



# NEWSLETTER

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## A Note from the Cottontown Board

Happy new year! While we didn't see snow over the holidays, we certainly had some cold weather! The frozen fountain was indeed beautiful, and thankfully working fine again.

December was a busy month in Cottontown. Thanks to Carol Jennings, Renee Johnson, and Ginger Thrift for planning our Holiday Party and thanks to everyone who attended. Thanks also to everyone who contributed over 100 pounds of food to our Harvest Hope Food Drive, and/or contributed over \$350 to the purchase of gift cards and a cake for the teachers at Logan Elementary School. We were also able to purchase a new TV for Ladder 7. Thanks for your generosity!

Sending a special welcome to our new board members, Renee Johnson, Joannie Nickel, and Jack Smeck, and heartfelt thanks our outgoing board members, Brent Baston and Tressy Davenport. We are looking forward to another productive year. Note the contact information for your board members on the left side of the page. We are here to serve you and hope you will contact us with ideas and suggestions.

We are also looking forward to another great Cottontown Art Crawl and encourage you to pay special attention to the article below and find some way to volunteer on March 11th. Hope to see you there!

## 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Cottontown Art Crawl, March 11 Volunteers and happy faces wanted!

By Rusty Sox

The fifth annual Cottontown Art Crawl is on its way Saturday, March 11, from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. 140 artists will set up on lawns and porches throughout the neighborhood and we expect thousands of visitors to fill the streets. This event showcases Cottontown as a great place to live, attracts visitors to area businesses and gives local artists a day to shine in our historic district.

The 2200 block of Sumter Street will be closed, and a raised stage for live music is planned throughout the day. Food trucks, art activities, prize drawings and more promise fun for the entire family – so tell your friends and invite everyone to come to Cottontown!

(Continued on next page)

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### 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Cottontown Art Crawl, March 11 (continued)

We always need neighborhood volunteers to help with the event in a variety of ways. If you would be willing to pitch in before, during or after the event, please let us know. We can always use more help with putting out signs, distributing packets to artists, staffing the information and merchandise tents, stage managing for the bands, and tearing down when it's over. Nothing too strenuous, but lots of fun working with neighbors and friends. To volunteer, email Ginger Thrift at [ginthrift1@gmail.com](mailto:ginthrift1@gmail.com).

For more information, go to the Art Crawl page online at <https://cottontown.us>. Take note of all the outstanding sponsors supporting our neighborhood, including Richland County, SC Arts Commission, Carter Realtors, Distinctive Surfaces, Home Advantage Realty, J Brown Studio, North Main Business Assn., PayRilla, Southern Pottery, Vino Garage, Commonwealth Properties, Gardener's Outpost, Jabber & Isaac Firm, Rambo's Fat Cat Biscuits and many more!

If weather is so bad on March 11 that we cannot hold the Art Crawl, we will do it the following day on Sunday, March 12. Come out and support your neighborhood, local artists, and a good time on March 11!

### Neighborhood Beautification

By Jack Smeck

We're on the cusp of spring and I want to shout it from the roof tops! I can never decide if spring or fall is my favorite season—they're both so enjoyable in such different ways. Along with spring comes the dreaded "spring cleaning" which is probably my least favorite part of the season. Who wants to clean when you've got riverwalks to explore, patios to enjoy, and roses to smell. Unfortunately, until they finalize designs for the mighty Muckster, we're stuck throwing out long-forgotten treasures ourselves.

(Continued on next page)

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## Neighborhood Beautification (continued)

Need some ideas that might give your home some extra pizzazz? Goodhousekeeping.com has a few recommendations and I've mixed in some of my favs:

- Sweep/knock the dust off your doormat.
- Clean out rain gutters or outdoor drains.
- Wipe down walls for dust, fingerprints, and other various grimes.
- Re-mulch flowerbeds to give budding flowers some extra POP!
- Recommended tips for POST pollen cloud (around mid-April):
  - Spray down exterior windows & porch
  - Wipe down outdoor furniture

In the spirit of spring cleaning, we also have an upcoming opportunity to pitch in and spruce up the neighborhood! On February 25th, we'll be meeting at 10 am at the neighborhood fountain to re-mulch, sweep leaves, and pick up litter. Come spend some time with neighbors and enjoy the changing temps! Feel free to bring any gloves, tools (wheelbarrows, sheers, shovels, rakes, etc.)!

Lastly, I wanted to throw one more special shoutout to Terry Wolfer who kickstarted a native vegetation and pollinator sanctuary at the Victoria/Bull Diverter this past year. His passion and vision for this space is really exciting so please swing-wide on your walking loops to admire his handywork (and maybe catch a glimpse of several different species of butterflies and bees)!

For more spring-cleaning ideas, visit: <https://www.goodhousekeeping.com/home/cleaning/g3345/spring-cleaning-tips/>

## Holiday Party

The Cottontown Holiday party was a hit this year! Santa was too busy to attend unfortunately, but he sent two elves from the North Pole to help make ornaments and decorate cookies!



Cottontown and Art Crawl merchandise (T-shirts, Koozies, etc.) is available for a small donation. Contact Ginger Thrift for additional information.



## Join Your Neighborhood Association

Owners and renters, please join the  
Cottontown/Bellevue Historic District Neighborhood Association

Dues are per calendar year. **Resident:** \$10.00 per person, or \$15.00 per household. **Business:** \$50 per business, or \$125 with 4 annual Newsletter advertisements. Businesses interested in newsletter advertisements may contact Denise Wellman to discuss options. Checks may be made payable to "Cottontown" and mailed to:

Lee Jennings  
Cottontown Treasurer  
2306 Sumter Street  
Columbia SC 29201

Please contact Lee at [lee@bagappraisals.com](mailto:lee@bagappraisals.com) for additional payment options. Members must be in good standing to vote.

I would like to join the neighborhood association. Enclosed are my dues for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested helping, and would like to join a committee:

- |                        |                          |                       |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Traffic                | <input type="checkbox"/> | Historic Preservation | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Beautification         | <input type="checkbox"/> | Communications        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Social Events          | <input type="checkbox"/> | Crime Prevention      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (please specify) | <input type="checkbox"/> |                       |                          |