



CHESAPEAKE ISLE CIVIC ASSOCIATION
P. O. BOX 150 NORTH EAST, MD. 21901

C.I.C.A. Newsletter **April 20, 2003**

President's Message

This is a packed newsletter, so let me jump right into an important subject: the Board of Directors is making progress towards a goal of 100% membership. In the fall, we learned how Hollywood Beach, a community similar to Chesapeake Isle in many ways, successfully converted to mandatory membership a few years ago. Over the winter, a framework and timetable for the steps needed to make the change in Chesapeake Isle were developed and work on CICA Bylaws has been undertaken. We expect to finish our work on this at the August Annual Meeting.

We have patterned our efforts on Hollywood Beach's positive experience. They changed their bylaws, enforced the provisions in small claims court, and have been sustained on appeal in Cecil County courts. They are in compliance with the Maryland Homeowners Association Law and have their bylaws on file in the courthouse. We are in consultation with their lawyer in Silver Springs, MD. They have been able to keep Hollywood Beach friendly and private while maintaining and improving their community assets.

The Board sent a draft of proposed bylaws changes to the lawyer referenced above for review and recommendations. The two primary areas of change to the existing bylaws proposed are in Article 1: make membership mandatory for property owners in Chesapeake Isle, and require membership approval of the fiscal year budget and dues amount at the Annual Meeting. There are also related logical wording and "clean-up" changes proposed for Articles 2, 3, 4 and 5. For instance, "in good standing" is inserted after "member" throughout the bylaws where appropriate, and renters become the guests and responsibility of the property owner members.

The Board plans an open meeting for CICA members in spring to share information and hear concerns. We expect to have the final proposed Bylaws changes and ballots mailed to CICA members in June. The July Newsletter will have more on the subject and remind members about the annual meeting and Bylaws change balloting. Results of balloting will be announced at the annual meeting. If the membership of the Chesapeake Isle Civic Association, Inc. approves the change in Bylaws, membership will be required of all property owners with the new membership year that starts January 1, 2004. The Bylaws will be recorded at the Cecil County Courthouse in compliance with the Maryland Homeowners Association Act.

My thanks go to our many volunteers. As always, I encourage you to write or e-mail, check out minutes from Board of Director meetings on the bulletin boards and the website, pitch in where you can, and take a minute to be a good neighbor. Hope to see you in the Isle or on the Elk. *Until the July newsletter....*

Mike Szep
President

Membership Dues Report

This year's membership dues have been coming in at a very good rate. We thank those who responded so well so early. As we "went to press" with this newsletter, our number of paid member families stood at 212, which was a little ahead of last year's return rate. If you have not yet paid your dues for the year, won't you please do so now? If you have misplaced your dues invoice, a copy is available on our website www.chesapeakeisle.org (or you can just send your check by itself to the membership chairman).

2003 Bath House Keys & Shuffleboard Cabinet Keys

If you paid for a bathhouse key or shuffleboard cabinet key for this season when you sent in your annual dues, you will find your key (keys) taped to this newsletter. Please remember that the bathhouse key will not work on the locks currently on the doors to the rest rooms. As soon as the water is turned on at Spring Work Day and the bathhouse is cleaned and in operating order, we will put the locks on for the 2003 season. This key will work on those locks. The new lock to the shuffleboard equipment closet is already in place and your key will work immediately.

We are currently advertising for a responsible teen-ager or adult who would like to clean the bathhouse weekly for some summer income. Please see the related story on Pavilion Rentals for more details.

Emergency Contact Data Base

Ever since someone made this outstanding suggestion at last year's annual meeting, we have been looking forward to making this list a reality. It was a great idea and we don't know why we never thought of it sooner. The home owners and property owners of the Isle must also think it is a good idea ... approximately 67 % of those paying their dues for the year provided us with as many as 3 or 4 relatives or friends who they would want us to notify of any problems on their property or with their homes or boats if they were away and could not be contacted. The Emergency Data Base directory should be completed by the end of May. When duplicating is done, copies will be distributed to the Membership Chairman, Town Watch Chairman, Maintenance Chairman, Harbormaster and the President and Secretary of the association.

Ladies Brunch Approaching Quickly

The Annual Ladies Brunch will be held at the pavilion on Saturday, June 7th from 10:00 until noon. Please come and join us in welcoming the new ladies who have come into our community since last June. This is a great way to meet your new neighbors and catch up with older ones who you may not have seen very often over the long winter months.



New arrivals will receive an invitation to join in. All other members who plan on attending should let Gay Turner (410-287-8258) know for planning purposes.



News From The Harbor

It must be spring ... there are eighty mooring floats bobbing in the harbor and another half dozen to go after they get worn tackle replaced. Many thanks to all who gave of their time and energy during the pick-ups, inspections and placement of all these moorings. It is always a tough job made more so at a time of year when weather is always "chancy". It is, however, always made a little easier by all those neighbors working together as a team.

Please do not park on the grass area to the left of the harbor road (up river) until we find a way to stem or divert the flow of water from the spring that has come to life.

With the upcoming boating season upon us, we need to be reminded of a few simple rules and courtesies we can show other boaters to make it a better season:

The piers and floating docks are for the use of members in good standing and their guests only.

- There is NO FISHING allowed from the launch ramp dock and pier.
- Docks are for loading and unloading only and not for tie-ups.
- All boaters should be ready to use the ramp and dock and move on as quickly as possible. This is not the time to load the boat or change a dead battery.
- The harbor speed limit remains at 5 knots for all vessels of any kind. You can be held liable for damage done to other boats by your wake.
- Swimming is not permitted in the harbor. We have a beautiful beach for this activity.
- All vehicles and trailers using the harbor area are required to display a CICA sticker on both (or 2003 Guest Pass on vehicle dash board). It seems a lot easier to abide by this rule than to be repeatedly challenged by members who don't know you or to find Trespassing notices on your windshield when you return.
- There is a \$15.00 storage charge for every vessel stored on harbor lands.

Boaters have the right of way over fisherman and crabbers at docks and piers. Please be prepared to reel in lines, etc. when boats are approaching these facilities. Besides the fact that it is illegal, crab traps should never be left hanging off docks and piers unattended.



If we all follow a few simple rules and practice a little boating courtesy, we can all enjoy a good time and a memorable boating season. And let's try to always leave the harbor area cleaner than we found it.

Bill Dryden
Harbormaster

Goodbye To Some Chesapeake Isle Neighbors

Bill Bofinger passed away since our last newsletter. He was a member of that “greatest generation,” a seaman who fought in World War II. Those who knew him during his years in the Isle will not only miss him but will undoubtedly never forget the courage and determination he showed during his long fight with a variety of cancers and the loss of his wife, Dotty, in the midst of it all. Within a few days of Bill’s passing, we heard of the death of Charles McCurdy while residing at his winter home in Florida. Unlike Bill, Bud McCurdy’s passing was sudden and unexpected and our prayers and best wishes are with Jeanne and their family and friends. Bill and Charlie were both members of the civic association for over a decade and we will miss them greatly.

Progressive Dinner Breaks Winter’s Icy Grasp

When “Punxatawney Phil” foretold another six weeks of winter on Groundhog Day, we tried to put the best face on it (drought relief) or resorted to calling the rural rat “ a low-down lying rodent.” Unfortunately, more than a month later, we were pleading for some sun and warmth and begrudgingly calling him a very accurate weather prognosticator.

Happily, the Progressive Dinner brought some brief comfort and warmth into our lives as we gathered together in friendship and camaraderie. Fifty-three folks came together for our annual “farewell to winter” and nine neighbor families opened their homes hospitably for this joyous occasion. Our thanks to Karen Dryden for all of her preparations for the event and to all who brought additional food specialties for the evening.

Hosts and hostesses for the evening were: Karen & Bill Dryden (Appetizers), Diane & Jim Abel (entrée), Barbara & Neil Barr (entrée), Diane & Jay Gilfillan (entrée), Sara & Sonny Hayes (entrée), Sue & Ward Keever (entrée), Ruth & Carl Killian (entrée), Sue & Harry Seeley (entrée) and Anne & John Bates (Desserts). Our thanks to the Dessert and Appetizer hosts and hostesses for opening their homes to such a large, boisterous crowd and to the Entrée homes for their innovative and delicious preparation of a variety of wonderful main courses.



Guest Passes for 2003

In this newsletter, you will find two Guest Passes for the use of your friends and family visiting Chesapeake Isle's harbor or bathing beach areas. Please have your visitors display them on the top of the dashboard or in the front windshield to avoid being "challenged" needlessly by others. We would remind you that "blanket" invitations to others to use the recreational areas of our community should never be extended. Your visitors and guests should only be using these areas when you are present in the Isle and aware of their presence. The passes will hold up better if glued to a cardboard backing.

Our New Community Entrance Sign



Our new Chesapeake Isle sign at the entrance to our community was installed on March 17th by a stalwart crew of volunteers anxious to see something happening on community roads besides snow plowing. After the longest, coldest, snowiest winter to hit the Elk Neck peninsula in many a year, it was good to see us on the move again ... improving and beautifying our neighborhood and its surroundings. Our thanks to Sal Tulumello for all of his work in crafting and constructing the sign in his basement workshop during the cold winter months. Sal is also making a two-foot Chesapeake Isle decal emblem to be installed on the gable end of the pavilion before Spring Work Day. The entrance sign committee consisted of Sal Tulumello, John Bates and Les Fritz.

Nominating Committee Formed for the August Election

At the March 27th meeting of the Board of Directors, the president appointed the 2003 Nominating Committee consisting of Ward Keever (chairman), Andrea Gilde, Harry Hite and Ken Knapp. If you are interested in running for a 3-year term on your Board or if you would like to suggest a member you think would be a good candidate, please contact the president, Mike Szep (410-287-5618) or any of the members of the committee listed above. The Board of Directors and the Nominating Committee would greatly appreciate your input and suggestions.



Pavilion Reservations For 2003

Believe it or not, the pavilion has already been reserved for 14 dates during the approaching beach season. If you have been thinking about a family re-union or other gathering, we would advise you to contact Gay Turner (410-287-8258) as soon as possible for available dates. The donation for use by a paid member of the association is \$25.00 and the date is not reserved until payment is received. The pavilion is not available to non-members.

If anyone is interested in cleaning and re-stocking the bath house rest rooms/changing rooms on a weekly basis, please call Gay to learn what is involved in this activity and the current pay rate.

C.I.C.A. Burgees and Logo Clothing

The new supply of burgees has arrived just in time for boating season and these very well made flags cost only \$20.00. Of course, we still have all the old favorites, T-shirts, sweatshirts, etc. Just call Dotty Fritz (410-287-9010) to order any of these items, which make wonderful Mothers Day and Fathers Day surprises, as well.

Crabbing With A Fishing License



Planning on crabbing this summer? The bay sport fishing license covers crabbing as well. You can catch up to one bushel. As long as your license shows the "Bay Sport Pleasure Boat Fishing" license you can crab from a pier or another boat.

Volleyball and Deck Shuffleboard

I realize that there is a slight bit of difference in the amount of athletic "output" required for these two activities (although not the way I used to play) but I am "lumping" these two together as beachfront events for the warmer months.

Ray Perry informs us that the beach volley-ballers will be playing again on Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday evenings at 6:30 pm following Spring Work Day. Anyone interested should get together on Spring Work Day, when the court is being groomed or call Ray Perry (410-287-6778) or e-mail rperry@cecilcc.edu for more information. Please don't be shy ... new players are always welcome. You can have a few hours of real fun each week, expend the amount of energy and calories that are right for you and enjoy some friendly, fairly low-competitive activity right here in your own community.

If you're no longer the volleyball type and don't want to put out that much effort, how about some deck shuffleboard ?? We have received orders so far for 62 keys to the shuffleboard closet so there are a lot of families or individuals out there who might be interested in a low key league (or two) during the pleasant summer evenings. Maggie Parrott, a deck shuffleboard devotee, informs us that this year she brought back from Florida the proper waxes and sprays, etc. to put the court in prime condition. Hopefully, Maggie and her family will get that done on work day or thereabouts. Thanks for thinking of us, Mag! A sign-up sheet will be posted by the cabinet to see how many might be interested in an easy going, relaxed league on spring and summer evenings.

Evening BINGO At The Beach Returns

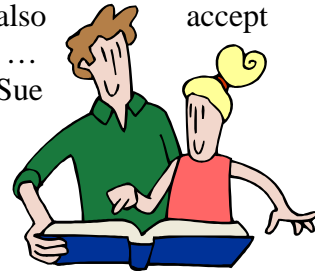
Perhaps, even shuffleboard requires too much physical exertion for you ! We have just the answer to how to spend some exciting Wednesday evenings with family members and neighbors. "Bingo at the Beach" returns on Wednesday evening, June 25th so turn off the T.V. ... shut down the computer ... and come out and win the BIG PRIZES at the pavilion. Light refreshments, snacks, brownies, etc. available as always. Games run from 6:30 until about 8:30 P.M. so mark these Wednesday evenings on your calendar.....



June 25th July 9th July 23rd August 6th August 20th
 Questions call Dotty Fritz (410-287-9010) or Joan Ferrick (410-287-8595)

C.I.C.A. Library * * * * * Volunteers Needed

What ?? Your doctor tells you that even a brisk Bingo game should be avoided ? Well, curl up with a good book from our community library. Each Saturday morning from 10:00 to 11:30am, the library in the pavilion is open for you to browse through the many books we have. Borrow for as long as you like. We will also accept any books you might like to bring down. Naturally, the newer ... the better. If you need books picked up from your home call Sue Clare (410-287-5372) The library is open from May 17th (Spring Clean-Up Day) until the end of October.



NOTE: We need a few volunteers to make this happen, if you can serve a Saturday morning , or a couple of them, please call Sue Clare and let her know. Thanks !!

Fourth of July Planning Meeting



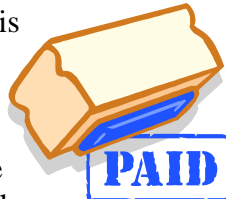
Believe it or not, it is time to start planning for our Chesapeake Isle Independence Day extravaganza.... Our salute to the Fourth of July Celebration!! The first planning meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 13th – 7:30 pm at the pavilion. Mark your calendar right now and plan on attending.

For our newer neighbors in the Isle, this is a day-long celebration held between the pavilion and the bathing beach. It is planned and executed by Isle residents and includes craft tables, games for all ages, food, silent auction, etc. etc. Come to the meeting and join the fun. Any questions ... call Ginny Cobby at 410-287-6358

ATTENTION: Artists, crafters, collectors ...Get your work ready for a craft table at this year's Fourth of July celebration! Contact Anne Bates for details at 410-287-6244

Jetty Loans Now Retired

On March 31st, the Board of Directors voted to authorize re-payment of the final ¼ of the original loans made from members of the association to construct the two jetties or groins at our swim beach. This project is now completed and fully paid off. The total original cost of this endeavor was \$25,200.00 and we received outright gifts and donations from members in the amount of \$6,800.00 (27%) We used \$900.00 (3.6%) from the CICA savings account and the remaining \$17,500.00 (69.4%) was financed by the loans that have just been retired. The member loans were re-paid in 2 years and 2 months



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The Board of Directors thank all who had anything to do with the dreaming, planning, investigation, building and financing of this worthwhile and ambitious undertaking.

C.I.C.A. SOCIAL PAGE
SPRING CLEAN-UP

Date: 5/17/03
Time: 8:30 AM
Place: Pavilion
Contact: Sue Seeley 410-287-0025

It's time to get our community ready for summer. Bring your tools (marked with your name) and help pitch in to make Chesapeake Isle a great place to live.

A covered dish social will immediately follow the work projects at 1:00 PM ...

Meat, beverages and paper products are provided by the social committee. Please bring a covered side dish or dessert – enough to feed 8 – 10 people. Come and meet your neighbors, get your work assignment and be an important part of our community.

ANNUAL LADIES BRUNCH

Date: 6/7/03
Time: 10:00 to Noon
Place: Pavilion
Contact: Gay Turner 410-287-8258

The C.I.C.A. Social Committee would like to welcome all the new ladies who have become our new neighbors. Come and join us for our annual brunch. Coffee, tea, juice and paper goods are provided by the social committee. Please bring your favorite brunch item, fruit or dessert – enough to feed 6 – 8 people. It's a great time, so don't miss it.

HARBOR SOCIALS

Dates: 6/20/03 7/11/03 8/1/03
Time: 7:00 PM
Place: Harbor (In case of rain we move to the pavilion)
Contact: Sue Seeley 410-287-0025

Come join us for our most popular get-together. Bring your favorite wine, snack or finger food.

Soda, beer, ice and paper goods are provided. This activity is for ADULTS ONLY. And, please ... no dogs either !!

Note: I need some strong helpers around 6:30 pm at the pavilion to move tables, etc. down to the harbor for set-up. Thanks !!

NOTE: Will the person who "borrowed" the purple milk crate from the pavilion please return it. We need that for the spring clean-up.

Social Committee Meeting

All of these wonderful social events don't just "happen" ... Come out and join in on the planning fun. Our next meeting is 5/6/03 at 7:30 pm at the pavilion. The social meetings are open to all CICA members. If you have any ideas for new social activities, give us a call. Better yet, come to a meeting.

Call Sue Seeley (410-287-0025) or e-mail sueseley@earthlink.net

Annual Spring Dinner and 2003 Awards

The association's 43rd Annual Spring Dinner was held at the newly re-decorated Chesapeake Bay Club on Saturday evening, April 12th and was attended by 92 members and guests. In light of our Armed Force's current military expeditions, veterans of other times and actions were honored with a presentation pin upon entering for the evening.

After a lively cocktail hour, a very fine buffet style dinner was presented for our enjoyment. In a prayer before the meal, a period of silence and remembrance was observed for the friends and neighbors of the Isle who died during the past year. Charlotte Hallett (chairperson) and Karen Dryden were congratulated by President Mike Szep for an exemplary job in bringing together an excellent evening for those attending.

The Man of the Year Award was presented posthumously for the first time in its' fifteen year history to Tom Cobley. Tom was a current member of the Board of Directors at the time of his death and the chairman and driving force behind our revitalized Fourth of July celebrations for almost the last ten years. It was Tom's idea to re-visit the plan to construct jetties at the swim beach to fight the erosion that had been taking place for the past several years. And, of course, he was our Santa Claus and leader of song at the annual Christmas Caroling. His wife, Ginny, graciously accepted his award.

Anne Bates was honored as the Woman of the Year for her many years of service to this community as a member of the Beach Committee, the Newsletter Committee, the Social Committee, the Town Watch Committee and as a hostess to many, many social events in her home. Anne is also a past member and former officer of the Board of Directors. She was, in fact, the last person to hold the combined office of Secretary / Treasurer. Anne is also very active with her church, various craft shows and the craft table portion of the annual Fourth of July Celebration.

If the Spring Dinner is going to continue to grow so much in popularity, larger venues will be needed for future years.

Ladies Dine Out

Dine out on the third Thursday of the month has been a big success. We meet at the beach at 11:30 for those that want to car pool. Most restaurants have been very accommodating and like to have us there.

- April 17th - Casey's River House
- May 15th - Kitty Knight House

Call Gail Berkeihiser at 287-9439 the Tuesday before if you wish to join us .



Paid Members Bulletin Board and Ads

Miss the Snow Next Year !! Sonny and Sara Hayes have a fully furnished, 1st floor, one bedroom condo in Venice, Florida that is available for rent. There is a swimming pool, club house and washer & dryer and it is located just across the street from a beautiful public beach on the Gulf of Mexico. Sorry, but no pets are allowed by the Condo Association. If you might be interested in renting it anytime during the year, contact Sonny or Sara at 410-287-7588 for available dates and rates.

Sail Sale: Put a little fun in your life !! 16 foot Coleman Hobie Cat for sale with galvanized Highlander trailer. \$1,200 Call John Bates (410-287-6244) or Carl Killian (410-287-6592)

For Sale

- **Power Boat:** 1986 Wellcraft 197 Elan bowrider 185 HP I/O engine, 6 cyl. – Mercruiser Alpha One outdrive. Boat refurbished August, 2002 Complete new interior with pedestal seats and sunpad. All stripes replaced. Motor mounts replaced, engine alignment, outdrive serviced and new alternator... all done in 2002. Dual battery set-up with selector switch and brand new AM/FM/CD player with 2 speakers.
Entire package comes with trailer and boat cover \$4,900.00
- **17' Newport 17 Sailboat**, 5 horsepower Tohatsu longshaft outboard, trailer, \$1500

Call Mike Szep, Jr. at 410-287-2504

FOR SALE- 2 KAYAKS! Explore low water areas where boats can't go. 1-expedition with rudder and dry haul storage. 1 kiwi- both with paddles and skirts. Test ride available if you dare. Ask \$750.00 call :

Christy & Regan 34 Mowbray Lane 410-287-7024 cmpurrin@aol.com

