



Spring 2009 (Apr-Jun)

### **GREETINGS FROM YOUR SHEARWATER BOARD PRESIDENT**

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Spring is here and that's always been the season in which you can most appreciate the beauty of Shearwater. The great specimen trees and the variety of shrubs and plantings reveal themselves, plus it's hard to top our location along Spa Creek as the boats clear out the winter cobwebs. This is a time when everyone who lives here...and many who wish they did... recognize the true value of our community.



Jay Harrison

With this, our fourth, issue of the *Shearwater Mark* (thank you Shirl) and our website (<u>www.shearwatercondos.com</u>), we are doing our best to keep you informed about what's happening at Shearwater. The minutes of every board meeting are on the website (<u>http://www.shearwatercondos.com/minutes.html</u>) and everyone is welcome to attend board meetings. The schedule in on the website <u>calendar</u>. We've also established an archive of Shearwater Mark newsletters on our website so that you can refer to past editions.

The most important gathering of the year is the Annual Meeting to elect new board members and officers. Mark your calendar for the Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup> date. You should have already received a call for nominations and vote proxies will go out toward the end of March or beginning of April.

On the subject of wider participation, our Building Captain program helps us identify maintenance issues, but it's no substitute for owner involvement in the community. Please let a Captain know when you see a problem.

Work will resume on our many ongoing projects now that the weather is more favorable. The first round of deck replacements is almost finished, with only two decks remaining to complete. When the temperature warms up workers will return to paint some doors and seal the new decking. Siding repairs/replacement will be on ongoing. The entrance gate is finally repaired and we have added more reflective material to increase visibility at night. Plans are also underway to add brighter lighting above the call box to enhance gate visibility and lower the odds of it being crashed again.

As Tina Ligon notes in her report, the Shearwater pool will be open soon and hours have been extended for the convenience of those who get home later. We are also planning another pool party tentatively for June 6th and if you would like to volunteer to help with the planning, contact Pool Chair Tina Ligon, 410-268-2658.

Property Manager Heather Gummel and Assistant Manager Leona Busija are on top of the day-to-day needs on the property. Remember please, the best way to alert them to a routine problem (light bulb out, for example) is with the work order form on the website. The web address is: <u>http://</u><u>www.shearwatercondos.com/brodie.html</u>. The after hours emergency number is 410-377-1605.

Thanks for your continued support and I look forward to seeing you soon at a board meeting.

#### ~ Jay Harrison, President

### **Community Meeting News**

#### January Meeting Highlights:

The Board met on January 19th, with several residents attending in addition to most of the Board and Committee members. Topics addressed included the damaged gate, the landscaping project, an update



on the deck and siding replacements, estimates for electrical box replacement in individual units, and a possible speed bump installation on Madison. The full meeting minutes are posted on our Shearwater website. The next meeting dates are March 16<sup>th,</sup> and June 15<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. at the clubhouse. The special Annual Meeting for Board elections will be held April 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **Shearwater Needs You!**

Several board members' terms are due to expire this Spring. This is your chance to get into the act and make a real difference right here at home. Consider running for the board. Let one of the current board members know if you are interested (contacts posted on

<u>www.shearwatercondos.com</u>). Call for nominations will go out by March 6th. The final notice and proxy will go out between March 21st and April 5th.



### Pool Report by Tina Ligon

Get ready for sunny days on the pool deck!! As Jay mentioned in the cover letter, the pool will open



on Saturday, May 23. The new pool hours for this season are following:

From May 23 to Sept. 7 Monday – Friday - 12 noon to 8 pm Saturday, Sunday and Holidays – 11 am to 8 pm Sept 12 and 13, 19 and 20 – 11 am to 7 pm

We have adjusted the pool hours this year in hopes of allowing working residents more time

to get to the pool to enjoy it in the evening. We hope this helps!! Bring your picnics to the pool and use one of the new tables!!

### Also – save the date on your calendar for the Annual Pool Party tentatively scheduled for June 6. Watch for more information coming soon!!

### **Recycling News**



### Heat Pump Replacement

I don't know about you, but I froze this winter—after sweltering last summer. And I'm not going to take it anymore! I plan to bite the bullet and replace my 20+ year-old heat pump. If you also are thinking of replacing your heat pump, consider joining with me to do so this Spring. We could save on the cost of the crane necessary to place a unit on our building roofs, plus get a 5% Shearwater discount for a group purchase.

Old heat pumps are inefficient and ineffective even when they are working "properly." The new models are at least 30% more efficient than the ones that were installed when our condos were built. Further, our original heat pumps have a lower cooling Seasonal Energy Efficiency Rating" (SEER) and "Heating Seasonal Performance Factor" (HSPF) than is currently the minimal requirement. I've obtained a bid for replacement, with several product options. I will be happy to show it to you.



I'm thinking of having this replacement done in late April before the air conditioning season. However, I can be flexible on this, so if timing is an issue, let's discuss.

Please give me a call (410-268-0901) or shoot me an email (eastport.rower@gmail.com) as soon as possible if you are interested in having your heat pump replaced as well. If you have any questions about getting an estimate for your unit, please contact Larry Schwartz at 410-533-6744.

Your Neighbor, Shirl Nelson

### **Book Club**



Shearwater Book Club meets the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at members' homes. Our next gathering is Wednesday March II, at Carol Shaake's condo. We'll discuss both "Three Cups of Tea" by Mortenson and Relin, and "Water for Elephants" by Sara Gruen. We hope you'll be able to join us for this or future get-togethers. Next books on our list include:

April 8—Olive Kitteridge by Elizabeth Strout at Rainette Bannon's

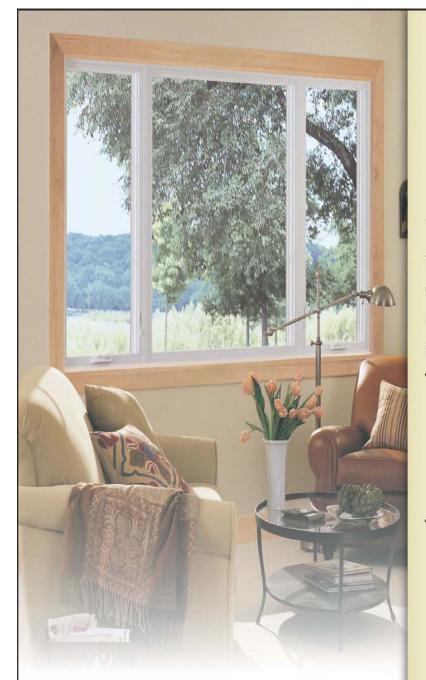
May 13—The Shack by Wm. Paul Young at Shirl Nelson's

Jun 10—Future Shock, by Alvin Toffler at Elly Karl's

Jul 8-The Other Bolyn Girl, by Philippa Gregory at Christine de los Reyes'

Sep 9-Eat Pray Love, by Elizabeth Gilbert at Susan Kramer's

You are welcome whether you've read the books or not, just to get you into the mood of the group. Come meet your neighbors, have fun, talk books or not, and enjoy wine and snacks.





Replacement Windows

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### **Frequently Asked Question**

#### What are the Shearwater rules about storage?

For both safety and aesthetic purposes, we limit the storage of personal property and belongings at Shearwater. Our condominium rules state that:

- 1. Nothing shall be stored upon or in any of the general or limited common elements except those areas designated for storage (such as the storage stalls and the balcony closets)
- 2. Firewood may be stored only on balconies and patios, provided that it is stacked neatly and no higher than the window sills.
- 3. No item, including bicycles, may be stored in or by unit entrances or on any common element, including stairwells and stair landings. In fact, leaving any such items in the stairwells or landings is a Fire Code violation that is subject to fine. There are bicycle racks in the racket ball court building. Bicycles may also be stored in basement lockers or in deck storage areas. Motorcycles and mopeds should be kept in the designated area near the dumpsters.

### **Community Want Ads**

#### Need help with odd jobs?

Matthew Foer, an Annpolis High School straight-A student., has been selected by the Parole Rotary Club to be an exchange student in Brazil for the next school year. He's looking for odd jobs to earn money for the trip. Please consider hiring him to:

- Turn your favorite record albums into CDs or MP3s
- Play saxophone at your parties and events
- Take care of your pets
- Do odd jobs around your condo

Matthew has testimonials, photos, and more information on his website at www.sendmatt4tobrazil.8k.com. You can reach him at 410-267-8398 or matt484@email.com. Shear-water references available.

#### Need spar and rigging services?

The Schaakes know a good source and would be happy to provide a reference. Call John at 410-263-6640 or David at 202-342-5832. Eastport Spar and Rigging refitted the Schaake's 35 foot sailboat for travel to the Bahamas. John Collenwort did the work and can be reached at 410-267-9464 (office) or 410-808-7380 (cell).





Spring 2009

### "What's Happening" in Shearwater

#### We have the Best Condo's on the Market for Spring!

Active Property Listed for Sale	List Price	Days on Market
4B3 Spa Creek Landing with Deeded Slip	\$550,000	160
13A3 Spa Creek Landing Loft Unit	\$585,000	61
7A Spa Creek Landing Terrace Unit	\$925,000	219
12A Spa Creek Landing Terrace Unit 2 Slips	\$969,500	126
1A Spa Creek Landing Terrace Unit	\$1,150,000	
Active Property Listed for Rent	List Price	
15A1 Spa Creek Landing	\$2450	210
Under Contract Property Listed for Sale		
Under Contract Property Listed for Sale		
4B2 Spa Creek Landing	\$537,300	670

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#### Shearwater Community

A great place to live!





Let Our Full-Time Staff Of Professionals Meet All Your Condo Improvement Needs

Did you know .....?

There's a residents' directory on our website? Check it out. Send us your updates!



### Your Newsletter Publisher

The Shearwater Mark is produced for you by Shirl Nelson, with back-up by Connie Cadwell. Hard copies of newsletters are available from your Building Captains. Submit articles and photos for consideration for publication to:

Shirl Nelson at shearwater.mark@gmail.com.

Send information for publication to: shearwater.mark@gmail.com