



Between the Boulevards

January 2023

**Boulevard Manor Civic Association General Meeting – Virtual
Monday, January 23, 7:00 p.m.**

<p>The easiest way to join the Zoom videoconference is by clicking the link in the meeting announcement on our web page, boulevardmanor.org</p> <p>The alternative way to join:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Go to zoom.us and click "Join" near the top right 2. On the resulting screen, enter this Meeting ID: 835 2362 6610 3. After launching the meeting, you'll be prompted to enter the Meeting Passcode: 044247 	<p>Please join us at our winter meeting. The agenda will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reevesland / Habitat for Humanity ▪ Neighborhood Conservation Project (N. Montague St./1st Street N. intersection) ▪ Bluemont Park ▪ BMCA 2023 membership drive ▪ Treasurer's report ▪ Appointment of Nominating Committee for June elections <p>For more information, contact BMCA President Matthew Phillips at president@boulevardmanor.org.</p>
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Reevesland Learning Center – 2022 highlights

The Reevesland Learning Center's volunteer educators manage four gardens. They are: The Reevesland Learning Garden located within the historic Reevesland property at the top of Bluemont Park; the Ashlawn Gardens and Ashlawn Courtyard Garden at the Ashlawn Elementary School; and the Church of the Brethren garden beds, located at 300 N. Montague St.

This fall, The Reevesland Learning Center hosted 35 class visits by Ashlawn Elementary students and staff. In addition to curriculum-based class visits and a celebration of our successful LAWNS 2 LETTUCE 4 LUNCH project last Spring with a multi-ingredient Fiesta Salad for the whole school, we were able to share our organic produce every week throughout the year with

the food pantry at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church.

All class visits, harvesting and weekly maintenance were supported by over a dozen enthusiastic and dedicated volunteer educators ranging in age from 17 to 81. Organic produce The Reevesland Learning Center shared with the food pantry included:

- ▶ over 100 lbs. of winter squash
- ▶ multiple deliveries of 5-10 lbs. of potatoes with the max one week of 30 lbs.
- ▶ an average of 12 eggplants and peppers per week during late July and August
- ▶ 25 pints of mini tomatoes
- ▶ 10 pints of cucamelons
- ▶ 10 lbs. of lettuce with some sorrel, spinach and kale

We also shared our bountiful organic herbs by making weekly herb bouquets in paper cones fashioned from pages of old seed catalogs and magazines. Most weeks, we made about 30, with the max being 68 herb bouquets.

Still pending are our plans for the huge harvests of both drying beans and sesame seeds.

The beans and some reserved butternut squash and potatoes will be used to make soup with 3rd grade

Neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt

Co-hosted by BMCA and the Church of the Brethren
Saturday, April 8, 10:30am at the Church
(300 N. Montague St.)

Rain or shine!

Egg hunt for children 12 and under



We need volunteers for the event. If you can help, please contact Claudia Maloney at ClaudiaMaloney@boulevardmanor.org.

classes in January. They planted these crops in a SOUPER GARDEN as 2nd graders.

The sesame seeds need to be separated from the chaff- a good inside project for students at Ashlawn this Winter. An electric fan will provide the "wind."

And a side note of some pride: The Reevesland Learning Center won three Blue Ribbons for three entries at the Arlington County Fair in August: an 8-lb. 25" long winter squash (North Georgia Candy Roaster), a sample of 25 white French Tarbais drying beans used in cassoulet and a perfect specimen of an Italian eggplant.

Just before the holidays, four Ashlawn 3rd graders representing each of the four classes made a dozen lettuce selections from our seed catalogs to order for the early April planting with their classmates.

We are looking forward to our 12th anniversary of The Reevesland Learning Garden in April of 2023 and a new year of "Growing Food, Knowledge & Community."

Joan Horwitt, President, The Reevesland Learning Center
shorwitt@aol.com

2023 BMCA Membership Drive

2023 membership renewals are due this month. Please make your renewal payment today. If you are not a member, please join us (see attached form).

Membership dues and additional contributions from members are the sole source of funding for BMCA activities. These dues pay for popular activities such as the neighborhood picnic and July 4 ice cream social.

Membership is for the calendar year and can be paid using the attached envelope or through the Membership link at www.boulevardmanor.org.

BMCA Beautification and Conservation Committee Offers Recommendations to Prepare for Spring

Barbara Raizen, our neighbor and an Arlington Regional Master Naturalist, offers the following advice for yard care:

As Winter starts to catalyze into Spring, gardening opportunities present again. The BCMA Beautification and Conservation Committee hopes people remember to plant native and varieties of natural USA Eastern flowers, shrubs and trees.

White Oak trees support 504 species of life in the United States, Virginia Redbud 224 species. Sadly, hybrid trees and plants are only useful for birds' nesting sites and not vital food for sustaining any animals.

Cutting down a large tree is still not recommended due to the benefit of carbon dioxide removal, oxygen and nesting sites. But if you are going to replace a tree or bush, consider a native one. You are creating abundant possibilities for thousands and thousands of birds, mammals, and ultimately, human enjoyment.

If you are not in a planting phase, then please consider cutting berries off of your porcelain berry vines, poisonous non-native Nandina berries, and Japanese honeysuckles come late summer. Also, take down tree climbing vines as 99 percent of vines only berry when they climb up a tree.

Teen Jobs Board

BMCA encourages entrepreneurship in young neighbors. Please consider these teens for your needs.

Name	Jobs	Contact Information
Finn Blackwell-Curtis	Pet-sitting, house-sitting	finnblacurtis@gmail.com
Pippin Blackwell-Curtis	Pet-sitting, house-sitting, babysitting	yonderpipstar@gmail.com
William Gellenthien	Plant watering, pet sitting, dog walking, mail/newspaper pick up, snow shoveling, raking	703-395-2031 or William.gellenthien@gmail.com
Alexander Phillips	Pet sitting, home organizing (closets/bookcases)	Text 703-940-2792
Max Pinella	Pet walking, pet care, snow shoveling, lawn mowing, gardening, raking, tutoring, newspaper/mail pickup, and any other odd or occasional jobs	571-357-0183 (preferred) or maxpinella@outlook.com

Are you new to the neighborhood? Or a longtime neighbor interested in becoming involved in BMCA? Please join us by using the electronic form available at boulevardmanor.org (click "Civic Association" then "Membership") or by completing this form and mailing it to the address shown below.

Boulevard Manor Civic Association Membership Form

Household Address _____ Arlington, VA 2220__

Member 1 Name _____

Member 1 E-mail Address _____

Add me to the Listserv Yes ___ No ___

I am interested in (see list of volunteer opportunities below): _____

Member 2 Name _____

Member 2 E-mail Address _____

Add me to the Listserv Yes ___ No ___

I am interested in (see list of volunteer opportunities below): _____

Membership Category	Cost
Individual Member	\$10
Couple (Two Adult Members)	\$20
Voluntary additional contribution of any amount (Thank you!)	\$ _____
Total Dues and Contribution	\$ _____

*Please make out your check to BMCA and mail this form and the payment to:
BMCA Membership c/o Rob Piester, 5907 3rd Street N., Arlington, VA 22203*

Volunteer Opportunities

- Beautification and Conservation
- Hospitality and Social Events
- Membership
- Newsletter
- Web Site
- Parks
- Reevesland
- Projects under the Neighborhood Conservation Plan
- Safety and Emergency Preparedness
- Serving as a BMCA Officer or Board Member