



Island Report

Communication, Advocacy and Protection of BHI Property Values


Board Self-Nomination Petitions Due November 26, 2024

Bald Head Association (BHA's) Bylaws describe two paths for individuals to run for election to the organization's Board of Directors. The first path is through the Nominating Committee, which traditionally meets throughout the summer months to identify prospective candidates. The Committee then informs BHA's current Board of Directors of the candidates at its regular September Board meeting. More information about the candidates will be available in upcoming *Compass* e-bulletins, as well as in the Annual Meeting packet that will be mailed in December.

If someone wants to be considered by the membership for Board service and is not identified through the Nominating Committee process, BHA's Bylaws identify an alternative path through self-nomination: "A petition signed by a minimum of fifteen (15) individual property owners, advocating a nominee for election to the Board of Directors, may be submitted to

the Association office no later than sixty (60) days prior to the annual meeting and this candidate or candidates shall be added to the final ballot which will be mailed to the membership no less than thirty (30) days in advance of the annual meeting."

The 60-day deadline for receipt of petitions this year is November 26, 2024. Of course, that date is the final deadline, and submissions can be sent any time prior to the deadline. Note that all Board candidates are required to complete a biography/questionnaire and send a headshot photo for publication in BHA's Annual Report and on BHA's website to help inform members of candidates' credentials. With a tight print deadline, all biography/questionnaires and photos must be received by 4:00pm on December 2, 2024.

All who are interested in submitting a petition can drop it off at the office (111 Lighthouse Wynd) or call the office at 910-457-4676, ext. 21 with questions. 



BHI Native Plant Feature of the Month *American Beautyberry*

The American Beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*) is a woody, deciduous, perennial shrub and is native to Bald Head Island. Some common names are American Beautyberry, American Mulberry, Beautyberry, French Mulberry and Sourbush. Here are some details from the NC State Cooperative Extension:

It is a member of the Lamiaceae (mint) family. The leaves, when crushed, produce a chemical that can repel mosquitos, ticks and fire ants. Clusters of small flowers bloom on the stems during the late spring and early summer. Clusters of purplish to

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Ask ARC before any work begins!

- Planning a renovation project or new construction?
- Wanting to change outdoor lighting or fixtures?
- Thinking about cutting/trimming trees or vegetation?
- Considering any landscape changes?

ARC office — open by appointment only.

Email Fran Pagliaro, ARC Coordinator, at Fran@BaldHeadAssociation.com.
 ARC Administrative Assistant, at ARC1@BaldHeadAssociation.com or 910-457-4676, ext. 23.
 For all questions about trees and vegetation, email Trees@BaldHeadAssociation.com.



Hurricane Season — What Does It Mean for BHI, ARC and Trees?

Did you know that hurricane season in southeastern North Carolina runs June through November? There was Hurricane Matthew in 2016, Florence in 2018, followed by Isaias in 2020 and Ian in 2022. If NOAA’s outlook for the 2024 Atlantic hurricane season predictions is right, we’re looking at an 85% chance of an above-normal season. So, now is a good time to make your hurricane action plan if you haven’t already done so. Check out Brunswick County’s emergency information site (www.brunswickcountync.gov/e-alerts) for details on how to get notifications, prepare an emergency kit and create an evacuation plan. North Carolina’s “ReadyNC” website has additional resources (www.readync.gov).

“QUICK BYTES”

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It’s Hurricane Season, and summer brings other types of strong storms through our area, as well. The best practice is to be prepared and have an emergency plan in advance. Planning should include management of your work sites on Bald Head Island. Please be vigilant and proactive at your work sites on a daily basis. Cleanliness at building and renovation sites can greatly help during any time, including windy days, and most especially during any type of storm. Storms can build quickly, and if transportation to/from BHI is limited, it makes ongoing site management crucial. We appreciate your efforts in keeping Bald Head Island clean and beautiful!

Job Sites on BHI

Preplanning also extends to any construction projects you have going on before the storm strikes. You and your contractors should make a habit of keeping your job site clean and securing loose materials at the end of every workday. Flying debris can wreak havoc not only on your property but your neighbors, as well. As the property owner, you — not your builder — are ultimately responsible for your job site. For those who have contractors working on your property, make sure they have a hurricane preparation plan in place.

It is crucial to have in writing who is responsible for various preparation tasks such as securing loose materials, which otherwise could become lethal flying objects. By delegating specific assignments in advance, a contractor’s employees can avoid confusion and act quickly. Some tasks include:

- Secure trash containers and other debris. Dumpsters should never overflow, and contents must be secured from wind.

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“We’re still helping BHI families when the rest are gone!”

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BHA President's Letter

By Christine Osborne, BHA President

It never ceases to amaze me just how quickly the Summer months pass on Bald Head Island. We have all had our share of visitors, family and friends alike. The days fly by while we gather at parties, enjoy boat trips, meet for beach days or simply laze about poolside.

Some of us decide to connect with the Island on a deeper level by choosing to be a sea turtle nest monitor or helping with Pirate's Weekend. There are many volunteer opportunities that our busy season offers.

When thinking about our sea turtles, I would be remiss if I did not mention our amazing BHI Conservancy staff and volunteers lead by Chris Shank. These individuals work tirelessly towards the study and wellbeing of our wildlife while educating both homeowners and Island visitors. Unfortunately, some BHI Conservancy personnel were harassed and assaulted while performing their routine overnight duties on our beaches this Summer. This is completely

unacceptable behavior, and I have no doubt all would be in agreement that we should expect every Island employee and volunteer should be able to go about their duties without worry of violence or harassment.

While I believe that our "busy season" brings a small amount of poorly behaved individuals to our Island paradise, I would like to think that the majority of visitors and homeowners still hold this Island in their hearts for exactly what it is, a refuge for all seeking family fun and solace. This is a place that is unique with pristine beaches, a beautiful canopy of trees in the Maritime Forest, a marsh that you could mistake for an oil painting at sunrise and a harbor that welcomes all like no other.

One small step for every one of us to take would be to remind our family, friends and Island visitors that we not only request, but we also call on all to respect this Island. Let's work together to keep it the haven that it is.



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Bald Head Association Board of Directors

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Contributors

BHI Conservancy • Old Baldy Foundation
Village of BHI • Village Chapel of BHI • BHI Academy

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Editorial Policy

Letters to the Editor and articles written by property owners about BHI issues and experiences are encouraged, subject to the Content Approval

guideline as well as the following space guidelines: (1) The maximum length of a letter for publication in the *Island Report* will be 250 words. This limit will be strictly enforced. If the article or letter exceeds that length, the contributor may be granted more space by the Communications Manager or Executive Director, if appropriate. (2) Any individual will be limited to one letter every six months. BHA reserves the right to edit letters in the interests of accuracy and civility or to publish a letter as written, followed by a correction by the editor. In the interest of covering diverse topics and opinions, BHA reserves the right to select among submissions for publication. Deadlines are the 1st of the month for the following month's issue.



Cook Smart — Do Not Let “FOG” Clog the Drains

By Carin Faulkner, Village Public Information Officer

When byproducts of cooking such as residual fats, used cooking oils and grease (FOG) are disposed of improperly, it can cause sewer equipment failures or line blockages that often result in a sewer spill. These are costly events to clean up, are dangerous for public health and can degrade the water quality in our public waters.

When FOG makes it down the drain it solidifies, reducing and preventing water flow in drains and sewer pipes. This does not happen all at once; it happens gradually as the particles accumulate to form a large mass. Sewer systems are not designed nor equipped to treat the FOG that builds up inside of sewer system pipes.

There are steps that residents and guests can take to avoid the buildup of FOG in the utility system. Cooled cooking grease or fat can be poured into a milk carton, frozen juice container or other non-recyclable container and placed in the refrigerator to harden. Once hardened, the container can be disposed of in the household trash. Cooking oil may not harden in the fridge, an alternative is soaking up the oil with disposable

towels, newspapers or cat litter before disposing of in the trash. Excess oil and grease should be wiped from dirty dishes, pans and utensils with a disposable towel before washing. Greasy towels can be safely disposed of in the trash.

Please do your part to help prevent unnecessary equipment failures, blockages and sewer spills.

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DON'T LET FOG ESCAPE DOWN THE DRAIN!
Keep **F**ats, **O**ils, and **G**rease Out of the Drain

DO

- ✓ Put oil & grease in collection containers
- ✓ Keep grease out of wash water
- ✓ Remove oil & grease from kitchen utensils, equipment, and food prep areas with scrapers/towels/brooms
- ✓ Place food scraps in collection containers

DO NOT

- ✗ Pour oil and grease down drains
- ✗ Wash fryers/griddles, pots/pans and plates with water until oil and grease are removed
- ✗ Use hot water to rinse grease off surfaces
- ✗ Put food scraps down drains

Hee hee hee!!!

FOG

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••• Continued from page 4 (Cook Smart — Do Not Let “FOG” Clog the Drains)

Golf Cart Batteries and Hydrogen Gas

Bald Head Island Public Safety would like to make you aware of an unexpected golf cart charging hazard first published in *Firehouse* magazine. Bald Head Island has responded to calls of this nature and feels that it is important to get this information out to the public.


The *Firehouse* magazine article describes an incident in which a fire department from central Florida was dispatched for a carbon monoxide detector that had alarmed. After ventilating the structure the apparent carbon monoxide levels dropped to zero. The electric golf cart, that was charging in the garage, was unplugged and the residents felt fine and declined any treatment. The fire department decided to do some additional research due to similar carbon monoxide detector activations involving golf carts that were being charged.

It was determined that lead batteries do not emit carbon monoxide. They do, however, emit hydrogen. It was also noted that carbon monoxide detectors will activate when exposed to high amounts of hydrogen. Hydrogen gas, like carbon monoxide, is a colorless and odorless gas. If your carbon monoxide detector sounds, evacuate the home immediately and then call 911.

Like carbon monoxide, hydrogen can cause asphyxiation. Excess hydrogen, could also lead to fire and explosion. For this to occur there would need to be:

1. Accumulation of hydrogen gas
2. Failure to detect the hydrogen
3. Source of ignition

Little data is available indicating the health effects of long-term exposure to the gases given off during a battery charging process. The quantity required to cause death is very substantial. Many occupants have complained of headaches, nausea, difficulty breathing and vertigo. This is believed to be caused by oxygen displacement rather than the hydrogen gas itself.

Newer golf carts and chargers do allow for the automatic shutoff of the charging system when the cycle is completed. Some of the older golf cart models and aftermarket charging systems do allow for continuous charging and as a result can produce continuous production of hydrogen gas. If you own an electric golf cart or an aftermarket charging system for the cart, it is recommended that you check with the manufacturer to find out if your system allows for the automatic shutoff when the charging cycle is completed. 





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Celebrating 40 Years of BHI Conservancy's Thad Wester Fishing School

By Dr. Chris Shank, BHI Conservancy Executive Director

There are many environmental attributes to Bald Head Island that make it such a special place to live or visit. Although the Island is beautiful throughout the year, those lucky enough to experience the Island's natural splendor in the fall know that this is the very best season on BHI. Starting in late September, the summer's heat and humidity have mostly abated and the ocean waters are starting to cool to temperatures that spark the annual migrations of many different fish species along our coastline, especially bluefish and red drum. Bald Head Island also has a couple very important natural features that draw these migratory fish toward our shores.

First, the complicated sandbars of Frying Pan Shoals provide substantial physical structure that helps concentrate bait fish, which then brings in the larger predatory fish who are feeding ferociously as the migration and reproduction season begins. Second, the Cape Fear River brings ample nutrients that generate abundant plankton in our nearshore waters, helping to further augment the number of feeding fish. Thus, Bald Head Island is a perfect setting for fishing each fall, and nobody knew this better than Dr. Thad Wester, who founded the BHI Conservancy in 1983 and started Fishing School to share his passion for enjoying and appreciating our Island's bounty.

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Thad Wester Fishing School participants. Top left: Ben and Tim Podkul. Top right: Sallie Shuping-Russell. Bottom right: Milly Moro. Photos courtesy of BHI Conservancy.



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BHA's Owner Portal, Automatic Payment Sign-up Deadline and Contact Information Updates

BHA has an owner portal that provides a secure vehicle for automated, one-time or regular online payments with lower fees. Through the portal, you can choose to sign up for Enumerate Central AutoPay and have your annual assessment automatically drafted from your account. There is a small convenience fee of \$2 if you sign up using a bank account; fees for using a credit card are based on a percentage of the charge. Note that property owners must sign up for Enumerate Central AutoPay by December 31, 2024, for auto draft of the 2025 assessment. You will need a different email address for each property you own. If you've signed up previously, please check that the credit card on file is still valid and hasn't expired.

Enumerate Central AutoPay cannot be used for quarterly payments. For property owners with assessment balances over \$1,000 who wish to make quarterly payments, please make arrangements by contacting BHA Bookkeeper Leigh Ann Fink at LeighAnn@BaldHeadAssociation.com. For questions, email Leigh Ann or call her at 910-457-4676, ext. 27.

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Don't Be a Scaredy Cat!

Join the fun and have a wicked good time! BHA's Education & Recreation (ER) Committee is sponsoring Island-wide trick-or-treating on Saturday October 26th from 1:00pm-3:00pm. Sign up by October 15th to handout goodies to the kiddies (send name, BHI address and email address to BHltrickortreating@gmail.com). Maps of residences and businesses that will be passing out candy will be available at the BHA office, Maritime Market, or online on October 23rd.



BHI 2023 trick-or-treat participants.

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Dale Giera, owner and master craftsman, created Trinity Design Build on Bald Head Island after building custom, award-winning homes in the Triangle area for more than 30 years. Being an island property owner who has completed many new construction and remodeling projects on the island, Dale is well versed on the details of building on Bald Head Island.

LET US BUILD YOUR BHI DREAM HOME

••• Continued from page 2 (Hurricane Season — What Does It Mean for BHI, ARC and Trees?)

- Remove equipment and tools.
- Secure or remove portable bathrooms.
- Remove fence screens and any signage.
- If possible, take measures to protect utility systems.

Property owners and contractors should monitor the weather regularly to help ensure adequate time for preparation. Although it may look like a normal day, a storm could be nearby and moving quickly.

After a Storm

In addition to hurricanes, tropical storms can also do a lot of damage. Once a storm has passed and everyone is safe, you'll want to take a look at your home on BHI. How did it fare with the wind, rain and/or storm surge? First, take care of anything that poses an "immediate danger" to humans or property — don't forget to take before and after photos to submit to the ARC. Then evaluate other damage to your house, garage and trees. A lot of repairs and clearing can be done without ARC approval (repair or replace "like" with "like" materials; trim small branches according to the Design Guidelines. Or, if storm damage to a crofter might be the springboard for the renovation project you've been delaying, check the Design Guidelines.

We hope this hurricane season will pass without a visit to our Island, but if you do need assistance with the Design

Guidelines and how they apply in cases of storm damage, contact ARCI@BaldHeadAssociation.com. For any questions about trees, contact Pam Rainey at 910-457-4676, ext. 24 or at Trees@BaldHeadAssociation.com.



Monthly ARC Quiz

1. The best way to prepare for hurricane season is to:
 - A. Eat all the food in the refrigerator.
 - B. Leave the Island at the first hint of rain.
 - C. Carry on as usual; the forecast is probably wrong.
 - D. Make a plan; prepare for the worst and hope for the best. (Answer: D)
2. If construction is going on at your home during hurricane season,
 - A. Better get it finished fast!
 - B. Don't worry about it, your contractor knows what to do.
 - C. Work with your contractor to secure the job site at the end of every day.
 - D. Have a written plan of responsibilities for securing the job site ahead of a storm.
 - E. C and D above. (Answer: E)



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All in a Name — Part 3

By Jake Grossman, Educator and Collections Coordinator, Old Baldy Foundation

Welcome back to our series on Bald Head Island names! We are picking up where we left off discussing whether the “Island” part of BHI is correct. Unsurprisingly, that answer is a little more complex than yes or no. To shore-up this conundrum let’s go back a thousand years or so to when we certainly were an island.

Bald Head Island used to be part of an island complex consisting of three barrier islands. These were Bald Head, Middle Island and Bluff Island.¹ Bald Head Creek divided Bald Head

and Middle Island, while offshoots of the Cape Fear River divided Middle and Bluff Island. Maps from the 17th century (which are not incredibly accurate) show that those three islands were connected. Those



North Carolina Map circa 1690 depicting Bald Head before 1760 when it was still an island. Map courtesy of UNC Chapel Hill.

maps also depicted that the BHI complex was connected to Ft. Fisher and not completely surrounded by water. By the Revolutionary Era, however, a new inlet popped up between here and Ft. Fisher that completely surrounded our complex with water.

In September 1761, the Hurricane of 1761² blasted through the Lower Cape Fear Region and carved another inlet near Ft. Fisher named “New Inlet.” New Inlet was one mile-wide and 18

feet deep. It was not deep enough to be viable for commercial shipping. Meanwhile, it altered the hydrology of the river and lowered the depth in some spots to 12 feet. The lower water disrupted shipping in and out of the Old Inlet.³ Consequently, locals sought to dam up the New Inlet and restore the shipping to its proper depth.⁴ The disruption caused mariners to entirely forego the Old Inlet from 1839 through 1872. During that time some officials contemplated demolition of the Old Baldy lighthouse because it was not needed if mariners weren’t using its rays to guide them into the Cape Fear River.⁵ Locals continued to push for change until the Civil War when Confederates started to use New Inlet for blockade running.

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Corncake and the Goldleaf Inlets. The inlets remained open until Hurricanes Bonnie and Floyd filled them up, making Bald Head an island. Map courtesy of UNC Chapel Hill.



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••• Continued from page 10 (All in a Name — Part 3)

The Cape Fear River and Wilmington proved to be an optimal situation for blockade running. Indeed, runners going to Wilmington boasted the highest success rate of any southern port. Blockade runners used their local knowledge and shallow drafted ships to cross over the Frying Pan Shoals. Meanwhile, the Union had neither the ships, nor the knowledge, to cross the shoals. Instead, the Union had to go around them. Runners used that advantage to shed Union pursuers. The runner would be halfway up the Cape Fear River by the time the Union got around the Frying Pan Shoals. Needless to say, blockade duty for Wilmington was not easy. Throughout the war New Inlet saw perhaps the most activity, however, afterwards calls for closure resurfaced.



Portrait of William P. Craighill, a Virginia born engineer who served as an officer in the American Civil War. Public Domain.

Improving the flow of the Cape Fear River was heavily argued from 1870 through 1875. Most North Carolinians seemed to agree on the need, however, who should

pay and what not to do was not as ubiquitous. Some favored dredging and alterations to the western side of Bald Head Island, others favored damming up New Inlet. Inevitably, proponents for closing the New Inlet won. In 1875, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began the closure.

Colonel William Price Craighill led the team of engineers for the project. They spent the first year and a half sinking “a continuous line of mattresses composed of logs and brush wood sunk and loaded with stones.”⁶ Afterwards, they



Google Earth image showing Bald Head Island is no longer an island.

Continued on page 19

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—Robert, BHI Owner

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Village Chapel of BHI Update

By Mary Mears, Village Chapel of BHI Board President

We've enjoyed an extremely busy and productive summer season! For the first time, our two summer services provided distinctly different music; the first service featured our choir under the direction of our Music Director, Cindy Sellers, offering traditional music, while the second service provided more contemporary music provided by islanders Lou Meyer, Randy Riley and Sydney Larsen. We're so pleased that we were able to offer both formats and reach so many worshippers. Our Outreach Committee was busy with a number of events supporting StreetReach; the Prison Alliance; a camp ministry and the Bicycle Recycle program. We will now transition back to one

service each Sunday, commencing at 9:00am on September 8th. On tap for the fall months is our final Board meeting for 2024 (already?), scheduled for Sunday, October 20, 2024, immediately following the Sunday worship service. We're extremely excited about the 2nd Annual Women's Retreat, scheduled for October 25 -26, 2024. Details are available on the Chapel's website (villagechapelofbaldheadisland.org). Our Outreach Committee is planning its Thanksgiving Card Project in support of StreetReach. Of course, we will be offering our Thanksgiving Service as well. As firm details become available on these future events, we'll update the Island community via this publication, our Facebook page and email blasts. Stay tuned—we look forward to seeing you soon!

The Night Sky of Bald Head Island | By Pat Miller

Many people on Bald Head Island are into astronomy and enjoy the fabulous shows that take place each night. No one wants to hinder anyone enjoying the Island, but if you are not using your outside lights at night, would you please consider turning them off? You may even want to sit on your deck and watch what happens as the sky is flooded with stars, meteors, lightning and the strobe of the Oak Island light house. Thank you for your consideration so everyone can enjoy the Bald Head Island night sky.

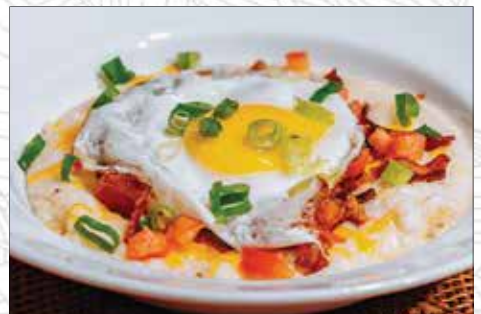


Photo by Pat Miller.



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BHI Academy Accepts Island Baton

By Sheree Vaickus, Co-founder & Interim Head of School, BHI Academy

We're at a(nother!) magical moment on Bald Head Island.


It's time to pass the baton. This is a place of healing, centering, preservation, and yes, love—love of history, love of nature and love of community. And there are no better (or able!) people to preserve that magic and pass the baton to than our children. They are our future good stewards and critical thinkers. BHI Academy is an integral part of empowerment for a sustainable community because:

- We invested in BHI's infrastructure by birthing this intentional school and staff.
- We honor and teach BHI's environmental preservation codes.
- We advocate for and maintain BHI's vibrant work force with a school for all children: those who live here, those whose parents work here, and those who visit here.



Children of BHI Academy. Photo courtesy of BHI Academy.

- We know how to work alongside community leaders to use a balanced Island voice to build something extraordinary for BHI.
- We attract like-minded new families and investors who share BHI values and encourage current families to meet them.
- We include everyone on this journey of a growth mindset—children and adults, academics and BHI!

Creating a space where children receive a robust education requires a community at ONE. BHI is that ONE, where all will understand their worth and the worth of others and enjoy contributing to the world in which they live — our BHI. 

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Come Meet New Neighbors!

We had a record crowd at the September Community Potluck Dinner ... 50+!! What a great time. Folks were able to talk comfortably across round tables and everyone chipped in to clean up at the end of the evening. We're looking forward to the next dinner on October 14th. Everyone is welcome! Dinners are sponsored by BHA's Education & Recreation (ER) Committee and held at the Association Center. Contact Betsi Stephen at BetsiStephen@gmail.com for additional information.



Good food and fellowship at a BHA community potluck dinner.

Community Potluck Dinner

Monday
October 14
6:00pm



BHA's Association Center
111 Lighthouse Wynd
Bald Head Island

Welcome Neighbors!

Make new friends and join those you've known for years.
Just bring a dish to share and your favorite beverage.

Contact Betsi Stephen at BetsiStephen@gmail.com for additional information.



Bald Head Association ~ "The voice for BHI property owners"

Sponsored by:

BHA's Education & Recreation (ER) Committee

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TIDBIT:

Outdoor String Lights




With crisp, cool evenings of fall right around the corner, it's a good time to remind property owners that outdoor string lights are not allowed on Bald Head Island. For full details, refer to page 46 of the Design Guidelines, which can be found at www.BaldHeadAssociation.com. Specific points are detailed here. For any questions, email Dora Richey at Dora@BaldHeadAssociation.com.

Light pollution is avoidable. Homes on the Island must be extremely frugal with exterior lighting. All exterior lighting fixtures, regardless of design, are subject to ARC approval. All lighting will be baffled to prevent direct visualization of the light source. No holiday or string lighting is to be used for exterior decoration any other time during the year, including clear or white lights, nor is it permitted to be used to illuminate any exterior steps, porches, arbors, structures, etc., any other time of year.

BHA and other Island Stakeholders Announce Settlement on Changes to Ferry Schedule

In February, Bald Head Island Transportation (BHIT) filed an application with the North Carolina Utilities Commission (NCUC) to revise the passenger ferry schedules to improve the on-time performance of its passenger ferry service. The application proposed to move from the current 30 minute one way/60 minute round trip to a 45 minute one way/90 minute round trip schedule.

The Bald Head Academy, the Bald Head Island Club, the Village of Bald Head, and the Bald Head Association petitioned to intervene in the proceeding. After many cooperative discussions and confidential negotiations, the parties reached a settlement with BHIT changes to the ferry schedule. This settlement will help to resolve disputes and avoid the need for litigation.

The new schedule will be implemented in November or later, pending approval by NCUC. BHA will post further information and updates to our web site as those are available. 

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We are a **family-owned** Insurance Agency providing excellent service and coverage to the Carolina coastline and Bald Head Island.

Chad and Tara Huneycutt, agency owners, are **homeowners on BHI** and have a vested interest in protecting the island. We carefully consider which insurance benefits will suit your individual needs and we will monitor those on an ongoing basis. Contact us today if you are looking to purchase a new home or have an upcoming renewal on your existing insurance. We look forward to working with you!

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••• Continued from page 1 (BHI Native Plant Feature of the Month — American Beautyberry)

bluish berries develop August through October and encircle the stem.

The shrub’s clusters of berries are a food source for many songbirds, including the American Robin, Brown Thrasher, Purple Finch and Eastern Towhee. The berries are also consumed by armadillos, foxes, opossum, raccoons and squirrels. White-tailed deer are known to browse on the leaves in the summer and enjoy the fruits after leaf drops in the fall.

The shrub prefers full sun to part shade and is intolerant of deep shade. It will grow in all types of soil, provided there is good drainage. Allow 3-6 feet of space for planting unless

regular pruning is done. Pruning is best done in late winter. Prune low and avoid fertilizer to reduce height and fruit set. It is recommended that old canes be removed for rejuvenation of the shrub because the flowers and fruits appear on new shoots. It can be propagated by seeds or stem cuttings.


Native Americans use the roots, leaves and branches to treat malaria and rheumatism. The roots are also used to treat dizziness and dysentery. In the past, US farmers crushed the leaves and placed them under the harnesses of their horses and mules to repel mosquitoes. The Agricultural Research Service has found that two compounds in the leaves — callicarpenal and intermedeol — act as a mosquito repellent. 

••• Continued from page 6 (Celebrating 40 Years of BHI Conservancy’s Thad Wester Fishing School)

Now in its 40th year, the Thad Wester Fishing School has continued to be a wonderful and much anticipated fall tradition at the BHI Conservancy. Approximately 20 to 25 kids and adults come to Fishing School each autumn to learn all about the piscatorial arts (and maybe a little science) from a handful of coaches who have more than 100 years collectively of fishing experience on Bald Head Island. Among the fishing experts who participate each year are members of Dr. Wester’s family,

including his son, Bryan Wester, and son-in-law Tom Reeves, as well as Steve Montgomery and the most knowledgeable flounder (aka fluke) fisherman the Island has ever known, Paul Suhr.

During the three-day event, students learn all about how to rig and handle different types of fishing tackle, hotspots for fishing and most importantly, how to appreciate the abundant environmental magnificence that the Island delivers. A special highlight for the weekend is making new friends during a day-long fishing adventure on Saturday—it is awesome to see how excited the students are to watch their new friends catch a fish! Another spectacular Fishing School tradition is the delicious food. It starts with the best gumbo I’ve ever tasted prepared by Dr. Wester’s daughter, Ginny Reeves, on Friday evenings, followed by Saturday evening’s fish fry, where students and instructors come together to celebrate their day’s success and share a few fish stories that will only grow in stature as the years pass.

When John and Sheila May passed the torch to me for organizing the Thad Wester Fishing School a few years ago, one thing I couldn’t have imagined was the sense of community camaraderie the weekend generates. Fishing School is about so much more than just fishing, and I am sure Dr. Wester was aware of this too when he started this wonderful tradition 40 years ago. 

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••• Continued from page 7 (BHA’s Owner Portal, Automatic Payment Sign-up Deadline and Contact Information Updates)

Make Sure BHA Has Your Current Contact Information

It has always been important for BHA to have your current mailing address. However, with changing times, it is also essential that we have your up-to-date emails and phone numbers. BHA’s owner portal also allows property owners to view, add or change phone numbers and mailing addresses easily. Make sure BHA has your current contact information by either reviewing your owner portal information or emailing updates to Diane Mesaris at Diane@BaldHeadAssociation.com. 


Project Longevity/ Community Care Updates

To see the latest activities, updates and information from Project Longevity/Community Care, use the accompanying QR code to view the current newsletter.

This month's Project Longevity/Community Care Island Events will take place on October 8th and October 22nd at 1:00pm at the Association Center.



• • • *Continued from page 11 (All in a Name — Part 3)*

piled “stone rip-rap on and over the foundation... then covering it with heavy granite stones.” In total they spent \$480,000 on The Rocks.⁷ A lofty sum, yet, necessary as “its failure would have completely ruined the port of Wilmington.” The Rocks were completed in 1891 and thus connected our island complex to Ft. Fisher. However, we were still technically an island. Indeed, we retained our island status until the tag-team efforts of Hurricanes Bonnie and Floyd in 1998 and 1999, which piled enough sand to close the Corncake Inlet and Goldleaf Inlet thus making us no longer an island! Perhaps if there is a King Tide or a large storm throwing water everywhere we briefly go back to an island. Yet, any typical day you can walk via the beach to Ft. Fisher making an island in name only. 

¹ “Barrier islands form as waves repeatedly deposit sediment parallel to the shoreline. As wind and waves shift according to weather patterns and local geographic features, these islands move, erode and grow.” NOAA.

² Avid readers of our articles may remember that hurricanes were not named until the 1950s.

³ *The North Carolinian*. April 16, 1853, Fayetteville, NC.

⁴ Namely in 1853 and 1859. *Wilmington Morning Star*, January 26, 1873, Wilmington, NC

⁵ *The News and Observer*. August 24, 1899, Raleigh, NC.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid.

Scan this QR code with your phone camera for full details on BHA's events calendar!



October 2024:

ARC-A Meeting	10/4/2024	9:30am
Project Longevity/Community Care	10/8/2024 and 10/22/2024	1pm
BHIC's Thad Wester Fishing School	10/11/2024-10/13/2024	
Columbus Day	10/14/2024	
Community Potluck Dinner	10/14/2024	6pm
Howl at the Moon — “Blood Moon”	10/17/2024	5pm
ARC-B Meeting	10/18/2024	9:30am
Village Council Meeting	10/18/2024	10am
Village of Bald Head Island Hospitality Meeting	10/23/2024	10am
BHA Board Meeting	10/25/2024	9:30am
Village Chapel Women's Retreat	10/25/2024	5:30pm
	and 10/26/2024	8am
BHI Island-wide Trick-or-Treating	10/26/2024	1pm
Badwater Cape Fear Full/Half Marathon	10/27/2024	10am
Halloween	10/31/2024	

Save the Date in November:

ARC-A Meeting	11/1/2024	9:30am
Daylight Saving Time Ends	11/3/2024	
Election Day	11/5/2024	
Veterans Day	11/11/2024	
BHA Office Closed	11/11/2024	
Community Potluck Dinner	11/11/2024	6pm
ARC-B Meeting	11/15/2024	9:30am
Village Council Meeting	11/15/2024	10am
Howl at the Moon — “Frost Moon”	11/15/2024	4pm
BHA Board Meeting	11/22/2024	9:30am
Project Longevity (Dementia Seminar)	11/26/2024	10am
BHA Board Nomination Due Date	11/26/2024	
Thanksgiving	11/28/2024	
BHA Office Closed	11/28/2024-11/29/2024	
Smith Island Art League Show and Sale	11/29/2024-11/30/2024	10am

Around the Corner in 2024:

ARC-A Meeting	12/6/2024	9:30am
Community Potluck Dinner	12/9/2024	6pm
Cookie Exchange	12/11/2024	2:30pm
Village Council Meeting	12/13/2024	10am
Howl at the Moon — “Cold Moon”	12/15/2024	4pm
Hanukkah and Christmas (BHA Office Closed)	12/25/2024	
BHA Board Meeting	12/27/2024	9:30am
New Year's Eve	12/31/2024	

Ongoing:

Knitting Group:	Wednesdays	9:30am
Men's Group:	Every Other Monday	8:30am
Village Chapel Services:	Sept. 8 through Memorial Day weekend	9am
Yoga Classes:	Mondays & Wednesdays	11:45am



Bald Head Association
111 Lighthouse Wynd
PO Box 3030
Bald Head Island, NC 28461-7000
www.BaldHeadAssociation.com



Get Involved!

Nominations for
BHA Board
positions are due
November 26th.



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“ Thank you again for all of your help. You make the impossible possible! ”

- former Beach Music owner

“ Please know we sincerely appreciate you and your team. ”

- Giggling Oyster owner

“ You did an incredible job for me. ”

- former Fish Bowl owner

“ We are so grateful for your amazing job! Thank you! ”

- Villa 3 owner

“ You have been nothing short of amazing over the past five years. We are truly grateful. ”

- No Hurry owner

“ We're proud to be one of your customers. ”

- Dewey's Paradise owner

“ Thanks for all you do. It is much appreciated. ”

- Elephant's Foot owner

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