

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT - Al Rae

When is the last time that we had good weather for Memorial Day, 4<sup>th</sup> of July and Labor Day weekends – all in one year? Well this was the year and now it is mid September and it is still great beach weather. The water temperature today is 76 and the high temperature was 78!

Good news! If you would like to save 10% on your Flood Insurance then please read the Special Notice (included below) from our Town Manager Melvin A. Cusick regarding the approval of South Bethany's application for the Community Rating System Classification which becomes effective as of October 1, 2007. Please join with me in thanking the Town staff for persevering with an arduous 2 ½ year application process to achieve this approval. A copy of this Special Notice is also found at the South Bethany web site at

[http://www.southbethany.org/pdf\\_bulletinboard/SPECIAL%20NOTICE%20-%20FLOOD%20INSURANCE%20DISCOUNT.pdf](http://www.southbethany.org/pdf_bulletinboard/SPECIAL%20NOTICE%20-%20FLOOD%20INSURANCE%20DISCOUNT.pdf)

The first sand poured onto the beaches for the new beach replenishment project began a few days ago when our Delaware Congressional, State and Local leadership poured ceremonial sand onto the beach during a brief ceremony on the Bethany Beach boardwalk (see photo at

<http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/Info/Highlights.htm>).

The first dredge is scheduled to arrive next week and the project will be underway. The Town has a great deal of detailed information and copies of the plans for the project on their website at

<http://www.southbethany.org/bboard.php>. These plans let you see how big the beach will be at each street and how the crossovers through the sand dunes will be designed in addition to many other details.

Our new Town Hall is looking very nice as it moves closer to completion. The Police building is completed and occupied. The Town Hall will be occupied by November 1<sup>st</sup>. They are attractive buildings and will be a big improvement for the working conditions of our Town staff.

The dredging of our Town canals will begin in February 2008 and will only take 60 days or less to

complete. Our dredging was delayed at the request of the State due to the State's dredging of the Assawoman Canal - currently underway. Since we will use the same site for dumping the dredged material as the State, this eliminates getting in each others way.

Have a wonderful fall season. Should you want to contact me please send an e-mail to [al.rae@verizon.net](mailto:al.rae@verizon.net) or call 537-9440.

Respectfully, Al Rae

## SPECIAL NOTICE SOUTH BETHANY RESIDENTS TO GET FLOOD INSURANCE DISCOUNT

The Town of South Bethany has been notified by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) that their application for the Community Rating System Classification has been approved as of October 1, 2007. What this means for the residents of South Bethany that have flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program or any Write Your Own (WYO) participating companies is that they are eligible for a discount from their insurance carrier. If your home is located within the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), you will receive a 10% discount on your flood insurance. If your home is located in Zone X on the FEMA Flood Zone Map, you will receive a 5% discount on your flood insurance. Your insurance agent should already have the information from the NFIP in their system and incorporate the discount automatically. Most of South Bethany, about 95%, is in the SFHA and therefore qualifies for the 10% discount. The discount should be reflected when your flood insurance is to be renewed. If it is not, call your agent. The combined effect of the savings for the residents is significant. Using the Town Hall flood insurance as an example, the Town will see a \$100.00 savings. If this is used as an average for the approximately 1300 lots with homes in South Bethany, assuming all would have flood insurance, the total savings resulting from the discount is approximately \$130,000.00 each year.

South Bethany becomes only the 8th municipality in Delaware to enter the Community Rating System Program. It becomes only the 5th municipality in Delaware to obtain the 10% discount rate. Only one

municipality has a higher discount rate of 15%. The application process for the Town began in 2005. It has taken many hours of hard work by the Town staff to get to this point. To maintain the discount for residents, the Town must continue to maintain Community Outreach Programs, do periodic mailings and announcements, maintain elevation certificates, provide flood protection information, drainage system maintenance and inspection, and a host of other activities. The Town is subject to annual reviews as a part of this program. I am very pleased that we have

been able to achieve this rating for our residents so that they can get a discount on their flood insurance. With rising insurance costs, I am sure it will be a benefit to each of you. I would like to commend and thank the Town Hall staff for their work on this project. The application process and associated work has taken 2.5 years. This could not have been achieved without their hard work and dedication.

Melvin A. Cusick, Town Manager

**SUMMARY UPDATE ON CANAL WATER QUALITY ACTIVITIES**

- **Tidal Pump Project**
  - System is feasible and practical
  - Performs as originally conceived
  - Exchange of water will improve canal water quality
  - Improvement in Little Assawoman Bay water quality
  - Tidal differential will cause adequate water flow – **no pumps are needed**
  - Design engineering estimated cost - \$249,000
  - Construction estimated cost - \$5.2 - \$6.7 million
  - Annual operating maintenance estimated cost \$18,400
- **Dredging** See President’s letter on page 1.
- **South Bethany Canal Water Quality Committee**  
Formed May, 2007
  - Lead by Jay Headman
  - Goal is to make canals “**fishable and swimmable**”
  - Focus areas
    - Educate the community – A meeting, sponsored by SBPOA, was held September 12, 2007 to discuss the tidal pump, stormwater runoff, and actions owners could take to improve the canal water quality. Chris Bason from the CIB was the featured presenter.
    - Work with town, county, state, and federal governments
    - Review current town ordinances
    - Work closely with the Center for the Inland Bays
- **Oyster Gardening**
  - Lead by Al Allenspach
- **Water Quality Monitoring Program**
  - Lead by Al Rae
  - Quantities to be monitored (*Location Map, p4*)
    - *For “Fishable” Waters*
      - Dissolved Oxygen
      - Water Temperature
      - Salinity
      - Nitrogen and Phosphorus

- Secchi Depth
  - *For “Swimmable” Waters*
- Bacteria
  - *For Storm Water Influence*
    - Collect accurate local rain data – an electronic rain gage, donated by DelDOT has been installed at 8 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street and is currently collecting rain data.

**TREASURER’S REPORT – Kathy Jankowski**

**Balance – January 1, 2007** **\$27,913**

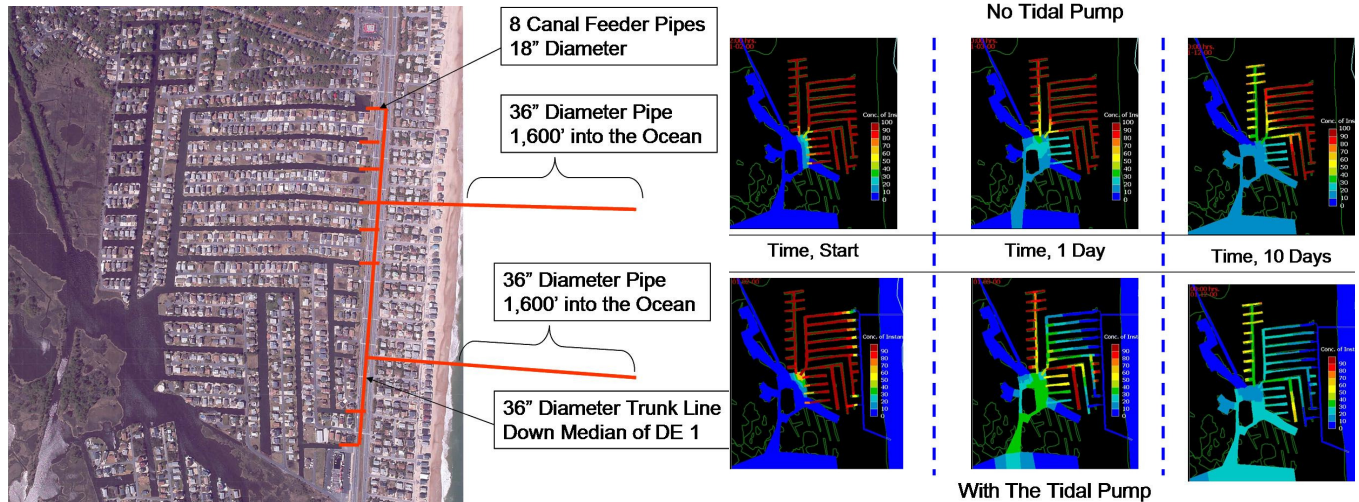
<b>INCOME</b>	
Interest Inc	36.21
Membership Dues	15,640.00
Merchandise Income	3,263.00
Overpaid Dues	10.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>18,949.21</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Award--Lifeguard Of The Year	200.00
Award--Water Quality	65.00
Bull Roast	3,525.00
Charity--Bethany Beach Fire Department	500.00
Charity--Bethany Beach Parade	100.00
Charity--Delaware Center For Inland Bays	100.00
Entertainment	35.53
Game Night	59.95
Neighborhood Watch	5,400.81
Neighborhood Watch House Signs	128.32
Neighborhood Watch Street Signs	334.00
Neighborhood Watch--Operating Supplies	20.57
Newsletter	1,136.57
Office supplies	16.00
South Bethany Apparel	4,218.00
Supplies	148.73
Tax	
Fed	199.00
State	115.00
<b>TOTAL Tax</b>	<b>314.00</b>
Tax Preparation	250.00
Yard Sale Advertising	18.20
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>16,570.68</b>

**Balance – September 24, 2007** **\$25,535**

### MORE DETAILS ON THE TIDAL PUMP

The Tidal Pump, a simple passive design, moves water by taking advantage of the tidal differences between the ocean and the canals. The Entrex computer modeling study results, shown below, show the improvements, in water exchange, that can be obtained when the tidal pump is installed.

Concepts are being developed to address circulation in the Jefferson Creek and York Canals, that are located a significant distance from DE Route 1.



### CHRIS BASON FROM THE CIB RECOGNIZED FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS



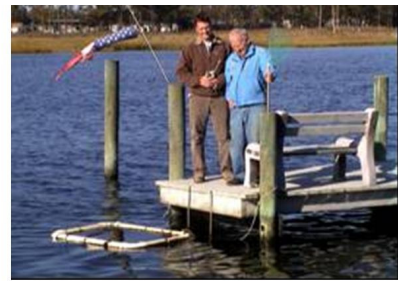
Acting for SBPOA, George Junkin presented Chris Bason, Science & Technology Coordinator for the Delaware Center for the Inland Bays, a “Thank You” award for all that Chris has done to improve the water quality on the Inland Bays and in the South Bethany Canals. The presentation was made at the CIB Board of Directors Meeting September 21, 2007. It was also announced that Chris’s proposal to spend about \$40,000 with the Center for Watershed Protection (CWP) to develop a stormwater retrofit strategy for the 62 acre watershed that drains directly into the East end of the Anchorage Canal was likely to be approved. Congratulations, Chris!

### SALES OF “NEW” SOUTH BETHANY MERCHANDISE HAVE BEEN BRISK



SBPOA merchandise sales were brisk at the North 2<sup>nd</sup> and Ocean Drive location in early August. The new line of shirts, towels, tote bags, caps, etc. with our new logo developed by Sandi Roberts were a big hit with sales exceeding \$550 over the weekend. “Proprietors” were Kelly and Nicole McKinnell, granddaughters of Celeste and John Speer.

**LOCATIONS OF 7 WATER MONITORING SITES & 32 OYSTER GARDENING SITES**



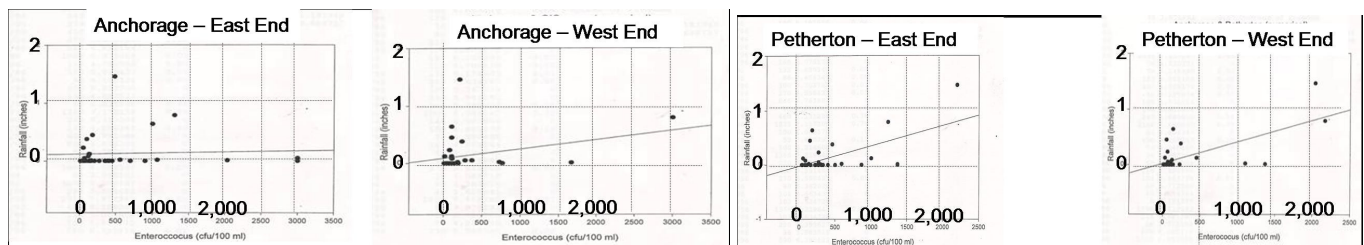
**KEEPING BACTERIA LEVELS LOW IS REQUIRED TO MAKE OUR CANALS SWIMMABLE**

In 1990 there were measurements made to assess bacterial levels in the South Bethany Canals. Twenty five locations were measured on September 27, 1990. All measurements of bacteria indicator organisms (Enterococcus) were less than 50 colony forming units (cfu) per 100ml except at the west end of the Anchorage Canal where the measurement was 103 cfu/100ml. Measurements were retaken at six of the locations on August 10, 1990 and the highest reading was 93 at the Anchorage location and between 40 and 76 at the other five locations. All of the above readings would have been acceptable for swimming by today’s standards.

During the summer of 1996 a more thorough study was conducted at four locations in the South Bethany Canals. The swimming standard at the time was 156 cfu/100ml. Enterococcus level was measured 34 times between April 22 and August 28 at the east and west ends of both the Anchorage and Petherton Canals with the following results.

- At the east end of the Anchorage Canal the swimming standard was exceeded 20 times and the maximum measurement was 3,000 cfu/100ml.
- At the west end of the Anchorage Canal the swimming standard was exceeded 11 times and the maximum measurement was 3,000 cfu/100ml.
- At the east end of the Petherton Canal the swimming standard was exceeded 20 times and the maximum measurement was 2,200 cfu/100ml.
- At the west end of the Petherton Canal the swimming standard was exceeded 7 times and the maximum measurement was 2,166 cfu/100ml.

There was an attempt to correlate the measured Enterococcus level with rainfall that occurred in the previous 24 hours before the measurements were made. The results were - There was a slight correlation with rainfall as shown in the following charts that have Enterococcus level (in cfu/100ml) on the horizontal axis and rain fall (in inches) on the vertical axis.



As can be seen from the above charts there are times of high Enterococcus levels even when there has been no rain within the past 24 hours. Also the Anchorage Canal has 10 times as much stormwater entering it from the DE Route 1 watershed as does the Petherton Canal without a corresponding increase in the Enterococcus levels. The question is where is the Enterococcus coming from? It could be coming from the Little Assawoman Bay or more likely it is coming from the residents of South Bethany. In 1996 there were many outdoor showers that were piped directly into the canals. This practice is now against the Sussex code, however there still are many outdoor showers piped directly into the canal.

What few measurements that have been made during this past summer have not shown the Enterococcus levels in the South Bethany Canals exceeding the allowable swimming levels.

Because of the significant differences in levels reported in the past and the sporadic taking of measurements, the South Bethany Water Quality Committee is establishing a rigorous monitoring program as discussed above in this newsletter.

**South Bethany Approves Voluntary Town Wide Curbside Recycling** – At the Town Council Meeting, September 14, the town passed a resolution to deliver curbside recycling (to start January 2008) to those residents who request it. Included in the regular tax bill for every residence a \$34 recycling fee would be added to the annual service fee for the collection of garbage and rubbish whether the resident makes use of the recycling service or not. If the town has a surplus at years end it will go towards reducing the price for trash pick up in the following year.

See <http://www.delmarvanow.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070919/DW01/70918045/-1/DW> for more details.

**The local newspaper, “Coastal Point”,** has excellent articles documenting issues that are of interest to South Bethany property owners. They offer these articles on their website, <http://coastalpoint.com>.

**Membership in SBPOA** – Membership in ‘04/’05 was **570**, increasing to **620** in ‘05/’06, and **776** for ‘06/’07. Currently our membership for ‘07/’08 is **753**. E-mail addresses have been supplied by 564 members who will receive the newsletter and special information by e-mail. Those without e-mail will still receive their newsletter by US Mail. Those with e-mail addresses who would prefer a hard copy of the newsletter by US Mail should send a request to [SBPOA2008@aol.com](mailto:SBPOA2008@aol.com)

#### **SBPOA DATES FOR 2007 – 2008**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>Weekday</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>EVENT</b>
Oct. 12, 2007	Friday	7:00 PM	Town Council Regular Meeting
Nov. 9, 2007	Friday	7:00 PM	Town Council Regular Meeting
Dec. 12, 2007	Wednesday	Noon	Neighborhood Watch Luncheon
Dec. 14, 2007	Friday	7:00 PM	Town Council Regular Meeting
Dec. 14, 2007	Friday		Publish Winter Shore Lines
Jan. 25, 2008	Friday	7-11 PM	Winter Social and Game Night
Feb. 8, 2008	Friday	7:00 PM	Town Council Regular Meeting
Feb. 13, 2008	Wednesday	10.00 AM	SBPOA Membership Meeting (#3) - Establish dues.
Mar. 7, 2008	Friday	7-11 PM	Winter Social and Game Night
Mar. 14, 2008	Friday	7:00 PM	Town Council Regular Meeting
Mar. 14, 2008	Friday		Publish Spring Shore Lines
April 11, 2008	Friday	7:00 PM	Town Council Regular Meeting
April 19, 2008	Saturday	10.00 AM	SBPOA Membership Meeting (#4) - Meet Town Election Candidates. President’s Report. Adopt Annual Operating Budget
May 7, 2008	Wednesday	6:30 PM	Neighborhood Watch Thank You Dinner

Follow Artesian Water's instructions copied below to turn off your water at the street. Some of your neighbors did not follow the instructions last year.



*In addition to turning off the water inside your house, it is important to turn it off at your curb stop.*

Your curb stop is located on *the property side* of your meter pit, and is specially designed for this purpose. If operated properly, this valve will allow your service line to drain. This will help to prevent freezing damage to your service. *If the curb stop is left on, the water may freeze and damage the service line from your curb stop to your house, and the plumbing in your house.*

If you winterize your property yourself, you will need a standard, long-handled curb stop key, which you can purchase at most hardware stores. You will also need a pentagon wrench to remove the curb stop box lid.

The curb stop on the *street side* of the meter pit belongs to Artesian, and does not have a weep hole. *You should not attempt to use that curb stop.*

Artesian does not provide winterization services. *In the event of an emergency, we will respond and shut off the water at our curb stop.* You will be billed for this service. There is a turn-on charge when service is restored if we are requested to turn the service back on. If your service is shut off due to a leak, and you have a licensed plumber repair your service, the licensed plumber may turn the service back on at our curb stop, and avoid the turn-on service fee.

Proper winterization of your property can help you avoid costly repairs and excessively high water bills due to broken pipes and leaks. If you have any further questions regarding this procedure, please contact our Sussex Co. office at **302-539-0400, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.**

When you return to your property and turn on the water, make sure that you open all water fixtures prior to turning on the water and then run the water for about 10 minutes. This will allow air in the system and any untreated water to be discharged, and allow the system to be flushed with treated water. Your hot water heater should also be flushed.

Address

Shore Lines  
is the newsletter for SBPOA  
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