



# From The Horse's Mouth

November 2011

Vol. 7, Issue 4

BARCLAY FARMS HOMEOWNERS CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

PO Box 204

Camden, DE 19934-0204

## News From Our President

— *Jill Fuchs*



Dear Residents of Barclay Farms,

I recently saw a sign "Don't look back, you are not going that way".

Now that our election is complete we can get on with our primary function, which is to serve you, the members, in the best possible way. We will have an Election Committee Review as well as a By-laws Revision Committee looking to the future. Any thoughts or recommendations can be communicated by e-mail to the Board Members.

I would like to applaud the amount of interest there was in participating in the leadership of our Association. We will have a reorganization meeting as soon as the newly elected board members are available. Once that happens we will post the offices that the Board Members were chosen to serve as well as posting that information on our website.

However, there is more to be done to relieve those volunteers who have worked tirelessly to serve you. I am talking about the powerhouse behind "From The Horses Mouth". Sue Hoecker has been the editor of our publication since its inception and frankly, she needs a break. I am asking who among you might step up to the plate so that we can continue to have this publication. Our newsletter is the primary source of communication to you all. I would be remiss if I did not mention and thank those members of the Board who chose not to run again. Jerry Hoecker who has been your Treasurer shy of one year of the inception of our organization. Thank You Jerry! I look forward to the day that the Hoecker's just sit out in the crowd of a membership meeting. And once again, I thank Ann Sheapp for volunteering her talents as Membership Chair.

Now that we have access to a bus for trips Dennis needs a Co-Chair to take responsibility for the planning and executing of any outings for Barclay Farms residents. The bus holds 16 people so trips could be easily planned and executed.

There is a list on the bulletin board requesting members e-mail addresses so we have another means of communication to all members. Please take the time to add yours.

The Holidays are approaching and I want to wish you all the very best of times.

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

Congratulations to our newly elected Executive Council members John Badger and Larry Dougherty. The Reorganization Meeting of Executive Council will take place soon to elect your new officers, and the results will be announced promptly on both the website and the BFHCA bulletin board.

A hardy **THANK YOU** to the BFHCA members for coming out and supporting the election Your vote does make a difference.

## Paperback Book Nook

-- Mary Lou Rowlands, Librarian



By way of introduction, this new article will tell of the wonders and treasures awaiting you in our paperback library which, by the way, is located in the back corner of the gameroom in the clubhouse.

This library is for your enjoyment. There are no rules for returning books. If you get caught in a thunderstorm or the book gets ripped out of your hands during one of our famous wind storms, you'll never get a cross look from the librarian. The advantage of reading paperbacks is that they don't command the same reverence that a "hardback" instinctively gets and..they're not as heavy.

In case you haven't been to the paperback library, the books are sorted into some basic sections - General Fiction, Mysteries, Nonfiction, Inspirational, and Romance. There is also a small collection of Audiobooks.

There are only a couple simple rules for donating or returning paperbacks...

Gently used paperbacks are welcome...but the edition or latest print date should be this century, i.e., a year starting with a "20-". Please use the basket provided for all returns and donations. Also, there is no provision or space for condensed books and novelettes such as Harlequin. If any show up, they'll be donated to a charity.

In future articles, I'll share my thoughts regarding books and authors I've read and loved, and I welcome and will share your reviews. This will be a very informal forum that I hope we'll all enjoy.

## We are the Community

-- Richard Maly

There are many non profit and volunteer organizations serving our community. Your participation is vital to their mission.

Do Your Part to Assure Success:

- Donate to their fund drives to what ever extent you are able.
- Attend their fund raiser functions.
- Ask if they need volunteer help.



Take a look at the following Camden organizations and consider what they do for the community and how you can help them achieve their mission.

### Camden - Wyoming Volunteer Fire Department # 41

Delaware has only two paid fire departments, The City of Wilmington and Dover Air Force Base. While others have some paid responders the revenue to run the organization comes from many sources. In addition to annual fund drives the CW Fire Department Auxiliary works to raise funds through various events:

- On the first Sunday of each month the Auxiliary sponsors an All You Can Eat Breakfast at the Fire Hall on the corner of Camden-Wyoming Avenue and West Street. Breakfast is served from 08:00 to 11:00 AM. Mark the first Sunday on your calendar and plan to come. They often also hold a 50/50 drawing, ask about it when you pay for breakfast.
- Every Tuesday you can play BINGO at the fire hall. An opportunity to socialize with friends, help the Fire Company and possibly win some cash.

### Harvest Years Senior Center:

Harvest Years offers many activities and services to the community. Many are available to members and non members. Membership generally has the benefit of a lower cost for the open events. During the Fall and Winter the Soup Kitchen is available Monday through Friday. You can purchase various size containers to take out. Lunch is served Monday through Friday from 11:30 AM to 12:20 PM. Reservations are requested by 9:30 AM, call (302) 698-4285.

See <http://www.harvestyears.org> for the news letter which contains the menu on page 4.

A shoppers program is available to members. For those who can't drive or get around the stores this program assists seniors to obtain food and medicine for their homes.

Many other activities and services are available, including crafts, trips to the casino, card games, a hair salon and many more. Check the news letter on line and go to page 5 for the Activities Calendar.

### Friends of Historic Camden:

Friends of Historic Camden is a non profit organization whose members are interested in preserving the historical character of the town. Their monthly meetings, usually held at the Barclay Farms Clubhouse, include speakers on Delaware and Camden History. Check out <http://www.historiccamdende.org> to see their activities.



## Support Your Local Schools

-- Margaret Butterworth



### *Holiday Entertainment*

#### Caesar Rodney High School

Wednesday, December 7th:

Holiday Pops Concert at 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday December 14th:

Holiday Concert at 7:30 p.m.

#### Fred Fifer Middle School

(To be presented at Caesar Rodney High School)

Tuesday December 6th:

Chorus Concert at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday December 13th:

Band Concert at 7:00 p.m.

Come out and enjoy the Holiday Music.

## Social Committee Update

— Dennis Wright

Hi everyone-



BFHCA is trying to start a monthly bus trip to Harrington Casino. The first scheduled is Tuesday, December 20th, with a pick up at the clubhouse at 10:00 AM and leaving the Casino at 2:30 PM. Cost is \$7.00, with a \$10.00 play ticket in return. Watch the bulletin board at the Clubhouse for further information on signing up and payment.

If anyone has an idea for a local trip please contact me at 697-3238 and we will discuss what needs to be done.



*To our many dedicated volunteers who serve on our Phone Tree, and those who deliver the "From The Horse's Mouth" to every home in our community. These Barclay Farm residents walk to your home in all kinds of weather, with a cheerful smile to serve you. The Phone Tree volunteers always say yes when needed, even when it's not a convenient for them. Say thank you to them next time you see them.*

This newsletter is being delivered to each household currently occupied in Barclay Farms to provide information on your homeowner's association, BFHCA, in addition to community news. If for some reason, you do not care to receive future issues, please e-mail Susan Hoecker at editor-fthm@BFHCA.org.

## Thanks for Thanksgiving

-- Mary K. Eggers



We are really fortunate to have a Thanksgiving Day to celebrate this year. Had things gone differently, it could have been just another work day. There would be no Macy's parade, football game or shopping on Black Friday.

The first Thanksgiving was a one-shot harvest festival in December 1632 which celebrated surviving the year, an abundant harvest and to thank Native American friends?

It is highly improbable that turkey, mashed potatoes with gravy or even pumpkin pie were on the feasting table. It seems that the Pilgrims used the word "turkey" to reference any kind of fowl and that it was really duck and goose that were served, along with eel and lobster. Potatoes were thought to be poisonous in the 17<sup>th</sup> century and since flour was in short supply, there were no breads, pastries or pies on that first thanksgiving table.

The second Thanksgiving Day was 55 years later in Charlestown, Massachusetts and did not include the "heathen natives". This community gathering may have included wild turkeys and pumpkin pie, but it didn't happen again until 1786. That year all thirteen colonies celebrated the first national day of thanksgiving. It was to celebrate our victory over the British at Saratoga.

George Washington proclaimed a National Day of Thanksgiving in 1789. There was not much support for the holiday. Many felt that there was too much discord among the colonies to celebrate and others couldn't see why the hardship of a few pilgrims was a good reason for a national holiday. Thomas Jefferson, for one, opposed the concept of a National Thanksgiving Day.

Ironically, it was discord that prompted Abraham Lincoln in 1860 to proclaim the last Thursday of November as a National Day of Thanksgiving. The Civil War still continued, but the holiday carried on.

Overlaying the gathering of friends and family to give thanks have been several successful efforts to expand the thanksgiving to include commercial endeavors.

The Macy's parade was originally a Christmas parade ending in front of the Macy store. The intent of Herbert Strauss was to draw people to the city to get started on their Christmas shopping early. To expand the early shopping concept, FDR temporarily changed Thanksgiving to the third Thursday to encourage another week of shopping in a depressed economy.

Thanksgiving Day also was used to promote the creation of the newly formed National Football League through the first radio broadcast in 1920. On November 22, 1956 the Green Bay Packers and the Detroit Lions played the first nationally televised Thanksgiving Day game!

Whatever the other components of your traditional Thanksgiving celebration have been, one factor seems consistent - friends and family gathering together to celebrate our good fortune

**Happy Thanksgiving wishes to our Barclay Farms Family.**



## **BFHCA Membership Helps Your Neighbors ... Makes Our Community Stronger**

If you've missed the opportunity to get your membership in our homeowner's association, it's not too late. Your support has been very much appreciated as we continue to work for YOU!

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### ***2011-2012 BFHCA MEMBERSHIP FORM***

Member Names: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address (*will be held in privacy and not shared with others*)  
\_\_\_\_\_

Total number of members \_\_\_\_ x \$10.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to **BFHCA**

Mail to: BFHCA

PO Box 204

Camden, DE 19934-0204

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**Thank you for supporting the BFHCA Association.**

**Share in the work of this Community!**

Website: [www.bfhca.org](http://www.bfhca.org)

Jill Fuchs, President

Susan Hoecker, Editor

## **Don's Garden Page Fall 2011**

**— Don Conroy**

Some last moment thoughts as the gardening season draws to a close. Lawns ought to be the first consideration, it's never too late to fertilize your lawn, well into December is fine if you haven't done it yet this fall. Seeding can still be done, as a matter of fact, just before a snow fall is ideal, that's when nature does it.

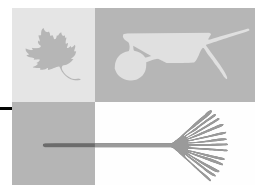
Remember, if you do late fall seeding, to wait in the spring until the third mowing before any weed killers or crabgrass controls are applied. Otherwise you may kill your new grass.

Cut back perennials now and clean gardens of all summer debris. Non flowering evergreens can be cut back now. Do not trim rhododendron or azaleas until after blooming next spring. Do not cut back roses in the fall, its forecast to be a cold winter and there's bound to be some die back of roses during the winter, resulting in more severe pruning next spring. Do major rose pruning next spring and then to about knee height. Crape myrtle should be pruned back in late winter/early spring. They bloom on new growth. Do not cut back any spring flowering shrubs. They should be pruned after blooming next spring.

Examine any house plants that were outside during the summer. You are looking for any insects they might have been exposed to outdoors. The first clue is sticky leaves which indicate sucking insects, many of which are pretty small to detect visually. White puffy, cottony looking or hard and scaly attached to leaves or stems. A house plant spray would be indicated. A couple of sprays, a week or ten days apart might be called for.

Remember a lot of light indoors is good. But not too much water.

**HAPPY GARDENING**



## “Rice” ... Revisited

— Maxine Skversky

Who would ever believe you could find a gem of a Chinese/Japanese restaurant tucked away in the middle of Dover. Everything is made fresh...every day. There are no preservatives or MSG. The food is clean, and healthy.

Rice offers delicious daily lunch specials, what a bargain. I know not everyone is into sushi but if you are, this is some of the best sushi I have ever eaten, and that includes Hawaii! The owners are Ling Cheung and her husband, Stephen Wong. They have a new addition to their family, Ronnie Wong, born this past August. Before you know it, he will be bussing tables.

Aside from food being wonderful, the staff makes you feel very special. It is a wonderful experience.

### Rice

45 Greentree Drive, Dover DE 19904

Phone number is 678-1328

**Rice** is open from Monday through Thursday 11:00 AM to 10:30 PM; Friday and Saturday 11:00 AM to 11:30 PM; Sunday Noon to 10:00 PM.



## Winterizing Your Home

-- reprinted from “Helpful Hints from Tony”



1. Remember to change the batteries in your smoke alarms and check them for proper operation.
2. Change the air filters in your heating system. Clean and check the working condition of your system before cold weather is upon us.
3. Close or block the crawl space vents in your foundation for the winter. Seal the foundation so that no wind can freeze your water lines. This also helps with heating of your house.
4. You must remove your garden hoses from your free proof hydrants, either on the side of your house or in your yard. The hydrants must be able to properly drain before freezing weather. If the hoses are not removed, the valve cannot drain properly and the hydrant will hold water and freeze and possibly burst.
5. Have the gutters cleaned and checked. The ice will build up in them if not clear, and that can damage your roof and also the guttering channels.
6. Make sure all outside lighting is operational. You will need the porch lights more in the coming months as darkness will be coming a lot earlier.

*<http://www.rashhardware.com/home/household-tips.php>*

# Dana's Tech Corner

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Are you tired of surfing the internet in molasses? I've recently been called to investigate computers that were very slow to respond to Internet Explorer (IE) browsing. In both cases, I was dealing with older computers running Windows XP, but the computers were not the culprits. It turns out that both machines had internet speeds that were close to the maximum speeds they were paying for. In addition, the computers themselves were running at near normal speeds – not the fastest in the world, but fast enough. So who was the culprit? IE.

IE has this really annoying tendency to accumulate “junk” on the home page over time. It's much like barnacles growing on whales. The longer they live, the more junk they accumulate. When IE is first opened, the home page has to update, and if it's loaded up with apps & gadgets, they all compete for internet updates at the same time, rendering IE useless until they are all satisfied. In one case, it took almost 30 seconds before IE would even respond to mouse strokes.

Solution? If you're clever enough, you can delete, hide or disable a lot of the junk you don't need on IE, but here's another suggestion of what you can do to simplify your browsing experience and speed things up dramatically. You can try another browser such as Firefox (FF) by Mozilla. This is my personal favorite. It's free and stable – I've been using it for about 5 years now. Here's a link to the free download:

<http://www.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/new/>

It is not necessary to uninstall IE to use Firefox because they coexist quite nicely. When you first fire up Firefox, it will ask you a couple of questions, and one is if you want to make FF your default browser. I would say yes and try it out. If you don't like it, you can always run IE as you did before. It will also ask you if you want to import your favorites/bookmarks from IE, and you should answer yes.

My second suggestion is to change your home page to a simple and powerful one that doesn't come with lots of junk to start with, and that is the search engine [bing.com](http://www.bing.com). It is a great search engine as a replacement for Google, and it can be modified if you want to fancy it up. Here are the steps to make [bing.com](http://www.bing.com) your home page:

Open Firefox – it will open to some default home page and it doesn't matter what it is

Go to [www.bing.com](http://www.bing.com)

Using the menu selections, run “Tools/Option/General and note the “Startup” section at the top

Make sure that “When Firefox starts:” says “Show my home page”, then click the “Use Current Page” button

Restart Firefox to make the changes apply and test out both IE and FF side-by-side to see if you get a noticeable boost in response.

There's another more subtle benefit of using FF over IE. Because the vast majority of users use IE, it is the frequent target of hackers taking advantage of security shortcomings of IE. That is why it is constantly being updated. FF tends to be hacked less because it is not #1. It doesn't mean it won't happen to FF – it's just less desirable to the bad guys. Happy surfing!

As always, if you have any ideas for Tech Corner that you would like to see in the future, just let me know.

Dana C. Aultman

[Dana is a Barclay Farms resident with a business (ATS) to provide technical handyman services. To learn more, or to suggest topics for future columns, contact him at 302-670-0115 or [ats.camden@comcast.net](mailto:ats.camden@comcast.net).]

# BFHCA News

## Executive Council

### Directors:

John Badger	698-0311
Joe Butcher	698-0282
Larry Dougherty	387-1496
Mary K. Eggers	697-9430
Jill Fuchs	697-8277
Perry Martinson	697-0581
Arnold Waldner	698-3916
Barbara Vandegrift	698-2767
Dennis Wright	697-3238

## Camden Town Council Meetings

First Monday of each Month  
7:00 PM

1783 Friends Way, Camden, DE

See: <http://www.townofcamden.com>

## Remember...Log on to —

[www.bfhca.org](http://www.bfhca.org)

For the latest Association and community news. Website updated frequently.

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: *FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH* Staff: :  
:

- Maggie Aultman, Margaret Butterworth, Mary
  - K. Eggers, Eileen Franco, Jean Hanacek, Jane
  - Heinig, Susan Hoecker (Editor), Muriel Lundy,
  - Richard Maly, Maxine Skversky, and Charlotte
  - Tormey. Welcome Maxine and Charlotte!
- .....

## Camden-Wyoming Sewer & Water Authority Meetings

Second Tuesday of each month

7:00 PM

16 S. West Street, Camden

See: <http://www.cwsa.com>



DELAWARE BAY TRADING CO, INC.

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302-698-3550 [www.delbaytc.com](http://www.delbaytc.com)

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\*\*\*\*\*

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