Betton Hills Neighborhood Association

Proud member of Partners for Excellence with Leon County Schools

Fun in the Park: Ice Cream Social and Annual Meeting

Come on out and share the joy of living in Betton Hills! Here's the lineup: Free entertainment, featuring a return engagement by the world-renowned steel drum band from Leon High, *Lion Steel*. The band is a self-supporting group and relies on events like ours for support. Plus, their music brings out an island-inspired festive mood, so we're glad to have them play.

We'll also have plenty of ice cream and members to organize games for small children, a. And, of course, there's the opportunity to meet your neighbors, the election of new officers, and plenty of ice cream. You'll even have the opportunity to volunteer for neighborhood committees and to eat plenty of ice cream. By popular demand, we'll also have the root beer floats!

COME ONE, COME ALL
OCTOBER 14th, 4:00-5:30
WINTHROP PARK
RAIN OR SHINE
A GOOD TIME IS GUARANTEED FOR ALL

The location is Winthrop Park, by the playground. **Note the later starting time this year: 4:00.**

Whether you are new to the neighborhood or a long-time resident, please join us. Officers and board members will be circulating to make everyone feel welcome.

Lion Steel *getting fired up for a return engagement at the BHNA Annual Meeting — Premier Bank sponsors their show.*

If the spirit moves you, bring along some cookies, pies, or other baked goods. It's a fine neighborhood tradition that is greatly appreciated.

BHNA Proposed Slate of Officers and Directors

Mary Kay Falconer, Fall Chairperson
Tom Schulte, VP, South
Bonnie Gaughan-Bailey, VP, North
Donna Legare, Treasurer
Peter Butzin, Secretary
Mike Brezin, Newsletter Editor
Tom Vickers, Membership

Andy Fink	Mike Chwalik
Hal Beardall	Bill Jones
Vicky Schwartz	Laura Rogers
Anne Longman	Charles Pattison
Andy Grayson	Walter Tschinkel
Eric Thorn	Elizabeth Jensen
Dean/Sue Hansen	Marge McInnes
Tami Frankland	Dave Crawford
JT/Tonya Ehrhardt	Katharine Moulton
Melissa Jacoby	

Nominations are accepted from the floor at the meeting.

BHNA STAYS ACTIVE

Mary Kay Falconer, BHNA President

Fall is the season for our annual meeting and the date set for this meeting is Sunday, October 14. We will **convene later this year**, at 4:00 at Winthrop Park. This event is a great time to talk with board members and other neighbors.

This is also the time to join/renew your BHNA membership. Please see page 5 for details.

BHNA 2006-2007 ACTIVITIES

As usual, BHNA has been active this year. Monitoring redevelopment and subdivision of property in our neighborhood was a major focus at the beginning of the year. Efforts related to that issue resulted in the passage of an ordinance to restrict future subdividing of existing lots in the neighborhoods. This ordinance was also supported by the Council of Neighborhood Associations (CONA).

Interest in developing a BHNA website was another activity that kept several board members busy early in the year. The BHNA website, mybettonhills.org, is now available for all to enjoy with an event calendar, photos of our events, and contact information.

Your donations, along with time, talent, and attention by your board members, made these additional activities possible this year:

- BHNA website (funds for the host server; JT Ehrhardt, Peter Butzin, and other board members developed the site)
- Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall Newsletters (Mike Brezin)
- December Holiday Caroling at Harriman Circle
- Arbor Day in January (planted trees and built a compost container at McCord Park)
- Bike Rally in February
- Family Fun Day at Winthrop Park in April
- Stormwater Forum in September
- BHNA Annual Meeting in October
- Two Park Benches at Chittenden Park
- Participation in the Red Cross Disaster Preparedness Activity
- Median Islands Beautification
- School Partners and Scholarship Funds

Many of these activities are described in the funds reports starting on page 4.

Don't Forget the Member Survey

Finally, please do fill out the Member Survey (see Page 6) and let us know what you love about Betton Hills or what irks you. I know others are concerned about trees, traffic, speed humps, etc. -- what you are your concerns? Comments can be made on your Member Survey or to: bhna@comcast.net.

BHNA VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

All of the members of our board are exceptional in many ways. They contribute personal time, expertise, take initiative, and expend lots of energy. This year, two board members were more than exceptional and deserve special recognition. **JT Ehrhardt** wrote the code for our BHNA website after working with several board members on content and format. **Elizabeth Jensen** provided the spark to get the BHNA welcome committee underway again and organized wonderful activities for kids at several neighborhood get togethers. We want to make sure these individuals know we appreciate them.

COMING: BHNA DISASTER ASSISTANCE SURVEY

Sara Bradner

As part of neighborhood disaster planning, we have discussed creating a survey to identify homeowners who wish for someone to check on them in a disaster or emergency. No confidential information would be gathered. During the bad storm that hit Armistead Rd. a few months ago, the Red Cross arrived to provide assistance. If we already had a list of households that requested a check to make sure everything was OK, then we could have handed this off to them. Their trained staff or designated neighborhood members would do the checks. The survey could be expanded to track multiple items like a homeowner's "in case of emergency" information. We have talked about forming a committee to see what other uses the survey could serve for disaster purposes. A rough draft neighborhood disaster kit has also been started to help everyone get prepared not only for hurricanes but for any disaster.

Late Afternoon Garden Visits

Friday, October 26th 5pm – 6:30

We are excited to announce an informal 'open house' type visit to two gardens on Randolph Circle. This visit is a follow-up to the article in the summer newsletter about creating a yard that is appealing to both wildlife and people.

Bike, walk or drive and park somewhere between the home of Leslie Hanks and Bob Walker at 1430 N Randolph Circle and that of Kelly and Laurie Dozier at 2101 E Randolph Circle. The Dozier yard was featured in the newsletter and is certified as a Backyard Wildlife Habitat by the National Wildlife Federation.

This is an outdoor event and will be cancelled if raining.

Welcome Committee Thanks Sponsors

The Welcoming Committee delivers a "Welcome to Betton Hills" package to new residents. We delivered over 25 last year! The contents of the package are goodies from local businesses. If you know of a new neighbor, let us know (bhna2006@earthlink.net).

We'd like to thank our sponsors . . . visit their businesses and show your support.

ABC Liquors	Anthony's Restaurant	Bernice at Betton	Brown's Kitchen Center	Capital City Lock
Cicada Market	Cobblers Shop	Elizabeth's Designer Resale	Food Glorious Food	Golden Image
Grammy and Gee	Great Bicycle Shop	Helen's Uniform	Jason Nauman Realty	Karmano's Print Shop
Native Nurseries	Premier Bank	Rapid Refill Ink	Red Elephant	Robert's Jewelers
Shoaf Realty	Strauss Gallery	Tallahassee Decorative Fabrics	Ten Thousand Villages	Things Remembered
Tropical Smoothie	Vogue's Cleaners	Witherspoon	Woman's World	

JACK ROBERTSON PARTNERS FOR EXCELLENCE FUND

Vicky Schwartz

Our Education Committee is encouraged by the continued support of our neighbors with dollars as well as volunteer time to our three neighborhood schools.

During the past fiscal year, your contributions amounted to $975 for our schools through the Jack Robertson Partners for Excellence Fund! The money was divided between our three neighborhood public schools: Kate Sullivan Elementary, Cobb Middle, and Leon High.

Leon High used the money for new band instruments and a small contribution was made to Project Graduation.

We directed the funds at Cobb Middle School to the Elizabeth Cobb Scholarship Fund. This fund enables band students who can't afford an instrument to rent one – a great opportunity for the school and developing musicians. Holly Kennedy, band director, was absolutely thrilled as the music programs rarely get contributions. Kate Sullivan purchased books for the new media center in our name.

CAROL BELLAMY TRUST FUND/ GOAL: NEIGHBORHOOD BEAUTIFICATION

Donna Legare

Your donations to the Carol Bellamy Fund enable volunteers to plant trees and shrubs in our neighborhood parks and islands and to provide benches in parks. On Arbor Day 2007, a group of neighbors planted live oaks, red cedars and a pond cypress on the banks of a holding pond along the new Betton Hill Nature Trail. This trail will eventually run between McCord and Winthrop Parks. We also mulched the plantings that have been planted in the park during previous Arbor Days with pine straw provided by the City of Tallahassee. We added blueberry bushes, cherry laurels and an American beech tree to plantings along Trescott.

Our largest project for the day, however, was the construction of a large compost bin on the Armistead side of Winthrop Park. Neighbors contribute leaves and small trimmings and the resulting compost is free to anyone who wants to remove it from the bottom of the pile. Help yourself!

The Bellamy Fund also supports the planting and maintenance of islands and traffic calming devices in the neighborhood. These islands could be eyesores, but due to the work of several neighbors, they are pleasant and beautiful neighborhood accents.

We thank **Philip Froemke** for the many years that he has planted and maintained the Betton Road island. Philip has moved from the neighborhood so someone needs to step forward to continue maintenance there; it is heavily planted so just needs periodic weeding.

The Trescott island was planted by **Mari-Jo and Ken Lewis-Wilkinson** and they will continue to maintain the island, but could use some help. **Mary Kay Falconer** weeded and mulched the island in August. Let Mari-Jo know if you can help (385-6774).

We also thank the Fink Family (**Andy, Beth, Cameron and Ashley**) for their continued maintenance of the liriope beds on the traffic calming devices on Woodgate Way. They look great! I am not sure who is maintaining the islands on Lee Avenue, but they always look nice too.

We funded two sturdy benches in Chittenden Park, also, and the supplies needed to clean our lovely Betton Hills markers.

This year we plan to continue to remove Chinese tallow trees and mimosa trees from McCord Park. This is a slow process, but one that must be dealt with regularly. We will also plan another Arbor Day event and hope to see you there. It is always a good time, working with friends and neighbors.

BILL AND MARGE MANSFIELD WRITER'S FUND REPORT

Mike Brezin

Thank you very much for considering and choosing me as one of your Bill and Marge Mansfield Writers Fund Award winners. Journalism means a lot to me

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

and I have so cherished my time spent working on the High Life and Lions Tale.

Sincerely, Jessica Moody

The Bill and Marge Mansfield Writer's Fund supports Leon students like Jessica as they move on to college. We had two winners this past year, Jessica and Jenny Lieb. The Leon journalism teacher selects the award winner based on the student's diligent efforts in journalism, serving as a key worker for either the student newspaper or student yearbook (the yearbook at Leon includes stories as well as pictures), and being one who may not receive other scholarships for college work. The winners each received a $350 scholarship from BHNA.

The fund honors the memory of longtime Betton Hills residents Bill and Marge Mansfield. Bill was a working journalist for much of his life and was committed to helping new journalists find their "voice." Bill came to Tallahassee in 1965, serving as Bureau Chief for the Miami Herald.

He worked as the Editorial Page Editor for the *Democrat* in the 1980's and 90's. Bill wrote and spoke publicly on education, the environment, integration, and many other issues of local interest.

After his retirement in 1995, and until his death in 2000, Bill devoted his time and talents to volunteering his services to a number of worthy causes, one of which was the BHNA. Bill was our newsletter editor and a respected voice on our Board of Directors.

Bill would be the first to say that Marge contributed a great deal to his success. She was a fine thinker, didn't hesitate to voice her opinions, and had a great desire to see each person in our society treated fairly. As a BHNA board member, she was particularly active in our events organized to get neighbors to know one another better. Marge died in 2005.

IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR BHNA MEMBERSHIP!

BETTON HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP FORM

Annual Membership Dues	$10.00
Donation to Carol Bellamy Trust Fund*	$____
Donation to Jack Robertson Partners for Excellence Fund**	$____
Donation to Bill Mansfield Writer's Fund***	$____

Your Name:

Address and Zip Code:

Email Address:

Enter your donation amounts, name and address. Make checks payable to BHNA.
Answer survey questions (see next page). Return this page and your check in the enclosed envelope.
Thanks!

*The Carol Bellamy Trust Fund has been set up by the BHNA to provide money for the renovation or enhancement of the public areas of Betton Hills. (See Page 4.)

**The Jack Robertson Partners for Excellence Fund is used to assist neighborhood public schools (Kate Sullivan Elementary, Cobb Middle, and Leon High) better meet the needs of the students. (See Page 4.)

*** The Bill Mansfield Fund recognizes exceptional Leon High student writers. An award is given to support their future writing efforts. (See Page 5.)

BETTON HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

MEMBER SURVEY

1. What would make Betton Hills better place to live? Are there neighborhood issues that concern you? Are there projects you would like to see the BHNA take on?

2. Would you like to serve on the BHNA Board of Directors? (Meetings are first Thursday of the month and last about an hour.)

   ____ Yes! Phone number or email:

3. Would you be willing to help with one of our projects or committees? (Check those that interest you.)

   ___ Welcoming Committee
   ___ BHNA Newsletter Editor
   ___ Clean the Betton Hills Markers
   ___ Arbor Day plantings
   ___ Web designer for BHNA Website
   ___ Prepare displays for the McCord Park kiosk
   ___ (fill in a project you'd like to take the lead on to make it happen) _____

Betton Hills Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 15612
Tallahassee, FL 32317-5612

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RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

COME TO THE ICE CREAM SOCIAL !

OCTOBER 14th 4:00-5:30
WINTHROP PARK