

S E P T E M B E R 2 0 1 4

CARDEROCK SPRINGS COMMUNITY NEWS

Senior Meetup Program

September 16, 7:00 PM: Margit's Story.

Our own Margit Meissner will talk about her experiences growing up in Europe as WWII was unfolding, and most captivating is her escape on a bicycle from Paris in 1940 as the Germans entered the city. She will also mention some of the highlights of her interesting long life. Read more about Margit in a recent article in the *Bethesda Now* blog. Google "Meissner Bethesda Now."

Margit Meissner is a longtime resident of Carderock and author of an incredible autobiography, "Margit's Story." She'll have a book signing afterwards and expects to have a supply of books for purchase.

Preview of our fall programs:

October 21, 2:00 PM: Getting All Around - Transportation Options for Older Adults. Harriet Shapiro Block from Jewish Council for the Aging will give an overview of transportation options available to older adults in Montgomery County.

November 18, 7:00 PM: The Art of Woodturning. Phil Brown, well known woodturning artist and Carderock resident, will show examples of his turned wood bowls, describe the process from log to finished piece, and demonstrate turning a small bowl on a wood lathe.

December 16, 2:00 PM: Clearing Out Clutter: Tips, Tools and Strategies for De-Cluttering. Mary Lou will pass along her tips and tools for de-cluttering. Others are invited to contribute their strategies as well.

If you would like to receive emails of the senior programs, send an email to me at maryloushannon@verizon.net

Satisfaction with aging is about friendships and being able to manage your environment. The Carderock Springs senior program aims to help with both.

State Tax Credits for Renovations to Bennett Homes

A great benefit to Carderock Springs' inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places, besides the recognition it brings, is that residents of the Bennett homes are eligible for 20% tax credit on their Maryland income taxes for approved work to their homes. There is a lot of paper work required and many photos to document the current situation, but if and when the renovations are approved by the State, you will have 24 months to complete the work. Once the work is completed, you will need to document the improvements with pictures and expenses on a spread sheet.

I have just filed my application to the Maryland Historic Trust (MHT) and plan to report back to the community when I hear back from them. It took me a couple of months to pull all the information together, and could be 45 days before I hear back from them. I was going to wait to write anything about this process to see how my application was received, but I also wanted to catch anyone who might be in the process of planning work to their homes.

Here's a link to the Maryland Historic Trust web site where you will find all the information you need: http://mht.maryland.gov/taxcredits_homeowner.shtml. Go to "Tax Credits".

It explains the programs, gives instructions and forms to fill in and there's a helpful section, "Frequently Asked Questions." The program requires you to follow their procedures exactly. You will probably find the answer to any question in there.

You will need to take lots of pictures with a wide angle lens camera, and will need long shots and close-ups. You might need plans, drawings and/or specs, too.

Unfortunately, it is not for work you have already done or any work to the site such as a deck or driveway. And, you can't start the work and expect to get the tax credit until you have the State's approval. I wish South Carderock was eligible but it was not included in the historic district boundaries back in 2008. You can see the boundary map on my carderocksprings.com site. You will need to include a copy of that map in your application.

I am willing to share what I wrote to establish the "significance" of the Carderock Springs Historic District if anyone is applying for the tax credit, and can possibly help with your description of your model. I learned a lot working with the "professors" Dr. Isabelle Gournay and Dr. Mary Sies and writing my carderocksprings.com website.

Here is some background for the newer residents. Dr. Gournay and Dr. Sies, both professors in the School of Architecture at the University of MD, received a grant in 2004 to study modern architecture in Maryland. They concluded their yearlong study by recommending Edmund Bennett's community of Carderock Springs to the National Register of Historic Places via to the Maryland Historic Trust. The 40th anniversary celebration at the clubhouse featured talks by the "professors" and Edmund Bennett; the walls were bordered with exhibits of information they collected. More than 250 residents attended.

MHT did their own due-diligence and decided Carderock Springs was worthy of a nomination. Peter Kurtz of MHT spoke to the community, probably in 2006-7, and took a straw vote to see if there was a consensus to go forward; and there was. The entire community was invited and notified of the meeting in the green newsletter, as the CSCA newsletter was called then.

As you can imagine, there were a lot of questions for Peter that evening about restrictions. In general his reply was that unless you were looking for tax credit there were no restrictions. This information is available on the National Register web site, too. The understanding at that time was that tax credit was for restoration work needed to preserve the structure, but it appears that they allow work to improve the homes, too.

I think the confusion about restrictions comes from historic towns such as Kensington and Chevy Chase Village having numerous restrictions. The difference is that their historic designations are included in the MNCPPC Master Plan. Carderock Springs is not in the Master Plan. To add to the confusion, Montgomery County refers to our NRHP status as "Carderock Springs Historic District."

Montgomery County had to give the final approval to the nomination and concluded that review with a hearing that a couple of us attended. There was no objection to the nomination, and without much fanfare, it moved up to the National Park Service for inclusion into the National Register of Historic Places. It was officially listed as "Carderock Springs Historic District" 11/21/2008. You will need that date in your application.

The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the Nation's historic places worthy of preservation. It was authorized by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, is managed by the National Park Service, and is a part of the national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect America's historic resources.

It is indeed an honor for Carderock Springs to be considered one of America's historic resources, and now it appears that there are financial benefits, too.

Mary Lou Shannon

Carderock Campout Sat./Sun. Oct. 25th/26th

You are invited to attend the semi-annual Carderock Campout! Families in Carderock will be joining together this Fall on Saturday, Oct. 25th for an overnight Campout in a beautiful wooded campsite (Marsden tract) along the Potomac river just two miles from our neighborhood. Campfire, tenting, fishing, and a hike awaits you in the C&O National Park. Roast hot dogs and marshmallows with old and new friends.

New to the neighborhood? Come and get to know your neighbors! Would you like to learn something about camping? Experienced and new campers are welcome. Soccer games that day? Late afternoon arrival is fine. This event is free to Carderock Springs residents and is sponsored by the Carderock Springs Citizens Association. Please contact: Eric Nothman for details and to sign up 202-438-5915 (cell); ericnothman@gmail.com

New to our Neighborhood

Erwan Mazarico & Sophia Lau moved this spring to 8207 Stone Trail Drive. You can reach Ewan or Sophia on 240-391-8756 or by email to toiemoishouse@gmail.com

Gosia Potega-Bill and Marcin Bill and their 2 year old son Kajtek (pronounced "Kayteck") moved into 8038 Comanche Court. Contact information is 202 629-7707 (M) or 248 635-7421(G) or with email to gosia.potega@gmail.com.

Alex Lee and his roommate Andy moved into 8105 Fenway Road this summer. Andy's dog Achilles joined them. You can reach them on 301-706-6453 or axlee714@gmail.com

Julia Livshin and Ehan Ostrow are now settled into 12 Persimmon Court, along with their sons Asa (8) and Sidney (5). Julie can be contacted on 617-821-5953 or by email on jlivshin@gmail.com.

Aja and Bret Pittman with son Blaise (3) and daughter Vela (13 months) are enjoying their new home at 8216 Fenway Road. Their contact information is 301-943-2232 or by email to ajapittman@gmail.com.

Kevin Cowan and Consuelo Hurtado and their children Isabella (12) and Nicholas (9) are enjoying Carderock and their home at 8207 Lilly Stone Drive. They can be reached on 240-515-6398 or by email consuelocowan@gmail.com

Joe Hurd and Christina Mireles and their children Amina Hurd (9) and Joseph Hurd (6) moved into the Flemings house at 7617 Edenwood Court for two years while the Flemings are stationed in Hawaii. You can contact Joe or Christina on 650-305-1180 or cmmireles@yahoo.com

Anna & Alex Ansaldo, and their two little ones Aviv (17 months) and Leonora (2 months) are enjoying their new home at 8000 Park Overlook Drive. Best phone for Anna is 202-577-7669 and email for Alex alexansaldo@gmail.com

Katherine Stifel is the proud new owner of 7606 Hamilton Spring Road. Katherine's emails is center_of_effort@yahoo.com

Beth Grace and her fiancée Kelly Raiser are now settled into 8319 Still Spring Court and busy planning some renovations. Their two rescues Chihuahuas Jyoti and Grover are happy here, too. Beth can be contacted on bgrace@niaid.nih.gov

Some families stayed in Carderock but moved to another house.

The DeMarinis family, Jen, Tony, Addison (4 1/2) and Drew (7), moved around the corner to 8321 Still Spring Court.

Bret and Julie Corbin, with Josh (14), Jereme (13), and Ethan (10) moved up the street to 8312 Fenway Road. You can reach the Corbins on 301-365-2483

Mary Lou Shannon, Welcome Chair

Architectural Review Committee Meetings, 1st Wednesday of the month, 7:30 pm

The Citizens' Association has an Architectural Review Committee (ARC) meeting on the 1st Wednesday of each month at the Clubhouse. If you are considering an addition or exterior modification of your home, submit your plans for review by the 20th of the month. Design and review procedures plus other documents are available at CarderockCitizens.org. The ARC was created by the covenants which govern your property in Carderock. ARC meetings are open for any & every community member to attend, whether you are renovating or not.

Classified

Cabin John Dog Walking: Midday walks to keep your pets happy and healthy. Many happy Cabin John and Carderock pet owners and their pets will happily give their recommendations. Call Carolyn at 240-204-2953.

Looking to Rent: Do you have more space in your home than you need? Empty nester or travel frequently and don't want to leave the house unattended? You could rent that extra space! Cabin John renter for many years is looking for private space with private bath. Impeccable references, including current landlord for the past three years. Quiet, dependable and considerate. Please email Carolyn at: cdcabinjohn@gmail.com or call (240) 204-2953

The Carder-Eco Column

Solid Waste Department Website

The county's solid waste department keeps an up-to-date website for all types of matters regarding our trash and recycling services. They range from suggestions, to answers to specific questions, to request forms, facilities information and upcoming events (none currently listed, but there are usually various E cycling or hazardous material recycling events all over the county during the year) . You can use this site to find out about free bulk trash possibilities, to order new bins or pick up broken ones, or to schedule a large scrap metal pick-up. Montgomerycountymd.gov/sws/index.html. You can also phone 311 or 240 777 0311 for information

I am happy to answer your e-mails but the information and website are there for you 24/7. If you do choose to e-mail me, PLEASE do not send to the entire chat of 400 homes. This happens when you use the chat and press "reply"...it goes to everyone, and I receive it a day later in digest form.

The most frequent I get concerns old paint/paint cans. There are several answers depending on whether what you have to discard is oil-based or latex.

To use this as an example, log onto the website, find "Trash and Recycling" on the top line, and you will see plenty of useful options. Using link "how to dispose of", you will then get an alphabetical list of items. Search "paints" and you will get two options....latex and oil. If what you are looking for to dispose of is not there, there is an opportunity to type your request in, and you should receive an answer, often the same day. The person in charge, who actually used me to try out this feature, is usually quite prompt in responding, and then adds it to the on-going list of refuse items.

On the website, you can also learn how to reduce waste, as well as keep up to date on ways/companies/facilities where one can go for repair/donation/reuse by clicking on "Use It Again".

By the way, rigid plastics include many household items without recycling numbers....old cans or buckets, laundry baskets, shelving, toys, and more. This is a new service. These items should not be placed in your curbside bin, but can be recycled by taking them to the transfer station. *Diane Karlik* (dianekarlik@verizon.net) CSCA environmental chair

Friendly Visitors – Will You Help?

Some of you saw this item on the chat last month but if you haven't – here it is again.

At the Carderock Springs Senior Advisory meeting last month there was discussion about the possibility of establishing a Neighborhood Friendly Visitor Program with volunteers who would visit isolated homebound seniors during the day to brighten their day and to help them to feel less isolated. Some seniors are homebound temporarily due to illness or surgery others on a more long-term basis. This service might also include giving family caregivers some respite as well.

We would need to

- (1) Identify homebound seniors (surely you know someone on your street) or perhaps for yourself if you are homebound
- (2) Determine whether or not these seniors would welcome someone to visit with them in their home (at a mutually agreed upon time/date)
- (3) Find Friendly Volunteers - perhaps a commitment of an hour or so twice a month during the daytime

Visitors need only come with a smile, talk, share experiences, ask about their lives (those memories go way back) and bring the outside world into their homes. We think you'll agree that socialization is vital to both one's mental and physical health.

Co-coordinators Elaine Honig and Joy Dritschilo welcome constructive comments and suggestions and your participation of course. Will you help us?

Please make contact with either of the ladies listed below if you'd like to make a difference in the life of a homebound senior.

Elaine Honig jhonig@comcast.net (301-469-7783) or Joy Dritschilo dritschj@gmail.com (301-469-9635)

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The Carderock Springs Citizens Association publishes The Community News at least six times each year. 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, 2014. 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.