

Clifton Clatter



Spring 2020

A publication of the Clifton Betterment Association

www.cliftonva.org

Vol. 58, Issue 1



President's Corner

Please note that this edition was written prior to the current world situation. Events are being cancelled and as soon as we edit a new change comes through. So, please check the town website as that is the calendar we will update:

<http://cliftonva.gov>

Please watch for emails about proposed Fairfax County zoning changes that could impact our Occoquan Watershed. Our Supervisor, Pat Herrity, held a community meeting to discuss agritourism, Rural Resorts/County Inns and Accessory Dwelling Units. Pat says "I continue to have concerns with the proposed Rural Resort/Country Inn use especially in the Occoquan Watershed (R-C) and the elimination of the restrictions on Accessory Dwelling Units that would give most residential housing the ability to add an additional dwelling unit and potentially significantly increase the density in our residential neighborhoods. I will continue to keep you up to date as these proposals move forward or are modified." Also, I have asked Pat for a meeting to address traffic concerns and he is working to schedule that meeting.

Michelle Stein is the President of the Clifton Betterment Association (CBA)

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR!

June 13	Clifton Caboose Twilight Run
July 4	Independence Day Parade and Celebration
October 11	Clifton Day



Clifton Kids

Clifton Critters Corner!

There's lots of talk about the coronavirus these days. Hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes are harder to find on shelves at our local grocery, pharmacy, and discount dollar stores. It is enough to make everyone a little nervous. Its important to remember to relax and that parents, teachers, coaches, and friends are all here to answer questions - their cleanliness tips are all to help keep little hands clean! These days, information zooms through the world at lightening speed. Not all that information is always true and accurate. Be sure to ask your parents about anything that confuses you or causes you to worry, they'll help you separate fact from fiction. We should all wash our hands every day of the year, not just during flu season, or when a virus is active. Washing your hands for 20 seconds after using the restroom, before eating, after a sneeze or cough, and visiting a public place (think playground or store) is what is recommended. Here's a song you can sing in your head that lasts about 20 seconds:

Twinkle twinkle little star, see how clean my two hands are
Soap and water, wash and scrub, get those germs off, rub a dub
Twinkle twinkle little star, see how clean my two hands are!



Parents: Shameless plug: It's never too early to start thinking about summer camps! At <https://ca-camps.org/> you can find a variety of camps run coach at Commonwealth Academy – all camps open to the public. The camps are run by my cousin, Paul Harrington, who has 20+ years' experience in running summer adventure camps and coaching youth sports, and a teacher for over 10 years. From escape rooms, camps for video games, extreme outdoors, and STEM, there's something for everyone's taste - take a gander at the offered camps; 3rd-12th grade.

Another **great** place to look for year-round camps, clinics, & lessons is: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes>

Crystal (Harrington) Bailey

Historic Clifton

Who Was R.R. Buckley?

This is a fascinating repeat of a story originally published for “The Clatter” in 2010.

R.R. Buckley was Clifton’s first Mayor and a member of the Buckley Brothers trio who owned the Buckley Store. Please enjoy his story below (a few updates have been added since the initial draft.)

There is great history here of our little town’s earliest days!

Enjoy!

Lynne Garvey-Hodge, Fairfax County History Commission

As a historian, I had the unbelievable good fortune in 2010 of being contacted by a gentleman who is a descendant of Clifton’s R. R. Buckley, (b. 1864 – d. 1944). He shared with me interesting information about his Grandfather, Robert R. Buckley. R. R. Buckley was a gentleman who was a significant contributor not only to the Town of Clifton, but also to Fairfax County. He was one of the owners, with his brothers, of the Buckley Store, where you could buy anything from a “pin to a plow”. It also has been known as the “Heart in Hand” restaurant (owned by the Worsham family). R. R. Buckley’s descendant, Robert Grille, lived for a short time as a young boy in Clifton on Main St. He shared a variety of family documents and stories about his Great Grandfather. Robert R. Buckley was born on June 6, 1864 in Fairfax, Virginia to Eppa Buckley, (born in Fairfax, Virginia on June 20, 1820), his father and his mother, Mary Francis Kincheloe (born on November 28, 1828 in Fairfax County, Virginia). You can see from the names, the intertwining of the families that are still living in the area today! The Kincheloes were large, Clifton area landholders, owning considerable property dating back to the late 18th century. Robert R. Buckley died on November 15, 1944 and is buried in the Fairfax Cemetery. He lived out his later years in Fairfax, VA.

The following is a summary of Robert R. Buckley’s life, including additional information from newspaper articles and a copy of his marriage certificate to Bessie Detwiler on December 8, 1896 – when Robert was 32 years old and she was 20! Robert R. built Bessie the home at 7160 Main St. (currently the home of Arlene & the late, George Mason University Professor of Public Administration, Paul Posner, who passed 7/5/2017). There Robert & Bessie raised six children. After many years Bessie returned home to live out her final days in what was her wedding gift. After Oscar Woody (who had lived immediately across the street) perished on the Titanic in 1912, his widow, Leila, (still a bride of 18 months at that time & originally from Dallas, Texas) befriended Robert and the connection caused quite a stir in Clifton. Bessie eventually left the town and upon Robert’s move to Fairfax some years later, returned to live in the home he had built for her. The Oscar Woody home was eventually sold to R.R.’s son, Robert Buckley and his wife, Helen Elgin Buckley, where she played the piano and where they lived for 54 years. (currently the home of Carolyn Leech)

One of the notable features of Robert R. Buckley was the toll the disease of diabetes took on his body. He lost one leg while living in Clifton (it is said that Leila did a fine job of caring for him during his recovery) and later on in his life, he lost the other leg. However, he continued to practice his insurance business and other community duties until the end of his years. He is said to remember (as recalled by Grandson, Bob) a group of about four Clifton gentlemen who took the train into Washington, DC each day for their respective government jobs. They would gather in the morning and in the evening on the train and play cards, all being devoted Bridge fans. This was apparently a past-time that lasted some 30 years. Apparently, one of the card players was “Rush” Buckley, who was Clifton’s first Rural Free Delivery Carrier.

One of Clifton’s leading citizens for many years, R. R. Buckley was elected first Mayor of the town in 1902. His occupation at the time was listed as “merchant”. An early partner with his brothers D.W. (Babe) and Josh, in Buckley Brothers General Merchandise Store. He owned considerable property in and around Clifton, including the land on which Clifton High School was built in 1912. He built the Buckley home in Clifton in 1896 and represented Centreville District on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, as did his brother, D.W., later.

R. R. Buckley served twice as Clifton’s Postmaster; from February 8, 1894 to January 31, 1898 and again from March 30, 1914 to February 28, 1921. This coincided with Democratic Administrations, nor surprisingly, as he was most active in politics and served as Chairman of the Fairfax County Democratic Committee. He also served as Worshipful Master of the Clifton Masonic Lodge in 1895.

(Per Robert Grille) In 1912, the land on Clifton-Centreville Road which became our home place, was deeded to my father by his father & mother. My Grandmother signed the deed before R. R. Buckley, who was a Notary Public.

Continued on next page

Clifton had the first high school in Fairfax County & Grandmother's niece, Bernice Carper (Armstrong) came from McLean to live with her and attend high school at Clifton from 1909 to 1912. She was always proud of the scholarship medal that she received at the graduation, presented to her by "Mr. Bob Buckley".

After his second term as Postmaster at Clifton, R. R. Buckley opened a real estate & insurance office in Fairfax. He boarded at the home of Mrs. Hugh Sauls in Fairfax, whose granddaughter Gladys Sisson, became the wife of my brother, Walter, who died in 1966. Gladys, her mother & grandmother all held "Mr. Buckley" in high regard and considered him almost a family member.

[this last passage, was written by Carper Buckley]

R. R. Buckley's Obituary, November, 1944 [The Washington Post]

R. R. Buckley, 80, Fairfax County insurance man and former chairman of the County Board of Supervisors, died at his Fairfax home today after a brief illness.

Mr. Buckley had been prominent in county Masonic and civic affairs for more than 50 years, and had been active in conducting his business until he became ill Friday.

He was chairman of the Board of Supervisors about 30 years ago, and had served for 15 years as a chairman of the County Democratic Committee. He resigned last summer from the latter post, and was succeeded by George Robey, Fairfax.

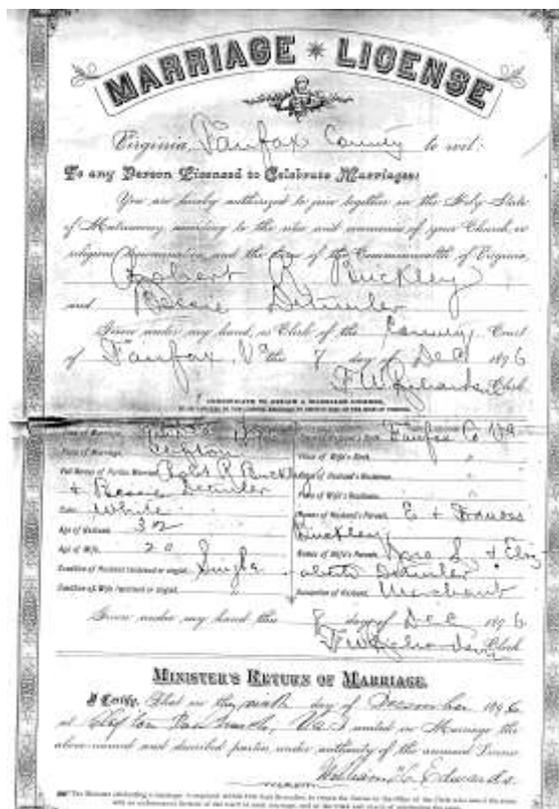
For many years, Mr. Buckley served as treasurer of the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce. He also was a past master of the Clifton Masonic Lodge and past president and charter member of the Fairfax Rotary Club.

Surviving are two sons, Charles R. Buckley, Clifton and Sargeant Randolph R. Buckley, stationed with the Army in New York City; five daughters, Mrs. John Twigg, Cumberland, MD., Mrs. Kemper Grille, Falls Church; Mrs. J. Lawrence Shelton, Washington, and Mrs. Elizabeth B. Legaliass and Mrs. Henry Riordan, both of Clifton, and a brother, D. W. Buckley, Clifton, a member of the Board of Supervisors.

Funeral services will be held at 2pm Friday at Truro Episcopal Church, Fairfax, with burial following in the Fairfax Cemetery.

A copy of the Buckley Family Records indicates:

- Eppa Buckley was born June 20, 1820
- Mary F. Buckley was born November 18, 1828
- * Robert R. Buckley was born June 6, 1864
- William H., Buckley was born January 24, 1866
- John F. Buckley was born April 3, 1867
- Joshua Buckley was born September 28, 1868
- Daniel W. Buckley was born July 13, 1870
- Esther Buckley was born October 22, 1897
- Miriam Buckley was born November 21, 1898
- Frances Dorothea Buckley was born September 8, 1900
- Charles Robert Buckley was born January 25, 1902
- Elizabeth Maggie Buckley was born September 24, 1906
- Richard Randolph Buckley was born April 14, 1909
- Virginia Buckley was born March 19, 1915



**DEMOCRATIC
WOMEN OF
CLIFTON &
NORTHERN VIRGINIA**




One of the missions of the Democratic Women of Clifton and Northern Virginia (DWCNV) is to provide a friendly forum where women can come together to learn about important, timely topics. On Sunday, March 15th from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Clifton Town Hall, we will hear about the federal and state economy from some of the experts. Our meeting is open to the general public. Our topic is **“It is a truth universally acknowledged: What goes up, must come down.”**

The U.S. economy has entered its 11th year of economic growth, a record expansion. How long can that continue? Economists like to say that expansions don't die of old age, so what will cause the next downturn? Economics editor Heather

Scott will explain where the experts are looking for signs of trouble and the data they watch. Denny Gulino, veteran economics journalist and editor, will focus on the longer term outlook for the US economy, including the implications of high debt levels, low productivity, and a paralyzed Congress. We will also hear about unemployment being near a 50-year low and black unemployment being the lowest on record, while wages have not kept pace. Is the job market really that good? Economic data is neutral but can be cherry-picked to distort the picture. You will hear about how you should read the data to get a real picture.

We will also be hearing from a member of the Senate of Virginia about the State's economy. And you will be able to ask your questions!

On April 19th we will host our annual meeting on the environment from 3 to 5 p.m., again at the Clifton Town Hall.

Another part of our mission is to work together to help elect Democrats. Members from all over Northern Virginia staffed polling locations during the Democratic Presidential Primary on March 3rd.

And we have fun! Members had a great time together as we celebrated our 15th Anniversary at the home of a member in February. At that event, we collected toiletries for local shelters.

The DWCNV welcomes all Democratic women from Northern Virginia to join our organization. We strive to build political awareness among members of our community, influence public policy, promote participation in political processes, and encourage connections between regional leaders and the local community. We do this through our educational meetings, newsletters, and our social events. For more information, contact us at cliftonwomendems@aol.com. You can also check out our website at <http://www.democraticwomenofclifton.org/> and our Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/DWCNV>.

Around Clifton

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Fit Clifton

Clifton's Annual Ping Pong Tournament a Smashing Success

Around 40 Clifton residents turned out for the Clifton Betterment Association (CBA)'s Annual Ping Pong Tournament held on Saturday, February 1 at the Clifton Town Hall.

Throughout the morning, both the young and the young-at-heart slammed, volleyed and chased little orange balls as family members and neighbors cheered them on. The free event was open to all CBA members and their guests regardless of playing ability.

Kevin Reilley won the 2020 tournament with Gopal Krishan finishing in second place. In the consolation tournament, Jason Lawrence took top honors. Drew Peters was the runner up.

Among this year's participants were several scouts from Troop 1104 based in Clifton. As they completed matches, the tournament's youngest players enjoyed red, white and blue-iced cake pops provided by Jeannette Williams.

The CBA began hosting a ping pong tournament in February 2015 as a way to bring Clifton residents together for indoor fitness and fun in the middle of winter. Since then, the tournament has been an annual event except for 2019, when renovation work temporarily closed the town hall for a few months. In lieu of ping pong, the CBA hosted an outdoor pickle ball tournament that year.

"While some of the tournament's players have resided in the Clifton area for decades, others are new to the community," said CBA president Michelle Stein. "Events like ping pong and pickle ball are great opportunities for neighbors to meet and get to know each another better."



Around Clifton

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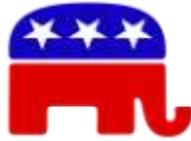


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"Keep America Great"

Members of the Republican Women of Clifton (RWC) are dedicated to supporting CPAC's message for 2020: "America vs. Socialism." It is unsettling, to say the least, that socialism is taking such a strong hold in our country. The current Democratic Party is not the Democratic Party of our grandfathers. We are working to dispel the arguments presented against our Constitution and the traditional values long held by the majority of Americans throughout our history.

In this presidential re-election year, RWC is closely coordinating efforts with the Fairfax County Republican Committee (FCRC). Republicans will be running conventions to select delegates for the presidential National Convention in Charlotte, N.C., in August, and then running primaries in June for the U.S. Senate and House. Lots of fun ahead and lots of opportunities for anyone who wants to volunteer!

RWC members attended Legislative Day in Richmond, and on Lobby Day, boarded busses for the ride to Richmond in support of the Second Amendment. As comedian Dave Chappelle said, "The First Amendment is first for a reason. The Second is just in case the First doesn't work out."

Burke Farmers Market opens in mid-April. Come see us at our red tent with your questions or just to share enthusiasm with like-minded patriots. We also have "Trump-Pence 2020" bumper stickers and yard signs. Be the first on your block to sport them!

We hold our monthly membership meetings on the third Wednesday in Fairview Elementary School, 5815 Ox Rd., Fairfax Station. Social at 7 PM and business at 7:30 PM. Take a break from your regular schedule and join us. Tap into what's going on with our country. You have the ability to make a difference. Come decide how you will. Visit www.CliftonGOP.com . . . and jump on the Trump train!!



Therese Antonio, member of the Republican Women of Clifton, takes a break from her volunteer work at the four-day Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC) held recently at the Gaylord Center in National Harbor, Maryland. Photo by Srilekha Palle.



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Clifton Cooks!

We thought it would be fun to print some recipes from the [Clifton Gatherings : A Clifton Community Cookbook](#), printed in the early 90's. This recipe is from the Spring Luncheon section. Enjoy!

CHILLED POACHED CHICKEN WITH BASIL SAUCE

6 whole chicken breasts, poached
1 bunch of broccoli florets,
blanched for 4 minutes
4 large tomatoes, cut into wedges

1 (10 oz.) can pitted black olives,
drained
¼ lb. Feta cheese, crumbled
Lettuce leaves

For Basil Sauce:

1 large clove garlic
2 eggs
½ tsp. dry mustard
2 Tbsp. lemon juice
Salt to taste

White pepper to taste
¾ c. olive oil
¾ c. vegetable oil
4 Tbsp. fresh chopped basil (or 2
Tbsp. dried)

Remove skin from poached chicken and pull meat from bones in long strips. Cover with plastic wrap. Chill chicken and prepared vegetables until ready to use.

For Basil Sauce: Mince garlic in food processor. Add eggs, mustard, lemon juice, salt, and pepper. Blend. Pour oils slowly down feed tube of processor, blending until thick. Stir in basil. (Note: Basil Sauce, chicken, and broccoli may be prepared a day ahead and refrigerated until using.)



Membership Corner

The CBA board is in the process of updating membership lists and creating a usable database to track membership. I'm happy to say that we now have a completely updated, fully functional database!

The majority of memberships in the CBA have lapsed, so I have now begun the process of reaching out to past members via email. I'm getting quite a few email bounce backs, so I may be following up by phone as well.

If you know that your membership has lapsed, please go ahead and renew online (<http://www.signmeup.com/site/reg/register.aspx?fid=6X2VMJ7>). You can also send in the form in the Clatter via snail mail.

If you are wondering if your membership has lapsed, or if you have questions about membership, please don't hesitate to email me at CBA.VA.Membership@gmail.com. I'm happy to answer any questions you have.

For current members, who are expiring, you will be receiving an email from me one month before your renewal is due.

We are also trying to reach out to potential members, so please mention the CBA to your new neighbors!

Jennifer M. Lowe Davis

Membership Chair

CBA.VA.Membership@gmail.com (703) 307-3747

A friendly reminder to please clean up after your furry friend.



Ideas for articles, etc. for the Clatter? Please contact cliftonclatter@gmail.com



ideas

Attention All Post Office Box Holders in Clifton

When telling people your mailing address, please list the street info under your name with the post office box below the street. It is also fine to just use the P.O. Box number. Thanks!



Green Space in Clifton

All events taking place on any green space in Clifton need to be registered on the Town calendar (which is kept by Donna Netschert) to avoid event collision regardless of whether or not it is a private, Town or CBA sponsored event. Green space includes Playground Park, Ayre Square and the 8 Acre Park. Groups larger than 10 need to make a reservation and may be subject to rental fees.

To rent or reserve any green space, please call Donna Netschert at 703-830-2727 or email villagetimesaver@aol.com.





CLIFTON BETTERMENT ASSOCIATION

Clifton Betterment Association
Clifton, VA 20124
www.cliftonva.org

CBA Membership Form

Date _____

Name (first & last names) _____

Partner or Spouse Name _____

Children's Names (or Others At Home) _____

Street Address: _____

P. O. Box _____

Town, State, Zip _____

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in email announcements list : include do not include

in newsletter distribution list : include do not include

E-Mail 2 _____

in directory: include do not include

in email announcements list : include do not include

in newsletter distribution list : include do not include

Please check type of membership:

Family Membership

2 yr. Family Membership - \$45

1 yr. Family Membership - \$25

Individual Membership

2 yr. Individual Membership - \$25

1 yr. Individual Membership - \$15

Senior Membership - Free

QUESTIONS? Contact Jennifer Lowe-Davis, Membership Chair, CBA.VA.Membership@gmail.com

Mail form and check, made out to CBA, to: Jennifer Lowe-Davis, CBA, P. O. Box 94, Clifton, VA 20124

Members must live within the CBA boundaries (Clifton Elementary)

Information about the Clifton Clatter and the Clifton Betterment Association (CBA)

Clifton Betterment Association Officers

President - *Michelle Stein*
1st Vice President - *Jan Schneiderman*
2nd Vice President - *Steve Bittner*
Secretary - *Chris Spina*
Treasurer - *Mike Davis*

Clifton Clatter Volunteer Production Team

Volunteer Editors: Ann O'Dea

Email: cliftonclatter@gmail.com

Questions, concerns, or news to share? Contact the Clifton Clatter at cliftonclatter@gmail.com. The Clifton Clatter is published four times per year and is the official newsletter of the Clifton Betterment Association (CBA). Its contents are for information only. Articles express the opinion of the authors, not the CBA. The CBA Officers, the Clatter Publisher, and the contributors assume no responsibility for errors, omissions, or consequences resulting from information provided in this edition. The CBA does not officially endorse any of the products or services advertised herein.

The Clifton community affirms a desire to interact with one another in an environment of respect and integrity.

We are a community that:

- is committed to the dignity and value of one another.
- assumes the best in each other.
- communicates clearly and directly.
- provides open forums to address difficult issues in an orderly, respectful manner.
- behaves towards one another, both individually and collectively, with honesty, decency and responsibility.
- holds the preservation of our unique historic character in the highest regard.
- participates in community activities, organizations and events in the best interest of all.

*Have a new
neighbor?*

Be sure and share
your copy of the
Clifton Clatter
with them so they
can learn about
joining the CBA.

Something you would
like to see in the Clatter?
Please email us at
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We will do our best to
include it in a future
edition.

Clifton Betterment Association

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