



BIRCHWOOD-CLEARVIEW

NEWSLETTER

"A Community That Cares" FEBRUARY 2025 EDITION

Published by Birchwood City-Clearview Community Association, Inc., (BCCA)
P.O. Box 7, Oxon Hill, MD 20745

Website: www.welcometobcca.org Email: birchwood.clearview@gmail.com

Social media: [Follow us on Instagram](#) and [friend us Facebook](#)



COMMUNITY CONTACT INFORMATION

- **Prince George's County Police: For Emergency dial 911, non-emergency, dial 301-352-1200.**
 - **Request services from Prince George's County: dial 311 or download the mobile Apps PGC311 at https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.connectedbits.connectedcounty311&hl=en_US&gl=US**
 - **Use of Birchwood Park Building – [Dial 301-699-2255](tel:3016992255)**
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***Police Officer J. Umana #4318, Oxon Hill Division (IV)
Community Engagement Unit (CEU)
Prince George's County Police Department
Station: (301)749-4901, Work: (240)962-1357
E-mail: jaumana@co.pg.md.us***



UPCOMINGEVENTS

January and February Community-Wide Meetings are cancelled.

Join us in-person on Thursday, March 20, 2025, for the next Community-Wide Meeting at 7pm at 1331 Fenwood Avenue, (if via Zoom, the link will be emailed and listed on BCCA website www.welcometobcca.org).

In our previous meetings, we have been working to identify challenges in our community by using the Fishbone Problem Solving tool. One Priority Action has been identified and assigned action items has been listed on the Action Registry for your review. The Action Registry and April Minutes of Fishbone Problem Solving Method is listed on our website link: [2024 BCCA ACTION REGISTRY - Birchwood Clearview Community Association in Oxon Hill, MD](#).

Please join us, voice your opinions on things you like and don't like about the community and help us continue to enhance our community and make it even better for all of us.

BCCA is seeking a Spanish/English speaking interpreter to volunteer to attend our monthly meeting to translate English to Spanish and vice-a-versa when needed. For further information, please contact Sylvia Griffin, BCCA President, Text or call 240-460-2342, if you are available. Thank you!

- **Health and Wellness Line Dancing Class – Wednesdays – 12 – 2pm –**
Come out and enjoy line dance instructor Mary Coleman and the Birchwood line dancers as they learn a dance and grove to the music. Stay fit, stay active and live well!
- **Fitness in the Park - Saturdays @ 9am -** Fitness at Birchwood Park with Planet Fitness Coach, Will Chambers, **will be held on Zoom for the winter months. Join us on Zoom in the comfort of your home.**
Join Zoom Meeting - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86822318584> - Meeting ID: 868 2231 8584



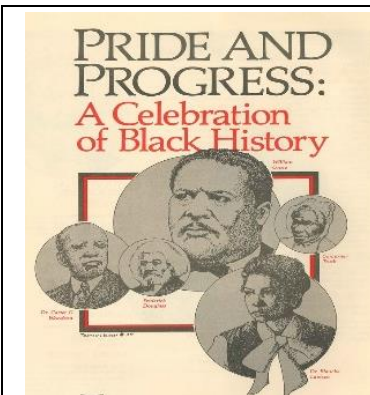
BCCA is looking for **VOLUNTEERS** (18 years and older) to fill committee chair vacancies as well as to serve on various committees.

If you have been asking yourself...how can I serve my community? Ask no longer, we have something for you to do. Contact Veda via email h15642vad@hotmail.com.

Join a Committee Today! – Just 1 hour (per week or month) of volunteer services will go a long way! **Calling all Youth to serve as well or earn Community Service.**

Committees include: Membership; Recreation/Youth; Publicity; Education; Ways and Means; Beautification; Hospitality; Communication; Community Services; Legislation; Diversity; and Event Planning.

From the Desk of BCCA President, Sylvia Griffin



Celebrating Black History Month

There have been a lot of uncertainties the country is face with right now. However, as a people and community, we have all been resilient to the many challenges we have faced. One way we can do is to continue to honor the legacies and embrace the future.

As the month of February unfolds, still many people and communities across the nation come together to celebrate Black History Month, in honoring the many achievements and contributions, and the resilience of Black individuals throughout history. This annual observance serves as a reminder of the ongoing struggles for equality, as well as the remarkable progress that has been made.

This month should not only be the time to reflect on the past, but it is also a call to action for our future across this country by events, different panels, and educational initiatives, focusing on amplifying our voices, the continuation of addressing the systemic inequalities, a time to come together for unity and not allow anyone to silence our voices or be dismissive of our legacies and contributions that was made to this country.

We as a people and community need to make our voices heard on all levels such as to the Education system to incorporate more inclusive curricula on Black History, get businesses more involve, investing in Black businesses, supporting entrepreneurship and leadership which is a tangible way to contribute to economic EMPOWERMENT. Let us as a community continue to advocate for change in supporting those policies that promote racial equity to ensure that the fight for justice continues.

Birchwood/Clearview, as we celebrate Black History Month, let us recognize that Black History is American History. It is time to honor the past, acknowledge the present, and work toward a more inclusive and equitable future for all.

From the BCCA Community Services Committee Chair, Lucy Hall



Black History Events Near Our Community

“I Want To Write Workshop”- Presented by Author and Creative Writing Coach, Marita Golden



Saturday, February 22: 11:30am - 12:30pm

Oxon Hill Library - Lecture Hall - 6200 Oxon Hill Rd, Oxon Hill, MD 20745

AGE GROUP: ADULTS

EVENT TYPE: BLACK HERITAGE AUTHOR

VISIT. Join us for an inspiring workshop designed for writers of all levels! In this session, we will explore effective techniques and tools to help you conquer your fears of writing and break free from self-censorship. Together, we'll discuss strategies to initiate and maintain a fulfilling writing practice while tapping into the depths of your imagination and memories. To Register: Call the Library at 240-455-5451

Family Game Night: Black History Trivia - Held in the Children's Department - Tuesday, February 25: 5:00pm - 6:00pm, Oxon Hill Library

Age Groups: Teens (13-18yrs), Elementary (5-12 yrs), and Adults

Event Type: Chess/Games/Gaming Black Heritage - Test your knowledge of Black History in a fun, engaging environment.

To Register: Call the Library at 240-455-5451.

National Museum of African American History and Culture

1400 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, D.C.

Since we live in the DMV area, let's make sure we along with any young family member tour the Museum of African American History and Culture. There is so much to see and learn. Every level has various exhibits ranging from slavery through the Civil Rights Movement and beyond, including the interactive "Musical Crossroads" exhibit. The museum is free to visit, but you have to reserve your time zone. Please click on <https://www.etix.com/ticket/e/1018702/> to reserve your tickets.

From the BCCA Beautification Chair, Betty Woods



Good friends and neighbors,

I hope you're all well and enjoying life, which is a precious gift given to us by an awesome and great God! As I reflect on life, I think about the beauty in the way God designed the four seasons. Each one is unique and distinct and each works together to bring life and growth. **Spring** brings freshness and new life. **Summer** graces us with growth and productivity. **Autumn** gives us the rewards of our labor through harvesting. Then **winter** comes along and brings

dormancy and closure. This is a time to refuel, relax and reflect before the cycle starts again. Each season has its own unique beauty and makes a significant contribution in life.

We have different seasons in our lives just as there are different seasons in nature. As we embrace each season, let's work diligently to build relationships as well as being a "good" neighbor. This is the season to be friendly, stress less and smile more. Let's take that extra step and reach out with a helping hand. While life has uncertainty and probably rough roads ahead. Remember that we, as a community, can overcome obstacles and problems if we work together.

To start this process in this circle of unity:

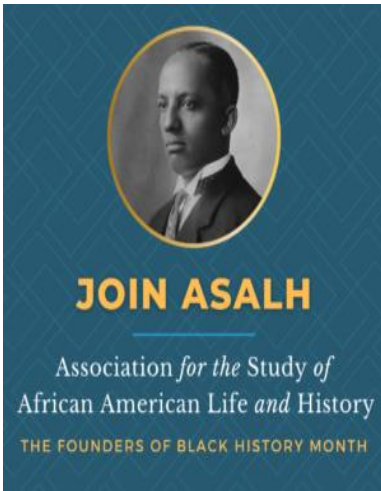
- pay your membership dues because this promotes growth and helps to bring programs and resources into the community that everyone can benefit from.
- Then, let's go a step farther, come out to the meetings and get involved. You are the missing link to making this a productive and dynamic community.
- Finally, care...in God's design for our lives He has equipped us to be a great people...charity begins at home (our community). Let's all dare to be great!

We can do this. Ecclesiastes 3:1

From BCCA Publicity Committee Chair, Veda Dixon



The "Good News" Segment! This is where we share and feature your "Good News"! We hope the "Good News" will inspire, encourage, and give our readers "food for thought." With that said, **please send me any "Good News" you would like to share, the first Monday of each month via email H15642vad@hotmail.com.**



HAPPY BLACK HISTORY MONTH!

According to Wikipedia, “**Carter Godwin Woodson (December 19, 1875 – April 3, 1950)** was an American historian, author, journalist, and the founder of the [Association for the Study of African American Life and History](#) (ASALH). He was one of the first scholars to study the history of the [African diaspora](#), including [African-American history](#). A founder of [The Journal of Negro History](#) in 1916, Woodson has been called the “father of black history.””(1)

Woodson established **Negro History Week** in 1926; now, Black History Month. By providing a theme of focus to the public, he wanted to display the important exploration of the Black experience, its contributions and important developments that merited attention.

Over the years, the themes reflect changes in how people of African descent in the United States have viewed themselves, the influence of social movements on racial ideologies, and the aspirations of the black community. (2)

To see more Black History inventors, click on this link: [Bing Videos](#)

- 1) [Carter G. Woodson - Wikipedia](#)
- 2) [ASALH - The Founders of Black History Month | BLACK HISTORY THEMES](#)



*“HAPPY BIRTHDAY” TO ALL
WHO ARE CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY
THIS MONTH!*

*May your day be blessed and filled
with joy and laughter!*

From BCCA Membership Committee Chair, *Gloria Hernandez Saunders*

BCCA MEMBERSHIP FORM



**Birchwood City-Clearview Manor
Community Association, Inc.,
Oxon Hill, MD 20745 (BCCA)**

**BCCA 2024 Membership Drive
(January-December)**

Annual Membership Fee: \$25.00 per household

BCCA's Mission is to enhance the quality of life for residents of the Birchwood City-Clearview Manor Community. This is accomplished through community volunteers and membership dues from residents.

Benefits Derived From Membership Dues Include: Scholarships to further education; Family Community Day, Breakfast with Santa, back-to-school supplies, etc.; newsletter printing & distribution to keep residents updated on pertinent information; County-wide Clean-up projects and tree planting; construction of and upkeep of the walking trail, tennis and basketball courts, the pavilion, and the upcoming new playground at Birchwood Park; and much, much more.

Please complete this Membership Form and mail it with your check/money order payable to BCCA. Mail to: BCCA, P.O. Box 7, Oxon Hill, MD 20745-0007, Attn: Mrs. Hernandez Saunders, Membership Chair.

OR pay your membership dues via **Zelle**: Login to your bank app, send money using Zelle. Search for BCCA's Treasurer, Percell Walker's, email: Percellwalker@verizon.net - BIRCHWOOD CITY COMMUNITY ASSOC., **OR** use **CashApp** - \$birchwoodBCCA (Percellwalker@verizon.net)

NOTE: If you use Zelle or CashApp, Be sure to complete this form and email it to Mrs. Hernandez Saunders at army320@verizon.net

DATE _____

Name(s) of Residents _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ **E-mail** _____

Membership Dues\$___ **Scholarship Donation**\$___ **General Donation**\$___ **Total** \$___

Would you like to volunteer in any of these areas? Membership Recreation/Youth
 Publicity Education Ways and means Beautification Hospitality Communication
 Community Services Legislation Diversity Event Planning