



Summer 2017 Newsletter

PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC. P.O. BOX 556, STURGEON BAY, WI 54235

PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS

By Jim Schultz

BSPOA members had a busy month in May helping to keep our community clean and beautiful. Early in the month 16 miles of Bay Shore Drive and adjoining roads were fleeced of litter and trash. Then a couple of weeks later the beach at Murphy Park was cleared of litter and natural debris. These two events reminded me of the important role our members and volunteers play in the success of our organization. In fact, the foundation of BSPOA is our membership without which it would cease to exist.

I don't think we give the people who volunteer their time enough credit and appreciation. This includes the many people who help govern and run the organization, those who lead projects and plan and coordinate them, and of course those who lend their time and effort working at events.

There are at least three more events scheduled to occur this year as well as ongoing programs all of which are dependent on the help of our member volunteers. Most importantly, they require individuals willing to take on the responsibility for their execution. Some people who deserve mentioning because of their special contributions are: Jim and Mary Fravert for the Bay Shore Drive Spring Cleanup; Marti Schultz and Teri Searing for the Murphy Park Beach Cleanup;

Bryan Troutman for the Propane Gas Program, Half Ironman Race Rest Station and Door County Fall 50 Rest Station; Denise and Ken Hubbard for the Invasive Species Grant Program and Bay Shore Blufflands Buckthorn Blast; and Deborah Mancuso for the Annual Membership Meeting.

Of course none of these initiatives would be possible without the leadership of the Board of Directors which is responsible for governing the affairs of BSPOA. We have dedicated and very talented individuals who serve on the board contributing in various ways. Currently, the officers include me as president, Pam Hays, vice-president, Dan Mathein, secretary, and Randy Kenny, treasurer. The other board members are Nancy Buhl, Jim and Mary Fravert, Denise and Ken Hubbard, Mary Law, Deborah Mancuso, Greg Miller, Jim Nellen, Betty Parsons, and Bryan Troutman.

Besides working on projects and activities, board members work on committees and perform other duties. Dan Mathein publishes the semi annual newsletter and special bulletins, with help from many others, including Yvonne Retzinger who transmits them electronically using Constant Contact. Randy Kenny, besides managing the corporate finances, also

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maintains our website. Nancy Buhl keeps membership records including tracking dues and maintaining volunteer lists. Our newest board members, Greg Miller and Jim Nellen, monitor town and county government activity and issues that may impact our neighborhood. Their professional backgrounds are a nice addition to our board. And finally, Betty Parsons, a founding member of BSPOA, offers much needed historical knowledge and wisdom to help guide our decisions. As you can see, even though we are a small volunteer only organization it still requires the help of numerous people to run it effectively.

Again, I would like to express my thanks to all who help in whatever capacity. We should be optimistic about our future because of our strong volunteer support. New volunteers are always welcomed and can send inquiries to BSPOA556@gmail.com. I must also mention that the board of directors meetings are now held at the Crossroads at Big Creek on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10:00am. The center is located at 2041 Michigan St., Sturgeon Bay. The meetings are open to members.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

by Nancy Buhl, Membership Chair

Please welcome our new members and encourage other neighbors to join in supporting BSPOA!

Paul & Ruth Heinecke

Doug & Polly Kerkman

Mark & Jean Scherer

WELL TESTING

With the almost ten inches of rain received in June, here in Door County, it is no secret that there is plenty of water moving on top and underground. With increased movement comes the possibility that any surface contamination can move into the water table.

While there is no hard and fast rule for when to test a private well, if your water tastes bad, changes color, gets cloudy or smells bad, you should have it tested. Of course you might have swallowed something interesting before you noticed a slight change. This might be a good year to test your well water.

Supplies and methodology are available from the County. Contact the Sanitarian's office for a testing kit at (920) 746-230.

PROPANE PROGRAM

by Bryan Troutman

By way of brief background, BSPOA started our propane buying program 7 years ago. We currently have 170 members who participate. We lost a few this year because of the natural gas pipeline. We expanded our program over the years through the participation of homeowners associations, Point Beach, Jacksonport, Glidden Drive, Lake Forest Drive, Meadowbrook Farms, Cherry Bluff, Cherry Ridge and Whitefish Bay.

Propane prices and futures have increased approximately 10 to 12% over the last year, which has had an impact on our new contract with Lakes Gas Company. In order to spread the increase, we agreed to a split price of \$1.05 per gallon until October 1, 2017 and \$1.12 over the balance of the contract period of May 31, 2018. We also agreed to a two year extension based upon January 2019 and 2020 futures.

We have capacity to expand our customer base if you are interested. Please send me an email, bdtroutman@aol.com or call me at 743-9088.

BAY SHORE DRIVE SPRING CLEANUP

Bay Shore Drive looks a little cleaner and nicer again because of our spring clean-up on May 13. Many thanks to the 32 families, and Windemere who helped clean up trash along the 12 ½ miles of Bay Shore Drive plus four miles of adjoining roads leading off of Bay Shore Drive. We tried to assign an area close to the resident's home if possible. Door County Highway Department provided signs and bags, plus picked up the trash on Monday. Even though we pick up trash annually, it's amazing how much is collected.



After all the hard work many volunteers joined us for lunch at Birmingham's. This year the Door County Advocate also wrote an article about the clean-up which appeared in the May 27th issue.

We're already planning for next year, so mark your calendars for **Saturday, May 5, 2018**. Looking forward to your help again.



In Memoriam

Jill Cavanaugh February 10, 2017

Helen Sheets February 15, 2017

James Conroy March 11, 2017

Willard Dhein April 3, 2017

John Thenell May 14, 2017

PUBLIC TOURS OF HORSESHOE BAY CAVE

Door County Parks will open the horseshoe bay cave at Murphy Park to the public on Saturday, August 19, 2017 from 9:00am to 3:00pm.

Tour Details

Tours are Staff or Trustee Led. Tours will include a brief educational presentation at the start and a question and answer session at the end of the tour.

Duration: 45 minutes to 1 hour

Distance: Management Zone 1 and (Conditions Permitting) part of Management Zone 2.

Difficulty: Easy to moderate. Bending and crawling are required. Uneven surfaces, but no vertical or drops.

Tours Departures: On the hour, commencing at 9:00 a.m. with the last tour departing at 3:00 p.m. Tour participants should arrive 30 minutes before the scheduled departure time.

Tour Group Sizes: Limited to twelve persons, including staff and/or trustees

Reservations: are not required, but are recommended to ensure a spot on cave tours. Reservations cannot be made the same day of the tour. You may make reservations by calling or emailing the Door County Parks Department at (920) 746-9959 or Email: dcparks@co.door.wi.us. Office hours are Monday — Friday from 7:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Absent reservations, tours may be available on a first-come-first basis.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed between 8:30am to 4:30pm on August 19th. Two shifts are planned- morning and afternoon. Help is needed at the registration table, assisting cavers into their gear, and cleaning the used gear between the tours. If you are interested contact Door County Parks at (920)746-9959, or email at dcparks@co.door.wi.us.

MURPHY PARK CLEANUP

On Monday, May 22nd, fourteen BSPOA members along with Door County Park employees raked and cleaned up the beach at Murphy Park. Twenty eight large trash bags were filled with debris. Many thanks to the volunteers who participated and to Eric Aleson, Director of Door County Parks, who provided rakes, wheel barrels, and a truck to haul the debris. This will help to make our beach on Bay Shore Drive clean for all to enjoy this summer. BSPOA and County Parks hope to make this an annual event.



BAY SHORE BLUFFLANDS PRESERVE

BSPOA Inc. has entered into a three year partnership with the Door County Land Trust to control invasive plants in the Bluff Lands reserve.

Our invasive species coordinators, Denice and Ken Hubbard, have been working with DCLT personnel to develop an effective control program for buckthorn. Early in the process it was recognized that utilizing only volunteer labor to eradicate and control invasive plants within the Blufflands was not 100% successful. To make a long term impact will require hiring a contractor to cut and stump treat the common and glossy buckthorn in the first year and then follow up in two succeeding years.

The project proposal was approved at our May 2017 BSPOA Board of Directors meeting.

SEVASTOPOL WEED ORDINANCE

On November 28th, 2016, the Town of Sevastopol Board approved an ordinance regulating noxious weeds and terrestrial invasive plants. The purpose of this ordinance (No. 01-2016) is to prevent the proliferation of noxious weeds and terrestrial invasive plants and require property owners to destroy such plants growing on their property. It also provides the Town enforcement authority to require such action.

In a presentation at the May BSPOA Board meeting, town supervisor Chuck Tice indicated the initial focus of the ordinance will be to continue the Phragmites control effort. He was aware of the work done by BSPOA volunteers, working with the DC Invasive Species Team, to monitor and map the location of Phragmites within our area along the Bay Shore. He requested that we continue monitoring Phragmites and reporting their location to facilitate Soil and Water's ongoing control efforts.

Assisting Mr. Tice in his presentation was Krista Lutzke of the Soil and Water Conservation Dept. Krista stated that Soil & Water is working with all of the cities, towns, and villages in Door County to enact similar ordinances. While this article is referring only to the Sevastopol Ordinance, our Town of Egg Harbor members can expect similar actions in their neighborhood.

The Ordinance is only two pages long and copies are available at the town hall. If you have specific questions feel free to contact Krista Lutzke (920) 746-2363.

A video of the Soil & Water presentation is available on YouTube. Go to **www.doorbell.net/video** for this event and Sevastopol Town Board meetings and more Door County events.

SIX LEGS

While ironing a few pieces of quilt fabric on the kitchen counter, my spouse noticed a very small ant. This little critter was only 1/64th of an inch long. Smash. End of story – not quite yet. For the next 22 minutes (give or take a week) we have been on ant patrol and continually squishing the little buggers. Ah HA, Ortho ant spray – I think the stuff is 66% sugar. The more I spray, the more ants I see. We have washed the counters in 409, scrubbed the stove top, applied ant killer to the threshold of the kitchen door and every possible point of entry. Perhaps these little guys are related to us and only came for a summer visit to Door County. Perhaps in September they will go home. Perhaps?

Then in October, as the weather cools, we can expect new guests as the mice look for warmth.

50/50 GRANTS AVAILABLE

Buckthorn, honeysuckle, phragmites, garlic mustard? If you have a problem with these or other invasive species BSPOA might be able to help. A limited amount of grant money is still available. This program is designed to provide a dollar for dollar matching grant, up to a maximum of \$500 per year, to assist BSPOA members in the removal of invasive plants on their private property.

The steps: ID the problem, get a quote from a licensed contractor, submit your request to BSPOA, upon approval have the work done. To avoid conflict of interest and potential tax problems, BSPOA pays its share directly to the contractor.

Request forms and additional information are available on our web site – **BSPOA.org**.



A stand of Phragmites, considered a noxious weed and invasive species in our area.

BSPOA VOLUNTEERS HARD AT WORK HAVING FUN



MORE FUN



Northern Sky Theater Speakers

BSPOA'S 20TH ANNUAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 23, 2017

BSPOA's 20th annual luncheon meeting will be held at the Horseshoe Bay Golf Club on Saturday, September 23rd. Our featured speakers are from Northern Sky Theater, formerly known as the American Folklore Theater, in Door County.

Holly Feldman, Director of Development and Public Relations, and Jeff Herbst, Artistic Director, Performer, Director will focus their remarks on the theater's wonderful history, past and present performances, and what's in store for the future. While Holly focuses on PR and development of the theatre, she also helps behind the scenes and often sings with the performers in various shows; Jeff has been Artistic Director since 1993. He has worked on over 50 original productions for Northern Sky. Jeff has also performed both on and off Broadway as well as regional theaters throughout the United States.

Since 1970, Peninsula State Park has been the open air setting for their musical shows. Originally known as The Heritage Ensemble, in 1990, the name morphed into the American Folklore Theater, and in 2015, changed to Northern Sky Theater. Those of you acquainted with the theater, know the joyful, fun and thoughtful musical productions performed under the stars. The shows focus on legend and lore of the United States and local culture, are suited to all ages, and are created and presented by professional actors. It will be an entertaining and informative presentation. We invite you to join us! Detailed information will be forthcoming.

Mark your calendar for September 23rd! We hope to see you there!

BAY SHORE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this association is to maintain the safe, natural and aesthetic character of the Bay Shore Drive area.

MISSION STATEMENT: The Bay Shore Property Owners Association is a voluntary, nonprofit association. Its mission is to provide a forum for discussion and action on issues that impact the residential character of the neighborhoods and those that affect the character of Door County and/or the property rights of Bay Shore property owners.

GOALS:

❀ To monitor proposals for development of recreational/commercial properties that relates to and

affects residential character of the neighborhood.

❀ To keep members informed of development proposals and issues that impact the residential character of the neighborhood.

❀ To educate and motivate members and non-members to preserve and enhance the natural, visual and historic resources of the area.

❀ To encourage management of growth through effective town, city and county land use planning and zoning.

❀ To form an alliance with other existing property owner associations.

❀ To address other issues that affect Bay Shore Drive indirectly but affect the quality of life in Door County.

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