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# Barb's Farm Newsletter

*Barb's Farm  
Newsletter  
December 2008*

## Welcome Home!

*Barb's Farm – a place you'll love to live...*

### Upcoming Events



Submitted Photograph

#### Barb's Farm Events

- **Tentatively scheduled 12/18/08:** Barb's Farm Happy Hour at Crabby Dick's (watch for a sign near the entrance for details)
- **Tentatively scheduled 12/21/08, 2PM – 3PM:** Santa's ride through the BF...He'll be handing out candy canes too! (watch for a sign near the entrance for details)
- January 2009 – Annual assessments will be mailed out
- March 2009 – Annual assessments due
- Spring Cleanup will be in April 2009 – date to be announced

#### Family friendly events in the local area (free)

- Crafts and story time – 11am every Saturday at the Delaware City Library (302-834-4148)
- Home Depot Kids Clinic – 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month. Clinics start at 9am
- Lowe's Build and Grow Kids Clinic – 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month. Clinics start at 10am

### Annual Meeting and Introductions

Welcome to the December 2008 edition of the Barb's Farm Newsletter. We hope you'll find it full of useful information.

Our annual budget meeting and election for the 2008/2009 Board of Directors took place on 9/17/08 at the Delaware City Library.

The proposed annual fees for 2009 were voted on and approved. Our assessments will be \$281 for 2009. If there is money left unspent from 2008, it will be returned to the community in the form of a monetary credit to be used towards 2009 assessments. We do not yet know if there will be surplus or how much surplus we might have.

The community voted, and elected the following individuals to serve on the 2008/2009 Board:

Mike Davis      Preston Carden  
Walt Sturek      Bobbi Hughes

Judy Case      Patti Fraim  
Crystal Moore      Beth Stetser

### 2008/2009 Board/Committees

After the election, the newly elected board members met and elected officers and staffed committees. Some of the committees are in need of additional people. If you are interested in volunteering to serve on a committee, please contact Emory Hill.

#### Board of Directors

President: Mike Davis  
Vice President: Walt Sturek  
Treasurer: Preston Carden  
Secretary: Patti Fraim  
Board members: Judy Case, Bobbi Hughes, Crystal Moore, and Beth Stetser

#### Committees

##### Legal Committee

Chairperson: Walt Sturek  
Members: Crystal Moore, Beth Stetser

##### Deed Violations Committee

Chairperson: Judy Case  
Members: Patti Fraim, Crystal Moore

##### Architectural Review Committee

Chairperson: Beth Stetser  
Members: Judy Case, Preston Carden

### Committees (Continued)

#### Website

Chairperson: Crystal Moore  
Members: Beth Stetser

#### Grounds Maintenance Committee

Chairperson: Preston Carden  
Members: Crystal Moore

*We are seeking volunteers from the community to serve on this committee*

#### Community Relations Committee

Chairperson: Bobbi Hughes  
Members: Beth Stetser

*We are seeking volunteers from the community to serve on this committee*

### Delinquent accounts

Currently, there are seven homes in the neighborhood two years in arrears on their assessments. Certified letters were sent out over the summer and no response was received.

The Maintenance Corporation has filed for judgments in each of these instances, and is currently awaiting court dates.

### Update on Ponds

In the August edition of the BF Newsletter, we first discussed the County's recent findings regarding our ponds.

While there is no new information available on this subject, it's clear that this is a topic of great interest to the residents of the community.

For further information, please contact New Castle County directly at: 302-395-5400.

### Emory Hill

Anjeu Reuss is currently our community liaison. Please contact her with any questions or concerns you may have.

Emory Hill  
10 Corporate Circle, Suite 100  
New Castle, DE 19720  
Phone: 302-322-9500  
Fax: 302-322-9518  
Email: [AnjeuReuss@emoryhill.com](mailto:AnjeuReuss@emoryhill.com)

### Website

We are excited to announce the launch of the new Barb's Farm Website, hosted by Neighborhood Link. Neighborhood Link has been an online presence since 1998 and provides free website services to communities throughout the nation.

Please note that while the website is already up and running, it will likely take a few months to get all the necessary documents uploaded so that it can be a proper resource. Our goal is to have our governing documents, links to County information, copies of our newsletters, and board meeting minutes posted for all to see. Our website can be found at the following url:  
<http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/ncastle/barbsfarm/>

### 2008 Fall Fest a success!



Submitted photograph

On November 1<sup>st</sup>, we held what we hope will be a regular event, The Barb's Farm Fall Fest. Turnout was even greater than we had hoped – over 30 children and many adults participated to make this a memorable event.

The children enjoyed an exciting hayride, and a parade. Afterwards, each child received a certificate for their participation, and of course, candy. Next year's event is already in the works and will be even more fun than this year.

### Newsletter Features

We need your input! In an effort to make our newsletter more functional, we're adding some new features that we hope will be well received.

The goal is to publish quarterly newsletters. The frequency could change depending on the interest and content available to publish.

Among the features we'd like to add is a quarterly civic action item in a section that will be called Good Works.

Because our community goes beyond the boundaries of Barb's Farm, we'd like to offer the residents an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of those who need it. Most of us like to help out where we can, but many of us may not know where to go or how to help. To have your official cause considered for this section, please email the editor at: [bfeditor@gmail.com](mailto:bfeditor@gmail.com).

Another new feature we'd like to see is a Community section that welcomes new residents, announces birthdays, anniversaries, births, or obituaries. Perhaps you have a favorite recipe or would like to submit a photo for our "Scene On The Farm" section. Remember, in order to have your suggestion considered, we need to hear from you!

If you have a suggestion for a new feature, or would like to contribute an item for one of the sections previously described, please send an email to: [bfeditor@gmail.com](mailto:bfeditor@gmail.com)

### Good Works: Food Drive

Food banks across the nation are struggling to meet the needs of those who rely on them. While the number of people who need assistance continues to skyrocket, the amount of food donations plummet as we all struggle to make ends meet in these challenging times.

Right outside our doors, local food banks are failing to meet the needs of those who are desperate. I am hoping the residents of Barb's Farm will work together to do all that we can to help the members of our greater community who may be less fortunate.

Over the next few months, non-perishable items will be collected and ultimately presented to the Neighborhood House in Middletown, DE. Monetary contributions **will not** be accepted, only non-perishable food items.

The focus of the Neighborhood House is to enable people of the MOT areas to improve their individual lives and to strengthen their community. The agency started in Middletown with just a small food closet, some utility assistance and a brown bag club. The brown bag club, presently known as the H.O.P.E. Club, continues to use the Food Bank of Delaware resources to help stretch the family budget.

Together, we can make a difference.

**If you would like to contribute food for the Neighborhood House, please contact Beth Stetser at 302-229-7936.**