



Summer 2011 Newsletter

PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 556, STURGEON BAY, WI 54235

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

by Russ May

Dialogue is an interesting word. The image is, two individuals on opposite ends of a log, talking together. Obviously there are two sides to the conversation—that is what having a dialogue means: two folks with different viewpoints sharing beliefs and ideas with one another.

You can't have a dialogue if either party refuses to listen to the other. But that happens. One or both make up their minds and enter into conversation in order to convince the other that they are wrong. The discussion may become a shouting match or a waste of energy—whatever; it's hopeless. It isn't dialogue. We can't do that without granting value and credence to another's position. It doesn't mean agreement, but does mean the absolute willingness to listen to the other point of view. You might learn something, which isn't all bad. Could be you'll rethink your position and find a new one. Worst case, you might even change your mind.

In order for dialogue to happen you've got to be honest with yourself and the other person. It doesn't happen with secrets or manipulation aimed at getting your own way. Dialogue requires full and complete disclosure, risking the possibility that your answer isn't "The Answer." And that's hard. Most of us trust what we know more than the new and different, particularly if the new is not what we believe is true.

Which brings us to typical BSPOA questions. Should Bay Shore Drive be open to new and bigger development? Should home owners be able to rent their places to tourists? Does anyone have the right to tell another what can and can't be done with their own property? Do zoning ordinances make sense? What must be done to ensure our water is safe, clean and pure? Does it really matter if we have a speed limit and, if we do, should it be enforced? How about widening the Drive to include bike lanes?

What do you think? Are these questions we should be in dialogue about? You might be surprised to know that the Steering Committee, composed of people with wide ranging opinions and backgrounds, actually works at doing dialogue around these and similar questions. We never agree easily but we listen to each other while, disagreeing, discussing and coming to conclusions. I'm not sure I've ever seen anyone quit discussing and "take their ball and go home."

Your Steering Committee is a good group. They work hard and struggle together while doing their best to care for the place we call home. Your input, ideas and suggestions are welcome. In fact, you might consider serving on the Steering Committee and sharing your ideas to help widen the dialogue.

Three Year Contract

PROPANE PROGRAM

by Bryan Troutman

We have selected Ferrellgas to be our supplier for the upcoming heating season. We choose them because:

- No delivery fees
- No hazmat fees
- Payment terms are net 30 days
- No individual gallon limits
- Contract prices are good until April 2012
- Automatic top-off prior to contract expiration
- Good service record
- Permit credit card payments
- No tank or valve inspection charges

Lastly, because we want to build a long term business relationship, we have agreed to a three year program with them. Under the terms of our contract, we will pay \$1.82 per gallon for this coming heating season. Our price for subsequent years will be based off the propane futures market next spring, plus a fixed cost for delivery, overhead and profit. This approach eliminates the problems of converting users from one supplier to another, reduces apprehension over whom the supplier will be, and gives us the ability to better manage the program and prices. Ferrellgas is also sending everyone a coupon for a free #20 BBQ tank fill-up as a welcome back gift.

A program such as ours is gaining momentum and strength. Collectively, our homeowners and partners consume over 250,000 gallons of propane every year. We rely on everyone to stay with the program, you are our success. Since we are moving toward a long-term contract, should anyone decide not to continue with the program, it will be difficult to rejoin. Should you have questions or wish to join, please contact Bryan Troutman at bdtroutman@aol.com or 743-9088.

BSPOA.ORG

by Randy Kenny, Website Manager

Have you visited the official website of the Bay Shore Property Owners Association?

Our website is updated at least twice monthly and contains information of interest to members, which include, schedules of events, steering committee meetings, taxpayer information from the Wisconsin Taxpayer Alliance, environmental information, area photos, and links to other websites including local government.

The website is now accessible from any of the online search engines. No longer do you have to remember the **bspoa.org** sign-on. Just "Google" several of the key words like bay, shore, property, owners, Door County, Sturgeon Bay. With this approach, people searching the web for information will be much more likely to access our site.

If you have an item to include, contact jrkenny8887@hotmail.com.

MURPHY PARK ENLARGED

by Bryan Troutman

Frank E. Murphy County Park is at the most northern end of Bay Shore Drive. Murphy Park was a gift to Door County by the Cowles family, who owned Horseshoe Bay Farms. The park is a 14 acre site along the Bay of Green Bay and the home of the Door County Triathlon. The land across the road and immediately east of the park, which has been pasture land for Horseshoe Bay Farms, was recently acquired by the Parks Department of Door County to enlarge Murphy Park. The Parks Department is in the process of obtaining rights to caves that have entrances on this land and run under the Niagara Escarpment and the Horseshoe Bay Golf Club. This pasture land increases the county's holding at Frank E. Murphy Park to 28 acres. What a great addition to the park system!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR FALL 50

by Bryan Troutman

As of this fall, BSPOA will be assisting with another Door County silent sport race. The Fall Fifty, which began in 2006, is a 50-mile run from Gills Rock to Sturgeon Bay and is scheduled for **October 22nd**. It can be run individually or in relay teams and will be staffed by BSPOA volunteers. The race organizer, Sean Ryan, asked if BSPOA would be willing to obtain 10-12 volunteers to handle water, traffic and parking in the Chateau Hutter area for six-hours. Given that this is a silent sport, a good fit for the county, and is along Bay Shore Drive, your Steering Committee thought it important to support this event. Contact Bryan Troutman, **bdtroutman@aol.com** or 743-9088.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO ERADICATE INVASIVE SPECIES

by Jack Van Lanen

We need you! In June, BSPOA pledged **400 hours** to assist the Door County Land Trust with removal of invasive species (honeysuckle and buckthorn) over a two-year period. See article by Jodi Milske. No experience is necessary. Eradication work is done at Blufflands or on residential property in the Bay Shore Drive area.

Remaining Blufflands' eradication schedule is **September 1 and October 5**. Meet at 9:00 AM at the Reynolds Road parking lot.

Contact is Jack Van Lanen at (920) 839-2802 or **johnvanlanen@hotmail.com**.

BelGioioso Cheese President is Speaker

ANNUAL MEETING OCTOBER 1ST

by Deborah Mancuso, Annual Meeting Chair

BSPOA's 15th Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, October 1, 2011. Once again, we're fortunate to be at the Horseshoe Bay Golf Club, with its beautiful Door County setting that overlooks the Bay of Green Bay.

We're excited about our speaker, Errico Auricchio, the founder and president of BelGioioso Cheese, Inc. The company sells cheese throughout the U.S. and is a high quality leader within the industry. A native of Italy, he'll tell us about his history and will host a cheese tasting.

Come join us! Meet our guest speaker, other members, officers and friends, learn more about BSPOA, enjoy a cheese tasting and fabulous luncheon. Detailed information will be sent to you in a separate mailing. So mark your calendar. We hope to see you October 1st.

Nature never did betray the heart that loved her.

— William Wordsworth

In Memoriam Joan Follmer

Served on original BSPOA Steering Committee from 1997 - 2002, Membership chair for three years

A New BSPOA Partnership Opportunity Embraced!

ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION AT THE BLUFFLANDS PRESERVE

By Jodi Milske, Stewardship Coordinator, Door County Land Trust

The Door County Land Trust is thrilled to share the news with our Bay Shore Drive neighbors that we have received new funding to continue the invasives control effort at the Blufflands Preserve. As many of you know, we began the project to eradicate buckthorn and honeysuckle in 2008 through a grant award from the DNR Landowner Incentive Program (LIP). The “Bay Shore Property Owners Association” was a key partner in securing the grant and carrying out the control work, through your generous pledge of 400 volunteer match hours. We now have an opportunity to keep the momentum going, through a DNR State Wildlife Grant (SWG) awarded this spring.

The SWG money will allow us to expand contractor control services to portions of the preserve not covered by the LIP funding, as well as to neighboring conservation easement lands owned by Dan Collins and Nancy Aten. Dan and Nancy were the principal authors of the grant application, and have pledged many hours of volunteer match time, as have neighbors Guy Fortin and Judy Samida, Land Trust staff, and members of the Door Stewardship Alliance. Another exciting development is the addition of a new conservation partner. The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which has offered to assist in funding the contractor services and possibly also to help with eventual reforestation of the disturbed areas.

So how can BSPOA continue to be involved? Even though the association did not “formally”

pledge volunteer hours as you did with the LIP grant, your adjacent private lands are an essential part of the total landscape of the Niagara Escarpment. Therefore, the control work that you continue to do on your property not only contributes to our overall restoration project, but can be applied to the total volunteer match hours needed to fulfill the SWG requirements. In addition to work on private property, work at the Blufflands is encouraged and counts as match hours. You only need to document your hours as you did with LIP. The Land Trust will supply the tools, herbicide and other materials you need. It is important that all volunteer hours and use of Land Trust supplies be tracked and documented, in order to comply with the SWG match reporting requirements.

As before, BSPOA invasive species coordinator Jack Van Lanen (a veteran “invader crusader” and long-time Land Trust volunteer) is the lead contact for further information and is coordinating the equipment lending program. He can also assist you in identifying honeysuckle and buckthorn on your property, learning correct control methods, and will supply the specific forms you use for tracking your work hours. Jack can be reached at 746-4465 or by e-mail at johnvanlanen@hotmail.com. For further information about invasive species, the SWG grant, or the Door County Land Trust, feel free to contact Land Trust Stewardship Coordinator Jodi Milske at 746-1359 or jmilske@doorcountylantrust.org.

DOOR COUNTY TRIATHLON

by Bryan Troutman

The July 16-17 Door County Triathlon sold out to its maximum capacity of 2000 participants by June 6th. There were 1000 individuals and teams participating in the Sprint and 1000 individuals and teams participating in the Half Iron Man. Your association once again participated by organizing and running the bicycle water bottle exchange at Quarry Park for the Sprint and at the foot of Carlsville Road, for the Half Iron Man. BSPOA has done the water exchange since the first triathlon, which was in 2004. Twelve of our members helped by contributing their time and expertise. This is not an easy exchange when bikes are traveling at high speeds. The heat this year was awful and many of us felt like we had participated in the race!! Perhaps you would be interested in helping next year? Last year, the combined races raised \$50,000 for the benefit of the YMCA and Friends of the Door County Parks System.



Here's part of your BSPOA support team.



BSPOA IN EGG HARBOR PARADE

Your Association was represented by Bryan Troutman's classic car in the Egg Harbor parade on Saturday, July 30. The parade was part of a day-long Sesquicentennial celebration that took place in Carlsville, the Shopf Farm, and the Town Hall on County I.

The parade was recorded on video by Sevastopol's public access TV, and will be broadcast on Charter's channel 986 (97 in Sevastopol only).

Thank you, Bryan, for representing BSPOA!



SPRING CLEAN-UP 2011

by Betty Parsons

With a big work crew of bending bodies and garbage bags in tow, a 13-mile stretch Bay Shore Drive stretch was once again momentarily pristine. Nine of the work crew gathered at Birmingham's for nourishment and interesting conversation after the morning workout. Thanks to the following: Diane and Larry Austin, Don Berns, Barb and Jim Bunning, Marge Fink, Barb and Fred Frey, Mary and Randy Kenny, Bob Landry, Russ May, Elaine and Jim Pasqualucci, Betty and Bill Parsons, Bill Rix, Greg Sessler, Hap Smith, Bryan Troutman, Jack Van Lanen.



Proof of work...



...and fun.

RESOURCES FOR ERADICATION OF YOUR INVASIVE SPECIES

by Jack Van Lanen, BSPOA Invasive Species Coordinator

Below are options for consultation and/or eradication of invasive species:

- Marne Kaeske, Stewardship Coordinator for Ridges Sanctuary, which now coordinates the Door County Invasive Species Team. Marne at (920) 839-2802 or marne@RidgesSanctuary.org. Staff will identify native and non-native species, assess approach and develop an action plan.
- Jack Van Lanen at (920) 746-4465 or johnvanlanen@hotmail.com. Jack provides species identification, control techniques and has tools and poison that can be borrowed. If requested, BSPOA volunteers can also provide eradication assistance.
- An extensive list of professional, area, licensed contractors, which was assembled by the Ridges, is available on our web site, www.bspoa.org.

GOING GREEN

Choose native plantings which are adapted to Door County and therefore require less water and fertilizer.

ASIAN CARP CZAR APPOINTED

by Robert Landry

The Asian carp peril that threatens the ecosystem and economy of the Great Lakes remains unresolved. After decades of procrastination and poor leadership, no effective bar has been established to prevent the voracious big mouth and white carp from access to Lake Michigan. However, this may change.

On April 21, 2011, a meeting was held "... to prevent Asian carp from establishing a self-sustained population in the Great Lakes." Many such meetings have been held in the past without much lasting effect. But this broad based meeting led by the White House Council on Environment Quality produced the following promising results: (1) President Obama appointed John Gross to head a program to carry out the mission set out by the Asian carp meeting; (2) Czar Gross ordered raising the voltage to the existing electric barriers to be more effective in stopping the large mature carp from passing up the Chicago Shipping and Sewerage Canal (unfortunately small fry are not affected); (3) Czar Gross directed that signs be posted along the canal warning shippers and other users of the danger of electricity; and (4) promoting the erection of a new more effective high voltage barrier. This is a good start. Much more must be done.

With the support of all the involved agencies under the leadership of Czar John Gross, it is reasonable to believe that the Asian carp problem will be solved.

GRANT FOR COUNTY BIKE PLAN

by Bryan Troutman

Door County has been awarded a \$100,000 grant from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation to develop a countywide "Bicycle, Pedestrian and Recreational Comprehensive Plan" for the county. As with many grants, this is a matching grant with 20% of the funds required from the grant recipient, who is the Door County Highway Department. The Door County Highway Department allocated \$10,000 in its approved 2011 budget for half of the matching funds and the remaining \$10,000 was raised within the community. BSPOA along with Door

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the matching funds. The BSPOA pledge was \$1000. The development of a Door County wide plan will have a positive impact on the safety of cyclists and pedestrians throughout the county. The "Request for Proposal" from consulting firms, which specialize in this type of planning, is underway and should be awarded this fall.

IMPORTANCE OF SAFE GROUNDWATER

by Robert Landry

"The water beneath the surface of the ground consists largely of surface water that has seeped down. It becomes the source of water in springs and wells." (—Random House Dictionary) Ground water is vital to human existence. It is an important stage in the water cycle. Contamination of ground water has dire consequences, yet we are very casual about protecting it.

Contamination occurs when humans abuse the

ground by dumping a man-made product such as oil, gasoline, roadside landfills, manure, phosphates or other weed eradication chemicals. Prevention is better than decontamination. Wisconsin has taken over 20 years and millions of dollars to decontaminate the Fox River, and it is estimated that it will take another 55 years to finish the task. Given that we have Niagara Escarpment and shallow soil with a rocky base, let's be especially thoughtful about our actions that influence ground water.

BAY SHORE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

PURPOSE: The purpose of this association is to maintain the safe, natural and aesthetic character of the Bay Shore Drive area.

MISSION STATEMENT: The Bay Shore Property Owners Association is a voluntary, non-profit association. Its mission is to provide for discussion and action on issues that impact the residential character of the neighborhood and those that affect the character of Door County.

GOALS:

❁ To monitor proposals for development of recreational/commercial properties that relates to and affects residential character of the neighborhood.

❁ To keep members informed of development proposals and issues that impact the residential character of the neighborhood.

❁ To educate and motivate members and non-members to preserve and enhance the natural, visual and historic resources of the area.

❁ To encourage management of growth through effective town, city and county land use planning and zoning.

❁ To form an alliance with other existing property owner associations.

❁ To address other issues that affect Bay Shore Drive indirectly but affect the quality of life in Door County.

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