

Spring 2013



# Drum Point Light

## Drum Point Property Owners' Association

[www.dppoa.org](http://www.dppoa.org)

[office@dppoa.org](mailto:office@dppoa.org)

410-326-6148



A letter to all Drum Point Property Owners,

Please consider volunteering your service to your Board of Directors for the Drum Point Property Owners' Association.

The quality of our neighborhood and interaction with the County depend on the best representation possible. This is where you and our Board can be on the forefront to enhance our community and its facilities. Each of us, as residents or elected representatives or volunteers, has an important role to play. Please consider this carefully; particularly should you have specific concerns about the role our leadership has taken.

We will have three (3) positions open on the Board of Directors and are seeking candidates/nominations.

The requirements to serve; according to Article IX, Paragraph 2 of the DPPOA By-Laws are: *"All nominees must be property owners in good standing and must agree to serve if elected."*

The Board meets monthly, usually the second Tuesday of the month in the evening. Community meetings are held quarterly; the dates/times have been either Saturday mornings/evening or Wednesday evenings.

This year's Nominating Committee consists of four (4) of your neighbors: Judy Angelheart, John McCall, Len Addiss, and Peter Holt. You can contact them directly through Rhea in the office via email: [office@dppoa.org](mailto:office@dppoa.org) or by telephone at 410-326-6148. They will present the slate/nominations at the March membership meeting, so you have a bit of time to think about putting your name or a neighbor's in the "hat"!

Please give this serious thought, or if that's not something you wish to do, encourage others to run in your place. Thank you in advance for your thoughtful response.

*The Nominating Committee*

# President's Column

## Gary Heal, President

### DPPOA Board of Directors



I have been asked about how we decide to plow or treat our roads during inclement weather.

Before I go into the details of the decision making process, remember I suggested that, given our budget restrictions, we may decide not to plow if the snow fall is less than 4 inches. What I did not say is that we would take public safety into consideration in all decisions. Of course, the safety of our residents, especially our children, is paramount.

As I write this, we have just had three cases where we had to decide what, if anything should be done. Here is the process we follow:

**First**, we watch the weather forecast from multiple sources to understand what is happening before, during and after the event. We consider the type of precipitation, the temperatures, and the amounts expected. For example: During one of the recent events, the forecast was for freezing rain and black ice. We watched several TV weather forecasts and determined that the temperature during the event would be at or above freezing. If that had not been the case, we would have had portions of our roads, in particular the hills, causeways and intersections, pretreated to prevent icing.

**Second**, we consider the condition of our roads: We consider the temperature of the asphalt (when the temperature is at or above freezing, the ice will not stick to the asphalt), if the surface has been or needs to be treated with salt or sand and if hills or our causeways will need special consideration.

Using the event above as an example, we had treated our hills with salt within 48 hours of the event. This fact helped us make a decision to take no further action.

**Third** we consult with our Contractor: Our Contractor has much more experience with this work so we listen to what he has to say. We then combine that with other considerations including the given that he is doing this work to make a living.

Using the example above again, our Contractor informed us that the County was asking them to “standby” for mobilization. We took that into account in our decision.

**Fourth**, we find out what the County is planning: We find out what the County Department of Public Works is doing and take that into consideration. We also understand that what the County is doing is not always what is required for us, since Calvert County is North/South oriented; and what is needed for the northern portions may not be the same for the southern.

In the example I described above, we knew the County was preparing for action, but we determined that the probable icing would be to the north.

As you can see, the decision-making process must take many factors into consideration, but we always consider the needs of public safety very strongly. In addition to the steps listed above, we do have the restricted budget and need to be mindful of that.

*Gary Heal*

## FREE! AARP Tax-Aide Program

AARP/IRS trained Tax-Aide Counselors will be available, Monday, February 11, 2013 through Monday April 15, 2013, to prepare Federal and State tax returns for low to moderate-income senior citizens (50+). The County's three senior centers will start taking calls on February 4 to schedule appointments to begin on February 11.

Before making your appointment, please make sure you have all of the documentation necessary to complete your return. This would include last year's tax return (2011 Federal and MD State), all year-end Social Security statements, other pension statements, IRA distribution statements, W2's, 1099's, unemployment compensation, brokerage statements and any other income information.

ALSO, please bring any applicable receipts/information for all medical, insurance, interest, sales/property taxes, charitable deductions, education and/or child care credits. Bring a cancelled/voided check (for proof of direct deposit account) for any refunds/payments.

Please call for an appointment.

Calvert Pines Senior Center

410-535-4606 or 301-855-1170

North Beach Senior Center

410-257-2549

Southern Pines Senior Center

410-586-2748

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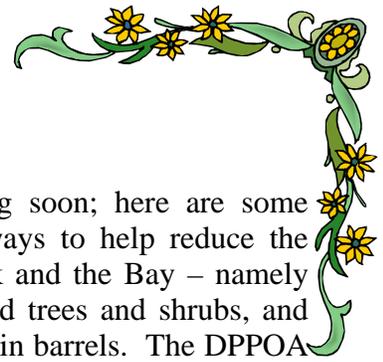
### COMMUNITY CLEAN UP

In consideration of a reduction in the STD budget, and the subsequent effect on the Association budget, there will be no community clean up scheduled for Spring.

### MOSQUITO SPRAYING

With spring comes the rain, and with the rain comes not only the flowers but also those pesky MOSQUITOS. The County will soon begin spraying for the little pests. If you wish NOT to be included in the spraying area, please call the County's Mosquito Control office at 410-535-6924 to have your area excluded.

## Environmental Corner



With spring coming soon; here are some environmentally-friendly ways to help reduce the nutrient load in Mill Creek and the Bay – namely replacing fallen or damaged trees and shrubs, and installing rain gardens or rain barrels. The DPPOA Environmental Committee is looking into subsidies for community use of these methods.

**Rain gardens:** The purpose of a rain garden is to slow the flow of water and allow plants to absorb nutrients and impede the erosion that often comes with heavy rain. Our rain garden gives the community a chance to see what one of these methods look like and how they function. The Environmental Committee, with help from Board members, provided the equipment, supplies, and plants to install a rain garden. The location, midway between the house and road, was near perfect with a downhill slope away from the Office downspouts. Our garden is approximately 10 x 30 feet. In it, we have planted 22 donated shrubs and herbaceous plants. All are native and can handle wet soil. The garden is anchored by five marsh hibiscus at one end and five viburnums (with the quaint name of possum haw) at the other. Wild columbine is planted underneath these viburnums. The center has two buttonbush plants, one redbud, and four winterberry shrubs. In the spring, additional herbaceous plants can be added, and we will need to replace or repair any damage caused by the winter weather. Our website, at [www.dppoa.org](http://www.dppoa.org), provides additional information.

**Bay wise Program:** We encourage people to take advantage of a Master Gardener program called Bay wise. A free yard visit can be scheduled to give you advice on how to best handle garden issues in a way that benefits the Bay

**Replace fallen or diseased trees and shrubs:** Last year, a storm-damaged maple shading the office was removed – and in the fall, replaced with a donated specimen. Use of native species on your property minimizes care needed.

**And remember...** If you are in the Critical Area or Mill Creek Watershed and have a failing septic system or metal tank, you should apply to Calvert County for a subsidy to replace it with a low-nitrogen system. For more information call **410-535-1600 Ext. 2336.**



Drum Point Property Owners' Association  
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www.dppoa.org office@dppoa.org

Pre-Sort STD  
U. S. Postage Paid  
Prince Frederick, MD  
Permit No. 49

## **General Membership Meeting**

**March 23, 2013 - 10:00 a.m.**

All meetings will be conducted according to Maryland Code, Corporations and Associations, Title 5, Sub Title 2, section (§) 5-206.1, which states, If the number of members present at a meeting does not meet the requirements of a quorum, those present may call another meeting to meet quorum requirements. At the additional meeting, the members present in person constitute a quorum.

## **General Membership**

**Meeting Agenda**

**Saturday, March 23, 2013 - 10:00 a.m.**

**Southern Community Center**

**Call to Order**

**President's Remarks**

**Approval of Minutes**

**Committee Reports**

**Presentation of**

**2013/2014 Board of Directors**

**Slate of Candidates**

**Old Business**

**New Business**

**Property Owner's Request for  
Transfer of Common Property**

**Public Comments**

**Adjournment**