



Winter 2012 Newsletter

PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 556, STURGEON BAY, WI 54235

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

by Betty Parsons

Once again, Mother Nature reigned. We're sorry for any damage or inconvenience you experienced in October, but presume storm ramifications are long past. Your Steering Committee was excited about the 2011 annual meeting and was sorry to cancel - a complicated process that was expertly managed by our annual meeting chair, Deborah Mancuso. Looking ahead to 2012, we're happy that **Errico Auricchio**, founder of BelGioioso Cheese, again agreed to be our guest speaker! That means we get to sample nationally awarded cheese accompanied by wine from Russ Turco of Stone's Throw Winery. Fun!

For the past three years, BSPOA was fortunate to have **Russ May**, now emeritus, at the helm of the Steering Committee (SC). With his keen mind, broad grasp of county issues, ability to keep the SC focused, good listening skills, a doctorate degree in business management and a practicing minister, we were in good hands. On behalf of our members, thank you, Russ, for sharing your time and leadership skills.

Simultaneously, I'm eager to introduce our new

Steering Committee member and newsletter editor, **Dan Mathein**. Turn the page to learn more about this man, who had a broad ranging professional career and enjoys multiple hobbies. While Dan inherited the basic format and content for this newsletter, he's creative and brimming with ideas and energy, so look for his imprint in the summer newsletter.

Your Steering Committee is excited about BSPOA's New Year! Here's the reason. During the past 15 years, BSPOA generated a list of impressive accomplishments. By 2026, we want to be equally pleased! And it's you who make success possible! Therefore, **we're putting our trust in your continued membership and making a wish for expanded volunteer service.** If you've already volunteered, thank you! If you receive a call to assist, we hope you'll be available! Besides, it's fun, it's fulfilling and it's about neighbors, neighborhood and community. With anticipation, I give thanks for your contributions. Look inside for a *condensed* overview of the last 15 years. Impressive! We're blessed to live in the Bay Shore Drive area.

DOOR COUNTY RACE COMPETITIONS

by Bryan Troutman

Registration is now open for the **Door County Triathlon** scheduled for Saturday, July 21st and the **Door County Half Iron Man** competition on Sunday, July 22nd. BSPOA will again sponsor the bicycle water bottle exchange at Quarry Park for the triathlon and at the base of Carlsville Road for the Half Iron Man. We

have sponsored this race since its inception and are always looking to expand the service team.

Volunteers will be needed for all events. If you can help, contact me at **BDTroutman@aol.com** or via cell at 847.778.8748.

Celebrating & Highlighting

15 YEARS OF BSPOA ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1997: Met with developer of Westwood to encourage building a berm and increasing vegetation to soften impact of property from road. Meeting successful.

1998: Terry Lappin appointed to Multiple Occupancy Steering Committee to review and make recommendations for the Door County zoning ordinance.

1999: Participated in developing a resolution to establish an ad hoc Sevastopol land use committee to develop a long-term land use plan for the township. Resolution approved at annual Town Meeting. Terry Lappin and Sheila Turner served on committee. Study was referenced for Sevastopol Smart Growth plan.

2000: Met with former Assemblyman Dave Hutchison to discuss need for limiting construction of solid fill dock piers along Green Bay shoreline. Jim Bunning met with DNR staff to develop a more complete permit application and provided testimony at solid fill dock hearings. Applications for solid dock piers have substantially declined.*

- Provided substantial financial support for Bryan Troutman to pursue purchase options of the Hutter property before development interests closed opportunity. Land now owned by Door County Land Trust and known as *Bay Shore Blufflands*.

2001: Met with Door County Road Commissioner regarding timing of roadside mowing/trimming schedule. Mowing now done later in summer for benefit of blooming plants.

- Barbara Bunning initiated anecdotal histories of properties and residents along Bay Shore Drive.*

2002: Supported initiative of a public access channel for Sevastopol. Channel 986/79/19 in operation.*

- Initiated annual spring cleanup along 13-mile stretch of Bay Shore Drive.*

2003: Lobbied Sevastopol Town Board to not increase Bay Shore Drive speed limit due to safety concerns. Successful.



- Supported residents in their efforts to preserve Sunset Lane's natural roadside with testimony and a contribution.

2004: Initiated water testing for bacteria levels along a 13-mile stretch of Green Bay. Led by Mike Standish with volunteer coordination from Tom Manthey. A successful 3-year project.

- Participated in Door County Invasive Species Team meetings that lead to informative brochures and website for invasive species identification and control techniques.*

2005: Provided assistance for Door County Triathlon.* Bryan Troutman serves on triathlon board.

2006: Initiated, at the suggestion of Bryan Troutman, a propane survey to obtain reduced negotiated price.*

- Endorsed Door Property Owners PR campaign to work with community, local and state officials to target dishwashing detergent and fertilizers that contain phosphates, which generates an algae known as *Cladophora*.*

2007: Pledged 400- hours of membership work to identify and treat invasive species on the Blufflands and on nearby, private property. Led by Jack Van Lanen. BSPOA commitment enabled DCLT to receive an \$18,000 grant.

- Represented on Egg Harbor and Sevastopol

Smart Growth Committees. Bob Landry and Jack Van Lanen for EH and Barb Bunning for Sevastopol.

- Received \$1000 grant for water testing. Program coordinated with UW Oshkosh.
- 2008:** Completed a Microsoft Access database, managed by Nancy Buhl, which simplifies multiple functions and enables BSPOA to notify members by email of timely issues.
- 2009:** BSPOA website initiated, designed and updated by Randy Kenny. **WWW.BSPOA.ORG**
- Asked Sturgeon Bay Utilities to put a shield to direct highway lights downward at intersections of County BB and Dunn Road with Bay Shore Drive. Part of the BSPOA Dark Skies initiative.
- Participated in the Sevastopol 150th Sesqui-centennial celebration.
- 2010:** Represented on the Door County Bike Plan committee by Bryan Troutman.*
- 2011:** Pledged 400-hour service commitment, over a three-year period, to DCLT for identification and removal of invasive species. Pledge also helps Land Trust receive grants.
- Committed to obtain 12 volunteers to assist with the Fall 50 (run from Gills Rock to Sturgeon Bay).*
- Committed to a 13-mile GPS identification of phragmites for **The Ridges** Door County phragmites assessment.
- Participated in the 150th Egg Harbor Sesqui-centennial celebration.

** Identifies ongoing efforts*



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

By Nancy Buhl, Membership Chair

We welcome our new members and encourage other neighbors to join in supporting BSPOA!

John and Laura Chiminski

Tom and Joan Dubnicka

Myrna Fogarty

Bob and Jill Gershan

Ray and Colleen Gozdecki

Sandra Greenwood

Brad and Pam Hays

Patricia Healy

Eric and Marja Johnson

Bob Koehler

Allen and Sherry Koenig

Jim and Genise Krause

Molly Larkin

Paul and Josephine Leyva

Dan and Jackie Mathein

Dan and Cheri Meyvis

Ron and Patty Murphy

Angelo and Jennifer Ninivaggi

Jeff and Joanne Rosenfel

William Shartner

David and Jennifer Schuda

Al and Teri Searing

Warren Sedlacek

Kregg and Melanie Shilbauer

Larry and Diane Swanson

Joyce Turley

Tom and Jeanne Valicent

Kirk and Mary Jane Wolter

OLD GLORY HONOR FLIGHT FOR A WWII VETERAN

By Bob Graef as told to Barb Bunning

Because of his charter/lifetime member status for the WWII Memorial Society, Bob Graef on Bay Shore Drive could have gone to the original dedication of the Washington DC WWII Memorial three years before. Unfortunately, he could not make the trip at that time and was very disappointed.

However, the memorable experience was awarded him in the summer of 2010 under the auspices of the Northeastern Wisconsin's 10th Old Glory Honor Flight. This Wisconsin unit, a regional part of the national organization started three years ago, was instituted to facilitate flights to Washington D.C. to assist WWII veterans to experience the WWII memorial.

After being on the wait list for two years, Bob received a call late one evening from Appleton notifying him that his trip was scheduled. A guardian sponsor was required, and Bob's son, Steve, was honored to travel with him and serve in this capacity. The flight left Appleton with 91 vets in matching blue shirts and their sponsors to wing its way east.

Landing on the Reagan airport tarmac, all on board were alerted to the presence of ambulance and fire truck sirens screaming, and water cannons from the fire trucks shooting streams of water over the plane. The vets were greeted in grand honorary style by a separate "security force" line, arms raised in crisp salutes.

It must be mentioned here that Bob enlisted in the Marines in 1942 when 17 and was called into active service in the 7th Service Marine Regiment in 1943 upon reaching the age of 18. He was part of the third wave invasion of Saipan in June 1944 in the Mariana Islands. Next came the invasion of Okinawa in the South Pacific in April of 1945. Bob's crew was on

board ship to invade Tokyo, Japan when the atomic bomb was dropped. His division then moved on to Tientsin, China to facilitate the surrender of the Japanese forces still in China.

As they waited on ship, the Emperor signed the peace treaty ending the war. Bob returned home to Chicago in February 1946.

Now, back to the Honor Flight. When the three busloads reached the Capitol, Bob was amazed by the WWII Memorial, larger in area than all the other ellipse memorials put together. The group spent several emotional hours moving throughout the memorial spaces where 48 large white pillars stood representing the veterans of each state in the union. Bob definitely felt that the memorial represented the great efforts of all who fought for peace with valor during WWII. Another high point was being present for the Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Bob particularly noticed that each guard dragged his left heel to honor the WWII veterans.

Mail call on the return flight was a special event with a packet of congratulatory letters for each vet. Some of Bob's were from Governor Walker, his wife and son and area children.

A final celebration occurred as the plane landed that night in Appleton at 10 PM. Well over 500 people and high school bands waited to welcome them home with cheers and to thank the vets for their service. There were lots of children from Appleton, Fond du Lac and Neenah to greet them, and one handed Bob a well-worn 1942 Army *Song and Service Book*. It was a moving finish to Bob's amazing 10th Glory Honor Flight.



NEW STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBER

By Dan Mathein



While my wife Jackie and I were living in Glenview, Illinois we had an agreement that who ever found a job in North-eastern Wisconsin would take it and the other would follow. Jackie was recruited to a Human Resource Director spot in

Marinette. It only took me 6 months to retire and join her. We found an old home (1890's) a block from the bay in Menominee, Michigan – so we became UP-ers. It was a grand house that only needed to have new plumbing, new wiring, insulation, siding and a roof. This would be the 6th house we have rehabbed (and we're still married).

While working on the house I became involved in the Conservation District, first as a board member and then as the executive director. Tree sales and tree planters (for reforestation), renting a no till drill to local farmers, and contending with invasive species was very rewarding.

During my 40 corporate “working” years I had the good fortune to travel to and sample

the beauty of all 50 states. Everywhere I went I was a tourist – except when visiting Door County where I felt like a guest.

Wanting to have a local base of operations, and always on the look out for a new challenge, we purchased a small cottage in Sturgeon Bay which only took three years to rebuild. While having an anniversary dinner at the English Inn, I mentioned that, with the cottage almost complete, I needed another “project”. Within six months we purchased the property on Gordon Road and put the cottage on the market. Can you tell we really enjoy planning, building, rebuilding, and landscaping.

While working on the Gordon Road property an opportunity opened up for Jackie in Green Bay which required that she be a Wisconsin resident (she was born and raised in Milwaukee and already had a cheese head hat). Naturally we changed our address and put the Menominee house on the market. A friend at church heard about this and now I'm on the Building and Grounds committee. Wanting to “belong” and contribute led to membership in the BSPOA. I checked a few boxes on the membership application which led to a phone call, a meeting, and a new opportunity. As they say...the rest is history.

STEERING COMMITTEE CHANGES

Once again, thank you, **Russ May**, for your leadership as chair for three years. (See President's corner.) We're happy you're an emeritus and hope to see you often.

Bob Graef, a founding BSPOA member, steadfast BSPOA supporter, treasurer, chair of the nominating committee and spring cleanup assistant, became an emeritus after fifteen years of service. Thank you, Bob, for your incredible service! We'll anticipate your ongoing input.

Though **Jack Van Lanen** resigned from the SC, we're grateful he'll continue to assist with invasive species eradication, the project he chaired. Under Jack's leadership, the association pledged and completed a 400 hour pledge over a two-year period, which enabled the Door County Land Trust to receive a \$15,000 grant for Invasive Species eradication at Bayshore Blufflands!

We give heartfelt thanks to Russ, Bob and Jack, as we rely on the commitment, time and skills of volunteers to make BSPOA successful.

A Changing Waterscape

GREEN BAY & STURGEON BAY

by Ron Fassbender, DNR Lakeshore Basin Supervisor, Retired

Editor's note: Many members have expressed an interest in learning about the fish in the bay of Green Bay, and we're happy there is a local expert to address this interest.

If you have not done so in a while, take a stroll along the shore of Green Bay or Sturgeon Bay. In your mind, compare what you see to what you may have observed five, ten or fifteen years ago. Things will be different.

Along the shore you may notice windrows of milfoil, pondweed and blue-green algae. There will be some zebra mussel shells and maybe fewer clamshells than you remember. Gone are the piles of dead rotting alewives. Gone too are the spring runs of smelt that supplied so many Friday fish fries.

Looking a little further out, you will notice that the water seems clearer than it once was. You may see flocks of cormorants, more ring-billed gulls and even a few white pelicans.

The differences you see are signs of an ever-changing waterscape. If you could peer underwater, you would see a changing fishery too. Some changes are good, others not so good.

Relatively new to the underwater world of Green Bay and Sturgeon Bay are the round goby, white perch, and river ruffe...invaders from far away seas. These are species that compete for living space and food of more desirable native species. They are also predators of native species at certain life stages. These species have a negative effect on population levels of our more desirable fish.

Yellow Perch, once the mainstay of both sport and commercial anglers in the Bay are still here but probably not in the numbers they used to be. Fifty a day bag limits are gone and commercial quotas greatly reduced. Perch numbers have always fluctuated, depending on annual spawning conditions and food supply fluctuations. But, the overall base population seems to be down. With clearer water, they are more susceptible to predators, both birds and

fish. White perch compete for food and habitat.

Trout and salmon are still here but their size is trending smaller. Probably because of too many fish compared to the food supply. They may have eaten themselves out of house and home. Since the population of trout and salmon is dependent entirely on stocking, the numbers of fish being stocked has been reduced in an effort to better balance fish numbers with food supply.

Small mouth bass are thriving. While the gobies eat bass eggs and small bass, the bass eat the gobies, which may be part of the reason for their thriving population. Other factors include clearer water (easier to see their prey) and special efforts to protect spawning and feeding areas by state and federal agencies. Because of the high population and trophy class size, the smallmouth supports one of the largest and most prestigious fishing tournaments in the country.

The walleye is another success story. Through stocking and protection of critical spawning habitat, a significant walleye fishery has been established in Sturgeon Bay and Green Bay. Catches of trophy size fish are not uncommon.

A real surprise in recent years has been ice fishing for whitefish. For many anglers, fishing for whitefish has largely replaced perch fishing in the winter. Seems until recently, few people knew whitefish could be caught or knew how to catch them. For the past few years at least, whitefish have supplied many fine meals on cold winter nights.

A developing fishery is the musky. Spotted Great Lakes Musky have been introduced into the bays with some of the earliest stocked fish reaching spawning age. These fish, once nearly gone from the bay, are a true native species, that with a little help will develop into a truly great world-class fishery. My best guess is that a world record fish may just come out of Green

Bay or even Sturgeon Bay. (Note: the success of this fish is so important that DNR has stocked them in three inland lakes to assure a steady supply of young fish for stocking.)

Lake Sturgeon, a native species once despised by commercial fishermen as a nuisance fish and killed in great numbers and blocked from their traditional spawning areas by dams, are slowly making a comeback. Young sturgeon have been stocked in area rivers, spawning areas have been located below dams, sport and commercial fishing has been restricted and continuing research has provided biologists with better insight into the life history of this magnificent fish. With this help, numbers are improving to the point that it is not uncommon to see sturgeon in the shallows of the Sturgeon Bay Flats or on underwater cameras used by anglers.

Next time you stroll down the beach, remember that things are changing, always have and always will. What will we see twenty years from now? Will more invasive species be here? Will the Asian carp further upset the balance of nature? Will regulations to protect habitat and limit in water development be weakened? There are a lot of factors affecting change...the only thing certain is that things will change, hopefully for the better.

In Memoriam

Robert Bessa

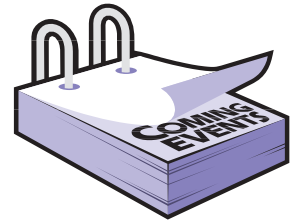
Marian Sislop

Ann Litten

Carolyn Lynch

M J Mow

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



- Feb 19 Sevastopol Historical Society presentation on logging, 1PM, Sevastopol Town Hall, Institute
- April 3 General Election
- April 10 Annual Town Board Meetings
Egg Harbor: 7:00 PM
Sevastopol: 6:30 PM
- May 12 BSPOA Bay Shore Drive Cleanup
(Those who volunteered or helped in past years will be contacted. Others wishing to assist, contact Mary Law at 920.743.2072.)
- May 12 Egg Harbor Town Open Book 3 to 5 PM
- May 18, 19 Door County Festival of Nature
- June 1 Sevastopol Open Book Session: 10:00 – 12:00.
- June 4 Egg Harbor Town Board of Review 6 to 8 PM
- June 18 Sevastopol Board of Review: 1:00 PM.
- July 21 Door County Sprint Triathlon
- July 22 Door County Half Iron Man
Both events staged from Murphy Park
- BSPOA Annual Meeting – DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED
- Oct 23 Door County Fall Fifty
- Nov 6 General Election
- Nov 19 Sevastopol Budget 2013 Public Hearing, 6PM (Egg Harbor: TBD)

*The white snow
Covers the sounds of growth
Lets the earth have dreams.*

— Bonnie Hartman, Miller Art Museum Director

BAY SHORE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

PURPOSE: The purpose of this association is to maintain the safe, natural and aesthetic character of the Bay Shore Drive area.

MISSION STATEMENT: The Bay Shore Property Owners Association is a voluntary, non-profit association. Its mission is to provide for discussion and action on issues that impact the residential character of the neighborhood and those that affect the character of Door County.

GOALS:

❁ To monitor proposals for development of recreational/commercial properties that relates to and affects residential character of the neighborhood.

❁ To keep members informed of development proposals and issues that impact the residential character of the neighborhood.

❁ To educate and motivate members and non-members to preserve and enhance the natural, visual and historic resources of the area.

❁ To encourage management of growth through effective town, city and county land use planning and zoning.

❁ To form an alliance with other existing property owner associations.

❁ To address other issues that affect Bay Shore Drive indirectly but affect the quality of life in Door County.

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