



***Woods Lore*-Brookside Woods Civic Association Bi-Monthly News Letter January 2011**

BWCA CALENDAR of EVENTS

Feb. 15th – 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Block Watch
Lord of Life Lutheran Church
in the “Gathering” room.

Feb. 22nd - 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Block Watch
Second meeting – Lord of Life Lutheran
Church in the “Gathering” room.

March 14th – BWCA Board Meeting
7:30 p.m. at 2171 Fernleaf Ln.

April 23rd or April 30th – Garage Sale

May 9th – BWCA Board Meeting
7:30 p.m. at 2171 Fernleaf Ln.

I. The President's Report by Dorothy Martin

Happy New Year!

Let's take a moment and reflect on last year and thank our past Civic Association Board President, Mike Boulware, for his years of service. A job well done Mike! Thank you.

Did you know? We have a website for our neighborhood which is maintained by Mark Griffith who also is our Director of Safety. Take a few minutes to look it over at www.brooksidewoods.org/pages/civic.asp. Mark has placed quick links to: notify the police department, report you will be on vacation, place an ad like lawn care or babysitting, report items to the city that need fixed and all the new board members for the Civic Association and how to reach them are all there.

Speaking of Board Members – we could use a few good men or women! We meet 6 times a year for a couple of hours is all.

It is also with sadness that I must report that we have had at least 6 home break-ins in our neighborhood since last summer. In my 27 years here in Brookside as a resident, I have never experienced this before. Please read Mark's Safety Report and attend the two Block Watch meetings for our neighborhood. We need our members to become very active to keep a watchful eye out for each other.

Brookside is still a great neighborhood to live in! Read on to find out more about us. Be active and come to the next open Board meeting which is the second Monday in March.

I hope to see you on the nights of Feb. 15th and the 22nd. Come and meet your neighbors so you know who they are!

II. The Secretary's Report by Brendan Bey

A. Minutes from the November Meeting: Items Discussed: Minutes from last meeting by Secretary Brendan Bey, Treasurer Ping Lu's Financial Report, Far West Coalition Report from Dale White, the Safety Director's Report from Mark Griffith, and President Dorothy Martin discussed deed restrictions, open board positions, chairs for subcommittees, parks and entrances, and a holiday committee.

B. Minutes from the January Meeting: Items Discussed: 2011 calendar dates, tax returns for the association are due in March, two dates are needed for neighborhood blockwatch, the upcoming garage sale, holiday bows and wreaths, break ins over the holidays, replacing a destroyed entrance sign on Thistlewood and Snouffer, updating of the directory, two replaced street signs on Fernleaf and Winding Brook in December, *DUES FOR 2011 TO REMAIN THE SAME AT \$100.00*, signs for Maplebrook Park, houses that are eye sores, fixing uneven sidewalks, *and residents who own dogs need to follow Columbus leash laws and must clean up after their pets as they are required to by law.*

The next meeting will be held on Monday, March 14, at 7:30 p.m. at Dorothy Martin's house at 2171 Fernleaf Lane.

III. A Special COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL Report in the Woods Lore

City Hall 90 West Broad Street , Columbus, OH 43215-9015 614/645-2931 Fax 614/645-7399
 columbuscitycouncil.org *CITY CLERK – Andrea Blevins, CMC , DEPUTY CITY CLERK – Darla M. Character-Johnson, Esq. ANDREW J. GINTHER, PRESIDENT HEARCEL F. CRAIG, PRESIDENT PRO TEM ZACHARY M. KLEIN, A. TROY MILLER, MICHELLE M. MILLS, EILEEN Y. PALEY, and PRISCILLA R. TYSON*

January 14, 2011

Dear Columbus Residents,

In August of 2009, Columbus voters passed a half-percent income tax increase. During the campaign, city leaders and elected officials stressed that increasing revenue was only one part of a three-part plan that included government reforms and an increased emphasis on job creation and economic development. All were necessary to remedy the structural imbalance that existed in the City's budget, and as a Council, we crafted responsible budgets that promoted job growth and brought employee benefits, such as health insurance and pension costs, more in line with the marketplace; all along, working to meet the number one goal of City Council: to ensure strong, healthy and safe neighborhoods.

Inherent to that mission is fundamentally changing the way Council looks at the City's budget. The public expects and deserves a City Council that closely examines

the City's finances, is deliberative in its approach and advances priorities and initiatives that will move Columbus forward. Council has made significant investments in Police and Fire, matched public and private investments in high tech industries through TechColumbus, helped to sustain arts organizations by investing in the Thrive in Five initiative, while providing emergency dollars to the Community Shelter Board to meet the needs of the homeless in our community. These investments have made Columbus more competitive in the global market place and a safer, more desirable place to live, while contributing to a quality of life unmatched in other cities.

As important as recognizing there is a time to invest, strengthen existing partnerships, and forge new, it is equally important to recognize there is a time to save for an uncertain future. Although the City of Columbus ended 2010 with a balance of approximately \$1.9 million dollars, carryover that is usually used to meet unfunded community needs, Columbus City Council, in careful consultation with the City Auditor, has decided that now is not the time to spend, but to save. Given the estimated \$8 billion budget deficit facing the State of Ohio and the very real possibility local governments will see much needed state funding cut, Council has decided, collectively, that withholding amendments to the Mayor's proposed 2011 budget is the fiscally responsible, reasonable and prudent thing to do. In addition to not increasing spending, City Council has requested that Mayor B. Coleman decrease his proposed budget by at least \$1 million. We believe that a closer examination of the budget will help underscore the seriousness of the situation, and better prepare the City to withstand possible decreases

IV. The Treasurer's Report by Ping Lu

The BWCA's bank balance is solid due to the previous board members hard work collecting dues from our supporting association members. During the last board meeting, several spending related issues were discussed including snow removal, street sign replacement, sidewalk repairs and the 2011 dues collection. Mark Griffith coordinated two of our damaged street poles to be replaced and several proposals on other issues are under consideration. The board welcomes all the ideas and suggestions from our members to continuously improve the community. Please contact any of the board members to participate in discussions during the next board meeting.

V. The Safety Director's Report by Mark Griffith

There are still fairly frequent reports of break-ins around our neighborhood. The activity seems to be late at night (early morning) and on weekends. All residents should be diligent about keeping a watchful eye. Record any license plates of cars that don't seem to belong. Note: we are just tracking information and you need to call the police yourself if you want to report a crime or issue. Feel free to send emails to: safety@brooksidewoods.org so we can keep others informed in the area.

Going on vacation? Email Officer Vincent Miller, Badge #2060 at vmiller@columbuspolicy.org and email house check at <http://www.cityofcolumbuswi.com/citydept/police/vacationvehiclewatch.pdf>. These links are on our website also. Tell your neighbors you are leaving in the front of you and behind you as with previous break-ins they are entering from the back, usually through the basement windows.

Alert: Red Ford Taurus license EUX-4468 has been reported by several residents in our neighborhood watching our homes – call the police immediately if seen!

To re-institute our neighborhood block watch program to get the full cooperation of the police - we need your help! To be considered ACTIVE for Block Watch, we need 30% of our neighborhood to participate in the upcoming two meetings.

The kick off meetings and training session for our neighborhood block watch is scheduled for the following dates:

Feb 15th and Feb 22nd from 6pm to 8pm at the Lord of Life Lutheran Church at 2480 W. Dublin-Granville Road, Columbus, OH 43235 in the "Gathering Room".

All residents are invited to attend and to participate. A raised level of awareness and common sense are invaluable in preventing and minimizing crime and being safe. This is our neighborhood and your participation in protecting it will help us all.

VI. Subject: RE: Brookside Woods - Garage Sale 2011

From: Brian Gianangeli [mailto:Brian.Gianangeli@MifsudLaw.com]
Chair for the Garage Sale: We're looking at Saturday, April 23rd or April 30th for the date of the sale this year. Easter is late this year and might interfere with if the sale is held on the 23rd. We usually start organizing around the end of February and will let you know our choice of dates. Would you like to help? Our biggest need is always having enough people to man the intersections on the day of the sale. Email your interest to me.

VII. Update: Dale White BWCA Representative to the Far Northwest Coalition

Subject: Design Concepts for the Hard Rd. Park-- Happy New Year
Everyone! Take a look (on the website listed below) at the three design concepts for the initial development of Hard Road Park. These were created by OSU Landscape Architect intern Nic Sanna. They are concepts only to demonstrate the myriad ways the site could be developed keeping in mind immediate needs and future development. If you haven't been there lately, check out the web page:
<http://parks.columbus.gov/homepage.aspx>

VIII. Update: Holiday Bows

Many thanks to Doug Kruest, Chair for the Holiday Bows for our neighborhood. They looked great along with the wreaths placed at our entrances. Thanks also to his volunteers Susan Kruest, Gary & Michelle Yeauger, Mike & Sue Bouleware, Joe & Renee Macomber, Kim & Judy Hawksworth, John & Patty Hannah, Greg & Marilyn West, Tony and Nadine LaFond and Mark & Michelle Gresham who placed the bows on every single mailbox and removed them for storage for next year.

VIV. Update: Mailboxes – newspapers boxes available to attach to your mailbox. This will eliminate the newsletters, flyers, etc from collecting on your driveway or by your mailbox. Carriers will tuck the newspapers in the box. Contact Mark Griffith if interested at safety@brooksidewoods.org

With the brace 17.50 + 40.00 labor + sales tax for us to come out and attach it to the post or 17.50 + 12.50 shipping + sales tax for delivery or 17.50 + sales tax for a pick up.

Without the brace 12.50 + 40.00 labor + sales tax for us to come out and attach it to the post or 12.50 + 12.50 shipping + sales tax for delivery or 12.50 + sales tax for a pick up.

These prices include all fasteners that will be needed to attach the new parts.

Respectfully,

Brendan Bey Woods Lore Editor-Brookside Woods Civic Association

Last Notes from Residents:

Avon Calling—Call Kathy at 614-208-4933 or go online at coraleden9@hotmail.com

Home Repairs, minor remodeling-call Paul Schrodt at (614)-439-5652.

STAN BRADHAM CAR COMPANY - Your Brookside Woods neighbor for 25+ years. Call Stan at 846-STAN or visit us @ www.stanbradhamcarcompany.com