



July-September 2008

GREETINGS FROM YOUR SHEARWATER BOARD PRESIDENT

Greetings to all and welcome to new residents—owners, renters, and our “summer fun” part-time residents, alike.

I have very encouraging news to report about Shearwater: We’re on the upswing with wider community participation, communication and socialization ... and this is a wonderful thing.

We have just come off a very successful sequel to our Cool Pool party of last year. More than 47 paid tickets, which is pretty good for a 94 unit community. Many thanks to Tina Ligon, Pool Committee chair, for making it all happen. We all enjoyed getting together for good food and conversation so much that we’re already looking forward to next year’s party.

Another way that we’re improving communication and community spirit is through a Building Captain program. One person in each building will help to coordinate plant watering during dry spells and other efforts on behalf of their respective building. See the article inside and watch for more information about this effort to be posted soon.

This newsletter is yet another sign that Shearwater residents are more engaged in their community. Shirl Nelson revived the newsletter as a means of letting everyone know what is happening in and around Shearwater, and we look forward to quarterly issues of the *Shearwater Mark* .

The Shearwater website (www.shearwatercondos.com) will continue to be a source of news as well as an archive of meeting minutes, committee reports, and the Shearwater Mark. There is an email alert service that you can subscribe to right on the home page, which we use sparingly to alert you to issues of community-wide importance. About 48 residents currently are signed up for this service.

Lastly, plans are underway for the first annual Shearwater Boat Float – and end of summer gathering on the water. Preliminary plans call for Shearwater boat owners to volunteer their services in order to take the non-boat owners among us on a cruise up the Severn. We might anchor and have a picnic, but that is still in the planning stages. Talk to Harvey Paskin or Ron Faulkner to let them know your thoughts and if you would like to participate.

Let’s keep up the momentum for more active owner involvement and carry it through to other projects and activities, as well. Thanks for your support.

~ **Jay Harrison, President**

BOAT FLOAT COMING UP!



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Meeting News—Your Board Looking Out for You



Meet Your Board Members:

President: Jay Harrison
descon@designconcept.com - 410-267-9252

Vice President: Fern Sargent
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Secretary: Tina Ligon,
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HMPLCHAYIM@verizon.net - 410-268-9013

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Pat Duvall
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rtfaulkner@comcast.net - 302-803-3829

Committee Chairs:

Landscaping, Mark Moran, Chairman
410-268-4161 - markfmoran@comcast.net

Marina, Scott Ligon, Dockmaster
410-268-2658 - lignon1@comcast.net

Architecture, Phil Hatchard, Chairman
410-295-9878 - phatchard@worldnet.att.net

Pool, Tina Ligon, lignon1@comcast.net - 410-268-2658

June Meeting Highlights:

The Board met on June 16, with several residents attending in addition to most of the Board and Committee members. The full minutes are posted on our Shearwater website. Numerous topics were

discussed, including the following highlights:

Breaker boxes. In one unit that we know of the aluminum couplings in the breaker box overheated, posing a significant fire hazard. The breaker boxes in your electrical cabinet may be a hazard as well. Have your electrician check yours out and replace as needed.

Decks. The Board is developing an RFP to solicit for deck replacement proposals. The most problematic decks will be replaced first and the replacement will occur in phases. The contractor will be responsible the prioritization of deck replacement.

“Foggy” windows. Foggy window are getting to be a problem. Several units’ windows have broken seals that have fogged the windows with a scratchy white appearance that detracts from the value of our community and is a violation of our Shearwater rules and regulations. Either the windows should be replaced or the glass replaced in the existing frames.

Treasurer’s Report



Harvey

The marina loan has been paid off earlier than originally anticipated. This means that monies that would have gone to loan payments can now help to build up our reserve fund to where it should be.

Landscaping Report

Mark is developing a landscaping plan that will reflect priorities for plantings and replacements in logical stages, starting with the most publicly visible areas such as the entrance. Mark is also looking into the solutions and cost for long-term treatment of the ant problem.



Mark

(Continued on page 3)

Reports, con't

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Marina Report

Scott will meet with John Guthrie regarding light replacements. All dock water leaks have been repaired. Some deck boards need replacing and Scott will meet with John Guthrie to discuss replacement.



Some residents have raised concerns about noise and wake issues in our marina. Brodie Management will check with our insurance company concerning liability coverage for any wake damage. Scott advised homeowners that if they observe noise or speed violations, they should contact the Harbor Master at 410-263-7973.

Pool and Activities Report

The pool area is getting into good order with new umbrellas and tables, a duty checklist for the lifeguard, and plans for scrubbing the pool building (and unit building) awnings.



Tina

Next General Meeting

The next general meeting will be held September 15th at the clubhouse.

Neighbor News - Cool Pool Two Was a Good Time for All!

OK, folks, this is your space! Send your family news, want ads, and articles for consideration to: shearater.mark@gmail.com.

In the meantime, enjoy these photos from our smashing good time at the Shearwater Cool Two party, June 21st.

Thanks, Tina, for getting our pool area in to tip-top shape for the event. And thanks to all who attended to make this such an enjoyable time.



Ron Faulkner (l) and Susan Kramer (r) smile for the camera.



Cool Pool Two brought together our newest and oldest residents (Sorry, Skip ... we didn't mean "oldest" that way!): Dave Lovegrove (l) and Skip Smith (r)



Chuck Trefrey (l) and Dr. Ozbeck enjoy a bit of conversation under the umbrella.

Frequently Asked Questions

Each newsletter we'll share the responses to some of the questions we are frequently asked. This time we have three for you:

1) Who is responsible for watering our lawns?

The residents are. The Shearwater landscaping contractor is not responsible for watering, so it is up to us. One of the main reasons for Shearwater's beauty is the landscape of mature trees and plantings added by Shearwater and many residents on their own. As we head into summer, now is the time to start watering our grass and landscape to ward against the drying heat. Early mornings or late evenings are best times to water. If you need hoses or sprinklers for your building, please let Mark Moran know. As you will note in the separate article on "Building Captains," we're looking for someone in each building to take the lead for watering and other building duties. If your building still needs a Captain, please volunteer. Even if you are not the Captain, please offer your help to the Captain in the "good neighbor" spirit.

2) Is it OK to wash our cars in the parking lots?

Yes, but please be considerate. Don't start before 8:30, especially on weekends. Don't take up more than your own parking space to wash your car, especially if you are washing it in a resident parking

spot. Best places to wash cars are probably near the dumpsters or on the circle.

3) How do we dispose of large items such as discarded furniture and old crab pots?

Not in the dumpsters, which are only for trash. Instead, please take large items to the Millersville Center. Here's the address:

Millersville Waste Management Center
389 Burns Crossing Road, Severn, MD
(410) 222-6177

Hours are Monday - Sunday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

www.aacounty.org/DPW/WasteManagement/millersvilleconvctr.cfm

If you need assistance hauling your large items, a quick check of the Annapolis Yellow Pages for light haulers, turned up the following:

- A-I Yard Service, 410-647-1296
- Bens Hauling, 410-551-1689
- Cem Trans, Inc., 410-451-1858
- Joe's Hauling, 410-245-3310



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Calling All Captains



A very good decision that came out of our June unit owners' meeting was in response to Ron Faulkner's suggestion to designate building captains to help look after our community. Now we can really get movin' on fixing our place up. Harvey is preparing a brief "job description" so that you can see what kind of help we're looking for. Essentially, the Building Captains will make sure their building lawn is watered; distribute notices and newsletters for their building; keep an eye on building exteriors and

landscaping and report maintenance and repair needs. Here are the folks who've volunteered so far, and **we still need volunteers for buildings 1, 2, 6, 11, and 14:**

Bldg 3 Scott Ligon

Bldg 4 Rainette Bannon

Bldg 5 Jay Harrison

Bldg 7 Pat Duvall

Bldg 8 Marcia Sandground

Bldg 12 Ron Faulkner

Bldg 13 Harvey Paskin

Bldg 15 Shirl Nelson

Bldg 16 Harold Shaw

There will a meeting of Building Captains soon.

Ants in your ... pantry?

Many of our condos repeatedly are being repeatedly invaded by ants. Your Board of Directors is arranging for exterior treatment of the grounds and building perimeters, which should provide the long-term solution. In the meantime, you can control the invasion inside your unit by following advice from the Ohio State University Entomology Department for ant extermination. Their advice is to "Never treat entire walls, floors, countertops, cupboards, etc. Apply all insecticides only at crack, crevice or holes where ants enter your unit, avoiding food, children and pet contamination. Dusts, such as bendiocarb (Ficam), chlorpyrifos (Dursban) or boric acid (Borid), puffed into holes can give good coverage of voids where ants can be killed or carry the chemical back into the nest, killing others. Apply in light amounts. Aerosol sprays can be applied, but disper-

sal or area coverage may not be quite as good. The use of a paintbrush to apply a thin layer of an oil-based insecticide into cracks along baseboards, window and door frames, around plumbing or heating pipes, etc., can be effective.

Commercial bait syrups such as borax (Terro) will kill ants that feed on sweets. Toxic fast-acting baits kill foraging workers quickly, but are less effective as those that are slow-acting, which are taken back to the nest for consumption. Place baits directly on the ant trails away from children and pets. Other baits include boric acid plus mint apple jelly (Drax), hydramethylnon (Maxforce), methoprene (Pharorid), bendiocarb (Ficam), propoxur (Baygon) and sulfluramid (Pro-Control).

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Have a contractor you'd like to recommend?

Let us know and we'll share your experience in the next Shearwater Mark. Better, yet, ask your favorite contractors if they'd like to place

an ad in our newsletter? Even "more better" yet, see if they'd be willing to offer a discount to Shearwater residents.

Shearwater Community

A great place to live!



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

Did you know?

There's a residents' directory on our website? Check it out!

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Read more at <http://ohioline.osu.edu/hyg-fact/2000/2064.html>.

A recent Bay Weekly article cites Earthtalk advice that "Perhaps the most economical and effective way to get rid of ants is by applying boric acid (also known as borax) to their nest sites and surroundings." See www.emagazine.com/earthtalk. Some homeowners swear by placing at the ants' point of entry, a mixture of borax with a sweet substance like a dollop of jelly to attract the ants, then letting them carry the deadly concoction back to their nests to destroy the colony. Borax in tiny doses is said to be non-toxic to pets and children. Wikipedia backs this up at <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Borax>.



Is your home feeling a little **drafty**?

Now is the perfect time to replace your windows and doors... and save on your energy bills! With energy and electricity costs increasing on what seems to be a monthly basis, now is the perfect time to replace your inefficient and drafty windows with energy-efficient alternatives. Not only will you save yourself money, but you will be doing your part to help the environment.

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Your Newsletter

The Shearwater Mark is produced as 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.