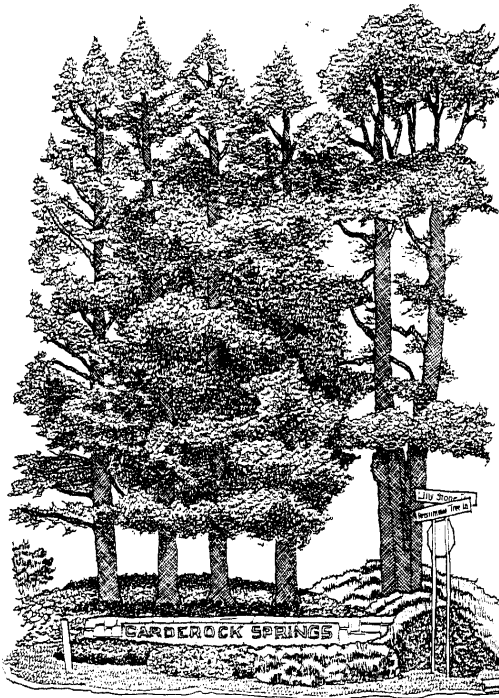


O C T O B E R 2 0 1 2

CARDEROCK SPRINGS COMMUNITY NEWS

ANNUAL FALL MEETING Special Program Sunday, November 4, 6:30 at the Club



The CSCA Annual Fall Meeting will be held Sunday, November 4th, at 6:30 pm - 7:15 pm - gathering with wine/dessert, 7:15 pm - CSCA Special Program. The meeting will be held at the club. The fall gathering of the association has been traditionally a program meeting (rather than business meeting). We are very pleased to announce that this year's speaker will be Judy Welles, author of a new book on the life of Lilly Stone. Judy is an excellent "local" historian ("local" in terms of being both a local resident and an expert on community history.) Her earlier book is on the history of Cabin John. Judy will speak on some of the fascinating stories about the life and character of Lilly Stone. (Her books will be available for sale.) We are also hoping that the last remaining descendants of Lilly Stone, David Stone and Lilly Stone Livesay, will attend. There will also be an opportunity to view the poster boards of Carderock's 50 years and a video of the 50th anniversary party.

The meeting will begin with a wine/nibble gathering. Save the date and plan to attend. All residents are welcome!!

Carderock Springs Board Members

Phil Rider	President
Georgia Petsche	Vice President
Gunnar Tomasson	Secretary
Bob Stocker	Treasurer
Barbara Ames	Membership
Jack Orrick	Member-at-Large
Mary Lou Shannon	Member-at-Large
Larry Ondrijko	Member-at-Large
Noëlle F. Lewis	Newsletter Editor

Residents of Carderock Springs and surrounding areas may join the Citizens Association for an annual due of \$50 for a membership year ending December 31, 2012. Dues and family information for the Carderock Springs telephone directory may be mailed to the Carderock Springs Citizens' Association at P.O. Box 237, Cabin John, MD 20818-0237. Our Association represents the Carderock Springs community and implements its land covenants.

COMMUNITY LEADERS BREAKFAST WITH COUNCILMAN ROGER BERLINER

As the President of our association, I was invited to attend a "District One community leaders breakfast" during which we could voice concerns to our councilman, Roger Berliner. I found it interesting to listen to the various issues neighborhoods and condo associations are dealing with in our local district. Some raised included: needed road repair (instead of patch work repair), improving the performance of Pepco, protection of trees in public areas, poor communication within the county agencies, enforcing the Forest Conservation Law, a request to loosen up on deer management laws.

Councilman Berliner responded to each concern with some interesting comments and issues of his own. Following are a few I thought might be important to pass on to our own association:

Road repair: The county is well-aware of the need for better road repair. However, the budget has "just so much money". The county is trying to prioritize the needed work, but realizes "much more needs to be done".

Pepco: Councilman Berliner worked closely with the legislature to place into law a performance guideline for Pepco and other energy providers. Now that this a law, he pointed out that Pepco has been in the bottom 1/5 of performance rating for the last 5 years. Though more pressure has been placed on Pepco to improve its performance rating, he expressed concern that not enough is being done. He stated, "It is frustrating working with Pepco because they have failed to maintain their system for so many years. There is so much that has to be done."

Poor communication: Councilman Berliner admitted that he felt using 311 for information and communication was not working well. He suggested that anyone who has a concern about county issues call his office directly. He also said NOT to ask for him. Most of the work is done by his staff members.

Deer control: The county is aware of the need to do something about the deer population. It is currently in debate.

Environmental issues: Several agencies in both the county and state governments are working hard to protect the environment and enforce the existing laws.

The issue I raised with the councilman is the frustration we have had in trying to find some means of slowing down the speeding on Fenway Rd and Lily Stone. I shared a summary of our two-year efforts of working with county engineers with no results. Our original request for speed bumps was turned down because we "do not qualify under the new county regulations". We then looked into bump outs (which the county was willing to put in). However, our own community raised the issue of safety (because we do not have side walks) and actual effectiveness. Finally, I stated that we also proposed several other options (like more stop signs, painted speed limits, small mounted electric speed indicators, "children at play" signs, etc.), all of which were rejected because the county engineers had "studies that show these things are not effective in slowing down cars." The bottom line, I asked the councilman to have the county reconsider the current regulations that limit where speed bumps can be placed so that we could have them in Carderock. Mr. Berliner "promised me that his staff would work with us to make sure this would happen". A couple of his staff members actually came up to me and gave me their cards with the request to call and set up a meeting time. I'm hopeful !!

Phil Rider, President CSCA

50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AND SOME AFTER THOUGHTS

All who attended the 50th anniversary celebration agreed that it was a wonderful party and a moment in our history to remember. Time spent with Edmond Bennett via Skype, viewing both a slide show and printed pictures of the 50 year history of Carderock Springs, good food and drink, attractive decorations, dancing to the music of HusBand, and having the opportunity to connect with neighbors - all of this and more created a great way to celebrate 50 years of living in Carderock.

The CSCA Board, on behalf of the community, would like to offer a huge "Thank You" to Jack Orrick and his committee, Mary Lou Shannon, Katherine Hubley, Ann Massey, Bob and Linda Stocker, Jonas Carnemark, Joe and Olga Tobin, Laurie Morrison, Carmen Estrada and Georgia Petsche, for all they did to make the evening so enjoyable. A special thanks to Larry Ondrejko and his crew from the club who gave so much of their time and energy to help make the evening run smoothly.

Some have asked how such an evening could cost only \$35.00 per person. The answer is the board voted to use some of the annual dues to subsidize the evening. It is hoped that when people are asked to pay their next year's annual dues, everyone will be able to clearly see how they are used to support the needs and enjoyment of the community. This year's dues will also be used to print a new directory. The cost was also kept low through the willingness of so many to volunteer their time and talents. Such a gift as this is very much appreciated !!

Many people have expressed the desire to have more events during the year that would offer the same opportunity to connect with neighbors as the 50th celebration did. You may remember that the association approved a by-law change last spring that allowed an "events co-ordinator" to become a member of the CSCA board. A call recently went out on the chat, asking someone to volunteer for this position so we might have an organized way to offer more neighborhood gatherings. The board is pleased to announce that Joe and Olga Tobin have both volunteered to be the events coordinators. They will be asking for others to join them on a committee that will work on future events and hope several of you will be willing to work with them.

Phil Rider, President CSCA

Introduction of Edmund Bennett by Bruce Bennett Carderock Springs 50th Anniversary, September 8, 2012

Good evening. Thank you to Mary Lou Shannon, Phil Rider, Jack Orrick, and the Carderock Springs HOA for inviting me to this wonderful 50 anniversary celebration of Carderock Springs. I'm Bruce Bennett and I'm here to introduce in a few minutes via Skype from Tucson, Arizona my 92 year old father; builder/developer of Carderock Springs, Edmund Bennett.

But first, on his behalf I would like to make a few remarks regarding the vision and passion he and his colleagues shared while developing this community.

The conceptual and planning stage of each project they planned primarily for homeowners who would appreciate a community that looked forward and not back for its planning and design precepts.

They hoped owners would appreciate:

- ★ That homes should be “of” the land and not just “on” it.
- ★ That old checkerboard street and lotting schemes were sterile in appearance and destruction of trees and terrain was usually less cost effective.
- ★ That leaving the natural terrain and vegetation, along with the avoidance of overhead utility lines, makes for an aesthetically pleasing community.
- ★ That a genuine “community” in the best sense, needs a social activities and recreation center for all ages.
- ★ That vehicle parking must be provided off the streets so traffic can move freely and views from the homes are not marred by parked automobiles.
- ★ That there should be variety and design interest in house and lot sizes, shapes functions, materials and colors.
- ★ That industry advances in materials and construction technology should be incorporated.
- ★ And finally, perhaps most importantly, that the homes should be affordable to many families.

Ladies and gentleman, I’m pleased to introduce my father and the builder/developer of Carderock Springs, Edmund Bennett.

**Remarks by Edmund Bennett to the Carderock Springs
Community via Video Conferencing/Skype
Carderock Springs 50th Anniversary, September 8, 2012**

It is a pleasure to be able to join you for the 50th Anniversary celebration of Carderock Springs. My son, Bruce, has described a little of the history of the creation of this community. I am more than gratified that both the homes and the sense of community that I had envisioned have endured for half a century.

I do not know how many of my original home buyers still live in Carderock, but I have been told that some of their children, who spent their childhoods in Carderock, are now owners in their own right. That certainly speaks to the success of the design efforts of the principal architect, Don Lethbridge, of the firm of Keyes, Lethbridge, Condon, and Florence and to the thought that he and I devoted to relating the houses to the natural landscape rather than destroying it to make room for the houses.

The fact that you have chosen to place Carderock Springs on the National Register of Historic Places only underscores the value placed on the community that I hope endures for another half century. Best wishes to all of you and thank you for including me in your celebration.

Living in the Woods: The Natural History of Carderock

There are some stands of huge tulip poplars (or yellow-poplars) in the back yard woods of Carderock that seem positively primeval. These magnificent trees have beautifully succeeded in their second coming. The largest trees in Carderock --around 3’ diameter--are no more than a 100 years old, which is childhood for a species that can live to 300.

Our woods are classified as second-growth or secondary forest: woodland that has re-grown after a major disturbance. In Maryland, it was logging. According to the University of Maryland, “forest had covered almost the entire land area of Maryland prior to the 1600s. In the 1700s most of Montgomery County farmed in tobacco and the soil was so depleted that few crops could be successfully grown.” By 1916, only 35% of Maryland was designated woodland.” It was at this time that rapid suburbanization of Montgomery County began,

although there was still logging in our area as late as 1912.

Photographs taken at the turn of the century at the intersection of Seven Locks and MacArthur (then named Conduit Road) showed open grassland with grazing animals. In the early 1900s, many Maryland farmers had turned to sheep and cow farming because the soil was so depleted that it could not support much more than grass. In 1905 Frank and Lilly Stone ran "The Glenmore Stock Farm" where they boarded horses, which perhaps grazed in Carderock.

It is remarkable that in 100 years we have a secondary forest that resembles the primeval forest some 400 years ago before timber harvesting and farming. Many of the associated tree species of Carderock's native forest type, probably oak-hickory, are here: yellow-poplar, northern red oak, dogwood, sassafras, eastern redbud, red maple, American hornbeam, black locust, and American beech. Yet there are few white oaks – a tree important for 180 species of wildlife life life – and healthy hickory trees. As in many secondary forests, the diversity of indigenous trees is lacking.

Living in the woods is a compromise for both trees and humans. For example, in remote secondary forests, yellow-poplars can reach their full magnificence at 6 feet in diameter. In Carderock, however, fast growing yellow-poplars can be subject to breakage during intense storms and some young trees may need to be cut down where they grow too close to homes. Likewise, homeowners might reconsider whether it is feasible or appropriate to grow lawn where shade trees and grass struggle for limited water and nutrients. Forests play an important role in giving us clean air and clean water. In particular, their absorbent floors of loose soil and leaf "litter" are exceptionally efficient in filtering pollutants before they reach our streams, rivers, and groundwater aquifers.

Some "Forest Facts" from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources:

- ★43% of Maryland is forested. The predominate forest type is oak-hickory and there are over 160 native or naturalized species in Maryland
- ★The white oak is the state tree of Maryland
- ★One acre of forest absorbs 6 tons of carbon dioxide and produces 4 tons of oxygen. This is enough to meet the annual needs of 18 people.
- ★Tree loss in the Baltimore-Washington region since 1973 has resulted in a 19% increase in storm water runoff at a cost of \$1.08 billion

Lisa Wilcox Deyo, Masters of Landscape Architecture, UVA

Flip-flop Drive by the CSCA Environmental Committee

The Environmental Committee of the CSCA will be sponsoring a flip-flop drive through the end of November. We will be collecting flip flops and rubber sandals...in pairs or single... of all types to be recycled by TERRACYCLE.

Residents who collect and donate the most will receive coupons toward purchases at Old Navy. Top purchaser gets free flip flops at Old Navy. However, this is not the most important reason to do this. This material can be easily recycled into other useful products.

Watch the CS-chat for information on how to do this...there will be a collection center in front of Diane Karlik's home at 8027 Fenway Road. So go through your closets, ask friends and relatives, and partake in an easy environmentally friendly exercise.

More information on Terracycle website.

Diane Karlik, Environmental Committee

The Carder-Eco Column

News from the Environmental Committee

Driveway sealants...new county bill passed...please note

On September 11, 2012, the county council unanimously passed Bill 21-12 that prohibits the use of and sale of coal tar pavement products. These are often called “driveway sealants” or “sealcoat” and are usually applied in liquid form. Montgomery County is the first county in Maryland and one of the largest counties nationwide to ban these products.

These toxic products usually contain 20-35% coal-tar pitch, known as a probable cause of cancer in humans, and eventually breaks down after application and ends up in our homes and in the waterways.

The alternative? Asphalt based sealants are safer and more environmental friendly, so demand these products from the store (for do-it-yourselfers) or from the various companies that advertise and work in our neighborhood. Oversight and enforcement will be the responsibility of the State EPA.

If anyone has any of this sealcoat material stored in the garage, please hold onto it until Diane Karlik makes a collection for the transfer station or please deliver it yourself to the transfer station to the toxic area location.
DO NOT place in your regular trash.

Textile and Clothing Recycling

Did you know that 85% of our textiles and clothing discards go into the landfill, with only the remaining 15% of post-consumer textile waste gets recycled? The average person annually discards 70 lbs of such recyclable material.

Materials that can be recycled include clothing, toys, footwear, rugs and more. Of course, the first efforts should be toward re-using and/or repurposing, and so towels, linens and little bound rugs are appreciated by our local humane societies for the rescued animals. In addition, if in very good condition, they can be donated to A Wider Circle, Purple Heart, Veterans of America, Value Village, etc. where they can have a second life (call these places and schedule a curbside pickup), or offered to neighbors via the CS-chat or to the wider neighborhood via BCC freecycle.

If your clothing or shoes are basically clean and dry, but too worn, torn, or stained to be useful to anyone, including to those in third world countries, they can be recycled via a special area in the Transfer Station in Rockville. Some of these better items may be retrieved and shipped overseas for use, so pairs of shoes should be bound together in some way. Several local sports stores that specialize in shoes also recycle old athletic shoes/sneakers, so take your old ones in while shopping.

Once again...Donate, Recycle, Don't Throw Away.

[Check smartasn.org](http://smartasn.org) for information on the why, what, and how to recycle textiles.

[Another useful website is weardonaterecycle.org](http://weardonaterecycle.org)

Dryer Sheets

Some of you probably still use the little square dryer sheets in some of your washes. Please note that many of them contain chemicals, although in smaller amounts, that have

been linked to cancers, hormone disruption, etc. In addition, they are not recommended for certain fabrics like towels, which make them softer but less absorbent.

Several “greener” products are safer and more environmentally friendly, including Mrs. Meyers, 7th Generation, and Ecover, and are available at local drug, hardware and grocery stores. In addition, some of the dryer sheets are even biodegradable.

Alternatives include using ½ cup baking soda in the rinse, or 1-2 tablespoons of vinegar in the rinse, or using a safe fabric softener to control static. If you are concerned about scents, then try dried herbs in cloth sacks, or essential oil drops on a piece of fabric.

Whether your dryer sheets are “green” or not, did you know they can be re-used/re-purposed after you remove them from the dryer? Uses include wiping mirrors, windows, computer screens, car dashboards, and metallic car parts. They can go in the bottom of a trash can or in your vacuum bag because they still retain some scent. You can run a used sheet on thread to make it easier to thread a needle, soak on in a pot with water for an hour to remove baked-on food, cover a drainage hole in a plant pot, or place in corners or rafters to repel spiders, bugs and mosquitos. For more ideas, check the internet or Recyclebank.com

Diane Karlik, Environmental Committee

Gardening in Carderock 'Mum' 's [Not] the Word for Fall Color

We can all tell when fall has officially arrived by the bright colors of the identical mounds of chrysanthemums, or ‘mums’, that are on display row after row at every garden center and big-box home center. Now please don’t misunderstand me — mums are dependable, fairly deer-resistant, and come in a broad variety of fall-like shades. But let’s face it, they are ubiquitous and a little boring, and their stiff habit is not the best fit for our natural and semi-wooded landscapes. Fall is a wonderful season for color and scent, and there are other choices available. We’ll discuss a few in this article.

For colorful shrubs, the compact Caryopteris can’t be beat. If you have a sunny spot, this deer-resistant beauty will reward you with bright blue blooms from August through October. Leaf color in the various cultivars ranges from gray-blue to bright chartreuse. The adaptable Abelia can take half shade, comes in a variety of sizes and colors (I am partial to the dwarf variety ‘Kaleidoscope’ with variegated leaves) and also has an extremely long bloom period – I was trimming them for Thanksgiving last year.

Another shrub star of the fall garden is the lovely beautyberry (Callicarpa sp.). There is a native species (C. Americana) as well as a showier one from China (C. dichotoma). Its brilliant purple berries are eye-catching throughout the fall. There is a lovely specimen on Hamilton Springs Court on the way to the Club. And let’s not forget one of the most breathtaking autumn beauties, the fall-blooming camellias (C. Sasanqua varieties). These generally bloom later in the fall. They are well-suited for Carderock because they need shade, as well as some protection from winter winds – best in a protected spot in your yard that is a warmer microclimate. Mine have been dependably deer-resistant. There are hundreds, if not thousands, of varieties, so do some research to get the color and bloom time you’re looking for.

Don’t forget about scent when you’re looking for fall interest. The gangly evergreen shrub

Eleagnus ebbingii (Silverberry) comes into its own in September and October, when the tiny white blossoms of one plant can cover a wide area with intoxicating scent. These are hard-working screening shrubs as well, although not the most elegant in shape. The falling yellow leaves of the lovely Katsura tree smell exactly like cotton candy – a nice touch in the garden.

As for perennials, there are many fall bloomers to choose from. For some shade, try the toad lilies (Tricyrtis) with their unique blossoms. Be forewarned that deer can eat these, as well as two of my favorites, the sedum ‘Autumn Joy’, and the perennial begonia, which will bloom til frost. Plant these in protected areas that the deer avoid. Others include the various asters in all shapes and sizes (including the native New England aster and wood aster); the native goldenrod (Solidago cultivars – I like ‘Golden Fleece’); and the late-blooming sunflower Helianthus and its similar cousin, Helenium, which comes in lovely russet shades. Plumbago is a slow-spreading ground cover with brilliant blue blooms and red fall foliage.

Don’t forget the ornamental grasses for fall interest. My favorites are the native switch grass, Panicum virgatum (including varieties ‘Shenandoah’ or ‘Heavy Metal’) and the smaller fountain grasses, Pennisetum ‘Hameln’ or even smaller ‘Little Bunny’. These can retain their interest through most of the winter as well. The lovely purple fountain grass (P. Rubrum) is outstanding in containers and elsewhere, but will not survive our winters so must be grown as an annual.

Consider an edible fall container including rainbow Swiss chard, black kale, and other herbs. While not edible, ornamental peppers are compact and bring a jolt of color. Or think outside the box and use house plants – one of my favorite combinations is croton, with its fall colors, along with angel-wing begonias and the ornamental grass Hakonechloa ‘Aurea’. Bring house plants inside before winter approaches.

And if you still want your mums, remember that they are perennials too. After they bloom, cut them back by half and dig a hole for them in the garden; water thoroughly. They should emerge twice as big in the spring, and if you keep pinching them back until July 4 (the internet is full of instructions), they will repay you with many years of bloom. And they don’t need to be shaped into rounded balls!

Nancy E. Everett, Graduate Certificates in Landscape Design and Horticulture, © 2012 Boxwood Design LLC

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Cabin John Dog Walking: Midday walks to keep your pets happy and healthy.
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