

# NEWSLETTER

Ballentine Dutch Fork Civic Association

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## A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT February 2014

**Ballentine Park Improvements?** Last month we had a fantastic meeting on a number of issues concerning the Ballentine Park facilities. We had all the right people together to make progress on some much needed Park improvements. In attendance were Executive Director Mr. James Brown of Richland County Recreation Commission, Bill Malinowski, Nathan Ballentine and Todd Latiff, a Richland County Parks Commissioner. With the help of this powerhouse of decision makers, we stand an excellent chance of having requests & needs addressed. The Civic Association and members in attendance expressed the need for: **1.** A good sign on Bickley Rd. for the Park, **2.** Improved Lighting in the Parking lot, **3.** Added fencing to block cars from driving into the walking path areas, **4.** Trying to add a new entrance road to the Soccer fields to stop the traffic passing in front of the Recreation building. These well deserved/needed improvements for our park won't happen right away...but some are expect in the near future. Mr. Brown and Mr. Malinowski jumped right on finding out information about some of the projected projects. Some of them involve other agencies and individual home owners so it may take a while. It is good that we are moving forward and all of us are working as a team.

**The important thing here** is that the voice of the members of the Ballentine Civic Association has been heard and we feel well received by the people that can effect the changes to enhance our facilities.

**YOU...**"the community"...demonstrated your support of our efforts by attending our January meeting and that was just what we needed to help advance our goals for improvements.

**Docks at Lake Murray Marina...**were expanded and modified during the big two year draw down for the new Dam construction several years ago. Word has it that the "special rules" in effect for that draw down period have expired. Now is the time to get informed...before the new changes become permanent. Representatives from the marina will be attending the February 3rd meeting. Their intent is to inform us of a new layout or configuration of slips they want to retain. This alteration would be work necessary for them to comply with the current requirements. Will you like the new configuration or not. **Beacon Point residents...**and surrounding area lake residents should pass this information on to their neighbors to encourage them to attend this meeting. These docks will affect all of you especially. Also Watershire residents should know about this.

**2014 Civic Association Leadership Team...was elected on 1/6/14**

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Les Tweed-President, Ken Colton-Vice President, Joan Tweed-Secretary, Rick Pascal-Treasurer.

Board Members: Gary Howard, Clyde Moody, Gene Biernaski, Laura Parnell, Cheryl Walter, Phil Savage. Thanks to all who step up to keep the Ballentine Civic Association as a watchdog for our wonderful community.

**Civic Association Audit...**has been completed. At our January meeting the subject of having an audit was raised. It sounded like a good idea to all of us...so we had an audit conducted. Gene Biernaski headed up the project. I expect that our accounting is all correct... but as President Reagan said "Trust but Verify".

Regards, Les Tweed – President

BALLENTINE COMMUNITY CENTER OTHER NEWS

**OUR CENTER** is constantly growing under the direction of Charlene Lyles, the new manager at Ballentine Park. New programs starting in February:

Book Club - The Purpose Driven Life - 10:00 am to 11:00 am starting February 7th.

Crafting - Crochet starting February 7th 2:00-3:30 pm the first and third Fridays of each month

Needlepoint - Tuesdays 1:00-2:30 pm, cost for these \$2.00 per class

Cooking - February 8th - Healthy Cooking by Chef Marion - 10:00 am-12:30 pm cost \$25.00

These classes are in addition to Arthritis exercise class, ceramics, bridge, Zumba, Creative Connections art, and many others that are ongoing. To sign up for any (or all!!) of these call 781-2031.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 3rd 6:00 pm.....Board meeting

February 3rd 6:30 pm.....Community Meeting with Tammy Wright from Lake Murray Marina regarding docks

February 14th.....Valentine's Day

February 17th.....President's Day

March 3rd.....Ballentine Civic Association meeting