

Message from the President

Submitted by Bill Thesier

Dear Fellow Neighbors;

Can you believe summer is over? I hope you were able to join us at the 4th of July picnic, it was the best ever! We had several new volunteers and all the old regulars who made everything run smoother and faster for all. Please extend a sincere thanks to the participating Civic League Board members and the following volunteers who did an outstanding job for your 4th of July picnic; Ester Marr, Susie Thesier, April Brown, Wayne Woolwine, Janet Webster, Dee Vest, John Vest, Rolly Doan, Georgie Doan, Jennifer Coleman, Tom McLaughlin, Ken Toombs, Kay Toombs, Steve Munden, Annette Thompson, Darin Delk, Lil Thomas and her daughter (sorry I don't have her name), Mike and Joe Bedford, Don Redmond, Leah and Mike Copeland, Carolyne Cesare, Linda Hill, Jimmy Colangelo and Barbara Lovelace. Again, ***thank you for a job well done!*** If I missed anyone, please accept my apologies and our sincere thank you.

Now that school has started, we need to be extra careful when we travel the streets of the Colony. Please follow the speed limit of 25 MPH and remind the young drivers in your family to do the same.

Please mark September 25th on your calendar and plan to attend the next Civic League meeting.

The Board will have several openings next year. If you are interested in serving your community, please give me a call so I can give you the details as to what the jobs



entail. This is a great way to make a difference in your community, make new friends and renew old friendships. It's your community and home; help keep it the best place to live in Virginia Beach!

Our annual Halloween party is fast approaching. This year's event will be headed by George and Jennifer Coleman. They will need your help to have another great party. If you have some time to help, please give them a call and volunteer some time.

Hope to see you on the 25th!

Bill Thesier - President

Treasurer's Report – In Simple English

We are half way through the year and half way through the money!



Based on some cost saving efforts with the 4th of July, we saved some money there. However, repairs and maintenance continue to go up in costs and some items have been put off or reduced in scope.

Our biggest area of concern is the decreased participation of membership from the Colony which is down from just over 200 paid members in 2003, 2004 and 2005 to only 182 paid members this year, out of a possible 268 residents. This



represents a short fall of nearly \$1,000 at \$50 per membership from the 2003-2005 timeframe.

We hope everyone gets enjoyment from the tremendous efforts of the civic league and all the volunteers that make this neighborhood special. So, if paying your dues, keeps slipping your mind or the flowers out front bring a smile to your face, please take a moment to contribute today.

B J Taylor, Treasurer

Phone 486- xxxx

Clean The Bay Day 2008

By Tom McLaughlin

The twentieth Annual “**Clean The Bay Day**” was conducted on the morning of June 7. Despite high temperatures (101 degrees Fahrenheit at mid –afternoon!), there was a good turn-out of sixteen volunteers to clean the Colony shoreline. The volunteers went about their tasks on foot; and in three kayaks, one canoe and one John Boat.

Unusual items plucked from the river



included: a shopping cart, a table top aquarium, and a bird house. Overall, about 250 pounds of trash were removed from the water and shoreline. The majority of our neighborhood shoreline is very clean and well preserved, but there remain some problem areas adjacent to and behind the nearby Farm Fresh. Drainage spillways from the shopping center parking lot continue to carry litter down into the river.

Please join me in offering a sincere thanks to the following folks who freely gave of their time to make this event a success in the preservation of our neighborhood, the Lynnhaven River and the Chesapeake Bay watershed: Bruce Benson, Claire Costello, Ron Hess, Cassie Hillian, Mike Hillian, Evan Hillian, Kelsey Hillian, Marnie Keogh, Steve Keogh, Madeline Keogh, Steve Munden, B.J.

Taylor, Janet Webster, George Wickoff, and Michael Wickoff.

**Block Captain News**

Block 22 Captain Dick Lutz has requested retirement, and has subsequently been replaced by Brooks Gornto of 2709 Dix Inlet Road, at 486-

xxxx. Please note this change in your personal Colony directories. Many thanks to Dick Lutz for his years of absolutely reliable performance. Dick – You have earned a break!

Directory Information

Our Colony directories are almost a year old now. Even though we have been publishing updated information in the newsletters, we are approaching a time soon when we will need to verify and update all listings and to prepare a new 2009 directory. Please get your phone and e-mail changes to your block captain. If you don't have a directory or don't know who your block captain is, please contact me by e-mail (ronhess26@cox.net) or phone at 486- xxxx and I will get the information to you.

From your friendly Neighborhood Watch Coordinator. Ron Hess.

Back to School

School buses will be traveling thru the neighborhood. ***Please*** drive slow and look out for the children walking to the bus stop.

Also, water is building up on corner of Queen Anne Rd. and Chesopeian Trail. Storm water management has been contacted, but in the meanwhile, be careful for oncoming traffic, pedestrians, and walkers, as you swerve to miss the water. Hope everyone had a safe and fun summer.

Rob Wigg

**Save the Date For an Art Walk**

On Sunday afternoon, October 19, 1:00-4:00 p.m. the Chesopeian Colony Garden Club plans to sponsor an Art Walk.



Colony residents and their families who are artists or crafters will be given an opportunity to display and sell their works from their homes, porches, garages, or decks. 25% of all proceeds will be donated to the Garden Club to be used for Colony beautification projects. A booth will be set up on Chesopeian Trail to distribute maps and directions to homes where works will be displayed and sold.

The Art Walk will be publicized both within the Colony and to the greater community. Other neighborhoods such as Colonial Place in Norfolk have been doing similar projects for several years with great success. Types of work include paintings, pottery, photography, sculpture, knitting, needlework, basketry, jewelry, floral arrangements, music CDs and other creative arts or crafts. Some of the artists and artisans could give demonstrations at their home, or show works in progress.

If you are interested in participating by showing and/or selling your work, or could volunteer to help with this community event, please contact either Jeanie Hearst, 486-xxxx, jhearst@cox.net, or Shelly Gram, 431-xxxx, gramblings@aol.com.



THANK YOU NOTE:

**FROM THE PLAZA VOLUNTEER
RESCUE SQUAD**

The Civic League recently donated \$200 to the Plaza Volunteer Rescue Squad. We received the following hand written thank you note from the Rescue Squad:

“Dear Members of the Chesopeian Colony Civic League,

We feel very privileged to receive your gracious and heartfelt donation to our

station. We greatly appreciate your caring and support. We are all dedicated to providing the best care we can for our community. Thank you for recognizing our contribution. Thank you for your kindness. You’re Plaza Volunteers.”

For All the Colony Pet Lovers

This is an update to the May '08 Newsletter Article



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. As of 10 September, Colony residents have donated a total of 7 sets of the Pet Oxygen Masks to Station 16 Plaza, Station 3 Lynnhaven Mall and Station 20 Little Creek since all three of these stations are responsible for responding to a fire in Chesopeian Colony.

The Virginia Beach Fire Department thanks each and everyone who contributed.



And I thank you also. B J Taylor

A Summa Cumlauder Thank You

Thanks to the 22 families and the Garden Club for their contributions to the Chesopeian Colony Scholastic Award. Through their support, we were once again able to give out a \$500.00 award. This year's recipient was Emily Hardy. Emily, her proud parents Tim and Gretchen, and her sisters Zoe and Katie live on Sandy Valley. Emily has chosen to further her education at UVA as an English major.



The Colony civic league is proud to provide this award each year to an outstanding senior from Chesopeian Colony. Please consider making a donation as you pay your annual dues. We will again be accepting applications for the 2009 graduating seniors in April. Look for more information in the coming newsletters.

Thanks again for your continued support.
Cheryl Noyes and Jennifer Coleman
Scholastic Awards Committee

House Fire



Many of you know that the house owned by block captain Dan Graf and Jeannie Hearst was struck by lightning and burned. Repairs are well underway, and they have found temporary quarters right here in the Colony. It will be several more months before their own home is habitable. Dan thanks all for their assistance and encouragement.

Safety Tip

I recently received the following information and tried it out. It works, and you may wish to advise others:
Put your car keys beside your bed at night.

If you hear a suspicious noise outside your home or someone trying to get in your house, just press the panic button for your car. The alarm will be set off, and the horn will continue to sound until either you turn it off or the car battery dies.

This tip came from a neighborhood watch coordinator. Next time you come home for the night and you start to put your keys away, think of this:



It's a security alarm system that you probably already have and requires no installation. Test it. It will go off from most everywhere inside your house and will keep honking until your battery runs down or until you reset it with the button on the key fob. It works if you park in your driveway or garage. If your car alarm goes off when someone is trying to break in your house, odds are the intruder won't stick around... after a few seconds all the neighbors will be looking out their windows to see who is out there, and sure enough the criminal won't want that. And remember to carry your keys while walking to your car in a parking lot. The alarm can work the same way there.



Crime Report

In the last several months we have had 3 reports of theft: one of a bicycle from a garage at the south end of Chesopeian Trail, a bike stolen in front of a house on Sandy Valley Road and one of a generator from a shed at the north end of the Trail. These appeared to be cases of targeted thefts rather than a rash of thievery - but the message is the same - locks are an effective deterrent if they are used.



We are looking for volunteers to serve on the Board and some officers positions for next year! Please Contact Bill Thesier if you are interested.

Halloween Party

October 31st, 2008

It's that time again; time for all of our ghosts and goblins, witches and wizards to come out of hiding and celebrate Halloween



together. We will be having our traditional

Halloween party on October 31st at 5:30 PM at

the front of the Colony. Food, fun and fright will be the theme as we gather to see who are the boldest, brightest, and scariest of our neighbors. Betty Kennedy has agreed to be our Macabre Mistress of ceremonies as our judges vote for the best costumes by age group. While some of us may have outgrown our costumes and treat-or-tricking, please come and join in the fun anyway, support our young neighbors, and enjoy the spirit of the holiday. More details to be provided later.

Women's Money Club

An organizational meeting for a Women's Money Club is being planned for Chesopeian Colony. This is NOT an investment club; although, it is possible one could evolve from this group. No money is needed to join and no money will be spent as a group.



Our objective is education. There is a lot of financial talent within the Colony. We want to bring that expertise together and take advantage of it. If you would like to participate – or if you are just curious – contact:

Jeanne Baker 757-640- xxxx

Linda Wheeler 757-306- xxxx

American Flag Disposal

If you have an American flag that is torn, worn, or faded and you would like to have it disposed of properly, contact Matthew Wheeler of Boy Scout Troop 63 at 472-9177.



Welcome to the Colony plus News Tid-Bits

Farewell to Lauren Trimmer and her two daughters Amanda and Samantha who moved from 420 Chesopeian Trail to nearby Kings Point in Kings Grant.

Our outstanding Neighborhood Watch Program Coordinator, Block Captain Ron Hess and his wife Rose Marie sold their home just down the street at 521 Chesopeian Trail and moved into Lauren's house with their beautiful Golden Retriever mix, Hercules. Ron also is an active member of our Civic League Board of Directors and is very involved in our community. You may have seen him at the polls when you went to vote. Be sure to change Ron & Rose Marie's address from 521 to 420 on Chesopeian Trail.

Welcome to Betsy McEnroe and George Yates, who purchased the Hess home at 521. They originally hail from upstate New York but have been in Virginia Beach for over 20 years. Betsy, who is currently working in the ER and doing some teaching, has 2 sons, one at Virginia Tech and one at James Madison. George, a retired SEAL, has a son at VCU and a daughter teaching in Cape Town, South Africa. Be sure to say hello to them at 521 Chesopeian Trail. Their telephone is 422- xxxx and their email is egm55@cox.net. A big Welcome to you both!



We are all sad to have to say "Goodbye" to Bruce and Terri Butler who have been in the Colony for 27 years. Both have been very active in our Civic League and Terri has been a member of the Garden Club and with Jennifer Coleman was influential in getting the Scholarship fund started. Terri

has been in charge of the committee since its inception. Bruce has retired from the Navy and they will temporarily be living in Charleston, South Carolina until their home is ready in a lovely community in Aiken, SC, near the Georgia border. They have sold their home at 336 Chesopeian Trail to Nancy McMath who, sometime in the near future, will be moving in.



We also extend a welcome to Cmdr. Alan Bell and his wife Karen with their 2 daughters Ashley, age 1, and Sarah, age 6. They purchased their new home this summer at 2624 South Kings Rd. where Michael Vest, father of John and Curtis, lived prior to his moving to Linkhorn Bay Condos on Laskin Road. Alan is Commander in charge of the LSO (Landing Signal Officer) School at the Oceana Airbase. We are sad to lose Michael; but are happy to extend our greetings to a new young couple with children.



Congratulations to Cmdr. John Gawne at 600 Chesopeian Trail on his retirement from the Navy on August 2 after 21 years of service! John is a native of Virginia Beach and after receiving his commission through the Corps of Cadets at Virginia Tech in Nov. 1987. He went on to become a pilot and has had an active career, including the F/A-18 Hornets. He currently is a commercial pilot for FedEx, flying the Boeing 757. You can read about his career on the website www.oceanjetobserver.com/articles/2008/08/22/news/top_stories/top04.txt. He resides with his wife Megan and three daughters, Amanda, Hayleigh, and Sydney.

Once again, if we have missed any newcomers or you want to share something special about your neighbors, please share it with us (with their permission, of course). You may contact: Betty Kennedy 340-8975 or at bettina10@cox.net.

Congratulations to the Todd Mayo Family on 2601 Sandy Valley Rd. for receiving 1st prize for their patriotic float. The Curtis Vest Family was a very close 2nd (it was a hard pick) with their usual outstanding original float. The whole parade was fantastic as usual and the pets with their owners were especially outstanding (and all very well behaved, too!) Everyone deserves a big hand for their outstanding decorations - all ages. A great participation. Hands off to all those volunteers who helped to make the Parade and Picnic a great success!

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

The City of Virginia Beach has regulations that govern the time that garbage cans should be placed out on the streets and removed when empty. We realize that sometimes it is difficult due to some of the residents' schedules, but we would like to remind everyone that it is requested that the containers not go out before the evening before the pick-up day and that they be brought in as soon as possible after they are emptied or as soon as you return from work. If you are going to be away and are unable to bring them in, ask a neighbor, or wait until you return on the next pick-up date.



We have an exceptionally beautiful sought after neighborhood and we want to keep it that way. Bringing the garbage cans back to your house in a timely manner and keeping them either to the side or in back as required by the city, maintains the quality of the Colony. Most of the residents keep their lawns and the fronts of their homes well groomed; however, it has come to our attention that there are a few who are not keeping it in the best of shape and in some instances have left unsightly items in their front yard. One yard like this can spoil the whole feeling of our very special community. We ask that you check your yard from the street for visible-unsightly items and move them where they cannot be seen by your neighbors and visitors as they drive through Chesopeian Colony.

**Reminder – The
next Civic League
Meeting is
September 26th**

Forth of July Picnic and Parade

