

The Conciliator

London Towne Community Neighborhood Newsletter

Volume LIV

December 2011

No. 35

FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT David Fish

The Board of Directors and various committee members and volunteers continued to work hard this fall. Our Annual Meeting was held on October 1st and was well attended. Thank you to all that were able to attend. The officers from last year (i.e. yours truly, Vice President Cheryl Fawcett, Treasurer Sarah Trees, and Secretary Trez Moreland) have volunteered to serve another year. I want to thank Cheryl, Sarah and Trez for the amount of time and effort they put towards our community, and for having done so for many years in varying capacities. One of the key issues discussed at the meeting was the need for better communication between the Board and the general membership. While we have tried very hard to keep members informed and get information out through our website, emails, Conciliator, phone calls, and meetings, we will continue to think of ways to improve.

Our FY 2013 Special Community Benefit District (SCBD) budget will be arriving in your mail in December. This is the budget we are required to submit to the county by January 31st every year. The format in

which we are required to submit the budget is very general, only four or five major categories. We will post a more detailed budget by committee or expense category on our website www.ltpoa.org.

Some of you may have read the article in The Capital on November 17th about the Anne Arundel County Food and Resources Bank. Bruce Michalec is the Executive Director and started the non-profit about 25 years ago. After reading the article, I visited the facility and was able to meet with Bruce. He was kind enough to give me a tour of the facility and explain what they do. Their services include a pantry distribution system, a soup kitchen, a nutritional diet program, a furniture program, wheels for work program, and a professional medical equipment program. Basically, if someone needs anything from food, to furniture, medical equipment, or toys in a time of need, Bruce and his organization are there to help. I was very impressed with Bruce, his staff, volunteers and what they stand for and what they do for our county. They could use our help.



I didn't realize, although I should have, that the Woodland Beach Volunteer Fire Department (WBVFD) gives the toys they collect as part of their Firehouse Santa event to the Anne Arundel Food and Resources Bank each year. For those of you who don't know, the Firehouse Santa involves Santa riding on top of one of the fire trucks and traveling through the communities they serve to collect toys and clothing for children in need.

They will ride through London Towne with Santa and pick up presents and visit with children. According to the WBVFD website (www.woodlandbeachvfd.com), the event will take place on December 4th and will start in our community at 5:00 p.m. stopping at the Clubhouse and continuing to Beach 1, Beach 2, Beach 3, and Beach 4 and then stopping at Widows Mite Rd at Londontown Rd at 5:30 pm. I know from personal experience that they stop in Beach 5 as they travel up and down Londontown Rd. The times are not precise because they don't know just how long it will take to cover all the routes, but you will hear them coming. I know there are people in our neighborhood and county that can use some help this holiday season, so please donate something. The WBVFD asks that you have your wrapped gift ready, indicating whether it is for a girl or boy and the age or size. Check the WBVFD website for updates.



If you don't hear the word in time and missed Santa, but would still like to participate, you can drop off your donation to the WBVFD located at 529 Londontown Road on Saturday, December 10th from 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. and Tuesday, December 13th from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. They are also collecting non-perishable food items, gently used coats, hats, and gloves for adults and children. They ask that you do not wrap these items. These items can be picked up by Santa or dropped off at the WBVFD.



Have a great holiday season.



Don't forget about the LTPOA website at www.ltpoa.info. You can find out about current events, see past newsletters, and find LTPOA reference materials like the Associations By-laws.

If you haven't already discovered local news for Edgewater and Davidsonville, log onto <http://edgewater.patch.com/>, where you can sign up for the newsletter

WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS

The LTPOA Board of Directors would like to welcome all new residents to the community. Please check the Ramps & Credentials report in this issue to see when you can come by to meet some of your neighbors, obtain information about the community and pick up your stickers for cars, boats, and trailers. If you do not have a copy of the Association By Laws, you can get a copy at our web site ltpoa.info.



The beaches and park lands are closed from 11pm to 6am and is strictly enforced. We have experienced late night activity in the more secluded areas. This results in disturbances to nearby residents, broken glass, trash, and other paraphernalia being left behind.

Crabbing, fishing, swimming, and mooring of boats is restricted to designated areas.

Personal watercraft use (jet skies and propel driven) is prohibited within 100 feet of the shoreline, piers, and persons. Speed is not to exceed 6 knots and wave jumping is not permitted. No one under the age of 16 may operate jet skis in Maryland waters...It's the Law!

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Section News

Section 1
Michael Ryan

Reported by Taba Depaep

Our beach has a swimming pier and Section 1 has already winterized it by pulling up the ladder and the dockmaster has prepared the docks for the coming cold weather. I have been warned that the winter ice on our waterways may not be as thick as it looks, so please stay safe and avoid walking on thin ice! A perusal of past newsletters from December revealed that each year someone falls in the water! Don't let it be you or your child(ren)! Warn newcomers who may be unfamiliar with "real" weather! If we experience a power outage, you must call BGE and update them every 6 hours if the power is still off - their new tracking system requires updates frequently or they will assume the problem was fixed!



Section 2
David Zollinhofer

No Report



Section 3
Karen Porter

It seems like yesterday that we had our annual Section picnic (held on the third Saturday of September). The weather was a little chilly, but with good food and company, a good time was had by all. I would like to extend my thanks to all who helped with preparations and those that brought a dish. Our redneck golf tournament was a blast! A special thanks goes out to J.R. for making such great medals for the winners!

I'm looking forward to meeting more neighbors in the New Year. So be sure to mark the second Wednesday of each month (beginning with March) on your 2012 calendar. In the meantime, I wish you all a happy and safe holiday season!



Section News Cont.



Section 4 John Franko

Beach Four would like to wish everyone a very happy and safe holiday season!

Reminder for slip holders: every boat is required to have a current LTPOA sticker before you can renew your boat slip with the Dockmaster.

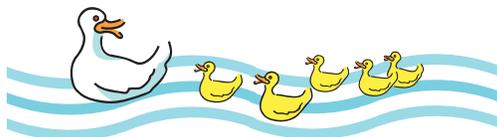
There will be no Beach Four meeting until next year. The next meeting will be held on January 26th at 7:30pm at the Community Hall. Please stop by and get involved with our community. We could always use additional volunteers.

Section 5 Will Hottle



Boats are coming out of the water and the Holidays are coming. It was a good year with lots of activities on the docks, at the beach, the park, and in the playground area. In the spring, we can all look forward to seeing the blossoms on the cherry trees and the dogwoods that were planted during the summer. We welcome everyone to the meetings and to the activities. We'll try to have more social events next summer since they seem to be popular.

There will be no meetings until the third Wednesday of March at 7:30pm at the Community Hall. I look forward to seeing you there. Happy Holidays to all.



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Committee Reports

Park and Planning Committee

Tom Walsh

The Park & Planning Committee would again like to thank all the LTPOA community for their continued support. We hope that you have had a chance to see and visit the 2 playgrounds at Westminster and Bay View with new equipment that each of YOU enabled us to buy. Please be advised that P & P takes its mission very seriously and discusses every expenditure of your money before anything is purchased or services authorized. We waited until that playground equipment was on sale for 40% off and had our own contractor, Devin Capizzi install the playground equipment. Devin completed the job at less than 50% of the installation price the vendor would have charged us. Devin and his crew did a great job installing the equipment and will keep everything safe and in working order!

One thing we would request is to make sure the equipment is used correctly. The small equipment has an age recommendation of 2 to 6 years of age. The large equipment has an age recommendation of 7 to 12 years of age. **If you are older, please do not abuse the equipment and spoil it for the younger children.** We are working on equipment for the older crowd and will purchase & install it ASAP!

The playground area is not designated for pets so please don't walk or permit your pets in the playground areas. There is plenty of open parkland to walk pets.

Please remember to clean up after your pets. Everyone using the playground areas please clean up after yourself and take your trash with you. Please help us keep the LTPOA property clean and free of trash & pet waste.

Now, the P & P committee needs YOUR help. We work hard keeping the parkland as neat and trimmed as possible. With winter coming, we need your help in keeping ATV, Off-road vehicles/snow mobiles etc off out parkland. Each spring we must spend considerable money filling the ruts in the parkland due to abuse. If you see anyone ridding motorized vehicles on parklands, please call the police!

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Credentials and Ramps

Randy Faulkner



We will be back in January 2012 after the ramp gate keys are changed. Please see the LTPOA web site or our Face-Book page for the exact date.

All vehicles, vessel and trailers must have a current LTPOA sticker to use LTPOA facilities and parking areas.

PLEASE NOTE: You must bring current vehicle and vessel registrations to obtain LTPOA parking and ramp stickers as well as ramp keys. If you do not have your proper paperwork with you we will not issue stickers or keys and you will have to wait until the next night we are at the hall. Property owners must bring proof of property ownership (copy of your tax bill), renters and non-property owners must bring a copy of your current lease. Vehicles and vessels must be registered to the property address in the community of Londontown or we will not issue stickers. If you do not have your proper documents we will not issue you your stickers or keys!

Fees for property owner's stickers are \$3.00 valid for three years; fees for renters, dependents and non-property owner's stickers are \$5.00 valid for one year.

Ramp key fees are \$40.00 for the year. If you are a previous ramp user, bring back your old ramp key to avoid an additional fee.

REMEMBER: If you fail to return your previous year's ramp keys you will be charged the lost key fee.

Please see the LTPOA web site for a complete list of credentials and ramp rules/regulations

Let's all have a safe and enjoyable winter holiday season!





Police Committee Dave Sargent

The London Towne Police Committee serves to provide coordination, direction and oversight to our cadre of Police Officers as they work to enhance safety and security around and within the Sections, Ramps, and Parks. Several Officers from the County Police and Sheriff's Departments work part time for LTPOA enforcing laws and LTPOA regulations. These Officers concentrate on protecting LTPOA property and residents but they have full police authority and will make arrests. The Officers will investigate unusual or unauthorized activities on and around our facilities and conduct traffic stops.

The Committee cannot improve security without hearing about issues and problems that may interfere with LTPOA residents when trying to enjoy our recreational facilities. The Police Committee has established an e-mail address for you to provide comments, complaints, send pictures of problem areas, or request additional information: Police.LTPOA@gmail.com. If you do not have e-mail capabilities then please leave a message for the Committee on (410) 956-4808.

IF YOU HAVE A POLICE **EMERGENCY**,
CALL **911**.

GRAY-MOTT SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

By Pam Obee Sargent

THE GRAY-MOTT YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP

The **London Towne Property Owners Association** has established educational scholarships to assist current school year high school graduates in continuing their education at an accredited post-secondary institution of their choice.

This scholarship was instituted in 1989, in recognition of the invaluable contributions made by **Mr. Charles Gray and Mr. Ralph Mott** to the community of London Towne. As a reminder of their contributions and in their memory, we dedicate those scholarships awarded to young people of our community who choose to follow in the paths of these two men through **volunteer community service**.

The scholarship awards will consist of two (2) **\$1000.00 non-renewable** grants for two graduating students, who will continue their education at either a four year college or university, two year junior or community college, or at a trade, technical, or business school.

The following eligibility requirements will govern: Must be a son or daughter of a resident of the London Towne community; must have demonstrated community involvement and satisfactory high school achievement (minimum of 2.0 GPA); must have character recommendations and work related references.



Stumped for really great gift Ideas?



Let the Gray/Mott Scholarship Fund help you with your Holiday shopping. We have 2012 calendars on sale for \$10.00 and note cards for \$6.00 (a pack of 8 cards).

Contact Pam Obee Sargent at pam.obee@verizon.net or 410-956-7679 to coordinate pick-up/delivery of these items of if you have additional questions. Happy Holidays



Events Committee

Logan Parry Hottle

LTPOA is continuing the tradition of the Holiday Lights Contest again this year. Get out the decorations and deck the halls, the walls, the railings and everything! The Holiday Lights committee will be driving around to see the lights on the evening of **Sunday, December 18, 2011**. 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 team spirit) and Best Holiday Decorations – Community Business. We will award the winners in each of the categories cash awards. The Community Business that wins will receive a free ¼ page ad in a future edition of the Conciliator (of their choice). All winners will be announced in the first edition of the Conciliator in 2012. If you have any questions about the Holiday Lights Contest, call 410 956 4808. Turn on your lights and brighten the holiday season! And, the categories are:



- Best of London Towne
- Good Neighbor
- Most Unique
- Most Lights
- Most Traditional
- Cutest
- Best Boat (in the water)
- Best Beach/Dock
- Community Business



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London Towne Decoded



Taba Depaep is a new Section 1 resident. Below are some of her observations about London Towne or what she calls "What I've learned as a newcomer to London Towne, Section 1". Other parts of her observations will be printed as space allows.

We have a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and several committees for the whole community, and the community is divided into 5 Sections, each of which meets separately to discuss Section improvements and sends a member to each committee to look after Section interests. The Committees usually meet once per month, throughout the year, and most Sections meet once a month, March through November; Section 1 meets either at the Clubhouse or down by our fishing and crabbing pier. The Committees decide what is important, plan and budget for it, and carry out improvements as approved by the Board. If you aren't present, you can't vote yes or no!

Unlike some other cities I've lived in, the county collects a fee from each property owner (called an "annual assessment" and currently set at \$80 per lot) and gives it to the London Towne Property Owner's Association so our board can pay for maintenance and upkeep of our common areas. Our community is called a "Special Taxing District" (aka Special Community Benefit District) and it basically means our parks/playgrounds, our docks/ramps, our immediate water front property, our community policing program (to give out parking warnings and keep an eye on things), and the property owned by the London Towne Property Owner's Association are our own responsibility. (Though we still have regular Anne Arundel County Police, so please call 911 if you need to report anything!) If we want a playground on our property, we have to pay for it. If we want improvements to our docks, we pay for it. To prevent our shoreline from eroding, we budget, plan, and pay for soil erosion abatement projects. These tasks are not handled by the county, they are handled locally, by volunteers from our neighborhood, following procedures laid out in our by-laws (available for free download online at <http://www.ltpoa.info/> under the heading By-Laws). You can read a great article online to better understand this system: <http://www.ltpoa.info/> click on SCBD-Annual Assessments.

If you aren't sure which section you are in, you can check it out on a map, available here: http://www.ltpoa.info/Section_Maps.htm.

Come Join Us !

Anyone 1st grade thru 5th grade who is interested in joining the Scouts may call or email Michelle Murphy @ 443-533-0248 or mmurphy579@aol.com or.....

If you're in 6th grade thru 12th grade and interested, call Ron Masgay @ 443-994-8837 or email Rita Taylor - rtaylor@harryeklof.com





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"Thanks Guy, you saved all the pictures of my daughter's graduation!" - Sharon

"I appreciate you being honest that my computer wasn't worth the money it would cost to fix. My new one is so much faster and you helped me get a great deal." - Matt

"I don't know what you did, but the viruses are gone and have stayed gone!" - Diane

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Section 4:	
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Section 5: Bob Nethen	410-956-0978

LTPOA Officers:

David Fish, President	410-956-4808
Cheryl Fawcett, Vice President	410-956-4808
Sarah Trees, Treasurer	410-956-4808
Trez Moreland, Secretary	410-956-4808

Section Presidents:

Michael Ryan, Section 1	410-956-6157
Dave Zollinhofer, Section 2	410-320-3021
Karen Porter, Section 3	410-956-4808
John Franco, Section 4	410-956-0840
Will Hottle, Section 5	410-956-1594

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