

NEWSLETTER

National Night Out October 3

Fun, Fellowship, and Food on Gentry Street at 5:00 PM

National Night Out (NNO) is an annual event sponsored by the BVA and the City of Spartanburg. Originally scheduled for August, the event was moved to the first Tuesday in October because of the heat. 17 neighborhoods are participating. Come for fun, food & prizes. There will also be opportunities to join the Association and sign up to be interviewed for an oral history project.

Membership Drive Kick-off

Join in October and get 3 months free

The Beaumont Village Association is on track for significant growth and reorganization to truly become the Voice of the Village. Attendance and membership is growing, but we need more participation to plan and follow through on events and initiatives.

Memberships are available at NNO and at meetings— next meeting is October 5, 6:30 PM at Beaumont UMC — or fill out and mail the application on page 3.

Members must be at least 18 years of age and live or own property in Beaumont Village. There is a 3-month membership requirement to vote. **Friends of the Village** support the Association financially and can participate in activities but may not vote. **Household memberships** include two or more voting adults. Memberships are for the calendar year starting January 1. Support the Association by becoming a **Life Member** for \$125.

There has been some confusion and misinformation about the Association and the Beaumont Historical Guidelines. The *City* established the historic district in 2011 and is responsible for enforcing building codes, including the guidelines. The BVA is helping to open discussion soon on possibly revising the guidelines with a new round of resident input— the City is listening and now is a very good time to join.

Other initiatives include an oral history project. We need your input and help.

For more about our goals see page 4.

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BEAUMONT VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

is published once a month, on or around the 20th, after the regular meeting of the Association (first Thursday of the month, Beaumont United Methodist Church, 6:30 pm) and is distributed free to members and anyone who requests it via email at mgkimple@yahoo.com. For home delivery call 585-6465.

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Dues: \$12 per year for
individuals, \$20 per household.
Life Membership \$125



IN THE WORKS...*News & Notes*

- Meeting attendance and membership has been picking up, and we have had some good discussion, although our Thursday meetings are primarily for the police report. We are still not where we would like to be. Are we on the right track? What should the BVA look and feel like? **We need your input and help in determining our direction and getting it done. Join today!**
- Gentry Street will be blocked off from Maywood for NNO- if you are driving please park on the street further down and leave room for those who may need handicapped access.
- No **Java with Joe** in September; everyone is busy with preparations for National Night Out.
- **(Volunteer) Help Wanted: Membership Coordinator** - greet new residents & invite them to join, hand out new member packets & cards, recruit & coordinate teams to survey the village and sign up new members; clerical help available. **Interviewers for oral history project:** interview residents & others who have already indicated an interest in being interviewed about Beaumont's history; training provided. We could also use a **coordinator** for this project. Call Marilyn, 585-6465.
- By this time next month we will have our own website! We are still in need of a physical "home," but we will be on the web, and also have a Facebook page. In the meantime **we now have an email address**, bvaspartanburg@gmail.com.
- **Spartanburg City Council** meets the 2nd & 4th Mondays at 5:30 PM.
- The City is partnering with a group from Clemson to work on a number of issues which effect Beaumont and other neighborhoods. They will be looking for our input.
- **Recycling** is picked up the 2nd & 4th Mondays of the month.
- **You can contact our Police Public Safety Officer Chris Banks** at 279-2063 (c) 8am-5pm, M-F. **If you have an emergency, call 911. Remember: if in doubt, go ahead and call.** There is also a new Police Department Crime Tipline number you can call (864-574-0000), or you can email citycrime@cityofspartanburg.org.

Calendar

October 3, 2017

National Night Out. Sponsored by the Police Department & the Association. Games for all ages, food, music! 5:00 - 7:00 PM

October 5, 2017

Beaumont Village Association; 6:30 PM, Police Report. Beaumont United Methodist Church, North Liberty Street, Spartanburg SC

October 28, 2017

Java with Joe; 10:00 AM, place to be announced. Come for coffee & conversation.

October 31, 2017

Halloween Parade & Trunk or Treat; for kids & pets. North Liberty Street. Also Beaumont UMC's annual hotdog sale.

November 2, 2017

Beaumont Village Association; 6:30 PM, Police Report. Beaumont United Methodist Church, North Liberty Street, Spartanburg SC

November 7, 2017

General Election, Spartanburg City & County



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Editorial: We care about our history

If you mention Beaumont Mill Village you are likely to hear the story of how things used to be, or about someone who grew up here. Or maybe stories of growing up in other mill villages.

When we had Beaumont’s 125th anniversary celebration in 2015, I was dismayed to discover that Beaumont’s history has not been recorded for future generations. Except for Betsy Teter’s excellent anthology, *Textile Town: Spartanburg County, South Carolina*, published in 2002, there is no published history of Beaumont and no photo archive at the library. Carroll Wright, who grew up here and passed away last year, had collected significant information and Susan Billings did some work for the Beaumont UMC 100th anniversary and for a class at Converse, but that is it; nothing has been published. We need to record our history before it is too late!

So let’s do it: an initiative of the BVA. I know for a fact there are lots of you out there who would love to be interviewed as an oral history project. (Every time someone starts telling me their story, I want to say, *wait, wait, we need to get this down!*) I also know for a fact that we need BVA members who will organize and actually do the interviews and scan the photos. Do it for your kids! Call me at 585-6465, or use our new email address: bvaspartanburg@gmail.org — mgk

Changes in Chinquapin

Brad Steineke, Archivist at the county library, came across this article in the August 1, 1902 copy of Freelance, one of a number of newspapers printed in Spartanburg at that time. He was kind enough to share it with us.

I was out driving yesterday afternoon and happened to pass near Beaumont mill and the electric power house. I’ll declare it was hard for me to realize that I was down once more by Chinquapin creek where I used to fish so often for minnows and catch so few and so short! Gentry’s pasture is now cut in two and Vass’s meadow can scarcely be recognized—all this as the result of the “industrial growth of the city,”

All the fond memories clustering about the happy days of my youth are bound up with ChinquapinHow often have we, tired and hot, cooled ourselves under those spreading poplar trees and drunk out of the cold spring just at hand. Who can ever forget the freshet which one year flooded the railroad embankment on each side and washed away the track?

And now— on one side is Beaumont, a popular manufacturing village, and on the other, the city power house, electric light and gas plant with Oakland avenue leading over the hills to Main street ... Oh, of course, all of us believe in business push, and progressive spirit, but it does take all the poetry out of life...

Membership Categories:

- Individual \$12
- Household \$20
- Life \$125
- Additional Donation _____

Total enclosed _____

Check # _____

I am a

- resident/owner
- resident/renter
- landlord/owner
- Friend of the Village

Name(s) [please print]

Address

City/State/Zip

Preferred Phone

Email Address

Beaumont Address (if different from above)



Please make checks payable to BEAUMONT VILLAGE ASSOCIATION and mail to: PO Box 771, Drayton SC 29333.

Your membership and contributions are tax deductible. Contact us at 864-585-6465.

Thank You!

Proposed By-Law Changes

This proposal has been submitted to and recommended by the executive committee. It must now be read at one regular meeting (Oct. 5) and voted upon for adoption or rejection at the following meeting (Nov. 2). It must pass with 55% of the members present. (Article V, Section 5) Is is published in the newsletter for your convenience.

Article IV Membership and Dues

Section 3 A

Dues of \$12.00 per individual or \$20.00 per household for the fiscal year are payable January 1 [beginning of fiscal year]. ~~If a member chooses, the dues may be paid on a monthly basis at the meeting each month.~~

note: this provision is obsolete and would complicate the process for the treasurer and membership coordinator.

Section 3C

~~For members joining after the first month of the fiscal year, dues shall be prorated accordingly.~~
New members who join during the year will pay the full annual dues, in the interest of simplified bookkeeping and helping to defray membership expenses.

note: pro-rating dues complicates the process, both for new members and for the treasurer. We want printed literature to be clear, and pro-rated fees are complicated to explain. We do not want to confuse new members, and it is hardly worth it since dues are so low. In the past we have offered new members extra months if they join late in the year, and if this happens members who have joined within the last 6 months or so may be offered a rebate on their next year's dues if desired.

Our goals, as listed in the by-laws.
This is your village- join and get involved *TODAY!*

