



Lakeside Docksider Community Newsletter



Board Meetings Recap

By Gerard Amato

For those who missed our board meetings in the past few months, here are some highlights of what's happening in our community:

We have adopted a comprehensive grounds maintenance program to help improve the appearance and property value of our community. We will follow the expert advice of the University of Maryland Extension, fertilize responsibly, spot treat weeds as needed, seed bare spots, grow healthy grass, and use rain gardens and conservation landscapes to reduce the runoff of silt, nutrients, and pollutants into Lake Elkhorn and Patuxent watershed.

As an effort to reduce runoff and beautify our community, our volunteers have planted seventeen native trees donated by Columbia Association.

To beautify their own yards and improve the water quality of Lake Elkhorn, five homeowners in our community have recently requested and received Bay-wise landscape consultations at no cost to homeowners.

Our board and Owen Brown RAC Committee have approved the construction of a rain garden behind 7444 Broken Staff to help remediate erosion and reduce runoffs into Lake Elkhorn.

We have conducted a parking survey asking residents if they would like to have one parking space reserved for each unit. Half the residents surveyed responded, and 90% of those said yes. This helped us to decide that we should move forward. Our (continued) task is to look at several viable options to improve the parking situation.

HOA financial reports are available to all homeowners who have registered with our website (lakeside-docksider.org) and who have received a password to view HOA documents.

We have signed a contract with Fantcho Tax and Financial Services, LLC, to assist us in bookkeeping and other financial matters.

At our request, the accounting firm Hiltner and Co. has started auditing our books for 2015 (as required by our HOA by-laws).

We had all mailboxes cleaned and painted by a contractor. Many houses have been sold at good prices; many new homeowners have moved in.

We are in the process of collecting estimates for the retaining walls behind 7471 Broken Staff and 7223 Docksider Lane.

Rain Garden in Progress: First Step to Stormwater Management in Our Community



This rain garden is designed and installed by READY (Restoring the Environment and Developing Youth). It is funded by Howard County and administered by the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay with support from PATH (People Acting Together in Howard.)

REMINDERS

Board meetings: 4th Wednesday of Month, 7-8 pm
Coming up: **July 27th**, August 24th, September 28th

Recycle Days: **Monday** morning
Trash pickup: **Wednesday** morning

Exceptions: On some Monday holidays, both pickups are one day later.

For more info, see

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Bureau-Of-Environmental-Services/Holiday-Schedule-for-Recycling-Trash>



Spring Fling Brings Community Together

By Thordis Boron

April 23rd started with gray clouds and rain. I'm sure some people even thought that the HOA's first Earth Day Spring Fling would not be happening. But oh boy, it did!

Just in time at 1p.m., when all the helping hands started setting up tables, our stage and our grills, the sun came out and stayed with us for the rest of the day, painting blue skies and happy faces!

It all began in early March with the new Welcome Committee's first big meeting, collecting ideas, hoping for a good turnout, all the while knowing we have to plan all this with a modest budget.

Less than two months later we had organized a professionally equipped stage, several talented musicians, a plant raffle with over 140 plants and trees generously provided by the Columbia Association and, thanks to an HOA budget, hot dogs and hamburgers galore to feed every hungry mouth.

Over 100 Lakeside-Dockside neighbors and friends celebrated together, got valuable information from Howard County Watershed Stewards and helpful answers from the Bay-wise Consultation Team. Our children played together on the green and danced a Kangaroo dance to the sound of a didgeridoo, while the adults established new and revived old relationships and danced to some good old blues.

All this was only possible thanks to so many volunteer helping hands and the generous providing of tables, chairs, grills, food and games. The Lakeside Dockside Earth Day Spring Fling showed that we all live in a wonderful, friendly and caring community!

Special thanks go to

- Our tireless grill masters Rich Loeffler, Joe Reyes, and Lam Chan.
- Our patient sound guy and musician Brandon Boron, who provided his personal equipment.
- Eric and Ryan of 7515 Broken Staff for providing their back porch as our stage.
- Rob Jones and his handy-dandy Weed-Eater and pressure washer in prepping the stage.
- Melissa Davey, Mara Daniel, and Cynthia Dillard for providing games to entertain our kids.
- All the great musicians who gave their time and talent to entertain us adults: Brandon Boron, Cynthia Dillard, Warner Williams, Chris Colvin and Chris Kennedy.
- The Columbia Association for giving us so many plants and trees.

Last but not least, everyone who came out to join the party!

Our Spring Fling was quite a thing, and we all look forward to an equally fun Fall Fling soon! We hope you do, too! But first: Let's enjoy the summer!



Grill masters Lam Chan and Rich Loeffler hard at work



Resident musicians: Chris Kennedy (2nd from left), Brandon Boron (4th from left), & Cynthia Dillard (5th from left)

Meet Your Neighbors: George Murrill

By Marianne Eriksson

We have an artist living among us: His name is George Murrill. George attended the College of Art and Technology in Cambridge, England and received a degree in Sociology with a minor in Art from Hood College, Frederick, Maryland. He paints in all mediums, and his works vary from contemporary to realism. He has painted stage sets for small plays and sold over 400 paintings. Two of his paintings were rented for major movies (Syrianna and Step Up Two).

George and his wife Sheila have lived here on Sea Change for 29 years. He is very active in our community, and has volunteered to help survey HOA members regarding improvements to the neighborhood parking situation. It is great to have an accomplished artist as our neighbor because George has re-painted the Lakeside entrance sign and the sign with its heron now looks great! Dockside's entrance sign did not need to be re-painted--only cleaned, which George has accomplished. Hats off to George Murrill—our artist in residence!!



“Hood” Paws: Who Belongs to Whom?

By Jennifer Darby

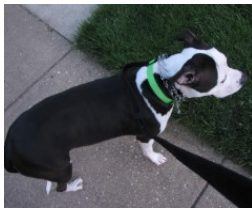
Do dogs look like their owners? If they do, it shouldn't be hard for you to figure out who belongs to whom in the following sets of photos. For answers, go to the last page of this newsletter or to our website [“lakeside-dockside.org”](http://lakeside-dockside.org).

To participate in our next round of “Hood” Paws, please submit 3 photos: one of you, one of your pet, and one of you and your best friend together.

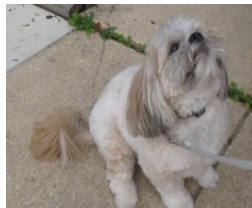
Liberty



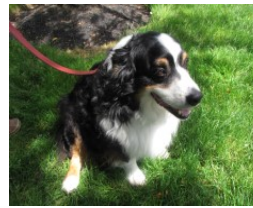
Finn



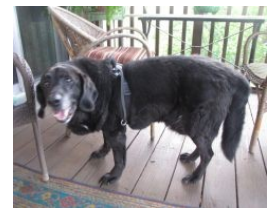
Bentley



Marble



Chester



Gale and Gerry



John



Arek



Charlotte



Peyton



Where in the World is 7300 Broken Staff?

By TJ Dillard

Do you know where is 7300 Broken Staff—that Atlantis of the Deep into which our assessment checks find their way? Many of our neighbors have no idea. Some have driven around the neighborhood looking for it; others have wondered why they can't stop by and drop off a check. It is where Lakeside Dockside Association is located, isn't it?

Yes, and no. It is the official address of Lakeside Dockside Association. It is a place where all HOA payments, invoices, and important documents are sent and received. Except for the year of 2015 when there was a management company, all HOA business has been conducted through this address. It is the headquarters of Lakeside Dockside Association for all intents and purposes.

This headquarters, however, is not an ordinary office. It costs no money and requires little maintenance. Despite its recent acquisition of a new phone, several Gmail addresses, a brand new website, and a large group of volunteers, this "office" cannot handle visitors who want to stop by to say hi or shoot the breeze with our hard working volunteers. Such and other pleasantries have to be taken outside in the parking lot or on the sidewalk.

Why...you ask? This "office" is too small. It has metal walls and no windows. Its door is locked at all hours. Very few people can find it by its address. Only two board members and the postman have access to its interior. Did you guess what it is? Yes, you are right! It is a mailbox on Broken Staff!

Like all mailboxes in our community, this mini office has taken on a brand new look recently. It has been rejuvenated after a hard scrubbing and a fresh coat of paint. As it has done in the past 38 years, it will continue to house Lakeside Dockside Association and take care of its business for as long as time exists. So...stop looking for little people working inside this tiny metal box. If you want to know what's going on in our community, please come to our board meetings at 7 pm on the fourth Wednesday of every month at Owen Brown Community Center!

Thank You for Making Our Community Beautiful!

Big thanks to Dennis Saunders, Susanne Hooley, Charlotte and Fritz Stritehoff, Jean Gable, Karen Robinson, Sam Kesse, Marianne Eriksson, Sarah Toich, Connie Chan, Constance Lewis, Jennifer Darby, Laura Smit, Charlene Lopez, Terry Raymond for helping to plant, water, and care for the young trees and plants. Thanks also to Russel Khan and Rob Payne for running up their water bills to keep our entrance flowers watered and happy!



Sarah Toich, Marianne Eriksson, and Jim Dillard plant trees between Brokenland Parkway and Sweet Clover



Constance Lewis, Teresa Raymond, Jennifer Darby, and Jim Dillard plant trees by Broken Staff mailboxes.

A Facelift to Lakeside Dockside Entrances

By James E. Dillard

Have you noticed that our army of volunteers is at it again? This time they are giving a much-needed facelift to our entrance areas. First, George Murrill, our resident artist, went to work quietly on several hot and humid days, cleaning and painting the artwork on our entrance signs. Brandon Boron, our resident musician, brought out his tools and started making noises, cutting and repairing rotten wood on the signs. After the required drying time for the new wood, Robert Jones, our resident handy man, will prime and paint the new wood. In the meantime, Joe Reyes, our resident garden manager, loaded up his 4x4 with the construction debris and took them to the land-fill. Jim Dillard, our resident editor and expert digger, added to his already demanding tree-watering schedule three more azalea bushes transplanted to the entrance areas by our aesthetic driven neighbors Karen Robinson and Charlene Lopez. All we need now is for someone to plant some flowers...



Charlene Lopez and Karen Robinson Transplant 3 Azaleas to Lakeside entrance area



Robert Jones and Jim Dillard help Brandon Boron repair Lakeside and Dockside entrance Signs

Committee Updates

Landscape Committee by Lena Duguid

Please mark your trash cans and recycle bins with your house numbers.

Those trash cans and recycle bins that are left outside 48 hours after trash/recycle pickup will be discarded.

Many neighbors have joined us in picking up trash and litter. Thank you for keeping our neighborhood beautiful!

Welcome Committee by Thordis Boron

Your Welcome Committee was quite busy in the last three months, and we are especially proud of putting together the first HOA Earth Day Spring Fling on April 23rd. We also had the pleasure to welcome many of our new neighbors. It is the first big step to our mutual goal of getting to know each other in a more beautiful and safer community! You can contact us via our new email address lakesidedocksidewlc@gmail.com – we are looking forward to meeting you, too!

Architectural Committee by Brandon Boron

Summer is among us, and for many neighbors that means exciting new projects around the yard and to our homes! It also means a busy time of year for the ARC (Architectural Committee) as we continue our efforts to increase the beauty and value of our neighborhood.

Please remember BEFORE beginning any remodeling on the outside of your residence to consult the architectural guidelines for the Lakeside Dockside and Owen Brown community and file an Exterior Alterations Application (if applicable). Guidelines and the application can be found under the “RESIDENT RESOURCES” tab on the homepage of our website lakeside-dockside.org (Follow the link and click on “Architectural Review/Guidelines” to access the Exterior Alteration Application and further instructions and information).

Respecting these guidelines will insure our community remains an attractive, desirable place to live. Please contact us via the website or at lakesidedocksidearc@gmail.com with any questions! Safe and happy remodeling!

A Stroll Along Lake Elkhorn—Trees, Water, and More

By Bill Cain

A one-mile tour - Stroll with me, will you? Along the north side of Lake Elkhorn from the bridge at the lake's east end to the dam and spillway near Broken Land Parkway.



The bridge near the east end of the lake divides the area into the "nature center" and settling ponds to the right

Our second quarter-mile takes us along the lake shore south of SwanPoint. This portion of the tour features views of the lake at her widest in pleasing proportion to the steep elevation and large trees across the lake. Did you know that the 37-acre lake drains a watershed of 2500 acres? Built in 1974, the lake's average depth is 8 feet and her maximum depth is 15 feet. The 2-mile long path around the lake was added in 1982. Soon after we enter the third quarter-mile of our brief journey, our 8-foot asphalt pathway widens to 10 feet and swings right, opening our view to a maintenance notice near the lake's focal dock area. In addition to a first glimpse of a portion of Dockside, our view includes the *tot-lot* up there near Cradlerock Way, a MacDonalds peeping out of the background and a portion of the pathway still being improved. The *tot-lot* and Mickey Dee play their continuous role, but both drop out of competition when the ice cream truck appears.

The first quarter mile is along a pleasant 8-foot wide asphalt path. The lake is on our left, and homes that face Angelina Circle and those in Elkhorn Landing are to our right, as is the introduction to the Lake Elkhorn Arboretum.

Trees - The arboretum teaches us about the natural environment that we live in and raise our awareness of the impact each of us has on our environment. Near the arboretum announcement, silt from a runoff stream can be seen deposited up twenty feet into the lake.



The silting problem in the lake



Ice cream truck by the *tot-lot* near Cradlerock Way

Our final quarter-mile includes more ten-foot wide pathway, nicely fenced for safety, and a panoramic view of Lakeside-Dockside and more capital improvement projects by Columbia Association.



Capital improvement along the lake

The Elkhorn water - In the spring of the year, Lake Elkhorn's water is at its best. Seasonal rains have flushed the winter's collection of yard and road grime from the lake's surface and carried much sediment downstream or hidden out of sight. Never mind that dull surface film that's been visible when the breeze and sun were low. The film is mostly floating tree pollen and other microscopic detritus, all of which will dissolve, sink or float away.

Of more concern is a microscopic flora that includes toxin-producing diatoms and Cyanobacteria. Last year a couple of dangerous Cyanobacteria toxins were detected in the warm summer water, but never at "reportable" levels.

More on water quality will follow in my blog (billonseachange.com). In the meantime, you can do your part by minimizing watering, avoiding excessive lawn and garden fertilizers, and by "scooping the poop." And, by all means ... don't let your pets drink from or frolic in the water.

Tree Trimming Project

On June 27, 28 and 29th, the first phase of this year's Tree Trimming Project took place. The next round of tree work will be scheduled for September, budget permitting. If you see any trees that need attention, please let the landscape committee know; and they will evaluate it. Thanks to all for your assistance and cooperation. (lakesidedocksidelan@gmail.com)



We are starting a neighborhood watch committee.

If you are interested, please contact lakedockcontact@gmail.com.

Newsletter Committee

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“Hood “ Paws

