

Reprinted from the Beemerville  
Banner-Bugleblower, 1-17-96.

## City Council Debates Slogans, Cats

**Beemerville City Council meeting 1-11-1996,  
7:00 PM**

Flag salute: Boy Scout troop 489.

Inspirational reading: Thelma Quackenbush,  
"My Country, My Community, My Cat".

Minutes of last meeting approved as read,  
Clinkdorf opposed.

Report by Beemerville Tourism Board Slogan  
Search Committee Chair Bruce Barney: A second  
slogan has been submitted: "Beemerville, BMW  
Capital of Kansas". Barney invited submitter Arlan  
Clod to share his thoughts on the slogan. Clod  
suggested that association with BMWs would bring  
an air of prestige to the name "Beemerville". "It  
would imply that Beemerville is a city of movers and  
shakers," he added.

Councilman Cruickshank questioned whether  
such an implication would be truthful. He cited 1990  
census statistics indicating the average Beemerville  
resident moves once every 28.5 years. "It's a  
constipated town," he quipped. He went on to  
question whether or not the community contains any  
"shakers" but was interrupted by councilwoman  
emeritus Gardenia Weeder who held forth  
enthusiastically for several minutes concerning the  
enormous collection of salt and pepper dispensers at  
"House of Schnick-Schnock" on Main Street.

Mayor Crumb thanked Barney and Clod for their  
presentation and asked if there was a motion.  
Councilman Phil Landers moved that the slogan  
search committee be commended for excellent work  
so far and directed to continue the search. The  
motion was seconded by Councilperson Swanson  
who added that "'...BMW Capital...' beats the pants  
off, 'Beam Me to Beemerville, Scotty!'" Resolution  
passed, 7-1, Clinkdorf opposed.

Crumb suggested the council meeting should  
move forward quickly as the agenda was rather full.  
Clinkdorf accused Crumb of rushing the resolution to  
vote before he (Clinkdorf) had a chance to express  
his opinion on the matter. Crumb responded that he  
was only trying to keep the meeting moving.  
Clinkdorf retaliated that "that's what he (Crumb)  
always did" to "ram his agenda through."

Crumb then invited Clinkdorf to share his views  
on the "BMW Capital" slogan and any other matters  
on which he would like to comment "for the  
elucidation of the council and all present." Clinkdorf  
retorted that he had no intention of causing anyone to  
hallucinate and only wanted to point out that there is  
not a single BMW in the entire town of Beemerville.  
He then spent several minutes estimating  
approximate numbers of General Motors and Ford  
vehicles stating that he knew exactly, "well, within  
one or two", how many Chrysler products are driven  
by Beemervillians.

Councilman Harry Beard suggested the city  
consider recruiting a BMW dealer to the area.  
Perhaps Beemerville could offer Economic  
Development Assistance Grants or a tax abatement.  
Mayor Crumb reminded Councilman Clinkdorf that  
loud guffaws are not acceptable at council meetings.  
Clinkdorf suggested perhaps he and Crumb should  
step outside for a brief "executive session." City  
attorney, Alfinda Lupole, warned that to do so might  
violate the Kansas Open Meetings Law.

Crumb then called for a motion to adopt a  
resolution appointing a committee to study the  
possibility of offering economic incentives to attract  
a BMW dealer to the Beemerville area. Beard so  
moved, adding, "(I think)". Swanson seconded,  
muttering, "(whatever)".

A lively discussion followed reintroduction by  
Cruickshank, of a previously tabled and highly  
controversial, proposed amendment to city by-laws  
that would ban "giant butterflies, plastic flamingoes,  
plywood figures of Seniors in embarrassing positions,  
small statues of ethnic minority members performing  
demeaning tasks, and various and sundry other  
eyesores..." Voted 7-1 to re-table, Clinkdorf  
opposed.

Several citizens testified for and against a stricter  
cat control ordinance. Emotions ran high as  
neighbors from both sides of the fence alternately  
complained bitterly to the council and leveled  
accusations against each other. Mrs. Cherrypie  
Honeysuckle brought several in the audience to the  
brink of tears while enraging others with her soaring  
delivery of, "Your Cat's Rights End Where My  
Flower Bed Begins. (Or if that's too philosophical  
for you, I'm tired of pulling up turds with the  
weeds!)"

Rebuttal was swift and equally moving in the  
form of Harriet Clamchowder's sonorous, "We've  
Been Neighbors For 47 Years and You Never  
Complained About My Cat Before! (It's something  
else, I tell you! It must be her change of  
medication!)"

(see "Cat Turds" page 2)

(Cat Turds—cont. from page 1)

Crumb suggested this was not a matter for the Council to settle and was booed by the audience.

"We pay taxes out the yazoo with nuttin' ta show for it." yelled Herman Goatrope. "You're not going to take away our enjoyment of City Council meetings. Some of our boys paid with their lives for that right and you ain't going to take it away!"

The council voted 7-1 (Clinkdorf opposed) to look into cat ordinances.

Mayor Crumb asked city attorney Lupole to provide him with more information on the Kansas Open Meetings Law. The meeting remained somewhat chaotic until Police Chief C. A. Donubelly took the floor.

Donubelly reported that his "Citizens Against Crime" program is going well and reminds residents who are participating to turn their porch lights back off in the morning so burglars casing their house won't think they're out of town. He expressed appreciation to area businesses for their support, especially Edge O' Town Tattoos for sponsoring Engrave Your Valuables. (He turned down their request to also handle the Ident-a-Kid program.)

The chief reminded the Council that he's been requesting a radar gun for over six months now, and suggested if the city can't find the money for that, maybe they could just buy him a checkered flag to wave for the drag racers. No action was taken.

The Council then went into executive session with attorney Lupole to discuss the Kansas Open Meetings Law.

Approximately 11:55 PM, Mayor Crumb asked for a motion to adjourn, (motion: Schmitt; second: Van Winkle) motion to adjourn passed 7-1, Clinkdorf opposed.

Claiming Crumb was continually trying to "cut him off", Clinkdorf vowed his opinions would be heard. (see, "What's On Your Mind?" pages 3, 4 and 5)

— Loren Harder, BBB Governmental Affairs reporter

When you think of pests, think of...

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## Social Snipits

# Octogenarian's Party Gets Out of Control

by Gertrude Snupentel

Police were called to the home of Mrs. Henrietta Poinsettia after neighbors, peering through the windows with field glasses, thought lives might be in danger. Turns out the "possible assault" was only guests at the home making merry with cake, ice cream and party favors being used as missiles to "clobber each other". Mrs Poinsettia is quoted as saying this was her best birthday ever, especially after "we started sipping the silly-juice". This was her 80th birthday. We wish her well.

Richard, "Rick" Van Winkle, owner of the Beemerville Nap Center, 133 S. Main, invites all his regular customers as well as anyone else interested to the Nap Center's fourth anniversary "Snooze-Fest". Rick promises a relaxing time for all. A live band is scheduled to perform. Rick wasn't sure, as of press-time whether his first choice, The Elevatortones would be available. He says let's hope they are because the only other band he could find is Smashing Bumpkins which bills itself as "country with a very bad attitude."

Pearline Sunshine sent this postcard from Florida, "Weather is here, wish you were nice!" Those interested in tee-peeing her house will meet there at 11:00 PM Friday (tomorrow).

## Holy Happenin's

# Studies Abound

by Holly Luia

The Methodist Ladies Weight Loss Circle will begin a study entitled Weight Loss in Third World Countries: What Can We Learn From Our Underdeveloped Sisters? Call Effie Fudgkins for info.

The inter-denominational men's "De-Stressing in Christ" group will begin chapter 47 of Christians in the Age of Information: How to Keep Your Faith Simple and From the Heart. Participants are reminded to bring both syllabus binders and all three textbooks to class. Reports are due next week! Plan to join the group going to Omaha March 3-17 for the How to Keep Your Faith Simple Seminar. Transportation and financing are available.

(more Church News, page 7)