



St. Clement Shores News

Fourth Quarter 2023 Fall Edition
stclementshores.org

Calling All Community Members!

October 15 at 1:00 p.m. - As our list of concerns, maintenance, and projects never seem to end – we need you. We have been grateful to see so many new volunteers this year show up to improve the community. You have truly made a difference. Please come to the pavilion to vote on upcoming projects, give your input, and elect the leaders for the 2023-2024 year - and don't forget to bring a dish to share!

Security System at the beach – We have installed security cameras that record video and audio. This has allowed us to address many issues of vandalism and theft. However, we continue to have a problem with non-paying members using the pier. As this continues to be a problem – and, we continue to have only half of the community paying dues – we are going to be forced to make some serious changes very soon. Either a key-card system or hiring security to check for ID cards are being considered. This will be discussed at the meeting.

By-Laws – The By-Laws Committee has been working hard this past year to review and provide much needed edits to the SCSCA By-Laws. These changes will be discussed and voted on at the meeting.

Upcoming Meetings/Events

October 1 at 9:00 a.m. – Monthly Board Meeting. All are welcome to attend as we discuss issues of importance to the community and plan for the General Meeting.

October 15 at 1:00 p.m. – General Meeting and Elections. All are welcome to attend, and any member who has paid their dues is allowed to run for a position and vote. Please be sure to bring your membership card and a dish!

October 28 at 7:00 p.m. – Fall Family Movie Night. Bring a blanket, lawn chair, treats to share and we'll see you there.

Improvements, Improvements, Improvements...

As we close out 2023, we are very excited to share the many community improvements:

- The hill at the beach was cleaned up and all the debris was removed.
- The beach area was extended so that everyone can enjoy the sand.
- The pilings at the boat ramps were sealed to help prevent further weather damage.
- New swim buoys were purchased and installed to keep the swimming area safe.
- A new sign and pilings were installed at the beach gate area.
- The broken sign at the remembrance garden was repaired and the old picnic table was removed.
- Four new tables were donated for the pavilion area.
- All of the wooden tables and benches were weather sealed.
- New security cameras were installed at the pavilion.
- New trash cans were purchased for upcoming events at the pavilion.
- A new volleyball net, volleyballs, and frisbees were purchased and provided at the beach.
- The broken flagpole light was replaced at the remembrance garden.
- An aluminum ladder was installed at the Archer Street boat ramp.
- Broken boards at both boat ramp piers were replaced.

Thank you to all of the volunteers for giving up your time from your busy schedule to add value and beauty to your community.

Someone once complained about the lack of work being done in the neighborhood. The response was a challenge asking them what they have done to make it better...

It takes all of us.

Summer Events

July Celebration: We had a great turnout on July 1, however, the weather did not cooperate. We had a 50/50 raffle, Bingo, hot dogs, and everyone brought a dish to share. We are hoping to make this a yearly event!

Laser Tag: As this was a new fundraising event, it turned out to be great fun for the kids and adults! The event was held on July 8 from 10-Noon. Unfortunately, we did not make much money, but we hope to try again next year with a greater turnout.

Tie-Dye on the Beach: We had a great turn out this year at the pavilion on July 22! As always, many thanks to Laurine Toone and her family for their expertise and for organizing this event. We hope you will join us next year!

Youth Fishing Derby: Great weather and great fishing on August 19 for the fishing derby. Special thanks to the Knights of Columbus for sponsoring and working this event for the benefit of our neighborhood children. We had great weather, a huge turnout, and everyone had a great time!

Summer Movie Night: The Little Mermaid (new edition) was organized by Jessica Varesko-Dean. Although we did not have a big turnout, we hope the community will support future movie nights.

News to Share

Golf Carts: We are monitoring the Fall Commissioners meeting to be certain our community is on the golf cart use approval list to send to Annapolis for the 2024 Legislative Session. Stay tuned...

Water Grasses: This past summer, the MD Department of Natural Resources was contacted about the grasses growing in the St. Clements Bay and Cecil Creek. The report showed that the Horned Pondweed is a type of underwater grass, also known as Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV). It requires adequate water quality and clarity to grow, provides a number of ecosystem benefits, including the provision of food and habitat for several species of fish, shellfish and waterfowl, protection from shoreline erosion, production of oxygen, and uptake of nutrients and carbon which helps mitigate climate impacts. The bright green clumps of filamentous algae

interspersed along the bottom are Flexuous Gutweed. Neither the grasses nor algae are harmful to swimmers.

Seahorses: Did you know that several of our members have (accidently) caught seahorses at the pier? A species called Hippocampus Erectus is showing up in the tributaries of the Potomac River. This is due to the enormous amount of grasses which clean the water and provide the right amount of oxygen and sunlight for the seahorses to thrive. If you catch one, please be sure to release it back into the water.

Ditch Lines: After so many complaints last year about the ditch lines being overgrown and not maintained, you all stepped up this year and it shows! Thank you for taking the time to keep the ditch lines cleared out so the water can keep moving. It also makes the area look so much cleaner and visually appealing! You Rock!

Welcome to our new neighbor, Anna Routzahn! We are delighted you chose our neighborhood to call home.

Condolences: It is with great sadness that we lost one of our youth this summer, Hunter Sansbury. Please keep the Sansbury and Colvin families in your prayers.

If we have missed any new residents, passings, or births, please let us know by sending an email to: St.Clements.BoardofDirectors@gmail.com

Comments Corner

Crabbing Lines: We have had numerous complaints about people NOT cleaning up after themselves when crabbing or fishing at the pier. A new trash can will be placed on the pier, and we are hoping this will solve the problem. Please be respectful of others – and wildlife – by cleaning up after yourself.

Poop!: We are hearing from many of our volunteers that dog owners are not cleaning up after their pets. This is not acceptable! Bags are provided and the trash can is just outside of the gate. If this continues, we will be forced to reconsider allowing pets inside of the fenced area.

The Board would like to thank each and every one of you who have paid your dues!