

FOXHALL News

Newsletter of the Foxhall Community Citizens Association

April 2013

The Hardy Cleanup and Spring Fling! April 20th, 9am – 3pm at the Hardy Park and Recreation Center.

Please bring work gloves, hedge trimmers, shovels, spades, and other gardening tools to help spruce up our neighborhood park for spring. After the hard work, enjoy the spring fling with great food, live music, bike tune-up station and fun activities for kids. Please bring a dessert or fruit plate to share. BBQ and drinks provided by the FCCA. Volunteers still needed to help with all aspects of the event – please sign up at www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0A49ADA82FA64-fcca or call Caitlin at (202) 333-3126 to volunteer.

FCCA Yard Sale 2013: June 8 8:30am – 12 pm Helpers Needed!!

Have items you'd like to sell? For many years, the FCCA has sponsored a community Yard Sale. Residents "rent" space for a nominal fee and the FCCA handles advertising and publicity. It's a great social event, as well as being profitable for the sellers. We'd like to sponsor the Annual Yard Sale again this year, but we need more people to help coordinate the event. Interested? Contact Lisa Maco at lisa.maco@me.com.

Minutes from FCCA Meeting 03/20/13

FCCA President, Bob Avery, opened the meeting. He discussed the letter

sent from the FCCA Board to the DC Office of Planning concerning the proposed changes to the DC Zoning laws. See the March, 2013 Foxhall News (back page) for issues of concern. Bob stated that no position relative to zoning changes would be taken by the FCCA Board before the matter was brought to the members for a vote.

Police officer Anthony McElwee spoke to the group about the current crime report. There have been eight property crimes of late in our area. Three of the crimes were burglaries; entry made by unlocked doors or windows. One burglary resulted in a theft of \$11,000. Officer McElwee stressed that these crimes were preventable had the houses been more secure.

Officer McElwee responded to an audience member who voiced concerns about unleashed dogs and dog waste left on Hardy Field. He said that he would authorize some police drive by's of the field and would give tickets as appropriate.

Members were encouraged to email Officer McElwee at (anthony.mcelwee@dc.gov) for house checks when one goes on vacation.

FCCA Board member, Conrad DeWitte, reported on the Georgetown University Steering Group that is part of the Georgetown Community Partnership. There are five working groups: noise, trash, transportation, metrics, and communication.

Homeowners are encouraged to call the Noisy Student Hotline (SNAP)

FCCA CALENDAR

Spring Fling and Hardy Cleanup: April 20th

Come celebrate spring with your neighbors!

Hardy Cleanup: 9am – 12pm

Spring Fling: 12pm – 3:00pm

Location: 4500 Q Street NW in the Hardy Park and Recreation Center

Save the date:

Foxhall Yard Sale, June 8

at (202) 687-8413 with student caused noise complaints. The DC police can also be contacted at #911.

Councilwoman Mary Cheh, Ward 3 representative from the DC City Council, spoke to the group about some of her initiatives in the areas of transportation, the environment, and motor vehicles, including the taxi commission. Two of her areas of concentration have been the Capital Bikeshare and "Car2Go" programs. Some residents voiced objections to the number of "Car2Go" cars left on the streets of Foxhall Village. Ms. Cheh also asked the group for input on the best spot for a bike station in our area.

The remainder of the meeting was dedicated to Ms. Cheh answering questions from members of the audience. Much of the discussion focused on the proposed changes to the DC Zoning laws.

FCCA Board

Bob Avery, President and Police Liaison
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Jessie Kane, Secretary & Membership
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Hulit Pressley Taylor, Treasurer
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When possible, please contact the appropriate FCCA Board Member directly to discuss issues and concerns—Focus Areas are listed after the board member's name. General issues can go to Bob Avery.

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FCCA Newsletter Submissions

Send items for the next newsletter, which is now planned for June 2013, to the editor at halchanlon@gmail.com. Generally submissions should be under 300 words, but longer pieces may run by advance arrangement.

Foxhall Real Estate Corner

The biggest ongoing factor driving the real estate market in Washington is inventory. Bottom line is that there is a scarcity of homes for sale. Comparing inventory, February 2013 to February 2012, inventory in Washington, DC is down 35%. This of course has some effect on prices, but interestingly, people have remained cautious and picky in their home purchases. Buyers are still seeking homes that are in a ready to move in to condition. This creates a divided market, with nice homes selling very rapidly, even with multiple offers, and homes needing more attention remaining on the market for extended periods. Banks have hardened their lending guidelines, making the market a bit more difficult to navigate and keeping some buyers out of the market, particularly first time home buyers.

If you are a potential seller this is a good time for you. The market remained uncharacteristically strong through the winter and is looking very promising for spring. A nice, well maintained home, priced correctly should sell quickly.

Here are some interesting statistics from our very local real estate market.

In 2012 there were 32 sales that ranged between \$615,000 and \$2,275,000. This included 5 sales over a million. The median price of a home was \$850,000. The new development on Macarthur Blvd, Foxhall Ridge, had an additional 12 sales ranging from \$952,000 to \$1,708,000 with most hovering at or right above a million. There was one sale of a non-historic home on the 4400 block of P Street that resulted in a tear down and the construction of a new house.

In 2011 there were 43 sales that ranged from \$600,000 to \$2,795,000 with 12 sales over a million.

The median price of a home was \$839,000.

If you have any questions about this article or any real estate question, including real estate taxes and your appraisal, I am happy to talk to you.

Scott Polk. 202-256-5460

Scott.Polk@LongandFoster.com

Renew Your FCCA Membership Dues for the Calendar Year: 2013

Membership dues are for the calendar year only. For example, a membership purchased in October 2012 still expired in January 2013. To renew your FCCA membership go online to our website at www.foxhallcommunity.org or return the membership form on the back of the newsletter.

Dogs in Hardy Park

As warm weather and longer days arrive, we all will soon get a chance to spend more time outdoors. Many of us spend time outdoors with our kids or our dogs, and Hardy Park is often a gathering place in our neighborhood for both. A few reminders for the entire Hardy Park community:

Please clean up after your dog. A number of neighbors have reported seeing dogs "do their business" in the park. Children play on the field and in the park, and can become ill from exposure to dog waste. Please clean up after your dog, every time.

Let your dog off leash at your own risk. It is illegal to have an unleashed dog in the District of Columbia, including our parks. Hardy Park is no exception. Many dog owners let their dog run leash-less in Hardy, please know this is illegal and Metropolitan Police Department has issued citations for this.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Remembering Longtime Foxhall Village Resident Joanne Hebb Belk

SAMUEL "Q" BELK

Joanne Hebb Belk, Long-time Washington Resident, and NIH FOI Director

Joanne Hebb Belk passed away peacefully at her home at Wheelock Terrace in Hanover, New Hampshire at 9:00 pm on March 4th, 2013.

Mrs. Belk was born to Edwin Elijah Hebb and Louise Whiting Hebb on June 8th, 1923 in Detroit, Michigan. Her father was an engineer in the Michigan State Bell Telephone company and retired as a Colonel from the Air Force Reserve. Her mother, Louise, was a women's physical fitness instructor who died from pneumonia in 1929. Joanne and her siblings, Edwin and Louise were sent to live with relatives in Hingham, and later Framingham, Massachusetts. Joanne graduated from Framingham Academy and High School in June 1940 and spent summers and free time writing and editing for Boston area newspapers: the *Framingham News* and the *Bostonian*. She served as a summer field worker at the Gardner Farm in Wiscasset, Maine in the summer of 1943 and 1944. It was there that she was first introduced to the Maine Seacoast and in later life was a supporter of the Chewonki Foundation. She attended Simmons College and received her B.S. in June 1944 and immediately entered the Women's Army Corp (WAC) and was promoted to Second Lieutenant in November 1944. She served as the Public Relations officer at the Thomas M. England Hospital in New Jersey. It was there that she met her future husband, Samuel E. Belk III, who was recovering from wounds and an amputation received in the Normandy Campaign and while a prisoner of the Germans. In 1946, under the auspices of the GI Bill, Joanne travelled to and

studied in Germany, Sweden, and Switzerland for one year in the American Students Abroad Program. She returned to the United States to write on the staff of the *Boston Herald* and was married to Mr. Belk on September 8th, 1949 at the Old Ship Church in Hingham, Massachusetts. The newly married couple then travelled to London where Mr. Belk was enrolled as a student at the University of London and LSE and Joanne worked for the War Relief Agency of the US Government. They then spent a year in Berkeley, California where Mr. Belk completed his Masters in Slavic Studies. In 1952 they moved to Washington D.C. where they would remain for over half a century.

In 1955, Joanne gave birth to her only child, Samuel "Q" Belk. Her marriage to Mr. Belk ended in divorce in 1961, but both continued in close contact until his death in 2007. In 1967 she joined the staff of *Science Magazine* as an editor, received her paralegal certification from George Washington University in 1975, and, in 1977, began a twenty-year career with the National Institutes of Health (NIH) as Director of Freedom of Information. She retired after 21 years, in 1998, at the age of 75. She continued to live in her house of 46 years in Foxhall Village until 2008. She relocated to Hanover, New Hampshire to be closer to her son, daughter-in-law, and grandchildren. Her last years were spent in the warm environs of Wheelock Terrace in Hanover.

Throughout her life Joanne Belk was a fierce believer in the benefits of the highest quality education for others, even while she was largely unable to afford or take advantage of them herself, growing up during the latter years of the Depression and the Second World War. In her teens, while living with relatives, she pushed

her younger brother into Phillips Exeter Academy, which eventually led to a degree at MIT. Likewise she enabled her son to study at St. Paul's School, Dartmouth, and Stanford; her grandchildren followed at St. Paul's. She travelled widely: to Africa, Europe, and Asia, often with her best friend, Marilie "Mouse" Rockefeller of Washington who passed away in 2005. Both loved and attended the opera.

She is survived by her son, Samuel ("Q"), daughter-in-law Sherry Thornburg, and two grandchildren Samuel Ellison ("Jonah") and Anna Elizabeth. She was pre-deceased by her younger brother Edwin, a life-long employee of General Motors and her older sister Louise of Brea, California.

BZA Meetings

Zoning regulations allow private schools to operate in residential neighborhoods so long as the schools are not likely to become objectionable in terms of noise, traffic, number of students or other conditions. The Board of Zoning Adjustment typically requires private schools to hold quarterly meetings with their communities. That provides an opportunity for neighbors to express concerns and schools to address them. There is the option of filing a complaint with the Office of Zoning if meetings are unsuccessful in providing a satisfactory resolution. Here are the dates for the May meetings:

Lab School: May 7, 2013, Foxhall Campus, Library 6 PM

Georgetown Day School: May 14, 2013, 6:30 PM

FCCA Membership as of March 31, 2013

Patron

Georgetown Day School
Kern, Melissa & Bill Deegan
Ross, Marsha & Pete

Advocate

Avery, Robert & Katherine Samolyk
Brown, Bill & Pat
Bunting, Bruce and Jessie Brinkley
Christie, Jeff & Paula
Coley-Reed, CHTD
Cornoni, Vanessa & Paul
DeWitte, Conrad
Fishkin, Nate & Jane
Iwanicki, Michael & Germana
Parke, Margaret Rebok
Pastor, Robert & Margaret
Paulson, Sara & Arne
Polk, Scott & Karen
Reuter, Andrew
Schubert, Jane & Robert Woolfolk
Squires, Greg & Margot
Vardaman, Jack & Marianne

Sponsor

Bicknell, Noel & Caitlin MacKenzie
Bowers, Joel & Sue
Conn, Jackie
Harmon, Andrew
Kents, Andrew & Ellen
Kilby, Gene & Christine
Maco, Lisa & Paul
McEnery, Rosemary & Kevin
McKenna, Dolly & John
Milam, Sally & Jim
Monsanto, Lisa-Marie C.
Ortwein-Barry
Ross, Malcolm and Daphne R.
Schwartz, Jean Pierre & Helga
Van Allen, Barbara & Peter
Vicini, Stefano & Mariarita
Walker, Audrey & David
Zucchi, Dario & Gio

Household

Andonyadis, Aveyris & Elly
Anninos, Paul & Christine
Anonymous
Ayers, Darrell & Mary Jane
Bailey, Michael & Mari
Baird, Mark & Mercedes
Barton, Terry & Jay
Bartos, Frank & Haleigh Hanlon Bartos
Blakely, Judith
Bodner, Anne
Cannon, Holly & John Guttman
Casstevens, Kay
Cimburek, Susan & Sean Geham
Cogar, Joanne
Collier, Kevin & Maybelle
Crino, Michael & Colleen
Crow, John M. & Mary Pat Hayes-Crow
D'Amelj, Christian & Francesca Daverio
DeMuth, Tom & Janet Mann
Donahue, John & Beth
DonVito, Paul & Charlotte
Dornsife, Cinnamon & Charles Barber
Ebell, Jackie & Christoph
Farrell, Janet
Floro, Maria & Tom Hungerford
Foster, Stephen M.
Garcia-Grinan, Ileana
Gillis, Richard & Carol
Griffin, MaryAnn
Hanan, Tim & Jean
Harbold, Alexandra & Mike
Harburger, Patti
Harou, Patrice and Berengere
Harries, Garret
Herman, Patty
Herzog, Laura, John & Jack
Holman, Robert & Dennis Bradley & Robert Rokusek
Hurt, Adrienne
Ives, Donna & Gerry
Jablón, Cara & Robert
Jewett, Richard
Klusman, Susan & Larry

Lanman, Charlie & Mary
Levison, Carol & Fred
Lion, Andra & Barnard Steven
Magrath, William & Susan Shen
Manukian, Edward & Margo
Mattheisen, Dirk & Mariya
McGrath, Debbie
McKelvie, Rod & Claire
Michaels, Judith
Milaras, Saskia & Chrysanthos
Nash, Janet
Nevin, John & Kirsti
Nobbs, Catherine & Nick
O'Hara, Katie & Jim
Phillips, Laura & Jared Cornfeld
Popkin, Richard & Karol
Ratigan, Elizabeth
Rovani, Yves & Evelyne
Schellinger, Dieter & Jessie Kane
Shutzer, Jamie & Jenny Morgan
Siciliano, Bob
Slone, David
Smart, Janice
Squier Household
Strugala, Wieslaw & Siria Lopez
Sullivan, Kathleen
Taylor, Paul & Hulit
Tersoff, Janet & William Poole
Tillotson, Victoria & David
Tobey, Stephen & Julie Haidemenos
Volker, Karen & Kurt
Watts, Russell & Sunny

Senior

Bateson, William & Martha
Beg, Joan
Bemis, Gerald
Borras, Caridad
Bray, Howard
Brown, Chris & Mary Rollefson
Chhabra, Harbans & Satpal
Conner, Chris & David
Corrado, Barbara & Ernest
Drake, Colette & Avery
Duignam, Carolyn & Milan Valuch
Farquhar, Claire
Gary, Stewart & Donna
Green, Karen & Steve Novosel
Greenwood, Bill & Marsha
Greer, Douglas & Annette
Hass, Patricia
Klein, Solange
McAvoy, Chisolm
Pierre, Andrew & Joan Root
Reese, Anne H.
Sherman, Claire R. & Stanley M.
Smith, Robert & Joan
Snyder, Timothy & Arlene
Szymkowiec, John & Carol
Tamborini, Susan & George Donovan
Tucker, Gene & Dolly
Velsey, Victoria & Don
Wilkinson, Ted & Xenia

Non-Resident

Groat, Donna & Gary

Donation

Anonymous
McAvoy, Chisolm
Snyder, Timothy & Arlene

PAY BY CHECK OR GO TO WWW.FOXHALL.ORG AND JOIN OR RENEW USING A CREDIT CARD OR PAYPAL!

Thank you for your support!

If you would like to talk about how your interests might mesh with the FCCA's current needs for volunteers—from newsletter delivery to attending ANC meetings—let us know and a Board member will call you. No obligation.

Sure, call me!

Membership Form for the Calendar Year

Members must reside within FCCA area, be present, and be over 18 years of age to vote at meetings. Memberships are for the calendar year. Please make checks out to the Foxhall Community Citizens Association. Send to FCCA c/o Hulit Taylor, Treasurer, 1713 Surrey Lane, NW, Washington, DC 20007 or bring to a meeting!

Standard Memberships

- \$25 Household
 \$15 Senior household
 \$25 Non-Resident

Booster Memberships

- \$250 Patron
 \$100 Advocate
 \$50 Sponsor
 Donation \$ _____

Names (LAST, First, as you wish listing to appear—neatness counts. Example: DOE, Jane & John Smith)

Complete Mailing Address

Home Phone

Email Address for FCCA updates (Our email list is never shared.)

Date