

Chesopeian Colony

"On the Lynnhaven River"

April 2010 Newsletter

www.chesopeiancolonycivicleague.org

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Message from the President

Todd Lovelace 431-8344

Hello, Colonists! What a long cold winter it has been. I am glad to see the sunshine, flowers and so many of you out and about. First off, I would like to thank everyone for their support and encouragement and I look forward to serving you and the Colony. Many thanks to Bill Thesier for his hard work and organization of many events over the past couple years. Having said that, I am sure Bill would agree with me that these tasks were made easier with the help of Audra Flynn, Betty Kennedy, John Vest and Rob Wigg; retiring board members who made the work more enjoyable. Thank you, all.

Of course, there is a lot in store for 2010 and I'd like to introduce our officers and Board of Directors: Janet Webster - VP, BJ Taylor - Treasurer, Susie Thesier - Secretary. You will recognize Janet from her organization of the 4th of July Picnic and assistance on the Halloween event. BJ needs no introduction, but simply a thanks for all the unseen things that he does for the Colony. Susie returns as Secretary and keeps us compliant with the bylaws and staying very organized.

Joining George Coleman, Kevin Duffan, Ron Hess and Annette Thompson are newly elected John Davis and Betsy McEnroe to the Board of Directors. We appreciate your commitment to our neighborhood.

We have already had our first Board meeting and 2010 is shaping up nicely. We ended the year slightly below our budget and as we look at 2010, we are projecting to maintain our costs at the same level, despite increases in insurance costs and other items. Now to the fun stuff!

As you can see we have a few great events on the horizon, including your next civic league meeting on April 27th, Clean the Bay Day on June 5th, Shred Day on June 19th and our nearly world famous 4th of July Parade and Picnic is coming... I hope you will be able to schedule time to attend these events, and if you are interested, get involved. Volunteering is as easy as calling me and I will get you in touch with the event coordinator.



*100%
participation is
our goal!*



Treasurer's Note

Around the middle of March every Colony resident should have received a hand delivered plastic bag containing the following three items:

Chesopeian Colony Civic League: Dues In-Action – info sheet
The Annual Civic Leagues Dues Notice printed on bright yellow paper
A Pre-addressed Envelope

As of 12 April, 134 residents have responded.

In the event you did not receive these three items please contact Ron Hess, our Neighborhood Watch Coordinator via email: ronhess26@cox.net or by phone: 486-3797

A special “**THANK YOU**” to the 119 residents who have paid their dues.

B J Taylor
Treasurer

Scholarship Fund *by Jennifer Coleman*

Did you know that Chesopeian Colony awards an annual scholarship?

Yes, it's true! Beginning in 2001, Chesopeian Colony has awarded scholarships annually to a worthy graduating high school resident of the Colony. The scholarship is merit not need based. Applications are due the end of May and recipients will be notified in time for school senior awards ceremonies.

For application and additional details contact Cheryl Noyes or Jennifer Coleman.



Colony Sightings by Janet Webster

One of the things that we love best about neighborhood is the overabundance of wildlife that we are surrounded by. There is something about seeing the birds build their nests in the spring and watching the mallards fly to parts warmer that refreshes our spirits after a long and brutal winter. The stories that I want to tell are those of the colony residents and their interactions with the creatures that they encounter.

For example, over the last week I have watched a family of chickadees building their nest in the steel pole that holds our hoist lift. This is the seventh year that they have started their family in this same place. In a little over a month, we will hear their babies chirping and watch Mom fly food into the tube.

Also, our friend Squirrel has been up to his usual plotting and planning, desperately trying to get to the bird feeder. Similar to the articles that show up in the Beacon every Sunday, I would like to start compiling and publishing your stories about the wildlife that you see in our neighborhood. Drop me an email or a short note that describes your observation or encounter. Please include pictures and/or a description of the event that you would like to share with the rest of the Colony. I will compose a column for the next newsletter and would love to include your story.

Please send email to janetwebster@cox.net or mail to 2712 Chester Forest Court. We look forward to reading about your sightings.

Upcoming Event!

The next Civic League meeting will be held on Thursday April 27th at 7:30 PM at the Foundry United Methodist Church

Protecting our Wildlife by George Coleman

Since I moved back to Virginia Beach two and half years ago there has been a resurgence of the local river otter population. There have been quite a few reported sightings, particularly in the Kings Grant area. I finally got my opportunity to see one, unfortunately, it was dead, having been hit by a car. So, I offer the following Ways to Protect Wildlife:

1. Work with the Wildlife Land Trust to preserve your land as a permanent wildlife sanctuary
2. Support regional efforts to protect natural habitats and wildlife corridors
3. Reduce your own energy consumption and help promote policies to end global warming
4. Encourage wildlife friendly practices in your community
5. Advocate for stronger laws against poaching and captive hunting
6. Don't allow hunting or trapping on your property
7. Save the Earth. Buy organically grown produce to reduce pesticide runoff.

CHESOPEIAN COLONY GARDEN CLUB NOTES by Carol Taylor

You might have noticed some daffodils poking their colorful heads up in the new garden area installed by London Bridge Nursery under Jennifer Coleman's direction last year. Annette Thompson and BJ Taylor volunteered to plant 200 daffodils there this spring to brighten our neighborhood entrance with some Easter color. In May we plan on replacing our winter pansies with some summer blooms so the new flowers will have time to get established before our neighborhood 4th of July celebration.

The Garden Club meets the second Thursday of every month from September through May for a luncheon followed by a business meeting and speaker. We help out at Christmas time with decorations for the Francis Land House and support events sponsored by the Council of Garden Clubs of Virginia Beach, a city-wide organization with which we are affiliated. The club supports a number of local charities with both donations of time and money

The Chesopeian Colony Garden Club's winter social was organized by Shelly Gram and held last month at Ynot Pizza on Great neck Road. The Italian entrees there are excellent and as always a good time seemed to be had by all.

This past month Carolyn Dittrick, Betty Kennedy and I attended a couple of City Council meetings to support an interim ordinance to control the rapid proliferation of LED signs being installed in Virginia Beach. This interim measure was intended as a stop gap measure until an acceptable permanent ordinance could be proposed by the Planning Commission and approved by the City Council. The Council of Garden Clubs of Virginia Beach had been a major voice in planning the last ordinance concerning signs passed in the 1980's. The Council President, Reba Mc Clanan, who was instrumental in getting the present sign ordinance passed in the 1980's and is now spearheading the opposition to the LED signs, asked for our support. She was happy to get over 50 Garden Club members at each of the City Council meetings where the interim measure was on the agenda. Unfortunately City Council disappointed us all by voting down the interim measure, 6-5, so there is still no law either prohibiting or constraining this new type of sign.

We always welcome new members who are interested in gardening for its own rewards as well as in neighborhood beautification projects. Give us a call if you are new to the neighborhood or now find yourself with the time available to support this worthwhile organization. We get together for a couple of evening parties each year with our spouses/friends included. Our regular meetings are held at lunchtime at the Princess Anne Country Club. Let's get together and see what we can do to maintain and enhance the natural beauty of our neighborhood and have a little fun in the process.

Carol Taylor, President, Chesopeian Colony Garden Club, 486-3056

Annette Thompson, Vice President, Chesopeian Colony Garden Club, 340-5820

Please join the
Chesopeian Colony Civic
League!
This is your organization
for the betterment of your
Community.
Please send your check
TODAY!

SHRED DAY AT THE COLONY *by BJ Taylor* **RAIN OR SHINE**

Your Civic League is **again** sponsoring a Free On-Site Document Shredding Day. It will be held Saturday June 19, 2010 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. It is time for everyone to shred their old confidential/personal records that you have been storing in bags and cardboard boxes in your attic and garage. Identity theft is growing so help to protect your identity by shredding those personal papers that you don't need. Shred day is **free to all Chesopeian Colony residents**. Donations will be accepted to help reduce our cost.

We want to keep the shred truck as busy as possible during the 3-hour period. Therefore, you are encouraged to invite a friend(s) to bring his/her documents for shredding; it will be free to them also (small businesses are also welcome). As noted above donations will be accepted to help reduce our cost.

The shred truck will be located somewhere in the Colony; however, the exact location will be decided later and everyone will be informed via the June newsletter. There is no need for you to remove staples, paper clips, binder clips, etc. **However, the truck will not shred cardboard or plastic.**

Should you have questions please feel free to contact B J Taylor via email at gizmosassy@verizon.net or by phone at 486-3056.



Bats Anyone? *by Diane Kreutter*

Bat conservation and insect control--great motivations to install a bat house. Bat Conservation International (BCI) reports that our bats are disappearing due to human activities and natural habitat loss.

Chemicals endanger our wildlife including natural mosquito predators, and mosquitoes build resistances to them. Attracting natural predators like brown bats and reducing their exposure to man-made chemicals is a better long term solution.

Two-thirds of bat species feed on insects and can consume up to 1,000 night time mosquito-sized insects each hour. A pregnant or lactating bat can eat equal to her body weight per night.

Some important points about bat houses:

1. Attracting bats typically take six to twelve months.
2. Bat houses only work if they are:
 - a. Constructed properly (BCI approved).
 - b. At least 16 feet off the ground to avoid predators.
 - c. Get 7 to 10 hours of direct sunlight a day and painted.
 - d. Close enough to water and food resources.
 - e. Installed before bats return in the Spring to be used by summer.

Please visit www.batcon.org for more information about bats and bat houses, including where to get one. We are hoping to request funding for a community wide bat conservation project. If interested, please contact the civic league.

*Neighbors
helping
Neighbors*



Dear Chesopeian Colony Residents

The time is rapidly approaching for the 18th annual Letter Carrier Food Drive.

In 1991 The National Association of Letter Carriers wished to give back to their communities and organized a national food drive. Over time the Postal Service embraced the community involvement and has been very supportive. A few years ago the Postal Service Nationally became a full partner in this endeavor. On the second Saturday in May all letter carriers across the nation participate in the food drive to restock and supply local food banks. Our local efforts supply the Food Bank of Southeastern Virginia.

On Saturday May 8, 2010 while I make my delivery rounds I will be joined by my wife Susan who truly enjoys the community spirit and greatly helps me pick up your generous donations of non perishable food to be delivered to the food bank. Over the last few years my co-workers have been amazed at the amount of food donations generated from Chesopeian Colony. My hope is that we will be more successful this year.

The need for food donations has never been more urgent than it is this year. With the economy not doing well and high unemployment rate, more and more people are struggling to make ends meet. You may be surprised to see how many middle class families now rely on the food bank. Your continued support is critical to their very survival.

A few days before the food drive I will deliver a post card with a picture of the family circus cartoon on it reminding you of the upcoming event, then on Saturday May 8th leave your donations by your mail box area and Susan and I will do the rest.

Last year we collected 10 full tri-wall boxes of food from zip code 23452. Chesopeian Colony contributed 1 full box which is amazing. With your continued generosity, community spirit, and support I believe we can top that this year.



Rabies in the Colony by John Davis

Recently a raccoon in our neighborhood was diagnosed with rabies. As spring and summer are upon us, our families will be spending more and more time outdoors which increases our likelihood of coming into contact with wild animals increasing the probability that we may encounter a rabid animal. Rabies is a deadly disease and therefore in this article I am offering a brief review of the disease:

Rabies Overview

Rabies is a disease humans may get from being bitten or exposed to saliva (i.e. licked over an open wound or scratch) by an animal infected with the rabies virus. Exposure via bats can occur without a bite via respiratory transmission of the disease. Despite great advances in diagnosing and preventing rabies, today it is almost always deadly in humans who contract it and do not receive treatment. The virus migrates from the injection site via the nervous system pathway eventually reaching the brain.

The most common animals in our area to have rabies are raccoons, foxes, coyotes, bats, dogs & cats (cats are twice as likely to be rabies carriers as dogs).

For those of us who let our pets outside, the possibility exists that our pets (dogs and cats) could acquire rabies from an undomesticated animal and subsequently expose our families via the now infected pet.

Rabies Symptoms

Animals infected with rabies may appear sick, crazed, or vicious. However, animals infected with rabies may also appear overly friendly, docile, or confused. Seeing a normally nocturnal wild animal during the day (for example, a raccoon, bat or fox) or seeing a normally shy wild animal that appears strange or even friendly should raise suspicion that the animal may have rabies.

In humans, the average incubation period (time from infection to time of development of symptoms) is 30-60 days, but it may range from less than 10 days to several years. Most people first develop symptoms of pain, tingling, or itching shooting from the bite site (or site of virus entry). Nonspecific complaints of fevers, chills, fatigue, muscle aches, and irritability may accompany these complaints. Early on, these complaints may seem like any virus, except for the shooting sensations from the bite site. Gradually, however, you will become extremely ill, developing a variety of symptoms, including high fever, confusion, agitation, and eventually seizures and coma, followed by death.

Rabies Treatment

Rabies can be totally prevented. You **must** recognize the exposure and promptly get appropriate medical care **before** you develop the symptoms of rabies. If you wait until symptoms develop, it is too late.

When bitten by an animal, you should always care for the wound immediately by washing it out with soap, water, and an antiseptic iodine solution. If the animal is a pet, get the owner's name, address, and phone number, if possible. This information will aid the local public health.....

continued

Rabies..... *continued*

authorities as they monitor the animal. If the animal is a wild animal or stray dog or cat, contact the local animal control authorities immediately (in our case the Virginia Beach Police Department - Animal Control Division). They will attempt to safely capture the animal for examination. The victim or other bystanders should not attempt to capture or subdue the animal. This might lead to further bites or exposures.

If the animal is a bat, and the exposure occurred in a building, the doors and windows should be shut in the room containing the bat after all other people are evacuated. If this cannot be done without risk of repeat exposure to the bat, then the most important thing is to minimize the chance of contact between that bat and other people. Once again, call local animal control authorities, and they will capture the bat. Bat exposures are different from any other animal. There does not necessarily have to be a detectable bat bite to constitute a significant exposure as it believed that there exists the possibility that bats can transfer rabies via the respiratory tract.

SEEK MEDICAL CARE. The best source for proper treatment is the Emergency Department in a hospital. It cannot be over emphasized that treatment has to occur **BEFORE** symptoms begin or the disease is almost **ALWAYS** fatal.

Clean the Bay Day *by Tom McLaughlin*

The 22nd annual "Clean the Bay Day" will be held Saturday June 5, 2010 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. All Chesapeake Colony residents and friends are invited to participate in cleaning our neighborhood shoreline and waterways. The event will start with a safety briefing and cleaning assignments, which will be coordinated at the Queen Anne Road boat ramp at 9:00 AM.



Welcome to the Neighborhood! *by Susie Thesier*

Kavon (Hak) and Heather Hakimzadeh moved into 2701 Sandy Valley Road with their two dogs, Lucy and Oliver. Hak is the XO of VAW 126 and returned to the area after a stint in D. C. Heather is the associate curator for the Contemporary Arts Center. They may be reached at Hakimzadeh@aol.com or 757-650-9572.

Scott and Emily Worthington are renting 2813 Queen Anne Road. Scott is a naval aviator and Emily is busy caring for their baby son, **Jackson**. They may be reached at home at 757-306-1305 or emily.worthington81@gmail.com.



***Mark Your
Calendars!***

Civic League meetings will be on the following dates in 2010

April 27th

June 22nd

October 19th

7:30 PM at the
Foundry United
Methodist
Church

Welcome to the Neighborhood.... continued

Jeff and Nancy May moved into 516 Chesapeake Trail in February. Their dog, Sasha, is VERY friendly! Jeff is a product manager for Life Net and is a fellow Hokie. Nancy is the marketing/communication manager for the Real Estate Information Network. Call them to watch Tech games at 748-0935 or rei.may@verizon.net.

David (who goes by Ferris) and Catherine Mueller moved into 2701 Dix Inlet Road in February. Their son, **Shelby**, 18, will graduate from Salem High School in June. Ferris works at the Norfolk Naval Base for Spectrum Communications. Catherine is an IT specialist at CSC, also at the base. They may be contacted at ferrismueller@cox.net.

Gernot Friedrich and Kerstin Tripp-Friedrich moved into 2848 N. Kings Road in January. Their daughter **Mijke**, 10, and son **Simon**, 7, are students at Kings Grant Elementary. Gernot works with NATO and the family will only be in the area for 18 months. Kerstin was a dentist in Germany; however, her license is not recognized in the States. Kerstin also organized a neighborhood Halloween party for several years in Germany. We look forward to having her help this year! They may be reached at 757-463-1057 or email Kerstin.Tripp-Friedrich@gmx.de. They are also looking for babysitters!

If you know of someone we have overlooked or have a special announcement, please call Susie Thesier at 631-0343 or susiewt1@cox.net.



4th of July is fast approaching!

As always, we are looking for volunteers.

If you would like to help, call a Board member and we'll make arrangements!

Thank You!