

# HILLCREST NEWSLETTER

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## GUEST SPEAKERS: ROBERT ROBINSON AND SHERRILL BERGER

Robert Robinson and Sherrill Berger are a husband-wife team who live in the Mt. Pleasant neighborhood of Washington, DC, with their Himalayan feline, Kitt-Katt.

They are solar activists, and advocates for making clean affordable energy accessible to all. They are members of the [PowerDC.org](http://PowerDC.org) coalition, co-founded the Grid 2.0 Working Group [grid2.0.org](http://grid2.0.org) and DC Solar United Neighborhoods (DC SUN) [dcsun.org](http://dcsun.org) and recently re-formed the DC Consumer Utility Board. Ms. Berger worked for many years for the Smithsonian Institution and at the Carnegie Institute for Science and Mr. Robinson joined the Marion Barry for Mayor Campaign in 1977 and worked for the Office of the Mayor and later the Council of the District of Columbia for many years.

The couple will present an opposing view of the Pepco-Exelon merger at the shortened December meeting to provide a different perspective from what the Pepco-Exelon representatives presented to the community in the November meeting. Mr. Robinson will present briefly before the holiday festivities begin. The Public Service Commission will close the public record for public comment on December 18.

- Special points of interest:**
- Hillcrest Community Civic Association Meeting  
Hillcrest Recreation Center  
32nd and Denver St., SE  
Saturday, December 5  
10:30 AM to 12:30 PM
  - Friends of the Francis A. Gregory Library Meeting  
3661 Alabama Ave., SE  
Monday, December 5  
7:30 PM
  - PSA 606 Police Community Meeting  
East Washington Heights Baptist Church  
2200 Branch Ave., SE  
Wednesday, December 16  
6:00 PM to 7:00PM
  - ANC 7B Monthly Meeting  
Ryland Methodist Church  
3200 S St., SE  
Thursday, December 17  
7:00 PM to 9:00P



VS



## FIRST AND SECOND VICE PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well.

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

As we close off this 2015, we thought we'll share the above quote by Ralph Waldo Emerson. When you really look at it, we're all on a journey to discover the meaning of life. Some people are able to find it through public or private service, others in service of others and yet others carve their piece of life in the way that suits their needs and the needs of others around them. However you create your little space of heaven, we'll like to

## A MESSAGE FROM THE 1st and 2nd VICE PRESIDENTS continued..

appeal to you to consider 2016 as your year for Hillcrest. With all the incidents happening around us, the HCCA can really use a few good men and women who may have solutions to some of the issues that concern us greatly--the rise in crime, the numbers of juvenile-halfway houses popping up among our homes, the miniscule educational choices for our children and homelessness and desperation all around us.

We foresee that 2016 is our year as a community to focus on thinking through solutions and engaging in robust dialogue on some of these issues, starting with the community concerns meeting at the beginning of the year. We have another great roster of speakers for next year and we will be tackling some of the problems of concern to the community.

If you will like to assist in any way, even by offering suggestions for speakers, please contact either the First or the Second Vice Presidents.

For now, we will like to wish you happy holidays and a wonderful New Year.

Michelle Phipps-Evans and Boyle Stuckey

## AN INTERVIEW WITH I. M. GROUCH

Most of us know Mr. I. M. Grouch who lives in the 100,000 block of "Z" St., SE (right in the middle of Hillcrest). Recently a reporter for The Hillcrest News had a chance to interview him. That interview is printed here in its entirety.

REPORTER: Good evening, Mr. Grouch!

**GROUCH: *What's good about it?***

REPORTER: The Hillcrest Community Civic Association is having its membership drive this month and I'm wondering if you would join the Association.

**GROUCH: *Why should I? They don't ever do anything for me.***

REPORTER: If you would come to a meeting, you would see that they have some very informative programs.

**GROUCH: *I like to sleep late on Saturdays.***

REPORTER: If you were a member, you would receive the newsletter which contains information important to Hillcrest.

**GROUCH: *I can't read all of stuff that comes in my mailbox as it is.***

REPORTER: You mentioned that the Association doesn't ever do anything. Did you know that they awarded a college scholarship to a Hillcrest young lady this year?

**GROUCH: *That doesn't do me any good. I don't go to college.***

REPORTER: Did you know that the Association has an Education Committee that works closely with Ann Beers School?

**GROUCH: *I don't have any kids that go to school.***

REPORTER: Did you know that the Association has a Public Safety Committee and a Transportation Committee that seeks to address crime and traffic in our neighborhoods?

**GROUCH: *Well, I still see traffic coming through my street and I still hear about crime.***

REPORTER: Don't you think it is worthwhile to support the organization that is trying to make a difference?

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## THE HCCA ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

Members of the Hillcrest community are invited to the annual holiday luncheon on Saturday, December 5 at 11:30 am, immediately following an abbreviated community meeting, which will feature Robert Robinson and Sherrill Berger from Grid 2.0/Power DC Coalition. They will offer an opposing view on the Pepco-Exelon merger. As you may remember, representatives from Pepco and Exelon offered their perspectives during the November monthly meeting.

Come on out and enjoy a catered buffet lunch, good conversation and great neighborhood camaraderie. The cost is \$25 per member; children 12 years and under are \$10 and children under 5 years old are free.

Make this your first holiday event. Make your reservations and payment today with Yvonne Burke (202-584-3018), Sheila Brown (202-297-3883) or Robin Marlin (202-679-0038)



## THE 2ND ANNUAL HILLCREST HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING

The Hillcrest Community Civic Association and the Ward 7 Holiday Committee jointly present

The 2nd annual Hillcrest Holiday Tree Lighting on Branch Avenue at Erie Street, SE, on Saturday, December 5, 2015, at 6 pm.

After the annual holiday party earlier in the day, come on out to enjoy holiday caroling, hot drinks and baked goods while coming together as a community. This is the 5th year for the Ward 7 Holiday Committee, which will lead the singing.

Donations will be accepted for baked goods and for the HCCA Scholarship Fund. The HCCA asks for you to bring gently used suitcases, duffle bags and other luggage items for young foster children who have to carry their clothing and personal belongings in garbage bags. Help us to show these young people that we care during this season of thanksgiving and reflection.

On Friday, December 18, the children of Hillcrest will have an opportunity to enjoy a Holiday Hayride. More details to come.

Any questions, please contact Lisa Shaw at (202) 656-7259.

## AN INTERVIEW WITH I. M. GROUCH continued...

**GROUCH:** I want to know what they are doing to help me.

**REPORTER:** Well, last month I saw a group of people from the Environmental Committee come down your street and pick up all the trash on your sidewalk, right in front of your house.

**GROUCH:** Yes, but that's just once a year. I need my trash picked up every week!



**Happy Holidays**



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### HCCA Board

Michelle Phipps-Evans, First Vice President  
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Linwood Robinson, Chair, Streets, Traffic and Transportation

### Have you paid your dues for 2015?

Your paid through date is on the mailing label of this newsletter. If the date is earlier than 2015, please send your payment now. The cost is \$15.00/year, \$24.00 for 2 years. Make check payable to HCCA and send to P.O. Box 30895, Washington, DC 20030 or you can pay by credit card at:

[www.hillcrestdc.com/paydues.htm](http://www.hillcrestdc.com/paydues.htm)

### Got Ideas!

Please email any ideas or articles for the newsletter by the 15th of the month to [hillcrestdc\\_newsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:hillcrestdc_newsletter@yahoo.com)

Follow on Twitter @HillcrestWard7 or write on the Facebook Wall, All Over Hillcrest



Hillcrest Community Civic Association

*"Working together for a better community"*

[www.HillcrestDC.com](http://www.HillcrestDC.com)

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