



THE CARILLON CIVIC ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER February/March 2018

SAVE THE DATES!

Carillon Community Potluck & CCA Annual Meeting

Sat. April 14, 6-8 pm,

First Unitarian Universalist Church
(at Blanton and Garrett Streets)

All neighbors are invited. Bring a side dish or dessert;
CCA provides chicken and beverages.

The evening features neighborhood updates, a short
program, election of CCA board members,
great door prizes, and—of course—warm fellowship.

Please note new date and venue.



The 47th Annual Arts in the Park

Sat. May 5, 11 am – 6 pm

Sun. May 6, 11 am – 5 pm

Byrd Park at the Carillon

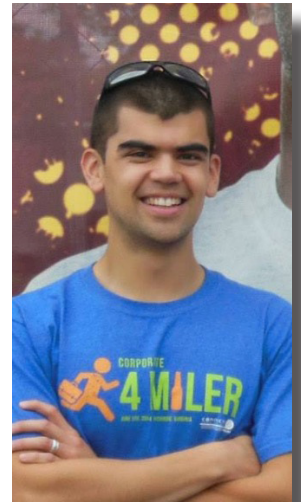
CCA's award-winning art show and sale, featuring
over 400 artists from around the U.S. Plan to
volunteer to support our neighborhoods signature
fundraiser that helps us support local charities.

More information, contact: Kayla Diggs Brody
diggskg@gmail.com or 757-338-5977



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

This spring we begin our celebration of the CCA's 50th anniversary at the Annual Potluck on April 14th—held this year at the First Unitarian Universalist Church. Our program will include guests Rutledge Dennis and John Moeser, scholars and Richmonders who know the organization's history and how it matters to greater Richmond. We hope you can join us at this unique anniversary event!



Also this spring – it's not too early to mark your calendar for Arts in the Park! 2018's festival takes place May 5th and 6th. And don't forget to volunteer – it's your hard work and that of your neighbors that creates this event each year! Volunteers are needed the weekend prior as well as the Friday, Saturday and Sunday of the festival.

As always, we hope you can join us at a Board meeting, held the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7pm at Unity Church.

Sincerely,
Zeke Brody

CARILLON CIVIC ASSOCIATION TURNS 50

Join and Support Today!

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the formation of the Carillon Civic Association. All residents are eligible to join this historic neighborhood organization. At \$5.00 per household—the same amount as it was when CCA formed in 1968—it's still a great bargain! Look inside for membership information.



What makes us historic? Read the short history inside to learn about our corner of Richmond. Notably CCA looms large in the story. Its past activism for fair housing rights in the 1970s was the primary factor in our recent designation as a historic district on the Virginia Landmarks and National Register of Historic Places listings.

Why join CCA today? The all-volunteer civic association sponsors programs, communications, charitable donations and grants, beautification, safety efforts, and a collective voice in city and development issues. Plus, it's simply a wonderful way to meet your Carillon neighbors and support our beautiful community. (Note: think about getting involved as a committee member or board member.)

Learn – Play – Party! CCA's annual neighborhood pot luck on April 14th kicks off a series of activities throughout the year to commemorate our past but also celebrate our present and future. Stay tuned for upcoming event announcements.

THANK YOU FEEDMORE VOLUNTEERS

Thanks to all our Carillon neighbors and supporters who came out to volunteer at FeedMore on December 28th! Volunteers helped sort nearly 10,000 pounds of donated non-perishable food and re-pack it for distribution to local food pantries throughout the region.



*First row: (l to r) Katie Gardner, Christine Everson, Chris Gardner, Frances Kimmel, Beth O'Leary, Bobby Junes
Second row: (l to r) Sean Gardner, Vanessa Pralle, Zeke Brody, Tim Gardner, Joe Wilck, Kayla Diggs Brody, Eileen Wilck*

"SOUPER" SUNDAY FOOD DRIVE

Because of generous neighbors and amazing block captains, our annual food drive was a heartwarming success. We delivered four vehicles overflowing with groceries to the Tabernacle Baptist Church Food Pantry. Each Thursday, their volunteers disperse food to any needy Richmonders within the 23220 and -21 zip codes. Kudos to our delivery teams—Joe and Eileen Wilck; Buddy Graham and Zeke Brody; Fred Doctor and Beth O'Leary—for hustling through the drizzle. Thank you everyone for caring and sharing!



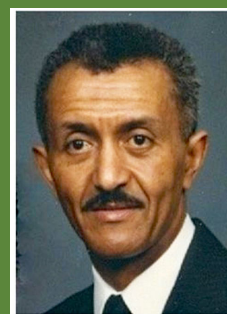
NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

NPR Radio IQ (WVTF) recently aired a segment about the early efforts of CCA and an important friendship, "I Belonged Here: How Neighbors Integrated one Virginia Community." Read the story and listen online (4 1/2 minutes): wvtf.org/post/i-belonged-here-how-neighbors-integrated-one-virginia-community

In Sympathy



We are saddened to report the passing of Richard Robert "Bobby" Twiggs, who departed this life on Jan. 30th. A Richmond native and veteran of the U.S. Air Force, he was the longtime owner and operator of Bobby Twiggs Home Improvement. We send deepest condolences to his wife, Ann. The couple has resided on French Street on French Street since 1968.



We mourn the loss of longtime neighbor Henry E. Tucker Jr. who passed away on Feb. 1. Mr. Tucker, who resided on Carrolton Street, is survived by his wife, Ivory; son, Henry Tucker III; daughter, Andrea L. Tucker (Clyde Harrison); and grandson Clyde Tucker. Mrs. Tucker has served as a neighborhood block captain since the program began. We send the family deep condolences.

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE CARILLON NEIGHBORHOOD

Beth O'Leary

A caring and active community nestled near beautiful William Byrd Park in Richmond, Virginia, the Carillon neighborhood has a rich history. At the time of English landfall in 1607, it stood at the perimeter of the Powhatan chiefdom, an alliance of Algonquin-speaking Indian tribes. The land was subsequently occupied by English colonists and granted to Henrico County militiaman and Indian trader, William Byrd. His grandson, William Byrd III, sold the property through a lottery in 1768.

Over the next century various owners purchased and sold subdivided parcels. By the 1850s, two prominent businessmen owned the future Carillon neighborhood property between them. The dividing boundary between landholdings was an east-west wagon road (today's Garrett Street). These country estates, each about 100 acres, were active farms worked by enslaved laborers until the end of the Civil War brought emancipation. In the mid-1880s, when the landowners died within a few years of each other, their descendants moved quickly to subdivide and sell their inherited parcels of land. Among the new tracts was the 1.4 acre "Marburg" estate. Its farmhouse (1889) and an earlier tenant house (ca. 1850s) still stand and represent the community's oldest dwellings.



A meeting of CCA officers, July 1971: (l to r) Bob Lovelace, Bob Walter, Marjorie News (standing), Carol Towell, Bernice Walter, Imogene Draper, Martha Rollins, and Abbott Lambert.

Between 1874-1918, as the City of Richmond acquired and developed land to the east for a municipal reservoir, pump house, and park, real estate speculation began. The 20th century brought various development campaigns, the most prominent being the establishment in the early 1920s of "William Byrd Parkway" immediately west of the future site of the state's World War I Memorial Carillon. With the bell tower's dedication in 1932, more residences were built amidst a handful of older dwellings. The World War II era brought a development boom; in the 1940s-60s, hundreds of houses were constructed, primarily north of Douglasdale Road. Between 1985 and the present, several townhomes and single-family houses were added through the Kanawha Trace development

to the south.

With federal Civil Rights legislation in the mid-1960s, African American families began relocating to the once segregated neighborhood. In 1968, a dedicated group of white and black neighbors formed the Carillon Civic Association (CCA) to nurture successful integration. Over the next several years, the CCA gained prominence for community leadership and was recognized at state and national levels. Notably, in 1971, Governor Linwood Holton praised the association's "extraordinary effort" and deemed the neighborhood a national model for integration, stating:

It is my sincere belief that what happens in a small Richmond neighborhood with less population than a Manhattan apartment complex can be of enduring importance to America. It is people trying. It is people showing that this nation does profess the ideals for which it is supposed to stand.

To showcase its mission and spirit, the CCA began Arts in the Park in 1972. An award-winning outdoor fair held annually the first weekend in May, the volunteer-run event now hosts over 400 artists and artisans from all over the United States. Proceeds help support neighborhood beautification, the city park system, public library, and school system, as well donations to numerous non-profit charities and service organizations.

In 2016, in recognition of its notable architecture and significant history of Civil Rights activism, the community was named an historic district on the Virginia Historic Landmarks and the National Register of Historic Places listings. Today, while retaining its historic architectural character, this still-inclusive community—comprised of individuals of diverse races, ethnicities, sexual orientation, and economic standing—continues to foster neighborly communication, support, and collaboration.

For further reading:

Elizabeth O'Leary, *The Carillon Neighborhood: A History*, 2013.

Deborah McClane and Elizabeth O'Leary, *Nomination*, Carillon Neighborhood Historic District, National Register of Historic Places, 2015, http://www.dhr.virginia.gov/registers/Cities/Richmond/127-6756_Carillon_Neighborhood_HD_2015_NRHP_FINAL.pdf

Caroling and Carriage Rides December 16, 2017



Lived Here Long?

We'd like to recognize our neighbors with the longest residencies in the Carillon district. Please let us know if you (or someone you know) moved here before 1960. Thanks!

Contact Beth, eloleary@verizon.net or 359-5494.

