

Winter 2024



# Drum Point Light

## Drum Point Property Owners' Association

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

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

410-326-6148

Oktoberfest 2024

Friends - Music - Fun

(and a little hard work from some great volunteers!)

If you missed it this year, makes plans for next year - date to be determined.



Music by Monkey Business



Two of our grill masters  
Eric Andreas and Russ Tokarski



A friendly game



Patricia Troxel and Susan Rork  
Serving at the buffet table



Another Oktoberfest Sunset



Larry Reich  
The last hayrides of the season

# President's Column

**Tony Spakauskas, President DPPOA Board of Directors**



Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah, Happy Kwanzaa, and Happy New Year! I wish I could end that greeting on a happy note but unfortunately, shortly before this current cold weather hit, four young men vandalized the community beach by putting one of our picnic tables in the water. The entire sequence was filmed by our security camera system. The incident is under investigation and appropriate action will be taken. I guess they didn't realize they were damaging their own property.

Winter's vengeance is forcing us to spend more time indoors. A good use of indoor time is service on the Nominating Committee. Every December the By-laws require that we establish a Committee to identify community-minded property owners willing to serve on the Board of Directors. If you are interested in serving on the Committee or the Board or would like to nominate someone, please contact Rhea at the DPPOA Office.

During the past year, there has been community interest in the installation of traffic calming devices such as speed bumps/humps on our streets. We have been advised by the County that to do so we must hire a qualified traffic engineer to assess feasibility and ensure safety regulation compliance. The Board will continue to explore options.

The end of the year is a good time to review progress made during the year. (1) The erosion control project at the Community Beach has been completed and appears successful in accreting and maintaining the sand. (2) The annual paving of a mile plus of our roads has been completed and our roads remain in good condition (3) Erosion control repairs to the Bay Drive Causeway and Lake Charming have been successfully completed improving safety and aesthetics. (4) Various Stormwater Management improvements have been successfully implemented ensuring stormwater flows along and not in our streets. All in all, a productive year.

Please plan to attend our December General Membership Meeting at the Drum Point Club at 10:00 a.m. on December 21<sup>st</sup>. This meeting will be held in accordance with the Maryland Code governing quorums. The code and agenda can be reviewed on the back of this newsletter.

I hope you enjoy this Holiday Season.

*Tony*



## Visit the Association Website

The Drum Point Property Owners' Association website ([www.dppoa.org](http://www.dppoa.org)) is a great way to find out what is happening in the Drum Point community and with the Association. Important announcements such as the temporary closing of the office, and the time and location of Board meetings are posted. One can read the minutes of Board and Membership meetings and view videos of those meetings. Corporate documents, such as Drum Point Covenants and Association By-laws, are available by clicking on the links at the top of the home page.

Be sure to click on the drop down menu as well to see photos, info on the environment, security and other important information. One can also access the websites of other groups and areas of interest, such as the Drum Point Club, the Southern Calvert Land Trust, the Calvert County Sheriff's office, and the Calvert County Government.

## Drum Point Ivy League

The Drum Point Ivy League is up and running. The group met on November 16<sup>th</sup> to remove ivy from trees on River View Drive, near Lake Vista. This will be the 4<sup>th</sup> year that the group has been working to help eradicate ivy from our trees, which if left alone, can choke out and kill even large trees.

The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, January 11<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. until noon. Come for an hour or for the entire session. Watch your email for additional details about where the group will meet each month. Click on the following link for more information about the league and how you can become involved: <https://dppoa.org/environment>.

You can also click on the link below to view a short YouTube tutorial on how to do this on the trees in your own yard.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8qcK9XhKI3Q>

## Be Ready for the Unexpected

John Lathem, Chair of the DPPOA Safety Committee, has been working with the Calvert County Emergency Services office to be sure that Drum Point is prepared should there be an emergency. A drill to test the HAM radio equipment was held in October in conjunction with the Calvert County Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The radio equipment is up and running as expected. If anyone wishes to join the Safety Committee, please contact the Association office.

In the meantime, with winter nearly upon us, here are a few tips to keep you ready for the unexpected:

- Build an emergency kit that includes, among other things, important documents, first aid kit, supply of food and water for up to 72 hours, a portable radio with spare batteries, hygiene items, pet supplies and spare cash.
- Keep an eye on the weather. If a storm is predicted and power is lost, your well pump will not work - fill a tub with water that can be used to flush the toilet.
- The Association office has emergency first aid supplies and radio communication capabilities. It is also equipped with a whole-house generator should there be a major long-term outage.
- While phones and email messages are monitored throughout weather events, please call 911 for an actual emergency, as the office is not equipped to handle true emergencies.

The County EOC has requested that we report any damage that might occur to personal property (such as downed trees on houses or cars). Please do contact the DPPOA office to report any damage to personal property as a result of major weather events. This information will be forwarded to the County. If a disaster is declared by the State of Maryland, this information will be used for purposes of FEMA/EMMA disaster relief funding, should it be made available.

## It's Cold Out There

Winter hasn't officially begun, but one wouldn't know that stepping outside, especially at night. Please do not leave your dogs outside to shiver on these frigid days. They may be wearing their "coat," but that does not necessarily protect them when temperatures drop.

Regardless of the temperature do not leave your dog outside to bark incessantly. Perhaps your previous home was on a large tract of land, but you now live in a community with nearly 1,000 homes on relatively small lots. Please be considerate of your neighbors. In that same vein, remember to pick up after your dog does its business along the street during a walk. Again, it's a matter of consideration for others.

## Contact Info

Please be sure to provide updated contact information to the Association office. There are times throughout the year that important information is sent via email to all property owners. One very important piece of information involves paving projects. While letters are mailed to all affected owners, the U. S. Mail can be a bit unreliable these days, and updates are sent via email. The office can only work with the information you provide, not to mention receiving our newsletter by email will allow you to view it in color, rather than the black and white hardcopy that is mailed to anyone who has not provided an email address.

Please provide up-to-date information to Rhea at the DPPOA office ([office@dppoa.org](mailto:office@dppoa.org)). For anyone who is not a full-time resident, keep your mailing address current as well.

## Fees for FY 2026

Statements for the upcoming fiscal year, which begins July 1, 2025, will be mailed near the end of January. The Association bills ahead of each fiscal year, and all fees will be due March 1, 2025.

The Covenant fee, currently \$130/lot, adjusts each year for inflation and will likely increase by a few dollars. The Mandatory Assessment of \$55/developed lot (\$20 for an undeveloped lot) will likely remain the same. These fees help fund the improvements mentioned in the President's page. Regardless of this minor increase, the cost of homeowner fees in Drum Point remains low in comparison to other communities in the area.

You should be aware that claims are filed in District Court for accounts that are significantly in arrears. However, every effort is made to avoid having to resort to this measure. If you receive notice that a claim is due to be filed, please contact the office to discuss your account. A payment plan can be discussed. Allowing a judgment to be entered will lead to a lien being filed if payment is not made.



Drum Point Property Owners' Association  
401 Lake Drive  
Lusby, MD 20657  
410-326-6148  
www.dppoa.org office@dppoa.org

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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 (§) 5-206.1, 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 21, 2024**

**Drum Point Club**

**Call to Order**

**President's Remarks**

**Approval of Minutes**

**Committee Reports**

**Unfinished Business**

**New Business**

**Nominating Committee Formation**

**Public Comments**

**Adjournment**

The December 21<sup>st</sup> meeting will be held in accordance with the Maryland Code governing quorums for association membership meetings (cited above).