

BCA Officers and Representatives

President Ed Fendley
efendley@juno.com 527-6118

First Vice President Win Boerckel
winb@frognet.net 351-9628

Second Vice President Talmadge Williams
ttwrec@aol.com 522-5575

Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee Representative
Margot Maganias Thomas 527-3838

Treasurer Carol Spicer
spicerca@gunet.georgetown.edu 524-7843

Secretary John Huennekens
jhuen@gwu.edu 524-3583

Past President Carl Hallinan
carl.hallinan@home.com 812-4797

Webmaster Julie Downie
jmdownie@ids2.idsonline.com

Newsletter Editor Carla Uriona

Newsletter Distributor Judy Collins

Civic Federation Representatives

| Delegates | Alternates |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Bob Atkins | Ellen Armbruster |
| Gerry Procanick | Bernard Berne |
| Talmadge Williams | Melodee Melin |
| Adrienne Pilot | Ed Fendley |

Committee Chairs

Safety Committee:
Beth Prioux, 243-4714

Reeves Farm Committee:
Rick Hodges 527-2824

Wilson Boulevard Committee:
Carl Hallinan, carl.hallinan@home.com, 812-4797

Lacey Woods Park:
Karen DeCarlo, KGDecarlo@netzero.net, 525-5467

Ballston Partnership Representative:
Talmadge Williams, ttwrec@aol.com, 522-5575

Metro Committee:
Henry McFarland, hmcFarland@hotmail.com

BCA Calendar - Meetings & Events

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are held at the Arlington Traditional School Multi purpose room, 855 North Edison Street, at 7:00 p.m.

Wed., Feb. 27 General Meeting

Tues., April 9 Executive Committee meeting
(All Welcome)

Wed., April 24 General Meeting



February, 2002

Vol. 5 No. 2
Post Office Box 5134
Arlington, Virginia 22205

BCA Considers Response to Metro Proposal

At the February 27 meeting of the Bluemont Civic Association (BCA), members will finalize the BCA's position on a Metro staff proposal to build a new train line from Rosslyn to East Falls Church passing through the Bluemont neighborhood. The proposed line would include a station stop near I-66 just west of George Mason Drive.

The BCA Metro Committee is recommending that the BCA send a letter to Arlington County Board Chairman Chris Zimmerman, to include the following points: *(please see next page)*

Bluemont Civic Association

Post Office Box 5134
Arlington, VA 22205



- The BCA supports the idea of Metro system expansion, but is concerned over the current proposal.
- Land use policies should be coordinated with Metro expansion.
- Any new line should be instead located along an established development corridor — such as the Columbia Pike/Route 7 corridor.
- In considering station stops, effects on surrounding neighborhoods should be of paramount concern. In the case of Bluemont, densities, zoning and land use should not be changed.
- Any station in Bluemont neighborhood should primarily serve the surrounding area and not be a major center for bus or train transfers. Nor should it have a parking lot.
- Careful consideration should be given to whether it makes economic sense to have a station near George Mason Drive, given the population density of the area and the closeness of the future west exit of the Ballston Metro.
- If an additional line is built along I-66, then stops on that line should be built primarily on decks above the highway. These stops should not take homes or sections of the bike trails or park space that are near I-66.
- Planning for the new line should be coordinated with the consideration of other proposed transportation projects in our region, such as the possible widening of I-66 and proposals for additional light rail or bus service in the county.
- Metro construction and operations should be done as efficiently as possible, to reduce the financial burden to the fare-paying and tax-paying public.
- The line should be designed in a way that does not subject surrounding communities to significant noise levels.

At the February meeting, the BCA will also consider whether to send a separate letter to Mr. Zimmerman hoping for the early completion of the planned new western access of the Ballston Metro near Vermont Street.

Our Growing Neighborhood

During the 1990's Bluemont's population grew by 14%, from 4993 people in 1990 to 5678 people in 2000, according the U.S. Census statistics. During the same period, the Ballston-Virginia Square neighborhood increased in population by 74%, from 4829 to 8411.

Reeves Farm Property

At the January 23 meeting, the BCA decided its recommendation to Arlington County for the use of the Reeves Farm property near Bluemont Park at Manchester Street. The BCA is asking the County to:

- immediately reduce the frequency of mowing on the hillside in order to establish a meadow habitat for wildflowers and wildlife, and to reduce water runoff,
- designate a part or all of the property as a Local Historic District to recognize its significance as the County's last working farm,
- preserve a portion of the hillside as a winter sledding area to maintain this popular use,
- refrain from adopting any use that involves additional paving or grading on the site, or that significantly increases traffic or noise in the surrounding neighborhoods,
- preserve the historic agricultural character of the house and property and make use of both in ways consistent with that character, such as by allowing historic or environmental groups to occupy and use the site, and
- adopt a long-term management plan for the property that reflects and educates visitors about its agricultural and natural history, such as creating meadow or wildflower areas, or developing community or educational gardens and displays.

Business of the Month: Castro's Bakery

To encourage our members to shop locally, BCA News will periodically highlight one of our many interesting neighborhood businesses.

Castro's Bakery, at 5515 Wilson Boulevard (near Jefferson Street) specializes in cakes-to-order and a range of authentic, tasty Central American and South American pastries and cookies. The bakery has been in the Bluemont neighborhood for four years.

According to Manager Johnny Quintanilla, the business recently expanded and expects to be at its current location for a number of years. Castro's Bakery is open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

Give Castro's Bakery and other local shops a try!

Bluemont Remembers... Rural Free Delivery

Excerpts from the Arlington County Public Library 1985 Oral History Interview of Mr. William N. Garrett:

Interviewer:
In the 1920's, were the streets paved?

Mr. Garrett:
Must have been in the '20's, latter part of the '20's because Carlin Springs Road was a dirt road then when I left here... Mrs. Miles used to serve mail on there with a horse and buggy... Rural Free Delivery.