

Volume 89, No. 2

October 1991

## OCTOBER MEETING Candidates' Night

The October BSCL meeting will be the annual Candidates' Night gala. Two Arlington County Board seats are up for election, and incumbents Al Eisenberg and Bill Newman have each agreed to attend. Other County Board candidates have been invited to attend, as well as the candidates for our Delegate to the State Legislature, incumbent Karen Darner and Alice Tennies. Because of various scheduling issues, please note that the meeting will begin promptly at 7:15 pm and the candidates will begin speaking at 7:30 pm.

## **September Meeting Notes**

The BSCL's first meeting of the season was busy.

- Officer Debra Altman conducted the program on how to avoid being a crime victim.
- ▶ Pat Roach reported that the County is asking for Barcroft's position on whether the park on Arlington Hall property on our side of George Mason Drive needs an en-

- trance on George Mason. Call Pat at 920-8131 if you have views on the subject.
- Randy Swart reported that we have now had four neighborhood conservation projects approved.
- Members asked why the County has not moved the recycling center on Columbia Pike, which is stalling our park rehabilitation project there. Margaret Davis agreed to look into the delay.
- President Larry Goldschmidt discussed briefly a new plan being proposed by some civic associations. It proposes that the County adopt a consultative process for placement of "Locally Unwanted Land Uses," such as last year's detox center. The plan will be the subject of our November meeting.
- Larry also presented plans for painting the Community House and repointing its stone foundation, which the membership approved.
- Joyce Hutchins presented some very fine refreshments, which the membership consumed.
- New neighbors in attendance included Laura and Jim Falvia, who had moved to 7th Street just four days before the meeting.

#### **New Voting Place**

Because of the construction at the Barcroft School, our polling place will be temporarily located at the Unitarian Church Social Hall, 4444 Arlington Blvd. Please note that **this is the hall directly under the church**—not Reeb Hall.

#### Blockbuster Kidprint Program

Blockbuster Video has been providing a valuable service during the month of September and until October 6. They will videotape your child, of any age, for free if you provide the videocassette or \$2 if you purchase one from them (proceeds of cassette sales go to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children).

The tape is made in a private area of the store, where they have a "mugshot" setup geared to kids—cheerful height measurement background and yellow-and-white clipboard. The videotapers have the children talk about school and other topics of interest to them so that their natural speaking voice is recorded.

No appointment is necessary; the hours are Tuesday-Thursday from 2 to 7 pm and Saturday and Sunday from 10 am to 6 pm. For more information, call (703) 204-1900.



#### Register to Vote

This is your last chance to register to vote in the 1991 November elections. The Registrar will close the books after October 5, so be sure to get to the Courthouse before then. You might be lucky and find a registration table set up in one of the local businesses you frequent, such as the Erol's on Columbia Pike, where a table has been set up and staffed during September.

Don't miss your chance to make your voice heard in this important year for local and state elections.

#### **Barcroft News Staff**

Editor Sara Leigh Merrey, 521-0527
Publisher Phil Cackley, 271-9743
Advertising Manager Virginia Reinecke, 528-6600
Neighborhood News Contributions Editor Mailing Randy Swart, 521-2080
Mailing Aileen Woods & Paul Metzler
Deadline for submissions: 5th of the month pre-

ceding the issue month.

#### BSCL Officers for 1991–1992

President Larry Goldschmidt, 521-3746
Vice President Scott Allard, 521-0825
Treasurer Deborah Wood, 892-1243
Recording

Secretary Sharon Tope, 920-2567 Corresponding

Secretary Talmadge Williams, 920-7006
Board Members Phyllis Kinsey, Susan Christopher,

Pat Roach, Randy Swart

Membership
Secretary
Signs Manager
Jack Turner

Arlington Hall Pat Roach, 920-8131
Hospitality Joyce Hutchins, 685-4921

Transportation Tom Junker
Crime Resistance Dick Carter, 521-5976

Barcroft News is printed by Stanley Adams Printing Company.

#### Membership Response Good

As of the September meeting, Membership Secretary Kathryn Villegas reported that 156 people had already sent their \$2 dues to her. If you lost the form in the last newsletter, send your dues to Kathryn at 4301 Columbia Pike, #533, Arlington, VA 22204. Our goal is to reach 500 members this year.

## **Barcroft School Renovation Commences**

The new trailers are in at Barcroft School and the old addition is gone. The trailers and their decks will be a permanent fixture for the next two years as the school is renovated. Principal Ellen Kahan is anxious to know if anyone is unduly inconvenienced by the construction, so give her a call at 358-5838 if you have a beef. So far the construction noise has been normal for this type of project, but we can't imagine trying to teach elementary school children with the bulldozers growling and howling outside!

## Don't Forget the Ice Cream

In last month's article on the parade we forgot to mention one of our corporate sponsors—Party Line Ice Cream on Columbia Pike next to Peoples. They donated a generous number of discount coupons for ice cream and deserve a visit to see the unusual, exotic, rich, fat-free, and just good ice creams they have.

#### Phil Cackley Is New Publisher

Just hours after the September Barcroft News hit the street with a request for a publisher, Phil Cackley called to volunteer. Thanks, Phil! You may remember Phil and wife Alicia singing a duet at the Christmas program. Soon after Phil's call we also received calls from Claudia and Hilary Uyehara and from Nancy Kronheim. We have asked them to help Phil out and perhaps take over if he is out of town.

Our thanks to retiring publisher Suzie Taylor, and best wishes for success in her new grad school courses.

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#### The Barcroft News Team

The Barcroft News is prepared by a team headed up by Sara Leigh Merrey, Editor (who when not volunteering runs her own company, providing graphic design, editorial, and publication production services and desktop publishing consultation). Sara Leigh works on a Macintosh computer, receiving material from many different sources. The neighborhood news column is by Kathy Kerr (mother at home). Scott Allard (defense consultant), our VP, prepares the monthly article on the upcoming meeting. President Larry Goldschmidt (official at the National Trust for Historic Preservation) writes on the view from the top. Other articles are found by Randy Swart (Director of the Bicycle Helmet Safety Institute and looking for a paying job), our Contributions Editor, who asks volunteers to write articles and writes some too. The all-important ads that pay for the News are collected by Virginia Reinecke (who runs her own printing services company), Advertising Manager for the Barcroft News.

When Sara Leigh has edited and composed an issue, our publisher, Phil Cackley (househusband, former newspaper reporter) takes her output all the way through printing, inserting, folding, labeling, and packaging for mailing. Printing (on recycled paper) is by Stanley Adams Printing Company.

#### **Daycare**

In my home with flexible hours and reasonable rates. I love kids!



Susan Yoder 553-8932



Barbara Swart (computer manager) does our labels for bulk mail, using carrier presorting to get the lowest fees. That requires Treasurer Deborah Wood (mother at home and grad student) to send checks periodically to the Post Office, reimburse us for expenses, and deposit the ad payments that cover our costs.

Aileen Woods and Paul Metzler (retirees who mostly seem to do a lot of dancing!) take the mail sacks to the post office. We mail copies to the County Board, County officials, and our State Senator. Our State Assemblyman, Karen Darner, lives here in Barcroft and gets her copy at home! We also mail to our Congressman, the Department of State (for Arlington Hall news), the Virginiana Room at the Library, two of our Barcroft mailmen, CPRO, the presidents of the other civic associations in the South Arlington Coalition of Civic Associations, and editors of several other neighborhood newsletters. Anne Noll (civic activist) takes our spare copies to the monthly Civic Federation meeting.

That's how this newsletter gets into your hands every month. We all enjoy it and think it worth the effort. If you want to help, do an article or opinion piece and drop it off with Sara Leigh at 4669 4th St. S. She can use any kind of computer disk, or you can write it on the back of an envelope. More articles mean a more interesting newsletter.

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#### Who Owned Barcroft?

A check of the County's deed records for the Community House reveals that the Methodist Episcopal Church of Barcroft sold it to the BSCL in 1914. The church had acquired the land from Mrs. Abbie Fox in 1908 and built the Community House that year as a chapel and "town hall." Abbie Fox was a widow and land investor who lived in Washington. She had subdivided what is now Barcroft neighborhood up to 7th Street in 1903, selling lots through her Barcroft representative, Stephen P. Wright. Mr. Wright advertised lots in the 1903 Barcroft News, promising that "next spring they will have DOUBLED IN VALUE." Abbie Fox had in turn bought the land from James Corbett, who had subdivided part of it as the town of Corbett in 1892. (Abbie Fox cancelled the Corbett subdivision plan when she filed the Barcroft plan in 1904.) Corbett in turn acquired the property through a family member, S.S. Corbett, in 1852 when it was purchased from the Fairfax family, presumably descendants of Lord Fairfax, to whom the King of England made a large land grant in colonial days.

You can research your own house in the County deed room, on the second floor of the old Courthouse building at Courthouse Road and 14th Street N.

# Call the Barcroft Neighborline 521-1116 Get the latest information

To have a notice announced on the line, call Larry Goldschmidt.

#### Sign Project Delayed

Our Neighborhood Sign Committee reached agreement last spring, after many meetings and much discussion, that the best design for Barcroft signs would be stone and that the two signs should be placed on George Mason at 8th Street and on Arlington Boulevard at Abingdon. The membership approved the committee's report at our May meeting.

The County has examined our design and believes that the trees in the triangle at George Mason and 8th Street would be endangered by constructing footings for a stone sign. The committee let the matter rest for the summer, but will soon be meeting again to discuss alternatives. If you are interested please call Barbara Swart at 521-2080.



#### Service

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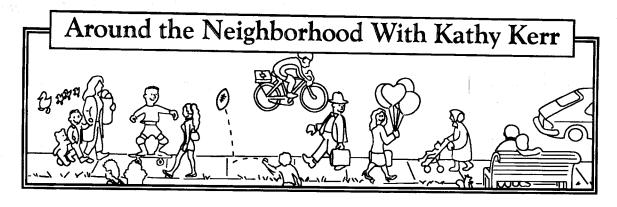
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Welcome to all of the new neighbors in Barcroft. One new couple is Mary and Mark LaFalce who live on Third St. They moved here from Arlington Village after a search for a home all over Arlington. Mary says they simply fell in love with Third St.! Mary works at Mt. Vernon Hospital as an assistant administrator, and Mark is the director of food service with ARA, presently serving 3,000 people per day at the Library of Congress. The LaFalces both enjoy playing tennis and are always looking for partners for mixed doubles.

#### \* \* \* \* \*

Welcome back and congratulations to Steve and Susan Yoder. They used to live on 8th St., then moved to Fairfax. Now they have returned to Barcroft's 6th St. Their 6th child, Alyssa Jean, was born June 29th. Alyssa's siblings are Kelsey, 2; Kathy, 5; Kyle, 6; and twins Sonya and Byron, 8.

Eight years ago, when the Yoders lived in Barcroft, they needed help with Sonya, who was born with Down syndrome. They solicited neighbors to help provide Sonya with a program of intellectual and physical stimulation and patterning. Two volunteers were needed to help with the three daily sessions. The Yoders will always be grateful to the many Barcrofters who contributed their time. Susan says that the program really changed

her way of looking at her daughter, giving her a vast appreciation of Sonya's gifts and increasing her expectations regarding Sonya's abilities. Sonya attends Barcroft School along with her other school-age siblings. The four oldest, including Sonya, enjoy playing soccer.

Steve is a professional home renovator, and Susan is a family day-care provider. She specializes in flexible hours and certainly has a playmate available for all ages! Need a sitter? Call her at 553-8932.



Of Barcroft's many "interesting" intersections, the most confusing may well be by Blockbuster Video, where Buchanan meets Columbia Pike.

As you proceed down the hill from Barcroft toward the light, there is a wide white stop line across the road just before the shopping center driveway. Just past the driveway, there is another one. At which one do you stop? I posed this and other questions to Officer Altman at the September BSCL meeting. She noted that although there is room for at least one car at the stop line closest to the Pike, more than one car could block the drive; so the second car at the light should stop at the line before the drive.

Of course, if you want to turn right on red, it is perfectly legal to do so. It is also legal

#### October Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Civic Federation Mtg., 7:45 PM, Arlington Hosp	Wednesday Bird Walk, 9 AM-noon, Long Branch Nature Center	BSCL, 7:30 PM, Community House. Call 521-3746 for info	4 Wheel of Trouble, 3:45– 4.45 PM, Long Branch Nature Center, 1st &r 2nd graders	5 Columbia Pike Artist Studios Open House, 11 AM– 4 PM, 932 S. Walter Reed Dr.
6	7 MATCH, 7:30 PM, Dunn Loring United Methodist Ch., 791-6264	8	9	10 Birding Trip to Bombay Hook N.W.R., 7:30 AM-6 PM, adults; 358-3403 for reservations	11	12
13	14 COLUMBUS DAY	15 Adult Walk-Autumn Stroll, 10– 11:30 AM, free; 358-6535 for reservations	16	17	18	19 Fall Plant Hike Series, 1:30–3:30 PM, adults, free; 358-6535 for reservations
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 Halloween Campfire, 7– 8:30 PM, Long Branch, free, wear costume; 358-6535 for reservations	31 Halloween	<b>Farmer's Marl</b> near the Ca Closes a	ourthouse.

to go "straight" across to the Four Mile Run Drive that runs by Goodwill, although it may astound drivers making a left from that street.

Is it legal to turn right on red at Columbia Pike and then turn left onto old Four Mile Run Drive in the same maneuver? No. Don't try that one; you'll get a ticket.

This crazy intersection is one that most Barcrofters have strong opinions about. Some

would like the intersection to be straightened into a proper crossing; others would like a left turn lane added to Columbia Pike; and still others would rather it be left as it is to discourage people from cutting through Barcroft. The official Barcroft Neighborhood Conservation Plan calls for improving the safety of the

(Continued on page 8)

#### Voter Registration Change of Address Form

If you wish to vote in the next election, you must be registered to vote using the address where you actually live. If you have moved and not yet updated your voter registration, complete this form and mail it to the Office of Voter Registration, #1 Courthouse Plaza, 2100 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 320, Arlington, VA 22201.

Name:

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New Address:		
Former Address:	200	
Soc. Sec. No.:		
Date of Birth:	<del></del>	
Date of Move:		
Names of registered voters w	ho mov	ed with
		:
Signature(s):		
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#### Around the Neighborhood (continued)

intersection without specifying exactly how to do so.

I regularly travel that intersection, heading down Four Mile Run toward Shirlington. I find it quicker and less stressful to cross the Pike at the light. It's usually faster than turning right on red and then trying to turn left on new Four Mile Run (by the bike trail and recycling bins). When I return I come up old Four Mile Run and cross at the Blockbuster light again. This avoids the inevitable wait to turn left from the Pike onto Buchanan. Not only is there a lot of traffic, but if I pull up too far I can't see the light anymore!

Bicyclists, joggers, and pedestrians are undoubtedly safer crossing at the bike trail.



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#### Arlington's Best Kept Secrets

## Free Videos, CDs and Talking Books

Near Barcroft there is a secret source of free videos, compact disks, and cassette tapes with talking books. You can find a reasonable selection of "classic" videos in VHS and Beta, including some from recent years and some for kids. You can find a good selection of mostly classical music on CDs, with their spectacular sound quality. And you can find a good selection of talking books—cassette tapes with readings of popular books which can make a dull trip on the interstate fly by or keep your kids entertained for hours.

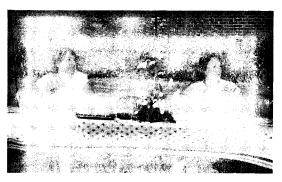
All of these goodies are entirely free, and all of them are at the Columbia Pike branch of the Arlington Public Library at 816 Walter Reed Drive. You can get there by turning left on Columbia Pike, left on Walter Reed at the Cinema and Draft House theater, and left again into the parking lot for the library. Call 358-5719 for hours. You can keep a talking book for 3 weeks, a CD for 10 days, a nonfiction video for 7 days, and a fiction video for 2 days. You can also rent a Polaroid camera for \$1/day to make that photographic home inventory for your insurance company, or rent a 16-mm movie projector for \$5/day. Libraries should not be a secret—check it out!

#### Barcroft Exchange

**FOR SALE** Solid wood wall unit with fold-down desk, \$150. Compact refrigerator, perfect for dorm room, \$40. Call Jim or Kathy, 892-6458.



The incomparable Barcroft Marching Band and its veteran color guard, under the direction of Jack Turner (trumpet and sombrero, center).



Distinguished judges Karen Darner (left) and Conchita Mitchell.

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**Steve Yoder 553-8932** 

#### Barcroft's Best Kept Secrets

### Who Puts Up the BSCL Meeting Signs?

Every Barcrofter has seen one of the "Barcroft Meeting Tonight" signs appear magically on a prominent corner on the morning of the first Thursday of every month. The signs are our best reminder that there is a neighborhood meeting that night. But how do they get there?

The "magic" is Jack Turner, our BSCL Signs Manager. Jack puts them up late Wednesday night when Barcroft is sleeping.

And he unfailingly takes them down late Thursday night after his choir practice, which ironically prevents him from attending most of the meetings! Jack's dependability is what keeps you from ever seeing a sign left over on a Friday morning. For those who hate day-old yard sale signs, that's a real blessing.

You may remember Jack from the Fourth of July parade, where he is the Grand High Poo-Bah of the Barcroft Marching Band, leading the musicians with his trumpet. In real life Jack is the owner of the Turner Sign Company, a commercial sign business. So he comes by his interest in signs honestly, even though our own signs were obviously an amateur production. Jack says our signs are quite serviceable, even if they lack the polish of professionally made ones.

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#### **Dues Time Is Here**

It's that time of year again—BSCL membership renewal. We won't be haranguing you during your television programs every night, or during your preschooler's *Sesame Street* program in the morning, to remind you that the BSCL is made possible by your funding. We just ask that you complete and return the coupon on the dues notice enclosed. The dues are \$2 per person. Remember, only paid members can vote for officers and on issues and resolutions affecting the community.

You are welcome to attend any meeting, even if you don't pay your dues. And you get this dynamite newsletter too. But only paid members get a copy of the directory.

#### Barcroft Crime Report

Crimes reported during July and August. If you have information about an incident, please call the police at 558-2222.

Look for an analysis of crime in Barcroft in the November issue.

- 7/1 900 S. George Mason Shoplifting
- 7/2 900 S. George Mason Shoplifting; 2 incidents
- 7/3 4300 S. Columbia Pike Car window broken
- 7/4 100 S. Pershing Car window broken
  Unit Block S. Pershing Car window broken
  900 S. Buchanan Burglary, no sign of forced entry; TV, stereo equipment stolen
  4300 S. Columbia Pike Employee assaulted at business
- 7/5 900 S. George Mason Bad check
- 7/6 4600 S. 2nd '89 Mazda stolen
- 7/7 4600 S. 4th Bike stolen
- 7/8 900 S. Buchanan Attempted burglary, through open window; suspect fled
- 7/9 4300 S. Columbia Pike Car window broken4300 S. Columbia Pike Car window broken900 S. George Mason Shoplifting; 4 incidents
- 7/10 900 S. George Mason Shoplifting; 2 incidents
- **7/11 900 S. George Mason** Shoplifting; 3 incidents
- 7/12 900 S. George Mason Shoplifting; 2 incidents
- 7/13 900 S. Buchanan Stereo stolen from car
- **7/14 900 S. Buchanan** Burglary; victim woke up and chased suspect
- 7/15 900 S. Wakefield Suspicious activity; juvenile female reported a man motioned to her to talk to him near his car
- 7/16 900 S. George Mason Shoplifting; 2 incidents
- 7/19 900 S. George Mason Shoplifting; 2 incidents
- 7/20 4600 S. Columbia Pike \$10 gas taken without payment
  - 900 S. Buchanan '86 Toyota stolen
- 7/21 4200 S. Columbia Pike Harassing phone call

- 7/22 4300 S. Columbia Pike Attempt to steal '88 Chevy
- 7/23 900 S. George Mason Shoplifting
- 7/24 900 S. Buchanan Jacket taken from apartment
- **7/25 600 S. Buchanan** TV taken; no sign of forced entry
- 7/28 100 S. Pershing Attempt to steal radio
  Unit Block S. Pershing Car phone antenna
  stolen
  - 4700 S. Columbia Pike Purse taken; no force
- 7/31 4800 S. Columbia Pike Purse snatched 900 S. George Mason Shoplifting
- **8/1 800 S. George Mason** 2 arrested for drinking in park
- 8/3 4600 Arlington Blvd. Car paint scratched
- 8/4 900 S. George Mason Shoplifting
- 8/5 800 S. Buchanan Recovered auto stolen elsewhere
  - 900 S. George Mason Shoplifting
- 8/6 4500 S. 8th Air conditioner taken from front porch
- 8/10 4600 S. 3rd Door handle damaged
- 8/11 500 S. Wakefield Screen pried; no entry
- 8/14 900 S. Wakefield Car window broken; vehicle gone through
- 8/16 800 S. Taylor Burglary; school; computer equipment taken
  4800 S. Columbia Fight; 2 subjects arrested
- 8/20 900 S. George Mason Shoplifting
  400 S. Abingdon Car cover taken
  400 S. Abingdon Car cover taken
  400 S. Wakefield Arlington County trash container stolen
- **8/21 4800 S. Columbia Pike** Store manager's car paint scratched
- 8/22 900 S. Buchanan Car window broken; items stolen
- 8/31 4200 S. Columbia Pike Arrest after traffic stop; possession of cocaine
  900 S. Buchanan Glass broken out of front door of apartment building



800 South Buchanan Street Arlington, VA 22204

Barcroft School and Civic League

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