

The Heron

Bay Harbor Newsletter

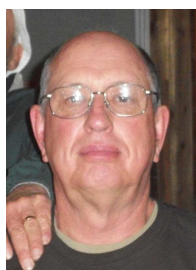
Bay Harbor - The Friendly Subdivision



John Halsey, Editor

Spring Edition February 2010

PREZ SAYZ



It has been a hard cold winter in Bay Harbor. Many of us have lost the plants that we replaced after Ike's flooding saltwater. There were also a few frozen water pipes around the neighborhood. With all of that being said, spring is just around the corner and the warm days and hours of sunlight are getting longer. Before long, we will be dealing with the heat, humidity and mosquitoes again. I am ready for that!

Everyone who is a member of the Bay Harbor Improvement Association (BHIA) is welcome to attend any of our monthly BHIA board meetings. Our meetings are held the second Saturday of the month at the home of one of our board members. We won't be having our meetings broadcast on C Span, but all of our meetings are open to our membership and we intend on being as transparent as possible. Our board meeting minutes and expense reports are available for any member who would like to see them.

We look forward to seeing our neighbors as the weather warms.

Please consider attending our monthly meetings. We want your input and ideas. We also need future board members to keep our organization running and this is a good opportunity for folks to see how our board works. We will be sending out an email with the meeting agenda and place of the meeting about a week before each meeting. We are in the process of placing a "Community Bulletin Board" at the fish cleaning station at the Marina.

Betsy Redfield is still on top of our Island Restoration Project and I will let her explain where we are with that in her report. Many thanks to Betsy for her persistence and tenacity in the effort to get our channel dredged and our island restored. Please consider a donation or pledge for the 2010 tax year.

Once again, if you would like to be added to the Bay Harbor email list or have any other comments please let me know by calling me (713-824-1067) or sending me an email at bhand47@yahoo.com.



**Bay Harbor Improvement Association
Board Members
July 2009- June 2010**

Bill Hand, President 737-9418
281-557-2316
Cell 713-824-1067
bhand47@yahoo.com

Carl Finney 737-5898
Cell 281-642-6379
cfinney@straussystems.com

Pam Williams 737-3733
Cell 713-924-7647
pam0601@att.net

Gail Choate, Secretary/Treasurer
737-1707
gschoate@sbcglobal.net

Betsy Redfield 737-1664
713-961-1641
eredfield1@peoplepc.com

Rob Traugott 737-9943
Cell 281-960-7098
rtraugott@lagunapools.com

Pat Jackson 737-9057

Sheryl Liskow 713-643-9282
Cell 713-397-8416
sliskow@comcast.net

Annette Moore 737-5758
713-781-6757
tmoore7807@aol.com

Sandra Criswell 737-9773
281-332-5130
sambusy@aol.com

Bill Aylor Cell 713-557-3427
713-436-3147

Jinny Gilliland jinnygilliland@sbcglobal.net

John Halsey jthalsey@sbcglobal.net

Website: WWW.BHIATX.ORG

***** AHoy MATEY ! *****



SAVE THE DATE !!!



B.H.I.A. ANNUAL MEETING

June 12, 2010

4pm

BAY HARBOR BOAT BASIN

Once again we'll be launching the new year for Bay Harbor with our annual meeting at the boat basin when we will share a great time hearing the latest news of the neighborhood and electing new association board members. Our chef extraordinaire, Randy Choate, will once again offer up the best barbeque on the island.



We also plan to raise funds for the association and restoration project and will need items for auction such as gift cards/baskets, certificates or

Continued on page 7 (Annual Meeting announcement)

TOWN&COUNTRY
INSURANCE AGENCY
An Affiliate of EncoreBank

Jessie Ann Bradshaw
New Business Development

1605 Tremont (23rd Street)
Galveston, Texas 77550
409.763.6376 Fax 409.763.5150
866.448.2467
jbradshaw@townandcountryins.com

Bay Harbor Habitat Restoration Project February 2010

We have signed the contract with Gahagan & Bryant for the remaining Tasks to complete our Island Restoration Project including the channel dredging. GBA will begin Post Storm Survey work, weather permitting, and follow up on the Easement Permit with the General Land Office. They will then prepare the Final Design & Plans for construction bids.

Unfortunately we were not granted the Gulf of Mexico grant of \$25,000. However, unsolicited, we were given a non-matching grant from the Coastal Beach & Bay Foundation of \$10,000. We continue to provide up-dated information to the Texas GLO (CEPRA \$225,000 pending application) where our Project is on the Alternate Project List.

We have been in contact again with the Galveston Bay Foundation and believe we will be able to renew our application and possibly receive significant funding. This is all "in the works". Also, we are continuing to communicate with Scott Williams of the US Fish and Wildlife Service who is searching for funds for our Project.

A recent contact with Kris Benson of NOAA gave us some encouragement as he offered to research other funding sources for our Project including our pending South East Aquatic Partnership application.

This means that we continue to need private funds to reach our total project goal. We hope you received our thank you picture/note and will donate again to our community Project. We really need your donations NOW to avoid losing our present grants and all the progress we have made. We want to get this Project done and are still trying to target June 2010.

We have contacted the Coastal Counties Restoration Initiative and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and they have agreed that if Gahagan & Bryant sends our Final Design and Plans out for bids in March they will consider our Project funded and these two grants will not expire. This is critical and we must have sufficient funds and pledges to do this.

Please remember that our Project includes the dredging of the boat channel and in order to get this done we were able to apply for and received matching grants by restoring the eroding island with the dredged materials.

We have to match these grants. Please donate.

New Years Eve at Gail and Randy's



News from the Bay Harbor Garden Club

Our first meeting this year is scheduled for Saturday, February 27. It will be held at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Bill and Elaine Hand, 3815 Tradewinds. If you are already a member, we are looking forward to seeing you. Please feel free to invite any of your neighbors who might be interested in joining us.

We will have two speakers from the Galveston County Mosquito Control District: Executive Director/Pilot John Marshall and Entomologist Ashley Wilson. With the cold weather we've had recently, mosquitoes have not been an issue; but we all know what a problem they become when the weather turns hot. I'm sure that these two experts have some great tips on keeping those annoying - and possibly harmful - creatures away from our homes and families.

You may also want to take a look at the Mosquito Control website:
http://www.co.galveston.tx.us/mosquito_control/index.htm

If you have questions or suggestions for any of our meetings, please pass that information on to Elaine Hand, Garden Club president. She can be reached at 281-381-7007 or handelaine@hotmail.com.

Christmas Party at Patsy Gatlin's



Bay Harbor Sewer Update

On Tuesday February 2nd, 2010 John Halsey and Bill Hand met with Eric Wilson and Karen Mahoney to discuss the status of the Bay Harbor Sewer Project. Bill explained that our septic tank situation was getting worse and that a lot of people are having problems flushing toilets and in some cases that raw sewage is running into people's yards. Eric seems to think that the City will get enough funds in the second round of CDBG funding to complete the sewer projects on the West End and other areas. The original funding that we thought was there is no longer available for a number of reasons.

We again reviewed the master plan for Bay Harbor which was completed in 2006. Eric plans to move forward with the acquisition (purchase) of land for a lift station. There are no plans to move the original location of the lift station because that would delay the project and add additional costs. We explained that the BHIA would not be involved with individual property owners during this acquisition process. We did agree to provide whatever contact information that we had available as an HOA.

The bottom line is that the best case scenario would be that we may see construction start during the 1st or 2nd quarter of 2011. As most of you know, this is just another date of many that we have seen over the past six or seven years. We are trying to stay as positive as we can but we will know that our sewer project has arrived when we see heavy equipment in Bay Harbor digging holes in the ground. I do feel that we have a good working relationship with Eric. On a final note, Eric did say that if a property owner wanted to install one of the expensive "Aerobic" sewage treatment systems that even though the sewer project was completed, those property owners would not have to connect to the city system for "five to seven years". I know that some folks are waiting to build because they are waiting for sewers and this may give some of those folks an option if they would like to take it.

Bay Harbor Winter 2010 Fishing Report

by Capt. Bill Hand

We have had one of the longest runs of wet and generally nasty weather that I can remember in recent history. There is not much fishing action to report. The water temperature has been around 52 degrees for a while now and that makes finding fish difficult. A few weeks ago on one of those rare sunny days, I went to one of my favorite winter spots on a scattered shell bottom down near Jamaica Beach and found a couple of flounder and one bull whiting. I have seen some photos of some nice Specks and had some reports from the Confederate Reef area. Most of those fish were caught just before dark. I don't like to run in the dark during the winter, so I have not ventured down there to try that area. I have not seen any trout or reds around the green lights in the canal in about six weeks. The crabs have been gone since the last part of November.

If you venture out on the water during the winter, it is a good idea to let someone know where you plan to fish. Emergencies on the water during the winter can be life threatening and hypothermia is a serious problem during the winter. If you are in the water without the proper protective clothing you can die. You should have a plan and phone numbers of a couple of people that you can call if you break down. It is no fun to spend the night out on the bay on a cold winter night. Always carry extra dry clothes with you. Unless you have a life threatening emergency, the Coast Guard will not come to your rescue.

I know that some folks are probably wondering about the cold weather and any possible fish kills in our area. According to Capt. Joe Kent's fishing reports in the Galveston County Daily News, the fish kill was very minor. Because of all of the cold weather that we had before the deep freeze, most of the trout and reds had been acclimated and found deep holes to avoid the extreme temperatures. That was not the case on the mid and lower coast, where they did have a substantial fish kill.

Now is a good time to get your tackle cleaned up and ready for the spring fishing season. It is also a good time to do your annual maintenance on your boat. Old gasoline is a major cause of breakdowns on the water.

Our Annual Bay Harbor Fishing Rodeo will be held on Friday evening May 28 and Saturday May 29, 2010. That is the Memorial Day weekend. Stay tuned for more information as the date gets closer. Last year we had a great turn out and there were a lot of fish weighed in. We are planning another neighborhood fish fry following the weigh in.

Tight lines and be careful out there on the water.

Capt. Bill

Heron Advertising Rates

Rate:	Per Edition	4 Editions get 1 Free!
Business card size (3.5 x 2)	\$25.00	\$75.00
1/8 page (2.75 x 5.5)	\$45.00	\$135.00
1/2 page (5.5 x 8.5)	\$80.00	\$240.00
Full page (8.5 x 11)	\$115.00	\$345.00

To place an ad, call or write John Halsey or any BHIA board member.
(713) 443 6700 or jthalsey@sbcglobal.net

Bay Harbor Classifieds

Rates: For a 2" wide, \$2.00 per line (minimum of 3 lines).
Runs one time for these rates, and on the website for 1 month.

www.bhiatx.org

Heron has entered 21st Century

The BHIA board has decided that to hold down publication costs and to present the Heron in full color format that the Heron will be primarily published via our website at WWW.BHIATX.ORG and via email. For those steadfast holdouts among our readership who do not choose to access the internet, please notify our secretary, **Gail Choate**, at Route 4, Box 190 B 26, Galveston, Tx 77554, that you would like to continue receiving your copy of the Heron via "snail" mail.

Continued from page 2 (Annual Meeting announcement)

any gift you can think of that might help bring some \$\$\$\$\$. If you or someone you know owns a business that offers goods or services, we would love your participation.

For more information or to make a donation contact Pam Williams, pwilliams0601@sbcglobal.net.



Bay Harbor

4th Annual St. Paddy's Day Celebration

Saturday, March 13

Come join our annual St. Patrick's Day Parade and Party on Saturday, March 13! Decorate your golf cart, bicycle, motor cycle or anything else on wheels and join us for the parade.

We'll meet at the boat basin at 3 p.m., have a quick judging of the best decorated wheels then the winner will be our Grand Marshal as we roll up and down the streets of Bay Harbor.



We'll end up back at the marina and continue the revelry with a fish fry and oyster roast.

Carl Finney will head up our 3rd annual fireside sing-a-long at dusk with a marshmallow and s'mores roasting for all.

Bring a side dish appetizer or dessert and join in the fun. Call Gail Choate and let her know what you would like to contribute.

We will have a few soft drinks and cold beer available for a small donation or you can bring your own beverages.



Bay Harbor Improvement Association

Bay Harbor, Bahia Azul, Bahia Azul-Orner, BeeGee Bay

Route 4, Box 190 B26
Galveston, Texas 77554



Visit our website at www.bhiatx.org

Upcoming Events

March 2010

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April 2010

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May 2010

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Feb

27 Garden Club 3815 Tradewinds at 10:00am

March

13 BHIA monthly board meeting

13 3:00pm St. Patricks day parade & Marina party

April

10 BHIA monthly board meeting

May

08 BHIA Monthly Meeting