

Brookland & Bush Hill

NEWS

A Newsletter for the Residents of Brookland and Bush Hill, in Alexandria, Virginia

September 2003

BBHCA Community Meetings

September 16, 2003 and
September 23, 2003

7:00 pm

Bush Hill Elementary School

AGENDA

Welcome and Introductions

Neighborhood Watch—Vacant—
Need a volunteer

Constitution and By-Laws—
Bob Michie

BBHCA web site—

Sharada Gilkey and Bob Michie

Secretary's Reading of the Minutes

Treasurer's Report

Second Vice President's

Membership Report

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Need a volunteer for
Neighborhood Watch Committee

Need a volunteer for Secretary

Approve budget for 2003-2004
(Sept 16th)

Next meeting—Sept 23, 2003

Items from the floor

PROGRAM

● Meet the candidates Sept 16th

7:30-8:15 Chairman of the Board
of Supervisors

8:15-9:00 House and Senate
State Legislators

● Meet the candidates Sept 23rd

7:30-8:00 Sheriff

8:00-9:00 School board

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Community Discussion
Adjournment

BEVERAGES AND SNACKS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Meet the Candidates

Larry Carter, *President BBHCA*

Another summer has rushed by and it's time to kick off the 2003-2004 Brookland Bush Hill Civic Association's (BBHCA) year. We have some key elections this November, so the Association has planned two meetings in September to present the candidates to the community. Mark your calendars now for September 16th and September 23rd. The first meeting we'll invite the candidates for Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, and State Legislature including the House and Senate. On the 23rd we'll invite those candidates running for Sheriff and the School Board. Come and meet the candidates face to face; it's one of the best ways to really get to know candidates and to find out how others in your own community perceive them.

This invitation applies to everyone in the Brookland-Bush Hill community. We will be delivering copies of this newsletter for the first time to the new residents of Gunnell Estates. We are a civic association and are separate and distinct from the Home Owners Association that I believe is expected in your area. Come and check us out. You may find a place for us in your busy schedules. Let us know where you stand. You may come and participate in the meetings whether you join the organization or not; if you pay the \$3 per person annual mem-

bership fee you get voting rights. So, please come and meet some of your new neighbors and interact with and get to know the candidates for this fall's elections.

Trash Collection

Trash collection seems to be becoming more of a problem in our area. I have received a couple of complaints about trash piles at curbside. I've noticed a few piles myself around the neighborhood. I think in general our trash collection system works pretty well. Where we may have some work to do is in special collections. Occasionally during remodeling or spring-cleaning exercises we may generate larger quantities of trash or larger sized items (washers, dryers, etc) than the normal trash collection service can handle. There is a special collection service that is free for the asking. The number is 703-802-3322. For other trash collection information call 703-385-7995. Large trash bins can even be requested to accommodate remodeling or major clean-up operations. The services are there for us. Be considerate of your neighbors and the appearance of your neighborhood and help keep our streets and sidewalk areas clean.

BBHCA has a couple of open positions. We are in need of a Secretary. The Secretary is the official recorder of the minutes for our meetings and

President's Message *Continued*

keeps copies of official correspondence. The Secretary serves on the Board of BBHCA, so you get a strong voice in the planning of the organization's functions. Please step forward and volunteer. It's an excellent way to meet others in your community and become more aware of the various issues confronting residents.

We also need a volunteer for our Neighborhood Watch committee. We have several people on the committee who have been long-time members and participants; what we need is a chairperson. Again, this is another way of getting involved in your community. Please step forward and let us know if you are interested. Sometimes teams work out very well. You can share the responsibilities of a position with a friend. You'll note that our membership chair is currently a shared position. Figure out a way to help us and we'll work with you on implementation.

On that note, this will be my third year as President of BBHCA. It's time for me to step aside and let some new blood lead the organization. I've had a great time and accomplished my main missions in joining the organization and becoming President. My first mission was to meet some of my neighbors. I had been here for about a year having

relocated from San Diego and just didn't know anyone. I responded to a call from the organization in a newsletter article just like this. The difference was that the article I responded to was issued in May and elections were a week away! Still, I had the whole summer to get comfortable with my new duties. Well, to say the least, I have met many truly wonderful people in the couple of years since that decision. They helped me a lot in getting started and keeping the organization running. Dot Cosby, Roy Rice, Bob Michie, Carol and David Lewis and Dana Kauffman and his staff at the Lee District County Supervisors office are a few of the people I'd like to single out. I'd also like to mention the rest of our current staff of Judi Connelly, Michael Fogarty, Sharada Gilkey and Marti Morris. All of these individuals just seem to want to do what's right for this community. It's been a pleasure working with all of them. So, come next May of 2004, I'm hoping that we won't have to put out another call for a candidate for President but will have at least one person who will have come forward to say "Yes, I'd like to help out and get to know my neighbors better." Feel free to call me or email me if you have any questions. You'll find a list of all the officers with contact info in this newsletter. Feel free to contact any-

one of them. You may also reach us through our website at www.BBHCA.org.

Budget

Each year the organization must approve a budget for the upcoming year. This needs to happen at our meeting on September 16th. Elsewhere in this newsletter you'll find a table showing last year's budget alongside the recommended budget for the coming year. Take a look at it and be prepared to either approve it as it stands or to suggest some adjustments.

The community meetings will begin as close to 7PM as participants allow. If you haven't joined the association yet, it's never too late to get involved. The annual dues of \$3 per person and \$6 per household are very reasonable for a voting position in the affairs of the association and, thereby, the community. We meet at the Bush Hill Elementary School. The meetings are normally on the second Tuesday of every other month beginning in September. The next meetings are September 16th and September 23rd. Please mark both days on your calendar. Come and meet some of your neighbors. Make some new friends. Find out what others are experiencing and see if you can help in some way to make our community just a little better. ■

Brookland-Bush Hill Civic Association Officers

PRESIDENT

Larry Carter,
703-924-5055
president@bbhca.org

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT *Newsletter*

Judi Connelly
newsletter@bbhca.org

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT and MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Marti Morris and
Sharada Gilkey
membership@bbhca.org

SECRETARY

Open—Need a volunteer

TREASURER

Michael Fogarty
703-719-7929, 703-719-0774
fogarty@cox.net

PAST PRESIDENT

Carol Lewis
COMMITTEES

ZONING AND LAND USE

Roy Rice
703-971-4379
roywrice@aol.com

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Open—Need a volunteer

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

Bob Michie
703-971-3769
michier@cox.net

BBHCA WEB SITE

Bob Michie
703-971-3769
webmaster@bbhca.org

Sharada Gilkey
(Web site only)
sgilkey123@aol.com

Brookland-Bush Hill Sponsors Candidates Nights

*Tuesday, September 16 and
Tuesday, September 23rd*

By Robert Michie

Brookland-Bush Hill Civic Association announces Candidates Nights at Bush Hill Elementary School. September 16 is reserved for Fairfax County Chairman of the Board of Supervisor candidates, and candidates for the State Senate (39th District) and House of Delegates (43rd District). The following week, on September 23rd, The BBHCA hosts candidates for County Sheriff and the Fairfax County School Board.

BBHCA will use the panel format. Each candidate may make a short introductory statement, and then the panel can take questions from the floor. Since the State panels are expected to answer similar questions, the Virginia Senate and the Delegate candidates will sit on the same panel.

Both events begin promptly at 7:00 PM. A list of candidates appears below. Contact information is on the County website and at www.bbhca.org.

2003 Election Candidates

CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Mychele Brinkner (R)

Gerry Connolly (D)

SHERIFF

James Vickery (R)

Stan Barry (D)

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Tom Bolvin (R)

Mark Sickles (D)

Virginia Senate

"Jay" O'Brien, Jr. (R)

Greg Galligan (D)

SCHOOL BOARD, LEE DISTRICT

Brad Center (I)

"Terrie" Dacales (I)

SCHOOL BOARD, AT LARGE

Steve Hunt (I)

"Nell" Hurey (I)

Ilyong Moon (I)

Janet Oleszek (I)

Lynn Terhar (I)

Rita Thompson (I)

Gunnell Estates Looking for a Path to Metro

By Robert Michie

Gunnell Estates, the new housing development at the bottom of Bush Hill Drive, is looking for clarification about a BBHCA initiative from 1997: using Oakwood Road to get to the Van Dorn Metro Station. BBHCA insisted in various forums all through the 1990's that some kind of walking path be provided from Bush Hill Drive and LaVista Drive through Gunnell Estates to Oakwood Road. What got proffered by the developer, KSI, and subsequently accepted by the County, was an asphalt trail inside a flood plain that connects Bush Hill Drive to LaVista, with no direct connection to Oakwood.

Residents in Gunnell Estates raised security objections to the proffered trail, while asking for the same kind of connection that the BBHCA wanted. During several meetings this summer, it became apparent that the walking trail requests the BBHCA made in the 1990's were not specific enough when describing Gunnell Estates. A full history of the problem can be found on our website at www.bbhca.org.

The executive committee decided that a letter clarifying BBHCA's wishes would be welcomed by County staff and our new neighbors in Gunnell Estates. An update on this situation will be presented as part of a short business meeting that precedes Candidates night on September 16. ■

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today!*

Message From Supervisor Kauffman

Stuck in Traffic

I probably get more questions about transportation issues and local roads than anything else so I would like to take this opportunity to give you a status report on two that are close to home.

The widening of Beulah Street is now in its final phase, with work on the segment from Franconia Road to the Springfield/Franconia Parkway. The estimated completion date is late summer 2004-weather permitting.

When the work is completed, Beulah Street will be expanded from two to four lanes with a raised median, curb and gutter, and turn lanes. A portion of the road (about 300 feet south of Flat Rock Road) will be lowered by three and a half feet to improve visibility. An asphalt sidewalk (similar to an asphalt trail) will be installed on the east side of the road and a concrete sidewalk will be added to the west side.

Both sides of the road will have bike lanes (four feet wide). A traffic signal will be added at Fleet Drive. There will also be a traffic signal at Walker Lane and Beulah Street. This signal is not part of the Virginia Department of Transportation's project—it is the responsibility of the developer of Metro Park.

We are continuing to apply pressure to the Army and our Congressional delegation to either re-open Beulah Street south of Telegraph and Woodlawn Road or provide us with a bypass. Thanks to the presence of some 400 area residents at a recent town meeting, Congressmen Moran and Davis have agreed to work with us to find some real, more short-term options. The first choice would be to 'harden' the

existing road network to protect sensitive commands at Fort Belvoir. The second would be to 'bend' Woodlawn Road by relocating some golf holes on the Fort's golf course.

I've also heard from many residents who wonder what's happened to the extension of South Van Dorn to Telegraph Road. I would like to assure you that the project is still alive. Because of the exceptionally wet winter and spring, the ground has been too wet to support any construction equipment. Once we get a stretch of dry weather, you should see construction activity. This is not a VDOT project. It is the responsibility of the Kingstown developer.

Sometimes, You Don't Have to Drive...

Mark your calendars Sunday, October 26 for the fourth annual Tour de Lee—the yearly bicycle event that showcases trails and local cycling opportunities. Brookland-Bush Hill's own Bob Michie, the Lee District Trails Commissioner, is one of the key organizers of this event. Tour participants will meet at the carousel at Lee District Park for registration between 8 and 9:30 am.

You can also register in advance by calling my office at 703-971-6262.

Again this year, we will have several different levels, including a 16-mile ride that begins at Lee District Park and takes about 2 hours. The 1.5-mile family ride begins at Rose Hill Elementary School and ends at Lee District Park.

(Registration at Rose Hill Elementary School will be between 9:45 and 11 am.) For those who consider this just a warm-up, there's a more challenging ride in the afternoon.

Please check our web site for more information and pictures of last year's event. The address is <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov>. From there, click on Government, then on Board of Supervisors, then on Lee District, then on Calendar of Events.

Please call my office (703-971-6262) if you would like more information or a registration form.

Annual Lee District Town Meeting

I will host the annual Lee District Town Meeting from 10 am to noon on Saturday, October 25 at Lane Elementary School on Beulah Street. This year, local restaurants will offer a "Taste of Lee District." ■

Toastmasters Club

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COME JOIN US! WE WELCOME GUESTS!

WHO? The Franconia Orators

WHERE? John Marshall Library

6209 Rose Hill Drive

Alexandria, VA

WHEN? 2nd & 4th Thursday of the month

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Your Neighborhood Real Estate Companies

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HOURS

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Appointments are not always necessary.
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Brookland-Bush Hill Civic Association Budget

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2003-2004 BBHCA Newsletter Copy Deadlines

| ISSUE | TEXT DEADLINE |
|-----------|---------------|
| Nov. 2003 | Oct. 4, 2003 |
| Jan. 2004 | Dec. 5, 2003 |
| Mar. 2004 | Feb. 7, 2004 |
| May 2004 | Apr. 9, 2004 |

Send copy to:
newsletter@bbhcanews.org

| Fiscal Year starts on June 1 and ends May 31 | | |
|--|-----------------|--------------------|
| | ACTUAL | PROPOSED BUDGET |
| Item | FY 2002-03 | FY 2003-04 |
| Membership Dues | 986 | 1,100 |
| Interest | 161 | 160 |
| Newsletter Ads | 1,185 | 1,000 |
| Directory Ads | 0 | 0 |
| Miscellaneous | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL INCOME | \$2,332 | \$2,260 |
| Bank Charges | 19 | 0 |
| Newsletter | 1,091 | 1,200 |
| Directory | 0 | 0 |
| Yard Sale | 213 | 200 |
| Security Bond | 101 | 101 |
| Meetings (refreshments) | 5 | 100 |
| Miscellaneous | 0 | 59 |
| Postage | 0 | 0 |
| Directory Data Update | 0 | 0 |
| Donations | 400 | 500 |
| Web Page (hosting) | 0 | 0 |
| Contingency | 0 | 100 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | \$1,829 | \$2,260 |
| Profit (Loss) | 503 | 0 |
| END OF YEAR CASH | \$15,661 | \$15,661 |

BBHCA NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES

Brookland & Bush Hill News accepts advertising.

Single Issue Rates (Size is width x height)

| | |
|--|-------|
| Business Card (3.5" x 2") | \$15 |
| 1/4-page (3.5" x 4.75") | \$25 |
| 1/2-page (7.5" x 4.75" or 3.5" x 10") | \$50 |
| Full-page (8.5" x 11") | \$100 |
| Multiple Issue Rates (per issue) | |
| (4-5 issues, September 2001-May 2002) | |
| Business Card (3.5" x 2") | \$10 |
| 1/4-page (3.5" x 5") | \$20 |
| 1/2-page (7.5" x 5" or 3.5" x 10") | \$40 |
| Full-page (8.5" x 11") | \$80 |

To reserve your space, contact
bbhcanews@cox.net
Payment required in advance or with ad.
E-mail for location to mail or
drop off camera-ready ad.

Next newsletter: November 2003

Deadline: October 4, 2003

Go to the BBHCA Web site to download
the advertising contract.
www.bbhca.org

**Fourth Annual Tour
de Lee Set For Sunday,
October 26 2003**



Le Tour De Lee returns on Sunday October 26th. Advanced registration is now open for this 2, 15, and 30 mile ride. Le Tour is a family fun ride designed to show off bicycling opportunities in Lee District. The ride has its beginning, midpoint, and end in Lee District Park. A ride for young children begins at Rose Hill Elementary School and ends at Lee District Park.

Participants get tee shirts, SAG support, and a police escort on the first 15-mile ride. The second 15-miler is led by BBHCA member and Lee District representative to the Non-Motorized Transportation Committee, Bob Michie. It is designed to show off commuter routes through Lee District.

More information about the Tour de Lee is available from Supervisor Kauffman's Office, and from www.personalpronouns.org.

A Bike Helmet Story

by Helen Gettys Michie

I'll never forget the day my husband Bob came home, safe and sound, but with a bike helmet that was split neatly in two. Here's how it happened. My bicyclist husband was riding on Franconia Road, something he has done safely thousands of times in the past. He was temporarily blinded by oncoming headlights when a low hanging branch that he had never seen in that location before hit his head, luckily covered with a bicycle helmet. He was temporarily stunned, but recovered and got home safely. But the blow to his head was so violent that had it not been for the helmet, he and his head would most probably have been on a their way to the hospital!

Make it a rule in your household that everyone wears bicycle helmets, no matter how short the trip. If you see a lady in a red mini van rolling down her window if she sees a child or adult who is not wearing his or her helmet, do not be alarmed. It is just me, reminding you to wear your helmet! Someday you or a member of your family may be very glad you did.

Special! Fill up .999 Per Gallon. Expires September 30, 2003!

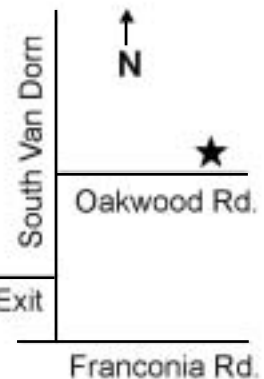


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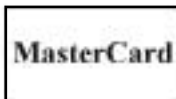
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