



THE DOCK LINE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE BOWLEY'S QUARTERS IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

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Spring Fling Bull and Oyster Roast

March 7, 2009, 7-12 Midnight.

Pit beef, Oysters, Chicken, Sausage, Ham, Hot Buffet Table, Cold Buffet Table, Rolls, Potato Chips, Pretzels, Dessert, Beer, Soda, Coffee, and Tea. Door Prizes, Wheel, Dance to music by DJ Bill Hillmeyer!"
 \$35.00 per person. For tickets and table reservations call Richard Pitz 410-335-0267. **First come first served, these affairs have been a sell-out so make your reservation early.**

FEBRUARY PREVIEW

FEBRUARY 12th

GENERAL MEETING:

Our guest speaker will be a representative from **FEMA**, (Federal Emergency Management Agency), the government agency that handles homeowners' flood insurance. This will be a very informative discussion on the flood zone designation changes involving our area, as well as this year's rate increase of FEMA's regulated flood insurance. If you haven't received your policy renewal yet, you may be in for an unfortunate surprise. Please make the effort to attend this meeting. This is your opportunity to ask all questions related to FEMA and your flood insurance policies. Share this opportunity with other community members. FEMA played a huge role in our area's recovery after Tropical Storm Isabel.



Winter Gulls Photo submitted by Gil Hartman

DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2009!

JANUARY MEETING NOTES

JANUARY 8th GENERAL MEETING: Rurik Loder from the Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) Installation Restoration Program (IRP) provided attendees with an insightful PowerPoint and video of the remedial and shore stabilization work on Carroll Island and Graces Quarters. Since the 1880's, these landmasses have lost 20 feet of shoreline/year. Shoreline stabilization structures designed to reduce wave energy yet still provide land access to turtles, muskrats and other watershed creatures have been put in place. At this time 26,000 ft .of shoreline stabilization is complete. Remedial work addressing land contamination by munitions and chemical ordinances should be completed in another 5 years. Large pits that once were munitions disposal sites are now ponds. Since beginning remedial work in the 1990's, there has been an 82% reduction in volatile organic gases (VOGs). The breakdown of these VOGs involved a very unique process which included using

JANUARY MEETING NOTES CONTINUED!

concentrated amounts of vitamin B12 as well as molasses (quite interesting!). Groundwater decontamination on Graces Quarters will take another 25-30 years. The video provided a behind the scenes (or maybe a behind the “No Trespassing” signs) look at the work being done and the wildlife that calls these areas home. It was a testament to the Army’s desire to be good stewards of the environment.



Pooles Island is still an active artillery range and therefore no shoreline protection has taken place. The front part of the island is on rock, the back part on the cove is where erosion could take place. The old lighthouse has been recently refurbished.

APG’s George Mercer took questions regarding Pooles Island and the loud explosives and sometimes damaging concussion of artillery fire heard and felt by residents. Cannon shots face down the bay, we mostly hear artillery fire. Weather is the greatest factor in how we receive the noise. We tend to hear and feel more in winter, when there is a temperature inversion (cold and warm air converge to create a barrier) that bounces noise back down to us. The shaking we feel is a function of noise frequency. There is a start of the day shot around 7:30 and noise monitors placed in the surrounding area help to determine whether shots will continue or be delayed until more suitable conditions. Mr. Mercer provided his phone number for those who would like to contact him regarding the artillery activity. The good news is we don’t live on the eastern shore where artillery repercussions are much worse. Ken Stachiw, also from APG, supported Mr. Mercer’s and Mr. Rurik’s presentations with additional comments and suggestions for attendees.

FLOOD INSURANCE: As many of you know, there have been recent change to flood zones and flood insurance costs. Many areas of the peninsula have been changed from an A to an AE zone. Whether a home is on the water or not, it may now be considered in a flood zone and may be required to have flood insurance by mortgage holders. In response to concerns regarding escalating flood insurance, BQIA has contacted Senator Barbara Mikulski and she has responded that she is looking into this. Information regarding insurance companies and pricing inequities was shared at the meeting. We appreciate members sharing their experiences and expertise on this issue. We will keep members informed of Senator Mikulski’s inquiry. In the meantime, **attend the March meeting!**

HOMESTEAD TAX CREDIT If you recently received your new property assessment, it most likely included an application for Homestead Tax Credit. Make sure you fill this out for the property that is your primary home. You can submit the information via mail or online. This is a very important tax savings for homeowners!



50/50 Jane Bissel won the January 50/50. Congratulations and thank you for your generous contribution to BQIA.

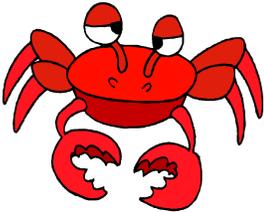
SPEAKERS: Please help us to make our meetings more beneficial by suggesting issues that we need to address that would be valuable to our community. Direct all speaker suggestions to editor@bqia.org

HALL RENTALS: \$500 non-members, \$450 members Catering Available.
Please contact John Ambrosi 410-284-1336 for additional information

FRONT PAGE SCENES: Email your favorite scene (no people please) of our peninsula and it might be published in a future bulletin. Email editor@bqia.org (jpg. format please)

COMMUNITY TACK BOARD

Mrs. Jan Norris, a longtime member shared how rewarding her experience was when she recently went to BWI to greet returning troops. This opportunity was provided through her work. If you would be interested in assembling a group of BQ residents to greet returning troops contact editor@bqia.org or if you don't have email call Robbie Duncan at 443-739-5298.



As reported in *The Sun*, plans have been dropped to charge a fee to recreational crabbers. Draft regulations state that registration would be free but there still is an effort to reduce exemptions and require licenses for basic recreational crabbing and for waterfront property owners dipping for crabs or hanging pots off their docks. It is hoped that the licensing will improve efforts to reliably survey recreational catch. For further information visit the DNR website at <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/fisheries/regulations/draftregulations.html>

The association welcomes Tom and Cathy Gounaris of Bowley's Quarters Rd. to the community. If you know of newcomers to our community, please contact BQIA so we can welcome them.

Wishing a speedy recovery to Arnold Dumsha who suffered a recent fall.

There was a break-in and burglary on Bay Drive in early January. It is believed the perpetrators knew that the house was mainly a weekend and summer home. Please be vigilant, keep homes secure and alert authorities and/or neighbors about suspicious activities.

Both the Jeff's Bar sign and the BQIA building were recently graffitied and a police report was made. If you are aware of other buildings in the community with the graffiti marking "38", please

Errant Mail Delivery: If you receive someone else's mail call Mr. Clinton Matthews of the Middle River Post Office, 410-687-5568. He will have someone pick it up.

APG Artillery Concerns: Contact George Mercer, 800-688-8705, regarding unacceptable noise or concussion damage from APG artillery practice.

Marshy Point Nature Center: The center has wonderful winter programs for families and nature buffs. First Friday Movie Nights, moonlight hikes, art classes and more. Get ready for the Popsicle Plunge, Saturday March 7. For more information check out www.marshypoint.org

Bowley's Quarters History Trivia: Answer to last month's question- The Bowley's Quarters Improvement Association was incorporated 70 years ago in 1938. This month's question- Daniel Bowley originally blockaded and used our peninsula for what purpose?

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Community Calendar

February 2009	Tuesday	February 3 , 2009	7:00 p.m.	Board Meeting
	Thursday	February 12 , 2009	7:00 p.m.	General Membership Meeting
	March 2009			
	Tuesday	March 3 , 2009	7:00 p.m.	Board Meeting
	Saturday	March 7, 2009	7:00-12:00 p.m.	Spring Fever Bull Roast
	Thursday	March 12 , 2009	7:00 p.m.	General Membership Meeting
	April 2009			
	Tuesday	April 7, 2009	7:00 p.m.	Board Meeting
	Thursday	April 9, 2009	7:00 p.m.	General Membership Meeting



Complaints regarding excessive airport noise can be directed to:



Martin State Airport
 8:30am-5:00pm- 410-682-8800
 After hours- 410-682-8802
 Air National Guard-410-918-6301
 Noise Pollution Control- 410-859-7812

Newsletter Byline: Articles for the next Dock Line should be submitted to editor@bqia.org by the 15th of the month.

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