

Bentana Woods West

Issue 6

visit our updated website at www.bwwca.com

December 2014

Holiday Lights

If you have old incandescent holiday lights, you can take them to MOM's Organic Market in Herndon for recycling during December. Mom's partners with Holiday LEDs in this effort. According to Holiday LEDs website, LED lights are longer-lasting and use only 10% of the electricity required to power traditional incandescent. For a typical household this will mean a cost savings of \$20 or more during the standard 30 day holiday season. To learn other advantages of LED lights and why Holiday LEDs say quality matters, visit www.holidayleds.com. ❖

Cluster Thefts

Be sure to keep your vehicle doors locked, and any kid's toys inside. There have been break-ins/thefts of airbags very recently and other vehicle contents thefts during the past months. If you have been a victim, make sure you call the police to report, but also tell a board member. It's important that we all keep an eye out for each other.

If you hear a car alarm, please double check to see if someone is actually breaking into a vehicle, and contact the Fairfax County police at 703.691.2131. Also contact a board member so we can keep track of this. ❖



Time for Giving

Don't forget your favorite charity. Small amount gift cards are good for needy teens at Cornerstone, Toys for Tots, Goodwill and many others. ❖



Happy Holidays to All!

'Tis the season for festivities, so here are a few:

Meadowlark's Walk of Lights

Nov 14 - Jan 4, Meadowlark Botanical Gardens

Recurring daily

Address: 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna, VA

Times: 5:00pm doors, 5:30pm show

Phone: 703.255.3631

Admission: \$13 adults, \$8 children ages 3-12; Children under 3 are free

Visit Meadowlark's Winter Walk of Lights from November 14th - January 4th to experience over 500,000 LED lights and displays that bring Meadowlark Botanical Gardens to life! Imagine the beauty of Meadowlark's renowned gardens transformed into a winter wonderland, including a flowing stream of softly glowing lights. Marvel at the two story animated fountain, stroll past the Gingerbread Village, and explore the beauty of nature like you've never seen it. This event is sure to be the highlight of your holiday season! ❖

Christmas at Mount Vernon

Nov 28 - Jan 6, George Washington's Mount Vernon

Recurring daily

Address: 3200 George Washington Memorial Pkwy, Mount Vernon, VA

Times: 9:00am – 4:00pm

Admission: Regular Estate admission

Themed decorations (including 12 Christmas trees) and historical chocolate-making demonstrations will be offered. Tour the rarely-open third floor of the Mansion and learn how the Washingtons celebrated Christmas. In 1787, George Washington paid 18 shillings to bring a camel to Mount Vernon for the enjoyment of his guests. During Christmas at Mount Vernon, visitors can meet a camel on the grounds. ❖

Christmas at Oatlands

Nov 16 – Dec 30, Oatlands Historic House

Recurring daily

Address: 20850 Oatlands Plantation Lane, Leesburg, VA

Times: 10:00am – 5:00pm

Admission: Regular Estate admission

Until December 30th, the 360-acre estate will come alive with historic and handcrafted decorations. Explore the estate and enjoy live music, unique shopping and afternoon tea. Their website address is www.oatlands.org. ❖

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Holiday Lights

Cluster Thefts

Happy Holidays to All!

Don't Forget About the Birds

Winter is Here!

Calendar of Events

And Don't Forget About the Birds

Winter: 'Tis the season for feeding birds – especially in regions where it gets cold and snowy. Here are some foods extremely popular with backyard birds:

Black-Oil Sunflower Seed – The hamburger of the bird world. Most any bird that visits a feeder will eat black sunflower.

Peanuts – De-shelled, dry-roasted, and unsalted. Woodpeckers, jays, nuthatches, chickadees, titmice, cardinals and finches will readily visit a feeder for this high-protein, high-energy food.

Suet – Most humans don't want a lot of fat in their diet, but for birds in winter, fat is an excellent source of energy.

Good Mixed Seed – Is there such a thing as BAD mixed seed? You bet! Bad mixed seed has lots of filler in it – junk seeds that most birds won't eat. Bad mixed seed can include dyed seed meant for pet birds, wheat, and some forms of red milo that only birds in the southwest seem to eat. Good mixes have a large amount of sunflower, cracked corn, white proso millet, and maybe peanut hearts. Discerning feeders buy mixed seed from a specialty store.

Cracked Corn – Sparrows, blackbirds, jays, doves, quail, and squirrels are just a few of the creatures you can expect at your feeders if you feed cracked corn. Whole corn that is still on the cob is not a good bird food because the kernels are too big and hard for most small birds to digest. Cracked corn is broken up into smaller, more manageable bits. ❖



Winter is Here!

Don't forget to have your chimneys cleaned for the winter season of toasty fires. And make sure you check for a reputable chimney sweep. ❖

Last Call – Turn Off Your Outside Spigots!

Close the inside shutoff valve first, then open and drain the outside valve before shutting it off. ❖

Important Holiday Trash Pickup Changes

There will be NO trash pickup on Thursday, December 25th, Christmas, and New Year's Day also falls on a Thursday this year, so there will be no pick up. It will resume December 29th and January 5th. AAA Trash offices will also be closed on those days. ❖

Suggestions or Ideas for the Newsletter?

Contact JoAnne at 202.494.4578. ❖

Quotable Quotes

"The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart."

~ *Helen Keller*

Calendar of Events

DECEMBER IS UNIVERSAL HUMAN RIGHTS MONTH

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

DEC 2ND

HANUKKAH BEGINS

DEC 16TH

LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE MEETING

DEC 16TH @ 1504 SCANDIA CIR - 7:30PM

CHRISTMAS DAY

DEC 25TH

KWANZAA BEGINS

DEC 26TH

NEW YEAR'S EVE

DEC 31ST

JANUARY IS NATIONAL BLOOD DONOR MONTH

NEW YEAR'S DAY

JAN 1ST

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

JAN 6TH @ 1504 SCANDIA CIR - 7:30PM

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

JAN 19TH

LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE MEETING

JAN 20 @ 1504 SCANDIA CIR - 7:30PM

THANKSGIVING DAY

JAN 27TH

January Cluster Meeting

Board meetings are open to all members of BWW and usually held at 7:30pm on the first Tuesday of each month.

The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, Jan 6th, 1504 Scandia Circle

Landscape Committee

Jane LeGros	703.787.8388
Peggy Manthe	703.707.2047
Martin Dapot	703.435.8521
Bill Wagner	703.953.1913
Janet Brennan	703.834.0439
Anne Smyers	703.318.6970

Cluster Management

TWC Association Management
Kim Hendon
phone 703.437.5800
fax 703.471.6578
email twcmanage@aol.com

Reston Association

Robert Chambliss
Covenants Counselor
phone 703.435.6578
fax 703.435.6516
email rchambliss@reston.org

Cluster Board of Directors

JoAnne Henck, President

1519 Park Glen Court
202.494.4578

Eric Reed, Treasurer

1532 Scandia Circle
erikreedst2@yahoo.com

Rebecca Totten, Director

1526 Scandia Circle
703.437.4364

Jeremy Oppenheim, Vice Pres

1524 Scandia Circle
jeremyzeke@gmail.com

David Berger, Secretary

1544 Scania Circle
dave@evansberger.com

Bill Wagner, Director

1527 Scandia Circle
wagner@sprynet.com

Martin Dapot, Treasurer

1529 Park Glen Court
703.435.8521

Jane LeGros, Director

1504 Scandia Circle
703.787.8388

Our Cluster is a
Certified Wildlife
Habitat



Newsletter Editor ❖ Tony Chang ❖ bwwnews@gmail.com