

# The Heron

## Bay Harbor Newsletter

*Bay Harbor - The Friendly Subdivision*



John Halsey, Editor

### *Spring Edition* February 2011

#### **PREZ SAYZ** Winter 2011

##### ***Winter in Bay Harbor***

It has been another cold winter in Bay Harbor. Many of us have lost the plants that we replaced after last year's freezing weather. I don't think that most of us expect to have to protect vegetation down here on a semi-tropical island. There were also a few frozen water pipes around the neighborhood and some long power outages on a couple of those extremely cold and windy days. Hopefully those issues have been addressed by Center Point Energy and won't happen again. Those outages lasted much longer than the forty five to twenty minute rolling blackouts described by Center Point.

##### ***Crime Watch in Bay Harbor***

Because we live in a low crime, peaceful neighborhood, it is easy to let your guard down. If you will secure your property, lock your doors when you leave even for a short trip to the beach and lock your car, you can prevent most of these thefts



according to the Galveston Police Department. If you see folks in the neighborhood that seem out of place or up to no good, don't hesitate to get license plate numbers and even call the police to report the activity. Several crimes on the West End have been solved because our neighbors did just that. Citizen participation is the cornerstone of Galveston's Community Policing Program.

We can also help each other by moving your neighbors garbage carts back to their house after garbage pick-up on Mondays. An empty garbage cart that has been on the street in front of a home for several days is like a neon sign advertising that no one is at home.

##### ***Our Bay Harbor Monthly Board Meetings***

Any member of the Bay Harbor Improvement Association is invited to attend any of our monthly meetings and give us your thoughts and ideas. Our Minutes and Financial Reports are always available to anyone who would like to look at them. Our meetings are rotated among our board members homes and I will always send an email blast to the neighborhood announcing the time and place. Once again, if you know anyone who would like 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](mailto:bhand47@yahoo.com).

Your Prez  
Bill Hand



**Bay Harbor Improvement Association  
Board Members  
July 2010- June 2011**

- Bill Hand, President** 737-9418  
281-557-2316  
Cell 713-824-1067  
bhand47@yahoo.com
- Pam Williams** 737-3733  
Cell 713-924-7647  
pam0601@att.net
- Gail Choate, Secretary/Treasurer** 737-1707  
gschoate@sbcglobal.net
- Charles Winsor** 281-541-4877  
281-488-7254  
charleswinsor@sbcglobal.net
- Robert Seay** robseay1234@aol.com
- Rob Traugott** 737-9943  
Cell 281-960-7098  
rtraugott@lagunapools.com
- Pat Jackson** 737-9057
- Betsy Redfield** 737-1664  
713-961-1641  
eredfield1@peoplepc.com
- 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**



**Bay Harbor**



**5th Annual St. Paddy's Day  
Celebration**

**Saturday, March 12**

Come celebrate the end of winter at our annual St. Patrick's Day Parade and Party on Saturday, March 12! Decorate your golf cart, bicycle, motor cycle or anything else on wheels and join us for the parade.

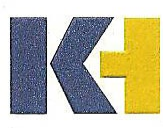
We'll meet at the boat basin at 3 p.m., give a prize for the best decorated wheels then take out up and down the streets of Bay Harbor, ending where we started at the boat basin.

Afterwards we'll have a fish fry under the tent. Bring an appetizer, side dish, dessert or just your green self and join in the fun. We will have a few soft drinks and cold beer available for a small donation or you can bring your own beverages.

It's great fun for children and adults so hope to see you there!



**TIM KURTIN** G.M.B.  
TPK-KFH@SBCGLOBAL.NET



**KURTIN  
FINE HOMES**

5034 STEFFANI LANE  
HOUSTON, TX 77041

**PH.** 713.466.4343  
**FAX** 713.466.3159  
**CELL** 713.254.8166

## Bay Harbor Habitat Restoration Project

Up date report as of January 28, 2011

A meeting was held with Gahagan & Bryant Associates on April 29, 2010 to open bids for construction of the habitat project. The Notice of Award/Contract was signed June 16, 2010 with JND Thomas Co. and a pre-construction meeting was held at the offices of GBA on August 3, 2010.

Weekly construction summary reports were provided by GBA summarized below:

Sept 12-18: Mobilization to the site began on August 22, 2010 and notice to proceed was given on September 7. Silt fencing was installed; footprint stakes were installed; geo-tubes were being filled.

Sept 19-25: Filling of geo-tubes continued

Sept 26-Oct 2: Channel marker pilings installed; continue filling geo-tubes

Oct 3-9: Dredge work continued with discharge to island pad

Oct 10-16: Dredge work continued discharge to island and geo-tubes

Oct 17-23: Installation and filling of geo-tubes near completion

Oct 25-31: Discharge continued on the pad

Nov 1-7: Channel depth being worked.

Nov 8-14: Discharge continues to pad

Nov 15-21: Not working due to bad weather

Nov 28-Dec 4: Discharge restarted and continued to pad

Dec 5 - Dec 11: Island restoration is to grade. Areas continue to be filled

Dec 19 - Dec 25: Deficiencies addressed Dec 12-18. Work will be done

For construction information the project was declared complete as of December 21, 2010.



An inspection committee from Galveston Bay Foundation toured the site on Tuesday, January 11 and gave reports of some repairs and completion work to be done. This is being addressed with the

**(cont. p.4 restoration project report)**

**Jessie Bradshaw, CISR**  
Account Manager  
Personal Lines

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

To all our friends from BHIA



**(Restoration project report cont. from p.3)**

engineers and contractor. GBA will make sure all work is completed before releasing the contractor.

Galveston Bay Foundation and US Fish & Wildlife Services will make arrangements to plant native vegetation on the island which will include many residents and neighboring volunteers and the Boy Scouts of America. Sample vegetation has been planted for testing. At the time of the planting Bay Harbor will hold a fund raiser to prepare for monitoring and continued expenses.

**Betsy Redfield, Project Coordinator**

## Garden Club Update

Hello to our Bay Harbor friends and neighbors. Our next Garden Club meeting is quickly approaching. Originally I had planned to find a speaker for our meeting, but then I realized that something very appropriate for us was already in the planning stages.

I'm sure that all of you are familiar with the Island Restoration that was completed recently. Here's a copy of the email that Bill sent out at the end of January.

"I just wanted to update everyone and give you a heads up on our plans for planting on our restored island. We are coordinating with the Galveston Bay Foundation to supply the plants and assistance. We will need to complete this project before 1 March 2011 because the birds will be starting to nest. If we do not get this project done before that date, we will have to wait until September when the birds leave the island. As of now, we are looking at either 19 or 26 February 2011 for the project.

As soon as we have a firm date and time, we will advise every one of the details. I just wanted to give everyone a little lead time and give you an update. Hopefully we can get most of the planting done next month and add to it in September."

So, rather than have a formal meeting, I am suggesting that we all put on our gardening clothes and shoes and help out with the planting. The date (February 19 or 26) is up in the air right now. We will inform you of the exact date and time as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, I can be reached at 281-381-7007 (cell) or 281-557-2316 (home) or just respond to this email.

Elaine



**Jim Kuchta**  
REALTOR®  
jimkuchta@garygreene.com



**Prudential**

**GARY GREENE, REALTORS®**  
13450 FM 3005, Galveston, TX 77554  
Office 409 737-5200 x136  
Toll Free 800 880-9697  
Cellular 409 771-6824

🏠 An independently owned and operated member of Prudential Real Estate Affiliates, Inc.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Bay Harbor Fishing Rodeo

The Bay Harbor Third Annual Fishing Rodeo is scheduled for May 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, Memorial Day weekend. The tournament is open to all Bay Harbor families and friends. Non-anglers can also register which provides for a free registration gift and access to the fish fry. It's a neighborhood family fun event. Registration and check-in is Friday evening between 5 & 7 pm or Saturday morning between 6:30 & 8:00 am at the Bay Harbor Marina. Tournament fishing starts Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at 8 PM Friday until Saturday May 28<sup>th</sup>, at 2 PM. Weigh-in is Saturday from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM. Additional registration, fee and prize information are coming soon.



---

### Bay Harbor Winter 2011 Fishing Report by Capt. Bill Hand

We have had a second consecutive winter of cold and generally nasty weather. The tides have been extremely low and temperatures well below normal for Galveston Island. I am not sure about all of this "Global Warming" and "Rising Sea Level" information that we hear on the news. I guess time will tell if this is just another cycle of cold weather that we have seen before, or if there is something to this "Climate Change" thing. There is not much fishing action to report. The water temperature has been around 54 degrees for a while now and that along with extremely low tides makes finding fish difficult. The water level in Bay Harbor canals has been very low and crystal clear on most days. I have not observed any fish in the canals other than very small minnows and an occasional mullet.

A few weeks ago, on one of those rare sunny warm days, I went to the beach down by the water tower and caught about 20 nice whiting on fresh dead shrimp. The trick to catching whiting on the beach this time of year is to have some fresh dead shrimp and fish on an incoming tide when the water starts to move up on the beach. Most of the fish are in the first gut and you don't even need to wade out to cast.

I have seen photos of some nice specks and had some reports from the Confederate Reef area. Most of those specks were caught by kayakers after dark during some miserable weather conditions. I am just not that mad at the fish to tolerate those conditions anymore.

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 in this area 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. I can't over emphasize the importance of having a VHF Marine Radio in addition to your cell phone. Always carry rain gear and 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. I believe that any fish kill we may have had was very minor. Because of all of the cold weather and low tides that we had in December before the hard freezes of the past few weeks, most of the trout and reds had been acclimated and found deep holes to avoid the extreme temperatures.

Tight lines and be careful out there on the water.

Capt. Bill

## Announcing Marsh Mania!

Come help us plant marsh grass on our newly expanded Bird Island  
On Saturday February 26th  
Watch your email inbox for when the details are finalized.

---

---

\*\*\*\*\*

SAVE THE DATE FOR THIS YEAR'S

\*\*\*\*\*

B.H.I.A. ANNUAL MEETING



June 12, 2011

4pm

Boat Basin

---

Aloha! Come join your neighbors for a luau to celebrate the dedication of the restoration of our own bird island. Share a great time hearing the latest news of the neighborhood and participate in the election of our new board members. After the business portion of the meeting which will be attended by our city officials, we'll once again have a wheel barrow raffle and a live auction of a few choice items.



---

Contact Pam Williams at [pwilliams0601@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pwilliams0601@sbcglobal.net) or

409-737-3733

if you have an item to donate to the cause.

---

**Excerpts from the *Saga of Bay Harbor*  
by Roberta Christensen**

***1947- Early stages of Bay Harbor***

Embryonic stages of the Bay Harbor Addition began to form when Harry Melcer made a down payment of \$6,000 on 220 acres on West Beach of Galveston Island to C. E. Nelson and other parties September 22, 1947. The said 220 acres located in Division 1 of Survey 13 of the Hall Jones Subdivision on the westerly part of Galveston Isle of Abstract. No. 121, Patent No. 1, Volume 1, dated November 28, 1840. Mr. R. E. Smith paid \$30,000 on May 22, 1954, making the total cost of \$36,000 for the 220 acres.

***1962 - The beginning stages of our marina area***

O. J. Tauber, president, cited accomplishments of the Improvement Association at a Property Owner's meeting in Bill Bennett's Grill in Houston on September 26, 1962, then turned the meeting over to Charles N. Royds who called for a standing ovation to the committee which had donated time, labor, and money to correcting the ravages of "Carla," with maintenance funds paid by a greater part of the property owners. They could ask for no help from the County this would automatically open the addition to the public. It was voted to issue "Bay Harbor" stickers for autos of stockholders, to campaign for ALL property owners to pay the maintenance fee, to construct a launching ramp of concrete and install channel markers restrict swimming to certain areas to avoid accidents, and establish a regular program of road maintenance as the First Priority.

Dredging the turning basin and building a bulkhead was approved as a second priority as was fencing and shelling the 200 by 200 foot area designated at the turning basin for Property Owners' Parking.



## 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](mailto: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](http://www.bhiatx.org)



*Laguna Pools .com*  
Since 1973  
**281-392-8833**

# 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](http://www.bhiatx.org)

## Upcoming Events

### March 2011

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		

February 26th—Marsh Mania come help plant grass on Bird Island—party to follow

### March

12 BHIA board meeting

17 GAIN meeting 5:30pm at Moody Mansion

19 WGIPOA meeting Galveston Country Club at 9:00am

### April 2011

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

### April

16WGIPOA meeting Galveston Country Club at 9:00am

21 Gain meeting 5:30pm at Moody Mansion

### May 2011

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				

### May

14 BHIA board meeting

19 GAIN meeting 5:30pm at Moody Mansion

21 WGIPOA meeting Galveston Country Club at 9:00am