

Fall 2021



# Drum Point Light

## Drum Point Property Owners' Association

[www.dppoa.org](http://www.dppoa.org)

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410-326-6148

### Drum Point Day 2021

#### In celebration of Independence Day

This year's celebration was well attended as nearly 300 property owners, Drum Point Club members, residents and their guests ventured out to celebrate the return to somewhat normal times. The event was held exclusively outside, on a day that saw perfect temperatures and low humidity. Every effort was made to minimize concerns about Covid-19, and many guests, as well as the servers, chose to wear masks.

It was a great time to relax and enjoy being together again. The photos below show friends and neighbors gathering again for good food and great music by the Deanna Dove Band.

The DPPOA and the Club are tentatively planning another event for October - Oktoberfest. Hopefully, we'll begin to see a decline in cases yet again by then.



# President's Column

**Mike Snapp, President DPPOA Board of Directors**



The opening photos of our joint Drum Point Day with members of the Drum Point Club remind us of the great turnout we had on July 3<sup>rd</sup> at the club facility and beach. Approximately 300 Drum Pointers enjoyed Boomerangs BBQ, and ever-popular hotdogs and veggie burgers grilled by members of each organization. The weather was perfect for beachcombing, outdoor games, hayrides by Larry Reich, outdoor mask-less picnicking, and an outdoor concert by the Deanna Dove Band...and best of all it was FREE for attendees! Special thanks to Bruce & Libby Fall, Jane Luczak, and Mary Ann McGowan from the Drum Point Club and our own Rhea Webster and Maggie & JJ Johnson for doing much of the planning and set-up – plus Eric Andreas for helping me cook and Larry Reich for the hay wagon and tractor. It was a fun break from COVID isolation, and we plan to repeat it in October with a similar Oktoberfest gathering, tentatively scheduled for Saturday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. Stay tuned for details and consider volunteering.

Our upcoming General Membership meeting, scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on September 28<sup>th</sup>, will be very important for two reasons. First, many of you are aware that the owner of the property across the street from the Association office has graciously allowed it to be used by the DPPOA for many years. We have used it to place dumpsters for our semi-annual clean-up days and hope to resume that soon when the county has dropped all COVID restrictions. Owners may bring all non-trash, non-hazardous and non-recyclable items such as furniture, appliances, and metal objects. A community-wide yard sale was held a few years ago as well, and the area has also been used over the years for overflow parking for owners doing business at the office and during Board meetings. The owner is considering selling the property, and the Board would like to see the lot continue to be available to the community. Therefore, there will be a vote, per the By-laws, to purchase with a not-to-exceed price and to add the lot to the list of common properties now owed by the DPPOA. It would be added to the properties now listed as greenspace. Properties designated as greenspace pay only state taxes. The Association saw significant savings when the 46 undeveloped lots were given this designation, and they will remain designated thus in perpetuity. An absentee ballot will be made available for anyone who cannot attend the meeting. The absentee ballots count toward the quorum of 35 property owners needed to conduct Association business.

The second important item of business will be to present our plan and preliminary estimate for renewal of the Special Tax District (STD) that funds most of the maintenance for our roads, including paving and snow removal, as well as storm water management, street lighting and some community property maintenance. The current 5-year STD of \$115/lot/per year expires on June 30, 2022 (end of FY22). We have petitioned Calvert County to begin the process for the next STD that will cover FY23 through FY27. We expect an increase in the annual STD fee and will present our preliminary STD budget to you during the meeting on September 28. The county will also schedule a public hearing on the STD in the coming months before the STD is finally approved.

(Continued on next page...)

(President's page, continued from page 2)

I hate to end on a downbeat note, but I have to recognize that Calvert and particularly St. Mary's counties have seen significant rises in COVID cases in the last 2 months, probably enhanced by the "delta variant" and chiefly among unvaccinated people of all ages. Folks, the vaccines work and even drastically reduce symptoms in the few "breakthrough" cases among the vaccinated. PLEASE consider getting the free vaccines to protect you, your family and friends, neighbors, and especially the health care system that may have to care for you if you get COVID, while straining the resources needed to ensure the wellness of people who need non-COVID care. If you can't get the vaccines, at least use masks when indoors and around others. Until the area numbers start coming back down, we're asking people to wear a mask when conducting business in the DPPOA office.

Mike Snapp

### Receive this Newsletter by Email

Once again, many of you are receiving this newsletter in your mailbox and missing out on the lovely, full-color spread on the front page.

Please consider contacting the DPPOA office to provide an email address. It not only allows you to see the newsletter in all its color-filled glory, it also saves the Association money on postage and processing time. Contact Rhea by email at [office@dppoa.org](mailto:office@dppoa.org) to be added to the list of email recipients.

Announcing the creation of the

## DRUM POINT IVY LEAGUE!

**What:** We are a volunteer movement that meets a few hours during cooler months to rid DPPOA trees of English ivy.

**Why:** Once it surrounds branches or reaches tree canopy, English ivy has the ability to block out sunlight and deprive contact with air... essentially choking out the tree.

**When:** We will meet the second Saturday in the months of November 2021 through February 2022 between the hours of 10 AM and 12 PM. (Come for the full two hours or any fraction thereof.)

**Where:** A predetermined DPPOA vacant lot. Exact address and details will be forwarded a week before each session is held.

Bring a screwdriver, a pair of snippers and gloves (Extra tools will be on hand).

Those who attend three of the sessions will receive a Starbucks gift card.

For more information contact Ginny Rice at [riceginny@yahoo.com](mailto:riceginny@yahoo.com).

## Phragmites

The Association continues to monitor the Phragmites that grow along many of our waterways. Phragmites is an invasive plant that can choke out native plant species. While it remains a nuisance, the ongoing efforts to eradicate it are paying off.

Mark Smith, of Phragmites Invasive Control, who is authorized by the Maryland Department of the Environment, is scheduled to treat the plants again this fall.

Because of the way in which Phragmites propagate, these treatments will be done annually for the foreseeable future.



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### **General Membership Meeting**

All meetings will be conducted according to Maryland Code, Corporations and Associations, Title 5, Sub Title 2, section (§) 5-206.J which states, If the number of members present at a meeting does not meet the requirements of a quorum, those present may call another meeting to meet quorum requirements. At the additional meeting, the members present in person constitute a quorum.\*

\*Per the DPPOA Attorney - Any and all business of the Association can be discussed at the meeting.

### **General Membership Meeting**

#### **Agenda**

**7:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 28th**

**Drum Point Club**

**Call to Order**

**President's Remarks**

**Approval of Minutes**

**Committee Reports**

**Unfinished Business**

**Beach Erosion Study**

**New Business**

**Vote to approve**

**the purchase of Common Property**

**Public Comments**

**Adjournment**