



The Bay Breeze

Fall/winter 2002-3

www.annapolisroads.net

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Ellen Roberston	410-267-0969

NEWS

Due to a multitude of reasons this issue is a combination of the Fall and Winter issues of the Bay Breeze.

Ellen Roberston has stepped down as Treasurer of ARPOA although she will continue to serve on the board as a general member. Ellen, thank you for all of your hard work as treasurer.

The ARPOA Board has voted in Anne Ferro as the new Treasurer. Welcome Anne.

Chris Humphreys has also joined us as the newest Board member. Welcome Chris.

Thank you Apple Signs of Annapolis for the web address sign. Look for it on the front signpost.

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Submit comments, articles, features, suggestions, ads and signed commentary to Bay Breeze, Annapolis Roads Property Owners Association, P.O. Box 4934, Annapolis, Maryland 21403-4934 or email to walter@bigelow.com

Editors reserve the right to print and/or edit all text.

This is your community newsletter, we welcome and encourage your input!!!!

ARPOA ANNUAL MEETING

by Don Walsh

DECEMBER 3, 2002

The President opened the meeting at 7:14 p.m. and a quorum was present. Forty four (44) households signed in and six (6) proxies were on hand.

President's Report:

The President opened the meeting by giving special recognition to various members of the community for their help during the year. Including Mr. Don Riddle & his company, Homestead Gardens, for landscaping at the entrance to the community. Candy Bigelow for publishing the Bay Breeze and for getting the loan of the speed control sign from the County. Terry Wright for mowing and cleaning up of other community properties. Steve and Judy Stroetzel for this year's very successful picnic and the development of a community directory. Tom Sinnott and Bob Rau for their work on the Building and Land Use Committee. Frank Petersen for his work on developing ARPOA's new charter.

The President introduced the Treasurer and noted that ARPOA's annual financial audit, done by an independent CPA, was one of the best ever.

Treasurer's Report:

The treasurer provided an overview of the budget, budget categories and budget process and presented the proposed 2004 budget (July 1, 2003 –June 30, 2004). With ARPOA having secured approval of a new Charter, the budget categories reflected on the proposed 2004 budget were expanded to 6. The Treasurer noted that the County has imposed a funding ceiling of 2% of assessed value, for self-taxing district. The proposed budget reflects an increase in the assessment from 2003 to 2004 of \$.000227 per hundred to \$.00057 cents per hundred. A question was raised why such a dramatic increase from the 2003 budget. The Treasurer reminded the community that last year a significant reduction to the 2003 budget was recommended to reduce the overall funding level, which had become inflated, due to a surplus that evolved from the Shoreline Project. The Treasurer explained that the budget submitted by ARPOA and approved by the County is there to support what we anticipate is needed each year. Current County policy does not allow for the development of a planned surplus without a specific purpose intended. A request was made that the prior year budget be presented along side with the proposed budget to facilitate review and evaluation. A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the proposed 2004 budget.

Old Business:

Question was raised regarding the status of the Shoreline project. The PWD, John Coche' noted that the final phase to clean up the end of the beach area was waiting for County approval.

Councilwomen and ARPOA resident, Barbara Samorajczyk briefed the community on the two major development issues: Green Willow (Section M) and the Ogleton Road (golf course). The County has taken a position that Green Willow would be considered a County road through adverse possession. The County contends that it has maintained the road all along. ARPOA will be contacting the County and providing documentation showing that Green Willow is ARPOA's private property and that ARPOA has been maintaining that road. No further planning documents have been submitted by the developer to date. No further planning documents have been submitted on the Ogleton Road property.

ARPOA ANNUAL MEETING (cont.)

New Business:

Judy Stroetzel informed the community that the Directory effort has about 175 respondents and the plan is to have the Directory out by the spring.

A proposal was made that a survey be made of ARPOA residents to determine the community's feeling regarding the purchase of undeveloped property within the community.

The President briefed the community on ARPOA's new charter. He explained the efforts that went into this process and the work involved in getting this task completed. The new charter will make ARPOA compliant with current practices and will provide ARPOA with sufficient discretion to properly represent and defend the community's interest. The President requested a motion to accept the new Charter. Motion was made, seconded and approved to adopt the new community Charter.

Elections:

The President presented the slate of candidates for officer positions on the Board. The President also asked for any nominations from the floor. No nominations from the floor were made. The slate of candidates were the incumbent officers: Larry Beers for President, Walter Bigelow for Vice President, Ellen Roberts for Treasurer and Donald Walsh for Secretary. A motion was made, seconded and approved by voice vote to accept the candidates for the officer positions noted.

A motion was made, second and approved to close the annual meeting.

BALLET, ANYONE?

by Marta Tant

July 26th was proclaimed by our mayor as "Edward Stewart Day", yet, in our town, too few people know who this man was and what he meant to Annapolis. Did you know that the whole state of Maryland has only one professional ballet company (paid, professionally trained, career dancers) and it's located at Maryland Hall?! And that's thanks to "Eddie" Stewart, who founded, built and nurtured a company that has entertained children and adults with the Nutcracker and hosts of other ballets for 26 years, as well as trained hundreds of dancers in the love of the art, many of whom still dance professionally.

It was a big heartbreak to the company and to Annapolis when the Ballet Theatre of Maryland (formerly the Ballet Theatre of Annapolis) lost Mr. Stewart. Without a director, the new, smaller company vowed to "dance for Eddie", to make him proud. They did. Their first performance at Maryland Hall in October, under the direction of master choreographer Peter Anastos, set to Gershwin's music (accompanied by virtuoso pianists Stef Scaggiari and Amy Klosterman) was hailed by the Washinton Post as a "triumph". They danced for Eddie. It was sad to see the auditorium only half full.

A few of their other performances were danced at the Meyerhoff, accompanied by the Baltimore Chamber Orchestra and even one at the Baltimore Museum of Art – maybe one day we'll take notice?

Annapolis Roads Founding Documents

By James G. Gibb

Here, in its entirety, is one of the founding documents of Annapolis Roads. Not exactly comparable to the Articles of Confederation or the Federalist Papers, so integral to the founding of our nation, but it does show a decidedly modern view of suburban design and the value of maintaining forested slopes for aesthetic and economic reasons. The writer appears to have been Percival Gallagher, a senior designer in the Olmsted Brothers landscape architecture firm of Brookline, Massachusetts. Note references to the layout of the golf course, placement of the hotel (which, eventually, became the beach club house), and the design of the community's entrance on "the County Road," now Old Bay Ridge Road. Note also that residential development—specifically the sale of lots—was intended to support the development of the hotel and golf course. The original letter is in the archives at Fairsted National Historic Site, Brookline, Massachusetts. -- Jim Gibb

Mrs. Rella B. Armstrong
348 West 23rd Street
New York City

1st March, 1926

Dear Mrs. Armstrong:

In accordance with your request, I am sending you under separate cover a sketch plan of your property near Annapolis on which I have indicated, in a general way, the lines of development as I conceive them after having visited the ground. As I explained to you a day or two after this visit, it seemed to me unwise to give over so much of the rough wooded land, adjacent to Lake Ogleton, for residence lot purposes, because of the extreme roughness of the topography making it not only a costly operation to carry roads through it, but doubtful whether much of the land could be utilized for house sites without destruction of a great deal of the natural conditions.

Furthermore, the importance of the hotel you are proposing calls for an environment such as is provided by this natural wooded and picturesque water frontage. It seems to me therefore that it would be wiser for you not to develop so much of this land in house lots but to include a fair measure of it in the general grounds of the hotel. It is especially desirable to extend the Golf Course southeastward and on to the marsh below the bluff. By so doing, holes No. 1, No. 9, and No. 18 can be laid close to the hotel, as they should be to be thoroughly satisfactory. I should not regard the fairgreens crossing through the hotel grounds in order to reach the marsh as a drawback to their use by other patrons of the hotel. I believe that golf would not entirely monopolize this ground and there would be large sections of it well to one side of the course so that those not playing the game could enjoy the wooded shores.

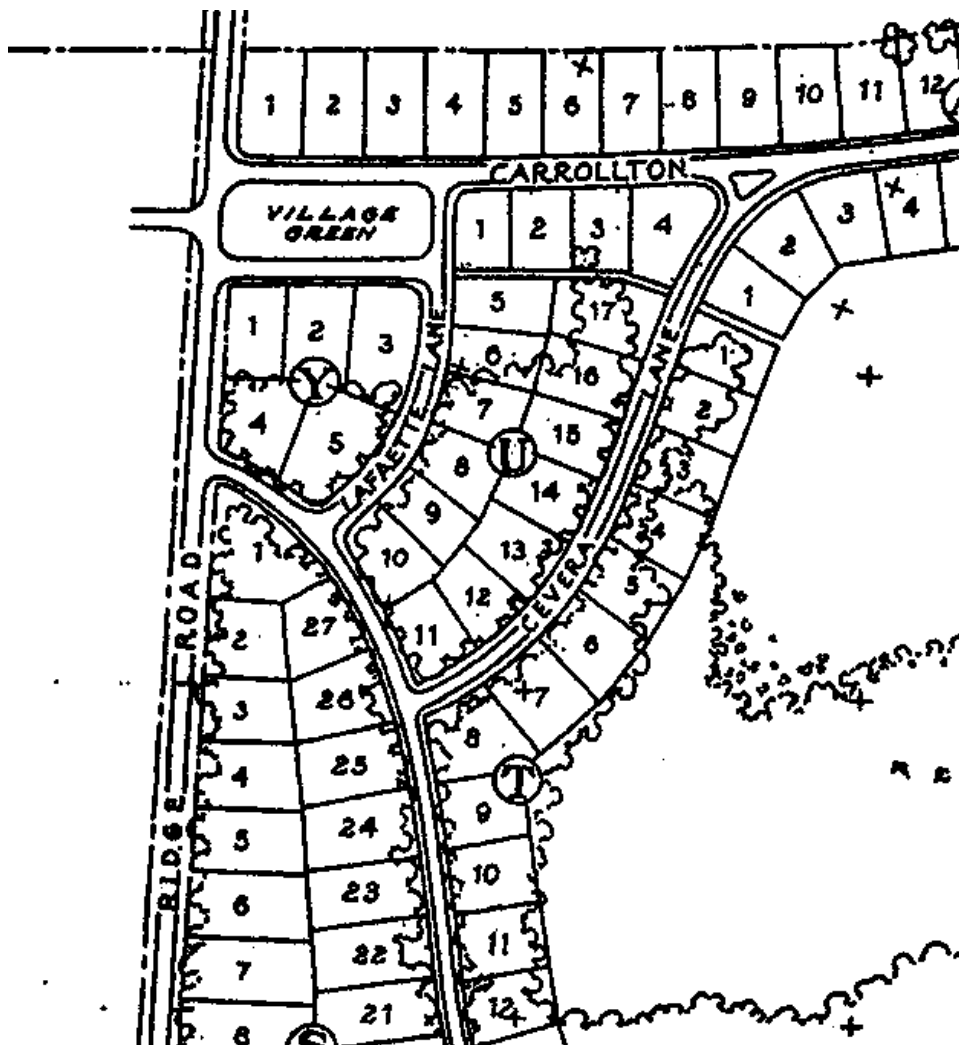
Thus instead of extending the residence lot development continuously along the southerly edge of the property following the edge of Lake Ogleton around to the hotel, I am proposing that the lot development follow around to the northeast along the main road to the hotel, with a belt of lots along the "Railroad" way.

It looks to me that a larger area than 134 acres will be needed to secure an 18 hole golf course. In fact, the sketch I am sending you comprises 170 acres in the golf course. It is also clear to me that the golf course should, if possible, be laid out all on one side of the main road to the hotel, so as to avoid crossing of the road, which would be necessary if the road to the hotel followed around the shore of Lake Ogleton as originally proposed. This could be avoided by not extending the course down into the marsh, but the loss of this acreage would have to be gained elsewhere, and this cannot be done without crowding the lot development. There is this to be said, however, that the final survey of the property which Mr. Carr is making may reveal a chance of a more compact location of fairgreens and hotel.

(continued page 5)

You will note on the plan that I have indicated a well defined entrance to the property on the "Railroad" way as one approaches it from Annapolis. It seems to me that you need to mark the principal entrance by some spaciousness other than what the ordinary street demands and the suggestion of a small village square would seem to me to be appropriate. It will be connected (as you note on the plan) with the County Road so that any one approaching from the direction of Washington would find there another well defined entrance way communicating directly with the village square.

You understand, of course, that these suggestions are very general in their nature, and based rather more on impressions received on the ground than on the data in the way of survey which I now have. But it is my belief that on the basis of the more complete and accurate surveys which Mr. Carr is making, the general lines would not change and, on the other hand, a great deal more of interest in the scheme could be developed by the careful utilization of the topography and the tree growth. In fact, it would be my thought (and it is in this particular field that I can help you most) to secure, in the design of your property, a distinctive character which will enhance rather than detract from the natural charm of the property. I was very much impressed with the wooded ravines and slopes, especially at the Point where the hotel is to be located and it seems to me that, in conjunction with the dignified and refined character of the architecture proposed, the old trees composing the woods that extend down the several ravines, would make most interesting pleasure grounds and of such extent as to give a satisfying environment to the hotel itself. These wooded slopes very much enhance glimpses of the Chesapeake and of Lake Ogleton and to me appealed much more strongly than an unbroken sweeping view of the Chesapeake shore. For this reason among several others I felt the desire to place the hotel back from the brink of the bluff and so turned it as to look a little south of east and down the Chesapeake. In this way it would be possible to avoid a too direct view of the tall towers of the government wireless station which, while interesting, rather hurts than otherwise the natural scene. This is briefly indicated on the sketch plan I am sending you.



Original plan (1926) for the Annapolis Roads entrance. Note the "Village Green" and two planned, but unbuilt lanes. The design was modified to a single through-lane for Carrollton Road to Bay Ridge Road, the entrance flanked by the two brick walls and a small gatehouse.

Community News

Beach Project

As reported at February board meeting permit work was to begin on clearing the Lands End beach area, John Coche' signed the final paper work on 2/13/03 and we hope they sign (the county) and approve.

1. The area involved is about 43,500 sq. ft. and calls for removal of Phragmites/Japanese Honeysuckle/Multiflora and trees of less than 2" at base.
2. Removal of dead material and establishment of native vegetation (we will mulch as much as possible and haul tires and other items from site)
3. Areas that do not regenerate after two years will require the following:
 - a. A single understory tree and six shrubs per 400 sq. feet interspersed with 1.5' grids of Salt Meadow Hay planting. This planting schedule can be revised upon the recommendation of the county forester. John Flood will help us get a plant grant from county if needed and available.
 - b. This planting program will last 5 years.

This will be a long multi-year project and it will improve the area. The property is of little value as is and must stay open space.

DIRECTORY INFORMATION ALERT!!

If you did not receive a directory information form that was mailed in October or misplaced the one you received and you want to be included in the directory, you still have the chance to complete one and send it back to Jean Humphreys at 2689 Claibourne Road.

We have received forms from approximately 180 households and would like to get as many back as possible. So if you want to be included in the Annapolis Roads Community Directory please send back your form as soon as possible, **if we do not receive a form your name will not be included in the directory.**

If you have any questions, or need a form, please contact Jean Humphreys at 410-268-5112, Judy Stroetzel at 410-269-6209, Kathy Wagner at 410-626-1199 or Marla Lusby at 410-295-0222.

Thank you from the Annapolis Roads Directory Committee.

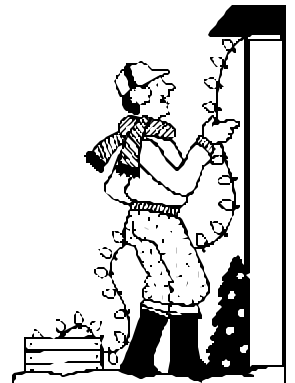
Holiday Illumination Winners



First Place
Johnsons
1004 Harbor Drive

Second Place
Snyders
1005 Harbor Drive

Third Place
Morelands
1030 Harbor Drive



Annapolis Neck Small Area Plan

by Anastasia Hopkins

Below is an article from The Bay Weekly (www.bayweekly.com) on the effort to get the Annapolis Neck Small Area Plan approved in County Council. The plan puts into law how our area will be developed for the next decade. Our most notable concerns are traffic; the planned-but-never-built fire station at Bay Ridge and Arundel-on-the-Bay Rd.; and preservation of the land, Bay, streams and forests.

The County Planning Dept. threw a curve when they rewrote important parts of the plan without consulting with the plan's citizen-authors. In response, Barbara Samorajczyk will introduce amendments to the plan that support the best interests of all. Alternatively, I suggest you email the County Council members, to say that in reference to the Annapolis Neck Small Area Plan, you support the amendments proposed by Mrs. Samorajczyk, who, as the Council Representative of the Annapolis Neck, is most familiar with the needs of the Annapolis Neck and has more than adequately responded to the concerns of the County administration's Planning Dept.

The Council wants to hear from you. When you pay attention to an issue before the Council, the whole Council perks up and are motivated to consider the full extent of the plans and legislation they are reviewing. Give them your views. The Council member's email addresses are listed below for you to copy. Also, I included the county exec's email address as I'm sure Mrs. Owens would appreciate hearing your position on this important plan.

pbeidle@mail.aacounty.org;

rdillon@mail.aacounty.org;

cvitale@mail.aacounty.org;

ereilly@mail.aacounty.org;

emiddlebrooks@mail.aacounty.org;

bburlison@mail.aacounty.org;

bsamor@mail.aacounty.org;

countyexecutiveowens@mail.aacounty.org

What Will Become of Annapolis Neck?

County Council Vote Will Shape the Peninsula's Future

You have to be a glutton for punishment to sit through a five-hour Anne Arundel County Council meeting. But on February 3, more than 300 people did just that.....

The reason for such dedication is the Annapolis Neck Small Area Plan. Five years in the making, the citizen-authored plan outlines the next two decades of regional development for the heavily populated peninsula (or neck) bordered by the Severn River, the South River and Chesapeake Bay.

So many people crammed into the Arundel Center in downtown Annapolis to speak and observe at the February 3 hearing on the plan that the county fire marshal posted four officers at the council chambers entrance to deny admission or re-entry. Inside, those who couldn't find seats lined the walls, stood in the doorways and sat in the aisles. Council chairwoman Cathleen Vitale said more than 70 people had signed up to speak, but since council rules prohibit doing business after midnight, only 58 were heard. More than a third of them wanted to see the small area plan changed to accurately reflect the document the volunteer-citizen committee submitted to the county more than three years ago. The citizen plan was reviewed and revised by the county department of planning and zoning.

"We don't want the small area plan passed until several of the recommendations deleted are restored," said Joan Bell, a committee member. "They are not trivial changes. They are changes of substance, meaning and specificity."

Another contingent came to speak out on the construction of a mixed-use development along the north side of Bestgate Road. The 100 or so supporters wore hard-to-miss yellow buttons proclaiming "I support the Village at Bestgate." About 150 residents from Annapolis Neck and Crownsville answered with white buttons bearing a red circle with a line crossing out the words "The Village at Bestgate." That contingent wants to keep the 54-acre plot residential.

Sierra Club Service Trip

by Valerie Lester

Like many others who espouse causes, I am passionate about them but feel unable to do anything other than write the occasional check in their support. My particular passion is the health of the environment and its wild places. Like many others, I recycle, I compost, I have a rain barrel, and I pick up trash when I go for walks, but I am unsatisfied by my meagre contribution. In October, however, I had the opportunity to reach a bit further. I went on a Sierra Club service trip to the Mount Rogers State Forest in S.W. Virginia.

In addition to its spectrum of hiking, biking, canoeing, rafting, sailing, skiing, and international vacations, the Sierra Club offers service trips to wild places where participants can actually DO something of benefit to the environment. In the case of the Mount Rogers trip, we were expected to work on erosion control and trail maintenance. (I had chosen this particular trip because it was within a day's drive of Annapolis and because it had a fixed camp with cabins for volunteers; I had a friend from England joining me, and I couldn't envision us snoring together in a tent, the usual accommodation on a service trip.)

Mount Rogers, at 5,729 feet, is the highest point in Virginia. It is located in the Mount Rogers National Recreation Area (east of Marion and Route 81) through which a long stretch of the Appalachian Trail winds its way. The surrounding countryside consists of forests and meadows, rolling hills, bright rivers, and sparsely populated hollows.

Our group included 13 workers, a leader, and a cook. We also had a supervisor from the State Forest, and two local job leaders — classic Virginia country gents. The participants came from all over and the range of accents was stunning: Texas, Georgia, Minnesota, New Jersey, Florida, Maryland, and England, and India. We ate our meals in a central lodge, which had all the essentials: wood stove, pool table, darts board, and lots of leftover books. M.J. Jones cooked for us, marvellously, and we all took turns in helping her with the set up and clearing away of meals, which she prepared in a separate kitchen area. Our 2-4 person cabins (wood

with corrugated iron roofs) contained basic bunk beds on which we unrolled our sleeping bags; the shower and toilet facilities were situated in a block nearby;

On the Monday, our first day of work, we drove to a trailhead and hiked a short distance to our designated task. We were provided with tools for restoring the path (pulaskis, pickaxes, rakes) and for cutting back the overgrowth (brushcutters, saws, and loppers); we were encouraged to wear hard hats and, when wielding the pulaskis, shinguards; we wore duct tape on our city hands to prevent blisters. We went to it, and by the end of the day the trail looked good enough to hike on.

The second day, we restored a track for the disabled, which led down to a river and provided the opportunity for a wheelchair to roll right to the water's edge so that its passenger could fish. The path continued right into a protected part of the river itself, close to a swimming hole, so the passenger could be eased into the water. It was an idyllic spot.

On Wednesday, our day off, we were taken up into the Highlands to hike for about 9 miles from bald to bald. These balds are smooth, unforested mountains which rise to nearly the height of forested Mt. Rogers and offer far better views as a result. We shared the heights with wild ponies and thoroughly enjoyed the expansive feeling of being above the hustle and anxiety of those Sniperish days.

On our last two days we built steps, using railroad ties, to prevent visitors from eroding a bank which led down to the same part of the river as the disabled ramp. This was hard, heavy work, involving digging out the site, cutting the ties with a chain saw, and pinning them together, using rebar and a drill with an extremely long bit. It was a gratifying moment when we were finally able to invite an Appalachian Trail hiker to be the first person to descend our steps.

It was enormous fun to spend time in the outdoors with a group of such dedicated, energetic people who spoke with so many different accents, who worked so hard and laughed so hard. I would go on another service trip in a heartbeat. In fact, it now seems silly to go on any other kind of holiday!

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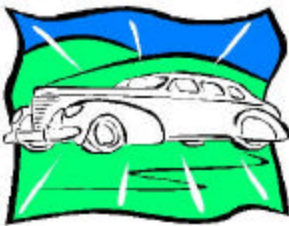


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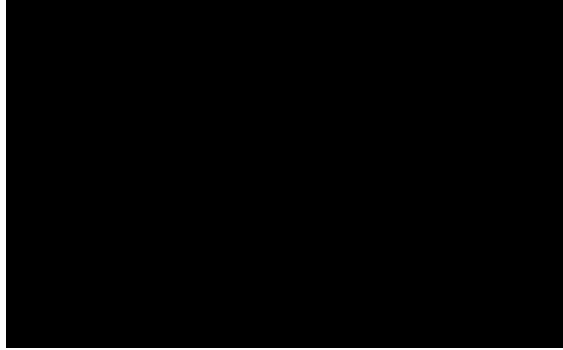
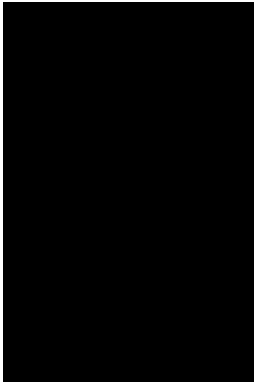
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Community Classified Ads are FREE to all Annapolis Roads residents. The ad must include your name, home address and phone number. The ad will be printed once and then discarded. Editor reserves the right to edit all text. Residents advertising businesses will be charged the business rates. Submit ads to: Bay Breeze, Annapolis Property Owners Association, P.O. Box 4934, Annapolis, MD 21403-4934, or email to walter@bigelow.com.



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