



A Real April Day

April for rainbows,
 And April for showers!
 April for a bright hint
 Of lovely May flowers.
 April for nonsense,
 And April for play -
 Best of all times
 Is a real April day!



~Lenore Hetrick 🌲

Opportunities to Meet Your BCC Neighbors

Are you a new BCC homeowner or renter and are wishing you knew who your neighbors are?? Well, those of us who have been here for a while would also be delighted to meet you and welcome you to our great community! There are several ways you can “get your toes wet” here at BCC. Firstly, there is **Thirsty Thursday** which meets weekly from 5:00 – 6:00pm at the clubhouse on Lexington Circle. Just bring your own beverage of choice and a small snack/appetizer to share with the others. Then, once a month there is a **Musical House Concert** at the clubhouse from 2:00 - 5:00pm on a Sunday afternoon. The particular Sunday each month varies depending on the artist’s schedule and other BCC events – see the newsletter each month to mark your calendar or watch for an informative email prior to the concert. Bring a \$15.00 donation for the artist and an appetizer to share. And then, in **the Spring and in the Fall there is either a brown bag lunch** (bring your own) or sometimes it is an evening potluck at the clubhouse. In the Summer, you can meet some of your neighbors by signing up for a **garden box in the community garden** where you can grow some vegetables and flowers for your own consumption. Also, there is our swimming pool where you can meet neighbors. The past few years there has been an **August evening event that connects with the National Night Out** program where we gather for a potluck when we have local law



enforcement come and share current information about the local department and information about our neighborhood. We get to ask questions and also get acquainted with our neighbors. In October, the Emergency Preparedness Committee usually holds a get-together to bring awareness to the possibility of the Cascadia Earthquake in conjunction with the annual **Great ShakeOut program**. We have

gathered for a provided brunch and an opportunity to talk about being prepared for possible emergencies in our community. In December there is an **annual holiday dinner** catered in the clubhouse for which there is a few dollars charge per person. Also, please don’t forget, you are more than welcome to **attend any of our various committee meetings and/or the monthly Board Meetings** (via ZOOM) (see calendar on page 2 of the newsletter). Or just get out and take a walk around our beautiful campus and visit with other walkers! So please feel invited into our great community and check out any or all of these opportunities!! 🌲



Annual Windermere **Shred Event** is coming up Saturday, April 19th 10AM – 1PM!

 It's that time of the year again! Spring cleaning, Tax Day, lots of decluttering! Are you looking for a safe way to dispose of your documents with confidential information? We have a solution for you! Come join us for our **FREE** document shredding event!

There is a limit, though – Two (2) banker box size worth

When: Saturday, April 19th, 10AM - 1PM
Where: 4285 Commercial Street SE, Suite 100
Salem, OR 97302 Chris Stewart 🌲



“I’m not everybody’s cup of tea because I’m not tea. I’m probably tequila tbh...”

CALENDAR

April 2025 – June 2025

HOA Activities

These meetings are all open to all members.

For the time being, follow the instructions provided in the emailed meeting notices about how meetings will meet or contact the Chair of the committee you wish to attend.

Board of Directors	Finance –	Planning & Projects-S.Harris, B.Dalton, Co-Chairs	Neighborhood Watch – S.Harris, Interim Chair
April 22, 2025-5:30p - ZOOM	Wed B4 BMtg April 16, 2025-4:00p - Clbhse		April 10, 2025-6:00p - Clbhse
May 27, 2025-5:30p - ZOOM	May 21, 2025-4:00p - Clbhse	TBD	May 8, 2025-6:00p - Clbhse
June 24, 2025-5:30p - ZOOM	June 18, , 2025-4:00p - Clbhse		June 12, 2025-6:00p - Clbhse
Grounds – Megan Trow & Virginia Ferguson, Co-Chairs	Maintenance/Repair/Paving – TBD	Architectural – TBD	Emergency Prep – Aline Autenrieth
April 8, 2025-6:00p - Clubhouse	Paving project begins!	Meets as needed-contact Chair	April 1, 2025-7:00p -Clubhouse
May 13, 2025-6:00p - Clubhouse	Meets as needed-contact Chair	TBD	We'll meet quarterly unless
June 10, 2025-6:00p - Clubhouse	TBD		needed and called sooner

We hope you will join these meetings to share your concerns and views, and become more involved in our community. Please come join us! 🌲

Social Activities: Thirsty Thursday – Thirsty Thursdays are BACK!!! The clubhouse is reserved every Thursday 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm for this fun gathering. Bring your own drink and an appetizer to share. 🌲



Our Battlecreek Commons Community Garden Is Alive and Well

It's time to plan our garden for the 2025 season. For those of you already part of the Common Grounds Gardeners, it will be an exciting time to get back to the garden. Time to plant cold weather crops like broccoli, peas, garlic, shallots, cabbage, and spinach.

For those of you who are new to Battlecreek or are long-time neighbors wanting to grow your own organic veggies and fruits, getting a protected raised bed box with lots of sun and meeting friends in the garden is an experience you don't want to miss.



Let's spread the word to new neighbors and friends who might be interested! Please consider joining us and here's why. We have direct connections with nurseries and businesses who sell soil and plants. We are getting planting advice from experts--we are very fortunate to have a Master Gardener on our Grounds Committee. We also have met with MACO Master Gardeners who have suggested lots of tips and offered to come back and meet with us again. We also take turns watering and can help members who go on vacation!!

We are on target for a successful 2025. Please contact Megan Trow if you are interested in being part of this year's garden -- this includes all those who took part last year.

Letting me know if you are IN or not able to join us this year will help me keep the information sharing up to date. Thank you!!

We have open boxes and tons of ideas to make this a fun, community-building activity. We will start by cleaning up our area and adding new soil and plants to our boxes.

And — rumor has it that realtors are using our Community Garden as a marketing tool!!

Garden Update: Several gardeners spent March 1st doing a clean-up of the Garden, with Tom Elliott, Sue Harris, Sharon Grassetth, Bob Mason, Lynn Davis, Mike Stapleton, and Megan Trow tackling the winter's leftovers.

Let's continue to enhance our community image and property values --- and keep Common Grounds going strong!

Interested in our COMMUNITY GARDEN? Contact Megan at 503-881-8237 🌲



Time to clean up weeds and winter mess!

REMINDER that all residents of BCC are responsible for the area immediately around your home inside the mow-strip (the 3' area generally marked off by some kind of divider). It's amazing how quickly weeds, dead leaves and general junk can build up. The Grounds Committee members will be walking the property and leaving reminders for homeowners who have let their area get a bit messy. Take advantage of the coming warmer days and make your space a credit to the overall beauty of BCC. That's one of the things we all appreciate about our little corner of the world – Do your part to keep BCC lovely!

Grounds Committee 🌲



*“If you love somebody, let them go...
If they come back with tacos, it's meant to be.”*

VOLES MAKE HOLES, MOLES MAKE MOUNDS



That was the first lesson learned when consulting a professional critter controller in early March. If you walk the path next to the City Park, you might have noticed a whole lot of 3” holes in the grass on our side of the walkway this spring. Voles, a cousin to a field mouse, burrows under the grass and leaves openings that are very obvious. The grass on top of the tunnels gets spongy and can fall into the tunnels. There are other places on BCC grounds where vole activity is showing up, so be careful as you walk across the grass anywhere on the property. No messed up ankles needed!!

Moles (and gophers) are migrating from the park onto BCC grounds as well, obvious from the mounds of dirt they throw up. They will start getting active as the weather warms. Your BCC Board is looking at ways to mitigate the damage these rodents cause and will determine how best to proceed to get ahead of the problem and maybe avoid unsightly vole holes and mole mounds this year. Virginia Ferguson 🌱

Committee Members Needed!

Several (Most!) Committees are in need of both members and leadership! Here’s your opportunity to share your gifts and get involved in our great community!

Finance Committee is in need of more members and also a Chair.

Neighborhood Watch is in need of a Chair and more members (you can always start with a committee as a member (not just being the chair!!))

Maintenance/Repair/Paving needs members and a Chair

Architectural is down to one member! So please join and get involved in keeping BCC beautiful!

And of course, **Grounds, Planning and Projects**, and **Emergency Preparedness** all would be delighted with more members! If you are interested in learning more about these committees you can find more information by reviewing the Committee Charters. 🌱



BCC Board and Committee Charters



Are You Ready for The Unexpected?? (from Emergency Preparedness Committee)

Unexpected does not have to mean unprepared. **It is only a Crisis if you are not Prepared! Remain Calm and Be Prepared!!!**
An Emergency is The Absence of Choice....

Disclaimer: Please remember information shared here are ideas and suggestions presented for your consideration and are not recommendations by the BCC Board of Directors.

As we mark the 5-year anniversary of the COVID pandemic, the virus continues to affect some people. So perhaps getting another vaccine shot is a good idea. Semi-annually is a good rule of thumb, although advice says it is okay to get an additional shot as close as two months following the last shot. Point of interest: *As of mid-March only 23% of adults in the US have received an updated COVID vaccine.* (PBS News Hour)



!! Items of the Month !! It is always good to keep track of the expiration dates on your water and food. These items do need to be cycled back into your household supply and replaced in your emergency kit. Once you’ve done that, having a “toilet” type item is a great thing to have in your kit. You can just get a 5-gallon bucket, some big plastic bags, and kitty litter to use as an emergency toilet. The rim of such a bucket can be harsh on your bum so getting a pool noodle and putting a slice in it can help with this discomfort. OR you can just get a “Luggable Loo” with a nice seat and lid attached. These are around \$22 at REI, Dick’s Sporting Goods, Camping World, or Cabela’s to name a few places. Also, you can actually get just the seat and lid attachment from the same places for around \$16. While you’re at it, maybe get two (2) buckets. One for #1 and one for #2! 🌱



PLEASE send in your Emergency Prep Information Form to Mary Schroeder.
(If you need another one contact Mary at felines@comcast.net!!!!)

Our next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, April 1 at 7:00 PM in the clubhouse.** Emergency Preparedness meets the **1st Tuesday of each quarter (April 1) at 7:00 pm** in the Clubhouse unless called sooner to which **ALL are welcome!** Please contact one of us if you wish to join the meeting, have questions, or something to contribute. Stay healthy, happy, and safe!! 🌱



“I’m at an age where getting a “pull through” parking spot gives me more joy than it should.”

Finders Keepers!

The NEW Rock Hider continues to hide these beautiful rocks with crocheted coverings. So, go out there and find them!! They are placed around the beginning of the month!! We Love It, whoever you are and **thank you very much** for this very fun activity!! So search on, everybody!! 🌲



BCC CONCERTS



On Sunday, April 6th, 2:00 – 5:00 pm Nate Botsford will visit again playing for us his rock hybrid style.

Upcoming concert schedule:
Stay tuned!!

Bring a snack to share and a beverage of your choice and enjoy an afternoon of music with your friends and neighbors. Some cushions are available to make the folding chairs more comfortable. The recommended donation to the artist is \$15 per adult. Call/text Sharon Grasseh to reserve seats for you and your guests – 503-559-8414, sharrose47@yahoo.com 🌲

Contributors to this month’s Newsletter: Chris Stewart, Virginia Ferguson, Megan Trow, Crocheting Rock Hider, Sharon Grasseh, and me!,-Aline Autenrieth. 🌲



“No matter what happens, pizza will always be there for you. Thick and thin, in crust we trust.”

Do you have something to share with the community? The Newsletter is a good place to get out the word. Write it up and send it to me (aautenrieth@juno.com). Please send the article rather than just the idea! Articles should be from 100 words to 600 words. We reserve the right to edit all submissions. Microsoft Word compatible is desired. PDF files are more difficult! **DEADLINE: 10th of the month, please!** 🌲

If you have a recipe or several you would like to share, please send them to me – always searching for good contributions!! Thanks!

Recipe Corner!

Lavender Tea Bread



Ingredients

- ¾ cup milk
- 3 tablespoons finely chopped fresh lavender
- 6 tablespoons butter, softened
- 1 cup white sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 ½ teaspoons baking powder
- ¼ teaspoon salt

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 325 degrees F. Grease and flour a 9x5 inch loaf pan.
2. Combine the milk and lavender in a small saucepan over medium heat. Heat to a simmer, then remove from heat, and allow to cool slightly.
3. In a medium bowl, cream together the butter and sugar until smooth. Beat in the egg until the mixture is light and fluffy. Add lemon juice. Combine the flour, baking powder, and salt; stir into the creamed mixture alternately with the milk and lavender until just blended. Pour into the prepared pan.
4. Bake for 50 minutes in the preheated oven, or until a wooden pick inserted into the crown of the loaf comes out clean. Cool in the pan on a wire rack. Try it with fresh strawberries slices on top. 🌸



BCC Office Hours
Monday thru Friday (except holidays):
10:00 am - 3:30 pm
 NOTE: The office will be closed for holidays on
 May 26, July 4, Sep 1
 Nov 27, Dec 25

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