

## MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

*By Terry Lappin*

Isn't it great having green again along Bay Shore Drive? The changeover from winter to spring is sudden and always late. It certainly is pleasant to once again drive down our road and be enclosed in the greenery.

Thanks to all who came out to help pick up trash along the road May 17. As you know, the last two years BSPOA members have assisted the Windemere homeowners in cleaning the roadsides. The weather was good and there is a feeling of accomplishment, however small, when the roadsides are clean. By working together, the job was easy.

Working together will be the theme of the "Smart Growth" effort that soon will be started within Sevastopol. Smart Growth is a state

mandated land use and community development planning effort. Each town, village, city and county must have a plan in place by 2010 to have a legal basis of land use decision.

As this is written, the exact approach that Sevastopol and the county will follow is being discussed, but I believe that all approaches will include the development of a plan by Sevastopol. Your participation in the planning process, either by attending any fact gathering meetings, serving on the various planning committees, or just letting your town Supervisor know your ideas is encouraged. If you have interest, I suggest you contact Leo Zipperer and indicate how you might like to be involved. He may have a spot for you.

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### TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME

You won't to miss the next BSPOA Annual Meeting!! The Steering Committee has planned an exciting day at the beautiful Horseshoe Bay Farms Clubhouse on Saturday, September 13. Featured speaker will be member Bob Harlan, CEO and President of the Green Bay Packers. Festivities begin at 11:00 a.m. with socializing followed by a business meeting. After a "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" lunch, Mr. Harlan will share his "life with the Packers."

**Mark your calendars for BSPOA for lunch on Saturday, September 13.** You will receive complete information for reservations in August. We hope you'll join us.

### SPEED LIMITS ON BAY SHORE DRIVE

The June meeting agenda of the Sevastopol Board of Supervisors included the potential increase of speed limits along parts of Bay Shore Drive from Little Harbor to County BB. Four members of our Steering Committee were present and spoke for maintaining the 35 mph limit on the above road, mainly for safety considerations of residents and walkers/hikers. Our formal letter to the Board offered suggestions for alternative changes such as adding additional passing stretches. The Supervisors elected to keep the current Bay Shore Drive speed limits and ask the Highway Department if additional passing zones would be possible.

## FROM QUARRY DOCK TO GARDEN AND HOME

*By Janet Duebner and Barbara Bunning*

As I drove down the slightly winding road of 4685 Bay Shore Drive, I was looking down upon a beautiful garden. The raised section was up to ten feet in height as the drive down continued! What was that?

It's all about "hollow pits (stone quarries) and sunken ships." Graef and Nebel were removing limestone from the quarry behind the present Schartner's restaurant. They purchased the Cleveland and J.S. Williams on purpose in 1902 to extend the company's dock. It disposed of old wrecks and was said to be cheaper than sinking cribs. The quarry operation was continued under the name Sturgeon Bay Stone Co. from 1902 to 1922. The Dan Hayes, a scow schooner, was used as a barge to haul stone to ports like Menominee, MI until she was abandoned just off the dock of the property.

The property was originally owned by the Lauries, and in 1889 it was sold to Leathem and Smith for \$500. In 1956 it was purchased by



Janet Daubner's parents, Hub and Renata Nelesen, and Aunt Clara Nelesen. Clara took painting lessons from Gerhard Miller and was looking for a place in Door County. This was it.

The Nelesen family first camped in Peninsula State Park. When the Bay Shore Drive property was purchased, there were always projects to do: pulling grapevines out of the trees, building walks and walls with stone, planting trees and making gardens. They would work in the morning, stop for lunch, and enjoy the pristine sand beach along the bay in the afternoon. The sand beach developed over the past 100 years because of the stone pier on the left. On the other side of the pier is a lagoon, perfect for small boats.

Getting back to the driveway, the raised area leading out to the bay waters was the old railroad bed leading from the quarry. There was a turnaround at the water's edge where the pulley system track and empty carts



Quarry road to pier

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## SETTLED IN LITTLE HARBOR

*As told by Ken and Ivy Nelson to Barb Bunning*

Ken Nelson's grandpa, Hans Nelson, along with his brother, Andrew, landed in 1888 in Little Harbor. Together with Elmer Paulson, Carl Ellison and Joe Elliot, he purchased property stretching from Town Line Road south to Little Harbor. Hans first tried farming, but the new farmer soon learned about the rocky base of Door County.

The family had all been fisherman, and Andrew continued fishing. He dug a canal/slip by hand (with the help of horses) on the point so they could bring pond net boats to fishing houses on shore. Piles of round rocks from that effort remain.

Ken's mother went to school at District School #8 at the end of Whitefish Bay Road.

The family bought groceries in Graceport, just south of what is now Bayshore Blufflands Preserve. At the time there was a big dock where lumber was shipped out. Ken's mother rode her bike to Graceport to get ice cream, as there was a little store for local and ship supplies.

Ken went to Sevastopol School way across the peninsula. The winter brought a horse drawn, closed in sleigh with heater included. Since Nelsons were at the end of the line, the driver kept the horses in the Nelson barn and lived with them for dinner and the night. In the dark morning, Ken climbed into the sleigh outside the door and the return trip was made.

Hans cleared the top of the hill land and put in a two acre cherry orchard, one of the earliest in the county. The upper part was farmed until 1942. In the late 40's on this land, they would pick 35-40 pails of cherries from just one tree. When Ivy (Jorns) was working in Green Bay, she



Nelson's garden

used to take her two weeks of "vacation" for a trip to Little Harbor to pick cherries.

Ken's folks moved from the Whitefish Bay side of the peninsula to this land in 1929. When in high school, a mentor suggested that Ken buy the land on which the Bayshore Blufflands Preserve now stands. A landowner at the young age of 17, Ken was hooked on the land.

When he and Ivy began to clear land in 1948 for a cottage in Little Harbor, Ivy was rewarded with a big case of poison ivy. A manual scoop hooked onto a tractor served as equipment to dig the basement. Everything was difficult, as there was no electricity or phone at the time. After a few years of not having the time to build the house, their basement hole caved in. The next time, the foundation was poured with cement. Then building actually began in 1960.

Ken and Ivy lived in Green Bay, but came up on weekends to work. As Ivy says, "Each trip we

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## Little Harbor

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brought plants, planting them here—planting them there.” Ivy’s brother found a spot up above with three foot deep soil, a real wonder for around here. They kept clearing and cleaning out everything, planting as they went, walking up the hill carrying everything step by step. Personally laid rock steps helped in climbing the hill. It wasn’t until 10 years ago that a road was put in to get to higher levels.

Early on Ivy would be up on the hill working, when suddenly appearing strangers would scare her silly. They would come to look at the horticultural garden—but would leave after filling their kettles and pans with vegetables, cherries and plants to take home. (They weren’t for sale.) This behavior resulted in a protection fence being built around the property. Natural inhabitants spotted have been coyote, skunk, turkey, fox, deer, and woodchucks.

Now as a visitor looks at the various levels of land leading from the water to up high on top, one sees plants for sale, plants in beautiful gardens, vegetable gardens, waterfalls, ponds, stone steps, many levels. Ivy’s artistic idea was to “leave it all natural and then plant flowers in among it.” It is a study in beautiful natural landscaping, and people come from near and far to enjoy the results of their labor.

Their botanical interest extends to the Green Bay Botanical Gardens. Ken was a member of the group that originally located land for the gardens. Both Nelsons volunteer at the Green Bay Botanical Garden Fair each year and some



proceeds from their plant sales are donated to the gardens, having purchased a children’s slide and a bench. Proceeds also are donated to their church and the Humane Society. Thank you to Ken and Ivy for giving back to the community through your plant sales and providing a beautiful landscape for many to enjoy.

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## Quarry Drive

*(continued from page 2)*

could head back up to the quarry for refilling. Moving from barren ground early in the century, the property is now covered with lovely natural gardens. Rock gardens, rock walks and walls, and a wide variety of trees, flowers, and plants surround the home and artistically meander from the water’s edge to Bay Shore Drive.

Duebners had a vision, an artistic eye and the insight of history buffs. A large shade garden framed by cedars contains many plantings and over 60 varieties of Hosta interspersed among the spaces. Beautifully positioned, the sun rock garden is closer to the water on the “pile of rocks” road from 100 years ago. Steps climbing along the rock garden from bay to railroad turnaround level add a charming touch, and the higher level holds the log cabin of Janet’s sister, Shirley Honald.

Nestled among the gardens is Duebner’s home. Wood on the outside of the original 1961 small cottage and the inside paneling was fashioned of 100-year-old cypress from the Manitowoc train station water tower. The Duebners have been avid recyclers through the years with materials, plants and trees. Around the vegetable garden stands a fence recycled from leftover old wood.

Remodeled in 1996, the home now provides a broader view of the bay and the lighthouse is in full view. The cottage was doubled in size and modernized to transform it from summer place to full-time home. Gardens were landscaped to require less maintenance, and original sidewalk sections were recycled into steps and rock walls for the garden.

A perfect Door County story—love of nature, recycling materials, beautiful gardens, all with an interesting history and story to be told.

## LARGE DOCK PERMIT IN PLANNING

A 210-slip private marina at Horseshoe Bay Farms and Golf Club just north of Frank Murphy Park in Egg Harbor is being proposed. The marina would be built as a network of floating docks similar to the Harbor Club in Sturgeon Bay, with a solid C-shape rubble breakwater wall to protect the marina. The BSPOA Steering Committee is monitoring the potential project as it progresses, as it has taken the position favoring public marinas over new private boat facilities.

## WEBSITES! WE'VE GOT WEBSITES!

Search on the following websites if you are looking for Door County information.

**Doorcountyvacations.com** – Door County Chamber of Commerce site

General Door County information, calendar of events.

**www.wisconsin.gov/county/door/html** – Official Door County governmental site, links to web maps, road conditions, Town of Egg Harbor officials.

**sturgeonbaywi.org** – City of Sturgeon Bay site – Governmental sites, summary of city information.

**sturgeonbay.net** – Sturgeon Bay Community Development Corporation Site offers links to related sites

**sturgeonbay.net/calevnt** – Calendar of events with details.

**townofsevastopol.com** – Official site of Town of Sevastopol – Town government info, budget, meetings, agendas. Picture on welcome page changes each time of contact. Managed by town clerk-treasurer, Linda Wait.

**doorbell.net** – Webcams of Lake Michigan and other sites, links to other Door County sites, temperatures, Nature-Wise by Roy Lukes, neighborhood association newsletters including BSPOA; managed by Laddie Chapman.

**doorcounty-wi.com** – Ricknet in Egg Harbor. Links to many Door County sites.

## FIGHT AGAINST INVASIVE SPECIES CONTINUES

Over nine months ago, The Door County Invasive Species Team hired Earth Tech to assist in creating an early detection and rapid response system to combat invasive species.

Another meeting was held May 12 on Washington Island. It included a training session for private and public landowners, students, gardening or landscape enthusiasts, property managers, educators, and maintenance workers.

The project website ([clean-water.uwex.edu/lakeshore/dcist/](http://clean-water.uwex.edu/lakeshore/dcist/)) includes educational information, general information and species reporting forms.

## TRASH ALL GONE (FOR A DAY)!

You've never seen more enthusiastic folks preparing to collect trash from Bay Shore Drive roadside and ditches! Armed with gloves, boots, plastic bags, sticks with imbedded nails for back-saving paper pickup, pickup trucks and fashionable bright orange vests, volunteers from Windemere and BSPOA took off for various road sections between Little Harbor and County BB/Gordon Road. Once again the biggest haul was in cigarette packaging, beverage bottles/cans, papers, and fast food throwaways, but surprises were also along the way.

A BIG THANKS to residents of Windemere and BSPOA for volunteering part of a Saturday morning to help keep our road looking beautiful! A day or two later there were already signs of new trash, but this spring effort leads the way for residents to continue pickup throughout the year. It's a little like washing the dishes and cleaning house — never ending chores, but many people appreciate the trash-free landscape.

## THE BEACHES OF DOOR COUNTY

**Old News:** Last summer Door County was forced to close area beaches because E. coli bacteria levels exceeded the standards set by the Environmental Protection Agency for safe swimming.

**New News:** As of this writing, there have already been beach closings due to E. coli contamination this year. However, work is being done for constant monitoring. In phase one of the testing project, four student scientists from University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh are busy with regular water testing at public beaches. The Door County Soil and Water Department has applied for a \$82,000 grant from the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program to investigate the sources of beach water contamination. Of course, finding the source is the real crux in finding a solution to the situation. If the money is granted, it would provide a phase two.

The challenge in tracking down contamination sources is that each beach is different. In order to remedy each problem area, science research first must prove where the problem lies. It's like a huge puzzle, fitting together one piece at a time. We're glad the testers are at work for the first phase of the puzzle.

### WANTED!

Contributors and writers wanted – do you have a tale to tell, a history to relate, pictures of bygone days? Help us out and contact Barbara Bunning at 746-4025. There's no time to lose!



## DOOR COUNTY SMART GROWTH

Terry Lappin mentions in his message that Sevastopol Smart Growth planning is in the beginning stages. Door County officials invited all 20 peninsula municipalities to a public meeting on June 11. The purpose of the meeting was to provide information about a countywide planning effort for the state Smart Growth initiative. The initiative requires that each town and County develop a new comprehensive plan by 2010.

New resorts and home developments continue to surface in the County, and Smart Growth is designed to manage new development and plan for it. The County suggests hiring a consultant for the process and would like commitment for participation from towns by August to get the ball rolling. At this writing, Egg Harbor and Gardner have declined to join the county's planning and zoning process.

## CHANNEL 19: HURRAY!

If you are hooked up to Charter Cable, check out Channel 19. The new community access cable is up and running, thanks to the great efforts of the Sevastopol Board of Supervisors, Sevastopol High School, and the special Cable Committee appointed by the Town Board. The Channel is in the formative stages yet, but you will find taped Door County Board meetings. The project is progressing and you can watch for other offerings in the future.

We are the only town or village in Door County outside of Sturgeon Bay to have such a resource in operation. If you have any ideas for public service announcements or video events that you would like to see, or comments pro or con in this matter, contact Committee Chairman Tom Girman at 746-0318 or email [tgirman@charter.net](mailto:tgirman@charter.net).

### Can't always be in Door County?

Connect to [www.doorbell.net](http://www.doorbell.net) and get your fix. A weather observation and recent shoreline picture is available daily!

## BAY SHORE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

Below is a list of the **2002-2003 BSPOA** members. Please feel free to share this newsletter with a friend who might also be interested in membership. **If you are interested in being more involved in BSPOA**, please contact Terry Lappin at 920-746-9517. Thank you for your support.

Harold & Nancy Alvin  
Michael Ames  
Robert & Mary Lou Becker  
Charles & Leanne Bither  
Jon & Christianna Blahnik  
Homer Bliss  
Dan & Peg Bresnahan  
Rich & Jane Bruesch  
Jerry & Nancy Buhl  
David & Denise Bunning  
Jim & Barbara Bunning  
Chris & Katie Callen  
Jeff & Mary Campbell  
Ronald & Dorothy Carlson  
Samuel & Vicky Carmen  
Chuck & Joyce Chouinard  
Robert & Karen Ciesar  
John & Helen Collins  
James & Lee Conlin  
Ron & Jean Coy  
Thoms & Cheryl Crucius  
Willard & Annette Dhein  
James & Georgia Dower  
Blaine & Peggy Dreutzer  
Dennis & Janet Duebner  
Thomas & Cheryl Eastman  
Margaret Evans  
Mr. And Mrs. Robert Fieweger  
Ron & Jean Flansburg  
Richard & Joan Follmer  
Jeanne Gabert  
Betty Garbers  
Robert & Phyllis Geyer  
Angela V. Gilson  
Bob & Ann Goldsmith  
Mark & Cindy Goldsmith  
Bob & Maude Graef  
Mr. & Mrs. James Grano  
Burnett & Ann Halstead

Fay Ann Hannon  
Alexander Hansen  
Robert & Madeline Harlan  
Nancy & Richard Helland  
Doug & Barbara Henderson  
Gerrold Higgins  
Kenneth & Jean Hill  
Shirley M. Honold  
Robert & Virginia Hoover  
Gary & Susan Immel  
Andre & Marlyce Jirovetz  
Darlene Kabat & Dan  
McHugh  
Terry & Marilyn Lappin  
Richard & Alberta LaReno  
John & Mary Law  
Anthony & Judith Licata  
B.J. Lieffort  
Daniel & Mary Ann Lindner  
Mr. & Mrs. David Litten  
Tim Maatman & Phyllis  
Schippers  
Mdarion Maccaux  
Deborah Mancuso  
Henry Martens  
Tom & Peg Mason  
Jim & Carol McCausland  
James & Irene McNerney  
Bill & Corrine McWey  
Jackie Meister  
Geerhard Miller  
Alan & Christine Moon  
Mark Muhr  
Jerry & Audrey Murray  
Gene & Beatrice Musolf  
Maury & Linda Mussa  
James & Joan Nellen  
Doug & Judy Nelson  
Roger Nulton

Patricia Olson  
Bill & Betty Parsons  
Ralph & Patricia Peterson  
John & Sandra Pezzetta  
Shirley Pickering  
John & Susan Powers  
Gordon & Susan Putz  
Pat Reinwald  
Katy Richards  
Rich & Jackie Ritchie  
Kate F. Rivers  
Maude Ricinski  
James & Barbara Schaefer  
Kevin Schield  
Judith Schmelzer & Jerry  
Burchard  
Paul & Helen Schmidt  
Bud & Beverly Schopf  
Lawrence Sharron  
Helen Sheets  
Hap & Jinx Smith  
Michael & Mary Standish  
Michael & Jan Stephen  
Gregory & Sharon Streb  
Robert & Eileen Templin  
John & Darlene Thenell  
Bob & Cathy Tilden  
Tad & Cathy Tomita  
Bryan & Diane Troutman  
Scotty & Sheila Turner  
Michael & Paula Virlee  
Robert & Mary Warth  
James & Regina Webb  
Lee & Lydia Wikkerink  
Evelyn Wilke  
Louis Williams  
Ken Wochos  
Dave & Marcy Zini  
Marjorie Zoerb  
Marilyn Zuehlke

## 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**, Summer 2003 issue

Published on an occasional basis by **Bay Shore Property Owners Association**,  
4227 Bay Shore Drive, Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235

**Editor:** Barbara Bunning

**Contributors:** Terry Lappin, Janet Duebner, Jim & Barbara Bunning

**Electronic page composition, computer expertise:** Laddie Chapman

**Printing:** Mark Goldsmith & Bob Goldsmith, Gateway Business Systems, Inc.

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

**SUMMER 2003  
NEWSLETTER**