

Winter 2025



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

# Drum Point Light

## Drum Point Property Owners' Association

[office@dppoa.org](mailto:office@dppoa.org)

410-326-6148

### Oktoberfest 2025



Patty serving at the  
Oktoberfest buffet



Maryland Polka Band



Russ and Eric  
taking a break  
from grill duties



Family, Friends and Fun



Who doesn't like a  
hayride?



Ed and Eric in a tight race to the finish  
Don't spill the beer!!



Larry taking a break from  
hayride duties to enjoy a beer.

# President's Column

Tony Spakauskas, President DPPOA Board of Directors



I hope we all had a very Happy Thanksgiving surrounded by family and friends. As I am writing this, in the grips of some very cold weather, I'm sure we are all rather eagerly waiting for the warmth and joy the remaining winter happy holidays will bring. But as winter sets in, it is a good time to examine our organizational expenses and try to anticipate what the future will bring. As we have all experienced, the last few years brought inflation and rising prices for materials and labor. For the future, we should expect all costs to increase. Hopefully, more slowly than in the recent past, but prices rarely come down except perhaps in individual segments of the economy, which then serve as dampening mechanisms for general inflation.

Most of our funds go towards Capital Projects, such as the repaving of streets and storm water management. In round numbers from 2022 to date, our major expenses have been:

- Storm Water Management - \$58,000

We should expect these costs to go up due to rising labor costs and the potential increase in storms due to climate change.

- Paving - \$961,000

These costs will definitely increase. While the price of petroleum may fall, the cost of producing paving products and labor for paving projects will increase.

- Erosion Control - \$141,000

Just as with Storm Water Management, this cost will also go up.

- Miscellaneous - (major tree trimming, trimming rights of way) - \$65,000.

We expect this cost to increase just as with Storm Water Management and Erosion Control.

These major categories accounted for about \$1,226,000 of our expenses but they were not our total costs. If you would like additional detail, please stop by the office.

I do not know what the final effect of all this will be on our assessments and fees this coming year or how it will all be reflected in our Special Tax District (STD) request the following year. But I ask you all to keep it in mind when the Finance Committee presents its reports. Better yet, join the Finance Committee and have a real positive impact on our community.

Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas, and a very Happy New Year!

*Tony*

## Nominating Committee Formation

It's that time of year again; the kids are back in school, the holidays are just around the corner, and next year's Board of Directors slate is on everybody's mind. The property owners who serve the community on the Board are an important part of making Drum Point such a great place to live. Please consider running for the Board, or if you're not quite ready to volunteer as a Board member, you may wish to serve on the Nominating Committee. The committee helps those who may be interested in serving on the Board understand what is involved. Perhaps you aren't ready to volunteer just yet but would like to consider it in the coming years, maybe after retirement. Let us know, so your name can be added to a list for the future. Contact Rhea at the office if you can serve on the Board or the Nominating Committee – 410-326-6148 or via email at [office@dppoa.org](mailto:office@dppoa.org).



## Winter is Coming

We were taken a bit by surprise last year with the amount of snow received in southern Maryland. While efforts are made every year to stay on top of the weather, there are always a few lessons to be learned. One issue that became apparent was the need to be sure all street signs are in place. The somewhat unusual road system, with some roads never having been fully completed and others with unexpected branches off a particular street, can add to the confusion at 2:00 a.m. when the snow removal contractor is in the community. The lack of a street sign may mean that your street does not receive salt or may not be plowed at that hour of the morning. Please notify the Association office ASAP if your street does not have a sign. We will also conduct an inspection in the coming weeks to determine if any signs are missing.

In past years, we have had complaints about the snowplow pushing snow into a driveway that has been shoveled out. Some of these complaints come from people who live on dead-end streets or cul-de-sacs. Others come from owners who have driveways that are perpendicular to the street. In both cases, our snowplow operators make every effort to be as kind as possible in the placement of snow. For driveways off streets, it is not possible to keep snow from accumulating at driveway entrances as the roadway is plowed, we simply do not have the money or the time to open each driveway entrance as the snowplow passes.

For dead end streets and cul-de-sacs, the operators must determine where to put the snow at the end of their run. Sometimes, during early morning hours, it is difficult to determine where a driveway enters the cul-de-sac or where the road dead ends. In these cases, we will make every effort to not block any driveway entrances. Please call the Association office if a problem arises. If Rhea is unable to come in during inclement weather, leave a message as she works from home on snow days and checks messages and email traffic throughout the day.

## HOA Fees in Arrears

If you have received a statement showing that your HOA fees are past due and are unable to make full payment, please contact Rhea at the Association office to talk about your account.

When an account is two or more years in arrears, a claim is filed in the District Court of Maryland, and a judgment has always been found in favor of the Association. Once that happens and restitution is not made, a lien is filed against the property. A claim or lien against your property can adversely impact your credit rating and will appear in the Maryland Judiciary Court search online. The Maryland Judiciary Court search is available to anyone wishing to make an inquiry into your background.

The Board of Directors does not wish to file a claim and understands that financial issues arise. However, they have a fiduciary responsibility to collect these fees. If you are behind in paying your HOA fees or if you have received word of a claim having been filed, please do not ignore the problem – call Rhea to discuss how it can be resolved. She can be reached by email at [office@dppoa.org](mailto:office@dppoa.org) or call 410-326-6148.

If you are a relatively new property owner, please be aware that the HOA fees paid to the Association differ from the Special Tax District fee of \$175.00 that is collected annually with your property taxes. All fees and taxes collected by or on behalf of the Association are used to maintain the streets, beach, for snow removal etc.

### The Ivy League

With fall upon us, the Ivy League is once again at work to eradicate English Ivy. The Southern Calvert Land Trust (SCLT) is now leading the way with the effort to eliminate this invasive plant, which if allowed to grow can kill trees and choke out native plants that wild animals need to survive.

Watch your email for updates on the Ivy League program. The link below will take you to the SCLT website for more information on how to volunteer.

<https://www.southerncalvertlandtrust.com/volunteersneeded>



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Permit No. 49

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  
10:00 a.m. Saturday, December 13, 2025  
Drum Point Club  
Call to Order  
President's Remarks  
Approval of Minutes  
Committee Reports  
Unfinished Business  
New Business  
Public Comments  
Adjournment**

The meeting of December 13<sup>th</sup> will be held in accordance with Maryland State Law governing quorums (cited above).