



The Aquia Harbour Newsletter – August 2006 Edition
Official Communications from the AHPOA

**General Manager
Review**

General Manager Review – (Chuck Halt) 659-3050

The first of July the community lost one of its founding fathers- Bill Carpenter. Bill was a giant of a man with great insight and integrity. He served the community in almost every imaginable role from board member, president, committee chair to founder of the police department. He was always there when needed from moderating a forum to overseeing an election. He will be sorely missed and leaves big shoes to fill.

August 19th and 20th will bring the replica sail ship the Godspeed to our area for the Discovery Days Festival. This promises to be a fantastic event and is being locally sponsored by our marina. The main events will take place at Aquia Landing. However, a flotilla starting from our marina at 2:00 p.m. will be a significant part of the event. Look elsewhere on the aquiaharbour.org website or the Harbour View for details. This is a “do not miss event”.

We recently renegotiated the trash contract with Waste Management. Pick up days have not changed. We gave a little and gained some. All trash, except yard waste must now be in the toter. However, an additional toter can be made available, if required. We did gain a penalty clause for failure to pick up at the parks (formerly a problem) and gained a by scheduled special bulk item pick-up. Full details are available on the web site or in a handout at the Business Office.

The Harbour Inn Swimming pool is still on track to close after Labor Day for a complete renovation as previously mentioned. There will not be any “extra” swim weekends in September as we want construction underway without delay. The contract for the new hay barn at the stable has been set and construction scheduling is being firmed up. Arco Welding is at the marina working on temporary fixes to correct known safety deficiencies. This does not alleviate the need for major renovation/replacement but buys us a little time to finish the pool prior to any major work at the marina. The CY 2006 road paving will see several sections of Aquia Drive as well as a portion of Admiral Drive, Coast Guard Drive and Wave Drive being repaved. The long overdue top coat on the Country Club parking lot will also be installed. Striping will follow. Please be alert and allow a few extra minutes to transit the areas in work. We will always attempt to maintain one open lane.

Recently there has been an upsurge of parking on the road bed (inside the white line) and the scatter parking of boat trailers and RV’s on the common grounds. Please do not do this as it exposes one to towing at the owners expense.

We have recently experienced a spate of items disappearing from yards, unlocked cars and boats. There is a good possibility that some of this activity is emanating from the water. Please lock your cars and secure your valuables. If you even think something is suspicious or amiss let the police know. They would rather answer 10 explainable calls than miss a real incident.

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 President Greg Stocksedale @ aquiaharbourcc@gmail.com or Secretary Joe Schumacher @ joeshoe1971@msn.com to make organizational submissions to this publication.

President's Review

Presidents Review - (David Humphrey) 720-8847

AHPOA Website

I hope that by now you have had an opportunity to browse the new AHPOA website online communication tool www.aquiaharbour.org

We will soon be launching the helpful interactive portion of the website which will allow you to ask questions, engage in discussions, sell or buy items in the classifieds, find or offer services, promote yard sales and foster a climate of neighbor helping neighbor.

We encourage you to sign up your email address on the website in order for us to send our newsletter and important alerts directly to your e mail inbox. We will diligently protect your e mail privacy and not allow anybody else access to your personal information. You can even sign up for a free email service provider just for Aquia Harbour information. See the website for details.

\$\$\$ Win Free Prizes \$\$\$

As an incentive for letting us communicate with you by email, we will be offering hundreds of dollars in gift certificates from local merchants to residents who are selected from the current email sign up list at each of the next several Board of Directors meetings. For more details go to the Aquia Harbour News page on the website.

Trash Service Problems

Last month when we were negotiating the 3 year trash contract, I told you that you could get another trash toter from Waste Management (WM) for cost less one dollar. A number of people called Waste Management and were told that they must pay an additional monthly service charge less one dollar. I thought, at first, that the management at WM had not communicated the terms of our contract to their Customer Service people. To our horror, the WM management was actually trying to enforce that extra charge. Even worse, they sent trucks in here to pick up extra toters that residents already had in their possession. A lot of people were very irritated, especially myself and the General Manager. They were not responding to our phone calls. We quickly communicated to them that we would be issuing a termination of the contract for non-performance of duty within 30 days and started looking at other trash contractors for service. It was then that they realized that "it was all just a misunderstanding" (We called their bluff). Waste Management will now offer a second toter for a dollar less than the cost of the toter (not the service) and they should be returning the toters that they picked up erroneously if you call them.

Good Bye Good Friend

Sadly, we mourn the loss of our good friend and neighbor Bill Carpenter who passed away on July 1st. Bill and his wife of 65 years, Mary were one of the first 25 families to move into Aquia Harbour back in 1972. Over the years he served the community in many capacities including President of the Board of Directors, but his most prolific role was serving as the first and only Public Safety Committee Chairman until his death. He was instrumental in setting up the fine, fully accredited police department and organizing the role of the Front Gate. We will be dedicating the Gatehouse in his honor in the very near future. A memorial service will be held at Lakeridge Baptist Church in Woodbridge (of which he was a founding member) on Saturday July 29th.

We Want History

In recent conversations with Bill Carpenter before his death, I realized that now is the time to try to capture the history of Aquia Harbour and record it all in one place before those who have those facts in their head go away. Some bits and pieces are already there thanks to Ben Blankenship (check out his writings on our website). There are more than 300 homeowners who have lived here for more than 20 years and more than 100 of them for more than 25 years. We are starting to form a committee of long time residents with the hopes of possibly writing a book that would chronicle important events and highlight that special flavor of life in our unique and harmonious community.

I welcome the opportunity to talk with you by phone or e mail when you have a concern or compliment about how things are going in our community. You can reach me at (540) 720-8847 or e mail me at: dvd.humphrey@verizon.net



Director Cruea

Director Renee Cruea

Do you ever wonder what sorts of things your dues are spent on? Well, if you were at the Aquia Harbour 4th of July Event, then you know. An estimated 400-500 residents enjoyed at NO CHARGE sno-cones, cotton candy, time in the moon bounce, balloons, prizes for every tot at the fishing pool, sprinkler system, chances to dunk a Director in the dunk tank, a balloon art Clown named Pop O, snacks and candy, shade under tents and even patriotic music. It was sponsored by the BOD, paid for with your annual dues and it was enjoyed by more residents than almost any other event in the Harbour (from what I was told by countless Harbourites).

Volunteers from Stafford County Fire and Rescue (North Stafford Station 10) provided EMS coverage and supplied a fire truck and water sprinkler entertainment for the kids to enjoy, the Aquia SwimTeam allowed us to use their tent and stereo, the Womens Club donated plenty of candy and snacks, the Lions Club sold food, Mr. Thomas brought his classic cars for all to enjoy and Chuck Halt our General Manager made sure we had flags, picnic tables and a porta potty. Though several dedicated residents showed up to help with the event at various times, a small group of the most dedicated volunteers showed up at 6:30am and did not leave until after 3pm. The most important aspect of this article will be their names listed below, if you know them, thank them. Without their help, I would not have been able to pull it off.

Sophie Kartchner, Greg Stocksdale, David Cruea, Shawn Desmond, Anne Spevacek, Joe Schumacher, Lisa Stocksdale, Dana Reinboldt, Wendy Desmond and my fellow BOD Directors John Reinboldt and David Humphrey.

If you attended and have any feedback, please send it to me directly so that I can plan an event that surpasses the success of this one next year. It was mentioned to me by one individual that leaving out the parade was a "mistake". Just FYI, in order to have hosted this event at the more visible location of Aquia Park, we couldn't come up with a really safe parade route that was long enough. In the end, I decided to spend more time/effort and money on the events itself for the children to enjoy and try a year without the parade in order to potentially attract more residents who just happened to drive by the event. In this aspect alone, I feel we succeeded. I have heard only positive feedback from parents with young children who attended the event, so I need some input on the parade issue from parents. One thought I had was to host the event at an all together new location yet again next year, increasing visibility in yet another area of the Harbour. Rudolph Park is an area where I think we could have a parade around the park before the event. So email me your thoughts please! Next year, I would also like to have a tot bike race on the basketball court and give away prizes for the best decorated bike. There are many photos from the days activities located on the Aquia Harbour Photo Gallery page on the website.

SAT. JULY 22 "MOVIE NIGHT FOR ADULTS".....After reviewing the email votes, I have decided to show Casablanca first and Caddyshack second. This way, everyone can see both movies! You can sip wine with your sweet heart during the first movie under the soft light of the moon. Then.....you can drink beer while watching Caddyshack afterwards. I will warn anyone who sits near me at this show.... I know every line. My husband won't even watch this show with me!

"It's easy to grin. When your ship comes in. And you've got the stock market beat. But the man worthwhile, Is the man who can smile, when his shorts are too tight in the seat." (Judge Smails) in *Caddyshack (1980)*

Don't forget your blanket, bug spray and picnic basket. The Country Club will be offering a discount on dinner that night before the movie and also will be selling wine and beer outside at the movie. Show up at dusk, AH Country Club on the driving range. Adults only.

BABYSITTER/JULY 22: If you need a babysitter and don't have one, call me. If you are a babysitter and you would be free this night (and you have references) call me. 540-288-1049.

DOG PARK: The first dog park meeting was held on Tuesday, July 11th. I am thrilled to report that NINE residents who have NEVER served on any committee before will be nominated to serve on the Parks and Recreation Committee in order to make the new Dog Park a reality! They will independently develop a presentation for the BOD. John Reinboldt and myself have passed the torch along to them so that this project will truly represent what the residents on this committee envision. I have chosen two of the new volunteers to serve as leaders for this effort, Jim Smizer and Bobbie Linamen. They along with the other new volunteers will be nominated to the committee at the next Board meeting.

I must comment that everyone there was passionate and very interested in making this a possibility in the short term. You can expect results with this group. If you are interested in being part of the dog park, please contact Jim Smizer: jksmizer@verizon.net.

So you see, it is indeed getting increasingly difficult for anyone to claim that this community is being lead by anyone other than volunteer residents who care the most! This year, we have over TWENTY residents serving our community on a volunteer basis who have NEVER served before. I love reporting these juicy facts! Soon, this will be one rockin community! I am thinking Normal Rockwell with a kick.

"And I say, 'Hey, Lama, hey, how about a little something, you know, for the effort, you know.' And he says, 'Oh, uh, there won't be any money, but when you die, on your deathbed, you will receive total consciousness.' So I got that goin' for me, which is nice."

-(Bill Murray) in *Caddyshack (1980)*

Renee Cruea

**Aquia Harbour
Police**

Aquia Harbour Police - (Chief Schwarting) 659-4600

Another month has passed and it looks like summertime is here to stay for a while. The temperatures are up, with week long periods of over 90 degrees, as they usually are at this time of year and thunder storms have been frequent. The pools are open and appear to be well utilized from what I see as I go by. Our marina is active with people enjoying the boating season and the opportunity to get away on the water.

Along with the good things about summer we have also recently had some not so good occurrences. During the middle of June we experienced a series of thefts of property from residents near the water way along Potomac Drive. Items taken ranged from a small boat to electronic equipment to power tools and golf clubs. In all about \$5000 in property value was taken. Although we don't have enough direct evidence to show that the items were removed by way of the water access it is apparent that it probably happened in that manner.

One consistent bit of information we do have is that in all but one case the items taken were not secured in locked areas. It is a good feeling to know that our crime rate is very low in Aquia Harbour but we need to be aware that there are still those who believe it is ok to take property belonging to someone else. The best deterrent we have to theft of this type is to lock up items that are attractive to those who would take them. By locking garages, sheds, vehicles and houses the incidences of opportunity theft can be reduced considerably.

Another way the residents can greatly assist the police is to be aware of what is going on in their immediate neighborhood and to call us when things just don't look right. Each of you knows what is normal where you live and when things are not as they usually are. Call us and give us the opportunity to follow up on your suspicions and concerns even if you feel like it is not worth bothering us. We can usually respond quickly and determine if there is something that needs further investigation.

Enjoy some more of the summer, take care, and take the time to be secure in your person and property.

Aurie W. Schwarting, Chief of Police

**Public Safety
Committee**

Public Safety Committee – (Greg Stocksdale) 658-6330

As many of you know Bill Carpenter recently passed away. While I only served with Bill on the Public Safety Committee a short while, it was obvious how passionate he was about our community. I have been asked to take over as the Chairman of the Committee, and while I have agreed to do so, I fully understand that Bill's shoes are one pair that will never be filled. Lew Bunch has agreed to step into the Vice-Chairman position while Joe Schumacher will now be the Secretary. Hopefully we can continue the great job Bill did for so many years.

Discussions were held regarding the front gate and security procedures. The committee would like the residents to know that the individuals working the gate have an extremely tough job in monitoring resident entries, visitors, and taking

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phone calls. It obviously can become overwhelming at times. Unfortunately the gate guards also take a fair amount of abuse from some residents while trying to do their job. Let's all try to work harder at allowing those individuals at the gate to do their job while also showing them the respect that they deserve. In this effort, please remember the following:

- Ensure your Aquia Harbour Decal is affixed to the top center of your windshield.
- Slow down to 15MPH when approaching the gate.
- Announce all visitors to the gate in advance.
- Do not get upset at the guards for doing their job.
- Do not ask the guards to call you to announce that your visitors have arrived.
- Do not ask the guards to maintain a list of authorized or unauthorized guests.

Remember, the gate is there for our safety and security. We cannot ask the guards to constantly bend and break the rules for us while enforcing them for everyone else. Finally, the next time you go by take the time to wave as a small way of showing our appreciation.

Chief Schwarting stated that there have not been any more larcenies reported since that recent spate we had a few weeks ago. These larcenies mainly involved unsecured items left in yards, garages, and cars. Please ensure you secure all of your belongings. The Chief also stated that bids will be going out for a new police cruiser and that the old one will be retained for training purposes.

Director Reinboldt is currently working on getting permission from those involved to extend the walking path from Aquia Drive up to the Golf Course clubhouse.



**Communication
Committee**

Communications Committee – (Greg Stocksdale) 658-6330

The Communications Committee had the July edition of the Newsletter printed and volunteers delivered a copy to just about every home in the Harbour. Thanks much to the volunteers who spent hours of their free time doing this. The Newsletter email delivery service has been a big success according to the feedback we received. We currently have over 500 residents signed up for this service and we hope to add many new residents to this list in the near future. President David Humphrey is leading the charge with a Prize Bonanza Giveaway. David will have more details on this, and you can also find out more by going to the Aquia Harbour News page or the Breaking News page on the website. The website (www.aquiaharbour.org) continues to expand. New pages and updated information are being added constantly. If you are currently a regular visitor, an easy way to check for what's been updated is to check the Website Updates page which you can get to using the last menu button on the left. Everything that gets added or updated to the site is listed there along with the dates.

A tribute page to Bill Carpenter has been setup. You can access it by going to the Aquia Harbour News page on the website. Please feel free to contribute any comments or stories you may have about Bill that you wish to share. You can email them to me at the address listed below.

You will also notice in this issue that we have included notes that were taken during the June 22nd AHPOA regular meeting. These notes also include topics brought up at the Open Thirty. This is being done on a volunteer basis by Communication Committee members to assist those residents who like to stay informed but are unable to make the meeting. Many thanks to Anne Spevacek for an outstanding job this month.

If you like the new look and feel of the website, and the electronic email delivery service of the newsletter, please spread the word by telling you neighbors. Thanks...

Everyone is welcome to attend our meetings, which are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00PM in the business office. In the meantime, feel free to contact me if you have any issues you would like to discuss. You can email me at AquiaHarbourCC@gmail.com or call me at 658-6330.



**AHPOA
Regular Meeting**

**AHPOA Regular June Meeting
June 22, 2006**

(Please note – these notes are taken by a volunteer. These are not “official” notes)

Thank you to the Holders of Election (Walt Kreutzer and David Young) and vote counters.

Referendum Results:

Amendment to Article XIV (Rules of Expenditure) of the Bylaws failed (151 ‘yes’ vs. 483 ‘no’). Amendment to add article (Treatment and Care of Animals) to the Bylaws passed (548 ‘yes’ vs. 90 ‘no’).

“Open Thirty”:

Fred Thomas, Lot 1939 - re: covenants, etc.

1. Mr. Thomas doesn't understand why AH Board of Directors (BOD) decided to restrict AH homeowners to only one detached outdoor structure on their properties. He says it was perhaps a good bylaw 35 years ago, but not now; that allowing more than one detached structure helps a homeowner to keep his yard clean.
2. Telephonic voting – Mr. Thomas said that he could not find anything in Virginia state law that allows for telephonic voting (referring to a telephonic vote made by the BOD on June 6, 2006). AH General Manager indicated that Virginia state law does state telephonic votes are OK.
3. Mr. Thomas stated that he could find no record on mandatory replacement of underground gas tanks (referring to AH Marina's recent conversion to an above ground tank). The Board responded that AH's tank was never condemned, but that replacing it was a preemptive move that will save the Harbour money. Because an inspection was due shortly, the tank would have possibly been condemned and the Marina could have been closed the entire season.

Shawn Desmond - AH Marina Committee

1. Re: AH web site's recent Breaking News alert regarding a suspicious white male. Shawn commends the BOD for posting this on the AH web site.
2. Discovery Days Festival – August 19-20, 2006. Stafford County is co-hosting (with the Stafford County Department of Tourism) a replica sailing ship of the historic Jamestown “Godspeed” in honor of Virginia's 400th anniversary of Jamestown. AH is a featured sponsor of this event (it isn't costing us anything, and is an opportunity for good visibility). The Godspeed will dock near Aquia Landing Marina on August 19. A flotilla parade - to assemble at 2 p.m. – is open to

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all boaters with motors, and will arrive at the Godspeed by 3 p.m. Escort boats will take the Godspeed to Aquia Landing, where it will dock offshore as a backdrop to the festival. Festival open 10-6 each day. Activities to include events for children, musicians, historical interpreters, stage performers, artisans and craft vendors, etc. Free buses will be available from designated parking to the festival site. Visit www.discoverydaysfest.com for more info and obtain a sign-up form to participate.

3. Shawn informed BOD that AH's Marina is now featured on Stafford County's web site, and is also set to be included in an upcoming tourism brochure. As an aside, Director Reinboldt asked if AH fuel prices are competitive with outside marinas. Shawn responded it was.

Jim Hodges, Lot 0465 – Golf Course Issues:

Mr. Hodges expressed concern that AH golf course does not follow accounting principles with regard to handling money taken in at its golf tournaments. Currently AH tithes 10% to golf association and the rest is set aside for prize money. Mr. Hodges stated that prize money goes directly into the AH golf shop's safe – winners must use \$ by a certain date. If it isn't used by that date, Mr. Hodges asked, "then what happens?" He recommends the BOD look into this promptly. Director Hunt agrees that an open Board Work Session should be held to discuss the issue in order to determine what the BOD wants to do, set policy, etc. The Work Session should be publicized well in advance so the public can attend. In the meantime, it was recommended that the AH golf shop make an accounting of money currently in its safe, not from sales.

Directors' Comments:

Director Cruea reminded attendees of the following AH-sponsored events: 1) July 1 – lighted boat parade at marina; 2) July 4 celebration at Aquia Park; 3) July 11 – meeting to discuss proposed dog park; 4) July 22 – outdoor movies for adults at dusk on the golf course.

Minute and Action Items:

Minutes from May 25 accepted as presented.

Amenities' Managers Reports:

Marina (Ron Normandin) – ARCO Welding is doing some maintenance. Maintenance list not yet been presented to BOD. Currently there are 133 marked slips, 100 are occupied (7 unusable due to shallow water).

Committee reports:

Marina – prioritized, fixed maintenance list presented to BOD, to be covered by \$10,000 set aside. Critical structural repairs include: fixing walkway between B & C docks. Other repairs include securing the 'T' on C dock, wires down under water, E & F docks' separator pipes, and other maintenance items. BOD accepted Marina Committee's report to have ARCO Welding do the work. Shawn Durand stated that AH may be able to secure a Tier 1 grant (under \$100,000) to have the pipes fixed.

No treasurer's report. David Humphrey gave account balances (as of May 31) – Operating Acct. \$258,455.22; Money Market Acct. \$631,106.43; Money Market Checking \$236,893.79; Merrill Lynch Reserve \$1,241,987.69.

General Manager's Report:

1. Harbour Inn pool up and running, a bit later than expected. There's a minor problem with sand filter, but it's not practical to repair since the HI pool will be replaced next year. It is not a safety hazard. There will be more work at the pump house, but it won't impact the pool's operation. Winkler did a great job at the pump house.
2. Bingo needs more participation.
3. Trash contract. AH got its way on all but one issue – residents must now have all trash IN the can for it to be picked up. If you need a second trash can (or a replacement), contact Waste Management (at cost minus \$1). AH is going exclusively to trash trucks with electronic arms on side. Special pick-up still available to residents (must call WM). Leaves/yard waste must be either bundled & tied in 2-3 feet lengths, or in plastic bags. Re: leaves – each resident allowed up to five (5) bags of leaves/yard waste every Thursday. If more, call for large item pick-up. AH Business Office has a new brochure going out to residents to explain trash and yard waste pick up. On June 6, 2006, the AH BOD (via telephonic vote) voted to accept the Waste Management contract.
4. GKY Engineering, AH consultant on dredging permit, met with 4 government agencies recently. GKY visited all AH sites and gave list of additional requirements. Near Lion's Park, a berm at spoilage site must be raised 3 feet. A tremendous amount of dirt is needed. Estimated cost \$31,000, but only \$10,000 budgeted. BOD will vote at next meeting (August). Director Hawkins asked if AH pursued other bidders. GM responded "no."
5. Hay barn (storage) – new site prepared. 5 quotes on potential buildings presented to BOD. Up to \$20,000 in budget. 3-5 months to complete. Stalls can't store hay above anymore, because stable will open up ceiling to give horses better ventilation. BOD voted, but requires that proposal include skylights, which was verbally quoted. Color of the building needs to be confirmed, but it should be neutral. BOD voted in favor of bid for \$11,430.
6. Irrigation system at Briar Patch Park is still manual. Still waiting for contractor.
7. Government Island development (pedestrian walkway and bridge to Island). Core permit 17 still needed. Intent is to have it open by end of 2006. Will cut through some AH property. AH is interested in a dock on the other side for residents. Development won't impact AH's Oktoberfest celebration this year.
8. Marina Repairs – BOD voted "yes" to set aside \$10,000 for repairs.

New Business:

1. AH web site maintenance. Director Hawkins stated he thought that making revisions to the web site was a BOD action. Director Hunt said that current web site is 3rd or 4th incarnation, and that previous attempts failed because BOD wanted to run the site itself. Hunt maintained that BOD needs to trust and let the Communications Committee (CC) "run with it." Director Cruea also stated she feels the CC is capable of maintaining the web site. BOD agrees.

The logo for Aquia Harbour Preschool is a blue rounded rectangle with the text "Aquia Harbour Preschool" in yellow. "Aquia Harbour" is on the top line and "Preschool" is on the bottom line.

Aquia Harbour Preschool – (Amy Whitwell) 659-5771

Why Aquia Harbour Preschool?

This little co-op school provides an excellent education and socialization experience for children. The parents are involved and very close to the learning and fun, but certified teachers and aides do all the teaching. The convenience of having the school nearby saves time in commuting and is easy on the budget. The sense of pride and ownership is visible when you see parents, siblings, alumni and friends gathering year round at the "shady playground" in front of the school. If you have not registered your child or are considering our preschool contact Natalie Harrigan, the Vice President of the AHPS Board at harriganclan@adelphia.net or call the preschool, 540-659-5771 and schedule a visit. Several spaces are now available.

Prepare Now and Relax a Little Longer

If you are already registered, prepare now and then enjoy one more month of summer. Have your child's school physical completed, pay your co-op fee, and return the "Authorization for Treatment" form. As you think of questions write them down and bring them along to the orientation on August 21. Read through some of the preschool information available online at www.aquiaharbour.org under "Amenities." The Parent's Handbook is just one of the resources offered.

Orientation

Orientation is **August 21, 2006 from 6:00-8:00 PM** at the Harbour Inn. Please mark your calendars and arrange for childcare. The board and teachers are looking forward to meeting with you and getting the year off to a great start. This will be your opportunity to sign up for committees and participate in the first General Membership Meeting. Friendships will be formed and refreshments will be provided.

First Clean Up

The biggest school and grounds clean up of the year is our first on Saturday **August 26th at 9:00 AM** until noon. You will earn five extra points if you bring along a helper. This is an informal but enjoyable way to get to know your board members, fellow parents and neighbors. If you plan on attending, please bring cleaning/work gloves for inside chores and lawn implements for outside beautification. Your talents and energy are welcome. Did I mention there would be donuts? See you soon...

**Aquia Harbour
Stables**

The Stable Scene (Patti Goettler) 659-5024

The Latest at the Barn...

This month I would like to touch on the art of Communication. Horses and riders problems can usually be broken down into a lack of communication.

The horse does not understand what the rider wants and/or the rider does not realize what they are telling the horse.

Horses communicate very well with each other; they have an amazing language that is based on body language. Head drops, ear flicks, sometimes an obvious foot lift or ear pin mean every thing to the other horse, while most owners or riders pick up on only the very obvious some signs.

Even those who do not ride can learn some basics of horse behavior by watching horses as they hang out in their paddocks. Behaviorists utilize cameras, both still and video, to catch behaviors that they could miss. This way even though the watcher may only catch a reaction and not see what led up to it, by checking back on the film record- the first horse's signals may become more obvious.

A horse dropping its head and swinging it towards another horse can be saying, "If you even look at my hay- I'll kick you into next week".

All the observer sees is the first horse swing his head –then the other horse may back up or even shy off to one side. If the horse that was threatened feels it is higher in the pecking order, it will ignore the head drop or may go after the original horse, to the extent of biting or kicking it.

My old Quarter Horse mare, Aunt Lou, was such a high ranking Alpha mare that her language was incredibly subtle. I swear she could "look" at another horse and it would back out of her way. I never really saw any horse test her

authority, but she was also very kind to older horses- or horses that ranked very low. It seemed that with her authority, came a responsibility for the other herd members. Needless to say, Aunt Lou taught me a good deal more than I ever taught her!

As you pass by the Barn or horses out in fields, be aware that there is lot of silent communication going on, if we humans ever settle down and listen or pay attention to the rest of the world, we could learn something...

A blue rounded rectangular button with the word "Marina" in yellow text.

Marina (Ron Normandin)

Structural repairs to the docks continue by ARCO welding. The walkway from A to C docks has been straightened and the C dock 'T' has been secured for now. Work continues to make a safer dock until full replacement is authorized.

Discover Days Festival 2006 - Aquia Harbour Marina is sponsoring the flotilla that will sail to Aquia Landing to greet the Jamestown replica 'Godspeed', commemorating Virginia's 400th anniversary. Applications for the flotilla and any questions can be directed to Shawn Desmond (954) 683-5582 of the Marina Committee. Further info on www.DiscoveryDaysFestival.com.

A blue rounded rectangular button with the words "Marina Committee" in yellow text.

Marina Committee (Shawn Desmond)

In honor of Jamestown's approaching 400th anniversary in 2007, Aquia Harbour Marina in conjunction with the Stafford County Department of Tourism have sponsored the Jamestown's replica of the historic tall sailing ship the Godspeed to Aquia Creek as part of Discovery Days at Aquia Landing. The Discovery Days Flotilla (boat parade) sponsored by Aquia Harbour Marina will attract over 100 transient boaters to the Marina as part of a special parade of boats which will rendezvous with the Godspeed at the mouth of Aquia Creek and the Potomac River. Additional activities are planned onshore by the Department of Tourism to include, but not limited to, re-enactors from various periods, artisan displays, music concerts, storytelling, face painting and food vendors. The Department of Tourism estimates approximately 10,000 attendees. The Aquia Harbour Yacht Club and the Mid-Potomac Power Squadron is assisting with the event. Entry into the boat parade on Aug 19th, 2006 is free to all by signing up at www.discoverydaysfest.com by July 21, 2006. Discovery Days Aug. 19-20, 2006 Questions to Shawn Desmond/Flotilla Coordinator desm10@yahoo.com

BINGO



Bingo – (Prim Young)

An enthusiastic crowd gathers at the Harbour Inn twice a month to play BINGO. There are still seats available – SO – COME ON OUT AND JOIN THE FUN.

Games are held the first Friday and the third Sunday of each month. Doors open at 5:30 PM on Fridays with early bird games beginning at 6:45 PM and regular games at 7:00 PM. Doors open at 2:30 PM on Sundays with early bird games beginning at 3:45 PM and regular games at 4:00 PM.

The cooperative efforts of the Organizing Committee and Sponsoring organizations make BINGO possible. Sponsoring organizations are responsible for setting up, breaking down, and providing and selling refreshments. All profits from the sale of refreshments go directly to the sponsoring organization. Profits from BINGO are shared with Aquia Harbour and sponsoring organizations. Any service organization interested in sponsoring a Bingo game(s) should contact Rachida McCravey (720-3648) or by email my4827@aol.com.

Dates and times are published each month in the newsletter and Harbour View. General questions or comments regarding Bingo may be directed to Prim Young (659-5921) or by email: queenprim25@verizon.net.

SO – HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE NEXT BINGO – FRIDAY – AUG 4 AND/OR SUNDAY, AUGUST 20.

Golf Course

Golf Course Information (Terry Ryalls)

The Junior Clinic began on June 22, 2006 under the instruction of Barry Walls, assisted by Jason Barg and Aaron Holland. This is a six week program for children between the ages of 8 through 14 and ends the sixth week with a mini-tournament for the participants. Mr Walls has provided instruction for the Junior's Clinic as well as private lessons for the past five years but it appears this will be his last year here at Aquia Harbour. We will miss him and wish him the best in his new ventures next year.

There will be a Junior Tournament in August but the dates have not been confirmed with the AHGA and the Clubhouse Restaurant so more news will be forthcoming on that. It will be held on a Saturday morning and the AHGA has volunteered to assist by accompanying each group to verify scoring and answer questions concerning rule compliance. Watch for info on the front board.

The new seed should be going down in the fairways tomorrow. Once the seed is down we cannot mow for several weeks until it has germinated and regular watering will be critical during this process. Please excuse the shaggy look and the inconvenience of regular watering until the seed has taken hold. Hopefully it will be worth the sacrifice in the end.

We had 33 players for the Red, White and Blue Tournament which was enjoyed by all in spite of the heat. The next tournament scheduled is the Bruce Brown Memorial Member-Member Tournament on August 12th and 13th. There will be a sign-up sheet posted in the Pro Shop.



**Dolphins
Swim Team**

Dolphins Swim Team (Yvonne Force-Garcia)

Due to thunderstorms, the AH Dolphin Swim Team has had a hard time completing many scheduled meets! We have, however, had a couple of great nights in which we were able to finish an entire meet without delay or postponement. The swim season continues through August 5th, 2006. Over 150 Aquia Harbour swimmers are involved, and are having a great time with this fun and challenging summer sport! I hope some of you had a chance to catch a glimpse of the swim team in our own Harbour Inn pool venue, during one of the three home meets of our swim season.

We look forward to Finals this year, which will take place at Regency Center in Fredericksburg, on Saturday, August 5th, from 8am - 5pm. We hope to place as well there as we have in the regular dual meet season. At this writing, we are in the running for the Championship banner!! Of the 4 meets completed to date, we have won three and tied one, and have a decisive lead in the partially completed meet against the Woodland Wahoos, which I am certain we will have won by the time this article goes to print! (power of positive thinking) At this writing, we have one last dual season meet scheduled against Curtis Park, during the last week of July.

There are three divisions in the Rappahannock Swim League: Battlefield, National and American. The AH Dolphins are in the Battlefield Division, which is the top division. The three divisions comprise, overall, approximately 21 teams. Swimmers may be entered in a maximum of three individual events, and three relays, per meet. Following, are some of the highlights from completed meets:

Chancellor @ Aquia Harbour - June 21, 2006

Score: Aquia Harbour -261 Chancellor -243

Triple Winners:

Meredith Cavalier (14), Erica Esserman (10), Mary Flinn (12), Tyler O'Brien (8)

Aquia Harbour @ Dahlgren – June 26, 2006

(rescheduled to July 10 due to thunderstorms)

Score: Aquia Harbour -250 Dahlgren -250

Triple Winners:

Meredith Cavalier (14), Alex Garcia (12), Tyler O'Brien (8)

New RSL Record: Meredith Cavalier – 50 Fr 24.56 ; 50 Br 33.08 ; 100 IM 1:02.41

Aquia Harbour @ Grafton – July 5, 2006

Score: Aquia Harbour – 274 Grafton - 229

Triple Winners:

Meredith Cavalier (14), Mary Flinn (12), Alex Garcia (12),
Tyler O'Brien (8), Danielle Perdue (8)

Hampton Oaks @ Aquia Harbour – July 12, 2006

Score: Aquia Harbour -318 Hampton Oaks -192

Triple Winners:

Meredith Cavalier (14), Stephen Cooke (16), Alex Garcia (12),
Michael Kaim (12), Shelby Pagan (14)

Team Social to be held on Wednesday, Aug. 2 @ 6:30 p.m. @ The Harbour Inn

**Venturing Crew
1221**

Venturing Crew 1221 (Dario Izquierdo - izquierdo3@adelphia.net)

VC1221 Goes Caving

By way of introduction, we are Venturing Crew 1221 (Crew 1221 to our friends). We represent the co-ed, older-youth program of the Boy Scouts of America and we are chartered right here in the Harbour (by the HOA). What do we do? Basically, we seek fun and adventure.

Recently, we went caving in West Virginia. This wasn't your typical commercial caving experience; this was a completely wild cave and we served as our own guides. Everyone was outfitted with helmets, headlamps, kneepads, and gloves. We made our way single-file – walking, crawling, scrambling – and penetrated almost a mile from the cave entrance. At one point, we stopped and turned off our lights to just take in the whole experience. We soon realized that without lights, we wouldn't be able to make it out on our own. It was scary and yet, so cool. We gained an appreciation for this underground environment and for the fact that we had two backup light systems to our own headlamps.

Caving was fun, but we still prefer the super activity our Crew is best known for, S.C.U.B.A. diving. Besides local diving, we have been to Bonaire, Cancun, and by the time you read this newsletter, some of us will be in Honduras' Roatan Islands. We'll let you know about that event on the next newsletter.

Our next outing will be a Shenandoah River clean up on September 24. We'll join dozens of Venturers from the Washington D.C. area and pick-up litter from the river as we canoe along its banks.

Feel free to stop by and visit us during our monthly meetings at the Harbour Inn on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 P.M. If you have reached your 14th birthday and completed the 8th grade, we would be glad to talk about membership.



Aquia Evening Lions

Evening Lions (Florence Mittino)

The Aquia Evening Lions Club will have its regular monthly dinner meeting on Thursday, July 27, at 7:00 p.m. at the Country Club. If you are not a member of the club and would like to be, you may contact Florence Mittino, President, at 659-9910.

Host Lions

Host Lions (Cliff Neve at 540 809 8549)

Did you know...

- Lions Clubs' main mission is sight conservation, including outfitting fiscally-challenged local youth with glasses, sponsoring leader dogs, and raising diabetes awareness
- Aquia Harbour Host Lions Club raises over \$30,000/year for charitable causes, including a special needs Christmas party, numerous eye exams for needy children, food baskets for the needy for Christmas/Easter/Thanksgiving.
- *Every penny we raise is used for charity...we pay all "overhead" with our member dues*

If you are interested in being a part of fun group of folks that do great things for the community and beyond, the Aquia Harbour Host Lions Club is right up your alley. We meet the first and third Thursday of every month in the Harbour.

For information call Cliff Neve at 540 809 8549

Girl Scouts

GIRL SCOUTS – (Lisa Rush)

For membership information and Girl Scout troops in your area, please contact:

Beth Fellenstein
Field Executive
Girl Scout Commonwealth Council
150 Olde Greenwich Drive
Fredericksburg, VA 22408
(540) 898 - 4717 ext. 3
Fax: (540) 898 - 3670

We will have a table set up at Open House night at Widewater Elementary, the first week of school.

Tennis Anyone?

Tennis anyone? Tired of searching for tennis partners?

Aquia Harbour is looking to form a tennis group for all ages for singles and/or doubles play. Play will occur on Saturdays and Sundays primarily or as designated by individuals of the group. Anyone interested in signing up for this free group, please contact Shawn Desmond at desm10@yahoo.com or 954-683-5582 (cell). 1119 Potomac Drive Stafford, VA 22554

Aquia Harbour Clubhouse

Clubhouse – (George White)

New hours starting September 5th

The Clubhouse restaurant will be closed on Tuesdays but open till 8pm on Sundays for dinner

Thursday is seafood night thru August

Wednesday Is Italian night

Wine Dinner Saturday Sept. 16

Movie Night Special

Prime Rib and Jumbo Lump Crab cakes 10% off check for movie goers.

Editorials

Outage? No, it's a power FAILURE (Ben Blankenship)

Another storm hits, another tree falls across a power line. And once again we light up the candles and sweat and swear.

Why can't the electric company put all the lines underground and avoid the hassle?

Well, it seems there are lines and then there are lines. You can understand the problem of distinguishing which is which by remembering the last time your lights went kaput. Even then, you may recall, your hard-wired telephone (but not your cordless, which relies on an electric plug) most likely kept working.

That's because the telephone wire comes in, yes, over the telephone pole. So does the electricity line, but separately. The electricity on the pole comes via Dominion's big power transmission line that is stepped down by a substation or something before it gets to the telephone pole.

Now, here's what I'm getting to: They say the telephone wire is strung below the electric line. So when a storm knocks a tree down hereabouts and your power sources are in the way, the tree usually knocks out the top ones and might spare the telephone line below. Simple? Not at all. It's much more complicated than that, but it's adequate for explaining to the wife and kids.

(Speaking of whom, please spare me in my comfortable dementia any sermons about political correctness. "Outages," indeed. Thank you.)

That's how we get the power and the non-cell phone service here, unlike in some of the newer subdivisions where the lines to residences are underground..

So they are less likely to get an electric power failure than we are, regardless of our gate guards and Chuck Halt. But our quaint telephone poles aren't the only reason.

Stafford's older communities, you may have noticed, have big trees, unlike the newest ones that are bereft of them, thanks to uncaring bulldozers and (naturally) greedy developers. Speaking of whom, they should be thanked for having the electric lines buried before being condemned for leaving their residents treeless.

So a major storm knocks down some of our big trees which take some wires with them. And suddenly the Redskins, about to cream Dallas, disappear from your TV screen and you get upset and give your nearest kid a swift kick.

To guard against such a reaction here, you might wish to go out and buy a little gasoline-powered electricity generator from Lowe's and promptly burn your house down.

A better, and cheaper, idea might be to check into a nearby motel—of which Stafford has thousands nearby within hiking distance—and pray your home's power comes back on before the meat in the freezer spoils.

You'll notice I haven't discussed Dominion Power's huge transmission lines that literally split the Harbour in half. Some folks wish they could get them buried, too. But don't stay awake at night worrying about their effects and all. Aside from being Bambis' superhighway, they might buzz when it drizzles, but they're really harmless. True, behind my house they're as ugly as a board fence. And sometimes I get kinda dizzy...

Dominion Power can get ugly on the subject of burying its major power lines. Doing so would cost a ton, and besides, lest you forget, Dominion is a monopoly provider, so we'd be the ones to pay. You and I will be dead and gone, hopefully not from a power failure, long before those towers and high lines come down.

Meanwhile, relax and enjoy our fine shady lanes and neighborhoods rapidly maturing into vintage Americana.

Aquia Harbour Events Schedule

Aquia Harbour Events Page

(Get additional details of these events on the website's events page)

July 22nd - Aquia Harbour's first "Outdoor Movie Night" for adults only. The outdoor movie will be shown on a large inflatable movie screen on the driving range at the Aquia Harbour Country Club on Saturday, July 22nd at dusk. The movie will begin at dark. Book your babysitters now, dust off your picnic basket and pack it with wine and cheese (or whatever you fancy) and finally toss in some bug spray and a blanket. Instant Romance SO close to home! Sponsored by the AHPOA Board of Directors. The cost is FREE! Remember though, adults only. Email Renee Cruea for your choice of movie: CASABLANCA or CADDYSHACK. R.Cruea@verizon.net



August 19-20, 2006 - At Aquia Landing Beach & Park

August 21st - Preschool Orientation 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Special Notice

This is just a reminder that tick season has started, and from word around the Harbour it is especially bad this year. Please remember to check yourselves, your children, and your pets often. For information on ticks check out the CDC website: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/ticktips2005/>

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

Amenities

Golf Course – 659-4478
Stables – 659-5024
Marina – 659-4232
Pools & DOLPHINS SWIM TEAM - 659-4003
Parks & Harbour Inn – 659-3050
Country Club – 659-1258
Pre-School – 659-5771
Rescue Squad - 659-8911
Police - 659-4600

Clubs/Organizations

EVENING LIONS – 659-9910 Florence Mittino
HOSPICE - 659-9910 Florence Mittino
HOST LIONS – 720-4060 Tom Heck Howard
AQUIA CREEK CORVETTE CLUB Accclub@aol.com, Dave Greer d.greer2@verizon.net
WOMEN'S CLUB 659-4407 Joanne Payne
WOODSTOCK OF AQUIA GARDEN CLUB 659-3309 Irene Conte
YACHT CLUB 659-1399 Tom Kenavan

Committees

Architectural Control 659-5921 David Young
Bylaws Committee 288-1878 Mike White
Golf Committee Ken Laenger
Communications Committee 658-6330 Greg Stocksdale
Gvmt/Public Affairs 288-1878 Mike White
Legal Compliance 720-1024 Robert Lester
Public Safety 658-6330 Greg Stocksdale
Stables 657-0995 Paul Coughlin
Beautification & Planning Committees 659-6111 Jane Gill
Pools & Parks and Waterways Committees 659-1487 John Reinbolt
Marina Committee desm10@yahoo.com Shawn Desmond
Bingo Committee queenprim25@verizon.net 659-5921 Prim Young