



# Spring 2016 Newsletter

PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

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

---

## PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS

*By Dan Mathein*

BSPOA has accomplished a great deal in the past 20 years of effort along the Bay of Green Bay. It is rewarding to work with such a large group of concerned citizens.

Just in the past year we have been active in numerous areas, including ongoing multi-year test sampling of bay water for E.coli and phosphorus in conjunction with the UW Oshkosh water lab. Many of our members also participated in the well water testing opportunity (there is a very impressive display of the results for the entire county in the lower level of Crossroads at Big Creek).

The survey of Internet accessibility was well received by the providers and we hope it will assist in improving service. Our group was represented in discussions of a zoning change that would impact the cost of installing new broad band towers.

We were active in contacting our state senators and representatives regarding the change in shoreline zoning. Some members were pro, and some con on the issue. Your board was neutral. We recognize the importance of protecting the environment while respecting property rights. Our concern was with the fact the

state wide zoning change was included in a budget bill without opportunity for public comment.

Member volunteers continue to support the race events such as Fall 50, Half Iron Man, and Triathlon (of course they do get a nifty "T" shirt). Long before these events take place our spring cleanup crew does a fantastic job of sprucing up the neighborhood. Ever wonder how many tons of trash these great people have picked up over the past 20 years?

The invasive species control grant program, which started in 2013, continues to benefit members. This program has been expanded to now include several new problem plants.

This past year we also expanded our communications ability by sending out monthly "mini-news" letters via the Internet. Our goal has been to inform without filling up your inbox.

Now, what did I miss? Grant program, Propane, Annual Meeting, Emerald Ash, Election Year, Membership. I guess there are still plenty of "to dos" and for BSPOA, INC., we will continue to think globally while acting locally on your behalf.

## 2015 ANNUAL MEETING OF BSPOA, INC.

*By Deborah Mancuso*

The 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Bay Shore Property Owners Association, Inc. was held on September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at the beautiful Horseshoe Bay Golf Club in Door County. Our featured speaker, Richard Purinton, regaled an audience of 115 with his presentation "Washington Island Ferries: 75 Years of History." Attendees enjoyed a wonderful slide show detailing the ferry's fascinating past and present history, all interlaced with interesting facts and comedic stories. Richard is the CEO of the Washington Island Ferry Line, as well as a ferry captain, author and publisher of four books.

BSPOA's annual business meeting was then conducted by President Dan Mathein, followed by a delicious luncheon, and concluded with a door prize drawing for two of Richard's books.

Very special thanks go to Richard Purinton, the Horseshoe Bay Golf Club and their wonderful staff, chef, and event coordinators. BSPOA sincerely appreciates the hard work of the volunteers and all those who contributed in some way to help make this annual meeting a success!

Watch for details and a special mailing this summer regarding 2016's Annual Meeting to be held this fall. We hope to see you there!

## MEMBERSHIP

As of the writing of this newsletter, BSPOA has a total of 343 active memberships. That number was broken down by our membership chairperson and we thought you would like to know.

Egg Harbor Town membership stands at 181 while Sevastopol is currently at 159. Members with only a local address is 122 while 221 have a second address. Those who vote here in Door County appears to be 161.

Our membership area extends from Bluebird Lane on the edge of Sturgeon Bay along Bay Shore Drive up to the southern edge of the Village of Egg Harbor. We go inland from the Bay of Green Bay for about one mile. We have had application for membership from people outside of this area. We welcomed their interest, but felt it was important to focus our energies, and membership, within the specific area along the bay.

## In Memoriam

Dick Weisman..... May 8, 2015

W. Jean Fulkerson..... May 2015

Tom Manthey                      November 1, 2015

*(Facilitated BSPOA Green Bay Water testing)*

Davis Turner (Scotty) December 12, 2015

## ROUND AND ROUND WE GO

Everyone by now has probably heard about the closing of 42/57 from the big bridge north to County BB. Included in the WISDOT construction project will be bridge maintenance, road reconstruction and the addition of two rotary intersections. One will be at Michigan Street and the second at Egg Harbor Road.

If you chose to call them rotaries, roundabouts, or (expletive deleted), the new additions to Door County will provide an opportunity for many drivers to learn new driving skills. According to WISDOT, the key is to slow down, keep moving, and yield to traffic approaching from the left.

During the construction period all traffic will have a chance to detour through down town Sturgeon Bay. Patience and courtesy will help us all during the projected March to July construction schedule.

## DOOR COUNTY HOUSING SHORTAGE

Everyone needs a place to call home. There are many “cavity dwellers” who could use a bit of help. The wrens, chickadees and nut hatches all raise their families in cavities (some people call these boxes or bird houses). If you want to help them out, you could hang up a box this spring. These three species of songbirds will use a cavity (house) that is about four and one half inches square inside and five or six inches high with an entrance hole that is one inch in diameter. The best spot to hang your “guest house” is five or six feet high—nail it on the potting shed wall or hang it in a tree—whatever spot you choose. These little critters are not fussy—they just want a roof over the kid’s heads.

## SPRING CLEANUP

*By Jim and Mary Fravert*

This year’s spring cleanup along Bay Shore Drive is scheduled for Saturday May 7th. We always do this community service project early so that our volunteers can get the job done before the poison ivy starts to grow. Jim & Mary have spread the volunteers out so that no one has too long a length of roadway to contend with. If you are driving along on that day, and see people wearing orange safety vests, feel free to give them a thumbs up or roll down your window and say thank you.

The group usually gathers for lunch at Birmingham’s after the morning clean up. The conversation is lively with bragging rights for the most unusual items placed in the trash bags.

## CONFIDENTIALITY

During this past year several of our new members have asked for a copy of the BSPOA membership list so that they might find out which of their neighbors are also members. Your board has, and always will, declined those requests. The board believes that the privacy of our members is important, and we do not share member information with any individuals or organizations.

If anyone is interested in finding out if their neighbor is a BSPOA member they can always ask their neighbors. If they are members—great. If they are not a member, they can be referred to our website (**BSPOA.org**) for extensive information.

The website also contains a membership application.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

*By Nancy Buhl, Membership Chair*

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

Dan & Kathy Biebel  
Don & Mary Donaldson  
Janet Fulkerson  
David & Danielle Hunt  
Jeff & Ann Kapp  
William & Gloria Katt  
Don Miner & Laura Arndt  
David & Trisha Nast  
Wendy Rose Pang  
Tom & Jill Proulx  
Terry & Gini Riker  
Ross & Theresa Schmelzer  
The Shores Condominium Association  
Steve Stivers & Deb Russell  
Paul & Carol Stoelting  
Michael Teich & Peggy Kelsey

## VOTE

During this presidential election year, remember the immortal words of Richard J. Daley, Mayor of Chicago, who in 1960 said: "Vote early and often."



## POWER OUTAGE ALERTS

Wisconsin Public Service now offers customers the option of receiving alerts about the occurrence, status and restoration of power outages for your home.

Alerts can be received by phone, text and email.

This is especially helpful if you own a second home,

are a seasonal resident, or are on vacation.



To sign up for this service go to **[wisconsinpublicservice.com](http://wisconsinpublicservice.com)** and access your account. To access your account you will need to register online. Once in your account click "Outages and Service Problems," then "Outage Alerts." You can then specify your communication preferences.

## PROJECTS & PRIORITIES

Your Board of Directors is engaged in the ongoing process of identifying and prioritizing projects that will benefit BSPOA. Your participation is encouraged. If you have a project or concern that might be worked on by the many volunteers in our association, please let the board know. You can outline your project (either typed or hand written) and send it via snail mail to our PO Box or email it to **[BSPOA.556@charter.net](mailto:BSPOA.556@charter.net)**.

## VIRGINIA CREEPER

*By Denice Reda Hubbard*

Ever wonder what that vine is covering so many trees and bushes along Bayshore Drive?

Virginia Creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*) is a climbing vine that is common in the Door County peninsula. You can observe Virginia Creeper, as you drive along Bayshore Drive, climbing over trees, bushes, fences, houses, silos, telephone poles, and anything else it wraps its tiny adhesive arms around. Unfortunately, by over-shading its support structure, death and destruction is the result to anything that needs light to survive.

Virginia Creeper can grow up to 50 feet high and although not considered an invasive species, its ability to attach to whatever comes into its path makes it a problem. You can identify this aggressive vine by its leaves which have five pointy leaflets. Leaves are green or may be tinted red in its early stage. In the fall, leaves become a deep red. Leaflets are 3-7 inches long and 2 inches wide. Purple berries are also present toward the end of summer. Note: Poison Ivy, Wild Grape, and Virginia Creeper are friendly companions.

Luckily these vines can be easily controlled or eradicated without the use of chemicals.

First, kill the vine by cutting it off at the base/ground level. If the vine is not overly large you can often pull the roots out of the ground. Next, pull down the remaining vine climbing up your landscape to remove the leaves. Even if you can't reach all of the upper parts, cutting the vine at the base will kill the upper growth by cutting off its food supply. Annual monitoring for new vines is suggested. As with the invasive Buckthorn and Honeysuckle, seeds are dispersed by bird droppings.

To view photos of Virginia Creeper: [www.fcps.edu/islandcreeks/ecology/virginiacreeper.htm](http://www.fcps.edu/islandcreeks/ecology/virginiacreeper.htm)



Virginia Creeper leaf

## NATIVE PLANTS

Within the Door Peninsula there are many micro climate areas. The Lake Michigan shore is cool and often foggy while the Green Bay shore is considerably warmer. These differences provide the ideal habitat for different native plant communities. Within a single piece of property there can also be a wide variation in conditions which can strongly influence the type of vegetation. The vegetation on a south facing slope is usually different than that found on the north facing slope. When selecting native plantings for your landscape you may wish to consider which will thrive in your specific habitat.

Many attractive plants have been imported and thrive in our county. One example of a non-native is the lupine which is a native of the Pacific Northwest but not Door County. The lupine is a strong self seeder and can take over a garden with its beautiful multi colored flower spikes. Another nonactive is the Colorado Blue Spruce. A third example could be the Norway Maple. A fourth may be day lilies (which some call ditch lilies). All four of these are readily available from our local nurseries and planted in our landscapes.

BSPOA has an active matching grant program to assist members in combating invasive species. An invasive species is one that is nonactive and aggressive. All too often individuals and groups focus on what they do not want. An alternate approach might be to add more of what we do want. A balance of removal action with replacement action will keep the Bay Shore beautiful.



## QUIET = HEALTH

A recent study found that the closer you live to a major airport the higher the rate of heart disease. (Don't worry—Cherryland airport does not qualify as major). It appears that peace and quiet are healthy. Wow, that's a real surprise! The study also mentioned that if the person (or pet) you sleep with snores—ear plugs might be beneficial.

Another article titled "The Power of Parks," published in the January 2016 issue of *National Geographic*, pointed out that humans who are close to nature and spend time in quiet solitude tend to be less stressed, more creative, and healthier. It appears people living in major cities and congested areas benefit from a dose of mother nature. Many people enjoy the variety and beauty of our National Parks.

Aside from duck hunters, woodpeckers, and occasional fireworks, it is very quiet here on the bay. There is an amazing diversity of plant and animal life to enjoy. We may not have Old Faithful or the Grand Canyon anywhere along Bay Shore Drive, but what we do have in our own back yard is stunning and we all benefit from this peaceful environment.



One of the antique steam tractors on display at the Thresheree, held each summer in Sebastopol

## SPRING BUZZ

In the March 2016 issue of *Birds & Blooms* magazine there is an interesting article about native bees. Author Crystal Rennie talks about the value of our 4000 +/- species of native bees. While recognizing the importance of European Honey Bees (*Apis Mellifera*), the native bees of North America also play a key role in pollinating about 85% of all flowering plants and trees.

Native bees come in many different sizes and some look like flies. Flies have two wings while bees have four—and our native bees are not interested in taking a bite out of you like the flies. They are, for the most part, quite docile.

Positive actions you might consider to assist bees could include creating a place on your property consisting of dry undisturbed ground. This will provide nesting and overwintering habitat for the 70% of native bees that nest in the ground. For the other 30%, you could leave stumps and dead wood for nesting sites. Lacking stumps, you could drill holes in untreated wood to create a bee house. The holes should be 5/16 inch in diameter. Hang your conversation starter in a sunny location. For additional info check out **beecityUSA.org**.

In addition to habitat improvement, avoid the use of pesticides and plant a wide variety of native plants. The plantings would be best if they included various species that bloom in every month from earliest spring to late fall. Native bees don't store a lot of food but they need to eat regularly.



## SEVASTOPOL TV CONTINUES TO AMAZE

By Laddie Chapman

Sevastopol TV continues to carry local programs plus others of interest to our peninsula's dwellers and vacationers. Our local government coverage not only includes the Town of Sevastopol's monthly board meetings and annual meetings (both live), but also Sister Bay's monthly trustee meeting and Door County's board. Occasionally we are asked to record special meetings such as the recent discussion about the County Highway Shop disposition. We also try to cover County committee meetings that include Sevastopol-related matters like variance or zoning change requests.

We often carry school board meetings and other school events. Summer concerts are always favorites.

Although our primary mandate is to make government events accessible to our viewers, we fill many hours with shows from other sources. To make them easy to find, we schedule repeating shows at regular hours, such as a boat show at 8:30AM and 5:30PM; a train show at 7:30AM and 4:30PM, and Scott Houston's *Piano Guy* at 8AM and 5PM, all on weekdays.

We will be airing *Midwest Grilln*, an outdoor cooking show, throughout the summer. Maddog and Merrill dig their grill out of the snow for the season and visit Wisconsin locations, many in Door County. Watch as they work on mouth-watering recipes at the Maritime Museum, Bridgeport, Shipwrecked, the Cherry Delight factory, and many family farms. *Midwest Grilln* is carried weekdays at 6PM.

Sevastopol TV is seen exclusively on Charter cable, channel 986. You will find four other Door County stations, all from Sturgeon Bay, at channels 987-990.

Sevastopol TV accepts local-resident-produced videos and will broadcast them at no charge. If you have an idea for a show, espe-

cially if you would like to handle some aspects of the production yourself, let us know and we might be able to facilitate it. We can also record events for a nominal fee.

So you missed a show? All of our original shows are posted on YouTube.com. The easiest way to find them is by entering through [www.doorbell.net/video](http://www.doorbell.net/video), where the latest shows are shown at the top of the list.

If you need help finding anything, or have a comment or suggestion, call Program Director Laddie Chapman at (920) 743-8400.



Maddog & Merrill work their grill magic at the Door County Marathon



Mighty Mouth performs at Fish Creek

## BAY SHORE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

**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, nonprofit association. Its mission is to provide a forum for discussion and action on issues that impact the residential character of the neighborhoods and those that affect the character of Door County and/or the property rights of Bay Shore property owners.

**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, Inc. Newsletter,** Spring 2016 issue

Published on an occasional basis by **Bay Shore Property Owners Association, Inc.,**

P.O. Box 556, Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235 **email:** bspoa.556@charter.net **web:** bspoa.org

**Editor:** Dan Mathein

**Contributors:** Nancy Buhl, Laddie Chapman, Jim & Mary Fravert, Denice Hubbard, Deborah Mancuso, Dan Mathein, Jim Schultz

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

**Printing:** Mark Goldsmith, Gateway Business Systems, Inc., Munster, IN

PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.  
P.O. BOX 556, STURGEON BAY, WI 54235

