

HISTORY MAKING IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

This year BHN is publishing a neighborhood history, covering both the Belmont area and Hillsboro Village. It is based on three earlier neighborhood histories, published in 1975, 1991, and 1993, compiled and updated by Gene TeSelle, with new photographs and an easy-to-read layout by book designer Gary Gore. It will be available for \$5 at our Home Tour as well as other events, including the National Trust for Historic Preservation convention and the BHN Annual Meeting on Monday October 26, 2009 at Christ The King Church.

In the process we also found elegant colored maps of the neighborhood in 1908, published by the G.M. Hopkins Company of Philadelphia. Gary Gore put these together in a composite map of the area between 21st and 12th, from Edgehill south to Sweetbriar. The map has been printed as a poster, 16 X 24 inches in size, and can be purchased for \$5.

It shows the streets and lot lines as they were originally laid out, and also the homes that had been built by 1908. Neighbors who look at it are struck by what is not there Blakemore, Wedgewood, and Magnolia Boulevard, cut through in the early 1970s, as well several older streets, not originally planned but added later for convenience and also by what is there but has been changed especially "Washington Square" at the top of Ashwood Avenue, which was to have been formed by streets running between Blair and Linden.

THE BELMONT AREA AND HILLSBORO VILLAGE



Both the history book and the map have been exquisitely printed by Fred Von Colln at Midtown Printing.



BHN HOME TOUR 09 "PRESERVING OUR HISTORIC ROOTS"

The 2009 Belmont-Hillsboro Neighborhood Home Tour is slated for Saturday, October 17th. The tour will highlight the diverse architectural styles of homes to hundreds of visitors across Nashville. Restoration and renovation continue to add to our historic neighborhood's vibrancy and made Belmont-Hillsboro a premier Nashville address for both businesses and residents.

An added bonus; this year Nashville will be the host city for the National Trust for Historic Preservation Convention, and the BHN Home Tour has been added to their program. We can expect visitors from around the nation.

We are especially excited about this year's home tour because three homes on the tour have recently been presented with Preservation Awards from the Metro Historical Commission. The properties awarded all contribute to Nashville's sense of place and what makes our neighborhood and city special.

Volunteers are still needed to staff the homes on the tour, in two shifts (11 to 2, and 2 to 5). Volunteers as well as homeowners and sponsors are invited to the breakfast before the tour and the party after it. Contact Emily Douglas (292-2751; emily.a.douglas@gmail.com).

On the day of the tour, tickets (\$10 each) will be sold at three locations - Belmont Mansion, Belmont at Linden, and Belmont at Dallas. Tickets can also be bought in advance at Hillsboro Hardware and Helios Artglassworks.

This newsletter is distributed door-to-door on most blocks in the neighborhood (if it's not being distributed on your block, please volunteer!). We have also been sending it to members of BHN by mail, and it is now available online at www.belmont-hillsboro.org. If you prefer **not** to receive a print copy by mail, please let us know calling Penny or Gene TeSelle at 297-2629, or email at info@belmont-hillsboro.org, or write to us at P.O. Box 120712, Nashville, TN 37212. This newsletter was edited by Gene TeSelle and laid out by our neighbor Susie Campion. The printing was done at Midtown Printing, 120 20th Avenue South, by our neighbor Fred Von Colln.

PLEASE NOTE: This newsletter is not to be put "in or on" mail boxes, according to the U.S. Postal Service.

Belmont-Hillsboro Neighbors, Inc. PO Box 120712, Nashville, TN 37212
www.belmont-hillsboro.org • email info@belmont-hillsboro.org



FALL CLEAN-UP AND GOODWILL DROP

Mark your calendars and start cleaning out your closets, basements and garages! Saturday, October 10th we are having our Fall clean-up. The dumpsters will be located behind Helios Artglassworks, next to Belmont

Bi-Rite between 7 am – noon. We are calling for trucks, trailers and volunteers. Whatever time you can spend helping will be appreciated. We will be cruising the alleys, picking up trash on the streets and taking down the illegal signs that keep popping up on the poles throughout the neighborhood. Anytime you see these signs, please take them down.

Melinda Newpher (Beautification Chair) has also coordinated our clean-up with Goodwill this year. Goodwill will also have a drop-off truck located at the same site during our clean-up. While you are cleaning out, think about items that would be useful for donation to Goodwill.

GO GREEN DISTRICT 18



More than 40% of America's carbon emissions come from heating, cooling, lighting and operating buildings. In a neighborhood characterized by unique, historic homes, such as District 18, that percentage is even higher. It is important that these homes are retrofitted to increase their energy efficiency, reduce their dependence on fossil fuels, and shrink the community's carbon footprint.

Go Green, District 18 is an initiative to reduce District 18's energy consumption by 5%. Each homeowner and business in District 18 is encouraged to sign up for an NES IN-Home Energy Evaluation to help decrease their power usage. The goal is to have 360 residences complete the evaluation and modifications by the end of 2010, and for 36 businesses to undergo commercial evaluations.

Dozens of your neighbors have already signed up for the program. We hope you will join them to Go Green, District 18! GoGreenDistrict18.com.

ODE TO OTHA MUSINGS 2009



The annual Ode to Otha celebration on Sweetbriar Avenue on June 6 brought steady crowds, with the suggested donation of \$30 going to the Second Harvest Food Bank. BHN had booths at both ends of the block. Membership Chair Tom Campion says that almost eighty individuals or households joined BHN (new or renewal). All membership fees were contributed to Second Harvest, totaling \$1,020. Thanks to all for coming, and thanks for joining BHN.

NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC

A neighbor was riding his bike south on Belmont Boulevard early in July when a car traveling north turned into Rosewood Avenue and hit him. There were several witnesses, (including a doctor), and he was quickly taken to Vanderbilt Hospital. (If you're going to have an accident, Belmont Boulevard seems to be the best place for it, because people are always present.) It turned out that he had a broken leg and collar bone, many bruises, and a cracked vertebra in his neck. After several weeks in Vanderbilt Hospital, and several more weeks in the Stallworth Rehabilitation Center, he went home, still with a rigid neck brace, where he was watched over by a revolving crew of friends, colleagues, and church members. Recovery has been slow and awkward, still requiring use of a wheelchair, eventually to be replaced by a walker and then a cane.

He says that when he rides his bike he always watches for cars that might be pulling out of parking spaces, or doors that might suddenly be opened (being "doored" is one of the standard hazards of bicycle riding), but he wasn't expecting oncoming traffic to turn into his path.

The accident is a reminder that those who are driving cars need to watch not only for other cars but for bikes, joggers, and slower-moving pedestrians. Also for the occasional child or pet who may run into the street. And when you're getting out of your car, use your rear-view mirror and then open the door slowly to keep from accidentally "dooring" a cyclist. Your attention may be concentrated on other cars, but there needs to be full-spectrum awareness.

The accident highlights once again the need for traffic safety along Belmont Boulevard, which is much-used by cars, bikers, joggers, and walkers. We have called in the past for marked crosswalks and several traffic lights along the Boulevard, as well as stepped-up police enforcement. We still need them.



FROM THE BHN ARCHIVES

1979: Committee chaired by Karen Bourg takes photos and gathers documentation so that areas of the neighborhood developed before 1940 can be placed in the National Register of Historic Places (approval comes in 1980).

1984: After several years of promises and discussion, Council passes Impact Ordinance to prevent rezoning near large public investments, specifically I-440.

1989: BHN starts its "Neighborhood Watch Line" to report crime and any other neighborhood news.

NEIGHBORHOOD RECYCLING INFORMATION



Curbside recycling

You have two different colors of trash containers. The tan one is for everyday trash. The dark green one is for your recyclables. Recyclable materials accepted for monthly pick-up include paper, cardboard, aluminum and steel cans, and all plastic containers labeled 1-7. Do not recycle black plastic, baskets, clamshells (fast food takeout), or styrofoam. Please break down your cardboard boxes and put them in the green container.

Drop-off centers

Glass bottles should be taken to a drop-off center (the closest is on Hillmont Drive, behind Hillsboro High). For more information check www.nashville.gov/recycle/recycling/residential/index.htm. Household hazardous wastes are collected at the East Center on Richard Adams Drive (go north on Ellington Parkway to Trinity Lane, turn right, then left at the second street). You can take paints, solvents, pesticides, antifreeze, batteries of all sizes, fluorescents (including the new "twisty" compact bulbs), air conditioners, gas cylinders, and electronics (computers, monitors, cell phones, microwaves, and television sets), which contain a lot of hazardous chemicals. This is limited to households, one visit per month. In your house you may want to store them in one location, with a container for small items like batteries and bulbs and medications. Prescription medicines are a new concern; when they get into the water supply they cause a variety of problems in animals and humans. So don't drop surplus meds into the sewage system; they will be safer in a land fill. Wrap them up in plastic and put them in your trash.

Brush and leaf collection

Brush can be put in the alley or at the street (wherever your trash is collected). It must be piled neatly, and not be stacked against trees, fences, utility poles, or trash cans. (Go to www.nashville.gov/recycle/brush.htm for full information.) We are in Area 7 (between 21st and I-65), which means that the next rounds of collections will start on September 3, January 7 and May 5.

Large appliance disposal

If you have large appliances to dispose of, the Department of Public Works will pick them up, throughout the year, if they are set out at the curb, on public right of way (not in your front yard), by 6 a.m. Call 862-8750 on the day before, giving the address and a list of what is to be picked up. They will not pick up carpeting, paint, tires, or anything in bags or boxes. This is for large appliances only.

And if something needs attention . . .

Report potholes to Public Works, 862-8750. They appreciate hearing about them, and repair is usually made the next day. Burned-out or flickering street lights can be reported at the same number. Each light pole has an identification number attached.

WATCH OUT FOR "PLAINLY AUDIBLE" NOISE!

A year ago the Metro Council enacted a noise ordinance declaring it unlawful to operate any sound amplification equipment in such a way that sounds are "plainly audible" at the boundary line of the nearest residence, or, in the case of multifamily structures, at any point within other units. If you have outdoor (or indoor) parties, please be aware of this ordinance; otherwise the police can be called.

While the full restrictions do not apply to commercial properties, their noise cannot be "unreasonably loud and disturbing" and cannot be "plainly audible" at the boundary of a public right of way or park.

There are also provisions about motor vehicle exhaust noises. And heavy equipment is not to operate between the hours of 9 p.m. and 6 a.m.

If the ordinance is observed and enforced, we can all have more peace and quiet than we had at times in the past.



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Belmont-Hillsboro Neighbors, BHN, is composed of residents (both renters and owners), who are working to make our neighborhood a good place for everyone, encourage good relations, preserve its residential quality, and maintain the diversity of the neighborhood.

Dues are \$10 per year per person, \$15 per household. Is it time to renew your membership in BHN? Memberships are for the calendar year. You can send in your renewal to BHN at P.O. Box 120712, Nashville, TN 37212-0712.

What does BHN do? BHN keeps everyone informed of what is happening in the neighborhood; is vigilant on zoning issues and crime watch, organizes clean-up days; and showcases the neighborhood through its annual home tour. BHN works in cooperation with the Nashville Neighborhood Alliance.

This newsletter can be sent by mail to all paid-up members as one of the perks of membership. We're happy to say that a recent reminder to members brought in more than a hundred renewals.

Please send us information about new neighbors, births or other news to share.



COMING EVENTS

Saturday October 10, Neighborhood Cleanup Day 8 AM to 12 PM

Help us make the neighborhood look good for our Home Tour. Rolloffs will be behind Helios Artglassworks and Belmont Bi-Rite. Volunteers are always welcome. Drop off your trash, or bring your trailer or pickup and help other volunteers cruise the alleys. Gloves, bags, and safety vests will be available. Goodwill will also be collecting gently used items at the site.

Tuesday through Saturday, October 13-17, National Trust for Historic Preservation Convention, Nashville

For more information, and to register (for the whole conference or for single days) go to www.preservationnation.org/resources/training/npc. BHN will have a table for selling tickets to the Home Tour, as well as booklets and canvas shopping totes. If you would like to volunteer for a few hours (with no registration cost!), please contact Emily Douglas, 292-2751; emily.a.douglas@gmail.com.

Saturday October 16-18, Second Annual Belmont Community Celebration of Art Show & Sale, Christ The King Church, Belmont Blvd.

Fri- 6-9 PM, Sat- 11 AM - 7 PM, Sun- 9:30 AM - 3 PM
Over 40 artists exhibiting with featured artist Jacqueline Saporiti.

Saturday October 17, BHN Home Tour, 11 AM to 5 PM

This is our chance to showcase the neighborhood for a national as well as local public. The Belmont Mansion will be included in the tour. Joe Woolley and Susie Campion are this year's co-chairs; you can contact them at woolleyjoe@gmail.com and susiecampion@comcast.net. Volunteers are still needed to staff the homes on the tour, in two shifts (11 to 2, and 2 to 5). Volunteers as well as homeowners and sponsors are invited to the breakfast before the tour and the party after it. Contact Emily Douglas (292-2751; emily.a.douglas@gmail.com).

On the day of the tour, tickets (\$10 each) will be sold at three locations - Belmont Mansion, Belmont at Linden, and Belmont at Dallas. Tickets can also be bought in advance at Hillsboro Hardware and Helios Artglassworks.

Monday October 26, BHN Annual Neighborhood Refreshments 6:45 PM - Meeting begins at 7 PM

The annual meeting for Belmont-Hillsboro Neighbors will be held at Christ The King Church on Belmont Boulevard. Meet your neighbors and representatives from Belmont and Vanderbilt University. Information will be shared on the upcoming tree planting initiative.



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The BHN web site has been re-formatted, giving it a "face lift" that should make it more user-friendly. You can explore various topics, old and new. But please tell us what you would like to see. Contact Joe Wooley, info@belmont@hillsboro.org. BHN is also accessible via Facebook and Twitter information is on the website..