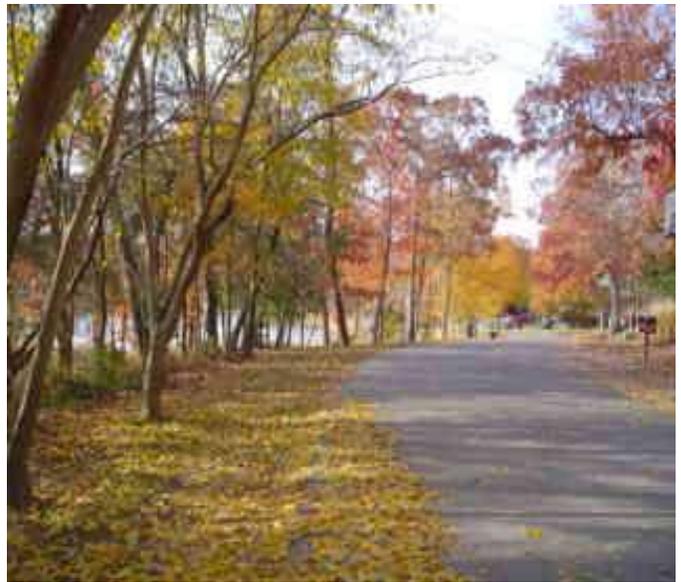


# Masthead

## **HOLIDAY LIGHTS CONTEST**

By Pam Obee Sargent

LTPOA is continuing the tradition of the Holiday Lights Contest this year. Get out the decorations and deck the halls! The Holiday Lights committee will be driving around to see the lights on the evening of Wednesday, December 19, 2007. We will begin judging at 7:00 p.m. We will be awarding prizes in several categories including the Good Neighbor Award (team up with a neighbor and show your spirit) and Best Holiday Decorations—Community Business. We will award the winners in each of the categories cash awards. The Community Business that wins the award will receive a free 1/4 page ad in a future edition of the Conciliator. All winners will be announced in the first edition of the 2008 Conciliator. If you have any questions about the Holiday Lights Contest, contact Pam Obee Sargent at 410-956-7679/ Turn on your lights and brighten the holiday season!



**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!  
MAY THE JOY  
OF THE SEASON  
FILL YOUR HEART.**

# RAMPS AND CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

By Mark LaBuda

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT FEE INCREASES FOR 2008

### **Stickers:**

Effective January, 2008, fees for stickers will be increased due to increases in printing costs and administrative costs which will include updating our computer system.

The new price will be \$3.00 per sticker for property owners and they are valid for three (3) years. Sticker fees for renters and dependents will remain at \$5.00 per sticker and they are valid for one (1) year.

New credentials stickers will be available at the Community Hall beginning Monday, January 7, 2008 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Current vehicle, boat and trailer registrations are required for the issuance of stickers. Proof of property ownership is required (i.e., deed or tax bill). New residents to the community should bring settlement papers. Tenants must have a current lease. Other documentation may be required.

Stop by the Community Hall on Monday evenings beginning January 7, 2008 for complete information.

All LTPOA boat slip holders are reminded that a current LTPOA sticker must be visible on all boats and the sticker number must be given to Section Dockmasters for slip renewals.

Please remember: Current stickers must be displayed on all vehicles, boats and trailers that are parked on LTPOA property or that use boat slips and boat ramps.

Stickers must show either 2008, 2009 or 2010 to be valid.

### **Ramps:**

**Ramp Locks will be changed on Monday, January 7, 2008. New keys will be required. New Ramp Key Fee is \$40 for 2008.**

After much discussion, the Ramps & Credentials Committee recommended that key fees be increased for 2008. This recommendation was approved by the LTPOA Board of Directors. Several issues made this increase necessary. First, the cost for new keys, locks and locksmith fees has gone up significantly the past few years. We were receiving very low pricing for this for many years and finally our locksmith passed higher fees on to us. Second, we are now paying a \$5.00 assessment per key to the LTPOA toward our community insurance policy. Lastly, and most importantly, we want to build a financial reserve for the future repair or replacement of our ramps and ramp piers.

No community tax dollars go to ramps. Maintenance and repair is paid completely from the ramp key fees. No part of the ramp key fee goes to anything other than the ramps with the exception of the insurance assessment. Our fees remain among the lowest for communities with boat ramp facilities.

Remember locks will be changed on Monday, January 7, 2008 and new ramp keys will be available from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on the same date at the Community Hall. Current boat registrations are required for the issuance of ramp keys. No exceptions. Please remember to bring in your old key for exchange.

I wish to thank those who help every Monday night—Tony, Greg, Terry and Barry. Thanks guys, couldn't do it without your help. Also, special thanks to Janet Freer for all your help computerizing all of the information. We definitely could not do the job we do without your help. Thank you, Janet.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all!

The Ramps & Credentials Committee

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Well, here we are again at the start of a new year but for the Association it is the middle of our budget year. In this issue you will find our budget proposal for July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009. Please review it. Also, in this issue, we again are having a judging of holiday decorations. The Board of Directors and I wish you a happy holiday and a prosperous New Year. I would like to thank all of the people who have volunteered their time to the Association. A special thanks to our Editor Janet Freer.

John Rhoads



## GRAY- MOTT UPDATE

By Pam Obee Sargent

We sold our community cookbooks, bears and note cards at the event at the annual LTPOA Craft Show. To date, we have sold most of the cookbooks. The cookbooks have been sent to friends and family as far away as China! Don't miss out on this great opportunity; buy your copy now. You can call me at 410-956-7679 or email me at [pam.obee@comcast.net](mailto:pam.obee@comcast.net) to make arrangements for pick-up on your cookbooks. Note cards are also available. The note cards are \$8.00 for a set of 10 cards. They make great stocking stuffers.

If you have any ideas for fund raising events, please contact me at 410-956-7679 or email at the address above.

ADS

**London Towne Property Owners'  
Association, Inc.**

The London Towne Property Owners' Association, inc. is pleased to present the fiscal year 2009 budget request to be submitted to Anne Arundel County. The purpose of this notice is to provide each property owner with the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed Fiscal Year 2009 budget request. Comments may be made in writing to LTPOA Budget, P.O. Box 356, Edgewater, MD, 21037 or by phone at 410-956-4808.

Because the community of London Towne (a.k.a. Woodland Beach) is a Special Community Benefit Assessments District, the County Council approves our budget with the annual property taxes, and the funds collected are earmarked only for maintenance and improvement of community owned property.

No review meeting will be held as it is not required by County Code or Association By-laws.

The per lot assessments are not tax deductible on either your State or Federal income tax returns.

Proposed FY 2009 Budget  
Based on 6225 lots assessed at a special tax rate of \$50.00

Revenues

Tax Revenue	\$312,750
FY2008 Surplus	\$ 87,000
Conciliator Ads	\$ 3,000
County Held Funds	\$ 3,400
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$406,150</b>

Expenditures

Security	\$ 55,000
Erosion Control	\$ 58,000
Maintenance & Operations	\$178,400
Community Hall	\$52,900
Beach Maintenance	\$37,500
Insurance	\$29,000
Community Property	\$59,000
Administrative	\$ 37,000
Conciliator	\$ 8,000
Legal/Professional	\$13,500
Mailings/Supplies	\$15,500
County Admin Fee	\$ 2,000
Funds For Future Use	\$ 75,750
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$406,150</b>

# POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL

By Darlene Moore

The Southern District of Anne Arundel County Police Community Relations Council meeting was held on October 18, 2007. The guest speaker was Lt. Frank Fennell from the County Fire Marshall's Office. Some of the issues addressed were good to keep in mind as the holidays have arrived.

First of all, he wanted to remind everyone to make sure the batteries in their smoke detectors have been changed. He also encouraged the use of gas/carbon monoxide detectors.

Secondly, when using live Christmas trees, make sure they are watered frequently. A dried Christmas tree is a very dangerous fire hazard. Also, keep in mind, the scotch pine trees tend to be worse when it comes to these type of fires.

Last of all, for you turkey lovers, be very cautious when using a deep fryer. Make sure it is UL approved. Thaw the turkey completely. When adding oil to the deep fryer, allow plenty of room for the turkey so the oil will not overflow and possibly cause a fire. Be extra cautious if you are placing the deep fryer on a deck!

In closing, I would like to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season.



## ADS

### HOLIDAY SHOPPING CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

- Don't carry your purse loosely around your shoulder.
- Avoid carrying a purse at all and keep a wallet in your pocket or money belt.
- Keep your cash separate from your credit cards and personal identification.
- Park in well-lit areas.
- Be wary of accepting assistance from strangers while loading your vehicle.
- Don't overburden yourself with packages or groceries.
- Store valuables out of sight.
- Give up your property, not your life. Do not risk personal injury for the sake of valuables or cash.
- Make a mental note of the robber's appearance and take down the vehicle license plate number.
- Call 9-1-1 and report all crime immediately.

## WATER AND WASTEWATER BILLS

By Lois Fussell

Several community members have recently complained about high water and wastewater charges, bills in excess of \$100 per quarter. All water bills have four parts—usage, a “flush fee”, an account maintenance fee and an environmental fee.

In the London Towne community, some homes have water meters and others do not. Those with meters are charged \$13.50 per quarter when no water is used. Water used is charged at \$3.70 per 1,000 gallons. (A residence using 5,000 gallons over a three month period would have a usage fee of \$18.50). Homes without meters have a usage fee of \$88.80. This amount is based on the assumption that a three person household will use 24,000 gallons of water per quarter.

The second item on the bill is a fee applied by the State of Maryland which is used to help restore the Chesapeake Bay. This item, called the “flush fee”, is \$2.50 per month or \$7.50 per quarter on your bill.

The third item is an account maintenance fee. For metered customers, the fee is \$6.00. For unmetered customers, the charge is \$3.00.

The final item is an environmental fee which is collected to provide funds to upgrade sewage systems when changes are mandated by the federal government. It is 10% of the usage fee. So, if you have a meter and use 5,000 gallons of water as cited in the example above, the environmental charge is \$1.85. However, if you are unmetered, the environmental fee is 10% of \$88.80 or \$8.80.

It may be more economical for some residences to have a meter installed rather than to continue the unmetered costs. The County has an information brochure on metered service which you can obtain by calling Susan Casciato at 410-222-7582. A plumber can install a meter and it might be cost effective.

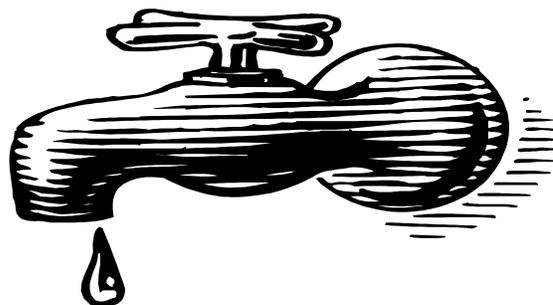
## WOODLAND BEACH CRIME STATISTICS

Did you know that you can get community crime statistics for Woodland Beach on the Internet? Go to <http://aacoprod.aacounty.org/MyAnneArundel/search.do> and search using your address.

So far in 2007:

Rapes—2;  
Robbery—1;  
Assault—56  
Breaking and Entering—22  
Theft—106  
Auto Theft—18  
Disorderly Conduct—280  
Destruction of property—95  
Domestic—193

The website shows historical data for the past years as well.



## ADVERTISING IN THE CONCILIATOR

The newsletter is published in March, June, September and December of each year.

Articles and ad copy are due to Janet Freer by the middle of February (March issue), the middle of May (June issue), the middle of August (September issue) and the middle of November (December issue).

Ad charges:

- Business card: \$50 per issue, \$200 per year;
- Quarter page: \$110 per issue, \$440 per year;
- Half page: \$130 per issue, \$520 per year;
- Full page: \$160 per issue, \$640 per year;
- Insert: \$180 per issue, \$720 per year

We offer a 15% discount off the above charges if one full year is purchased and paid for upfront. Make checks payable to LTPOA and mail ad copy with check to Janet Freer or e-mail ad copy to [free.wjac@verizon.net](mailto:free.wjac@verizon.net)

If ad copy includes a picture, we prefer to get the picture in .jpg or .gif format separate from text. Same with any graphics....

Questions: Contact Janet Freer at 410-956-6232. Her address is 1535 Shore Drive, Edgewater, MD, 21037.



### DID YOU KNOW?

Germany is credited with starting the Christmas tree tradition as we now know it in the 16th century when devout Christians brought decorated trees into their homes. Some built Christmas pyramids of wood and decorated them with evergreens and candles if wood was scarce. It is a widely held belief that Martin Luther, the 16th-century Protestant reformer, first added lighted candles to a tree. Walking toward his home one winter evening, composing a sermon, he was awed by the brilliance of stars twinkling amidst evergreens. To recapture the scene for his family, he erected a tree in the main room and wired its branches with lighted candles.

Most 19th-century Americans found Christmas trees an oddity. The first record of one being on display was in the 1830s by the German settlers of Pennsylvania, although trees had been a tradition in many German homes much earlier.

## ADS

**Community Hall Office:**

**410-956-4808**

**Boat Slip Rentals/Dock Masters:**

Section 1—Joe O’Neil	410-956-2687
Section 2—Shaun Hamill	202-345-5735
Section 3—Norm Pennington	410-956-6763
Section 4—Tony Zavoosky	410-956-8492
Section 5—Bob Nethen	410-956-0978

**LTPOA Officers:**

John Rhoads, President	410-798-5523
Tom Walsh, Vice President	410-798-4260
Sarah Trees, Treasurer	410-956-9038
Steve Hult, Secretary	410-956-3392

**Section Presidents:**

Joe O’Neil, Section 1	410-956-2687
David Zollinhofer, Section 2	443-321-3736
Don Creveling, Section 3	410-956-0123
Tony Zavoosky, Section 4	410-956-8492
Dave Fish, Section 5	410-956-6484

**Section Meeting Times:**

Section 1—2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.  
Section 2—3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.  
Section 3—2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.  
Section 4—Last Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m.  
Section 5—3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

All meetings are at the Community Hall unless otherwise announced.