

Bentana Woods West

Issue 4

visit our website at www.bwwca.org

Sept/Oct 2011

What's New in the Neighborhood?

There are now speed limit signs at the entrance to each cluster. Late last year when the cluster paved the parking lots, the last of the speed bumps were removed from Scandia Circle.

In response to residents' requests to have some method of reminding drivers of the need to keep a slow speed, the Board of Directors reviewed the options available: Speed bumps were out, speed humps were of questionable value and larger signs would not be approved by Reston Association.

The decision was made to install a sign at each entrance with a speed limit of 15 mph on cluster property. This posted limit is for ALL motorized vehicles, which includes motorcycles, scooters and motor bikes. Please be considerate and careful in the cluster. Slow down for safety. ❖

New Lighting Approved

At the request of many residents, the Board of Directors has updated the Cluster standard for Decorative Rear Lighting. The lighting is for doors on any level of the rear of your home. There are three new fixtures that have been approved by the Reston Association Design Review Board. No application is necessary to use the approved fixtures or the old cylindrical fixture that has been a choice for 30 years.

Our RA Cluster representative is now Brad Baecht (bradb@reston.org). Contact him for information about the new lights. You should ask for and receive the entire DRB approval because there are other requirements to consider such as placement and wattage, when replacing the lighting. Note that security lights and spot lights are not included in this category of lighting. ❖

Cluster Annual Picnic

The Bentana Woods West Cluster Association Annual Picnic is Sunday September 18 from 3:00pm-6:00pm. All residents are invited to come and bring your family. The Picnic will take place on the Triangle Green lawn space between Scandia Circle and Farsta Court. Anne Smyers of Park Glen Court has agreed to coordinate the event and would like some volunteers to cook and set up. If you can help in any way, please call Anne at 703.318.6970.

The cluster budget covers the cost of the charcoal, meat, rolls, paper products and soda for the event. Each year residents are asked to bring salads, side dishes and desserts. We hope everyone will come and have a good time. Bring chairs and lawn games, bats and balls and frisbees. Pets are OK on a leash. The rain date is September 25, same time, same place. Come and meet your neighbors and have a great time! ❖

WALKTHROUGH NOTICE

We have been informed that Reston Association will be conducting a cluster walkthrough sometime after the new year has arrived.

We will pass along any additional information to residents as we receive updates.

If you think you might have any outstanding issues that the RA may have issue with, take the time to clean up and remedy things now and you won't have to worry about it later. ❖

Hummingbirds!



Article by Jane LeGros, photo by Ernest Liu

You may have heard or seen a quick buzz by your ear while out walking and if it isn't mosquitos, it's probably the hummingbirds that made their return to our area during the second week of May.

If you enjoy having them around, get a feeder just for hummers, made of either plastic or glass. If you're hanging it, you'll find it should have an ant moat, because otherwise ants will find their way into the feeder and keep the birds away.

Your feeder should be cleaned thoroughly with soap, water and a scrub brush. Never use bleach or any other harsh chemicals. Glass feeders can usually be safely placed into a dishwasher. NO black should be visible – that's probably mold. Clean and refill your feeder with fresh nectar every three days during the summer season. Hummers will stick around through most of September, performing their twirly whirly acts.

Hummingbirds seem to prefer natural sugar water to the processed syrups or "nectars" that you can buy from the store – here's a simple recipe:

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- 4 cups cold water
- 1 cup granulated white (not confectioners) sugar
- BOIL for 3 full minutes and let cool
- Store in an airtight container in the refrigerator

What flowers will attract hummers? Fuschsia, phlox, verbena, petunias, trumpet vine – most flowers with tubes or trumpets and pineapple sage. But I have many flowers on my deck and yet they fly right over the planters to the sugar water. In the woods, hummers have been known to suckle at hosta flowers, but around here the deer pick those clean.

The single most important factor is keeping the feeders filled, and clean.

Happy bird watching! ❖

Fall Leaf Cleanup

How quickly summer comes to an end. With the kids going back to school, it's time once again to think about leaves and raking.

Just a friendly reminder to all – please remove your leaves and yard debris without using cluster woodlands or common areas as dumping grounds.

Our landscape crew will take them if they're along the curb and our trash contractor will take them if they are bagged. Specific leaf collection dates will be provided at a later date. Our cluster woodlands have many unique varieties of wildflowers – some that are easy to recognize are pipsisewa, bearberry and ferns. ❖

Meet Our New RA Covenants Counselor



Brad Baecht is the new Reston Association covenants counselor for our cluster. He has an associate degree in business administration from Northern Virginia Community College and working toward a bachelor's at George Mason University. Brad has been recognized two times this year for the RA's Reston Employee Awards Program (REAP) as part of his work as a billing and collections assistant in the RA's finance department.

If you have any questions that involve the RA and our cluster, Brad can be reached at 703.435.7981 or bradb@reston.org. ❖

Quotable Quotes

"We are more easily persuaded, in general, by the reasons we ourselves discover than by those which are given to us by others."

~ **Blaise Pascal**



Calendar of Events

SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL HISPANIC
HERITAGE MONTH

LABOR DAY

SEPT 5TH

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

SEPT 6TH @ 1510 SCANDIA - 7:30PM

ANNUAL CLUSTER PICNIC

SEPT 18TH @ TRIANGLE GREEN - 3-6PM

LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE MEETING

SEPT 21ST @ 1504 SCANDIA - 7:30PM

FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN

SEPT 23RD

OCTOBER IS FAMILY HISTORY MONTH

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

OCT 2ND @ TO BE DETERMINED - 7:00PM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

OCT 4TH @ 1504 SCANDIA CIR - 7:30PM

LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE MEETING

OCT 19TH @ 1504 SCANDIA CIR - 7:30PM

HALLOWEEN DAY

OCT 31ST

September Cluster Meeting

Board meetings are open to all members of BWW and usually held at 7:30pm on the first Tuesday of each month. Want to say something? You can! Board meetings always begin with a Resident's Forum.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday,
Sept 6th @ 1510 Scandia Cir

Landscape Committee	
Jane LeGros	703.787.8388
Peggy Manthe	703.707.2047
Martin Dapot	703.435.8521
Bill Wagner	703.953.1913
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Reston Association

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Our Cluster is
a Certified
Wildlife Habitat



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