



Shearwater Mark

Winter/Spring Issue, 2015

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Hello fellow Shearwater residents!

Winter seems to be behind us, finally, and we’re seeing flowers, bushes and trees blooming around our community. It’s good to see the boats, kayaks and paddleboards out on Spa Creek again, and the trusty Truxton Park kayak tours have begun, so we can hear that “the largest tributary to the Chesapeake Bay is the Susquehanna River” (for those of us who didn’t know that before).



Lynn Maichle

NOTE OF APPRECIATION

I would like to express my gratitude to those of you who have taken the time to thank the volunteers on the board and the committees for their work. It’s very much appreciated. The simple “thank yous” for the many hours of effort spent on behalf of the community keep us hanging in there.

If you feel that things are going well or that progress is being made at Shearwater, please let a board member or a committee member know -- it will mean a lot to them. And if you see something that needs improvement, please offer workable solutions. Or better yet, consider volunteering to help make things better.

CELEBRATING VOLUNTEERS!

First of all, thank you to Shirl Gauthier for offering to publish this issue of the Shearwater MARK newsletter. Our previous volunteer wasn’t able to do it, so we are still looking for someone who is willing to organize the newsletter going forward. If you are interested, please let me know, so you can take advantage of Shirl’s and Frances’ expertise while they’re available.

Thank you to Marj Sparer for agreeing to represent Shearwater in the Hawkins Cove Restoration Project. Twelve Shearwater residents have contributed to the ECO Fair being held on behalf of this and the Spa Creek Conservancy — making Shearwater the first Platinum sponsor and the highest donor to the project! Marj is also fostering hundreds of oysters around the docks, contributing to cleaning up the Bay!

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Much appreciation to Pam Mantica for all her help in getting the pool ready to open on May 23. Pam has been coordinating preparations and working with Tina (on her boat), MMG, Anchor Aquatics, and City inspectors to make sure the necessary repairs are done so the pool can open on time. The Pool Committee will be working over the summer on the plan for complete refurbishment of the pool rest rooms.

Several residents have suggested that it would be very helpful to have a “Shearwater New Resident Packet” for owners and tenants coming into our community. There are reports that this used to exist, but so far no one has been able to locate a copy of it. We’ve started a list of possible content, including information about where to locate condo documents, how to apply for parking stickers, getting cable service, recommended resources, adding a phone number to the front gate directory, applying for marina stickers, guidelines for unit maintenance activities, local restaurants and services, etc. If anyone is interested in helping with this effort, please contact me.

MEETINGS

Condominium meetings will be held every month this year except for August and December. The agenda including meeting date and time will continue to be posted by the Building Captains on the notice board of each building prior to the meeting, and also on the Home page of the Shearwater website. Minutes from the most recent meeting are also being posted on the website Home page as soon as they are approved, and before the next meeting they are moved to the “Meeting Minutes” tab.

Hope you enjoy the reading!

HAPPY SPRING!.....
Lynn Maichle, President
Shearwater Board of Directors



Seasons Changing at
Shearwater

... At Last!



Board News and Committee Reports

For those of you who did not see the flyer that was sent out this winter, here is an update on the key activities your Board, Committee Chairs, Committee Members and other Volunteers have accomplished over the past year.

ACTIVITIES COMPLETED IN 2014

NEW MANAGEMENT COMPANY! After an extensive search process, we've hired Metropolitan Management Group LLC to manage our condominium community. You may have seen Erica Simmers, our property manager, walking the grounds. If you have an issue, a landscaping request, or a repair to any of the common elements around your building that you would like to have addressed, please fill out the work order form on the "Metropolitan Management" tab of the Shearwater Condo Association web page [www.shearwatercondos.com/metropolitan.html]. MMG has done a great job resolving the backlog of work orders and the list is now current.

CONTRACT CHANGES: We have made two additional changes in contracted services: first, after discovering that our previous janitorial company was not performing several of their contracted tasks, we changed companies. The new service started in November; cleaning has improved and thanks to diligent monitoring by our Treasurer, light bulbs are replaced promptly. And second, after several months of being over-charged by Allied, we cancelled the contract and replaced our trash company. Bay Area Disposal started service last August at a significant savings. The Board is also investigating potential savings in the utilities bills.

DECK PROJECT: All of the deck, door and board replacements and the punch list items have been completed and the final project documentation has been submitted by the contractor and the engineer. Once the reserve fund is built up again we can begin planning the next replacement projects.

MARINA PROJECTS: As many of you know, after more than a year of discussions with engineers, harbormasters, port wardens, and state officials, the new kayak launch was installed last spring. Our Dockmaster, David Densmore, also identified 65 dock boards that were replaced in the fall, and the docks and boardwalk were power-washed and sealed in the spring. In addition, David Densmore and the Marina Committee are investigating alternatives for expanding the kayak rack capacity to accommodate the long waiting list.

TREE PROJECT: Last fall, 35 tree removal, pruning and treatment projects identified by the Deborah Birch and the Landscaping Committee were completed by Davey Tree. This was very good timing for our buildings, cars and residents, because a couple of the largest trees in our community were in danger of falling and we had some very high winds over the winter. New trees will be planted in the spring to replace those that were removed.

POOL MAKEOVER: Our pool received a much-needed face-lift in the fall when the tile, coping and caulking around the pool edge was redone. They did a beautiful job! We also signed a contract with Anchor Aquatics for this year's pool season which will be from May 23 through September 13. Hours will be posted and will vary slightly depending on the day of the week, and your Pool Committee chair Tina Ligon is planning the pool parties for the season. The Pool Committee coordinated work to clean up the restrooms in order to pass inspection for this pool season, and will be working over the summer on a plan for a much-needed refurbishment of both the restrooms.

SEVERAL MAINTENANCE PROJECTS: **SIDEWALKS:** Sections of the sidewalk that posed trip hazards in 51 locations throughout Shearwater were replaced last fall; the contractor will return in the spring to redo some of the sections and complete some additional repairs. Payment will be made when the work is finished satisfactorily. **TENNIS:** The tennis court surfaces and nets were repaired last summer and based on several photos the courts are well-used! **TERMITES:** Novex completed 56% of their yearly inspections last fall; they'll return to complete the rest in the spring when they have access to the remaining terrace and first floor units. **GUTTERS:** All gutters and downspouts were

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cleaned out last fall. **LIGHTS:** the entrance lights near the front gate were replaced with outdoor fixtures and a spotlight was added for the flag. **WATER VALVES:** there are signs on the storage room doors and the storage lockers to mark the locations of the main water shutoff valves for the buildings. This will enable faster shutoff if there is a major leak.

ACTIVITIES COMPLETED OR IN PROGRESS FOR 2015

REFURBISHING THE BENCHES: The five benches around the Shearwater grounds were showing some wear, tear and moss from exposure to the elements. They were repaired, some boards were replaced, and they were power-washed and sealed this spring.

FINANCIAL: The financial records were transitioned from Brodie and Larry Birch, our Treasurer, has been working with MMG and the auditor to resolve the outstanding questions. The budget analysis for Fiscal Year 2016 (which begins July 1) began in February, and the final budget was voted on during the April meeting.

MILLER-DODSON: Two new Miller-Dodson studies are underway (1) of all buildings and the condominium site, including roads, sidewalks, retaining walls, pool, and other amenities, and (2) of the marina, including an underwater study. These analyses will determine the remaining useful life of each area of our community, replacement costs, and planning recommendations for the reserve fund. They will also update the recommendations made during the 2010 study.

PARKING REGISTRATION: Due to inconsistent record-keeping over much of last year, much of the car and parking sticker information in Brodie’s files was inaccurate and out of date. That made it impossible to take any action when a car with no sticker or an unregistered sticker was parked for an extended period of time in either a resident or guest parking space. So after discussions with MMG, the parking Rules & Regulations were revised, sent out to all unit owners in January, and discussed, modified and voted on during the February condo meeting. MMG sent out the new parking registration form and guidelines in March, and in April began reviewing and approving requests, and mailing out new parking sticker(s) for residents’ vehicles and hang tags for guest vehicles.

SHEARWATER CALENDAR: MMG is putting together an overall calendar for all Shearwater activities, including Association and unit owner maintenance activities, contract payments and renewals, inspections, insurance, budget preparations, condo meetings, pool activities, marina billing cycles, etc. This calendar will make it easier to coordinate activities throughout the community and meet key deadlines.

Treasurer’s Report—Larry Birch

The following information is a snapshot of Shearwater’s financial standing as of March 2015. See the full report posted on the Shearwater website for details.

MAR Operating Fund Balance.....	\$5,532	Replacement Reserve Balance.....	\$496,318
YTD Operating Fund Balance.....	\$(6,286)	Painting Reserve Balance.....	\$ 60,124
YTD Expense Status.....	.2.1% over	Net Assets.....	\$418,674

Committee Reports

Marina Report—David Densmore

Maintenance

- Mid-Atlantic Powerwashing was selected to do dock power washing and sealing; work was carried out at the end of April
- Re-commissioned marina water supply and removed de-icers on April 15; repairs are needed for one broken fitting (during board replacement), one section of line destroyed by ice, and at least one valve froze/cracked
- Will be submitting work order to repair ice damage to dinghy float A piling hoops
- Kayak launch ramp was removed by Chesapeake Dock for cleaning and to avoid ice damage; it was scheduled for reinstallation the week of April 20

Financial

- A number of 2015 marina invoices were not sent out in February – still trying to determine who did and did not receive them
- As reported in March, proposed FY16 marina fees include 3% increase for LCE slips; +\$1/ft/yr for GCE slips; +\$5/yr for dinghies; and +\$11/yr for kayaks

Future Projects

- Kayak storage expansion
 - ◇ Expand existing rack by 6-8 spaces, with additional landscaping/screening
 - ◇ Have contacted Building I owners to advise of work; one owner has expressed concern, and requested opportunity for additional review
 - ◇ Permit requirements uncertain; will resolve when contractor selected
 - ◇ Three bids have been received

Pool—Tina Ligon

Preparations continue to get our pool ready for the 2015 Season! The furniture will be on the deck soon, inspections are being done, the pool and deck area are getting cleaned up. Thank you SO much to Pam Mantica for being an active member of the Pool Committee and helping me to keep track of what is going on while I am absent! I couldn't be doing this by long distance without her!

The opening on Memorial Day Weekend will be here before you know it! Here is a reminder of our Event calendar for the pool:

We want to invite all residents to a Memorial Day Pizza Party and Meet and Greet for the Lifeguard for the season! Watch for the announcement for the details as we get closer to the date! Here is a reminder of our Event calendar for the pool:

- ◇ Pizza Party Meet and Greet - [Monday, May 25](#)
- ◇ Adam's Ribs catered BBQ - [Saturday, June 27](#)
- ◇ Happy Hours - [Saturday July 18](#) and [Aug. 15](#)
- ◇ Labor Day Grill Out - [Monday Sept 7](#)
- ◇ Pooch Plunge - [Sunday Sept 13](#)

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Pool hours from May 23 through September 8 will be:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday:	11:00 am – 7:00 pm
Tuesday & Thursday:	12:00 am – 8:00 pm
Saturday, Sunday & Holidays:	11:00 am – 8:00 pm

And for the extended season from September 8 through September 13, the hours will be 11:00 am – 6:00 pm.

Keep an eye on your mailbox Bulletin Boards and your email boxes for future informational postings regarding Pool Hours and Events! ALSO, We are getting anxious to show off the new tile surrounding the Pool! Can't wait! Make plans to visit your Shearwater Pool often this summer!

Architecture—Rainette Bannon

With the coming of spring, the Architecture Committee assumes Shearwater residents may begin replacing exterior elements - doors, screen doors, windows, blinds, shades, etc. So in addition to saying “Happy Spring Days” to all, we are asking you to kindly follow the guidelines required to keep the exterior look of Shearwater consistent - with all buildings adhering to the same rules regarding exterior changes.

To keep the process as simple as possible I am outlining what is required and asking each of you who intends to replace anything in or outside your unit to do the following:

1. On the Shearwater Condos website, under Architectural Approval Process, click on *Shearwater Architectural Guidelines*. Then click on *Architectural Request Form*. The *Guidelines* suggests vendors and colors the Architecture Committee and Board have approved.. Last year we approved both single window pane and double storm/screen doors. We have compiled an extensive list of vendors, with both low-end and high-end represented, and the listings under *Guidelines* is a sampling. Please read it over and feel free to contact us for additional vendors/options and with any questions or suggestions for a new vendor and we will talk with that vendor so all new installations are consistent with existing Shearwater installations. We spent many hours compiling this list for our files so we believe our files have valuable information to assist you.

When you review the Request for Architectural Change form, fill it out with the info on what you are replacing or changing, along with the requested owner information and e-mail to Rainette Bannon, Architecture Committee at rbannon4@verizon.net and to Metropolitan Management Company BEFORE placing your order.

2. E-mail or scan a template with the dimensions, vendor, and color you are installing so we can be certain that we have your data on file and that you are using appropriate materials.

The AC needs two items only from you: (1) the Request for Change form and (2) a template for each item you are changing.

The Architecture Committee consists of Linda Bolling (15A1, lindabolling@yahoo.com) and Lois McGovern (15A2, tortilm@aol.com) and Rainette Bannon, Chair (4A2, rbannon4@verizon.net), phone: 410.263.0032.

I share all information with the committee members, the Board and Metropolitan Management. If you have a question about vendor or exterior issue, please call or e-mail prior to making a decision or starting a project. Any one of us would be happy to answer any questions you may have and to review the steps for an installation.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

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Landscaping—Deborah Birch

Grounds maintenance

- Since March, our landscape contractor, Highlands, has been busy cleaning, raking, edging and mulching planting beds.
- Lawn mowing has begun and our lawn areas are looking lush and green following aeration and seeding, fertilizing, and treatments to suppress weeds and crabgrass
- Shrubbery and small trees have been pruned, inspected and given spot treatments for pests and diseases.

Landscaping Improvement projects

Projects to replace/restore/refresh plantings damaged or destroyed by weather events, human intervention or the ravages of time have begun and will continue through the growing season. This year we will focus on:

- Removal and replacement of overgrown, deteriorated or diseased shrubs and ornamental trees along community pathways and shared common areas
- Enhancement of the front entrance, both outside and inside the gate
- Dividing and transplanting overgrown perennials and/or inappropriately planted or volunteer shrubs and ornamental trees to other areas within the community

Trees

In follow-up to the tree removal and trimming work performed by Davey Tree Experts last December, replacement trees will be installed on a 1:1 basis per City of Annapolis requirements. Replacement trees have been identified and mapped in collaboration with City arborists as part of the permitting process. Maryland native trees will be planted in early May, to include willow oaks, river birches, hemlocks, and flowering trees (serviceberry and redbud). The new trees will be planted in locations that will benefit wildlife and enhance our landscape but not adversely affect views.

Irrigation

Our irrigation contractor, Terra Nova, has been contracted to provide the same level of service as last year, which includes Spring Start-Up, Mid-Season Tune-Up and Fall Winterization.

- Spring start-up, which includes servicing and activating the system, is scheduled for the week of May 4, 2015.
- For greatest efficiency, we plan to regulate water usage in each zone so as to ensure that all planting beds and lawn areas get the water they need but water resources are not wasted. Residents are encouraged to monitor planting and lawn conditions in their area and notify the Landscape Committee if they feel that adjustments are needed. This is especially important during times of drought or sustained rains.

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Shoreline Stabilization

- We've been working with the Maryland Department of Agriculture to eradicate invasive Phragmites grasses colonizing along Shearwater's shoreline on the eastern side of Hawkins Cove. Next step is to provide more beneficial grasses.
- Through his volunteer work for the Rhodes Riverkeeper, David Densmore has identified an opportunity to obtain free plugs of *Spartina patens* grasses. These will be planted at or immediately above the mean high water line behind Buildings 7 and 8 to stabilize the shoreline and mitigate erosion while improving its habitat and aesthetic values.
- In addition, we have applied to the Forestry Section of the Department of Inspections and Permits for 100-200 plugs of free *Spartina Alterniflora* grasses to be placed within the upper intertidal zone to further enhance the area.
- We are still awaiting word on whether our request has been granted, but hope to plant the grasses in mid-May with the help of volunteers. If you are interested in coming out to help preserve, protect and beautify our shoreline, please contact Deborah Birch (contact info provided below).

Landscaping Committee Procedures

- All changes to general common elements of the landscape (lawn areas, trees and shrubbery) must be submitted to the Landscaping Committee for review and approval. Changes must be consistent with the overall theme and plan for Shearwater's grounds.
- Requests for landscaping work in general common areas shall be submitted via work order. Work orders may be submitted via the Shearwater website at www.shearwatercondos.com
- Metropolitan Management Group will review all work orders on a regular basis and will promptly forward all work orders that directly involve or may have an impact on Shearwater's landscape general common elements to the Shearwater Landscaping Committee for review and coordination.
- The Landscaping Committee will promptly review all work orders forwarded by MMG and will coordinate with MMG on appropriate action, within the overall context of Shearwater's landscaping theme, planned landscaping activities and available budget.

Landscaping Committee Members

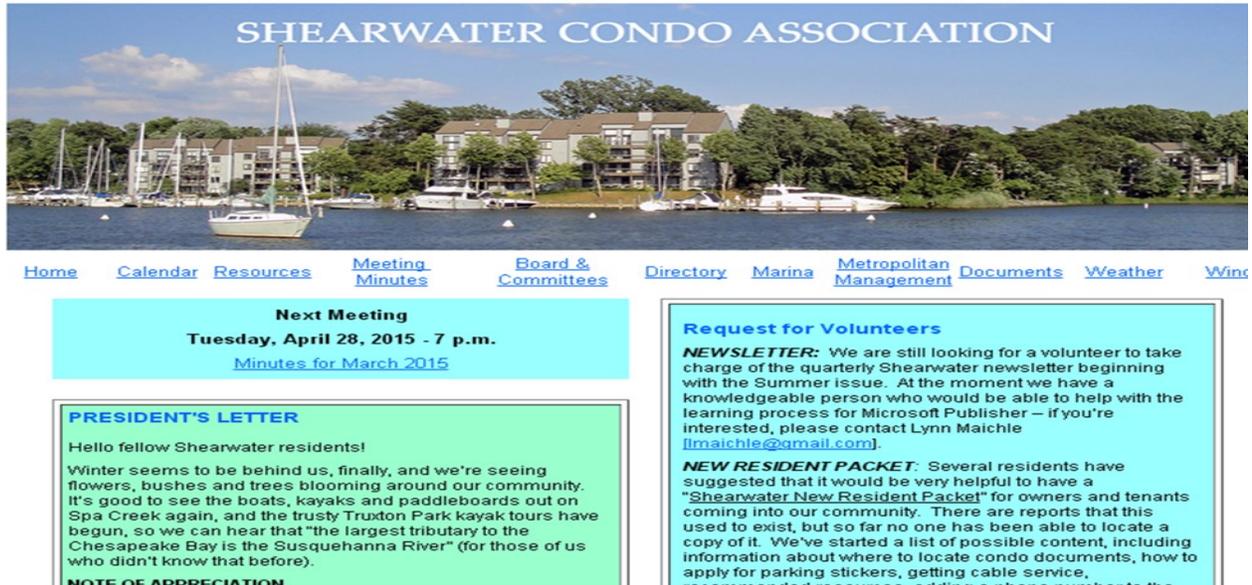
The Shearwater Landscaping Committee is composed of the following volunteers: Deborah Birch (Chair), MaryAnn Cummins, Pat Duvall, Ron Faulkner, Charlotte Featherstone and LeAnn Myhre.

If others are interested in joining the committee or contributing ideas, please contact us. As always, we encourage all members of the community to come forward with their ideas and concerns. *This is your community.* If you have suggestions, please contact:

Deborah Birch, Chair, Shearwater Landscaping Committee
Email: dbirch@seagreenintl.com
Mobile/Text: 202-629-6035

Guide to the Shearwater Website

Did you know that you can access a wealth of current information about Shearwater 24/7 from your computer or electronic tablet? Here's a tutorial to help you navigate our site. **START** by entering shearwatercondos.com in your Internet browser. As I write this article, this is what our current Home page looks like:



And here's what you get by clicking each of the navigation tabs below the SHEARWATER CONDO ASSOCIATION photo:

Home: President's letter and updates; agenda for the next meeting and links to previous meeting minutes; new owner information.

Calendar: Board meeting schedule; links to committee reports and meeting minutes.

Resources: Owner/resident want ads; "word of mouth" information about contractor services.

Meeting Minutes: Board meeting minutes; Shearwater Mark archive; link to committee reports.

Board & Committees: List of Board members/contact info; list of committee chairs, building captains and contact info; committee reports and procedures; Dockmaster and Webmaster contact info.

Directory: Password-protected owner/resident directory.

Marina: Dockmaster's page of marina and maritime information, including boat slips for rent.

Metropolitan Management: Property manager contact info; Shearwater certificate of insurance information; audit report; approved budgets; work order form and status reports.

Documents: Condo By-Laws, Amendments and Rules & Regulations; link to committee reports and procedures; links to meeting minutes; reserve study reports; architectural approval process.

Weather: Current land weather report and almanac.

Wind: NOAA report of current wind and marine conditions.

Myth of the Poop Fairy

Like the Loch Ness Monster or Bigfoot, the fabled poop fairy has been the stuff of legend. Flying undetected in parks, neighborhoods and schoolyards, she was said to follow close behind dogs and their owners — picking up what the dog left behind, before flying off to the next canine creation. A widespread belief that she existed seemed to reassure some that cleaning up after one's dog was sort of ... optional.

However, in response to a growing number of poop piles, and a growing number of resident complaints, your homeowner association would like to bring you this announcement:

The Facts About Dog Poop

- **Dog Poop Doesn't Biodegrade Like Wild Animal Poop**—Because we feed our dogs food that's very different from the food wild animals eat, dog waste does not biodegrade quickly like wild animal waste. And because of the number of dogs in our community, this hardy dog waste accumulates.
- **Dog Poop Contains Harmful Bacteria, Parasites**—Dog waste can contain harmful organisms like E. coli, giardia, salmonella, roundworms, hookworms, and cryptosporidium. These can be passed on to you or your pet, and may cause health problems.
- **Dog Waste Pollutes Groundwater, Water Bodies**—Bacteria in dog waste can harm water quality in creeks and rivers, and alter the ecosystems of these stream corridors. Humans who come in contact with creek water can also face health hazards.



REMINDER!

Our By-Laws require residents to pick up after their dogs.

We have stocked the bag box by the dog walk area for your convenience.

REMINDERS

ONE MAN'S TRASH.....

Some key reminders regarding trash disposal so we ensure there's room for everyone's trash in the dumpsters and we don't create temptations for foxes, raccoons and other opportunists!

We have TWO types of dumpsters:

- ◆ Trash dumpsters: the two large dumpsters on the left near the front gate, and one large dumpster next to the Mitchell Street gate
- ◆ Recycling dumpsters: one large dumpster on the right near the front gate (marked "Recycling"), and the large rolling totes next to the Mitchell Street gate

Reminders for disposing of your trash:

- ◆ Please do NOT put large items such as furniture and rolled-up carpets either into or beside the dumpster; you can schedule a bulk pickup appointment with the City of Annapolis either online (search for "Annapolis bulk pickup") or by phone (410-263-7949). They pick up weekly on Wednesdays.
- ◆ DO NOT put regular trash in the recycling dumpsters – the trash company gets cranky when they find coffee grounds and potato peels when they should only be seeing paper!!
- ◆ Break down all cardboard boxes flat and put them into either the recycling dumpster (the one on the right in the group near the front gate) or one of the rolling recycle bins (near the Mitchell Street gate) – do NOT put them in the trash dumpsters
- ◆ Tie all bags closed so garbage doesn't spill out
- ◆ Push bags toward the back of the dumpster rather than piling them up close to the door
- ◆ CLOSE THE DOOR! Too often a dumpster door is left open – which encourages rodents and other undesirables to climb in, is unpleasant to see for residents and guests, and can lead to spills & odors, especially in the summer months.

* * *

CLEANING & SEALING YOUR DECKS

Just a reminder, every unit owner is responsible for power-washing and sealing their deck every two years. Several people had their decks replaced and sealed last year, so they will not need to have that done until next year. And about a third of the unit owners had their decks power-washed and sealed last year as part of the community project. MMG will be sending out a notice in a few weeks to the remaining owners so they can take advantage of the bulk rate MMG has obtained for the community. If you prefer to do this yourself, or have it done, send a dated receipt for the work to Erica Simmers at MMG.

REMINDERS [cont.]

A DRIP IN TIME...OR AVOIDING WATERFALLS!

Over the past year several residents have unfortunately had to deal with leaks and floods in their units, which can be devastating. In April the Association completed a project to clean out the common condensate lines as well as the main drains in all buildings. However there are a steps each unit owner must also take to prevent or minimize water damage in their and their neighbors' homes:

- ◆ Have your unit's condensate and hot water heater lines cleaned out at least once a year (if not twice a year) when you have your heating and air conditioning units cleaned.
- ◆ Make sure you know where your unit's water shutoff valve is located; it may be in your water heater or laundry closet.
- ◆ If your primary residence is elsewhere, or if you're going to be away for more than 3 days, turn the water valve for your unit OFF.
- ◆ If the weather is very cold, to prevent pipes in your unit from freezing, keep the thermostat no lower than 65, open the doors under all sinks, and let one faucet drip very slowly (this applies to all units, and is especially critical for "A" units, since kitchen and bathroom pipes are closer to outside walls.
- ◆ Make sure that all pipes are insulated.
- ◆ Find out where the main water shutoff valve is for your building so you can get to it and shut it off quickly – there is one main valve in the basement storage room for every two buildings [in buildings 2, 4, 6, 8, 12, 13 and 15]. If the owner of the storage locker isn't home to give you the combination of the lock on the locker door, contact MMG at their office and they'll give you the combination.
- ◆ If you haven't already done so, identify an emergency contact who has a key in the event you're away so emergency personnel don't have to break down your door.

* * *

DECIBEL LEVELS

Please be considerate of your neighbors — dogs barking, loud music, and walking across hardwood floors in hard-soled shoes is very disturbing!

* * *



CONDO MEETING SCHEDULE

Condo meetings are now held on the 4th Tuesday (changed from the 3rd Tuesday) of the month at 7:00 pm in the racquetball court on the following dates: 5/26, 6/23, 7/28, 9/22, 10/27 and 11/24. There are no meetings in August or December. The Building Captains are posting the agenda on the notice boards a few days before each meeting, and you can also find a link to the agenda just below the Shearwater photo on the home page of the Shearwater website. Meeting minutes are also posted to that same location 2-2 weeks after the meeting.

REMINDERS [cont.]

IMPORTANT INFO FOR ALL RESIDENTS

Work Orders -- if there are issues such as burned-out bulbs on the outside of your building, damage to a common area, or a landscaping request, please go to the Shearwater website at www.shearwatercondos.com, click on the "Metropolitan Management" page at the top of the Home Page, and in the left column "Click here to send a Work Order." Fill out the 6 items in the form and submit.

Heat Pump Service -- Schedule having your heating and cooling system serviced at least once a year (some owners participate in twice-a-year cleaning programs). This cleaning should include cleaning out of the individual condensate line near the heat pump and the drainage line from the hot water heater.

Dryer Vent Tubing – If you have old white plastic dryer vent tubing, it is a fire hazard! Have it replaced as soon as possible with new metal vent tubing. This is flexible tubing that runs from your dryer up into the wall, and connects with the ductwork that vents to the outside wall of your unit.

Emergency Contact – Please make sure you have informed MMG of a contact who has access to your unit if you're away from home in case of fire, water leak or other emergency. An alternative is to install a realtor-type lockbox outside your door and entrust someone nearby with the combination. This will reduce the likelihood of having someone enter your unit forcibly in case of emergency.

Are You Remodeling? – Check with the Architecture Committee ahead of time with any plans to replace windows, doors, shades or anything on the exterior of your unit. The committee also has samples, information about paint colors, and brochures for items already approved to help with your research.

Animals, Wild and Otherwise! – Please be a responsible pet owner – (1) keep your cat inside your unit so they don't roam the property or use the landscape as a litter box. (2) Keep your dog on a leash, and pick up after your dog. There are pick-up bags in the box by the pump station if you don't have one. (3) Do not leave any food outside – this can attract unwelcome wild animals and is potentially dangerous.



PARKING ETIQUETTE

As most of you know, there isn't always sufficient parking in some areas of our community — we only have a total of 122 resident spaces and 19 guest spaces. And if we had 2 cars per unit we'd need 196 spaces!! A few gentle reminders:

- ◆ Make sure your guests have a hang tag for their car if they're going to be staying overnight, and make sure they know to park in a guest space
- ◆ Always park front end IN and within the lines
- ◆ For special events – if all the guest spaces are taken, ask your guests to park on Boucher
- ◆ If you're going to be away for several days without your car, please park it in a resident space away from your building, to leave more parking space for your neighbors while you're gone
- ◆ Make sure your contractors know that they should NEVER park along a red-marked curb unless they are loading or unloading; and they cannot leave their vehicle or trailer on the grounds overnight



Spa Creek CONSERVANCY

Stewards of the Creek

keep our creek clean & alive



Hawkins Cove mini-watershed (see map) contributes a significant pollutant load to Spa Creek, the Severn River, and the Chesapeake Bay. The problem in Hawkins Cove destroys the natural habitat and kills enjoyment of the water for Eastport residents and visitors alike. In 2008, the Center for Watershed Protection gave the area a 100-point priority score, the maximum possible, for remediation. This year, the Spa Creek Conservancy (SCC) received initial funding from the Chesapeake Bay Trust to begin engineering assessments to develop a staged project plan for restoration of the Cove, to be implemented over the next 3 years.



In addition, thanks to 12 of our residents, Shearwater contributed \$650 to support SCC's program to rehabilitate Hawkins Cove, making us a Platinum Sponsor! This support will help SCC build a number of rain gardens in the watershed area, rally the community around the vision of a fishable, swimmable Cove, and move that vision forward to reality.

The SCC community kick-off for the Hawkins Cove Program is the Eastport ECO Fair, May 30, 2015, 10a-2p, at the Rosalie E. Mitchell Community Center on President Street. The ECO Fair will raise awareness of how the Cove came to be in its current state and of what needs to be done to fix it. There will be educational exhibits, hands-on activities for kids, prizes, and food! Many of our local and state representatives will be on hand to answer questions about Hawkins Cove and other watershed issues. Everyone from Shearwater is invited to attend!

If you'd like more information or to volunteer to help with the ECO Fair, contact our Shearwater rep to the SCC's Hawkins Cove Program, Marj Cahn Sparer, mcsparer@yahoo.com, [410.224.1150](tel:410.224.1150).

Eastport Civic Association Home Tour



2015 TOUR - SUNDAY, JUNE 14, 1-5

(Rain or Shine)

The Eastport Home & Garden Tour is the ECA's premier annual event and showcases the fabric and character of our unique neighborhood. The proceeds of the Tour are used to support the many projects of ECA and area non-profit organizations.

The 2015 tour will showcase homes in the Lockwood Court, Creek Drive, and Boucher Avenue area, overlooking Spa Creek. Currently, we have seven homeowners who have agreed to have their homes on the tour. If you lived in this area and are interested in having your home and garden on the tour, please contact Marcia Marshall at tour@eastportcivic.org.

We are building a volunteer committee and still need assistance in writing, marketing and logistics. It would be nice to have a few men on our team. If interested, contact Marcia Marshall at tour@eastportcivic.org.

Tickets will be available on May 1. Ticket price is \$20 until June 1.

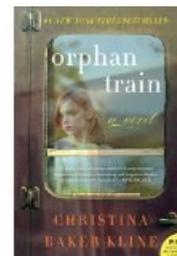
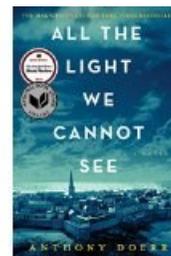
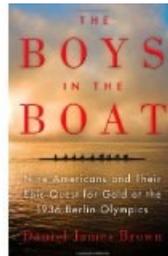
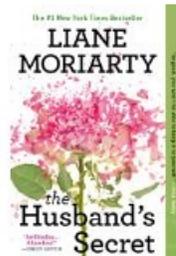
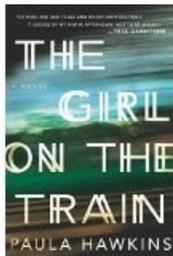
Classified Ads



For Sale—SeaRay 320 at Slip B-58. Top condition. Low miles. New Garmin Touchscreen GPS. Two new flatscreen TVs, new Norcold refrigerator. Full galley. Wetbar. Sleeps 6. \$103,900 or best offer. Contact eastport.rower@gmail.com.

Shearwater Book Club

Looking for a social group that enjoys reading and discussing books? Then join the Shearwater Book Club. Our list has included everything from *Man's Search for Meaning* to *50 Shades of Grey*, so there's something for everyone! We take turns hosting at our homes, meeting the last Wednesday of the month at 7:00p.m. We eventually get around to discussing the book and we always have a good time! Contact Shirl Gauthier @ eastport.rower@gmail.com if you are interested in joining. Here are several of the books we've scheduled for the remainder of year:



New Annapolitans

If you are new to Annapolis, consider joining New Annapolitans. It's a vibrant social club formed to welcome new residents to the Annapolis area and to help them assimilate into the social, cultural and civic activities of the community. We hold regular meetings, each encompassing an informative, entertaining program of interest to the general membership. Members also organize and participate in a wide array of smaller groups centered on their special interests. These "Interest Groups" may change over time, but typically include book discussion groups, bridge and other games, couples gatherings, lunch, happy hour, wine tastings, dinner events, art, music, writing, needlework, walking, boating, golf, tennis, biking, cultural excursions and charitable endeavors.

New Annapolitans is open to residents who have moved to the greater Annapolis area within two years of applying for membership, but you may remain a member for as long as you remain current with dues. If you want to know more, call Shearwater residents Pat Duvall ([410-295-6589](tel:410-295-6589)) or Charlotte Featherstone ([410-280-5173](tel:410-280-5173)). View our website at www.annapolitans.org.

Celebrating the ANNAPOLIS LIFESTYLE

Spring 2015

Hello Shearwater Neighbors,

"A Man travels the world over in search of what he needs and returns home to find it"

- George Moore

You can really be of help to me and any of your friends, relatives or business associates who want a home and are in search of a professional Realtor they can trust. It's a Great time to Buy a condo in Shearwater. Pleasure and honored to show you our neighborhood.

Active Properties for Sale	List Price	Days on Market
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3-A2 2 level 3 bedroom	\$675,000	330
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15-A Terrace 2 bedroom with den, new fabulous gourmet kitchen, deeded slip	\$895,000	305
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12-B2 2 bedroom, deeded slip	\$459,000	50
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11-B2 2 bedroom, deeded slip, new appliances, Wow!	\$415,000	8
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2-A1 1 bedroom, Great Views!	\$385,000	14
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15-B2 2 bedroom, Awesome Views, Fabulous Kitchen	\$625,200	Coming Soon!
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Rented	Rented Price
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8-B2 2 bedroom	\$1,850
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12-A Terrace	\$2,800
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2-B3 Wow Views	\$2,500
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with Connie Cadwell!



If your property is currently listed with another broker, please disregard. This is not a solicitation.

Annapolis Calendar

Image & Imagination: Anne Arundel County Juried Exhibition 2015: May 21 to June 27, 2015. Venue: Elizabeth Myers Mitchell Gallery/St. John's College, 60 College Ave. - Mellon Hall, Annapolis, MD 21401; Phone:410-626-2556. The Mitchell Gallery is pleased to present this all-county, juried, multi-media biennial exhibition of artists who live or work in Anne Arundel County. Works created in diverse media within the last two years will be on display and the exhibit will feature both two-and three-dimensional artwork. Visit <http://www.sjc.edu/programs-and-events/annapolis/mitchell-art-gallery/> for more information.



Treaty of Paris Center at the Maryland Inn: through December 2015, the first Saturday of each month. Focuses on the important events that took place in Annapolis during the 1783-87 Treaty of Paris Period, which was the time between the end of the Revolutionary War and the Constitutional Convention-when Congress was here, George Washington retired from the Army, the Treaty of Paris was ratified, Thomas Jefferson was appointed to France, and James Madison and Alexander Hamilton led the 1786 Annapolis Convention's call for a new Constitution. Brought to life through reenactments, lectures, films, exhibits, walking tours and souvenirs. Cost is free. Call 202-436-5909 or visit <http://www.treatyofpariscenter.org> for more information.

Comedy in the Courtyard: May 19 to September 29, 2015 (Every Tuesday), Starting at 7:30 PM; Reynolds Tavern, 7 Church Circle, Annapolis. The Annapolis Shakespeare Company returns for their 3rd Season of "Comedy in the Courtyard". This season presenting "Servant of Two Masters". Carlo Goldoni's 18th-century farce follows Truffaldino, a minion who tries to double his earnings by working for two bosses. Things don't go as planned, of course. Mistaken identities and missed connections lead to all manner of tomfoolery. Call 410-415-3513 or visit <http://www.reynoldstavern.org> for more information.



Wednesday Night Sailboat Races: through July 29, 2015, 6:10 PM to 8:00 PM; Annapolis Harbor. Grab your favorite dockside seat in America's Sailing Capital to watch some 150 crews compete in midweek races that involve sailing around several marks in the Bay before heading back to Spa Creek for a finish in front of the Annapolis Yacht Club. For many, the post-race party is the official beginning of the weekend. Call 410-263-9279 or visit <http://www.annapolisyc.com> for more information.

ASGT Presents "The Mystery Of Edwin Drood": May 28 to June 20, 2015 (Every Sunday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday); T, F, Sat & Sun at 8:30 p.m. Annapolis Summer Garden Theatre (ASGT) kicks off its 50th season of "theatre under the stars" on Thursday, May 28 with "The Mystery of Edwin Drood", an interactive musical murder. Visit <http://www.summergarden.com> for more information.

Fireworks Cruises: July 4, 2015. Sailors? Choose Woodwind. And visit <http://www.schoonerwoodwind.com/event/fireworks> Power? There's Watermark. <http://cruisesonthebay.com/special-cruises/fireworks-cruises/>

For More: Visit <http://visitannapolis.org/> for more activities this Spring in Annapolis!

Ram's Head On Stage: 33 West Street, Annapolis, 410-268-4545, <http://www.ramsheadonstage.com/>

St. John's College: Visit <http://stjohnscollege.edu/events/> for Events and Programs, including concerts, lectures, seminars, and exhibits.

Annapolis Symphony Orchestra: Visit annapolissymphony.org for this season's schedule and information.

Compass Rose Studio Theater: 49 Spa Road, Annapolis, 410-980-6662, www.compasrosetheater.org

Colonial Players of Annapolis: 108 East Street, Annapolis, 410-268-7373 www.thecolonialplayers.org

Annapolis Summer Garden Theater: 143 Compromise Street, Annapolis, <http://www.summergarden.com>

King William's Players, St. John's College's Theater Troupe: Francis Scott Key Auditorium, <http://www.stjohnscollege.edu/events/AN/theater>

Children's Theatre of Annapolis: 1661 Bay Head Road, Annapolis, 410-757-2281, <http://childrenstheatreofannapolis.org>

Shearwater
Community
Annapolis

A great place to live!



Shearwater Mark is a quarterly publication for the Shearwater Condo Association.

All residents are welcome to submit articles and photos for publication.

To receive your newsletter by email, visit our website and sign up for E-Lerts.

Printed copies are not available. You can also obtain copies of this issue, as well as back issues, on our website.

Did you know

There's a residents' directory on our website? Check it out and be sure to send us your updates!

www.shearwatercondos.com

Editor's Note

Please feel free to suggest articles and photos that you or your neighbors would like to see in a future issue.

This Newsletter is written for Shearwater Owners and Residents, to provide the information and news you are looking for. Also, visit our Website, www.shearwatercondos.com for even more detailed information, reports, pictures, etc.

[VACANT-WE NEED AN EDITOR!]

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Your Newsletter Editor



The *Shearwater Mark* is produced for you by a volunteer and we need a new one! This is a fun and easy way to get to know your neighbors and what's going on Shearwater and in your Eastport Community! A few days a quarter is all it takes. Contact Lynn Maichle to volunteer as the next *Shearwater Mark* Editor.