



**Next BSW Neighborhood Association Meeting Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 8 PM at 238 Argyle--  
Come at 7:30 for wine and snacks**

**Agenda for February meeting:**

- 1- Crime report-car break-ins, bike thefts- 20 minutes
- 2- Treasurer's Report- 10 minutes
- 3- Other business- 15 minutes

**Jan-Feb 2014 Newsletter**

To receive the newsletter electronically, e-mail [BSWneighbors@gmail.com](mailto:BSWneighbors@gmail.com) with your name and house number.

**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-** Tom Montuori, 306, Tel 718-287-6502,  
**Marlborough-**Sally Bowman-Schneider, Tel 516-768-8059.

**From Co-President Bob Pandolfo:**

Here are the NYC Snow Removal regulations:

“Every owner, lessee, tenant, occupant, or other person having charge of any lot or building must clean snow and/or ice from the sidewalk within 4 hours after the snow has stopped falling, or by 11:00 AM if the snow has stopped falling after 9:00 PM the previous evening. Snow may **NOT** be thrown into the street.”

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Homeowners are advised to use porch lights at night. There are energy-efficient lights with photo-electric switches available. Lights on houses add needed light to our blocks, and are a crime deterrent. Also, placing your house number on the back of your house can identify your house to a neighbor just in case.

If your house is adjacent to a storm drain, keeping it clear of debris helps prevent floods on the street and possibly in our homes.

As per NYC law, homeowners are responsible for keeping the street free of debris up to 18 inches from the curb.

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**Minutes of BSW Meeting November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013** (recorded by Miriam Rubman, edited by Bob Pandolfo):

**1- Possible future PS 139 Schoolyard Closing:** Olgierd stated that construction for a year would involve wrapping the school in scaffolding and closing the playground on Cortelyou, and partially closing the playground on Argyle. Construction would occur between 3-11. During recess, which would be for 1 and 1/2 hours, school parents want to allow Argyle to be closed off and made a play street. Harry, from Assemblyman Brennan's office, stated that CB 14 should be notified as well as the fire department. Other considerations include changing the parking rules as well as approval from the affected Argyle residents. There is no date for construction at this time.

**2- Marlborough Speed Bump:** Peter wants speed bumps on Marlborough because of speed racing. BSW voted to approve this request, which will go to CB 14 and then Dept. of Transportation.

**3- Landmarking:** We are waiting to hear from the Landmarks Preservation Commission.

**4- Treasurer's Report:** Miriam gave the treasurer's report. Call her at 718-469-6633 for a detailed account.

**5- Other Business:** Harry stated that the holiday lights on Cortelyou will be put up shortly. On 11/12/13, Assemblyman Brennan will conduct a workshop at Temple Beth Emeth on non-profits.

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**From Co-President Jack Rubman:**

***Memories of Martha Cherkis***

The other day while shoveling my driveway, my neighbor Louise Cherkis came by and we chatted about this and that. Then I asked her how her mom was, and she told me that Martha had passed away this past summer at 90. I have to tell you, especially those who didn't know her, that she and her husband, George, were pillars of the association who loved BSW. Martha was an early enthusiastic proponent of land-marking, always interesting to talk to and always interested in what you had to say. She was a voracious New York Times reader, constantly coming to BSW meetings with articles that she had cut out that she thought would pertain to us. She fought to have a traffic light installed at Beverley and Argyle and she hosted many meetings at her house. And she loved participating! She was a wonderful, intelligent, caring woman who seemed to always be thinking of ways to improve our community, realizing what a jewel it is. She was a jewel too. I really miss her and always will.

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**February/March.** It is definitely still winter! And a memorable winter it has been with temperatures of 4° and 57° in the same week, and snow, ice, rain, and mild days too. Be careful out there! Winter lasts, officially, until the Vernal Equinox of March 20<sup>th</sup>. Winter weather? That's another story. The February full moon (the snow moon) is February 14<sup>th</sup>, and March's full moon (the worm moon) occurs on the 16<sup>th</sup>. An alternate name for the February moon is the starving moon; alternate name for the March moon are the crow moon, the crust moon, the sugar moon, and the sap moon. All are derived from Native Americans of eastern North America and their observations of the seasons. We gain daylight hours apace: in February, it is a one hour and ten minute gain, and in March we gain an hour and twenty-five minutes. Daylight Savings Time begins on March 9<sup>th</sup>. Yes, it is earlier than in former years. February 2<sup>nd</sup> is Groundhog Day; groundhogs are woodchucks and hibernate in winter. Legend has it that if the groundhog emerges from his den on February 2<sup>nd</sup> and sees his shadow, he goes back for six more weeks of sleep. However, if it is cloudy and he does not see his shadow, he stays out and we have an early spring.

Venus in February is a brilliant morning star in the east before dawn. On March 27<sup>th</sup>, Venus and the waning crescent moon are together low in the eastern sky before sunrise. Mars brightens thorough February, rising about 10:00 pm in February and about 9:00 pm in March. Jupiter is visible most of the night in both months and is quite brilliant. Look for it high in the southern sky in the middle of the night. Saturn and the moon rise together at about 1:00 am on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, and Saturn is high and brilliant in the south at dawn in both February and March. Its rings are at an angle which gives it added glow. It will repay a binocular viewing.

Pay attention to your houseplants and their needs, especially water. Our indoor humidity is very low, and **we** need extra moisture too. Put water in their saucers and group them so they have moist air as well as moist soil. Prevent leaves from resting on cold window glass. The leaves can freeze, kill those leaves and shock the plants. Use very dilute fertilizer occasionally. In April, go to half the package rate. Check for "critters". Wash them off with warm water at the sink, or use an insect spray. If your holiday cactus or amaryllis flowers, enjoy them. Buy some pre-cooled narcissus bulbs and plant them in stones and water in a shallow dish. The flowers and fragrance are wonderful for winter morale.

February is still catalog time. Planning is the key. What vegetables were successful – and well liked. What color scheme for this year? Buy seeds now, but do not start them. Read the back of the packet, and work back from setting out time for that particular plant to arrive at the right seed-starting time. That will probably be late March or early April. Order perennials, but consult with the grower/nurseryman for proper planting time. The ground must have begun to warm before you plant. Otherwise, the plant will be root-shocked, and it may never recover. If you have unplanted spring bulbs, get them in any time we have a mild spell and workable soil. Order summer/fall bulbs for May planting. If the plants are tropical, put them in in June.

Don't plant grass yet, even if we get a warm spell. Wait until late March.

If winter winds have piled up your mulch- leaves, respreads them evenly on the planting beds, keeping them a few inches away from the stems of bushes and trees.

Notice the thickening tree branches and their gleam. Feed the birds, keep warm; think spring, and enjoy your late 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>

**USEFUL CONTACTS**

**Emergency: 911**

Non-Emergency: 311

70<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.ditmasparkcorner.com)

ditmasparkcorner@gmail.com

**CY 2014 LIST OF BEVERLEY SQUARE WEST DUES PAYING MEMBERS (JANUARY 1, 2014 - DECEMBER 31, 2014) AS OF JANUARY 11, 2014**

ARGYLE ROAD

Zargari; Rubman

WESTMINSTER ROAD

Taylor/Ricketts; Jagmohan

SLOCUM PLACE

Varon

Total: 5 (out of 255 houses)

If you think that I made a mistake in omitting your name, please call me at (718) 469-6633.

**BEVERLEY SQUARE WEST DUES for CY2014 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 2014**

BSW membership dues are payable on a calendar year basis. All 2014 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: \_\_\_\_\_