



THE DOCK LINE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE BOWLEY'S QUARTERS IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

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Happy New Year!!!

And Happy 2009 Membership! Please check your mailing label to see if you are a 2009 member or if your dues are due! For 2009 membership complete the enclosed form and mail long with your check to PO Box 18051, Baltimore, Md. 21220 Thank You in Advance.

JANUARY PREVIEW

JANUARY 8th GENERAL MEETING: Ken Stachiw and Rurik Loder from Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) will be our guest speakers for the January 8th meeting. They will address APG activities affecting Gracies' Quarters and Carroll Island, bombing issues and anything else that may affect our quality of life on the Bowley's Quarters peninsula and its surrounding waterways. They will answer all questions that do not pertain to classified information.



Photo submitted by Bob McClure

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL IS DUE JAN. 1ST
SEE THE ENCLOSED FORM**

Please bring your questions and concerns to the January meeting.

DECEMBER MEETING NOTES

DECEMBER 11th GENERAL MEETING: Ms. Candice Croswell manager of the Capital Program and Operations Section of Baltimore County Department of Environmental Protection and Resource Management provided in-depth information regarding environmental issues throughout eastern Baltimore County. Topics discussed included Pleasure Island, Hart-Miller Island, the ongoing dredging process in Baltimore County and the submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) in our waterways.

Pleasure Island is a state owned parcel that has been eroding and filling in the channel between itself and Hart-Miller Island. A State funded dredge program will be implemented along with a new breakwater system like the Hart-Miller Island system to help control this erosion. Hart-Miller Island is scheduled to close for dredge spoil as of 12/31/2009. This closing is mandated by law and cannot be compromised without a law change. New dredge sites are presently under study for future use. Informational Tours of Hart-Miller Island are available to individuals or groups. BQIA is looking into setting up a tour for its members.

DECEMBER MEETING NOTES CONTINUED!

SPEAKER CONT'D: The dredging process for our area is complete; the majority of any ongoing work is of a maintenance issue. Any areas now being dredged were originally dredged 18 to 20 years ago.

As for those SAV's, although they may be "a pain in the grass", they are a sign that our water quality is improving and they provide a valuable underwater habitat for marine life. We'll let you know more about those grasses and how to live with them in an upcoming bulletin.

The algae blooms we encountered this past summer were caused by high levels of nitrogen in the water due to a combination of weather, run off, and other issues. Let's see what this year brings.

The Department of Natural Resources gave Baltimore County waterways a "B" grade for their water quality. A combination of the recent critical areas legislation, dredging of the collected sediment, retro-fitting of existing storm drains and outfalls, and the new sewer systems implemented in our area are reason for this grade.

FLOOD INSURANCE: There has been a recent change in 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. It has been brought to the attention of the Association that in some cases flood insurance has escalated from 100-300%. BQIA has been in contact with Senator Barbara Mikulski regarding these inflated charges and the new re-zoning. It is the association's intention to have a speaker from FEMA attend a future meeting to explain this revision of flood zones. In the meantime, Senator Mikulski suggests that homeowners continue to maintain their insurance and if necessary, set up monthly payments while the problems are addressed. One would not want to be without insurance in the event a flood. All information regarding the outcome of communication with Senator Mikulski will be in future bulletins.

A ROYAL PAIN?: The new Farm Store submitted a variance to construct a 29' sign for their store front. The Association will attend the hearing to contest the proposal due to the height of the sign.

NOISE CONTROL: Just a reminder be respectful of all neighbors. When having outside parties, remember that noise travels along the waters edge.

CONDOLENCES: Donald J. Hansen, a former BQIA Board Member and long time Bowley's Quarters resident passed away Friday, December 5. Our hearts go out to his family.

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



CHESAPEAKE BAY MEMORIES and the MIDDLE RIVER PARADE OF BOATS: Thanks to all who participated in or contributed to this annual event. What a great way to celebrate the holiday season. Dave Steedman from Bay Drive was the winner of the Lighting Up the Docks Contest. Dave was awarded an engraved ships wheel at the December meeting commemorating his win. Congratulations Dave



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 info . Check out www.marshypoint.org



BULL ROAST: Thanks to all who supported this event, another roast is being scheduled for March. Profits from this function help to offset some of the cost of maintaining our building.

MAIL DELIVERY: Still having problems with errant mail delivery? If you receive someone else's mail call Mr. Clinton Matthews of the Middle River Post Office at 410-687-5568.

SEX OFFENDERS: An updated list of the area sex offenders is available on the following website: www.dpscs.state.md/us.

Bowley's Quarters History Trivia: Answer to last month's question. In 1887 a large mansion was built as a new clubhouse for the Bowley's Game Reserve that structure exists today as the Bowley's Quarters Condo Marina clubhouse. This month's question? In what year was the Bowley's Quarters Improvement Association Incorporated?

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Community Calendar

January 2009	Tuesday	January 6, 2009	7:00 p.m.	Board Meeting	
	Thursday	January 8, 2009	7:00 p.m.	General Membership Meeting	
	Tuesdays	Every week	11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	Friendly Sons Lunch/Cards	
	February 2009	Tuesday	February 3 , 2009	7:00 p.m.	Board Meeting
		Thursday	February 12 , 2009	7:00 p.m.	General Membership Meeting
		Tuesdays	Every week	11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	Friendly Sons Lunch/Cards
	March 2009	Tuesday	March 3 , 2009	7:00 p.m.	Board Meeting
		Thursday	March 12 , 2009	7:00 p.m.	General Membership Meeting
		Tuesdays	Every week	11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	Friendly Sons Lunch/Cards



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 February Bulletin should be submitted to editor@bqia.org by January 15th.

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