

# BARCROFT NEWS

Volume 96, No 10

June 1999

## **Community House Restoration Topic of July Renovation Committee Meeting**

Barcroft's community house has benefited from major renovation work over the past few years, including a new kitchen, new wiring, new heating, air conditioning, new bathroom, and a fresh coat of paint in the main hall. Now the time has come to finish the job.

Plans tentatively call for replacing the scuffed old tile floor and removing the beaver board to expose the original ceiling. The renovation committee plans to meet on July 15 at 7:30 in the community house to discuss what the next steps should be -- and how to pay for them.

Anyone who is curious about these plans to restore our historic building, or would like to help shape them, is welcome to

come. The committee will eventually split into fundraising and renovation arms, and additional volunteers are needed for both committees. For more information, call committee chair Jim Kerr at 892-6458, ([jim@bscl.org](mailto:jim@bscl.org)) or fundraising chair Bill Huddleston ([bhuddle@erols.com](mailto:bhuddle@erols.com)) or 920-2011

About \$20,000 to \$25,000 is needed to complete hall renovations, and another \$18,000-\$20,000 for a handicapped ramp. Grant money may be available for the ramp. And grant money would enable us to complete the other work more rapidly as well. Neighborhood grant writers are urged to come to the meeting or call.

## **Landscaping Plan Approved**

Barcroft members gave final approval to a landscape plan for the community house at the association's May meeting. Members also authorized spending \$500 to match an

anonymous matching grant for the landscaping work.

The 26-0 vote, with one abstention, culminated over a year of planning and work by Barcroft board member Scott Brinitzer, Jill Herdon and numerous volunteers. Developed by Scott, who is a landscape architect, the plan includes additional screening from neighbors, plantings around both sides of the house, replacement of the chain link fence with a picket fence, and installation of an irrigation system.

Plans to erect a gazebo in the central portion of the south lawn and more extensive plantings in the southwest corner of the yard were put on hold until a ramp for the disabled is installed at the rear of the house. The additional landscaping and gazebo will be re-evaluated once the ramp is in.

Much discussion in the meeting centered around whether the plan would leave enough space for large events like the Fourth of July parade. In the end, after walking through the grounds with Scott, most members were convinced that the plan was both beautiful and functional.

Indeed, organizers of July 4 celebrations past and present endorsed the plan. Consensus was reached around Scott's point that sufficient open space remains in the south lawn, while more useable space will be created by removing fencing from the rear of the house.

Now, Scott is trying to raise about \$7000 to complete the plan. Donations are welcome, and can be sent to Barcroft

Treasurer at 812 S. George Mason Drive.

Other questions raised during the meeting included:

Should we use more native plants? Scott explained that a number of native species are being used, but some aren't hardy enough for a public garden.

Is the entrance to the main portion of the yard from the front of the house wide enough? The consensus was that the entrance could be changed if it proves too narrow.

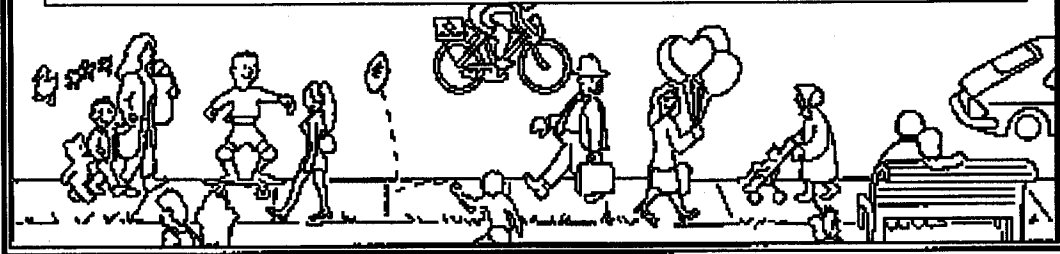
Will the fundraising for the garden compete with fundraising for community house renovations? The response was that more attractive grounds should attract revenue. Another response was that the community should move forward with landscaping now because of Scott's generous offer of time, labor and fundraising.

Would the community regret installing a picket fence because of maintenance concerns? A consensus was reached that the fence would add tremendously to the appearance of the property, and that volunteers would be found to paint it when needed.

*Volunteers will be needed to put in the fence over the next few months. Call Scott at 892-0308 for more information, or e-mail him at [Scott@bscl.org](mailto:Scott@bscl.org).*

The landscaping plan does carry some risks in terms of expenditure of money and volunteer time, but the consensus was that the landscape plan -- and Scott's hard work -- are a true gift to the community.

## Around the Neighborhood with Kathy Kerr



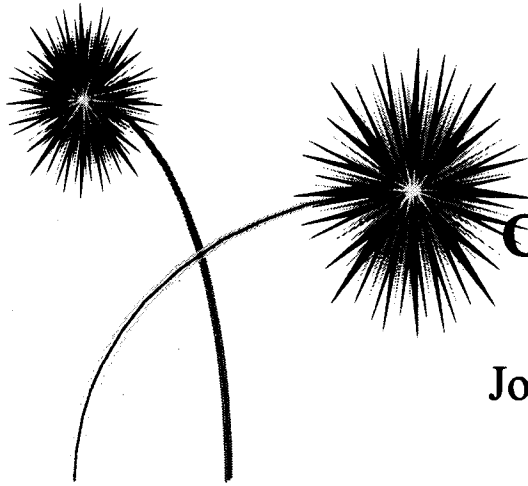
Welcome to new Barcrofters Jennifer and Erik McGunnigle. They moved into their new home in February, 1999. Jennifer teaches part time at Bailey's Elementary School in Fairfax. Erik is a marketing manager for the Congressional Quarterly. Their adorable son, Owen, is 18 months old. He needs a part time babysitter. Call Jennifer 271-0020 if you have any ideas for her.

Congratulations to Catherine and Gerry Cox on S. Taylor St. who are the proud parents of a new baby girl, Caroline Elizabeth, born March 16. Caroline's big brother is Alexander, age 5. The Cox family has lived in Barcroft for 1 ½ years. Catherine is working on her Ph.D. in nursing at George Mason University. Gerry is Navy physician.

The Evans family -- Beth, Harold, Jewel, Michael and Grandma Jewel -- wish to say good-bye to all our friends and neighbors in Barcroft. "We have lived here almost 25 years. We've enjoyed the wonderful festivities at the Community House, watching the neighborhood kids grow up,

and the changing of the seasons as celebrated by the beautiful yards, gardens and trees which grace this community. It is, however, time to move to greener pastures. Literally. We bought a small horse farm in Bloomington, Indiana and plan to retire there this summer. Harold will build violins; Michael will continue his violin studies at Indiana University; Beth will be involved in wildlife rehab, and Jewel gets to learn to ride a horse. Grandma hopes to find subjects for her water colors on the farm. It is an adventure we look forward to, but with sadness at leaving Barcroft where we have so many friends and great memories. We will be back for visits. Our new address is: 77 N. Sewell Rd. Bloomington, IN 47408"

Welcome to new neighbors Glenn and Sarah MacCullough who recently purchased their first home on S. Taylor St. Glenn is an architect doing residential and museum work. Sarah is a curator at the Corcoran Gallery in DC. They are excited to be in the neighborhood. Glenn is a long-time resident of the DC Area.



# Come and Our Nation's 22 Our 11th Annual F

Join us for Barcroft's An  
Sunday, J  
10:00 A



Parade begins at Barcro  
800 S. Buck  
Marchers should c

## **This year's event features:**

- Barcroft's own Cub Scout (Pack 104) Honor Gu
- Grand Marshall Arlington Police Chief and neigh
- Food, drink, friends and neighbors
- The famous Barcroft Marching Band, the infam
- Foolish antics, mute amusements and musical ar
- Door prizes, parade prizes, and much, much mo

Sponsored by the Barcrof  
For more information, call Andrew Hunter at 979-8247. Call

**Celebrate!**  
**Lord Birthday!**  
**Parcroft Parade!**

**al 4th of July Parade**  
**y 4th**  
**M.**

**Community House**  
**nan St.**  
**eck in at 9:45**

**rd**  
**oor Ray Flynn**

**s 8th Rd Precision Lawn Mower Drill Team**  
**malies of Mark Jaster**

**chool and Civic League**  
**ave Michaelson about helping out with the food**



*Bring a dish,  
make a float,  
ride your  
bike, join in the  
fun!*

# Neighborhood Sign

After much deliberation, discussion, and revision, the Sign Committee has come up with a design for the official neighborhood signs. It was presented to the Officers and Board of Directors on June 3 for their approval and will be presented to the neighborhood for final approval after the 4th of July parade.

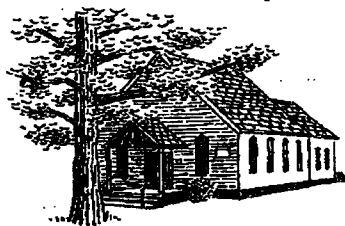
The proposal calls for one 6- by 4-foot sign facing Arlington Blvd. at the Abingdon St./Henderson Rd. intersection and two 18- by 24-inch signs facing North and South at the George Mason Dr. and 8th St. intersection. An additional small sign may be placed at the end of 9th St. near the W&OD bike trail; the officers and board will pursue this with the County.

The design includes a picture of the community house (adapted from Jack Turner's original drawing that appears in the nameplate of the Barcroft News), the name "Barcroft" in large type, and the words "Since 1903" smaller underneath.

A full-size black-and-white laser proof of the small sign will be on display in the Community House on July 4 along with a small full-color version of the large sign. Both signs will be in the same colors. In addition, there will be a sample of the actual sign material -- a gray-colored composite stone.

Many thanks to the Barbara Swart, Daryl DePrenger, Sara Leigh Merrey, and Jack Turner for their devotion to the sign committee. Our community can take great pride in their final design.

## For Your Special Event: Barcroft Community House



**Large space, small rental fee;  
Sparkling new kitchen & restroom  
Call Tom at 979-8366  
Special Low Rates for BSCL  
Members!**

### Barcroft News Staff

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<i>Neighborhood News</i>	Kathy Kerr, 892-6458

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

### BSCL Officers for 1998-1999

<i>President</i>	David Michaelson, 553-3953
<i>Vice President</i>	Mark Wigfield, 979-0339
<i>Recording Secy.</i>	Maria Corey 486-2060
<i>Treasurer</i>	Gary Lefebvre, 521-0184
<i>Corres. Secy.</i>	Bill Huddleston 920-2011
<i>Membership Secy.</i>	Peg Lefebvre, 521-0184
<i>Board Members</i>	Scott Brinitzer, Jim Kerr 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>Neigh. Conserv.</i>	David Michaelson, 553-3953
<i>Signs Manager</i>	Jack Turner
<i>Traffic Committee</i>	Elaine Squeri 920-7014
<i>Parade</i>	Andrew Hunter 979-8247

The *Barcroft News* is printed on recycled paper with vegetable-based ink by the Stanley Adams Printing Company.

# TRAV FICK Notes

It's summer time! Take to the streets and slow traffic in our neighborhood.

There are many safe, peaceful ways to do it: go for a walk, bike, roller blade, walk your dog or borrow one to walk. Why not show drivers that there are indeed humans, and even pedestrians, who live here even in this day and age. (Incredibly, many Barcrofters and most non-Barcrofters do not read our newsletter, and so may not know that over 340 of us believe our streets are noisy with speed and traffic.) If you hear the oncoming 35 mph driver, turn and motion him/her to slow down. It's summer - just gently wave your arms and always a smile - well, maybe raised eyebrows! Practice first!

If you believe there is speeding on your street, check your perceptions. There is an easy two-step process. First, have a friend drive past your location at least twice, driving 25 mph, and, then again, at 35 mph so you can hone your observation skills. (Perhaps in a parking lot somewhere you can check out 40 mph but, for heaven's sake, not on Barcroft streets! You will shock your neighbors and they'll be calling me!) Then take a chair, a pad, and a pencil and sit on the sidewalk where you notice the "speeding". Write down the license plate of vehicles going by and put a check if you think the vehicle is speeding, double check if over 35 mph. When you see County or commercial vehicles, get the vehicle number instead of license and the company name and phone number. Date and time your hours of observation and

cite the location. How much traffic was really there that hour? What percentage was over 35 mph?

On August 24 at 7:30 p.m., the Traffic Committee will meet at 216 South Abingdon. Turn in your observation sheets or better yet, come. We will ask through the County for a check of addresses to gauge the amount of cut-through traffic at your site. In any case, this type of data collection is good eye-hand coordination training. In between, you will discover friendly neighbors and drivers, with a sense of humor, just like us who are spending time on this! And it does slow many people to ask what and why you are doing this!

## Mowers Needed

Arlington Bilingual Outreach Program needs lawn mowers in good condition, ladders, shovels, rakes, and garbage cans for a project to help immigrants. Please call Ginger Geoffrey (703) 243-7181 to donate supplies to Bilingual Outreach.

## Barcroft Exchange

Barcroft Neighborhood Kids Camp! Run by Lauren Wilson and Cecilia Cackley, this great camp lasts the week of August 23-27, 9-1'o clock at the Community House. For ages 3-7, the week includes games, crafts, a water day and lots of fun! Call 271-9743 or 920-9410 for more info.

Wanted: a job for a mother's helper this summer. Lauren Wilson is 14 years old, a certified Red Cross babysitter. Call her at 920-9410.

**Fourth of July Parade**  
**Sunday, July 4**  
**10 a.m.**  
**Barcroft Community House**  
**800 S. Buchanan Street**

July 15 ⇒ **Renovation Committee**, Barcroft Community House, 7:30 p.m.

July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 ⇒ **Play Group**, local playgrounds TBA (call Lisa Rom, 486-2983)

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Barcroft School and Civic League

800 South Buchanan Street

Arlington, VA 22204

