

Reunion Weekend Address:

Greetings and thank you to everyone who's congregated here this weekend to celebrate the 70th Anniversary of Bannockburn's founding.

I am Brian Moore, President of the BCC, the group of Bannockburn Community members who make the decisions about the Clubhouse and events like the MusicFest, Spring Show, the Halloween Party, and Newcomers Dinner that go on here. I've been asked to spend just a few minutes offering you an update on the state of our Clubhouse.

If the people of Bannockburn are the Community's soul, then the Clubhouse is its heart. For almost as long as the Community has existed, Bannockburners have been going to nursery school here, and applauding Spring Shows in the ballroom, and forming bonds with their neighbors over happy hours and parties on the grounds. It's an aging building that gets a lot of use, and BCC has made great progress in the care, improvement, and management of our community meeting-place over the past 10 years.

Some of the changes are pretty easy to spot, especially to those of you traveling in for the weekend after a long time away. The renovated bathrooms, grillroom, and live-in caretaker's apartment. The new front door, the paint, the flooring. The state-of-the-art multimedia system in the Ballroom. All of these have enhanced the experience of gathering here. And removing overgrown vegetation, regrading, mulching, and replacing the playground fence has made the exterior more functional and attractive.

Many of the improvements we've invested in, though, are harder to see. It's not glamorous or obvious when we install a new HVAC system or bring fire safety systems up to modern standards or mitigate flooding in the basement. But, this work is critical, too. And expensive.

The BCC Board is extremely proud to have retired \$130,000 in debt that the Community had incurred over the years. We're on strong financial footing now, but this is a hundred year old building so the list of needs goes on! Worn out doors, floors, and windows need replacing. Leaky dormers, broken gutters, and exterior staircases need repairing. Beyond essentials, a permanent outdoor stage for events like this one, and additional grounds beautification and storm water management projects, will enhance our use and enjoyment of this space for generations of Bannockburners to come.

The total cost of the current slate of projects is around \$225,000. Those dollars only come from one place: neighbors past and present. Whether you come to the Clubhouse once a week or once a decade, you enjoy the benefits of having a Clubhouse where we can gather, and the future of this gathering place depends on you. On behalf of the BCC Board, I call on each and every one of us to chip in toward the important work of maintaining and modernizing our beloved Clubhouse.

The BCC Board manages all of this work for the benefit of the greater Community, but we welcome your input on new projects and events and feedback on actions taken. If you have ideas for what you would like to see happening here, please let me know, or better still JOIN THE BOARD either as a member or an advisor.