

MARCH 2016

HOLLIN HILLS BULLETIN



COUNTING DOWN TO THE HOUSE & GARDEN TOUR

The 2016 Hollin Hills House & Garden Tour is quickly approaching and will take place on Saturday, April 30—rain or shine! Here's how you can participate:

Take a preview peak at our innovative brochure

Our committee has been working hard to put things in place for what promises to be a spectacular event. As part of our advertising campaign, we have been taking photos of all the homes on this 2016 tour and have called the best of hundreds of images to select those for this year's brochure. The artwork will focus on outside views taken from inside the homes, capturing the seamlessness of the natural landscape. For a sneak peak, go to our Hollin Hills Facebook page. And while you're online, purchase your ticket through our website, www.hollinhills.net.

Start with an informative mid-century modern evening

To kick-off the tour, we invite you to join us on the evening of Thursday, April 21, at Room & Board in downtown DC.

Room & Board, one of our major sponsors, will be hosting a mid-century modern inspired event featuring author Heidi Creighton, who has just released a richly illustrated book entitled, *William Krisel's Palm Springs: The Language of Modernism*. Krisel's modern architecture can be found throughout Southern California and Palm Springs. His use of glass, butterfly roofs, and natural light will be familiar to all Hollin Hills residents. We look forward to seeing you that evening at the Room & Board showroom, 1840 14th Street NW.

Take an active role in the tour

Finally, our committee is looking for volunteers to help with docent and registration duties. Please consider giving us two hours of your time. This will leave you with plenty of time to visit the homes on the tour.

—Tyger Latham & Barbara Ward
Co-Chairs 2016 Hollin Hills House and Garden Tour

NOW THERE'S AN ONLINE 'FINDING AID' FOR OUR HH ARCHIVES



Thank you, Yvonne Carignan

You probably don't know that name, but it has meaning for our community, so please read on. Yvonne Carignan (at left) has retired as Head, Special Collections and Archives at the Special Collections Research Center, Fenwick Library, George Mason University. We would like to use that occasion to honor

her for her contributions to Hollin Hills.

Hollin Hillers through the years have appreciated the unique nature of the community and have been very good at saving documentation of its history – photos, meeting minutes, Bulletins, etc. Some of these “trace elements” were captured with the publication of the Hollin Hills 50th anniversary book, but even more were stored in boxes and filing cabinets in neighbors' homes. Most were eventually given to the community archives kept by Judy Riggan.

We looked at public and private institutions that might offer professional archiving of the community's materials, and luckily stumbled on a “planned community” collection at George Mason's library. A hopeful phone call reached Yvonne Carignan, who was already familiar with our community through friends living here.

Her enthusiasm for adding Hollin Hills' archival materials as the second “planned community” included in the GMU archive (Reston having been the first) made our subsequent efforts almost effortless. Once sorted, over forty boxes of materials were transported to GMU's Fenwick Library. Over the past two years, thanks largely to money contributed by Hollin Hillers that funded additional part-time library staff, the collection has been fully processed and catalogued. Check out this online “finding aid” that describes the entire 36.5 linear feet of the Hollin Hills collection: http://sca.gmu.edu/finding_aids/hollin_hills.html.

Judy Riggan still compiles historic materials to take to GMU; contact her at riginjm@verizon.net or 703-765-3025 if you are storing such items. On-going financial contributions by Hollin Hillers will enable digitizing of major sections of the HH collection, such as newsletters, media items, and the community's organization documents, so they can be seen online in the future. Yvonne Carignan guided all these efforts to enhance the HH archives.

The library is now searching for Yvonne's replacement, and we will invite that person to visit during the 2016 House & Garden Tour. Hopefully, the new archivist will share some of Yvonne's enthusiasm for the specialness of Hollin Hills.

—Scott Wilson and Judy Riggan

CIVIC ASSOCIATION OF HOLLIN HILLS (CAHH)

CAHH OFFICERS

President	Gus Matson	768-3797
Vice-President	Chris McNamara	660-9536
Treasurer	Susan Kuhbach	768-8154
Secretary	Barbara Southworth	721-0734
Membership	Linda Benson	312-907-1797

DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE

Pool	Laura Kistler	768-4161
MVCCA	Michael Plotnik	660-6272
Social	Susmita Dastidar	660-5938
Parks	Bob Kinzer	768-4048

CAHH COMMITTEES

ARCHIVIST	Judy Riggin	765-3025
Historian	Scott Wilson	765-4471

(Also see Hollin Hills Archives below)

DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC)

Chair	Frank Collins	660-6525
Members	John Burns	660-9763
	Christine Kelly	768-2497
	Roger Miller	768-2095
	Ken Wilson	768-5838

CAHH-DRC Liaison	Chris McNamara	660-9536
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HOLLIN HILLS POOL COMMITTEE

Chair	Barbara Bogue	571-257-9313
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PARKS COMMITTEE

Chair	Open
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HOLLIN HILLS BULLETIN

Published monthly since 1951 by the CAHH. The material in this publication does not necessarily reflect the opinions of the CAHH Board or the editor.

Editor	Barbara Shear	660-6543
Editorial Assistance	Andrew Keegan	660-1004

Deadline is the 15th of the preceding month.

Articles generally should not exceed 500 words. Send your submission in the body of an email or as an attachment to barbshear@verizon.net.

If you cannot produce computerized copy, please find someone to submit it for you. As a last resort, type or print it clearly, leave in basket to right of front door, 1820 Drury Lane, and inform editor at 703-660-6543.

No material will be accepted over the telephone.

Distribution: To replace a missing paper *Bulletin*, contact Eleanor Fina, 703-768-3174. To correct/change address, contact Betsy Damitz, 703-721-2002.

HOLLIN HILLS ARCHIVES

The Hollin Hills Archives are part of the Special Collections and Archives of George Mason University. To contact the SC&A staff with research questions, use the following:

- For a general description of the Hollin Hills archives contents, go to http://sca.gmu.edu/finding_aids/hollinhills.html.
- For questions about collections, hours, usage, duplications, or directions go to http://sca.gmu.edu/using_sc&a.html.
- Other contacts: phone 703-993-2220, fax inquiries 703-993-8911, email speccoll@gmu.edu.

WWW.HOLLINHILLS.NET

Calendar of community events and information about our parks, the Design Review Committee, the National Historic Registry, and more.



In Memoriam EASON CROSS

As an associate architect with Charles M. Goodman Associates, Eason Cross was one of the lead designers of Hollin Hills, which gained a National Register of

Historic Places national historic district designation in 2013.

Cross, who studied under Bauhaus founder Walter Gropius at the Harvard School of Design, was a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and a prominent architect in the Washington area for more than a half-century. As president of the Northern Virginia Chapter of the AIA in the early 1980s, he successfully fought proposed VA state legislation that would have endangered the public by allowing individuals without architectural or engineering training to design commercial buildings, an accomplishment for which the VA Society of the AIA presented him with the Noland Prize, its highest honor. His architectural work garnered a wide range of design awards, including an AIA National Honor Award in 1968 and an AIA Middle Atlantic Region Honor Award in 1967. Cross's early interest in energy-efficient buildings led to the Virginia Society AIA Energy Award in 1980 and the Virginia Passive Solar Residential Design Competition in 1981.

A modernist, Cross's architectural legacy comprises elegantly functional public buildings, such as the Pohick Regional Library and the award-winning Washington and Lee Gymnasium; dramatic custom homes; and residential communities designed around their natural settings, such as Bethesda's Wynkoop development.

Cross moved into Hollin Hills in 1956 and was an active member of the community for over 60 years, serving on the Design Review Committee for decades and as president of the Hollin Hills Civic Association in 1978. While president, Cross wrote a series of seven articles in the *Bulletin* to educate the second generation of homeowners about the architectural significance of the dwellings they occupied. His contributions toward solidifying Hollin Hills' architectural legacy continued over the years. In a 1980 AIA Journal article, "Hollin Hills: A Postwar Pioneer Reaches 30," Cross placed the community into historical context in the architectural literature and, twenty years later, revisited the subject in interviews featured on the National Building Museum's "The Charles Goodman Project" website and in "Goodman and Davenport: Visionary Partners," his contribution to the Civic Association's Semicentennial History book.

Cross died on January 28, 2016, at the Greenspring Retirement Community in Springfield, Virginia, of complications following a stroke. He had moved to Greenspring from Hollin Hills in 2013. He was predeceased by his wife of 64 years, Diana Johnson Cross, and is survived by his four children, Ben, Becca, Amy, and Susan—all of whom grew up in Hollin Hills; and five grandchildren.

A memorial service is planned on April 30, at the Mt. Vernon Unitarian Church, where Cross served as a trustee from 1968-1979 and sang in the choir.



Above: Eason Cross in front of the Pohick Library, which he designed.

Right: The Cross family in their Hollin Hills house that was featured in a Life Magazine story in the early 60s.

Quick Takes

WELCOME

Work brought Peter and Kendra Pasciucco from Charlotte, NC, to the Washington DC area in the summer of 2014. Unsure of where to settle down, they rented in Alexandria for a little over a year and scouted out different neighborhoods in their free time. Peter's mother sent them a listing for a house in Hollin Hills last March. After taking a ride through Hollin Hills, they knew they would soon call it home.

Peter and Kendra (along with their two small dogs) moved into 2111 Whiteoaks Drive in November. Peter is from West Hartford, CT, and works for Fairfax County. Kendra hails from Prince Edward Island, Canada, and is a Vice President at MetLife Investors Distribution. Contacts: Peter: 860-819-1915, sciuccs@yahoo.com; Kendra: 508-340-1503, kendrapasciucco@gmail.com —*Susie Cohen*

JOIN OR RENEW - IT'S POOL MEMBERSHIP SEASON

Winter has made us wish for summer afternoons at Hollin Hills Pool—swimming laps, relaxing with a good read, meeting members at events, stopping by the food trucks, or cheering the Bluefish.

It can all be yours on opening day, May 28! If you are already a member, watch your email inbox for your renewal form. New residents of Hollin Hills, contact us at admin@hhpool.org to request a membership application. Non-HH residents may also apply and are added to a wait list that is about two seasons long. All HH residents who are active CAHH members are guaranteed membership if they apply early enough.

To guarantee your membership, send your form back by May 1. (If you are a Hollin Hills resident and intend to join, please do so early so that we know how many spots are open for applicants outside the neighborhood.)

Go to <http://www.hollinhills.net/pool/> for more information and to see the 2016 brochure. Looking forward to seeing you at the *pool this summer!*

—*Marielle Reading, Membership Director, Barbara Bogue, Pool Chair*

ON THE ALERT FOR IRS SCAMS

As tax season approaches, it is a good time for a reminder from Robert Wade, my accountant-neighbor-friend, who confirms that legitimate IRS communications always come in the form of letters—NEVER phone calls. Last week I picked up the phone for a 202 area code call and was told that I was being sued by the IRS for \$6,500 due to audits having found unpaid taxes. Furthermore, the caller added, I'd be arrested and jailed if I didn't pay up immediately. Smelling a rat, I laughed and hung up, then reported the event to Bob Wade. He asked me to follow up with a Google search on the phone number, which I did, finding the call came from McLean, VA, and was associated with many scam IRS calls. AARP advises not to even pick up the receiver if you don't recognize the caller. Useful information on charitable organizations can be found at www.charitynavigator.org.

—*Jo Ann Hersh*

IKEBANA AT THE TORPEDO FACTORY

Ikebana is the ancient Japanese art of flower arranging. Many of its practitioners (around 250 of them) live in the DC area including Hollin Hills. A show of Ikebana will be on view March 2-6, at the Art League in the Torpedo Factory.



In this show, each arranger chooses a wall art and a container (vase) and creates an organic whole with the flowers. This school of Ikebana is Sogetsu, the most modern one, so you will see sculpture, dried materials, and other non-traditional materials, as well as flowers.

A demonstration of Sogetsu will be held on Saturday, March 5, at 2pm, in the the Art Gallery (Gallery 75) bin room. This will be an entertaining and interesting show.

—*Marge Silverberg*

NEWS OF OUR SCHOOLS



READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY

On Wednesday, March 2, at 2:30, in observance of Read Across America Day, Hollin Meadows Elementary School (HMES) will hold its annual Library Book Parade, with students dressing up as their favorite book characters. This will be a great opportunity for some cute photos.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2016-2017 school year starts on Monday, April 18. "Great Beginnings," a program for rising kindergarteners will be offered, date to be announced.

BINGO FUN FOR EVERYONE

The annual bingo night at HMES, which was snowed out in January, has been rescheduled for Friday, March 4. This fun neighborhood event is great for kids, whether they attend Hollin Meadows or not! There will be lots of prizes and bingo fun. A pizza dinner is available for \$5 per person, and bingo cards are \$1 each. There will also be a raffle for a special door prize. All the proceeds will support programs at the school.



Hollin Hills students Charlie and Maggie Weidenfeller (at right) supply the 'G-O' in an announcement for Bingo Night during the school's morning news.



A LETTER TO THE BULLETIN

Water erosion is making our parks disappear!

I have been a resident of Hollin Hills for five years. Like many, the large amount of parkland in the community was a major draw for my family and me to move to Hollin Hills. Unfortunately, I fear that these same parks are now disappearing slowly but surely before my very eyes, and it is not the doing of government sponsored eminent domain nor a developer's appetite for more land; it is the natural power of water.

Every time a heavy or sustained rainfall occurs in our region, the steep inclines that begin at the top of Marthas Road allow the rain water to accelerate to a speed and force that is directly responsible for large scale soil erosion. One only needs to walk a third of the way down Goodman Park trail and view the east side of the trail, to see canyon-like carving made by storm water flowing downhill from the drain located adjacent to 1909 Marthas Road. This erosion continues down the seasonal stream that parallels the foot trail. *[Goodman Park runs from Paul Spring Road to Martha's Road., south of Stafford.]*

Another obvious loss of real estate is the flat, bottom land of

Voigt Park on the north side of the swing sets. Heavy water flow has consistently eroded the grassy area used yearly for cooking hamburgers during the Independence Day picnic. Today you will see trees with half their root structure exposed just downstream from the double concrete culverts that discharge water from Paul Spring.

These are only two examples of water erosion that is stealing our park land from us. Left unchecked, Voigt Park will not be able to accommodate as large a crowd of picnic goers in the years to come. We will lose tall, majestic trees that so many of our neighbors appreciate. More soil and sediment will continue to be washed downstream into the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

It is a given that remedies such as water and erosion control via manmade or natural materials will require professional services, and that will require monetary expenditures from our yearly budget. I do not have a "silver bullet" idea that will solve this erosion issue, but I do think it is an issue that all Hollin Hills residents should consider; they should also give their input and ideas to our CAHH officers and committee members.

—David C. Matthews



MESSAGE FROM THE CAHH PRESIDENT

Trying to Keep My Head Above Water

There are times when I wonder if taking on this job was such a good idea. I feel like my youngest son, Kevin, when he was ten years old. He always wanted more food—sweets, burgers, any kind of deliciously deep fried goodness; the results were always the same. He would be happily stuffing his face—happy, happy, happy right up to the second he turned green and wanted to die. Well, that's me at the moment. All of my grandiose expectations are getting stuck in my throat.

We are busy getting the next edition of the Hollin Hills Directory organized, and it is like herding cats. Because of that and other reasons, the project about putting design information on the web page has slowed down, so I am sorry. I promised way more than I can easily deliver. Am I turning green yet?

I do have some good information, however. I re-read the book *Hollin Hills, Community of Vision*, published at the time of our 50th anniversary, about the history of Hollin Hills from 1949 to 1999, and it actually is a very interesting book. For those of you who don't own it, I recommend it strongly. This place is a great neighborhood and has a great story—lots of history, lots of design education, lots of kids, lots of arguments. There are lots of references to people who live here or who used to live here and how they shaped this community. If you don't own a copy, you can buy one by contacting me or any CAHH board member. The price is \$25, but trust me, I am not just hawking a book; I am hawking a sense of community.

Defining Mid-Century Modern

For yet another project, I have spent a lot of time studying Mid-Century Modern design, trying to distill it down to some sort of essence. Here is what I have so far, although the DRC has not seen this yet, so it not official:

- Housing design that fits its topography
- Unpretentious straightforward aesthetic, unadorned by decoration: Beauty from geometry
- Lots of glass, sometimes entire walls of glass, with slim

casement to provide maximum effect.

- Flat or low gabled or low butterfly rooflines that thin out at the edges
- Wide eaves for shade in the summer, and direct sunlight during the winter.
- Connecting the outside to the inside
- Open floor plans
- Designs that allow a progression from private to transparent
- Small efficient bedrooms

Hollin Hills has its own take on some of these concepts, but these themes keep recurring in the definitions I have seen from across the country. Maybe next month we will have more. I have to stop now. I can feel the green coming back.

Mark Your Calendars, Great Stuff Coming

- February 28, Winter Pot Luck Cocktail Party (5-7 pm).
- April 2, Progressive/Make-Some-New-Friends Chicken Dinner. This will be a fundraiser for the Hollin Meadows Elementary School Math and Science Program. I will send out an email about this event very soon.
- April 30, Hollin Hills 2016 Home & Garden Tour (noon-6 pm). Tell your friends. This is shaping up to be a truly grand event.

—Gus Matson

BULLETIN BUSINESS

Because of space limitations, this month's book review will appear, along with next month's review, in the April issue.

Wanted for the April Bulletin: photos taken at the Winter Potluck. Please include names of people pictured if possible.

MONTHLY FEATURES

DESIGN REVIEW DRC actions in February

The Design Review Committee (DRC) met on Wednesday, Feb. 10, 2016, at Sherwood Regional Library. Members present were Frank Collins (chair), John Burns, Roger Miller, Ginny Wallace, and Ken Wilson (via phone).

- The DRC met with the owner of 1927 Martha's Road to discuss a proposed new gravel driveway project. The committee requested the owner check with Fairfax County about regulations concerning driveways and asked that he submit drawings of the driveway project once it is more fleshed out.

At the meeting, the DRC also discussed a new fence section recently constructed by the owner. Following helpful interaction

between the owner and the DRC, the committee is working with the owner and the owner at 1929 Martha's Road to find a more satisfactory solution for the new fence section.

The DRC approved the following project through administrative review since the Jan. 13, 2016 meeting:

- Shupe/Simon 1925 Martha's Road: replacement of a front door and lower window restoration

The next DRC meeting will be on Wednesday, March 9, 7pm, at the Sherwood Regional Library (2501 Sherwood Hall Ln, Alexandria, VA 22306) in Conference Room #3.

—Chris McNamara, CAHH/DRC Liaison

MVCCA Looking to the future of Route 1 and Metrorail

The Planning & Zoning and Transportation Committees (P&Z) of the Mt Vernon Council of Citizens Associations (MVCCA) met jointly in February. Three topics of interest to both committees were discussed.

The first was very long range planning for further widening Richmond Highway past Ft. Belvoir to the Occoquan River. Significant concern was expressed that locally based organizations are being supplanted by Fairfax County staff and others in the process. Other future projects discussed were the eventual exten-

sion of Metro to Beacon Hill and Hybla Valley, which raises the prospect of highrise buildings at both locations and the more immediate plan to extend military housing west of Ft. Belvoir.

Meeting separately, the P&Z heard a second presentation on the development on the Brookville Motel site on Richmond Highway near Huntington Avenue. The motel is being replaced by a multi-story storage facility set back from the highway. Drainage was the topic of main concern to the committee.

—Burt Kronstedt

MUSIC MAN Another month of excellent free or low cost musical events

- **Wed. 3/2**, 7pm, Bistrot Lopic Wine Bar, 1736 Wisconsin Ave. NW: Veronneau (world jazz) 5 time WAMMIE award winner www.veronneau.com

- **Fri. 3/4**, noon, Calgary Baptist Church 755 8th St. NW: Strathmore Mansion Concert Series - Brahms Cello Concerto in E minor, Chiba, Arnold www.fmmc.org

- **Sun. 3/6**, 2pm, Schlesinger Concert Hall: Marine Chamber Orchestra - Clara and Robert Schumann, Brahms: Serenade No. 1 in D, Op 11 www.marineband.marines.mil

- **Sun. 3/6**, 4pm, Culpepper Garden Senior Center: Crescendo Youth Chamber Ensemble www.arlingtonphilharmonic.org

- **Wed. 3/9**, 8pm, (6pm pre concert conversation with the artist) Library of Congress Coolidge Auditorium: Andreas Staier (harp-sichord) music from 17th & 18th century France and Germany, free tickets from www.eventbrite.com

- **Thu. 3/10**, 7:30, Lyceum: Air Force Chamber Players - Evening of Music for Woodwind Ensembles www.usafband.af.mil

- **Fri. 3/11**, 8pm, (6pm pre concert conversation with the artist) Library of Congress Coolidge Auditorium: Talea Ensemble (Contemporary Chamber Ensemble) performing recent commissions. www.taleaensemble.org

- **Sun. 3/13**, 7:30, Tikrat Israel Congregation, 2200 Baltimore Rd. Rockville, MD: Marshall Crenshaw plus Harris Amster (of Burt the Dirt) tickets \$18 in advance, \$20 at door www.focusmusic.org

- **Mon. 3/14**, 7:30, Strathmore Music Center: Marine Band - "Double Feature: Music of adventure, danger and drama on the

silver screen" Free tickets limited to two per request available from Strathmore box office (I expect there will still be tickets the day of the event) www.marineband.marines.mil

- **Thu. 3/17**, 7:30pm, Lyceum: Air Force Chamber Players - Romantic music for string quartet www.usafband.af.mil

- **Fri. 3/18**, noon and 2pm, National Gallery of Art West Garden Court: Marine Chamber Orchestra - Addinsell: Warsaw Concerto, Copeland: Appalachian Spring, Respighi: Trittico Botticelliano www.marineband.marines.mil

- **Fri. 3/18**, 7:30pm - 9:30pm, Hollin Hall Senior Center: Mt. Vernon Swing Band Swing Dance Party \$4 www.mvbands.com

- **Sat. 3/19**, 7pm, George Washington Masonic Memorial: Rise Again Songbook show (folk music) \$20 advance, \$25 at door www.focusmusic.org

- **Sat. 3/19**, 7:30pm, (6:30 pre-concert lecture) National Museum of American History Music Hall (3rd floor): Smithsonian Chamber Players - Haydn Piano Trios (repeats Sun. 3/20 same time) \$22 member, \$28 non-members <http://smithsonianassociates.org/ticketing/>

- **Sun. 3/20**, 2pm, Marine Barracks Annex 7th & K St. SE: Marine Chamber Ensembles - Russian Composers

- **Sat. 3/26**, 7pm, Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington: Phil Ochs song night with Brother Sun, Magpie and SONiA \$20 advance, \$25 at door www.focusmusic.org

- **Thu. 3/31**, 7:30pm, Lyceum: Air Force Chamber Players - An Evening of Eclectic Music for Bass Trombone and Mixed Ensembles www.usafband.af.mil

—Tony Jordan

WHAT'S IN A NAME: SUTTON POTTER PARK

At least three generations of Hollin Hills families and their friends have enjoyed sledding down this hill behind what is now the upper section of Range Road.

In the earliest days of our community, the hill was still part of Popkins Farm. In the late 1970s, it was included in the 5.5 acres that became Sutton Potter Park. Long-time resident Tom Fina recalls when there were stables and a spring-fed cattle watering pond on that land that now comprises one of Hollin Hills' seven parks.

The park is named after Sutton Potter, who was largely responsible for its existence. In the mid-1970s, Sutton Potter, a Hollin Hills resident, lawyer, and former chairman of the CAHH Board, learned that Fairfax County proposed to build a road from Route 1 running through the property that is now the park. The added

traffic from such a road would have dangerously increased traffic through our community.

Mary-Carroll Potter says proudly that her husband worked very hard to block the road project. The fight was successful and resulted in the acquisition of the land as a permanent Hollin Hills park.

Sutton Potter died suddenly in December 1976, and within a year the CAHH Board named the park in his honor.

Mary-Carroll Potter continued to live in their home on Bedford Lane with their four children, and she lives there still. She is as active in and committed to our neighborhood as was her husband.

She sums up her feelings, "This is truly a unique community—diverse, wise, helpful when the need arises, but respectful of privacy. Family members have often told me that I ought seriously to consider moving to



a continuing care retirement community, which I am sure would be wise, but I have continued to drag my feet."

We're very glad that she has.