helm of our Traffic Committee again. Elaine is hoping to hear from Barcrofters interested considering a wide range of traffic calming measures. Call Elaine at 920-7014. She is planning to hold a meeting on June 9.

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