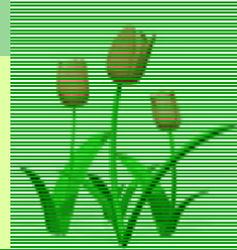


Broadcaster



April 27, 2018

Message from the Board

HAPPY SPRING FROM YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION!

Hello neighbors and Happy spring to all! Hard to believe it is almost May, especially when it has still been so chilly! But we'll have a hot Washington summer to "enjoy" soon enough.

Before we look ahead to some upcoming MBE events, let's look back on the last few months... First of all, many thanks to the families who hosted this winter's "Friday Cheers" gatherings – Chris & Ray Evert, Patricia Zengerle & Dean Cretsinger, and Dave Lovins & Ellen Schroth. Dave & Ellen's sadly had to be cancelled because of the long power outage after the windstorm, but we appreciate their offer!

Mark your calendars to come – or host! – a Cheers next year. It's nice way to get out during the dark winter months, to reconnect with neighbors you know, or meet some new ones. Also, since your MBE Board knows that Friday evenings just don't work for everyone (particularly those with little ones who go to bed between 7 and 9), keep an eye out for a summer neighborhood get-together on a Saturday, between 4-6.

And many thanks to Jill and Mike Miller for hosting the December 2017 holiday party! It was a while ago now, but it was wonderful event, with dozens of neighbors of all ages. It's really special to have such a strong turnout.

Got stuff? Or need stuff? Mark your calendars for May 12, when our neighborhood hosts the annual yard sale. Look elsewhere in the newsletter for more information on this popular event and how to get your address listed as a participating household. Thanks as always to Brian Higgins for taking the lead on this!

We hope to see you at some MBE summer events... we're working to schedule our first "Summer Soiree" early-evening social for families of all ages. We'll have our third annual ice cream social on Sunday, August 26th, just before FCPS heads back to school. And then in September we hope to host another fun-filled Fall Block Party!

And as always – if you have ideas for events that might work or other suggestions – please don't hesitate to get in touch with the board. We have a Facebook page, a website and a neighborhood email listserv. Details about how to be in touch are on the 2nd page of this newsletter.

Looking forward to seeing many of you soon!

Sincerely, Your MBE Board

ABOUT MBE & 2018 DUES DRIVE

We know there are lots of new neighbors in MBE, and we want everyone to feel welcome in our community. The MBE Civic Association is a voluntary social organization with the primary goal of connecting our community by bringing neighbors together through fun and constructive activities.

The MBE activities include (in order as they occur during the year):

- ◆ Friday (or Saturday) Cheers — offered in the winter months as an evening of snacks and refreshments.
- ◆ Neighborhood yard sale (coming up soon... May 12!). Get registered with Brian (see page 4)!
- ◆ Summer Soiree — a new addition to our social roster which hopes to offer a backyard summer cocktail party in lieu of the former spring block party.
- ◆ Ice Cream Social — a relatively new tradition with an ice cream truck, generally in August before everyone heads back to school.
- ◆ Fall Block Party — in recent years, we've moved to hosting 1 bigger block party (instead of 2). We hope to offer entertainment and a food truck again this fall if funds allow.
- ◆ Fall Home Tours — generally every other year, and we hope to schedule them for 2018! If you're interested in coordinating the tours or opening your home to neighbors, please email Abby Allen at Abigail.r.allen@gmail.com.
- ◆ Holiday Parties (Halloween for children and Holiday Party for all).
- ◆ Holiday Yard Decorating Competitions (for Halloween and the winter holiday season).

MBE also provides services to the neighborhood by:

- ◆ Landscaping services to our neighborhood entrances (some paid, some by volunteers).
- ◆ A periodic hard-copy neighborhood directory. Depending on dues collection, we may publish an updated one in 2018.
- ◆ Collecting and providing information about baby and pet sitters, handymen, etc via a listserv and yahoo group website.
- ◆ Advocacy for the neighborhood with local government on issues such as traffic.
- ◆ Informing the neighborhood about issues such as construction projects that affect us.



MBE provides many ways to stay in touch with the neighborhood:

- ◆ Consider joining our MBE Yahoo group, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mcleanbroyhill>, a community message board where neighbors can share information and receive the latest news. If you'd like to send a message to the community, you can email McLean-Broyhill@yahoo.com, and, once approved, your message will be posted.
- ◆ The MBE website, <http://www.mcleanbroyhill.org>, designed to provide information on MBE events, announcements, and neighborhood concerns.
- ◆ Our **facebook** group page: "McLean Broyhill Estate Group."



ABOUT MBE & 2018 DUES DRIVE cont'd...

MBE also offers a network of Block Captains who help relay information and promote our special events through periodic delivery of MBE newsletters or announcements delivered to your front door. Email Katie Broom at ktbroom@gmail.com to learn who your block captain is or to become a block captain yourself!

The MBE Board would like to thank all of our neighbors who paid their dues for 2017. Despite our electronic February newsletter for 2018, we are struggling to collect dues for 2018. This year, we hope to be able to offer more fun neighborhood events. We're currently at less than 10% participation (EEEEK!) and we know we can do better. **If you haven't paid your 2018 dues, please do so by either mailing (or dropping off) a check for \$30 to Dean Cretsinger (MBE Board Treasurer), 1407 Pathfinder Lane, McLean, VA 22101.** You can also pay online via paypal, by sending \$31.25 (to offset processing fee) to mbeboard@gmail.com.

Finally, the MBE Board wants to let neighbors know to look out for a visitor you may have very soon... our own, very dear Dave Lovins has offered to go door-to-door to run a dues and information drive for MBE. Dave's goal is to make sure all neighbors know about our civic association, and to respectfully request that neighbors participate by paying their dues. If you pay your dues by mid-May (say around the 18th), Dave will not be knocking on your door. But if you don't pay, he will at least stop by to say hello and see if we can convince you to participate! Thanks for your time and efforts, Dave!

CITIZENS' ACADEMIES INFORMATION

Fairfax County offers three extremely interesting and useful programs to promote knowledge and support of our Police and Fire Departments and to prepare us for emergencies.

The Police Department gives a 10-week **Citizens Police Academy** (3 hours on Thursday evenings) each spring and fall with lectures, tours, and hands-on activities on numerous topics by specialists from all divisions of the Department. Each course ends with firearms training, emergency vehicle operational rides, and a graduation ceremony with Chief of Police Colonel Edwin Roessler. In addition, each citizen can schedule a ride-along day with an officer from the McLean District Station to walk in their shoes and further understand the purpose and person behind the badge. For information and application forms, go to <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/servicesah/citizenspoliceacademy>.

The Fire Department gives an 8 to 10-week **Citizens Fire and Rescue Academy** (3 hours on Thursday evenings) each spring and fall with lectures, tours, and hands-on activities, including recruit qualifications, life safety education, fire apparatus, tools, protective clothing, communications, urban search and rescue, hazardous materials, and emergency medical services. Hands-on activities include donning protective gear, finding "victims" in smoke filled rooms, ascending in a tower truck bucket, and suppressing a fire ("Put the Wet Stuff on the Red Stuff"). The course ends with a Fire House Dinner, Graduation Ceremony, and Certificate of Completion from Fire Chief Richard Bowers. For information and application forms, go to <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fire-ems/cfra>.

The **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** program prepares regular citizens to safely help themselves, their families, and their communities during major emergencies where first responders are delayed. During CERT training, experienced instructors from the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department and CERT volunteers teach disaster response skills, such as fire suppression, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. In hands-on training, classroom learning, and realistic exercises, CERTs learn how to prepare for disasters, and if a disaster occurs, what to do until professional first responders arrive. In McLean, CERTs also help with community activities, such as the Winterfest Parade. For more information, go to www.fairfaxcountycert.org.

As a graduate of both the Police and Fire/Rescue Academies, Brian Higgins ([703-893-0626](tel:703-893-0626), bjh12@verizon.net) can share course schedules, photos, and experiences with anyone interested.

ANNUAL YARD SALE INFORMATION

31st ANNUAL MBE YARD SALE; Saturday, May 12, 2018; 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Rain Date - Saturday, May 19 (McLean Day)

On May 12, Your Civic Association will sponsor a community-wide Yard-Garage-Sidewalk Sale. This includes: *Audmar-Dewberry-Enterprise-Fern Oak-Homeric-Hornet-Mayflower-Merrimac-Nina-Old Dominion-Pathfinder-Santa Maria-Statendam-Wasp Lanes, Drives, Avenues & Courts.*

To Have Your Address on the MBE Yard Sale Map, please give Brian Higgins (703-893-0626, bpjh12@verizon.net) your Name, Address, Phone & Email by Tuesday, May 8.

Put signs on your street. We will provide signs at Community entrances, plus:

- o Craigslist Ad at washingtondc.craigslist.org, under "For Sale\Garage Sale."
- o Yard Sale Map with Participant addresses.

We Encourage Residents to:

- o Read Marie Kondo "The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up: Japanese Art of Decluttering & Organizing."
- o Spring clean your home, closets, kitchen, attic, basement, garage, porch & shed for sale items.
- o Hold Sale in your Yard, Driveway, Sidewalk, Garage, Porch and/or Home.

Yard Sales are a Great Way to:

- o Clean house, Reduce clutter, Re-organize, Simplify life.
- o Make your "Junk" someone else's Treasure - Recycle, Don't Pollute.
- o Have fun, Meet neighbors, Share stories, Learn new uses for things.
- o Make Money - \$100 in sales equals \$125 to \$200 before taxes & deductions.
- o Save hauling & \$45 space fee at McLean Community Center Garage Sale.

Hints for Successful Yard Sales:

- o Plan, Prepare & Price ahead. Have family help.
- o Polish, clean, repair. Match sets, parts, instructions. Use zip-lock bags.
- o Have kids sell things, make change, run refreshment stand, trade cards/toys, etc.
- o Be visible from street. Use signs, activities, streamers, balloons, color, music.
- o Provide customer parking, phone access, electrical outlet, extension cord, etc.
- o Place items on tables, blankets, pavement. Spread out.
- o Hang clothes on racks, trees, ladders.
- o Have try-on area, try-out batteries, boxes, bags, change, "as is" warranty/return policy.
- o Safeguard money & home. Visit neighbors' yard sales.
- o Donate unsold serviceable items to charity, get receipt & estimate value for tax deduction.

Pricing & Negotiating Strategy:

- o Price to sell given market value, age & condition, not original cost or sentiment.
- o Research potentially valuable items on internet to find comparable asking prices.
- o Show cost of each item with post-its, tape, or colored stickers.
- o Expect bargaining. "Early Birds" will seek underpriced treasures.
- o Slash prices on hard-to-sell items.



2018 MBE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 12	MBE Yard Sale Saturday
July	Summer Soiree — date TBD, look for an email!
August 26	Ice Cream Social
September	Fall Block Party — date TBD!
October 28	Kids' Halloween Parade & Party

McLEAN & DC-AREA HAPPENINGS

- ◆ May 4: Opening Day of McLean Farmer's Market
- ◆ May 4-5: National Cathedral Flower Mart
- ◆ May 9: McLean Regional Traffic Concerns Community Meeting (7pm, McLean HS)
- ◆ May 19-21: Mount Vernon Wine Festival
- ◆ May 19: McLean Day (with May 18 preview)
- ◆ May 19-20: Claude Moore Spring Market Fair
- ◆ May 20: Taste of Arlington
- ◆ May 26-27: Delaplane Strawberry Festival
- ◆ May 28: Memorial Day Parade & Concert
- ◆ June-July: The Plaza at Tysons Corner Center Summer Concert Series
- ◆ June-August: McLean Community Center Summer Concerts in the Park
- ◆ June 8-10: Celebrate Fairfax Festival
- ◆ June 24: National Capital BBQ Battle
- ◆ June 25: Chincoteague Pony Swim
- ◆ July 4: 4th of July Parades & Fireworks (McLean, DC, Falls Church, Palisades)
- ◆ July 21-22: Claude Moore Summer Market Fair
- ◆ Through Sept: Washington Nationals' Season & Wolf Trap Summer Concerts
- ◆ENJOY OUR AMAZING AREA!

MBE DUES FORM

The MBE Association requests \$30 for a whole year, per household. You can pay your dues using the form below, with a check made payable to *McLean Estates Civic Association*. If you are able, please consider making an additional donation or, if you did not pay your dues last year, making up for it now. Please mail (or drop off) your dues to Dean Cretsinger (MBE Board Treasurer), 1407 Pathfinder Lane, McLean, VA 22101. You can also pay online via paypal by sending \$31.25 (includes Paypal processing fee) to mbeboard@yahoo.com

2018 Annual Dues Form

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Check here if you do NOT wish to be listed in the MBE Directory.

The MBE Directory is not given or sold to third parties nor used for solicitations.