



**Next BSW Neighborhood Association Meeting Monday, February 1st, 8 PM at 238 Argyle--
Come at 7:30 for wine and snacks**

BSW Newsletter – Choose paper or e-mail attachment – ACTION REQUIRED

In an effort to reduce the costs associated with printing 188 copies of the Beverley Square West Newsletter, currently distributed by volunteers throughout the neighborhood, we are requesting that community residents provide us with an **e-mail address** so that they can receive the newsletter electronically.

Note that for residents who want to continue receiving the paper version, an Opt-In Policy is being enacted. We ask those who prefer paper to contact Bob Pandolfo (e-mail robert.pandolfo@gmail.com , call or text 347-578-4146,) in order for their block representative to honor their home delivery request. Another option is both paper and e-mail, also contact for that. The current e-mail list is still in effect, along with anyone who has requested paper in the past.

We want to stress that we do not plan to entirely eliminate the paper version of the newsletter, but we need to hear from those who haven't requested paper before.

In addition, we will continue to deliver paper notices to all 255 homes in BSW, for all Special Event Announcements, like block parties, ice cream socials, round robin dinners, etc.

Thank you and please join us in February for our community meeting at the Clemens, 238 Argyle, Monday February 1st, 8 pm. All residents, not just homeowners, are welcomed at these meetings. We are eager to entertain all suggestions and ideas that will bring the residents of our lovely community closer. -----

Beverley Square West member dues are \$25 per year, but you do not have to be a member in order to attend the meetings and/or receive the newsletter.

February 2016 Newsletter

To receive the newsletter electronically, e-mail BSWneighbors@gmail.com with your name and house number.

Also, you can join the BSW E-mail group and send e-mails for all directly to this group. Feel free to just send it directly to beverleysquarewest@googlegroups.com and it will go out to the whole group, instead of to Bob.

Officers:

Co-Presidents
Bob Pandolfo and Jack Rubman
Secretary: Open
Treasurer: Miriam Rubman
Member at large: Glenn Wolin

Block representatives:

Stratford/Beverley- Bob Pandolfo, 214, Tel 347-578-4146,
Westminster- Audrey Campbell, 297, 718-282-5937/ Janice Hamann, 330, 718-287-5408,
Argyle- Jack Rubman, 261, Tel 718-469-6633,
Rugby- Louise Moed, 243, 718-826-1119,
Marlborough-Sally Bowman-Schneider. Tel 516-768-8059.

Agenda for February meeting:

- 1- Michael Smith, 70 Precinct new Community Affairs Officer- 20 minutes
- 2- Newsletter distribution- 10 minutes
- 3- Landmarking- 10 minutes
- 3- Treasurer's report- 5 minutes
- 4- Other Business- 15 minutes

Verizon FiOS

Please send me your postal address if interested. I contacted a Verizon person after an introduction by a neighbor. I have and will send him the addresses of residences who may have an interest in FiOS service. He will advise me on when we can expect FiOS service. Contact me by:
E-mail: robert.pandolfo@gmail.com or
Cellphone-call, voicemail, or text 347-578-4146

This service was supposed to be available throughout NYC by the end of 2014, and there are no guarantees, but I feel we should keep trying.

Bob

BSW Minutes: November 2nd, 2015 Meeting (recorded by Miriam Rubman, edited by Bob Pandolfo)

Newsletter Distribution: One more notice will appear in the newsletter to determine whether BSW residents want to receive the newsletter by hard copy or e-mail. Bob has received only two responses so far. Afterwards, a reminder flyer will be distributed once a year regarding this item.

Landmarking: Glenn stated that he went to a meeting about two weeks ago, and he convinced the attendants to push for the two neighborhoods mentioned by the city Landmarks Commission first (BSW and Ditmas Park West) rather than all eleven neighborhoods, as proposed by Virginia Waters, who eventually agreed with Glenn. Next step is to get politicians to support the plan. Glenn wants the politicians to come out to the community and present a slide show. This meeting has not been scheduled yet. Glenn stated the best case scenario for landmarking is three to four years away.

Treasurer's Report: Miriam gave the treasurer's report. Call her at 7128-469-6633 for a detailed account.

Other Business: Participatory Budgeting has discretionary funds (up to one million) to improve the neighborhood. BSW decided to ask for funds to improve the drainage at the Tot Lot. Glenn will go to a meeting with Mathieu Eugene regarding this. Abraham Stern requested an updated data base for reliable contractors. Doris mentioned a homeless man wandering on Cortelyou Road. Beatrice mentioned the poor state of P.S. #139 and asked if BSW could do something. Suggestions on how to spend treasury funds are welcome.

From CoPresident Jack Rubman:

TWO LOSSES IN BEVERLEY SQUARE WEST

BSW lost one of its very long term residents in early December. Al Bonnadonna of Argyle Road, husband of Arlene, passed away from complications due to a fall. He was one of the nicest people you'd ever want to know: always happy, never down, zooming around in his little scooter when it was difficult to walk. It seemed as though he was everywhere in that thing. He loved to talk and engage you in conversation. But time sadly takes its toll. He lived a long and happy life with his beloved Arlene and his kids, and in the end isn't that what this is all about? To be as happy as you can for as long as you can? He was a lucky man. We should all be so blessed. Rest in peace, Al. Our most heartfelt sympathy to Arlene.

Also, we have just learned of the passing of Leah Balaban, a long term resident of Beverley Road. She was a very sweet woman in whose home (the shul/catering hall) we held many BSW meetings. She will be very much missed by all who knew her. She never said "no" if I asked her for the use of her house. She was truly "salt of the earth."

Let's hope 2016 is obituary free.

In the Garden Corner

by Vera Julia Gordon

February and March — After a mild Fall – Earthworm casts and daffodil leaves in December! – we have finally had winter weather – cold, wind, snow. However, the days are lengthening so there are mixed signals for plants, and for people. Plants, whether outdoors or on indoor windowsills, respond to length of day, as well as to temperature. Our days are subtly longer, and the pace quickens. In February the length of daylight in NYC increases about an hour and a quarter, and in March we gain over an hour and a half of daylight.

The full moons of November through February ride very high in the sky at midnight. The full moon of February occurs on February 22nd; it is the Snow Moon, also called the Hunger Moon. March's full moon is on March 23rd; it has many names: Worm Moon, Crow, Crust Moon, Sugar Moon, Sap Moon. There are no planets in our evening sky in February or March. Venus is visible in the southeast before dawn, and on February 6th and March 7th partners with the waning crescent moon. Jupiter rises about 8:00 pm in February and then proceeds to dominate the night sky. It is good for viewing with amateur telescopes and in March is at its brightest for 2016. Mars rises after midnight and is halfway up the southern sky at dawn. On March 29th it forms a triangle with the moon and Saturn a few hours before dawn.

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("Garden Corner" continued)

The full moon of March 23rd will have a penumbral eclipse in the western United States and Canada. The March 8th- 9th total eclipse of the sun will not be visible in North America. Eclipse hunters will need to go to Africa, the Indian Ocean, or to Antarctica.

Our indoor plants are living in near-desert conditions so keep up with the watering. Water from below, in a saucer. Test the soil surface a few hours later to be sure it is damp. If water remains in the saucer, throw it out. Extra water in trays or bowls provides humidity for the plants and for people. If you opt for a humidifier, remember that it will need to be scrubbed and sanitized on a regular basis. Open bowls are easier; just wash and refill. Check any wintering amaryllis for new growth and bring to light when growth starts; water with warm water and half-strength fertilizer. All our plants would appreciate light fertilization once a month. Resume full strength fertilization in April – per package directions.

Order summer-blooming lilies, caladium, seeds, etc., to get your first choices, but do not plant outside until May. Start seeds as per packet directions: April or May. Otherwise your seedlings will be spindly. Buy pre-cooled spring bulbs now for indoor forcing; they are good for the morale. Order perennials but have delivery delayed until planting time, mid-May, and plant then. The ground needs to have warmed so you will avoid root-shock.

By now, your outside water should be turned off inside, but open outside to avoid broken pipes. If the night forecast is for temperatures below 20°, it is a good idea to keep a faucet open with a slow drip if your pipes are against an outside wall. Come Spring, you may wish to consider having the pipes reset if you have had problems over the years.

February 2nd is Groundhog Day; if he sees his shadow, he goes back to his hibernation. February 8th is Chinese New Year – the year of the Monkey. February 10th is Ash Wednesday. Lincoln was born on February 12th and George Washington on February 22nd, but now we celebrate February 15th as Presidents' Day. Valentine's Day is February 14th, and February 29th is Leap Day. Remember it was Sadie Hawkins' Day in Li'l Abner? Some clocks, watches, TV's, computers adjust automatically for February 29th; some do not, so you may need to do a manual correction.

Daylight Savings Time resumes on Sunday, March 13th at 2:00 am. Set clocks **ahead**. St. Patrick's Day is March 17th, and March 19th is St. Joseph's Day. March 20th brings Palm Sunday and is also the beginning of Spring — the Vernal Equinox and the days are longer than the nights. Purim begins the evening of March 23rd. March 25th is Good Friday, and Easter is March 27th. [This year Passover is in April and so Orthodox Easter is May 1st.]

Trees can be pruned through the end of March. Late March is also the time to prune roses; prune just above an outward facing bud. Hybrid tea roses and the long canes of ramblers can be cut back to 12 or 15 inches; growth from rose horizontals can be cut to 3 inches. This is also the time to transplant peonies; prune wisteria back to the base of last year's "whips", leaving about 5 growth points on the "whip". Don't touch your azaleas, lilacs, rhododendrons, or other spring blooming flowering shrubs; prune them immediately after bloom.

If you hear strange sounds in your walls or ceilings, consider: it may be squirrels seeking shelter. Not good! Have the house checked and any entry holes sealed. Raccoons like garages, and they need to be evicted and the holes sealed.

Peruse catalogs, and get your orders in. Clean and repair tools. Dream Spring. Remember that snow is an excellent mulch.

Enjoy the different color and slant of light, and the special shine of swelling branches in your winter garden.

From Co-President Bob Pandolfo:

NYC Trees and Sidewalks Program-

Homeowners can sign up for this program if tree roots have damaged their sidewalks, and possibly get free repairs:

<http://www.nycgovparks.org/services/forestry/trees-sidewalks-program>

Call 311 to report potholes.

USEFUL CONTACTS

Emergency: 911

Non-Emergency: 311

70th Precinct: 718-851-5511

Gas / National Grid: 718-643-4050

Electricity/ ConEdison:

800-75-CONED

Community Board 14:

718-859-6357

Councilmember Eugene:

718-287-8762

Assemblymember Brennan:

718-940-0641

Senator Parker:

718-629-6401

Ditmas Park Blog:

www.ditmasparkcorner.com

ditmasparkcorner@gmail.com

2016 BSW Dues

To pay 2016 \$25 BSW dues, please see form below.

BEVERLEY SQUARE WEST DUES for CY2016 are due now.

Your dues support:

Printing the monthly newsletter and social event flyers, supporting social events- refreshments, other expenses, financing our biennial party, buying wine for our meetings. Please see form below.

Thank you for your continued support of our community organization.

BSW Dues for 2016

BSW membership dues are payable on a calendar year basis. All 2016 dues are due now. Dues are \$25.00. Please fill out the form below and mail it today with your check made out to Beverley Square West Association to Miriam Rubman, BSW Treasurer, 261 Argyle Road, Brooklyn, NY 11218. Thank you for your continued support of our beautiful neighborhood. If you have any questions, please call Miriam, Treasurer of BSW Neighborhood Association at 718-469-6633.

Name (s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____