

Barrister's Keepe Newsletter

Volume 20 No. 4

November, 2017

BK HOA Annual Meeting

The September BK HOA Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 14th at Woodson High School – Room E204. Starting time is 7:00PM.

(Best to go into Entrance 1, through the doors and up to the 2nd Floor. E204 is on the right side of the hallway.)

Gate Issues

We've had issues with the gates as everyone knows. The problem has been an elusive electronic glitch somewhere in the system that has been very difficult to replicate and isolate. Our contractor believes they have resolved it now. Time will tell.

We appreciate the patience everyone has shown as we have worked through this. Whenever the gate malfunctions it is **CRITICAL** that no one attempts to force the gate open. It won't help and it will likely cause additional damage to the system. If you see someone who is not from the community forcing the gate, ask them to stop and please be sure to get the license number and a description of the vehicle and make note of the day and time.

If the gate fails please call contact the following people in the order below until you make contact with someone:

Frank McGann 703-638-0888
Tom Burrell 703-359-4859

David Herrington 703-352-8141
Social Committee News

A Reminder: The Annual BK Holiday Party is scheduled for Sunday, December 10th at 5:00PM at the McMenemy' home at 3462 BKC. Please RSVP to Barbara Petersen by December 4th. (rpetersen2@cox.net)

Whether you're new to the community or have lived here for some time, the Holiday Party provides an excellent opportunity to chat with your neighbors and discover that the best of our community is the people who live here.

(Please remember to bring an unwrapped toy. Each year, these toys are donated to the Toys for Tots Program.)

See you on December 10th!

Barbara Petersen – Chair
Artie Andreson – Co-Chair

President's Letter

Friends and Neighbors –

I hope this finds everyone well and preparing for the coming holiday season. Hard to believe we are on the verge of another winter when it's 60°+ outside. "This too shall pass as they say!"

ELECTIONS – We had our elections in September and I put out an e-mail indicating who the new board member was and the new officers. I just wanted to recap it here.



<u>Name</u>	<u>Board Position</u>	<u>Committee Liaison</u>
Tom Burrell	President	Covenants
David Herrington	Vice President	Grounds
Jim Meyer	Secretary	Communications
Aaron Fox	Treasurer	Finance
Nancy Webster	At Large	Social

For all of you serving on one of our committees, the Board wants to thank you for stepping up and helping out. Some of it is thankless work but absolutely necessary. And for all of us, I throw down the challenge of talking to our neighbors and getting more volunteers. Looking to next year, we will have two vacancies on the Board to fill (Yep – I'm starting my recruiting pitch early!) and our committees would always enjoy another member. And, speaking of elections, I hope everyone voted on Election Day. It's not only our right, it's our responsibility! From our HOA to the Presidential elections next year, we can't complain if we don't vote!

WELCOME – A big welcome to our newest neighbors, George and Christine Prattes. When you get a chance, swing by and say hello.

COVENANTS WALK-THRU – The Covenants Committee is finishing up their work for this year. They have conducted their walk-thru, sent notes to those of us who needed to do something, and conducted a follow-up walk-thru to ascertain how folks were doing. Thanks to the Covenants Committee, Barristers Keepe has been able to keep a pretty face. But we're getting old (the community, not us!) and need some special attention at times. Some of requirements are handled by the Grounds Committee and some by the Board of Directors. But, the majority is done by the individual homeowners. And, for the most part, everyone is pulling their weight. Those who are don't go unrecognized. We all need to pull together and do our parts. But thanks again to the Covenants Committee for keeping the process going.



OLD MAN WINTER – Is coming again to a theater near you! As we have all experienced here in Northern Virginia, winter storms can range from a moderate snow over a few hours to a blizzard with blinding, wind-driven snow that lasts for several days. Many winter storms are accompanied by dangerously low temperatures and sometimes by strong winds, icing, sleet and freezing rain. Everyone needs to take appropriate precautions. You can find more information at www.ready.gov.

IT'S THAT TIME (BUDGET) AGAIN! – Our November meeting each year is when the Board adopts the budget for the coming year. This year, the Board is also looking out to the out years what's coming down the road. On the Operations side, our big cost driver – landscape contract, is locked in until 2018. Both our Management contract Audit contracts will see a modest increase for the coming year and, of course, there is the one big unknown – the snow contract. We have held our assessment relatively stable over the last several years but may need to increase them slightly in the years ahead just to keep up with our aging infrastructure.



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HAPPY HOLIDAYS – It's still a little way off but Happy Holidays to everyone. Thanks to Chris and Patty McMenemy for volunteering their home for our Holiday Party. You probably saw Frank's e-mail, but the party will be on December 10th starting at 5:00pm. Hope to see everyone there.

Tom