

Message from the President

Bill Thesier

Hello neighbors! Spring is here and the flowers are blooming! It's nice to see our residents out walking and tending to their yards. Chesapeake Colony is so beautiful when the flowers and trees are blooming!

At the last Civic League meeting we had Congresswoman Thelma Drake as our special guest. We had a good turnout with lots of questions asked. I believe everyone came away with a better understanding of how things work in Washington and some of the problems we are facing. Our next Civic League meeting will be at 7:30 P.M. on Thursday, May 22, at the Foundry United Methodist Church, across from the front entrance to the Colony. Our special guest will be Pete Sessa of WNIS's "House Talk". If you have listened to his show you will know he is very entertaining and is full of facts about the care of our homes. So if you have any questions about home repairs or general maintenance of your home, please join us on May 22 at 7:30 P.M. sharp. I believe it will be a fun packed and informative evening. Our Civic League meeting will follow.

As you know, the Colony's 4th of July Picnic and Parade are fast approaching. We hope you will schedule that time to join us to watch the parade and enjoy the picnic with your friends and neighbors. This year the event is being headed up by Bob Brown, Civic League Vice President, and Todd Lovelace who is on the Board of Directors. As you know, we need help to make this a successful event so if you have some free time that morning, please join us. Just give me, Bob or Todd a call and we'll find you a job.

At the last Civic League meeting we had a short presentation seeking donations to equip our local fire and rescue vehicles with oxygen masks for our pets. This equipment is not provided by the City. As a pet owner (Casey thinks she's a real person and runs the place) I plan to contribute to this project. B.J. Taylor, our Civic League Treasurer, will be collecting donations so the rescue vehicles serving Chesapeake Colony will be equipped with these life saving masks for our pets. This is purely voluntary, but we hope you think this is a

worthwhile project and will contribute as well. You can read more about this program in this newsletter. Lastly, please mark your calendar and plan to attend **our Civic League meeting which will be Sept. 23, at 7:30 P.M. at the Foundry Methodist Church.** We hope to have several candidates running for City Council or Mayor attending to explain their plans for the City. This will be an excellent time to express your views as to what you think is right or wrong with city government. If we want things to change, this will be a good opportunity to get the message to them.

Bill Thesier, 631-0343, w.thesier@cox.net

Your Dues Hard at Work and a Friendly Reminder to Pay Your Civic League Dues

The following is just a partial list of how your dues are spent to make this community one of the best in Virginia Beach with the budgeted amount noted in parentheses:

- Lawn and garden maintenance including sprinkler system for front entrance (\$4,100)
- Electricity for entrance lights and Christmas decorations (\$400)
- Fourth of July picnic (\$1,800)
- Printing newsletters and flyers (\$400)
- Contributions to Plaza Volunteer Rescue Squad, Foundry United Methodist Church where we hold our civic league meetings, etc. (\$450)
- Halloween party (\$450)
- Liability insurance (\$500)
- Taxes, Corporation dues, VBCCO dues, Christmas decorations, Miscellaneous Maintenance/Repairs, etc. (\$800)

The dues this year are only \$50 per household. Our fiscal year is from March 1, 2008 – February 28, 2009

The dues invoice and a pre-addressed envelope were included with the March issue of our

newsletter for your convenience. Please make your check payable to the Chesapeake Colony Civic League and mail to me at 2633 South Kings Road. A collection container is at my front door if you prefer to hand carry your dues.

As of May 5, 2008, 157 residents have paid their dues. Again, our goal is 100% participation.

B J Taylor, Treasurer
Phone 486- xxxx

Chesapeake Colony Civic League **Meeting Minutes March 20, 2008**

The meeting was called to order by the President, Bill Thesier, at 7:30 P.M. at the Foundry Methodist Church. Approximately 25 Colony residents were present. (See attached list of those signed in.) ??? DELETED

President Thesier introduced the speaker for the evening, **Congresswoman Thelma Drake** who represents Chesapeake Colony as a part of the 2nd District, which consists of Virginia Beach, part of Norfolk and Hampton, and the Eastern Shore. She is a member of the Armed Services Committee and the sub-committee on Terrorism. She also is a state delegate for the Republican Party. She spoke on many topics including Health Care, Taxes, Environmental issues, Immigration, the Iraq War, Energy, National Security and Earmark bills. Drake explained that there are good and bad earmarks and how if used properly they can benefit deserving local or state projects. The money already is allocated for projects by the Appropriations Committee in a general fund; the earmarks just allow Congress to decide, when there is a special need, where the money should go in lieu of the Department of Interior by adding them to bills being considered. This saves time. Unfortunately, they have been abused; therefore, a moratorium has been placed on all earmarks by the Frank Wolfe Bill until criteria can be established for earmarks. She believes there should be a limit of 6 years to serve on the Appropriations Committee whereas there

currently is no limit. Drake said she would like to be a member of this committee but you can only be a member of two committees.

She spoke about the need for off shore drilling that Virginia allows 50 miles out from shore. There have been less environmental problems from the oil rigs due to advanced technology than from oil spills from tankers carrying oil from foreign countries. We are fortunate because no oil comes into our ports here. She mentioned that our port is the best in the nation for balance of imports and exports. She discussed other alternative energies such as a new technique of using algae to produce bio-diesel fuel that is being studied at Old Dominion University among elsewhere. She spoke against subsidies for Ethanol because it has not proven to be helpful in controlling prices or relieving the energy problem. It only has driven up the price of corn leaving less to export for the hungry throughout the world.

Congresswoman Drake also spoke about the need for more viable Worker Programs. She informed us that there is a national data base for jobs on the internet at www.craigslist.com. She believes that The Iraq War will be successful. Angelina Jolie, our UN Goodwill Ambassador to Iraq said after speaking to the Iraqi people that they also believe it will be successful. Questions were answered from the audience and the current mortgage dilemma was discussed. She said that there is a need for Federal licensing of mortgage brokers.

Congresswoman Drake welcomes any calls to her office from anyone with questions or other assistance. She will be up for re-election for Congress this Fall.

A 2nd Guest, **Gary Brittingham of the Fire Department** was introduced by B.J. Taylor, the liaison for Chesapeake Colony Civic League to the Virginia Beach Council of Civic League Organizations. Brittingham works with the local Animal Rescue Groups. The Fire Department is working on getting special pet masks on the fire trucks in conjunction with the Animal Rescue of Tidewater. They have 1 set at each station currently

and their goal is to have 4 sets. They have different sizes for cats, dogs and birds. They cost \$70 and any donations would be helpful. He passed out forms to make donations. They also have a web site.

OLD & NEW BUSINESS

1. John Vest had to resign from the Board due to personal reasons and Rob Wigg was appointed by the Board to take his place.
2. **Beautification** Projects – need volunteers. (Entrance, shrubs, etc.)
3. **Street Signs** – volunteers to help paint our unique signs are needed.
4. Thanks to Todd Lovelace for compiling the March 4th Newsletter and to all those who contributed.
5. **Our Next Civic League Meeting will be May 22. Pete Sessa from the Home Improvement Talk Show (Sundays at 10:00 am) will be our guest speaker.**
6. **Speeding** – request that all residents ask the teenagers and contractors to please slow down. Do not hesitate to make this request.
7. **4th of July** – need to line up volunteers early. Please contact our President, Bill Thesier; our vice-President, Bob Brown or any board members if you are willing to help. Please do not wait until the last minute; however, if you are not sure and will not know until later, your help still will be welcome.
8. **Dredging** – Wayne Woolwine reported that the committee is “marching forward”. An attorney has been hired and has delivered an alternative plan to Wayne McLesky for the quit claim deed needed from McLesky to proceed. The committee is in touch with McLesky weekly.

Chesopeian Colony

Front Entrance Clean Up / Spruce Up Day

Submitted by BJ Taylor

As you know, the two pieces of property at the entrance to Chesopeian Colony belong to the

Chesopeian Colony Civic League. Taxes and maintenance of the two parcels are our responsibility and are paid for out of yearly dues we pay to the Civic League. We have identified several things that need to be done so we all can be proud when our friends and neighbors enter the Colony. Because of the high cost of hiring someone to do the work and our limited budget, we have decided to organize our first **“Spruce up Chesopeian Colony Day”**. Just like Clean the Bay Day, this is an opportunity for all our residents to pitch in and make our community an even better place to live.

The following is a list of things we would like to accomplish at the entrance to the Colony:

1. Paint the doors and trim of the storage barn
2. Paint the light covers on both entrance signs
3. Clean up and bag the leaves and tree branches around the two front lots
4. **Caulk** the front signs where cracks have formed
5. Paint the Colony's information sign post on right
6. Re-paint the backs of both Colony entrance signs
7. Re-build the pump houses (mainly small repairs and re-shingle and paint)

By looking at the list above, you see we need painters, caulkers, rakers, and baggers to accomplish the work. Items 1 through 5 are tops on our priority list. If we can also accomplish number 6 and/or 7, that would be fantastic.

Please join us Saturday, May 17th at 9:30 am. We need enthusiastic workers who can bring their gloves and rakes. We will provide all other required items. ***This is our community; please help us keep it a beautiful place to live.***

Saturday 31 May at 9:30 am will be our rain day and finish up day.

Mark Your Calendars...

May 22nd Civic League Meeting (Thurs.)

Speaker:

PETE SESSA of "House Talk"

July 4th – Parade and BBQ (Friday)

**September 25th Civic League Meeting
(Thursday.)**

4th of July Celebration

Submitted by Bob Brown

Schedule of Activities for July 4th Celebration

1. 7:30 a.m. - volunteers meet up at the front of the entrance to set up party canopy, dunk tank, tables, chairs, food, drinks, adult beverage station, steam table and prepare food.
2. 9:30 a.m. - parade participants rendezvous at the end of the trail
3. 9:45 a.m. – Judging begins for the bike and float contest. Tax free cash for all 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers. Age group and categories are as follows:
 - a. 0-3
 - b. 4-6
 - c. 7-9
 - d. 10-12
 - e. 13-15
 - f. floats
 - g. **pets/scooters/carts (discuss at board meeting on May 6th if to include as additional categories)**

*****Still need volunteers (8) to be our Judges for this contest. Last year's "Chief Justice" who organized our judges has a new baby and has her hands full this time with a 3 month old. I really need somebody to step forward and take the lead for judging the contest. I can be reached anytime at 615- XXXX.*****

4. 10:10 a.m. – All street monitors in place and neighborhood closed to traffic
5. 10:15 a.m. - Parade starts
6. 10:30 a.m. – Party time at front of neighborhood. We will have a DJ, clown and Dunk tank to entertain the young and old. We have hired some of the best chefs in town to prepare hot dogs and Carolina pork barbeque. Don't miss the other contests (watermelon eating, hoola hoop and egg toss) for the kids with cash prizes.

<u>Number of</u> <u>Volunteers</u>	<u>Position</u>
13	Chesopeian Trail safety
8	Judges for the bikes/floats
10	Set up and tear down
9	Food servers
2	Ticket sellers
1	Adult beverage dispenser



Neighborhood Watch Report

Submitted by Ron Hess



Be Careful Out There!

Your newsletter has often cautioned drivers to be particularly alert at the entrance to the Colony. On April 23rd one of our residents encountered a fire department SUV while departing the Colony. The results are not nice. Please be careful, and

remember that the Boulevard traffic always has the right of way. Be patient when turning left.

Unlocked Cars

Over the Easter weekend we received reports of several Colony cars being ransacked, with just one case of theft. It appears that all affected cars were left unlocked; a virtual invitation to an errant juvenile seeking an opportunity. If cars are left outside, consider adding "lock cars" to your nightly ritual of locking doors and turning off the lights.

Fox Alert

In the past few weeks a fox has been seen near the north end of Chesapeake Trail. In one case, the fox attacked a small dog (which recovered unhurt). In the latest case it shadowed a walker with a large dog, and appeared to be quite unafraid. This fox seems to be more active in the early evening. Foxes eat rodents, so we should not be too quick to banish it.



Clean The Bay Day 2008

Submitted by Tom McLaughlin

Saturday June 7th will mark the 20th Anniversary of Clean The Bay Day. This annual activity was started twenty years ago by several Virginia Beach boaters and civic leaders and has grown into an environmental project which encompasses dozens of communities along the entire Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries!

This article is being written to ask for your help in a Colony shoreline clean-up project between 9:00 and 11:00 AM June 7th. The effort will begin with a short sign-up, safety brief and co-ordination meeting at the boat ramp on the West end of Queen Anne Road. After the meeting, volunteers will proceed to selected shoreline areas and water channels to gather debris and place in plastic collection bags. Some areas may require use of a watercraft and others may be accessible on foot. During the co-ordination meeting volunteers can determine to help the cleaning effort on a boat or on foot depending on the resources at hand. After each area has been cleaned, or noted as already clean,

volunteers are asked to place the trash bags at the same site on Queen Anne where the co-ordination meeting was held. The City of Virginia Beach will provide a truck and work crew to remove our debris after 12:00 noon. The Chesapeake Bay Foundation will host a reception later in the afternoon at Mount Trashmore Park to thank the participants.

Over 60 Chesapeake Colony residents have participated in this event during the years 2003-2007. Many residents have participated on a repeat basis due to the enjoyable nature of the project, and the opportunity to join with neighbors in a short task that benefits the entire community. For parents with sporting event commitments to their children, the time needed for participation can be shortened to whatever amount of time fits your schedule. The goal is widespread participation, with the time involved very flexible depending on family schedules.

To learn more or volunteer "in advance", please contact any of the following residents who have participated in the past: Bruce Benson, Darin Delk, Tom Duckett, Ron Hess, Linda Hill, Cassie Hillian, Steve Keogh, Todd Lovelace, Steve Munden, John Vest, Theresa Vest, Janet Webster or Wayne Woolwine. Thanks for your support and enthusiasm! Hope to see you then!

Submitted by Tom McLaughlin (H) 486- xxxx, email william.t.mclaughlin@jfcom.mil

Garden Club News, May '08

Submitted by Jennifer Coleman

Green Friendly Lawn and Garden Care:

Rules of Thumb for Water Use on Lawns and Gardens

- One deep watering is much better than watering several times lightly.
- Lawns need about 1 inch of water each week. If the weather is very hot, apply an inch of water about every 3 days.
- Watering to a depth of 4-6 inches encourages deeper, healthier root development. It allows longer periods between watering.



- To measure the water, put an empty tuna can (or cat food can) on the lawn while watering. Stop watering when the can is full or if you notice water running off the lawn.

Know Your Soil

Different soil types have different watering needs. You don't need to be a soil scientist to know how to water your soil properly. These tips can help.

- Loosen the soil around plants so it can quickly absorb water and nutrients.
- Use a 1- to 2-inch protective layer of mulch on the soil surface above the root area. Cultivating and mulching reduce evaporation and soil erosion.
- Clay soil (very common in our area): Add organic material such as compost or peat moss. Till or spade to help loosen the soil. Since clay soil absorbs water very slowly, water only as fast as the soil absorbs the water.
- Sandy soil: Add organic material to supplement sandy soil. Otherwise, the water can run through it so quickly that plants won't be able to absorb it.
- Loam soil: The best kind of soil. It's a combination of sand, silt, and clay. Loam absorbs water readily and stores it for plants to use.

Water at the Right Time of the Day

- Early morning or night is the best time for watering to reduce evaporation.
- To help control where your water goes, water when it's not windy.

Welcome Wishes & Belated Greetings!

Submitted by Betty Kennedy

Before introducing you to some of our newer residents, we all want to welcome home Lt. Cmdr. David Moore who has returned safely from Iraq. He was still overseas at the last issue of our Newsletter. A very **warm welcome home** as you **re-join** your new son, your daughter Marissa and Stephaney. May you remain home for some time to come!

Greetings to *Chris and Emily Hahn* who recently purchased the 60's Rosen house, tucked away on a little lane at 424 Chesapeake Trail. They are involved in a major renovation of their new home. Chris is a navy pilot and Emily is an emergency physician at Chesapeake General Hospital; however, we hear that Emily recently returned from a mission trip in South America. Best wishes!

Beginning with this newsletter, in no special order, we will try to catch up on new residents within the last two years that we may have missed in welcoming I the past.

A belated welcome to *Tashera and Jeff Hickox* who, with their 10 year old daughter McKenna, moved to the Colony in August of last January after spending 3 years near Naples, Italy. (**Chris, or Jeff**) a Commander in the Navy, is a Surface Warfare officer. Jeff was originally from Pittsburg, Pennsylvania and Tashera was an Air force brat born in California but claims the Air Force as her "home state". Tashera loves cooking, and has manifested the spirit of the Colony by joining the Garden Club. Their daughter is in the 5th grade and is a member of the Girl Scouts. They are renting the point home owned by, by Dr. and Mrs. Riddick at 2701 Dix Inlet Rd. We lost our long term residents but gained a delightful family. (**Chris, or Jeff**) hopes to be with us until at least a year from this coming August. Here's wishing them a longer stay!

Cool and Refreshing

Submitted by Audra

Springtime is here with summer soon to follow! There is no better way to enjoy our lovely yards and homes than with a refreshing libation. The fine ladies in our garden club have a tasty recipe that is sure to please our

residents. Champagne punch: 2 large bottles of champagne, 1 bottle of sauterne, 1/2 gallon pineapple juice, 2 cups simple syrup, 1 cup lemon juice, 1 quart soda water. Add champagne at the end, float strawberries or other fruit and add ice cubes. Thank you, Rose Marie Hess for the recipe. You can find this and other fabulous recipes in the Chesapeake Colony Garden Club recipe book. If you are not fortunate enough to already have one, contact anyone in the garden club. They will be happy to oblige you! Happy spring and summer!!

Stay refreshed!!

Audra

For All the Colony Pet Lovers

Submitted by BJ Taylor

Help save a pet's life. The Virginia Beach Fire Department cares about animals and they know your pet is a member of your family. Help the Virginia Beach Fire Department save the life of other family members. Donate a Pet Oxygen Mask today! The goal of the Fire Department is to have four sets of Pet Oxygen Masks available to each fire station to be placed on the emergency vehicles. Each set contains three masks; one small, one medium and one large mask. The total cost for each set is \$70.00. The City of Virginia Beach cannot accept donations so the Animal Rescue of Tidewater is sponsoring the purchase of the masks.

For those of you who were not at the last Civic League Meeting, I offered to be the middle man on any and all donations from the Colony Residents to purchase the masks. We can designate which Fire Station will receive the masks, so I recommend Station 16, Plaza Fire Station, since we support the Plaza Rescue Squad, next Station 3, Lynnhaven Mall Fire Station, since both the Plaza Rescue Squad and Engine 3 have been routinely joining us each year for our 4th of July Picnic Parade, and finally Station 20, Little Neck Fire Station; all three of these stations are responsible for responding to a fire in Chesapeake Colony. Hopefully, the Colony Residents can provide

several sets of Pet Oxygen Masks to these three fire stations.

The donations are tax deductible.

To make it easy on anyone who would like to donate, I suggest that you prepare a check (cash should you prefer) for any amount, be large or small, **payable to: Animal Rescue of Tidewater** and either mail to me at 2633 South Kings Road (along with your Civic League Dues in the event you haven't paid them as yet) or drop it in the dues container located at my front door. I will consolidate the donations; keep a record of each, forward the money with our desires regarding the three Fire Stations, and let you know how many sets of masks we purchased when we deliver our next newsletter.

As you know there are fires every day in Virginia Beach. So if you desire to participate in this worthy cause, I urge you to do so in the next month or so.

As of 4 April, four residents have donated enough to purchase the first set of Pet Oxygen Masks to be delivered to Station 16.

Feel free to call me with questions. B J Taylor, Treasurer; 486-3056

COLONY BEAUTIFICATION PROJECTS

As reported in the last newsletter, B J Taylor has volunteered to be the Chairperson for the spring cleaning of the front lots. For those of you who jumped at your chance to volunteer, only to find his phone constantly busy, don't fret. The initial rush is over and you can reach him at 486- xxxx.

Chesapeake Colony Origins of Names

Submitted by Kathleen Davis ©

We all surf today ... the Internet. Ever wonder about the names in the Colony?

The origins of our Chesapeake Colony community unfold from Indians. Whereas Wikipedia is not a reliable source since anyone can write and edit it as

they wish, their page leads to more and reliable information on the names origins within our small but elite community. It recaps much about our fair city, fun facts. Did you know we are in the Guinness Book of Records as having the longest pleasure beach in the world? In addition, the nearby Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel (CBBT) is the longest bridge-tunnel complex in the world and known as one of the Seven Engineering Wonders of the Modern World.

If you like WOW and you are curious, start your virtual journey with this quick and easy scoop of us modern day Chesepians (meaning Mother of Waters <http://www.norfolkhistorical.org/highlights/01.html>). The Algonquian word "Chesepioc" means "Great Shellfish Bay." Learn about the many reasons we are honored to proudly, or humbly, bear their names. Powhatans defeated the Apasus and the Chesepians. Our neighborhood's namesake goes back well beyond 1587.

Safety tips for all!

The LAWMAN says... when leaving the colony, if the departing car can not enter into the flow of traffic and stops in the median (turning left) in the event of an accident, this driver will be deemed "at fault" since they did not enter the street without incident.

Don't be a



... JOIN the FUN!

We are looking for volunteers for various events:

- **4th of July**
- **Clean the Bay Day**
- **Spring Clean Up**
- **Halloween**

Call someone on the board they will help you get started!

