



FALL 2005

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT - Al Rae

Thank you for your support in electing me to be your President this year. I am looking forward to working with all of you over the next year and seeing you at all of the South Bethany Property Owners Association (SBPOA) activities. As I write this message, Labor Day is approaching very quickly and our wonderful Neighborhood Watch volunteers are about to kick off another new season in September. Where did the summer go?

With 615 Property - Members who have joined our Association this year, we are all very interested in the issues that affect South Bethany. In order to better understand your concerns and comments on where South Bethany and the SBPOA should be headed, we mailed a survey to our Members this summer. We also sent surveys to non-member property owners with the objective of understanding why they are not members. Responses from these individuals will help us all do a better job. We have included some survey first observations in a separate article later in this issue. We do want to thank all those who responded and who took the time to share their comments about South Bethany.

A very important funding issue that affects all of South Bethany is the funding by Congress for the 2006 beach replenishment. Since the needed funds have not yet had a final approval we need your help. It is imperative that your Members of Congress hear from as many of you as possible about the importance of their maintaining the funding levels for the Bethany – South Bethany Beach project contained in the Fiscal Year 2006 Energy and Water appropriations bill. Your letter to your Senators and Congressman will help. Or if it would be helpful to you in identifying your Congress representatives names and address (based upon where you live), the South Bethany consultant Marlowe & Company web site at –

<http://capwiz.com/mandcmp/issues/alert/?alertid=7703986>, allows the entry of your zip code to identify your members. This site also helps you create an e-mail to be sent to them about this issue and registering your support. As your President, I have sent a letter to each Delaware Member of Congress stressing the support of our Association for the approval of this bill.

You should also be aware that I was just notified that a Task Force has been formed by the Delaware State government to review the Delaware Department of Transportation's financial problems. And that this committee is looking at the local share of the realty transfer tax as a source of funds for the DOT. Since this tax is a substantial percentage of South Bethany's annual revenue, should this revenue be reduced or eliminated it could cause tax increases or infrastructure project cancellation. As property owners please take action with your Delaware State representatives and in this case your State Senator George Bunting and Representative Gerald Hocker. Let them know that this possible change is not supported.

Finally, one of the SBPOA projects that I hear a great deal of appreciation for from our members, is the Telephone Directory which this Association publishes every other year. I use my copy almost daily and think it is a great service. The next Directory to be published will be the 2006-2007 edition and the work needs to begin now! At this point in time we still need a Chairperson for the project and some additional team members. Please contact me if you can help with this project which gives your neighbors and yourself so much benefit.

Thanks again for your support and should you want to contact me regarding some issue please send an e-mail to al.rae@verizon.net or call 537-9440.

Respectfully,
Al Rae

SURVEY – FIRST OBSERVATIONS:

- The Survey which we sent to all SBPOA members and non-members this summer was well received and we received 305 responses back of the just over 1000 surveys mailed. A careful study of the responses is under way and will be reported to you in a future edition of SHORE LINES. However we thought you would be interested in knowing some of our initial observations based upon the responses received:
- 85% of the responses were from members (255) and 16% were from non-members (50).
- Of the 615 members of SBPOA this year, 42% responded (255).
- Overall people liked the survey and thought it well intended.
- Interestingly more than a few responders were not clear on the difference between the South Bethany Town government and our Association – SBPOA.
 - Many think the Town runs our Neighborhood Watch program.
 - By knowing this we will try to clarify these lines of responsibility in our articles about Town and SBPOA events and issues.
- Many people suggested that we send SHORE LINES and other communications by e-mail.
 - We thought this a great idea and started doing this in August 2005 by sending over 400 members a notice of the 8-31-05 Membership meeting.
 - This issue of SHORE LINES is being mailed to all members as well as by e-mail to the 400 + we have e-mail addresses for. This will be a transition issue and the next issue will be e-mailed only to those Members we have e-mail addresses for.
 - For everyone receiving any e-mail communication from SBPOA. Please remember to share these mailings with your other co-owners and family. Forward the information to the others.
- Property owners want more information about South Bethany issues. Because of this feedback on the survey responses, we have begun including more information of this type in this issue of SHORE LINES. However it is important that everyone be aware that they can get the most up to date information on the many issues of importance to all South Bethany Property on the South Bethany web site -<http://southbethany.org/bulletinboard.php>.

- Our Association Neighborhood Watch program, Telephone Book and SHORE LINES scored high with everyone.
- We received many written comments about many specific concerns and issues. Once we analyze all this information we will share it with not only our members but as appropriate with the South Bethany Town government so they know what their citizens are concerned about.

NEWS FROM TOWN OF SOUTH BETHANY WEB SITE <http://southbethany.org/>

Assawoman Canal As of August 2005

The Environmental Appeals Board issued its Final Order and Decision in writing on July 26, 2005 regarding the Sierra Club's appeal. The Board found that the Sierra Club did not satisfy its burden of proof for their claims concerning the impact on water quality, biologically productive areas, and the spoil sites. However, the Board did remand the permit back to DNREC to conduct a new Cost/Benefit Analysis utilizing DNREC guidelines.

In the meantime, the State Legislature placed a footnote on the annual capital budget (Bond Bill) that included an "express finding" that the deepening would yield more benefits than costs and, thus, ordered the project to move ahead. DNREC is proceeding based on this directive and wants to start dredging this fall. It is not clear whether DNREC can satisfy all the conditions in the State and Federal permits required prior to the start of dredging by this fall; however, they are going to try.

Finally, it is unclear whether the Legislature's action is legal as it bypasses the Appeals Board's process. It is our understanding the Sierra Club is looking into this issue.

SCHEDULE FOR UPCOMING TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETINGS

Friday,	Oct. 14 at 7:00 PM
Thursday,	Nov. 10 at 7:00 PM
Friday,	Dec. 9 at 7:00 PM

Minutes from previous council meetings are available on the South Bethany Website.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Kathy Connor

Beginning Balance - January 1, 2005 \$18,455

Income:

- \$12,155 from membership dues.
- \$ 1,798 from the sale of tee shirts, sweatshirts, and hats through McCabe's store.

Expenses:

- \$3,079 for successful Bull Roast.
- \$3,465 for Neighborhood Watch.
- \$3,339 for our newsletters and our survey.
- \$ 259 for tax return preparation

Donations:

- \$140 to Frankford School for dictionaries
- \$100 to St. Ann's Building fund in memory of Ned Connor who died in December.
- \$500 for Town of South Bethany Beautification
- \$500 to Bethany Beach Vol. Fire Co.
- \$500 to Millville Fire Co. Ambulance Service
- \$500 to the Cheer Center, Ocean View Chapter.
- \$200 - anticipated to the Lifeguard of the year.

Balance as of August 23, 2005

\$20,026



Barbara Junkin and
Principal, Mr. Duncan Smith

In conjunction with the South Bethany Women's Club we donated dictionaries to the Frankford Elementary school for the coming school year.

If you have any suggestions or comments about the use of SBPOA money please send an e-mail to Kathy Connor at (eandkconner@yahoo.com) or come to our meeting. We welcome suggestions for charities or other events.

SBPOA - NEW OFFICERS - 2005-2006

President	Al Rae
1 st Vice President	George Junkin
Secretary	Elsa Clarke
Treasurer	Kathy Connor

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM 2005-2006

George Junkin, Chairperson



George reports that the SBPOA Neighborhood Watch for the season 2005 - 2006 is organized. All houses are assigned to walkers and ready for the new season. For 2005 - 2006 there will be more than 55 of your neighbors, coordinated by George with the help of 7 Captains, keeping a watch on those houses which have signed up for the program. This year there are over 610 houses which have signed up to be watched, an increase of 60 houses over the 550 properties watched last season.

We are always in need of more walkers and substitutes during the winter months when a lot of the walkers go off to Florida for a vacation. **If you are able to help out please call George Junkin at 541-5340 or E-mail at gjunk2@aol.com**

By the time that you read this you should have already received your 2005 - 2006 placards (orange this year) from the SBPOA Neighborhood Watch "Walker" for your street. Please destroy any old placards from previous years and place the new 2005 - 2006 placard in a window at the front of your house where it can be seen from the street. Placing the placard where it can be seen will assist the "Walker" in identifying your house and it will help warn and help deter anyone approaching your house for mischief.

One of the things that the "Walker" checks for is water coming from the house. If the house gets water from Artesian, Artesian will be called to shut the water off. They will charge the homeowner about \$40 for the turn off. Artesian recommends that houses be "Winterized" by turning off the water. The home owner is able to do this at his shut off valve right after the water meter. All that is required to do this is a Pentagon Key and a Curb Stop Key. George Junkin has both of these stored in his outside shower. Anyone is free to borrow them to shut off their water and to turn it back on again.

SBPOA IS USING E-MAIL

If you did not receive the meeting announcement and/or the news letter please send an E-mail to SBPOA2005@aol.com from the E-mail address that you would like us to use for sending mail to you. In the E-mail please include your name and South Bethany property address so that we can get your E-mail address connected to the correct person. Also tell your computer to accept mail from SBPOA@aol.com.

SHED NEEDED

We need a shed to store the many materials used by the South Bethany Property Owners Association for our different member activities such as the Bull Roast (tables, ropes, tarpaulins, tubs, etc). We need a shed approximately 8 feet by 12 feet in size and hope someone has one they could donate (Tax Deduction). If you have a shed we can have, please contact Al Rae at 302-537-0440 or at al.rae@verizon.net.

DATES TO REMEMBER

8-31-05 10AM SBPOA Membership meeting
8-31-05 10AM Neighborhood Watch Kick Off
9-17-05 DNREC's Beach Clean Up, Register at www.dnrec.state.de.us "Hot Topics", "Coastal Cleanup"
9-24-05 Special Election to vote on new South Bethany police and town hall buildings
12-14-05 SBPOA Membership meeting & Neighborhood Watch Luncheon
2-24-06 Nominating Committee for new officers
5-27-06 Town Election
6-10-06 Bull Roast
6-10-06 SBPOA Election/Installation of Officers
Approve SBPOA Annual Operating Budget

DO NOT FORGET TO VOTE

Another important date for you all to remember is the September 24, 2005 Special Election to vote on new South Bethany police and town hall buildings – Resolution NO. 4-05. Detailed information on these projects and voting information is available at the Town Hall and the Town web site at – <http://southbethany.org>.

Shore Lines

is the newsletter for SBPOA

SBPOA2005@aol.com

P.O. Box 868

Bethany Beach DE 19930

Address