

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

LIGHT POLLUTION SHOULD BE CONTROLLED

By Terry Lappin

Bright lights belong in the big cities. In the late 1990's, there were several public opinion surveys asking what the residents liked about Door County and what they believed should be preserved. In every survey, the top wish was to maintain the rural character of Door County.

A dark night sky is one characteristic of a rural area. For example, I recall living near Chicago and the night sky there is a milky gray. Not long ago, the Door County night sky was dark, with billions of visible stars when it wasn't cloudy. Those stars are disappearing in parts of the county (along Bay Shore Drive approaching the city) due to light pollution.

The city of Sturgeon Bay is probably the best example of out of control, excess lighting. The use of a seemingly infinite number of acorn-shaped globes along the water contributes to a bright yellow "glare" above the city. Ephraim's street lighting seems to be going the same direction. Unshielded vapor streetlights add to the glow, while commercial lighting at some car lots and gas stations also contribute.

The glow is visible from quite a distance. For example, if you drive across the peninsula on Dunn Road, the bright glow above the small town of Sturgeon Bay makes it look like you are near Milwaukee or Chicago. There is a similar effect driving up from Green Bay. About the Brussels hill you can see Sturgeon Bay.

There are places where night lighting is desirable for safety reasons and I'm not whining about those lights. However, even those necessary lights can be modified to minimize stray light from exiting the area either upwards or sideways.

Light pollution is a nuisance that can be readily reduced with only a little thought. "Full cut off" fixtures shield the light source and deflect all of the emitted light downwards. These fixtures are available and actually reduce the electric power needed to illuminate what needs to be lit. They work. A good example is the lighting at the Little Sweden location. Check it out.

The issue is starting to get some local publicity. Recent articles in the Advocate have highlighted the increasing problem of excess, uncontrolled night lighting. There have been letters to the Advocate Editor, Advocate articles on the planned lighting increase in Ephraim, and an article in the Voice.

I believe we need to push for a stronger zoning ordinance in the county and somehow try to influence the city of Sturgeon Bay (and Ephraim) to revise their problem lights. Also, we should look at our own property and minimize light pollution. This is an issue I believe BSPOA has an interest in and one where we can contribute to keep Door County's rural character.

MAJESTIC LANDMARK – THE BAY SHORE INN

By Barbara Bunning

The majestic, historic Bay Shore Inn has welcomed guests through its doors since June 11, 1922 when the Hanson family barn was converted into 19 guestrooms and four bathrooms. Door County was fast becoming a very popular vacation destination and the Hansen family decided to enter the hospitality industry. Started by Duke Hanson's mother and father, the "Inn" was later owned and managed by Duke and his sister Elizabeth, along with Duke's wife Betty (when she was not teaching school).



As stated in an early brochure, "We Hansons settled here over 100 years ago and started cooking for summer 'boarders' before the turn of the century. As the years moved along, it was added to, updated, and changed to meet the changing needs and popularity of Door County. Early on there was a choice of buildings: the Main Lodge, Early American Home, Ranch Terrace and some family-type cottages." It was also a favorite eating spot for the quarry workers.

Everyone has delightful memories of the "Inn." *Helen Sheets*, having lived with her family in Sturgeon Bay and now as a next door neighbor to the Bay Shore Inn, recalls the beautiful flower gardens surrounding the buildings, particularly between the Inn and Bay Shore Drive. Elizabeth was an excellent cook and strong manager, being particular about excellence in preparing and serving high quality meals—"everything just right." Helen remembers that the cottages in 1951 were lit with candles and kerosene lanterns. Duke would meet guests with the lantern and conduct them inside and to their cottage. Duke and wife Betty were very hospitable and charmed everyone. It was a fun place to go.

A highlight mentioned by *Betty Parsons* was the beautiful flower garden surrounding the buildings. It was an important part of the overall beauty, warmth and hospitality felt by all who entered the Inn. Sunday dinners were special and many people from town drove out to join the Inn's guests for the sumptuous meals. The atmosphere was such that guests couldn't wait to return year after year.

Sisters Marilyn Lappin and Joanne Willms have fond memories walking from their grandparents' 4379 Bay Shore Drive home to the Inn in the 1940's to play with John and Mary Hanson, sometimes on the seesaw or the beach. They recall the delicious riced potatoes served in the dining room where hostess Betty graciously presided, and that generations of guests would come back year after year. Duke gladly captained his sailboat, *Matilda*, for guests, sailing up and down the bay shore for their enjoyment.

When *Anne Hauser* moved to Sturgeon Bay in 1957, Betty welcomed her immediately. Anne recalls the delicious Fish Boil dinners served on the shore every Friday evening.

Many local young people held summer jobs at the Bay Shore Inn, Anne's four children among them. They worked mainly at the Front Desk and in kitchen preparation and serving, although Dick Hauser made the strawberry jam sold at the Inn and was honored to captain the *Matilda* for guest rides over the water—a great summer job.

The boaters found Bay Shore Inn one of their favorite breakfast spots, recalls *Pat Kowall*. Boaters would gather at the Inn for their fabulous Sunday morning breakfast. They would sit on the glass-enclosed porch on the bay side with all its typical Door County country décor, enjoy the picturesque view, and feast on the spectacular pecan and cinnamon rolls.

Everyone seems to recall the delicious food, and the first recipe in the Favorites from Bay Shore Inn cookbook, Swedish Pancakes (with a hint of cinnamon), was often mentioned as a favorite. You can share in the tradition of the Bay Shore Inn dining room with:

Swedish Pancakes

4 eggs, beaten
1 ½ C flour
1 tsp. cinnamon
1 tsp. salt
2 T sugar
2 T melted butter
2 C milk

Sift dry ingredients. Add to beaten eggs. Add melted butter and milk. Serve with lingonberries or fresh strawberries and whipped cream. Makes 3-4 servings.

Operational duties were handed down through the generations of Hansons until being taken over by the Mathias family. The Bay Shore Inn itself has gone through many changes over the years, constantly modifying and upgrading to meet Door County's hospitality needs. The Inn was updated to a condominium structure and enhanced with modern amenities such as fitness center, game room, and modern suites. The project was very carefully planned and stayed true to the other building architecture while maintaining the natural outdoor look of Door County.

Bay Shore Inn has remained a beautiful neighbor for close to a century and we look forward to enjoying its view and using it for many years to come.

VOTE IN PERSON OR ABSENTEE, BUT VOTE

April 1 is the date to mark on your calendar for the spring election. Sevastopol Town Chairman, Leo Zipperer, is running unopposed. Incumbent Town Board Supervisors Don Haen and Tom Olson are challenged by Whitefish Bay resident Dan Woelfel, and incumbent Town Clerk Linda Wait is opposed by Gail Zahn.

Short Term: You can vote absentee in person at the Sevastopol Town Hall in Institute, usually three weeks prior to an election. The voting deadline is 5 PM the day prior to the election.

Long Term: Send a letter to the Sevastopol Town Hall requesting an absentee ballot. Specify in the letter the address for the ballot return. The Town Clerk will mail the ballot to you at the specified address. You should return your marked ballot by 5 PM the *day prior to the election*.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS – DID YOU FORGET?

If this newsletter is marked with a colorful dot, our records indicate that you have not yet submitted your membership dues of \$15 for 2002-2003. Your continued support is important to the organization and we appreciate your membership renewal.

Please send your check for NEW MEMBERSHIP or RENEWAL made out to **Bay Shore Property Owners Association** and mail to: Membership Chairman, 4227 Bay Shore Drive, Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235.

Thank you!

WATER QUALITY AFFECTS US ALL

Late summer was somewhat dimmed by 8 of 14 Door County beaches closing due to high counts of E. coli bacteria in the water and beach-related illnesses. The summer of 2002 marked the first time beach closures hit our many lakeshore parks. The county had previously done little monitoring, but the outbreak of more than 60 illnesses at Peninsula State Park in July jump-started a local program. Beaches on the Green Bay side of Door County were hit hardest last year.

There are many possible contaminants such as seagull droppings, boats pumping out holding tanks, and malfunctioning septic systems here on the peninsula. So far no positive sources have been named for the bacteria which is the result of human or animal waste entering the water, though 2003 testing can hopefully be used to track sources. Future testing will certainly be an asset for tourism, but for those living in the County and on the Bay, our daily water supply could be in potential jeopardy.

Many properties on the Peninsula rely on septic systems with drain fields or holding tanks. Holding tanks in theory contain the waste until it is pumped out, but tanks deteriorate over time and can leak. Drain fields rely on a filtering layer of soil to allow only clean material down through to lower layers of matter. The Door County rock base doesn't leave a very thick layer of soil in many places to do an adequate job of filtering. Older systems often allow large amounts of material to reach our fractured bedrock and make it possible to flow into the Bay and contaminate the aquifer.

The Door County Environmental Council is seeking federal grants related to water quality and possible causes of bacteria contamination on beaches. We all need to be on the lookout as spring and summer approach. Check your own well water quality and septic systems and encourage your neighbors to do the same. While a systematic check of septic systems is ongoing, speeding up this process will be necessary if our water quality is to remain high.

The state Department of Natural Resources (DNR) held a January meeting in Sturgeon Bay asking for the public's advice on a new state-wide beach-monitoring policy. We can help by learning as much as possible regarding this issue and the rocky geology of Door County. Information can help us to know how to help save the water quality for all Door County residents and tourists alike. This issue concerns wells, water quality, and beaches and is affected by failing septic systems, water drainage, excessive new construction, preservation of wetlands, and other factors. This will be a high priority issue to be dealt with during the coming years.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome our new members and encourage other neighbors to join in supporting BSPOA.

Agnes Michaels, 5861 Bay Shore Dr.
Ron & Jean Coy, 5484 Bay Shore Dr.
Thomas & Cheryl Crucius, 5847 Bay Shore Dr.
Cheryl Eastman, 6195 Bay Shore Dr.
Mr & Mrs. James Grano, 5893 Bay Shore Dr.
Jim & Judy Kraemer, 5845 Sunset
Anthony & Judith Liceta, 6745 Bay Shore Dr.
B. J. Lieffort, 5573 Bay Shore Dr.
Deborah Mancuso, 5828 Sunset Lane
James & Irene McInerney, 5793 Bay Shore Dr.
Doug & Judy Nelson, 6173 Bay Shore Dr.
Roger Nulton, 6171 Bay Shore Dr.
Dave & Nanci Resch,
Sharon Streb, 5321 Bay Shore Dr.
Lee & Lydia Wikkerink, 5569 Bay Shore Dr.

COMMUNITY ACCESS CABLE

By Jim Bunning

Early in 2002 when Charter Communications began to install a higher speed cable system in Door County, those of us along Bay Shore and Glidden Drives (outside the city limits), noticed that something was missing. Previously able to access local community information channels from Sturgeon Bay, we were no longer able to do so. BSPOA deemed this situation to be unacceptable.

Many residents called Charter to request that this service remain available to cable subscribers outside the city limits, but it soon became known that the service would need to be initiated by the town of Sevastopol, not Charter. Any new service to Sevastopol would be coordinated and agreed upon by both Sevastopol and the City of Sturgeon Bay.

At its October 21 meeting, by request of Laddie Chapman, the Sevastopol Board of Supervisors voted to create a Cable Committee to explore the Town's Public/Education/Government (PEG) TV channel options. Sevastopol could either accept one channel from Sturgeon Bay to replace the one Charter reserved for us, or start its own PEG channel.

The committee, comprised of six Sevastopol residents, has held three meetings. The committee goal is to outline and implement a plan for a Sevastopol community access PEG Cable TV Channel. At the first meeting, the above two

options were presented and discussed, and it was determined that starting its own PEG channel was preferred as a plan of action. This option would be accomplished in conjunction with the Sevastopol High School, thereby benefiting students who could be involved with the project. Cable receipt capability exists now and plans are in place to provide to transmit as well.

All implemental and operational costs would be funded by cable subscribers, not taxpayers. Much of the programming content would originate in Sturgeon Bay. Both City and County meetings are currently taped, so special provision will be made to handle government and other recordings from Sturgeon Bay for presentation on a timely basis.

Charter Communications technical people met with the committee at its second meeting to answer questions and explain cost and time implementation issues. The Committee has drafted a recommended plan for presentation to the Town Board at their January 20th meeting; the draft document is available on the Internet at www.doorbell.net/ts/peg_rec.pdf.

BSPOA is represented on the Community Access Cable Committee by Sheila Turner and Jim Bunning. Other Committee members are Tom Girman (Chair), Laddie Chapman, Joe McMahon, and Jo Ann Schley.



Laying cable in Door County.

GET INVOLVED IN TOWN GOVERNMENT

THE TREES YOU SAVE MIGHT BE YOUR OWN

By Deborah Mancuso

What's happening to some of our beautiful dead end lanes and quaint roads in Door County? Since July 2002, a coalition of residents have been opposing the widening of the White Cedar and Sunset Lane two lane roads, both located between Carlsville Road and Monument Point Road off Bay Shore Drive.

Both are little used lanes, one black top surfaced and the other gravel. Sunset Lane has two full time residents and neither road has a lot of traffic. In December the Town clear cut many p i n e s , dredged a deeper and

wider ditch, added a 50' culvert, dredged from high water mark to the bay and now plan to blacktop and widen White Cedar in 2003. The plan is to re-center the lane, take out 8-10 feet of cedar, pine, and birch trees of nearly one foot in diameter and 40 feet tall to make an 18-20 foot wide road with 2 feet of shoulder on each side.

One of the stated purposes of Door County zoning ordinances is "to protect the beauty of the landscape and to preserve and enhance the county's rural characteristics." There are many factors involved in all this action, but it may be the projects are a waste of taxpayer money and

do not "preserve and enhance the county's rural characteristics."

It seems that existing width of these lanes are adequate to accommodate emergency vehicles, snow plows, and fire equipment with already easy access to the bay. Less than two

miles to the north is Murphy Park and Olde Stone Quarry is less than three miles south as public access and parking areas. Perhaps these dead end roads should be candidates for the Town of Egg Harbor to request an exception to the standards of Wisconsin



Before many trees and bushes were taken out

Administrative Code. Road improvement is always an important service, but excessive road improvement is a taxpayers' waste.

This same issue has appeared in Sevastopol (Apple Lane, a dead end road leading to a farmer's field) and in Liberty Grove (Crescent lane enlarged from 12 foot to 21 foot in width) and possible elsewhere in the County.

How can we help? We can call or write the Town of Egg Harbor Board members (or the Board involved in the location) and let them know how you feel, perhaps asking for a variance for little used roads from the state road standards. Your support is welcome.

ODDS AND ENDS

Plan for the annual meeting

The next Annual Meeting to be held on a Saturday in early September is tentatively scheduled to take place at the Horseshoe Bay Farms Clubhouse. You'll hear more about it in the summer.

Bald Eagle Sightings

Be on the lookout for those majestic bald eagles. They have been spotted along the bay shore during the Summer and Fall. It's another advantage to living in our beautiful County.

Trash Pickup

Bottles, cans, boxes, newspapers, fast food papers and cups, tissues, cigarette cartons, machine parts—You name it, we found it in our last trash pick up. Help the cause by picking up along beautiful Bay Shore Drive as you are out for a walk, walking to the mailbox, or moving with intent to pick up stuff. Springtime is a great time for good pickup before the growing season begins. Think of all the calories we can burn.

Town Smart Growth Committee

The Sevastopol Town Board at the November meeting discussed the Smart Growth issue that demands that by 2010 each county must have a land use plan in place or lose state aid. It was decided at the January 13 meeting to establish a committee to discuss the topic and appropriate action. We're very happy that the Board has chosen to address this issue.

Sevastopol Town Board Meetings

Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall (modular building behind Sevastopol High School). January 20, February 17, March 17, April 21, May 19, June 16, and July 21.

INVASIVE SPECIES? THEY'RE HERE!

By Jim Bunning

The parties coming together for a second meeting for the Door County Invasive Species Project on November 5th recognized that the impact of alien invasive species is the highest priority of concern. Concern is for the future quality of ecological and economic health of Door County's natural resources. The danger of these plant species is that they will spread, overtake, and crowd out vegetation species that are native to the area.

As Roy Lukes stated in his April 21, 2002 Green Bay Press-Gazette column, "Learn more about the troublesome exotic plants and find out what you can do to help win the battle. This is a very serious problem that requires immediate attention." Really aggressive non-native plants virtually can carpet woodlands, forest preserves and parks, and in the process can choke out many of the once-beautiful woodlands in a short amount of years.

Garlic mustard, purple loosestrife, common buckthorn, glossy buckthorn, giant reed grass, and reed canary grass will be monitored in locations ranging from state, county, and city parks, public and private lands and along highways. The project will attempt to document treatment methods for each species.

Important phases of this project will be Early Detection (reporting and eradicating new plant populations), Education and Community Outreach, Financial Solutions (regional weed control programs, public relation programs), and Geographic Solutions. One goal of the Geographic Solutions is to create a central geodatabase warehouse to store information.

The Door County Soil and Conservation Department selected Earth Tech of Milwaukee to be the project manager. DNR park rangers, Door County Land Trust and The Nature Conservancy will be active participants to work with Earth Tech to implement this project.



Garlic Mustard

BAY SHORE DRIVE NEIGHBORHOOD COMES THROUGH FOR “GREAT ADDITION” CAMPAIGN

By Dan Burke, Executive Director and Terrie Cooper, Associate Director

The Door County Land Trust received generous support from the Bay Shore Drive neighborhood in raising the funds needed to add another 100 acres to its *Bay Shore Blufflands Preserve*. This brings the total acreage protected in the *Preserve* by the Door County Land Trust to 360.

“The Land Trust faced end of the year deadlines to come up with the funding needed to purchase these highly scenic and ecologically important properties,” explains Dan Burke, Land Trust Executive Director. “Our fundraising campaign depended on the support of the Bay Shore Drive neighborhood and I am happy to report that the neighborhood enthusiastically responded.”

As of December 19, 2002, over \$27,000 in private donations had been received. This included contributions from nearly 50 people who were making their first donation to the Land Trust and dozens of contributions from individuals who were making their second and even third gift to the *Blufflands Preserve*. In addition to the generous neighborhood support, the Land Trust received a \$14,000 grant from the Door County Green Fund and a commitment from the State Stewardship Fund for \$105,000 to be used for the *Bay Shore Blufflands* “Great Addition” campaign.

The *Bay Shore Blufflands Preserve* encompasses protected lands along both sides of Bay Shore Drive between Sturgeon Bay and Egg Harbor. Since 1995, the Land Trust has used a combination of conservation easement agreements with private landowners, land donations, and land purchases to protect this important area.

The land along this stretch of Bay Shore Drive has always been known by residents and

visitors alike as a very special place. Our Drive is one of the most scenic roads in all of Door County and the forest, lakeshore, bluffs, and wetlands that embrace this beautiful roadway also provide critical wildlife habitat.

The ecological importance of this area was brought to the Land Trust’s attention in 1995 when two significant discoveries were made. The first discovery by Mary Standish was a population of the state threatened Ram’s head Lady-slipper orchid nestled among the County red pine forests. Prior to this discovery, the Ram’s-head orchids were found only in the Ridges Sanctuary and a few isolated places in the northern Great Lakes States.

The second exciting discovery the same year by UW-Green Bay Professor Jeff Nikola was that the Niagara Escarpment bluffs in the *Bay Shore Blufflands* area were supporting endangered land snails thought to be extinct and are now known to be relics dating back to the last Ice Age. These snails are found only in the immediate vicinity of the escarpment and require the cool wooded bluff for survival.

In 2000, the establishment of the *Bay Shore Blufflands Preserve* took a huge step forward when Door County Land Trust purchased the 179-acre former Hutter estate for \$1.2 million thanks entirely to the generous support of private individuals and a grant from the State of Wisconsin Stewardship Fund. Now, with the successful completion of the “Great Addition” campaign near, another 100 acres is added to the *Blufflands Preserve*.

More information: Contact the Door County Land Trust at (920) 839-9990, P.O. Box 345, Ephraim, WI 54211 or tcooper@dcwis.com.

BSPOA - 2002 - 2003 OFFICERS AND STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The following members were elected to terms of leadership in BSPOA for the 2002-2003 association year running from September 2002 through the September 2003 annual meeting. Please address questions and comments for our association on e-mail to BSPOA@aol.com or by phone to steering committee members listed below. (Area codes are 920, addresses are Sturgeon Bay unless otherwise indicated.) **We value your input.**

Chairman

Terry Lappin 4379 Bay Shore Dr. 743-9517

Vice Chairman

Shirley Pickering 5633 Bay Shore Dr. 743-0060

Secretary

Mike Standish* 5979 Bay Shore Dr 743-3993

Treasurer

Bob Graef 5451 Bay Shore Dr. 743-8455

One Year Term

Jim Bunning 4227 Bay Shore Dr. 746-4025

Marlyce Jirovetz 4880 Bay Shore Dr. 743-4251

Betty Parsons 4147 Bay Shore Dr. 743-2303

Two Year Term

Mary Law 5551 Bay Shore Dr. 743-2072

Bryan Troutman 2800 Blackhawk Rd.,
Wilmette, IL 847-256-6146

5787 Bay Shore Dr. 743-9088

Sheila Turner 4369 Bay Shore Dr. 743-9366

Three Year Term

Corky McWeay 5413 Bay Shore Dr. 743-3481

Deborah Mancuso* 5828 Sunset Lane 743-5582

Barbara Bunning 4227 Bay Shore Dr. 746-4025

Emeritus Members

Bill Parsons 4147 Bay Shore Dr. 743-2303

Cathe & Bob Tilden 4169 Bay Shore Dr. 743-6442

**New to Steering Committee*



Can't always be in Door County?

Connect to **www.doorbell.net** and get your fix. A weather observation and recent shoreline picture is available daily!

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.

Bay Shore Property Owners Newsletter, Winter 2003 issue

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Bay Shore
PROPERTY OWNERS
ASSOCIATION
4227 BAYSHORE DR., STURGEON BAY, WI 54235

**WINTER 2003
NEWSLETTER**