

BARCROFT

NEWS

SEPTEMBER, 1987

WELCOME!

The Barcroft News is your neighborhood newsletter. It is produced by your neighborhood civic association, the Barcroft School and Civic League. You live in Barcroft if your home is in the area bounded by Arlington Boulevard, George Mason Drive, Columbia Pike and Four Mile Run.

For many years Arlington has been organized into neighborhood civic associations to make local decisions and give advice to the Arlington County Board. The BSCL is one of those associations. In 1908 the League's members built the Barcroft Civic House at 800 South Buchanan Street (which now also houses St. Georges Bulgarian Orthodox Church). The League is active on local issues such as street lights, traffic signals, potholes, sidewalk repairs, parks, and building permits. It also represents the neighborhood on broader issues such as the future of Arlington Hall, fire station relocation and the renewal of Columbia Pike. Interested neighbors provide the League's vitality, so if you want to change this little corner of the world just come to the next meeting or pick up your phone and call anyone listed in this newsletter. We're your neighbors, and we would love to hear from you. You can make a difference in Barcroft.

The BSCL meets at the Community House at 800 South Buchanan Street (up the hill from Roy Rogers) on the first Thursday of each month. Meetings are small and friendly. They feature a speaker on a topic of neighborhood interest. The next meeting will be on September 3, on the Neighborhood Conservation Plan which Barcroft is beginning to draft. We would all be pleased to see you there.

RETURN YOUR QUESTIONNAIRE!!

You can still return your completed Barcroft Neighborhood Conservation Plan questionnaire and have your views registered. The questionnaires are being entered on a computer database, and every comment on every one is being entered. The first printout has already been done, and will be passed around at the September meeting for everyone to see. A revised printout will be done in a few weeks when all the questionnaires are in and all the comments have been entered. If you want your views registered you are not too late, but act now to get your questionnaire in. You can drop it off (1) with your block captain, (2) in the box on the front porch of the Barcroft Community House at 800 South Buchanan Street, or at the home of Pat Roach and Sue Sarcone, 4610 Sixth Street South.

MEMBERSHIP

The Barcroft School and Civic League has a September to September membership year. So now is the time for everyone, including those who are already BSCL members, to join for the 1986-87 year. Dues are only \$2 per person. Please send in your dues with the coupon on the back cover. You can also join at any meeting of the League. And you are welcome at any meeting whether or not you ever send in your dues. We need your support to keep the Barcroft neighborhood spirit healthy. Please join today!

SURPRISE!! SOME PEOPLE DO NOT LIKE QUESTIONNAIRES!!

As the Barcroft Questionnaires are entered into our PC we have begun to see some interesting things.

First, not everyone in Barcroft likes questionnaires. In fact, some people really hate them, and see them as the first step in adding new rules or taking away some freedom. One respondent said the questionnaire "left me with the feeling that this is MOSCOW!" Another, opposed to Lawnmower Day, complained that he or she had not bought in a planned community in order to exercise their individual choice.

The surprising thing about both is that they filled out the questionnaire, despite their distaste for the questions. We are glad they did. Are there more of you out there who hate questionnaires or think the questions were not good ones and did not send yours in? If so, we urge you to say something, so that no one will think that you just forgot to do yours, or that you do not care. Drop

a note to the Barcroft News at 4649 Second St. S, Arlington 22204, or put it in the box on the porch of the Community House at 800 S. Buchanan. Better still, fill out a questionnaire and make your views part of the record. It's all anonymous, so you can feel free to write what you think.

The Conservation Plan is not going to make you do anything. The questions about neighborhood eyesores, noise and other irritants were not leading to some sort of recommendation for new rules about painting your house, keeping your canary indoors or shushing your kids. Common sense will continue to prevail on all those subjects. We tried to make the questions neutral, even though some of us hoped you would say no on some of the questions.

The Conservation Plan will be our neighborhood plan, not something imposed on us from somewhere else. Come to the next meeting and be part of it. Everyone is listened to. Every comment is considered.

We hope that you will participate in the writing of the Conservation Plan, and will support it when it is done. But we need comments from all of you to make sure of that. Even people who hate questionnaires!

If you shredded your questionnaire or lost it and would like a new one, call 920-8131 and Pat Roach will get one to you.

Randy Swart



Large selection of organic and natural foods at reasonable prices!
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Store Hours: Tues 4:00 - 9:00 p.m. Wed & Thurs 11:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Fri 11:00 - 7:00 p.m. Sat 9:00 - 7:00 p.m. Sun 11:00 - 6:00 p.m.



**INTERESTED IN ARLINGTON'S HISTORY?
JOIN THE ARLINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Arlington has an active Historical Society whose members share a common interest in the history of the County. The Society was founded in 1956 at a meeting in the Glebe House, and held its first meeting in November of that year at Arlington House. The organization soon launched the Arlington Historical Magazine and acquired the Hume School, which has served as the Historical Museum and the headquarters for the Society ever since. In 1975 Mrs. Marian Sellers donated to the society the historic house which was first constructed by John Ball in the 1740's. The society still owns and shows this house, which is located in Glencarlyn neighborhood just a short walk or bicycle ride from Barcroft.



Membership in the Society is only \$15 per year, including the newsletter and a copy of the annual Arlington Historical Magazine. The address is

The Arlington Historical Society
Box 402
Arlington, Virginia 22210

You do not have to be a member to visit the Historical Museum, which is free, and has many interesting exhibits on Arlington's past. The museum is located at 1805 Arlington Ridge Road, and is open Fridays and Saturdays 11 to 3, Sundays 2 to 5.

We thought the museum was worth a separate article, and will be listing a few of the Historical Society events in our calendar of events through the year. The Society members are nice people, and if you have an interest in the history of our County we urge you to have a look at the museum and think about joining.

The Historical Society has a full calendar of meetings and events throughout the year. It holds bi-monthly meetings at the Historical Museum with programs of interesting speakers on Arlington history. There are house tours and visits to historic sites arranged periodically, including a round of special events at Christmas. The annual banquet always has a few surprises, and there are generally other new things during the year like the Glencarlyn neighborhood hike and the tour of Sears Roebuck catalog houses which the Society ran in 1986.

Members of the Society receive the Arlington Historical Magazine each year. This fascinating journal is full of articles about Arlington history, including one on Barcroft's history which appeared some years ago. The whole series of magazines can be found in the Virginiana Collection at the Central Library. Ask Sara Collins, the Virginiana librarian (and a former President of the Historical Society!) to help you find the article on Barcroft if you are interested in reading about our neighborhood.



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Arlington's Best-Kept Secrets

WHERE ARE CARLIN'S SPRINGS?

Many people know that Carlin Springs Road is named for John Carlin's resort of the same name, but how many in Barcroft can find the original Springs?

Carlin's Springs was a popular Sunday stop on the W & OD railroad for picnicking Washingtonians toward the end of the 1800's. The resort was located on Four Mile Run. You can still find the original springs down the hill from Barcroft. Just take the W & OD bicycle path north from 9th Street S. toward Arlington Blvd. When the path crosses the first wooden bridge, bear left onto the older, narrower trail. This trail crosses a second bridge. Then look to your left for a picnic shelter, and behind it in the woods at the edge of the hill are two stone springboxes. These are Carlin's Springs.

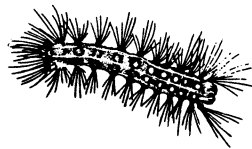
Next month: Where is the oldest house in Arlington? (Hint - it is not Arlington House!)



****WANT ADS**WANT ADS**WANT ADS****

FOR SALE Nothing.

WANTED: More want ads! Want to sell that old radio, look for a babysitter, find a job raking leaves, or put your fall yard sale in our next issue? Bring your ad to the BSCL meeting on the first Thursday of September (the 3rd). Or drop a note to the Editor at 4849 Second Street South, Arlington 22204. Ads are free for members of the BSCL.



GYPSY MOTHS: REMOVE THE BANDS

With the cicadas howling the idea of gypsy moth control seemed somehow irrelevant this year. We are fortunate that the moths have not yet hit Barcroft in great numbers, but they are building every year, and will reach critical mass shortly. In September you should make sure you have removed any of the burlap larvae traps you put around your trees this spring. The moths are in another part of the cycle now, and the traps are no longer useful. They can harm the tree if left on it all year, so remove them now if you have not already. More on the moths in coming months.

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**SOME BARCROFT LUTHERANS
WHO ENJOY THEIR CHURCH**

Liz DeMik on 9th St. South took an extra special vacation this summer with her family. They went to Wisconsin where Liz received a trophy for being "Parent of the Year" awarded by the National Lutheran Parent-Teacher League. Liz had been nominated by her church, Our Saviour Lutheran, located here in Barcroft on S. Taylor Street.

Liz's many activities make it easy to see why she was selected. She is on the Board of Education for Our Saviour Lutheran School and served as Chairman of their accreditation committee. Liz is actively involved with the Martha's Table program which provides food for the homeless in Washington. She has encouraged children at the Our Saviour school to bring extra sandwiches for lunch to donate to the homeless. Her many church activities include being a choir member and serving on an aid association for needy families. Liz will become a Junior Girl Scout leader this fall. As a graduate of an Arlington Red Cross clowning class, she also enjoys being a clown!

Liz's husband, Tom DeMik, is a banker with 1st American Bank in Alexandria. Their four children are: Jonathan age 13, Peter age 12, Cara age 9, and Steven age 5. Liz is a former teacher at Patrick Henry Elementary school in Arlington. She taught for 5 years prior to the birth of her first baby. At present she substitute teaches at Our Saviour and teaches vacation bible school for one week in August. (This vacation bible school is very popular with Barcroft neighborhood children ages 3-12.) Active church life is an important part of the life of this Barcroft family.

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

BABY BOOMERS BIRTHING BABIES

Keeping up with the new babies here in Barcroft could get to be a full-time job! Here are the ones I know about:

Stan and Debbie Sargol, Jr. now have a daughter, Bailey Ann, born on April 18th, 1987. Bailey joins her brother, Blaine Allen, age 4. The Sargols live at the corner of 4th St. S. and George Mason Drive.

On 5th St. South, Charles and Dian Weber have a new daughter. Claire Dian was born July 22. Her brother Daniel is 15 months old.

Bob and Florence Brodkey on S. Pershing had a baby girl on June 7th. Naomi Leah has a big brother, David, who is almost 5 years old.

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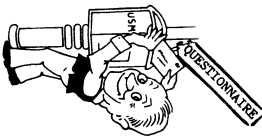
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NEWS

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BARCROFT SCHOOL AND CIVIC LEAGUE
 800 South Buchanan Street
 Arlington, VA 22204



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Barcroft School and Civic League
 c/o Kathryn Villegas
 4301 Columbia Pike
 Arlington, VA 22204

Name _____
 Address _____
 City Arlington, VA 22204
 Phone _____

Please send with \$2 dues per person.

Bring your free want ad for the Barcroft News to our next meeting.