



Fall BCA Picnic Draws a Crowd



Sketch Artist and Model



Dog Show Judge With Winners
Photos by Edith Miles

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johnnoble@mac.com



Neighborhood Conversation

The BCA Good Neighbors Committee

by Edith Miles

The BCA Good Neighbors Committee encourages neighbors to get to know each other and to help each other. We participate in a knitting group, a neighborhood walking group, BCA meetings at St. Mark Church, festivals at Concord Park, lunches and other meetings. We arranged a lunch for 18 BCA members at Normandie Farms Restaurant in Potomac in August and a table for BCA Seniors at the BCA Fall Festival in October.

We held a gathering in November to discuss how we spend our leisure time. Eighteen BCA members attended the meeting in Sam and Deanne Marein-Efron's house. Edith Miles first reviewed a number of volunteer activities and other activities (education, recreation, hobbies, travel, and friends) that BCA members enjoy (see lists below).



Volunteer Activities

1. Professional (Meetings, Mentoring)
2. Politics (Campaigns)
3. Environment (Organizations, Weed Warriors)
4. Help Seniors (Hospice, Senior Connection, Visits, Transportation)
5. Help at Day Care Centers, Schools, Homeless Shelters, Library
6. Docent at Museum, Zoo
7. NIH Trials



Other Activities (Education, Recreation, Hobbies, Travel, Friends)

1. Courses at Osher Lifelong Learning (Ollie), OASIS Educational Center
2. Classes at Glen Echo Park, Smithsonian
3. Reading, Book Clubs, Recorded Books and Courses, Bridge
4. Church, Synagogue, Travel, Family, Friends, Pets
5. Hobbies: Gardening, Cooking, Knitting, Crafts, Pottery, Music
6. Sports, Walking, Exercise, Meditation, Tai Chi, Yoga, Birding
7. Suburban Hospital Classes (Senior Shape at Clara Barton)
8. Montgomery County Recreation Dept. Classes

Participants then described activities that they enjoy. Edith works with Senior Connection (301-962-0820; www.seniorconnectionmc.org) to provide transportation and other services to Seniors. Sandra Finzi works with Montgomery Hospice (301-921-4400). Lucia Renart is a docent at the National Museum of Women in the Arts. Sharon Weiss (not present) strongly recommends volunteer work at Montgomery County Public Libraries and says volunteers are needed. She would be happy to talk with anyone interested. Bonnie Garrett (not present) is a Precinct Chair for the Montgomery County Democratic Committee and would be happy to have volunteers to work for the Democrats. 202-895-4860; (Continued on Page 7)

BCA President's Letter

Ted Garrett



I hope this finds you well as we begin the New Year.

Fall Festival. Our Fall Festival at Concord Park on October 13, 2013 was another terrific event, as you will see from the photos in this newsletter. A happy group of neighbors gathered to enjoy the festivities and a chance to visit. Thanks to our Festival committee, we had abundant food for everyone. Everyone enjoyed the caricaturist, pets included. The dog show had several enthusiastic dogs and owners who received prize medallions. Children displayed their creativity in decorating T-shirts, and the seniors table was well attended. Special thanks to Bonnie Garrett, Rebecca Kahlenberg, Edith Miles, John Noble, Tori Hampshire, Karen Lesser, Jane Pettit, and Jo Roberts for making this event a success.

Meetings. Our BCA quarterly meeting on October 3, 2013 featured remarks by our neighbor David Medine, who is Chairman of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board. The Board is an independent agency within the executive branch established by Congress in 2007 to advise Congress and the President of the United States to ensure that concerns with respect to privacy and civil liberties are considered in the development and implementation of laws, regulations, and policies related to terrorism. David Medine's remarks were informative and timely, given the concerns that have arisen due to the NSA surveillance programs leaked to the press by Edward Snowden. As usual, thanks to Jo Roberts and Movita Hercules for their help in providing refreshments for these meetings, and to St. Mark for its hospitality. At our December 5 Year End Meeting, Officer Janey, from the County police, spoke to us about steps we can take to assist the police and safeguard our homes.

Environment Committee. As you know, our BCA environment committee spearheaded a BCA resolution on best practices for tree preservation and removal. The committee worked on removing English ivy from our trees, and is also a resource to our covenants committee. Contact committee Chair **Seth Goldstein** sethgoldstein@verizon.net if you have suggestions or wish to volunteer.

Construction. Our covenants committee, headed by **Ben Schlesinger**, continues to monitor construction and permit applications in the neighborhood. If you have questions about a new construction, renovation or sale, contact Ben at bschles@bsaenergy.com.

Neighborhood Security. The committee acts works with the block captains and is considering other ways to improve neighborhood security. There is a new webpage with security information. As I write this newsletter, we have had some troubling recent incidents. We ask our block captains to get to know the neighbors on their block, to ask neighbors to keep an eye on each other's homes, and to register on the website. If you have suggestions or wish to volunteer to be a block captain, contact committee Chair **John Hannula** at john_hannula@yahoo.com.

Newsletter. **John Noble** continues to do a splendid job as Editor of the Banner. He wishes to find a replacement as editor. If you have any suggestions for the newsletter or would like to volunteer, contact John at johnnoble@mac.com.

Seniors. **Edith Miles** is Chair of our very active Good Neighbors committee. The committee organizes various activities and works to help BCA seniors who want to continue to live in their homes in their senior years. You can contact Edith for information or suggestions at ewmiles@comcast.net.

New Neighbors. **Jane Pettit and Cecily Abrams** welcome new BCA neighbors. If you would like to help on this committee or know of new arrivals to the neighborhood, please email janepettit1@verizon.net or call: 301-229-5932.

Dues. BCA dues are due now. You can mail a check to Bonnie Garrett, BCA Treasurer, 6604 Broxburn Drive, Bethesda, MD 20817 or pay your dues online via our website: <http://bannockburncitizens.org/dues/index.php>

Website. You can find our website at: <http://bannockburncitizens.org/>
Please register on the BCA website by clicking on the "register" tab, and/or update any change in e-mail address so that you will receive periodic e-mails concerning BCA activities, incidents, and other significant news. Your e-mail address is confidential and cannot be accessed by others.

Ted Garrett

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Neighborhood Crime Deterrents

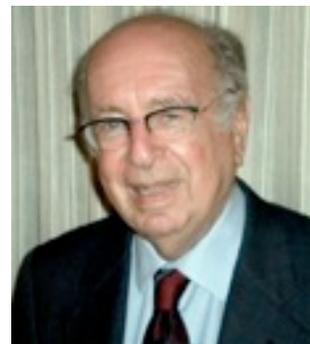
by John Hannula, Neighborhood Security Committee

There were several residential robberies in our neighborhood this fall. The BCA Neighborhood Security Committee reminds us that what we can all do is:

1. Be vigilant. Reporting ANYTHING out of the ordinary to the MCPD non-emergency number (301-652-9200 - Bethesda station). This includes strange cars, people or other suspicious items. In the case of cars, take a picture of license plates when possible.
2. Keep outdoor lights on at all times
3. If out of town, keep interior and exterior lights on. Ask a neighbor to pick up mail and newspapers. Tell your neighbors if you're out of town.
4. If you have a home security system, arm the system when at home, at night and anytime you leave the house
5. Lock cars at all times. Unlocked cars entice thieves.

Interview with Ambassador Richard Schifter

Ambassador Richard Schifter, our neighbor, was interviewed recently by Ted Garrett. Ambassador Schifter served as Deputy United States Representative in the United Nations Security Council with the rank of Ambassador, and from 1986 to 1992 he served as Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs, a position in which he played a key role in the U.S. effort to encourage the Soviet Government to release political prisoners, stop criminalizing political dissent and to allow the emigration of Soviet Jews. This story is told in the book written together with his Soviet counterpart, Anatoly Adamishin, "Human Rights, Perestroika and the End of the Cold War."



Q: As a young man, what made you interested in the law?

A: In college I majored in economics and initially thought I would seek to get a Ph.D. in economics. But at the time I graduated from college I was already on initial leave from the U.S. Army. So graduate school was significantly delayed. When World War II ended I was in Germany and decided to apply for a civilian job in the U.S. Military Government for Germany. My job was in the Finance Division, where I was assigned to a section that investigated the relationship of German companies to foreign subsidiaries whose true ownership status had been cloaked. It is while doing this work, which involved a great many legal issues, that I concluded that law would really be a most interesting field of study.

Q: What kind of work did you do in private practice after law school?

A: I joined a law firm that specialized in the field of American Indian law. In due course my major clients, whom I ultimately represented as Washington counsel for about thirty years, were the Oglala Sioux Tribe of South Dakota, the Pueblo of Laguna of New Mexico, the Nez Perce Tribe of Idaho, and the Metlakatla Indian Community of Alaska. I also handled the claims cases against the United States of the Absentee Delaware Tribe of South Dakota and a number of Pueblos in New Mexico.

In representing the tribes, I argued cases in appellate courts in various parts of the country, including the Supreme Court of Alaska. I also argued the Alaska case in the U.S. Supreme Court. Much of my work for Indian tribes also involved representation of Indian concerns in Federal agencies and in the Congress. As the years passed I handled a good many matters not related to American Indians, but Indian work remained the hallmark of my practice.

Q: How did your appointment to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights come about?

A: I was one of the supporters of Hubert Humphrey and Lilo and I became associated in Washington with those who shared our outlook, including Evron and Jeane Kirkpatrick. We became good friends and I was in continuing touch with Jeane. Then, in 1981, President Reagan appointed her to serve as U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations. A few days after she was sworn in I had a telephone call from her. After she told me that she was calling me from her car, which was an entirely new feature of life at that time, she asked: "Dick. Can you be in Geneva next Tuesday?" She explained that it would be a matter of representing the United States at the UN Human Rights Commission. I said "yes," and that was (Continued on page 6)

the beginning of a 20-year engagement of work in the U.S. Government in the field of foreign policy.

Q. What was most gratifying about your work as Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs?

A: To be engaged in the effort that ended totalitarianism in Eastern Europe, not only in the Soviet Union, but in the other East European states as well. Regrettably, the progress to democracy has been partially reversed in Russia, but most of the other states in the region are now genuine democracies.

Q: Tell us about the book you wrote about Soviet human rights.

A: I co-authored "Human Rights, Perestroika, and the End of the Cold War" with my Soviet counterpart, Anatoly Adamishin, who had served as a Deputy Foreign Minister. Under the enlightened leadership of Mikhail Gorbachev a good many people in the Soviet Government were ready to go public with their support of human rights and Anatoly was one of them. We cooperated closely when changes in policy were made in the Soviet Union and then thought that there might be members of the general public who might be interested in how the end of the Communist dictatorship came about.

Q: What do you like most about the Bannockburn neighborhood?

A: When we moved into this neighborhood, our oldest daughter was 14 and the youngest of our five children was 2. This has been the neighborhood in which they grew up, with our oldest still living close by. What I like most about the neighborhood is the wonderful setting that it provided for our children as they matured.

Thank you very much. Interview by Ted Garrett

Bannockburn Citizens Association

*****Please pay Calendar Year 2014 dues Now*****

Dues Payment Coupon

Member \$30

Supporting Member \$50

Patron \$100

Enclosed is my check for \$_____, (Contributions above "Member" are used for miscellaneous BCA expenditures, such as refreshment for General Meetings and our semi-annual picnics.) Dues can be paid through the Website: Bannockburncitizens.org.

Name: _____

Email: _____

House Number and Street: _____

Send to: Bonnie Garrett, Treasurer, BCA; 6604 Broxburn Dr., Bethesda, MD 20817

Good Neighbor Leisure Time Resources

by Edith Miles

Montgomery Hospice: 301-921-4400

Senior Connection; 301-962-0820; www.seniorconnectionmc.org; provides transportation for Montgomery County residents 62 years old and older

Suburban Hospital Exercise Classes (Senior Shape) at Clara Barton

Mon. & Wed. 11-11:45 (need form signed by your doctor); 301-896-3572



Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at American University; 202-895-4860; www.elli-dc.org/

Glen Echo Park; 301-492-6282; www.nps.gov/glec/; offers classes

Volunteers at Montgomery County Libraries. Call the library where you want to volunteer to check on positions; fill out an application; meet and interview with the library Volunteer Coordinator.



Weed Warriors: Montgomery Parks.org Certified weed warriors: e-mail volunteer coordinator for more information and to register for training at: mcp-weedwarriors@mncppc-mc.org

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(Continued from Page 2) Seth Goldstein described his work as a Weed Warrior. Dutch Koenig recommended working with AARP to help Seniors with tax preparation. Margaret Pourhamidi is an expert knitter and leads our BCA knitting group. Others enjoy hobbies such as pottery (Edith) or gardening. Sue Mason is Master Gardener and volunteers at Brookside Gardens. John Noble enjoys sports and Deanne, Roseann Alexander, Thelma Deutsch, Sandra, and Edith exercise at Senior Shape classes at Clara Barton. Elisabeth van Heutven volunteers as a translator.

A general discussion of educational opportunities followed. Arlene Stein and Sid Harris recommend courses at Ollie (Osher Lifelong learning institute at American University). Edith and others recommend classes at Glen Echo Park and lectures from the Teaching Company. Sam recommends web based courses and lectures. Colleen Woodhead enjoys spiritual videos and is happy to lend from her collection.

Please contact Edith Miles (301-320-3299 or ewmiles@comcast.net) if you would like to add your name to the BCA Good Neighbors Committee e-mail list, volunteer to help Seniors, make suggestions for committee programs, or suggest names of others who may be interested in our programs.



The Bannockburn Banner



Bethesda, Maryland

John Noble, Editor
7024 Arandale Road
Bethesda, MD 20817

Fall Festival Play

Photo by Rebecca Kahlenberg

