

The Heron

Bay Harbor Newsletter

Bay Harbor - The Friendly Subdivision



John Halsey, Editor

Summer Edition August 2008

"THE PREZ SAYZ"

Just a note to let you know about some of the exciting things the new board of directors will be dealing with this year.

As you know we are right in the home stretch in our island restoration / dredging project. Betsy Redfield has headed up that committee from its inception, and has done a great job. She will be expanding her committee, and we all need to pick up the pace; you will be hearing more about that in the near future. Thanks for the help and support that you have given to her (us) in the past. With your continued help, we hope to "get err done" this year. Please continue to help! We are counting on you!

Bill Hand will be keeping up with the progress on the city sewer project, and I know he will have some reports for you as he gets the information from the city. We have been waiting a long time. With a little luck and Bill's prodding, we might get that done this year as well.

We are starting another important project this year: I know that you've heard this before, but we are in the planning stages of a pavilion at the marina. Cathy Francis is heading up a large committee to work on this project. With some volunteer labor, and donated materials, we all think that this will be something good for the community, and save us some money to boot.

John Halsey has volunteered to take over the reins of the Heron. If you appreciate getting this newsletter, or if you have anything to add, please let him know. There will be an electronic version on our web site. Our web Master is Bill Aylor. Along with Rob Traugott, I will be taking care of the marina again this year. The only thing I have to say about that is that we will be going back to KEYED locks after the first of the year!

Lets have a great year, If you need anything call me.

Carl Finney

3814 Tradewinds

281-642-6379 - cell

cfinney@straussystems.com

FIRST ANNUAL BAY HARBOR NEIGHBORHOOD FISHING RODEO Fri/Sat OCTOBER 10/11, 2008

Registration Friday 5 - 7 pm or Saturday
6:30 - 8:00 am at Bay Harbor Marina.

FISHING RODEO TIMES

Starts Friday 10/10 at 8:00pm

Ends Saturday 10/11 at 2:00 PM

Weigh -in 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM Saturday

Prizes awarded and tail gate party at the marina at 2:30 PM

DIVISIONS

Small Fry (Ages under 10) - Entry Fee \$5.00

Junior (Ages 11-16) - Entry Fee \$5.00

Fish that are eligible for a prize:

- Gafftop (14" - no limit)
- Redfish (20" to 28" - no tagged Redfish)
- Speckled Trout (15" - 25", 1 oversize)
- Sheephead (14" - no limit)
- Flounder (14" - no limit)
- Drum, black (14" - 30")
- Shark (24 - no limit)
- Sand Trout
- Croaker
- Whiting
- Spadefish

Adult (17 and Over) - Entry Fee \$10.00

Fish that are eligible for a prize:

- Speckled Trout (15" - 25", 1 oversize)
- Redfish (20" to 28" - no tagged Redfish)
- Flounder (14" - no limit)



Sewer Status

**Bay Harbor Improvement Association
Board Members
July 2008 - June 2009**

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As of June, there were three outstanding issues related to the sewer project that needed to be resolved - right of way along the streets, location of the lift station, and keeping the funds allocated to Bay Harbor sewers in the budget. It appears the "right of way" issue has been resolved. We are still trying to resolve the lift station location issue. It appears that the funding for Bay Harbor sewers in the 2008 Budget is safe for the time being, but, if we can't resolve the lift station location issue, all bets are off.

At our annual meeting in June, councilwoman, Karen Mahoney, announced that the city had received a legal opinion indicating that they already had all of the "right of way" needed to install sewer lines under each street in Bay Harbor. The packets that we announced would be sent to some property owners to get additional right of way will not be sent out.

Based on the sewer grid layout as currently designed, there is a very limited area where a lift station can be placed. The city has started to negotiate with the property owners in that area. BHIA has been trying to help this dialogue. If no agreement can be reached with any of these property owners, then the city will be faced with one of two difficult choices. They could elect to invoke eminent domain on one of these properties or they could look for an alternative location for the lift station triggering a costly redesign of the grid layout.

With the change in the make up of the city council, there has been concern that the new members might redirect the \$6 million dollars in the 2008 budget that is currently stipulated for Bay Harbor sewers to some other project. Several votes have occurred in the last month that indicate the council is willing to honor its long term commitment to eliminate the use septic systems on the island. The money appears safe for the time being.

As long as we can resolve the issue of the lift station, it appears that the project will be able to go forward. All other issues have been resolved. If the lift station issue can not be resolved, all bets are off.

John Halsey (jthalsey@sbcglobal.net)

Bay Harbor Habitat Restoration Project Report

July 2008

At the Annual Meeting, Dennis Rocha of the Texas General Land Office, spoke regarding the funding of the \$100,000 matching grant under the Coastal Erosion Protection & Response Act (CEPRA). The Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) is expected to be signed in August as we continue to receive private donations to meet our matching requirement. Also, Rob Kite of Gahagan & Bryant Associates Engineering, spoke describing the plan, design and construction operations of the entire project.

Since the Annual Meeting, the Habitat Restoration Project has been awarded \$50,000 from CCRI (see story) and also received a donation of \$2,000 from the Harris & Eliza Kempner Foundation.

With these enormous steps and the signing of the PCA, we are ready to expand the Habitat Restoration Project Committee. Residents interested in participating in any of the following areas please contact Betsy Redfield (713-961-1641) or Gail Choate (409-737-1707): Finance and Administration (record keeping & thank you letters); Solicitation (we continue to need funds); Monitoring the Island's Progress (work with NOAA, GLO, Engineers to establish bench-marks and progress); Up-grade/Redesign the Fish cleaning table/structure (provide for the placement of the signature tiles and donor recognition); Planting (work with the US Fish & Wildlife, NOAA, securing volunteers and a date to plant native vegetation on the restored island). All volunteers will be provided a form to keep track of their hours as this will be counted as IN-KIND matching funds. Your hours will count considerably so please call.

With continued support and volunteers working, we could target the project completion date for the next annual meeting in June 2009. Everyone, please let's give it our best. Thanks and our sincere appreciation to everyone who has contributed time and money.

Betsy Redfield, Project Chairman

News Flash:

Bay Harbor Habitat Restoration Project receives award of \$50,000 from the National Association of Counties (NACo) in partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Community-Based Restoration Program (CRP) under their ***Coastal Counties Restoration Initiative Program***.




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2008 Bay Harbor Annual Meeting

By Patsy Gatlin (pgatlin40@yahoo.com)

Our annual meeting was held June 14, 2008 at our boat basin and was well attended. We wish to thank all of our contributors for their donations enabling us to raise \$1,000.00 for our restoration project and another \$1,000.00 to add to our operating funds. We wish to thank the following people for their contributions:

Woody Sherwood - Official Keeper of the Moody Methodist Church Roaming Barbeque

Walter Combs - Official Meat Slicer

Randy Choate - Official Master Smoker

Pam Williams, Gail Finney, Ginny Gilliland, Mary Hurter, Jeanine Biasatti, Toy Halsey, Rob Traugott, Annette Moore, Betsy Redfield, Gene Ganzky and all of the many others that made our dinner so great.

Terry Bradshaw - Official Camp Fire Supplier

Bill Aylor - Captain of the Beverage Donation Bottle

Jessie Bradshaw - Silent Auction & Door Prize Captain and Goodie Bag Coordinator

Rob Kite, our project engineer for the restoration/dredging project did an absolutely terrific job explaining this project as did Dennis Rocha of the General Land Office and guest Heather Young from NOAA.

We wish to thank our new City Council Representative for our District, Karen Mahoney, for attending our meeting and letting us know some of her personal goals for us, one of her goals in looking into beach access.

Thank you Carl Finney for entertaining us with you musical lyrics while we sat around the camp fire and roasted marshmallows for our "S'mores" after the beautiful sunset at Bay Harbor.

Neighborhood Tails

Star, age 4
Boxer
South Rice



I was born in Galveston on the West End in Bay Harbor. Now I live in Bellaire. I am a lucky boxer and my owner takes very good care of me. Wherever she goes, I go. Except to work, of course. I am very well-trained. If my owner says sit, I sit. If she says lay down, I lay down. If she says come here, I am there. If she stays stay . . . well, enough of that, you get the idea. My boyfriend Ty is the handsome dog on the left. We are engaged to be married soon. Ty and I love to spend time together at the Officer Lucy Dog Park. We play, chase and box each other, and just hang out. We have a lot of friends at the park. If you see us, be sure to say hi!



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Spices Comments on Sister Star

By Spice Gatlin

This is my twin sister "Star" who was adopted at six weeks old. My mother, "Ginger" couldn't handle all of her children and had to select only one to keep. I was the lucky one that got to stay with her. I also have a loving home where I get to run on the beach and go in the ocean. I have a half brother named "Rhino" and we get along most of the time but sometimes he gets in my face and we have a disagreement. I have recently been introduced to some of the other neighborhood dogs and would like to play with them. I am still learning my manners and will need

some more time to learn how to be gentle with some of the smaller breeds attending the "Sundowner's" club.

I look forward to hearing some of the other stories in the neighborhood and welcome any comments on how we can be better neighbors.



Spice, Rhino and Ginger

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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

(Restoration Dilemma Continued from page 6)

Start a pledge drive - This idea involves mail out, follow-up phone calls and visit solicitations of all the Bay Harbor property owners asking them to sign a pledge for a donation to the restoration project. No one would be requested to actually write a check until we had the full amount of \$173,000 pledged. Once we had \$173,000 in pledges, everyone would be asked to send in their pledge amount. The plusses of this are that we don't collect any money until we have the full pledge amount, and it does achieve our monetary goal. The minuses are that we have had difficulty in the past finding enough people to approach everyone of the 344 property owners in greater Bay Harbor, perhaps more than once, possibly spanning months or years until the goal is reached. Also it might take a long time to get enough pledges to reach the full \$173,000 goal.

The Board has discussed all of these ideas at one time or another. Opinions vary, but the consensus seems to be that option 1 (voluntary deed restriction change) would cost too much in legal fees because each property owner would have to hire an attorney (350 property owners X \$500 per deed restriction change = \$175,000 in legal fees). Also it would be a logistics nightmare getting everyone to agree on the wording, and it would take too long to be able to achieve our restoration funding goals. Option 2 (Voluntary Donations) is the current approach but it

WANTED: new members to join fun, friendly **Bay Harbor Improvement Association**. Parties, fishing pier use, boat ramp access, annual golf cart parade, annual dinner meeting included. Bargain at only \$100.00 per year. 409-737-1707
Gail Choate, Secretary BHIA

Garden Club Members wanted to enjoy plants, outings, presentations, friends at our meetings - April, June, Aug, Oct & then our Christmas party in Dec. Only \$20.00 per family annual dues. Refreshments served at all meetings. Call Patsy Gatlin 409-632-9209

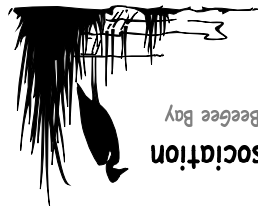
Garden Club Corner

Our next meeting will be held, Saturday, August 23rd at 10:00am at the home of Theron and Annette Moore, 4111 Second St. The topic of the day will be Palm Trees.

isn't bringing in enough money quickly enough and is only involving about 20% of the property owners. Option 3 (form a PID) would be expensive to set up (\$25K) and would probably make a lot of people here really mad if they were forced into the new tax district. But it would achieve our funding goal within a year or two. Option 4 (Pledge Drive) is good because no one will have to actually write a check until we have pledges to cover the entire \$173,000. But it will require a great deal of work to pull off and would need the support of many more than just the Board members to help with contacting people and all the logistics.

(Continued on back page dilemma)

Visit our website at www.bhiatx.org



Bay Harbor Improvement Association
Bay Harbor, Bahia Azul, Bahia Azul-Orner, Beegee Bay
Route 4, Box 190 B26
Galveston, Texas 77554

Upcoming Events

August 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

August

- 9 BHIA Monthly Meeting, 10:00 am
- 16 Garden Club - Palms

September 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

September

- 1 Labor Day
- 13 BHIA Monthly Meeting, 10:00 am

(Continued from p9 Dilemma)

But if this approach were adopted and people pledge at the same levels as they have donated in the past, we won't even come close to our \$173,000 goal. In that case we might have to seriously consider option 3.

So that's where it stands currently. If you have ideas for other options, or if you have any question or comments, please contact one of your BHIA board members or me at billaylor@comcast.net.

Bill Aylor

October 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

October

- 4 BHIA Monthly Meeting, 10:00 am
- 10/11 1st Annual Bay Harbor Fishing Rodeo
- 18 Garden Club