

# The Heron

## Bay Harbor Newsletter

*Bay Harbor - The Friendly Subdivision*



Pam Williams, Editor

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## Winter Edition February 2012

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### The Prez Says

It has been a slow winter but thank heaven it's not been a freezing one. The citrus trees are in bloom already and the grass is greening up letting us know to get the lawn mower in shape for another great spring. It has been written February 14<sup>th</sup> is the date to begin cutting back those plants which require such an activity. Roses especially are ready to be pruned on or about February 14<sup>th</sup>...I always thought it was interesting that we cut back roses on Valentine's Day. The truth of the matter is plants should be cut back after the last freeze and before new growth begins.

#### Reasons for Pruning:

- to maintain plant health
- to improve the quality of flowers, fruit, foliage or stems
- to restrict growth

In general, the best time to prune most plants is during late

winter or early spring before growth begins. There are exceptions to this rule, and they will be noted under the discussion of the specific plant groups. The least desirable time is immediately after new growth develops in the spring. A great amount of food stored in roots and stems is used in developing new growth.

This food should be replaced by new foliage before it is removed; if not, considerable dwarfing of the plant may occur. This is a common problem encountered in pruning.

A big step has been taken by your Board in that Bay Harbor Improvement Association will be operating with a prepared budget for the first time in history. A prepared budget will assist the organization to be more fiscally responsible. Many thanks go to Pam Williams, Gail Choate and Mark Bloom for some very intense and detailed planning. The budget was presented to the Board at our last meeting and was accepted by the Board.

**(Continued on page 2 see President)**



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**(Continued from page 1 President)**

New locks have been installed on the fishing pier and the boat launch. To obtain a key to the marina area one must be a member of the organization. If you happen by the marina area and see the fishing pier gate left open or a boat launch chain left unlocked please take a few minutes to lock them. And, if you happen to use the fishing pier and/or the boat launch area please relock the locks after use.

Some of our neighbors have been noticing rattlesnakes out and about in yards and flowerbeds. Be very mindful of the varmints when you are out walking. With the drought last year the snakes were entering the neighborhood looking for water. Some of them may have developed a pattern of visiting our yards and gardens so it would pay to keep a sharp eye.

Lastly, I urge everyone to become educated with our election process and the candidates. Bay Harbor has several registered voters and it is very important we all exercise our right to vote. I personally am a registered voter in Galveston and my wife is a registered voter in Houston. I feel if you own property in Galveston then you should take steps to vote in Galveston. We have a few serious issues dealing with Bay Harbor and Galveston and one should become an informed voter if possible. Every vote in Galveston counts! Best Regards - Charlie Winsor



**6th Annual St. Paddy's Day  
Celebration  
Saturday, March 17**

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!

**It's time for the Annual  
Bay Harbor International  
Folk Dance Festival**



**Saturday, April 21st  
3710 Port Trinidad from 6:00pm until  
Potluck and BYOB**

Bring your dancing shoes and an empty stomach. The tutu hat dancers will return for another live performance. There should be a lot of good food and dancing.

If you are able to adopt a folk dancer or two for the night, get in touch with John or Toy Halsey (713 443 6700). We are looking for places for those that don't want to drive all the way back to Houston to stay.

## **LOST BOAT RAMP KEY**

### **WILL BE EXPENSIVE**

In order to keep our lock and key expense at a minimum, there will be a \$25 charge for a lost boat ramp key.

When you get the current year's key, you must turn in the last year's key, unless you were not issued a key for that year.

## **Garden Club News**

The last meeting of the Garden Club was held at the home of Annette Moore with Peggy Cornelius from Tom Thumb Nursery speaking. Peggy treated everyone to a small airplane plant in a cute animal planter. Pam Williams, along with assistance from May Bonno, was "selected" as the new president. Many thanks to Elaine Hand for steering the club for the last two years!

The next activity takes place February 25th attending a free "Square Foot Gardening" class being offered by Tom's Thumb Nursery from 10a-12a. Contact Pam at [pwilliams0601@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pwilliams0601@sbcglobal.net) for carpooling information.

Remember, members and guests do not need to reside in Bay Harbor to join the club or attend meetings so you can invite your friends in other neighborhoods to join in. Just be sure to let the hostess know if you expect to bring your guest.



### **Jessie Bradshaw, CISR**

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The Tutu Hat Dancers will be back at the Folk Dance Festival on April 21 st.



**HAPPY NEW YEAR 2012 !!!**



# Transition of the Restoration Project

This edition of the Heron marks the transition of the marsh restoration project to Phil Martin from Betsy Redfield. Betsy has shepherded this project for over six years now, seeing it from inception to the actual completion of a newly dredged channel from the marina into the bay and the more than tripling of the nesting habitat on Bird Island and an equivalent increase in the wetlands area buffering the island. Our hats are off to Betsy for this incredible accomplishment.

Looking forward, Phil will be picking up the challenge of seeing to it that we are prepared in the future for additional dredging of the channel as needed, and looking for opportunities to enhance the habitat area for the benefit of the birds and all members of the Bay Harbor community. In the future, please direct future inquiries regarding this effort to Phil at [pm@pmartin-aia.com](mailto:pm@pmartin-aia.com).

Below is a Project 'to-do list' that will provide an idea of the kind of activities that will need continued community support going forward to derive the maximum benefit for all from this effort.

1. Protect the Habitat Bank account. Let's not let any of these funds get comingled into the general account. We will need all these funds and MORE to maintain the project in the future. The lease with the Texas General Land Office has eight years remaining at \$3,366/year.
2. Contact Phil Smith of Galveston Bay Foundation ([psmith@galvbay.org](mailto:psmith@galvbay.org)) (281-332-2281) to ask about any spring planting of vegetation on the island.
3. The project (dredging) was completed December 2010. Contact Gahagan & Bryant to request them to continue working with Bay Harbor in the future. Dana Cheney ([DLCHENEY@GBA-INC.COM](mailto:DLCHENEY@GBA-INC.COM)) (832-377-4800 cell/832-518-2112 off)
  - A. Survey timing for maintenance dredging
  - B. Apply for permit with CORPS for maintenance dredging
  - C. Review possibility of placing the material on the island and contact TGLO.
4. Contact Scott Williams of US Fish & Wildlife ([Scott.Williams@fws.gov](mailto:Scott.Williams@fws.gov)) (281-286-8282) to ask that he continue to work with Bay Harbor re support and planting.
5. Contact Kristopher Benson of NOAA ([Kristopher.Benson@noaa.gov](mailto:Kristopher.Benson@noaa.gov)) (409-766-3699) to ask that he continue to work with Bay Harbor re applications for funds.
6. Prepare a fundraising schedule. We will need to continue to raise funds, so set out some fundraising events to keep the project in front of our community. The maintenance dredge could cost \$40,000 - 50,000. This may not be for three plus years, but it takes a lot of pushing and begging to raise money.

# Bay Harbor Winter 2012 Fishing Report

## by Capt. Bill Hand

It is almost the middle of February and so far we have had a very unusual winter fishing season. With a couple of exceptions we have had one of the mildest winters in a while. This mild weather and some much needed rain created a situation for some outstanding fishing. For the most part, the fish in West Bay have stayed



ShaDamn!

in the same areas they were feeding in during the fall. I have been closely monitoring the water temperatures at the weather station and tide gauge at San Luis Pass. The water temperatures have stayed in the low 60sF to middle 50sF all winter. These moderate water temperatures have been holding plenty of Redfish and Speckled Trout in three to five feet of water over scattered shell. Without giving up too much information, I will tell you that you can see the place that we are catching most of our fish from the boat ramp here in

Bay Harbor. One thing that has been a small problem is the low tides that are common in the winter. You really have to pick your fishing time and for the most part, that has been on a flood tide in the afternoon, right up to sundown. You also need to be very careful running a boat in the low water to keep from doing some significant damage to your outboards lower unit.

My favorite fishing rig for this winter has been a "Cajun Thunder" popping cork with a 18 to 20 inch 20lb mono leader attached to a 1/8 oz. lead head jig. We have



(continued on next page)

The Texas Grand Slam

**(Cap'n Bill's Fishin' Report continued from previous page)**

had great success using the three inch Pearl White and New Penny Gulp Shrimp. In the winter you need to slow down your retrieve and let your lure set still for a few seconds after popping the cork. This type of rig lets your lure fish near the bottom without constantly getting hung on oyster shell. We have also been picking up a few nice Flounder using this tactic. We have been making long drifts and when you hook a fish, mark the spot on your GPS and drift that track again. After a while, you will see a pattern and you can go back over the productive areas.

Unless we have some big changes in our weather pattern, spring fishing should be excellent. With the rain flushing out the marsh, the marshes should produce a bumper crop of shrimp and bait fish. That should lead to some bird chasing action as early as late April or May, so get ready! Now is the time to run your boat engine for a while and put new line on your reels.

You can always get current weather and tide conditions at San Luis Pass at the following URL: <http://lighthouse.tamucc.edu/overview/526>. As I have stated many times, fishing success in West Bay is all about moving water and finding the bait fish. If you can do that, you can almost always catch fish.

Tight lines and be careful out there on the water.

Capt. Bill

**4<sup>th</sup> Annual**  
**Bay Harbor**

*Open to Bay Harbor families and friends*

**Fishing Rodeo**

**May 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> 2012**

*Three Fishing Divisions*  
*Adult (17 years old and over) \$15*  
*Junior (11 to 16 years old) \$10*  
*Small Fry (10 & under) \$5*

*3 place prizes for Speckled Trout, Redfish and Flounder*

*Gift at registration*

*Tailgate fish fry*

Bay Harbor Improvement Association





The maestro himself



A Red for the ages

**The fish don't take the winter off.  
What's your excuse?**



Brent Hand—the acorn did not fall far from the tree.



Dave Korkmas, co-founder of the Bay Harbor Fishing rodeo, displays a trophy red.

# Bay Harbor Garden Club

## Christmas Party

The Bay Harbor Garden Club again sponsored our annual Christmas Party for all of our Bay Harbor neighbors. Annette and Theron Moore graciously offered to host the party at their home on Second Street.

We celebrated with a Mexican Fiesta - the food was great! Thanks to everyone who helped with the food and beverages. Dinner was followed with a White Elephant exchange that was fun and full of laughter as we "stole" presents from each other.



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To place an ad, call or write Pam Williams or any BHIA board member.  
(713) 924-7647 or [pwilliams@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pwilliams@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)



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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 2012**

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 2012**

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 2012**

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		

**March**

- 3 Garden Club Meeting 10am at 3917 1st St
- 17 BHIA Board Meeting 10am \_\_\_\_\_
- 17 St.Paddy's Day Golf Cart Parade/Party 3pm
- 17 WGIPOA meeting 9am Galveston Country Club
- 22 GAIN meeting 5:30pm at Moody Mansion

**April**

- 18 GAIN meeting 5:30pm at Moody Mansion
- 21 WGIPOA meeting 9am at Galveston Country Club
- 21 5th Annual Bay Harbor Folk Dancing Fest
- 28 Garden Club Meeting 10am at 3917 1st St

**May**

- 12 BHIA board meeting at \_\_\_\_\_ house
- 18 GAIN meeting 5:30pm at Moody Mansion
- 19 WGIPOA meeting 9am Galveston Country Club
- 25/26 Annual Bay Harbor Fishing Rodeo