President’s Message

Neighbors,

Happy New Year!

I hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday season. It’s incredible that we are already in 2015. I remember when Prince’s song 1999 came out. In 1982, the turn of the century seemed far away. Now, we are 15 years beyond Y2K.

Last year, we renewed our membership efforts. I would like to thank George Cecchetti for leading this important drive. Our membership decreased dramatically in recent years. Thanks again to all of you who have renewed your memberships.

In 2014, our Neighborhood Conservation Plan was presented to the County Board and accepted. Presenting the plan to the County Board was only a small part of the process. Without the hard work of prior WWCA presidents, NC representatives and members of the WWCA leadership, both past and present, this plan would have not come to fruition. Having a current plan places the association in a better position to get improvements in the neighborhood, such as street improvements, pedestrian safety, beautification, and lighting.

Please join us for the next general meeting on Tuesday, January 13th, at the hospice. County staff will be there to discuss the park renovation, an NC project, and we will discuss, and vote on, the proposed amendment to Mount Olivet Church’s use permit for its parking lot. Mt. Olivet had previously leased its parking to Marymount University. Marymount no longer needs the lot, which the church now plans to lease to Virginia Hospital Center. Per the terms of the use permit, the church must go back to the County Board for permission to lease to a new tenant. Additionally, we will vote on whether to support a BZA use permit requested by a resident on Washington Boulevard.

Hope to see you on the 13th.

Tracie
The report Broadview was officially designated a local Historic District. County Board for final approval. Finally on November 18, 2014, the request then went to the Planning Commission and ultimately the hearing and the HALRB recommended historic designation. The historic property. This information was presented at a public What-All. By Alex Deucher

We had just finished renovating our 1927 Cape Cod when we happened upon Broadview. There are no other houses quite like it in Arlington, and we were instantly captivated by all it had to offer. We knew that Broadview was meant to be our home. Shortly after moving in, and digging into the history, we decided that it was important to preserve the house for future generations; so we embarked on the long road to historic designation.

First, we should give a little background on what the benefits are to historic designation. The primary benefit is protection. Historic properties are protected by a zoning overlay that entitles them to a design review process before any major exterior changes are made (e.g., demolition, new construction, or major structural changes). Additionally, state and national historic designation provides financial incentives in the form of tax credits for rehabilitation work.

The first step in local historic designation is contacting the Arlington County Historical Affairs and Landmark Review Board (HALRB) to consider the property for historic designation. The whole process was originally estimated to take 6-9 months, but in our case, ended up taking closer to 3 years. After an initial review by the HALRB, the county did a detailed research report on the property and worked with us to develop the design guidelines for the historic property. This information was presented at a public hearing and the HALRB recommended historic designation. The request then went to the Planning Commission and ultimately the County Board for final approval. Finally on November 18, 2014, Broadview was officially designated a local Historic District.

The report prepared by the County was fantastic. It included a thorough history of the property and its owners and occupants and back to the original land grant from Lord Fairfax. In the 1870s, Lacey purchased an additional 33.5 acres of adjacent land. He continued to live in DC and likely used the property as a market farm during that time. In 1881, he build the initial part of the house that would become Broadview. At the time it was used as a farm house and country residence. By the mid-1880s, Lacey had become one of the principal farmers in the area. In 1886, Sallie Lacey Johnston, the daughter of Major Henry Brush Lacey (another of Robert’s brothers), moved to Broadview with her three children after the death of her husband. The house was expanded substantially to accommodate them. Robert Stinson Lacey died in 1915 and left Broadview and 50 acres to Sallie Lacey Johnston.

After Robert Lacey’s death, Sallie moved to the west coast. She attempted to sell the property, but was ultimately unsuccessful. Upon her death, the house and 2.03 acres went to her daughter, Lacey J. Smith.

The Smiths sold the property to the Crain family. Ann Crain was Lacey J. Smith’s niece. The Crains used the property briefly, but eventually put it up for rent and the house fell into disrepair. They eventually sold the property to the Gerstein family in 1977. In 1978, the Gersteins subdivided the property into 5 lots and sold off the two lots on the west side. In the intervening years they substantially rehabilitated the house. The lots on the east side were sold off in 2011. We bought the remaining lot with the house in 2011. As stewards of Broadview, we are grateful to know that it will be preserved for generations to come.

Robert Stinson Lacey was from Cadiz, Harrison County, Ohio. In 1861 he raised and commanded a company which was involved in the siege of Cincinnati and other campaigns through Kentucky. He eventually joined the Army of the Potomac. In 1864, Lacey was commissioned as a Captain and an Assistant Quartermaster. General Nathaniel McLean, in a letter to Abraham Lincoln, described Lacey thusly:

“While he is in every sense of the word a temperate man, unconditionally for the Union, of good reputation, energetic, and possesses the physical ability and determination to perform his whole duty.”

Lacey’s purchase of the property from the Schneider family coincided with his assignment in Washington. Shortly after the purchase, Lacey was appointed a superintendent in the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands (BRFAL) in Lynchburg, VA. The BRFAL was established by Congress near the end of the War to distribute confiscated Confederate lands, to provide clothing, rations, and fuel to former slaves and later to include education and settlement of labor disputes. After the Civil War, Lacey requested and was honored with the rank of brevet major.

After Lacey mustered out of the Union Army, he went back to Ohio briefly, but eventually settled in Washington, DC and joined in his brother’s law firm. The firm focused on patent law. Lacey was also the editor of a short-lived scientific journal.

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BUILDING EVOLUTION

Broadview changed quite a bit over the years. It started out as a basic I-house when it was built in 1881. The rear gable addition was added ca. 1886, and the front gable and tower addition and rear two story shed roof addition were added ca. 1898. The rear single story shed roof addition, two story shed room bathroom stack, and the two story flat roof addition were added between 1900 and 1934. Finally the gable roof tower addition was added ca. 1990. There is only a single chimney today, but there is evidence of two other chimneys in the original I-house in the attic and on the roof.
If you live in W-W, list your business in The What-All. The listing cost is $10 per issue.

Adverts for non-commercial, non-political organizations are accepted. Contact thewhatall@gmail.com for details.

WWCA Executive Board

Office / Name Term Committee Assignments
President / Tracie Morris 2014-2015 Civic Federation (Alternate)
Vice-President / Sharon Dorsey 2014-2015 NCAC
Secretary / Alex Deucher 2014-2015 Communications
Treasurer / Diane Letourneau 2014-2015 Membership
Delegates / Kurt Hyde 2013-2015 Park
Patrick Tallarico 2013-2015 Park
Kutay Ebin 2013-2015 Westwind
Hans Bauman 2013-2015
Catherine Sprouse 2014-2016 Civic Federation
Jimmy Falkner 2014-2016
Jim Pebley 2014-2016 Civic Federation
John Schell 2014-2016 Land Use/Zoning
Past President / Michael Grace 2014-2015 Civic Federation (Alternate)

Appointed Representatives /
Wayne Quillin 2014-2015 NCAC (Alternate)
Jason Rylander 2014-2015 Civic Federation
Sue Smith 2014-2015 Civic Federation
John Odenwelder 2014-2015 Civic Federation

What-All Editor / John Schell

WWCA MEMBERSHIP SIGN-UP AND DUES PAYMENT FORM

Renew your WWCA membership, or join us, today! There are two ways to sign up:
- Cash or check (made out to WWCA) can be mailed or dropped off at 1521 N. Abingdon St., Arlington, VA 22207
- Or, pay online at www.paypal.com. Click on the “send money” link, leave it on “friends & family” selection, and put WWCAtreas@gmail.com in the “pay to e-mail address”. Follow the rest of the prompts. Don’t forget to note your household address and the names that you want listed as voting members.

Thanks! Diane - WWCA Treasurer Dietourneau@gmail.com

Address: ____________________________________________
Phone Number: ____________________________
E-Mail Address: ____________________________
Voting Member Names:
1. __________________________________________
2. __________________________________________
3. __________________________________________
Enclosed is:
$ 5.00 Household dues of July 1, 2014 to June 30,2015
$ __________ Voluntary donation
$ __________ Total Enclosed