



baycreekmadison.org

Dec '14/ Jan '15

Bay Creek Bulletin

Bay Creek Poll Workers

By Pam Gates

The day after Election Day, three Bay Creek residents who had served as poll workers around the city shared their thoughts on this exciting and satisfying experience.

Gary Gates was a first time poll worker on Nov. 4. "I decided to do this because I care about people and want to be a meaningful part of the world," he said. "I thought it would be interesting to be assigned to a different part of the city, one I hadn't been directly involved with before." Gary worked at the Dane County Parent Council building, in the middle of the Verona Road construction. Voters in that ward had an extra challenge: figuring out how to get to their polling place!



"I was impressed by the intense desire of people to vote, and the bureaucratic rules that have been created that make it harder for people to vote," Gary said. "I was especially impressed by one woman who until recently had been homeless. She desperately wanted to vote but was unable to do so without traveling all over the city and overcoming multiple barriers. You can't vote just because you're an adult citizen; you have to fit into the right slots."

"The turnout was fantastic, and steady all day long. I was only going to work the morning shift (6 a.m.-1 p.m.), but they were so short-staffed and hectic that I offered to come back after an afternoon break (so I could vote myself!). We worked until 10 p.m. getting everything reconciled and put away.

"I was impressed by what a major operation this was: creating a complex administrative structure and training hundreds of new people for one day of voting, and how effectively it was done," Gary concluded.

Lisie Kitchell has been a poll worker for about eight years. "I just wanted to be involved with the whole election process," she said. "I was motivated by trying to get better voter turnout."

On Nov. 4, Lisie spent most of the day at Romnes. "There were a lot more workers than usual," she said. "The city wanted to make sure things ran smoothly. Four people kept busy full-time registering about 250 new voters or changes of address. That's pretty amazing. People really wanted to make sure their voices got heard."

"It's surprisingly easy to become involved," Lisie said. "High school students have participated as one of their options for fulfilling certain class requirements. It's good for students to see the process."

"We had curbside registration at Romnes yesterday, which we've done in the past as well. We've also gone upstairs there [to enable someone with impaired mobility to vote]. For that we always have to send two people."

"I've worked on campus, at Trinity Methodist on Vilas Avenue, at Hoyt School, and at MATC downtown. There's a very different crowd at each of those places. For example, at MATC there are homeless voters, who can vote if they can show a paper indicating where they're staying. Voter ID is exclusionary; you can see who they're trying to eliminate."

Lisie worked until 6 p.m. Nov. 4 because things were so busy, even though she, like Gary, had only been planning on staying for the morning. "I was amazed to see how many new people came in to vote she said. Lisie is not the only poll worker in her family; her son has taken up this important community service as well! (continued on page 3)

Bay Creek Billboard

Wed Dec 24 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. 29th Annual Red Cross Blood Drive at the Alliant Energy Center. Please see ad on page 5 for more information.

Mon Jan 12 5:30 p.m. BCNA Annual Potluck at the Bahai Center, 324 W. Lakeside St. Please bring silverware, a plate, a beverage and a dish to pass. Bi-Monthly meeting will follow at 6:30 p.m. You are welcome at the potluck even if you can't stay for the meeting. Voluntary annual dues of \$10 per household can be paid at any neighborhood meeting or sent to Sara Richards 710 Spruce St 53715. Please make checks payable to BCNA. **Thank you to those who have paid.**

Sat Feb 7 7:00 -9:00 p.m. Annual Friends of Olin Turville-Full Moon Ski at Olin Turville. Candlelight skiing, drumming, a fire, hot chocolate. and marshmallows to roast. Please check the FOOT website at olin-turville.org for details as the date nears.

2nd Sat of every month 10:00 a.m. to noon Shoreline clean up with Friends of Monona Bay. Contact Nina for info Email: ninaj@wisc.edu, phone: 258-1788 or 698-9708.

Dec 10 (and 2nd Wed of every other month) 6:30 p.m. Friends of Monona Bay meeting at Barriques on Park St. Call Lisie for info: 266-5248

BCNA November 10, 2014 Meeting Summary

By Carol Medaris

The meeting was called to order by Judy Robinson at 6:30.

ALLIANT ENERGY CENTER (AEC) FEASIBILITY STUDY. Olivia Parry, Senior Planner in the Dane County Planning and Development Department presented information about the AEC Strategic Feasibility Study, as part of the study's outreach plan. As background for the study, she said that the facilities are aging, the coliseum is losing business, financing is restricted to self-financing, and there are transportation, access, and infrastructure limitations. The study's purpose is to assess the possibilities for upgrading the facilities, expanding the AEC customer base and market share, and identifying redevelopment opportunities. In considering redevelopment, the study proposes to use a lens of sustainability, social equity, and integration with area neighborhoods. Study partners are Dane County, the City of Madison, and the Greater Madison Convention & Visitors Bureau and the study consultant is Hammes Company. The draft report with feedback is due to be completed by December of this year, and the final report by the end of January, 2015. Additional information may be obtained by accessing the study's website: <http://aecstudy.countyofdane.com>. Ms. Parry said that she welcomed community input at parry@countyofdane.com. We also have a neighborhood member of the study committee, Tom DeChant, who may be contacted at tdmadtown@charter.net. Bob Stoffs announced that there will be an updated AEC presentation at the next South Metropolitan Planning Council (SMPC) meeting on December 16th.

NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME ISSUES. Rebecca, a new resident on O'Sheridan Street, reported serious problems her family has encountered since moving into our neighborhood in May 2014. First was a break-in through her dead-bolted front door in the daytime with several small electronics and family heirlooms stolen. In the early morning a few weeks later, an assault occurred in front of her house. And then, a few days later, a car accessed her back yard through her driveway and parked there. We discussed the need to spread the word about these events as well as car break-ins that have occurred and it was decided to invite our community police liaison, Officer Steve Magyera to the next meeting to discuss steps residents can take to protect themselves.

TREASURER'S REPORT. Judy Robinson announced that we are in good shape for this month. She is current on invoicing and, due to a reduction in printing costs, the Bulletin ad rate will not need to increase for 2015.

BERNIE'S BEACH. Bob Stoffs reported again on the Parks Department's plan to upgrade equipment at the beach in 2015. If anyone is interested in organizing a fund-raiser for additional equipment, the Parks Foundation will help and will provide matching funds.

FRIENDS OF OLIN TURVILLE (FOOT). Introducing a report on FOOT activities, Tom DeChant circulated the agenda for the October 21st meeting, emphasizing items #5: FOOT's proposal to expand Nordic ski trails in Olin Park, currently being reviewed by Parks staff; and #9: regarding the city's decision not to pay for treatment of any ash trees in city parks for Emerald Ash Borer, leaving the Adopt-a-Tree program to provide for funding by private citizens. FOOT scheduled a meeting Saturday, Nov. 15th, to identify and mark the ash trees in Turville for subsequent decisions about adoption and fund-raising efforts. Additional information about FOOT activities may be found at the group's website www.olin-turville.org, including plans for the Saturday, February 7th, Full Moon Ski Event. Mark your calendars!

The desirability of additional walking trails was brought up, and Tom indicated that replacing a lesser-used ski trail was a possibility.

BCNA BY LAWS. Discussion was postponed due to lack of time (again!) and referred to the Neighborhood Council. (Following the meeting, the Council decided to put this discussion first on the agenda of the January meeting.)

POTENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD TIF DISTRICT AND JOHN NOLEN CORRIDOR INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS. John Strasser, 14th district alderman, talked briefly about the area being considered and some of the improvements being discussed. Because of time constraints, more information was deferred to the next BCNA meeting.

CITY COUNCIL VOTE ON \$150,000 ALLOCATION FOR OLIN PARK DEVELOPMENT STUDY. John Strasser, 14th district alderman also led a discussion of the vote coming up November 11th to reduce the budget amount to \$50,000, indicating his opinion that the full amount was needed to do an adequate study. This prompted a discussion about what was in the plan, with Alder Strasser noting that the proposal was limited to developing the outlook area, next to the Medical Society, into a "destination" in conjunction with improving the causeway as an enhanced entry into the city. He emphasized that there was no "plan" yet, only an "idea." He said that Olin Turville was not a neighborhood park but a city park, but emphasized that before any "plan" was (continued on next page)

2014 Fire Service Tribute Ride By Judy Robinson

The 2014 Fire Service Tribute Ride, a cross-country bicycle trip, was organized by Jeffrey Moore who is a firefighter and paramedic for the Town of Madison and a recent graduate from UW-Madison. The first week of July, Moore departed the western coast of California and headed east to the National September 11 Memorial in New York City, planning to arrive in time with the thirteenth-year anniversary of 9/11. Various career, combination and volunteer fire departments along the route were contacted for this event; many kindly opened their station doors to offer hospitality and a place to rest.

Staying at fire stations and travelling with other interested firefighters, Moore had two goals for the ride: to respect, remember and honor all fallen firefighters, and to promote a positive image of the American fire service. To support these goals, fundraising efforts have been tied to this ride. Any donations made in support of the 2014 Fire Service Tribute Ride go the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. The Foundation is an important 501(c)3 non-profit organization that works to honor the lives of fallen firefighters, serve their families and prevent future line of duty deaths.

Jeff arrived at the World Trade Center site in New York City on the evening of 9/10, on time and on schedule. In all, the trip lasted 63 days and covered approximately 4320 miles.

He was fortunate enough to ride with many different firefighters and other community members, too. Jeff guesses that he had someone riding with him around a third of the time on the road. He visited about 70 fire stations along the way. He noted that every firefighter he met was helpful and supportive. Despite the vast landscape all across our country and miles between cities and towns, Jeff found that firefighters everywhere from coast to coast are genuinely committed to helping others and serving their communities.

Many different fire crews went with Jeff to visit various state and national firefighter memorials, and together they were able to remember those firefighters who have died in the line of duty. There was even one opportunity in Michigan to dedicate a day of riding specifically for a firefighter who recently died in the line of duty.

Fundraising was another aspect of the trip, and many unions, fire department associations, businesses, organizations and individuals were willing to donate to the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation in support of the ride. Bay Creek's own Insty Prints donated the cost of Jeff's business cards. Jeff ran out of cards by the time he got to Kansas so Marc and J.T. came to the rescue and shipped him more cards.

Donations will be accepted until later this year and can be made at <https://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?EventID=1492472>. All money donated goes directly to the Foundation. For more information about the ride, please contact Jeff at moore.jeffrey@hotmail.com or go to <http://fireservicetributeride.wordpress.com/>.



NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

January Potluck

A potluck will precede the January 12, 2015, BCNA meeting at the Bahai Center, 324 W. Lakeside Street. The potluck starts at 5:30 and the meeting at 6:30. Please bring your own beverage, plates, silverware, and a dish to pass. Children are welcome.

Are you interested in becoming more involved in BCNA? At this meeting candidates are nominated for March elections.

Candlin Update

Candlin Pet Hospital fans will have a bit of a drive since Dr. Berglund has found space in Mount Horeb where she is practicing limited hours. For more information, call 608 437 3478 or see candlinpethospital.com

Candlelight Ski

The date for the annual (weather permitting) candlelight ski at Olin-Turville is Saturday, February 7, 6-9 PM. This is a family event with drumming, a fire pit, hot chocolate and marshmallows to roast. Check <http://www.olin-turville.org/> for details as the date nears.

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

Looking for Old Photos

Do you have historical photographs of Bay Creek buildings from the late 1800's or early 1900's stashed away in your attic? If so, I would like to borrow them to make high resolution digital images that will be put on the internet for all to see and enjoy. Contact Ron Shutvet at rshutvet@gmail.com

Holiday Gift Giving Options

Please consider buying local this holiday season. Madison is home to many businesses that carry a wide variety of items. For the person who is difficult to buy for, consider a gift certificate to a local restaurant or salon. Danebuylocal.com is a great resource for finding local businesses, you can search the website by category, location or a keyword such as 'chocolate'. The website also lists several good reasons for buying local including the fact that every dollar spent locally returns 3 times more money to the local economy than one spent at a chain retailer.

Museum gift stores such as the Chazen or Wisconsin Historical Museum are also a great place to find unique gifts and your purchase helps to support the organization.

Madison Public Library has T-shirts, tote bags and small backpacks available for gift giving.

Another option is to shop at resale stores run by non-profits such as Agrace (hospice care), Easter Seals, Goodwill or St. Vincent DePaul. The money you spend will help with community meals, food pantry, job training, and other critically needed programs.

Senior Notes

News for Neighborhood Seniors: The South Madison Coalition of the Elderly invites you to enjoy a nourishing, hot lunch in the light-filled community room at Romnes Apartments, 540 W. Olin Avenue, on Mondays-Fridays at 11:30 a.m. December is a great time to try it out—we have several special menus and holiday activities planned. Suggested donation is \$4 per meal for persons age 60 or older; \$7.50 for other attendees. Meals must be reserved no less than 24 hours in advance; call 251-8405.

Dinner and Holiday Cards: Come to lunch on Tuesday, December 9 to enjoy a delicious meal and a festive atmosphere for writing a holiday note to someone you love. We will provide a card to send, a treat for a young friend, and a meal of roast pork, gravy, stuffing, green bean casserole, applesauce, roll and cherry crisp.

Christmas Party & White Elephant Fun: Celebrate the holiday on Friday, December 19 by enjoying a special meal enhanced by seasonal music and décor. The menu includes lite eggnog punch, buffet ham, au gratin potatoes, glazed carrots and Christmas cookies. Following the meal, those who wish to, are invited to join in a merry White Elephant Exchange.



Carol Sing-A-Long: Join your neighbors for an hour of caroling after lunch on Tuesday, December 23. South Madison Coalition Executive Director will provide the piano accompaniment and song word sheets will be available. Refreshments will follow. Come early and have a healthy lunch of baked fish, rice pilaf, mixed veggies, apricots and a star cookie.

Welcome the New Year and New Diners: On Tuesday, December 30, join in some special activities to welcome diners who have come to our lunch program for the first time in December. Toast the new year with hot cider and a favorite meal of barbecued ribs, “ham”-flavored greens, mac and cheese, ambrosia, cornbread and coconut cream pie. All diners will receive a welcome gift.

Goodman South Madison Library December Activities

•Book, Bake, AV and Craft Sale – Friends of Goodman South Madison Library

Friday, December 5, 10 AM-8 PM and Saturday, December 6, 9 AM-2 PM in Room 115

•**FAMILY SCIENCE NIGHT!** at UW SPACE PLACE, 2300 S. Park St. on Friday, December 5, 6-8 PM
Children will move from one station to the next to view exhibits, watch amazing experiments, and participate in hands-on experiments. There will be a light supper at 6:00. This program is held in conjunction with the UW Space Place and Urban League of Greater Madison.

•**PLAYTIME PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS... THE SNOW QUEEN** on Saturday, December 13, 1 PM
PlayTime Productions is theatre by and for children. "The Snow Queen" is free, suitable for all ages, and open to the public. No registration needed. Co-sponsored by the Friends of the Goodman South Madison Library and UW Space Place. Held at UW Space Place, right across the parking lot from the Goodman South Madison Library.

•**SECOND SATURDAY: GINGERBREAD COOKIE FUN** on Saturday, December 13, 2:30 PM. (right after the play!)

“Run, run, as fast as you can. You can’t catch me, I’m the gingerbread man!” Catch stories, games and more at this fast-paced family program. Children will get to take home their own decorated (sugar) cookie. Children age 6 and under need to be accompanied by an adult. Registration is required for this program. Parents can call 266-6395 to register their children only (not themselves).

•**BOOK DISCUSSION:** Snow Flower and the Secret Fan by Lisa See on Saturday, December 20 at 1:30 PM
In nineteenth-century China, in a remote Hunan county, a girl named Lily, at the tender age of seven, is paired with a laotong, an “old same,” in an emotional match that will last a lifetime. The laotong, Snow Flower, introduces herself by sending Lily a silk fan on which she’s written a poem in nu shu, a unique language that Chinese women created in order to communicate in secret, away from the influence of men. As the years pass, Lily and Snow Flower send messages on the fan and compose stories on handkerchiefs, reaching out of isolation to share their hopes, dreams, and accomplishments. Together they endure the agony of footbinding and reflect upon their arranged marriages, their loneliness, and the joys and tragedies of motherhood. The two find solace in their friendship, developing a bond that keeps their spirits alive. But when a misunderstanding arises, their relationship suddenly threatens to tear apart

The Rules of Winter Cycling from bikewinter.org

Poor street conditions and visibility can make winter riding seem a dangerous ordeal. But the skills that get you through the next few months will only make you a better rider all the time.

Rule #1 - BE SEEN! People often don't expect to see cyclists in foul weather. Use front white and rear red lights and reflective tape and/or clothing to make sure you can be seen from the front, side and back. A disproportionate number of bicycle/car crashes happen in the dark!! Just because we can see motorists, doesn't mean they see or expect us. And during the season of long nights, cyclists are often invisible in the canyon of shadows created by street lights and car headlights.



Rule # 2 - Know the Hazards: The streets are slickest when it first begins to rain or snow. Manhole covers, leaves and metal bridges are particularly dangerous when wet. Plowed snow reduces operating room on the roads. Fresh snow makes traction difficult. Black ice is sneaky; all ice can be upending. And then there are regular old hazards--potholes, cracks and RR crossings. Your awareness of these hazards, especially on your common routes, will help you anticipate and handle them (see below).

Rule #3 - Know the Tricks: When it is wet or icy, pump the brakes, ride more slowly, keep your weight on the back wheel, and don't lean into turns as much. When it snows, follow the ruts created by cars, avoiding ridges which can deflect the front wheel and cause a spill. Again, keeping your weight to the back helps with stability. Breathe deeply, stay the course and keep pedaling--your bike wants to stay upright, and momentum will help it. If you do start to fall, try to lean away from traffic and resist putting out your hand to break the fall; it's often better to take the impact flat along your forearms. There's also no shame in walking with your bike through rough patches.

(Continued on page 7)

News from Olin-Turville By Andria Blattner

Writing this as Thanksgiving nears, there is a lot to be thankful for. We are rich in parks which offer a great many opportunities to keep us conscious of the natural world that supports us all.

I am thankful for all the volunteer hours put into our parks. This year we hosted the citywide Bird City Celebration in Olin Park. The orchard was planted this May with 22 trees and shrubs. They were mulched and watered each week when there was not enough rain. Judy Robinson has actually taken to the garden and become a master weeder and waterer. The butterfly garden has 22 species of natives and several non-natives like zinnias, lantanas and snapdragons that the insects love. Thanks for the donations. Olin and Turville had 181 species of birds listed on eBird. The bluebirds had a successful season. They fledged 29 birds from 8 nests. Tree swallows did better with 32 from 7 nests. Eagle Scout troop #2 built and put up 2 bat houses in Olin Park. There were 5 concerts, 7 yoga sessions and 5 dances in the Olin Pavilion. Many people attended many meetings and offered well thought out suggestions for the running of our parks especially Wingra Creek improvements.

This New Year we will be almost a decade and a half in to the new millennium. Some kids born in this millennium are now teenagers! This is hard for us old ones to believe. Even with all the development to accommodate an increasing population and digital everything, I hope that these kids will grow up with some appreciation for the times of quiet observation one can have in woods and natural surroundings, and to enjoy the natural kinds of excitement - a flock of coots taking off by running on the water, a fox zigzagging across a field, eagles soaring and playing in great sweeps of play diving and chasing one another. That a still night with the glowing Milky Way (if we can keep the skies dark enough) will continue to be inspiring.

Next year will be a busy one. We will be continuing the Nature Walks--or Ski if there is snow on the ground. Starting in January the Walks will be on Sunday at 1:30 beginning January 11, the second Sunday. We hope this will accommodate more people. The December walk will still be on Saturday, Dec. 13. The Bluebirds, orchard and butterfly garden need tending. The concerts, yoga and dancing in the Olin Pavilion could use a few more helpers. A very big concern is the City's concept of a "destination" in Olin Park. We need to be a part of this discussion to keep changes consistent with the gem that this park is.

Our Full Moon Ski is Saturday, Feb. 7. This is always a very fun family event. There is drumming, a fire pit, hot chocolate and marshmallows to roast. And of course cross country skiing. This year we hope to lay out a new trail in Olin Park around the soccer fields.

So, Happy New Year! Join us in keeping all our Parks - Olin, Turville Point, Goodman, Bernie's Beach, Wingra Creek, Quann, The Bay Creek Orchard and Butterfly Garden - as places of recreation, re-creation and inspiration. There are many things to do and learn - we hope you can find somewhere to become involved.



Bay Creek Orchard Update

The orchard that was planted as part of our sign project is prepared for for winter. The area around the trees were weeded, and the tree trunks were covered to prevent damage from foraging animals over the winter. Thank you to Andria Blattner and Rob and Laura Summerbell for helping with this work.

If you like to garden, please consider helping with the orchard next year. We will have a work day in the early spring and will also need help with watering and weeding throughout the summer. It takes approximately 2 hours to water and we have devised a pretty efficient process. It is helpful to have two people, one person to stay by the hydrant to turn the water on and off and one to move the hoses from tree to tree.

If you are interested in helping next year, please contact Judy Robinson at (608) 469-1218 or treasurer@merr.com.

(Winter cycling continued) Rule # 4 - Know your Options: Many of us are creatures of habit, taking the same route to a given destination. During messy weather, consider alternates. After a snowstorm, an unplowed sidestreet where cars are poking along at 15 mph might be better than an icy artery where cars are sliding across the road at 40 mph or more and the bike lane is buried under plowed snow. Then again, during a storm, large arterials are sometimes best because cars are slow and the heavy traffic melts the snow. Bottom line—know your options (including public transit) and be flexible.

Rule #5 - Be predictable: It's like a dance. Anticipate what other road users (that includes pedestrians and other cyclists) are going to do, and help them anticipate your movements. Signal when you are going to change positions or turn. Learn to look behind without veering off course. Try not to stop abruptly; there might be a cyclist right behind you.

Rule #6 - Be assertive: Don't hesitate to take a lane. It's our legal right! If someone is honking behind, that's a good sign. At least they see you. If they are that impatient, they might be the type that would try to squeeze past you if you were a little closer to the right. Also, stay to the left of right turning traffic at intersections.

Oncoming traffic will see you better, and right turning traffic won't plow into you.

Bay Creek Bulletin information The Bay Creek Bulletin is published every other month by the Bay Creek Neighborhood Association (BCNA) and is a news and information service for the neighborhood. The Bulletin welcomes comments and submission of articles, photographs, drawings, poetry, announcements and other information.

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*“I wonder if the snow
loves the trees and the
fields that it kisses them
so gently? And then it
covers them up snug, you
know, with a white quilt;
and perhaps it says “Go
to sleep, darlings, till the
summer comes again.”*

*Lewis Carroll, Alice’s Adventures
in Wonderland & Through the
Looking Glass*

Standing committees

Welcoming committee
Open

Web committee Jim Winkle,
813 Emerson St.; 259-1812; jim@EventsGalore.net

BCNA area representatives

Area 1—Wingra Drive west of Park Street	Judy Robinson: 469-1218, treasurer@merr.com
Area 2—Northwestern railroad tracks east to Olin-Turville Park	Dan Kennelly: 217-7470, kennely.dan@gmail.com
Area 3—Lakeside St to Monona Bay and west to Park Street	Cindy Snyder
Area 4—Central area between Lakeside St and Olin Ave	Jim Winkle: 259-1812, jim@EventsGalore.net
Area 5—Tree streets	Bob Lockhart: 633 Cedar St.; 256-0444
Area 6—Romnes Apartments	Open
BCNA Rep to South Metropolitan Planning Council	Bob Stoffs: 255-1074, rkstoffs@mail.com

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City council	Lucas Dailey (Interim) 1718 Roberts Ct. 535-1214 district13@cityofmadison.com
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