



The Aquia Harbour Newsletter – April 2011 Edition
Official Communications from the AHPOA

**General Manager
Review**

(Chuck Halt) 659-3050

Recently there's been a lot of discussion in the community and on the web site concerning the association budget and associated amenity fees. I'm going to take some space to discuss how the process works. In late summer or early fall the board of directors established priorities for the coming year (our fiscal year runs from April 1st until the following March 31st). Simultaneously, all the amenity managers are provided with a copy of their budget experience with actual expenses for the past 5 years. The managers then provide me with their recommendations by line number for the coming year. I take all these inputs and put them together and challenge anything that appears to be out of line. Historically, few changes have been required at this point. Non discretionary costs such as utilities, insurance, health care etc. are plugged in with the latest trends and information with guidance gleaned from sources such as the utility companies, insurance companies, health care plan officials and other experts. Any potential pay raises at this point are strictly recommendations. A draft budget is then printed and provided to the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee then holds multiple meetings and goes through the entire budget line by line. Untold questions are posed and adjustments made accordingly. When the Finance Committee is satisfied with the draft budget it is presented to the board of directors with recommendations. After review the board makes any desired adjustments, sets any pay increases and establishes the amenity fees. The board reviews and discusses the resultant product in an open work session(s). No decisions are made there. The final budget is then approved in a regular board meeting. None of the actions above are taken lightly and there is often lively discussion. Thus, this is a lengthy and complicated process.

The Roads and Grounds Crew is currently clearing road shoulders and starting to patch road sections damaged by the winter freeze thaw cycle. Next several road pipes will be replaced followed by major road paving and striping. Details will be posted in a later article and on the web site. We recently replaced the 30 year old motor grader. The much needed holding tank at the Harbour Inn Pool is being finished. For those that haven't taken advantage of the newly opened trail to Government Island you need to pay a visit. It's very impressive and quite educational. It's nice to have something so historic in our back yard. Recently we have been noticing an increase in the number of outsiders entering the community by way of the bridge meant for our residents. Stafford County is installing a spring loaded gate with no trespassing signs to discourage this.

Mark your calendar for May 1st for the grand opening of the new marina. This is going to be an impressive addition to the community. With the Harbour Inn Pool rebuilt and now the marina, it's time to focus on replacing the police station and business office.

**Aquia Harbour
Police**

(Chief Harman)

The AHPD & The Stafford Sheriff's Office (SSO)



A question was asked recently about our relationship with SSO and how they fit into the Aquia Harbour public safety plan.

The Stafford Sheriff's Office is the parent agency of the AHPD. We operate under the authority of the Circuit Court and Sheriff Jett. While we have concurrent jurisdiction in all of Stafford County we restrict our patrol to Aquia Harbour unless Stafford is in need of mutual aid. Sheriff Jett is extremely generous in sharing County resources with us to include; Department training, carded access to his station, free copies of all police paperwork needed and access to his evidence and property rooms. He allows us to order ammunition and equipment through his agency at a considerable savings, has created AH Police channels on the new SSO police radio system and has provided several free bullet-proof vests for our officers. He also provides us with a senior staff

level liaison. In return, we provide mutual aid to SSO when requested and in close proximity to the Harbour and they do the same for us which is critical as there is often only one AH officer on duty and SSO is our only back up.

We have a mutual aid agreement and a Memorandum of Understanding which outlines our response plan for emergency or high priority calls here in the Harbour and outlines the occasions SSO deputies might need us for assistance – this is rare but does happen. You will also see AHPD cruisers in the county periodically when we are traveling to the Police Academy in Fredericksburg, to the magistrate/jail, to SSO police station to turn in reports and paperwork, to court, to the carwash and for coffee or food to bring back to the station and the Gate.

We also have several deputies with take home cruisers who live in the Harbour – bonus! We are both proud and appreciative of the great working relationship we have with Sheriff Jett and our Stafford brothers, so if you have occasion to see the Sheriff please thank him.

Aquia Harbour Police Department
Station: 540-659-4600
Email: chiefharmanAHPD@aol.com
Website: aquiaharbourpolice.com
Community Blog: aquiaharbour.org
Gate: 540-659-5224

Aquia Harbour Golf Club

(Terry G. Ryalls, Mgr.)

This is sure to be an exciting year. The Aquia Harbour BOD agreed to cut our golf fees by 40%, in an attempt to “grow the game of golf” and increase the number of players, not only for our tournaments, but for every day play as well. A Resident Single Membership with Cart is only \$502.00 and a Resident Family Membership with Cart for two is \$667.00. Memberships are also available without annual cart rental, and for Associate (non-resident) members. Hopefully the word will get out and the course will be filled with many more players than we have had for the past few years. The state of the economy has definitely hurt the golf industry, and by lowering our fees we are hoping families will realize golf is a game that can be enjoyed by the entire family, without having to travel too far.



Other ideas that are being considered but have not yet been approved by the BOD are:

Having an afternoon and evening during the week when children play for free as long as they are accompanied by an adult.

A golf pass similar to our range pass, where one would get ten rounds of golf for the price of eight and they would be issued a punch card which would be punched each time a round is played.

We are planning a Youth Clinic in June. Volunteers from the Aquia Harbour Golf Association have agreed to provide instruction on the driving range, putting and chipping, and will also cover basic rules of golf and golf etiquette. Further information will be available in the June issue of The Harbour View.

For any questions or information you may call the pro shop at (540)659-4478 or email me at ahpoagolf@verizon.net. Hope to see you soon.

Aquia Harbour Preschool

(Bonnie Chapman)



AQUIA HARBOUR PRESCHOOL

Aquia Harbour preschool children know that “April Showers bring May Flowers”. And what better theme for April than springtime? Crafts, stories, and songs will celebrate the oh-so-welcome spring.

We will also be reading Mother Goose Nursery Rhymes, Fairytales and Fables. We will learn a few new nursery rhymes and read some timeless folktales such as The Three Little Pigs, The Gingerbread Boy, and Little Red Riding Hood. The children will learn how to retell a story and will be able to identify the beginning, middle and end of a story.

We will concentrate on the color purple, the diamond, (3s) number 9, (4s) numbers 14 and 15, and letter (4's) "L".

Our upcoming Fun Run is a happy event for community families. All are invited to attend. We will run the morning of April 30th then follow up with all sorts of food and fun: moonbounce, hot dogs, facepainting. Check our website for details.

Special Events

April 1: 4 year olds- Bug Box Field Trip

April 7: 3 year olds- Spring Program

April 13: MWF Picture Day

April 14: T/TH Picture Day

April 20: MWF Spring Party – Earth Day

General Membership Meeting- Kindergarten Teachers Visit

April 21: T/Th Earth Day-Early Out

April 22: MWF Earth Day –Early Out

April 23: Preschool Clean UP

April 25-29: Spring Break- No Classes

April 30: Fun Run

Families interested in enrolling for next year are invited to view the website at www.aquiaharbourpreschool.org

Enjoy this lovely season.

Dolphins Swim Team

(Rob Judd)



It's time to start thinking about another summer at the Country Club pool with your 2 time defending champion Aquia Dolphins summer swim team! Established in 1975, the Aquia Dolphins are a non profit summer swim organization which competes in the Battlefield Division of the Rappahannock Swim League. The Aquia Dolphins are dedicated to instilling outstanding sportsmanship and physical fitness through competitive aquatics.

The season begins June 1st with weekday practices and continues with 7 meets finishing on August 6th. The team is open to swimmers of any experience level ages 4-18. Registration information and downloadable packets are available at aquiaharbourdolphins.shutterly.com but will also be available at the Dolphins family registration night on April 5th from 6:30-8:00p in the lower level of the Country Club. Registration fees are \$125 for the 1st swimmer registered and \$120 for each successive swimmer. The fee includes a team swimsuit and cap. Also, it is required that all Dolphins swimmers are current on their Aquia Harbour pools family dues. If you have any questions please contact any of the Dolphins board members listed on the Dolphins website. Our Parent's Night is May 25th at 6:30p in the Country Club.

So pass the word! What better way to spend the summer season than at the pool with your Dolphins!

Women's Club

(Deb Johnson)



The March 8th meeting of the Aquia Harbour Women's Club was hosted by the club's board members at the Harbour Inn. Food and beverage were enjoyed and the business meeting was conducted prior to playing Bunko.

The AHWC is selling ads for new AHPOA phone directory coming out later this summer. Anyone interested in placing an ad in the directory should contact a member of the AHWC or committee chair, April Airhart, at AHWC2011@gmail.com.

The nominating committee of Jennifer Turpin and Connie Mulgrew is looking for members interested in being on the AHWC board next year.

On April 12 the AHWC meeting will be at the The Lazy Susan Dinner Theatre where we will see Huckleberry Finn's Big River. Any members interested in attending should contact Teresa Smith. The May 10 meeting will be a walking progressive dinner.

The annual Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the Aquia Harbour Women's Club will be on April 17 and start promptly at 1:30 PM. It will be held in the Preschool/Information Center/Peace Park playground area. The hunt is for children in 3 age categories:

3 and under (must be able to hunt on their own); start hunting at 1:30 p.m.

4-6 year olds; will start their hunt at 1:50 p.m.

7-10 year olds; start their hunt at 2:05 p.m.

The children will have the opportunity to not only participate in the egg hunt but also meet the Easter Bunny and enjoy refreshments provided by the Women's Club.

Since the children in each age category will be hunting the hidden eggs on their own, parents will have the opportunity to take lots of pictures, so be sure to bring your camera!

The Information Center and the Preschool will be closed for the week-end, so there will be no restroom facilities available.

If residents would like to donate bags of individually wrapped candy that can be used to stuff the plastic eggs, please drop off your donation at the AHPOA business office by April 8.

If anyone has an event for the sign board in April, please contact Jean Hoppe at JMHoppe@verizon.net.

Happy Easter from the Aquia Harbour Women's Club!

**Venturing
Crew 840**

(Jennifer Neuhard)

The best venture group around is looking for new members! If you are between the ages of 14 and 20, like hanging with people your age and have fun, than the Venturing Crew could be for you. We do all sorts of fun things every month like concerts, hiking and skiing and every activity is optional. You can just sign up for a few you like or every activity we do. Venturing Crew 840 meets on the first and third Tuesdays at 7:30 P.M. at the Carl Lewis building on Telegraph Road, so drop in and get to know some of the current members! This is the best way to get out and have fun with new friends. Who knows, this may be just what you need.

If you would like more information about Crew 840 please contact Cindy Patishnock at jgowild@aol.com or any member you may know.

Yacht Club

(Dodi Bunker)



Some very special community events are happening in April and May. We want to welcome the community to come and join in the celebrations.

First, our Reverse Raffle set for April 9th at the Harbour Inn and starting a 7:30 PM is a our first fundraiser of the year. The profits go to help foster boating safety and benefit our clubhouse building fund. For the price of a \$65 ticket which admits two, you will have the chance to win as much as a \$1000 – the big prize - along with approximately \$800 in other prizes. There will be bingo, 50/50 drawings and a one in 10 chance of winning your \$65 back. Another plus is the ticket also includes a free bar and buffet. There are only 75 numbered tickets sold so make sure you get yours early. For more information you may contact me at bunkerdo@comcast.net or call me at 540-659-2825.

Second, Sunday, May 1st is our annual Flag Raising and Blessing of the Fleet. This year in addition to the Flag Raising we will have the dedication and Grand Opening for our new Harbour Marina. Please try to make this community event as it also traditionally marks AHYC's official start of the boating season. It is a formal ceremony complete with the Color Guard and our Sea Scouts hoisting the flags along with the Chaplain's prayer. Then the bell is rung for each boat and crew that wants blessed. The Blessing of the Fleet is a tradition that began centuries ago in fishing communities. The blessing from the local priest was meant to ensure a safe and bountiful season. This ceremony is still honored throughout the country as well as in our own community. Come also for the dedication of the new Harbour Marina. Two impressive ceremonies so mark your calendar for Sunday, May 1st at 1:00 PM.

School Board Update

School Board Update – Griffis-Widewater District

By Dana Reinboldt, Member Stafford County School Board

APRIL CALENDAR ITEMS:

April 22, 2011 -- **Full Instructional Day of School** (this was previously scheduled as an early release day, but it is now a snow makeup day)

April 25 through April 29, 2011 --Spring Break.

NEW PARENT NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

Many parents have indicated that Stafford County Public Schools (SCPS) needed a notification system that can quickly contact them if something happens at their child's individual school. In March, Stafford Schools implemented a new alert and notification service throughout Stafford County. This new service is called Blackboard Connect, and will enable SCPS to personally communicate with parents about emergency situations, school events, attendance, and important issues impacting your child. It will allow SCPS to send personalized voice messages to your family's home, work or cell phones and email communications. SCPS will be able to reach everyone in the district within minutes. The first district-wide message was sent on March 2 at 5:30 p.m. Please note these important call delivery notes:

1. When a call comes from the school or district, your caller ID will display the school telephone number.
2. When listening to a message, please be aware that background noise will cause the system to stop and start. It is carefully calibrated to determine whether a person or an answering machine/voicemail has been reached, and background noise may affect the delivery. If possible, move to a quiet area, or press the "mute" button on your phone.
3. If you missed any part of a message, please stay on the line and press the "*"star key on your phone to hear the entire message again.

It is important that your school has all of your current telephone numbers and email addresses so that you will not miss out on any important communications. Please help your school ensure they have your current information in your student's file. The Blackboard Connect service cannot dial an extension, so be sure the numbers you include are direct lines. It is also recommended that high school and middle school attendance messages be routed to a number other than the home telephone number.

This new information system differs from the previous SCPS alert systems because: 1) The alert system SCPS has used, "Schools Out," could send an email to parents countywide who signed up for this program, to let them know if schools were either closed, had a delayed start, or early closing. Since this was a countywide notification, there was no ability to allow individual schools to contact the parents of their students. 2) We have also been fortunate enough to be part of the Stafford County Government's "Stafford Alert." This is also a countywide program, and did not allow individual schools to contact parents. In addition, the message from "Stafford Alert" had a standard message that said, " Stafford Alert: Stafford County Schools reports a closing or delay, please check email for details."

For additional information, please contact Valerie Cottongim, Public Information Officer, (540-658-6000 or by e-mail at publicinformation@staffordschools.net).

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at reinboldtdh@staffordschools.net or 540-659-1487.

This is the Official communication of the Aquia Harbour Home Owners Association, compiled and distributed by the Communications Committee for the residents of Aquia Harbour. Please contact Communications Committee member Wendy Desmond at wendyaj@msn.com to make organizational submissions to this publication.

EVENTS



AQUIA HARBOUR YACHT CLUB INVITES YOU TO THE EIGHTH ANNUAL 'REVERSE RAFFLE'

**SATURDAY APRIL 9, 2011 AT THE HARBOUR INN
7:30 PM**

**ONLY 75 TICKET WILL BE SOLD
\$65.00 PER TICKET – ADMITS TWO**

**Over \$1700.00 in Prizes
'\$1000.00' Grand Prize**

**Eight prizes of \$65.00 each will be
distributed during the drawing**

Food and Open Bar included with Ticket Price – PLUS

**Other Opportunities to Win –
Small Board, 50/50 and Bingo**

FOR TICKETS CONTACT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

**Bob Stephens 540-657-0865 Bonnie Coile 202-329-4899
Dodi Bunker 540-659-2828 Lamont Trumbo 703-973-2174
Linda Whitson 540-659-6387 Steve Martino 540-720-7210
Mike Nerenberg 540-720-3776 Curt Johnson 540-659-4811
Claudia Edgar 540-659-6569 Sandie Doucette 540-659-8562**

Proceeds will be used to promote boating safety and for the Yacht Club building maintenance.

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BIKE-SAFETY RODEO

SUNDAY, APRIL 10, FROM 2 TO 4 PM
FOR AGES 5 TO 12

AT THE HARBOUR INN PARKING LOT

1421 WASHINGTON DRIVE, AQUIA HARBOUR
RAIN DATE APRIL 30 SAME TIME AND SAME PLACE

LEARN THE RULES OF THE ROAD AND HOW TO BE SAFE
WHEN YOU RIDE YOUR BICYCLE



THERE WILL BE FREE REFRESHMENTS, CERTIFICATES,
RIBBONS, PRIZES, AND
FUN, FUN, FUN

THREE OF THE FIRST FIFTY TO PREREGISTER WILL WIN A DOOR PRIZE

MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN
LIABILITY WAIVER MUST BE SIGNED BEFORE PARTICIPATING

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL RACHIDA AT 720-3648
Or EMAIL my4827@aol.com

**DOWNLOAD REGISTRATION FORM AT www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/aquiaeve/
DROPOFF BOXES AT AHPOA OFFICE AND MONCURE SCHOOL
OR MAIL TO 2163 HARPOON DRIVE, STAFFORD, VA 22554**

BROUGHT TO YOU BY AQUIA EVENING LIONS

BIKE SAFETY RODEO IN AQUIA HARBOUR

Every year there are countless injuries related to bicycle accidents. With nearly all of our community accessible by walking or biking, we believe it is of the utmost importance as spring approaches to focus on safety. Bicycle rodeos are a means of raising community and parent awareness about bicycle-related injuries, for testing bike skills, for providing an opportunity for children to learn safe bicycle techniques, and building support for proper use of safety equipment, especially helmets.

Aquia Evening Lions will sponsor this event on Sunday, April 10, from 2 to 4 pm at the Harbour Inn parking lot. The Aquia Harbour Police, the Stafford County Sheriff's Department, the Aquia Harbour Rescue Squad and Olde Towne Bicycles of Fredericksburg will turn out to help our children learn the rules of the road to help keep them safe while on their bikes. The rain date will be Saturday, April 30, at the same time and place. Preregistration is important for our planning. Please drop your form into the box at the AHPOA office, the Ann E. Moncure school, or mail before April 23.

I am aware that the activity for which I am registering my child, involves a risk of injury as does any athletic activity. I waive and release any and all rights and claims for injury or damages resulting from this event and agree to hold harmless the sponsors of this event for any and all injuries suffered by me or my child while participating in this activity.

Participant Name: _____

Parents/Guardian Signature: _____

Printed Name _____

Date: _____

BIKE-SAFETY RODEO REGISTRATION FORM
PLEASE PRINT

CHILD'S FIRST AND LAST NAME _____ AGE _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN FIRST AND LAST NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE AND/OR EMAIL _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE _____



Aquia Harbour Women's Club

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

April 17 at 1:30 PM

Aquia Harbour Preschool/Business Office playground area

The hunt is for children in 3 age categories:

3 and under (must be able to hunt on their own) start hunting at 1:30 p.m.

4-6 year olds start their hunt at 1:50 p.m.

7-10 year olds start their hunt at 2:05 p.m.

The Business Office and Preschool will be closed for the weekend, so there will be no restroom facilities available.



Bring your camera!

Meet the Easter Bunny and enjoy refreshments provided by the Women's Club.

If residents would like to donate bags of individually wrapped candy that can be used to stuff the plastic eggs, please drop off your donation at the AHPOA business office by April 8th

AHPS Fun Run

Saturday, April 30th

At Lions Park by the Horse Stables



Saturday, April 30th, 2011

10:00AM Registration Opens

10:30AM Run/Walk Begins

11:00AM – 2:00PM Food, Games and Fun



Run, Walk or Stroll
The Fun Run is Open to All!!!

Come out and Support Our School
Bring your family, friends and neighbors!

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"The Aquia Harbour Co-ed softball league is now accepting names/ teams for the upcoming 2011 summer season! The league is non profit and open to players ages 15 and up (players must be 15 by May 1st). If you are interested in organizing your own team keep in mind that all Team Managers must be Aquia Harbour residents, and rosters must consist of 60% Aquia Harbour residents.

If you are not registering a team but simply want to sign up yourself please email Rob Judd at navirob@msn.com and include "AH Softball" in the subject line. The deadline for registration is May 1st. It's time to start dusting off your gloves and rounding up your neighbors!"



AQUIA EVENING LIONS
STRIDES WALK FOR DIABETES

SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 2011

TAKE A WALK THROUGH HISTORY ON GOVERNMENT ISLAND, STAFFORD, VIRGINIA, WHERE STONE WAS CUT TO BUILD THE WHITE HOUSE, THE U.S. CAPITOL AND OTHER HISTORIC BUILDINGS IN VIRGINIA.

Join the Aquia Evening Lions at Lions Park in Aquia Harbour
Saturday, June 11, 2011 - 8AM until 2PM

Walk around Government Island to help find a cure for diabetes

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Want to know how to get involved? Call an organization and see how you can help!

Aquia Harbour Board of Directors

Jim Hodges, President – 540-720-8547 • zr1hodges@verizon.net
Renee Cruea, Vice President – 202-747-4122 • golfchick@gmail.com
Chip Collins, Treasurer – 540-659-3155
Steve Campbell – 540-659-0634 • bogymno1@msn.com
Bob Hunt – 540-659-3704 • Robert_hunt@msn.com
Beatrice (Bea) Klapak – 540-659-6124 • bklapak.ahpoa@verizon.net
Dorothy (Dottie) Richardson – 540-659-2885 • dorothyrichardson38@yahoo.com

Amenities

Country Club – 288-0091
Golf Course – 659-4478
Marina – 659-4232
Parks & Harbour Inn – 659-3050
Police – 659-4600
Pools & DOLPHINS SWIM TEAM – 659-4003
Pre-School – 659-5771
Stables – 659-5024

Clubs/Organizations

AQUIA CREEK CORVETTE CLUB – Accclub@aol.com, Dave Greer d.greer2@verizon.net
AQUIA EVENING LIONS CLUB – 540-720-3648 Rachida McCravey
AQUIA HARBOUR HOST LIONS – 540-659-1399 Tom Kenavan
AQUIA HARBOUR VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD – 540-659-8911
AQUIA HARBOUR YACHT CLUB – 540-659-2825 Dodi Bunker
HOSPICE – 540-659-9910 Florence Mittino
MID-POTOMAC POWER SQUADRON – 540-720-5035 or commander@midpotomacps.org Commander Rick Marinelli
WOMEN'S CLUB – 540-659-8191 or abc123ten@verizon.net Joy Jones
WOODSTOCK OF AQUIA GARDEN CLUB – 540-659-3309 Irene Conte

Committees

Architectural Control Committee retireddwy@gmail.com 540-659-5921 David Young
Beautification Committee 540-659-6111 Jane Gill
Bylaws Committee 540-288-1878 Mike White
Communications Committee 540-657-5444 Wendy Desmond
Golf Committee Scott Marshall
Legal Compliance Committee bbarg@cbmove.com Beth Barg
Marina Committee Curt Johnson
Pools & Parks and Waterways Committees 540-659-1487 John Reinboldt
Public Safety 540-720-8847 David Humphrey
Stables