



Next BSW Neighborhood Association Meeting Monday, April 13th, 8 PM at 330 Westminster-- Come at 7:30 PM for snacks and wine

Agenda for April meeting:

- 1- Social Committee- 15 minutes.
- 2- Landmarking- Glenn – 15 minutes.
- 3- Treasurer's report- Miriam – 5 minutes.
- 4- Other business, crime- 15 minutes.

March-April 2015 Newsletter

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

Also, you can join the BSW Email 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.

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, Tel 718-826-1116,
Marlborough- Sally Bowman-Schneider, 262, Tel 516-768-8059.

Officers:

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

From Co-President **Bob Pandolfo**—

Hello,
I am feeling okay, working four days a week.

Please note that the annual Marlborough Road block party, everyone welcome, will be held on Sunday, June 7th. Further info will be released as soon as possible. Special thanks to Olgierd for this information.

Thanks, Bob

**BSW Minutes: February 9th, 2015 Meeting
(recorded by Miriam Rubman, edited by
Bob Pandolfo)**

Landmarking: Glenn informed us about two things that impact land marking. One, Mayor DeBlasio has put a moratorium on landmarking projects. Two, Rodneyese Bichotte, who has replaced Rhoda Jacobs as Assemblywoman supports our landmark initiative. Glenn plans to meet with her shortly and she promises to send a letter to reinvigorate the project.

Solar Energy: Emma Conroy represents Push Solar and talked about two different ways to get involved. One, a group of homeowners could band together to get solar energy and reduce costs. Two, an individual could do it alone. Site assessments of your home are free. There are some rebates available, but they expire in April. Without them, it will cost @ \$24,000 to install roof panels. Your meter is hooked up to Con Ed. There is a petition to sign to get Governor Cuomo to approve solar energy as a green initiative for tax breaks. Someone asked if solar energy panels would affect landmark status. No answer. Solar panels are warranted for 30 years, but you need a new roof or one in good condition to support them.

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

Other Business: Glenn was asked how to start up the security service. He will be glad to offer advice but will not manage it. The old cost was \$475 a year. Lisa suggested that BSW have a progressive dinner in June. She will send out a survey to see who is interested.

In the Garden Corner by Vera Julia Gordon

April and May – Early Spring through High Spring! However, the weather we have and the calendar do not always seem to be in synch. However, we are getting signs of real spring: crocus have been in bloom for several weeks, and also snowdrops, and witch hazel bushes are resplendent. Earthworm holes are showing, and robins are hunting the earthworms. Maples will blossom and leaf out between April 12th and April 29th, with privet a bit earlier and oaks slightly later.

April's full moon, on the 4th, have many names: the pink moon, the grass sprouting moon, the fish moon, the egg moon, and this year it's also the Easter moon, the Passover moon, the Pascal moon. The May full moon is on the 4th, the Flower moon, or the Corn planting moon. Daffodil leaves are up, and a few daffodils are blooming; tulip and bluebell leaves are showing. Buds are swelling on the dogwood and the fruit trees – and squirrels are eating them, but there will be enough for an exuberant show later. Early magnolias are showing wisps of white. Cut forsythia and fruit tree branches for forcing; they need light, but avoid bright sun. It has been such a harsh winter that we are all eager to have blossoms indoors. Buy daffodils to force too. You can plant them out later on, but they are not likely to bloom again next year. After bulbs bloom, let the foliage mature to translocate energy back to the bulbs for next year. If the foliage looks unsightly, interplant some annuals along in May, or bend the foliage over gently. Braiding it is no longer recommended. If you cut lilacs to force, wait until the bud clusters are four or more inches in height; it is a good idea to bring the plant into shape by cutting out the tallest branches almost to ground level and then taking the top-most part for forcing. If you trim off just the top growth, those branches are not likely to bloom next year.

Wait until the soil is really warm before setting out annuals (and vegetables are annuals) because if the plants are set out too early the roots are shocked and the plant just may not do well. That means, wait until mid-May!

Perennials can be planted out in mid-May too. Spread their roots – gently, and water in well. The adage is a five dollar plant in a fifty dollar hole. That used to be a dollar plant in a five dollar hole, but inflation must be factored in, and there are not too many five dollar plants these days, either.

Rake your fallen leaves to the compost pile or use them as mulch in the planting beds. Keep after the paper and plastic that the wind deposits on our lawns. It is unsightly and stifles the new grass. Grass seed can be planted in late April, and the area needs to be kept damp. (continued on page 3.)

(Note this NYC water rule: no outside watering from April 1st to October 31st between 11 AM and 7 PM.) Seeds of annuals can be started indoors; consult the seed packet for timing and for setting out. A little delay will not matter. Plants “catch up”.

Check your bushes and shrubs for winter damage. If there are dead branches, cut out the dead wood, about half an inch below the dead area. If the whole plant looks dubious you may wish to wait until mid-May to see if any new growth appears. If it does not, replace the plant. If grafted roses put up new shoots from below the graft, cut them out. If that is the only growth, you may wish to replace the plant. If it is a hybrid rose, or one growing on its own rootstock, then encourage any growth.

Prune roses. Cut off stems more than ten inches above the ground, just above and outward facing branch. If it is a climber, cut back any very long canes, and cut off the branches growing out of the canes, and train them to be new horizontals. The oldest canes should really be cut out, so that new ones can grow and renew the plant.

The Brooklyn Botanic Garden’s plant sale is Wednesday, May 6th, from 9 am to 8 pm and Thursday, May 7th from 9 am to noon. And, of course, there is the members’ advance sale on Tuesday, May 5th from 4:30 pm to 8 pm. It’s worth the cost of membership for first choice of plants and all the members’ events for a whole year. As you purchase, consider getting plants to dress up your yard, steps, and window boxes for the Greenest Block in Brooklyn contest. Every block wins when it looks special!

It may seem odd to talk of drought after this past winter, but you never can tell. Our gardens need about an inch of water a week. A deep soaking once is better than a little every day. When you turn on your outside water, first be sure the outside faucet is off; then turn on the inside control and then the outside. It is a good idea not to have it on full until you have checked all your hoses to be sure there are no breaks. If there are any signs of damage to either soaker hoses or watering hoses, consider replacing instead of mending.

Watch for migrating and nesting birds; they appreciate clean water, some shelter, and maybe scraps of yarn to incorporate into their nests. I have seen cardinals, mockingbirds, jays, and hear crows and white throated sparrows – all this week.

Enjoy the glories of your spring garden.

RESTAURANT REVIEW

By Jack Rubman, BSW Co-President

On March 23, 2015, Miriam and I went to **Asya**, the new Indian restaurant that replaced Picket Fence on Cortelyou Road. We were expecting little but were pleasantly surprised. The service was excellent and so was the food. Miriam had the rack of lamb and I had the mixed grill. (an assortment of lamb, chicken and seafood Tandoori style). The appetizers we had were samosas (delicious), cauliflower coated with a sweet/spicy chutney sauce (sensational), and onion bhujia (also great). The breads were onion garlic and poori. The meal was served with basmati rice. Our water glasses were always filled. We really enjoyed this place. It is a wonderful addition to our neighborhood. We plan to eat there frequently. But remember, it’s Indian, so the food can be spicy. The wait staff will inquire as to your comfort level of spiciness- mild, medium or hot. Welcome Asya..

USEFUL CONTACTS

Emergency: 911

NYC 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

NY State Senator Parker:
718-629-6401

Ditmas Park Blog:

www.ditmasparkcorner.com
ditmasparkcorner@gmail.com

CY 2015 LIST OF BEVERLEY SQUARE WEST DUES PAYING MEMBERS (JANUARY 1, 2015 - DECEMBER 31, 2015) AS OF MARCH 11th, 2015:

ARGYLE ROAD

Rubman; Wahrmann; Clemens/Tyroler; Eiss; Lozada

BEVERLEY ROAD

Aranda; Baraclough; Gross

CORTELYOU ROAD

Gough

MARLBOROUGH ROAD

Cunningham; Blaine

RUGBY ROAD

Herzog

STRATFORD ROAD

Huttner/Miller; Feldhusen; Pandolfo; Hardy; Riback; Martin-Grady; Landy/Colen

WESTMINSTER ROAD

Hamann; Ellis

SLOCUM PLACE

Varon

TOTAL: 22 (out of about 255 houses)

If you think that I made a mistake in omitting your name, please call me at (718) 469-6633. Thank you for your continued support of our community organization.

BEVERLEY SQUARE WEST DUES for CY2015 are due now.

Your dues support::

Printing the monthly newsletter and social event flyers. Supporting social events- Refreshments, other expenses. Buying wine for our monthly meetings.

BSW Dues for 2015

BSW membership dues are payable on a fiscal year basis. All 2015 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: _____

Comments: