



Monthly Newsletter

May-June 2011

(This newsletter will be available online at www.neighborhoodlink.com/brooklyn/bswa by 05/26/11). Everyone is invited to attend the Beverley Square West monthly meeting, which is held early in the month, except no meeting in July and August.

A Victorian Flatbush community

**-----*BSW Meeting, Monday, 6/6, 8 pm at 1016
Beverley Road, Agenda on page 4. Come at 7:30
for snacks and wine.-----**

Save June 26 for the BSW Tag Sale! See flyer!

Agenda for 6/6 Meeting:

Private security- 10 minutes.

Activities committee- 15 minutes.

Landmarking- 10 minutes.

Treasurer's Report- 5 minutes.

Other business- 15 minutes.

To receive the newsletter electronically, email BSWneighbors@gmail.com with your name and house number.

BSW Minutes: May 2, 2011 Meeting (prepared by Miriam Rubman, edited by Bob Pandolfo)

Friends of Cortelyou Library: Ms. Anna Antoniak (347-866-4902), president of this organization of about 60 people, gave a presentation. She stated that the mission is to raise funds for the neighborhood library by various means, such as book sales. The group holds monthly meetings by various authors and plans to do more outreach to the community. Anna plans to write an article for next month's newsletter. She stated that because of limited space, the library cannot accept book donations. The library is in desperate need of funds due to budget cuts. BSW voted to give a contribution of \$300 for furniture for the children's area of the library. In return, the area will feature our newsletter and an acknowledgement of BSW's contribution.

Private Security: Glenn Wolin stated that he was able to collect enough funds to pay for security services through June 30, 2011. However, he needs lots of volunteers to ensure collection for FY2012 (July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012) or else we'll lose the service. He starts collecting in June. Christine Schomer will explore new ideas for getting more neighbors to participate and state them at the June meeting.

Activities Committee: Jocelyn Rosenberg did not attend, so no report.

Landmarking: Christine stated that she and Jocelyn were still reviewing all the material given to them by Chris Kreussling. They plan to design a website with the landmarks form on it. Glenn suggested that they meet with FDC to find out the status of the other Victorian neighborhood groups and offered his assistance on political strategy.

Treasurer's Report: Miriam Rubman gave the treasurer's report. If you have any questions, call her at 718-469-6633.

Other Business: The BSW Garage Sale is June 26, 2011. On May 19, 2011 there is a seminar at Ditmas Jr. High School to discuss housing issues. Brooklyn Botanic Garden is holding plant sales on May 3, 4, 5.

From Co-President Bob Pandolfo:

Beverley Square West's general purpose is to provide a forum for residents to discuss issues of relevance to our neighborhood. At our monthly meetings and social events, we provide a place for neighbors to get to know each other.

Greenest Block in Brooklyn Contest: All our blocks have been entered. Judging takes place in June and July. Please keep your lawn trimmed, it makes a big difference in the overall appearance of your block.

Private Security: This is simple – unless we get more members to sign up for private security. it will cease to exist at the end of May. Your support is critical for this service to continue. Please renew or sign up this month. The annual fee is \$475, which will be prorated for the remainder of the fiscal year (June 30th). To arrange payment or for any other private security related questions, please call Glenn Wolin at 917-348-1704.

If we sign on more members, we could choose between lowering the payment or extending the hours.

Google Group:

A neighborhood wide Google group has been set up to allow neighbors share news in a timely manner. This is a private group that shall only be open to the residents of Beverley Square West neighborhood.

Please go to <http://groups.google.com/group/bswneighbors?hl=en>

and ask to join. You will be asked to provide your full name and address, and Bob and Liena will share the approving and general management of the site.

Suggestions: If you have any ideas for BSW's newsletter or meetings, please call Bob at 347-578-4146 or e-mail robert.pandolfo@gmail.com.

Useful Contacts:

Emergency: 911

Non-Emergency: 311

70th Precinct: 718-851-5511

Gas/ National Grid 718-643-4050

Electricity/ ConEdison 800-75-CONED

Community Board 14: 718-859-6357

Councilmember Eugene: 718-287-8762

Assemblymember Brennan: 718-940-0641

State Senator Parker: 718-629-6401

Ditmas Park Blog: www.ditmasparkblog.com

MEMBERS OF THE PRIVATE SECURITY PATROL:

We all enjoy the comfort of having private security patrol our streets this year and owe it to the following neighbors:

ARGYLE ROAD – Epstein/Hefferen; Johnson-Hunt; Soffian; Zirotsky/Dunn; Gordon; Siner/Cummins; Rosenberg/Siegel; Rubman; Eiss; Marciano; Tyroler/Clemens; Wallace/Lee; Shaw; Prather; Bonadonna; Henry; Zagare/Smith; Gbaje; Fischman

BEVERLEY ROAD -VerEecke; Rocca; Krainin/Woolever; Cherkis; Gross; Christian Brothers; Intrater; Curtis; Aranda; Barraclough

MARLBOROUGH ROAD - Fuerst; Addington; Blaine; Garfinkel; Cunningham; Mitchell

RUGBY ROAD - Bryan; Goldstein/Wertheimer; Tishcoff; Jahr; Brion; Becker/Hornick; Nevermann/Herman; Moed/Nelson; Gurian/Firetog; T. Smith; Fishkin/Hurwitz; Gross/

Kaczmarczyk; Cahn; Fredericson; Walters/deFreitas

STRATFORD ROAD - Wolin; Landy/Colen; Wilde; Vitale/Fink; Shain/Kennedy; Pandolfo; Pollack; Rosenberg; Feldhusen; Dubensky/Segal; Kreussling/Magisano

WESTMINSTER ROAD- Sadofsky; Rosenthal; Ellis; Silverman/Hohman; Hamann; Ricketts; Samuelsen; Nielsen; Silverman; Hodge; Aprea/Alcoff; Trachtman/Dassinger; Flores; DelMonaco; Jordan; Richmond

LEWIS PLACE - Collins/Stanley

CORTELYOU ROAD – Gough

Thank you for your support!

From Anna Antoniak- **What's New at Your Local Library!**

The Cortelyou Library and I were born in the same year, and I have been a proud patron since. Last autumn, I resurrected the branch's Friends' Group—an advocacy group of community members dedicated to fundraising and creating new library programming. Since October 2010, we have held two book sales with local live music, raising over \$1,000 at each; begun a monthly readings series featuring local authors; and laid plans to kick off a weekly writing workshop in June for the neighborhood's middle school-aged kids (or "tweens", as the Disney Channel would have us call them). This last endeavor is an exciting collaboration with the New York Writers' Coalition. We also work closely with Sustainable Flatbush (SF), and are planning a silent movie screening this summer in the library plaza that will be powered by a solar-paneled bicycle. SF also facilitated the transfer of bright and functional benches and planters to spruce up the plaza area and offer respite to waiting patrons. Installation of the benches was approved by the BPL administration, and we are awaiting completion of the library's renovation (dates in July TBA) before adding the furniture to the plaza.

We are deeply grateful for our most recent joint venture, made possible by a generous donation by the Beverley Square West Association. With so many young families frequenting the library's children's hours and play area, it is time to revamp the kids' corner. We are excited to order new furniture to make the space cozier and more comfortable for visitors.

To learn more about the Cortelyou Library Friends Group or to get involved, please e-mail Anna Antoniak at cortelyoulibraryfriends@gmail.com. There are lots of ways, big and small, to give back to the heart of our community.

June: Roses, graduations, weddings, but the full moon of June 15 is the Strawberry moon. (Remember when strawberries were not available year round and we eagerly awaited the strawberry season in June?) June is the month of the longest days; from the first to the solstice of June 21st which marks the beginning of summer, we gain about fifteen minutes of daylight, but from the solstice to the end of the month we have already lost about three minutes! Midsummer Day is June 24th, not the 21st.

Saturn gives the month's best planetary show: high in the south at sunset, and setting after midnight. By the middle of the month Jupiter rises about three hours before sunrise. There is a partial solar eclipse on June 1st, visible in China, Russian, northern Alaska and Canada and a total solar eclipse on June 15th, visible in Africa, the Middle East, and most of Europe. Totality will be long, about 100 minutes, so if you are an eclipse fan, you may wish to make your travel plans accordingly.

Our wet, cool spring has led to lush foliage and growth spurts of bushes, and of grass, and of weeds. For weeds, try to clear a defined area – a square foot, or a square yard, or along a sidewalk, etc. so that the task is not so daunting. Be kind to your knees and back. Have some grass seed handy and put it down in the cleared spots (and keep it moist until it germinates). If you use a weed killer, instead of pulling, wait two weeks before seeding. Check the label: If time is tight, at least remove the flowers of dandelions and other weeds.

Take time to fertilize your flower beds, and your vegetables. Read the label for rates and timing. More is not better! Also feed the plants you have moved out to deck, porch, patio, and steps.

If you want to slow the growth of conifers, watch for the “candles” of new growth, and cut them halfway. Prune off spent lilacs just below the flower-head. Don't cut the leaves beneath the flowers. On rhododendrons, twist off the spent flowers when they dry, and **only** the flowers. This technique preserves the growth points for the 2012 flowers. Deadhead petunias, and pick your pansies; this keeps them blooming all summer. Cut roses for indoor bouquets; cut them just above a five or seven leaf set, not above a three leaf set. A peony blossom makes a grand cut flower. A daylily stem with several buds will produce daily flowers for several days; just snap off the spent bloom.

If your azaleas are getting too large, prune just after bloom, cutting them five or so inches shorter than you want them to be. That way, the new growth of the summer which contains the flower bud growth for next year will be the height you want. Prune out dense inside growth to encourage light and air circulation.

As you choose and plant annuals, think of the Greenest Block in Brooklyn contest. There are awards for window-boxes too, and for commercial blocks. Summer mulch, which the judges notice, helps keep soil temperature even, and reduces plant stress.

If we have dry spells – remember them? – keep plants watered, and also lawns: an inch of water a week, put down before 11 am or after 7 pm. Water deeply, rather than frequently.

Enjoy your summer garden.

From Co-President Jack Rubman:

I'm sorry to have to tell you that my beloved dog Blackie passed away on May 1st (He and Osama bin Laden will have that forever in common). My neighbor Paul Henry often said he was the smartest dog he'd ever seen, waiting patiently for cars to pass before entering the street. He was truly wonderful (my baby) and I fed him by hand every day. Gentle and sweet (actually meek), he adopted us after living on Argyle Road for about 6 months. The pain of his loss is still very much with Miriam and I, a little more with me I think. I still see him lying in his corner on my side of the bed, still see him standing at the top of the steps barking to be fed, still looking at me with his sweet eyes. It's been said that when you die all the dogs and cats you ever had will be waiting for you at heaven's gate. I hope so. Rest in peace with love, my beautiful sweet boy. See you again.

BSW Officers:

Co-Presidents: Bob Pandolfo and Jack Rubman

Treasurer: Miriam Rubman

Member at Large: Glenn Wolin

Block Representatives: Stratford/Beverley- Bob Pandolfo, 214, Tel 347-578-4146, Westminster- Audrey Campbell, 297, 718-282-5937/ Janice Hamann, 330, 718-287-5408, Argyle- Jack Rubman, 261, Tel 718-469-6633, Rugby- Tom Montuori, 306, Tel 718-287-6502, Marlborough-Sally Bowman-Schneider, Tel 516-768-8059.

**CY 2011 LIST OF BEVERLEY SQUARE WEST DUES PAYING MEMBERS
(JANUARY 1, 2011-DECEMBER 31, 2011) AS OF MAY 16, 2011**

ARGYLE ROAD

Rubman; Bonadonna; Clemens/Tyroler; Gordon; Wahrman; Zagare/Smith; Zargari; Johnson-Hunt; Wallace; Eiss; Gbaje; Lozada; Henry; Wong

BEVERLEY ROAD

VerEecke; Popkin; Aranda; Krainin/Woolever; Barraclough; Gross

MARLBOROUGH ROAD

Bilanow; Taylor/Boucaud; Troy/Iozzio; Barbolla; Litchman; McGowan; Addington; Wendroff; Blaine; Fuerst

RUGBY ROAD

Wertheimer/Goldstein; Whalen; DelQuaglio; Andreana; Herzog/Jabinsky; Hunter/Fallon; Tishcoff; Gross/Kaczmarczyk; Turoff; Walters/DeFreitas; Rosenberg

STRATFORD ROAD

Feldhusen; Wolin; Landy/Colen; Hardy; Parrella; Pandolfo; Rosenberg; Speranza; Kreussling/Magisano; Martin-Grady; Wong; Fink

WESTMINSTER ROAD

Corvington; Ricketts/Taylor; Silverman/Hohman; Trachtman/Dassinger; Campbell; Nielsen; Ellis; Gambale/Catapano; Jaffee/Warshawsky; Miuntz; Cheung; Honig

TOTAL - 65 (out of 305 houses,est.)

I apologize for any misspellings of names. If you think that I made a mistake in omitting your name, please call Miriam at (718) 469-6633. Thank you for your continued support of our community organization.

BSW Dues for 2011

Thank you for your continued support of our community organization. Your dues support a variety of community organizations and activities.

-----BEVERLEY SQUARE WEST ASSOCIATION DUES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2011 (Jan-Dec) BSW membership dues are payable on a fiscal year basis. All 2011 dues are due now. Dues are \$20.00. Please fill out the form below and mail it today with your check made out to Beverley Square West Association to Miriam Rubman, BSW Treasurer, 261 Argyle Road, Brooklyn, NY 11218. Thank you for your continued support of our beautiful neighborhood. If you have any questions, please call me at 718-469-6633.

Name (s)_____

Address_____

Phone_____

E-Mail Address_____