



Our 53rd Year

Cape St. Claire Improvement Association, Inc. Community Newsletter

June 2008

The next Friends of Anne Arundel Trails Boating Safety classes will run on June 2, 6 and 9. For more info, call 410-222-6244.

President's Perspective

We all know this time of year brings out the gardeners, the barbeques, the birds, the mosquitoes and the vandals! The natives always get restless as the sun sets later and the days get warmer, but this year the incidents are more costly.

Case in point; damage done to the Lake Claire community fishing pier by someone setting off fireworks and succeeding in setting the pier on fire.

The damage was sufficient to render the pier off-limits until repairs were made. Please report any suspicious activity at community beaches and parks to the police. Your eyes and ears are our first line of defense.

In the letters to the editor section of this issue is a plea from a resident on Magothy Park Lane to those who block the street during sporting events at Graul's field. I found it very disturbing that this arrogant behavior had actually contributed to a death because emergency vehicles could not get through to a stricken resident on that street. How incredibly self-centered are these poor excuses for "sportsmen" that even after this horrible event, they still con-

tinue their dangerous parking behavior. We will be contacting police for more monitoring and towing in the area since ticketing alone obviously is not working.

At the May BOG meeting, a majority of the board members present voted to withdraw funding for a controlled access security/parking gate at Lake Claire beach. This location was chosen as an initial test site to see how well a controlled access gate system would work and alert us to any problems that needed to be addressed before the installation of a similar security/parking gate at Deep Creek, and a controlled access pedestrian gate at the main beach.

Their reasons were varied for not supporting the funding, but most admitted they simply did not want the gates. I feel it is up to the community to have the final say in this matter.

Those of you who have an interest in security/controlled access gates at the beaches and parks need to attend the July membership meeting. Areas of concern will be explained including how keycards, which will operate the various gates, will be issued to property owners, and the costs

involved — both initially and long term.

Over the years we have tried many ways to keep our beaches safe and secure, but nothing works for very long. The beach attendants do a great job, but they are only there for a few hours at a time, and even towing only has an effect for a week or so.

This has become a contentious issue between board members, but the membership should have the final say.

The July meeting presentation and discussion will lay the groundwork for how and if we proceed to a community ballot to determine funding.

Submitted by
Josephine Gardner
CSCIA President

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The deadline for articles and ads is the 12th of the month.

The Caper is published monthly and sent bulk rate to all residents of Cape St. Claire, all nonresident lot owners, local government officials and advertisers. Copies are also available in CSCIA Office, Broadneck Library and local stores.

POLICY FOR ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

All submissions for *The Caper* must be received by the editor by the 12th of the prior month. Submissions should be emailed as Microsoft Word attachments (PC only) to: capereditor@cscia.org, or dropped off (on disc or CD) at the Clubhouse. Articles must be submitted electronically. DO NOT submit as inline text of email. All articles should be clearly labeled with the 1) submitter's name, 2) phone number, 3) article file-name (s), 4) software product and 5) version used. Please keep a backup copy of each file and do not submit disks containing extraneous files. After *The Caper* processes each article, the submitter's disk can be picked up at the CSCIA office during regular hours. *The Caper* Staff and the Cape St. Claire Improvement Association reserve the right to refuse any article, letter or advertising that it deems inflammatory, in poor taste or inappropriate.

Board in Brief

The CSCIA Board of Governors met for its monthly meeting on May 12, 2008 at the Cape St. Claire Clubhouse at 7:30 p.m. in the Cox Meeting Room. President Josephine Gardner provided opening remarks and presented the agenda for the meeting.

Attendance: Governors Biondi, Campbell, Daly, Gallagher, Gardner, Lamb, Maltz, Newman, Pollock and Wolin were in attendance. Governor Morgan was absent.

President's Remarks: President Josephine Gardner

The CSCIA received a letter from a resident's lawyer concerning a building variance request that was denied by the Board. The Building Committee Chairman

will respond.

Received another complaint concerning the recurring parking problems near the Graul's Field ballparks area, especially the Little Magothy View Drive area. In addition to other actions, President Gardner will include this issue in her "President's Perspective" when she writes her next article for the *Caper*.

Minutes and Financials:

Motions were made to approve the April 14, 2008 Monthly BOG Meeting Minutes and the March 31, 2008 Financials. Based on recent input for the sake of accuracy, another motion was made to approve an amendment to the March 10, 2008 Monthly BOG Meeting Minutes. All three motions were seconded and unanimously approved.

Agenda Item:

Mr. Jim Schrolls of the County Roads Department was present at the meeting to provide updated status on the Cape St. Claire Road improvement project that has been in the planning stage for several years. In short, the plans are essentially complete except for some right-of-way and storm water issues that should be resolved by the end of this year. He expects construction to start in the spring of 2009.

In reference to the Hilltop Drive/Little Magothy View/Cape St. Claire Road (CSC Road) intersection near Graul's, he stated that a roundabout was ruled out several years ago due to cost and negative impacts. However, he also stated that a study of traffic volumes at that intersection indicated they were high enough to warrant a traffic signal. The pro-

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posed signal would have split phasing, whereby the signal would go green for Hilltop Drive and Little Magothy View Drive separately, in addition to CSC Road. The signal would include pedestrian phases (signaled pedestrian crosswalks) and this signal would be coordinated with the Cape Firehouse signal. Mr. Schrolls cited the pros and cons of having a traffic signal in place:

Pros: -Overall delay is decreased. Delay for side street traffic is reduced substantially.

-Controlled pedestrian crossing between the ball fields and shopping center.

-Easier access to CSC Road from the side streets by assigning definite right-of-way.

-Drivers exiting side streets would not have to guess where oncoming traffic is bound.

Cons: -Slightly increased delay for traffic on CSC Road.

-Would be helpful to lengthen proposed northbound left-turn lane from CSC Road.

-Ongoing energy and maintenance costs.

-Cars in left turning lanes must wait for a green light.

Although a traffic signal is warranted, it is not considered critical at this time. The County would like CSCIA input expressing its preference, but the County would make the final decision.

Committee Reports:

Piers – Governor Gallagher reported that the County finally approved the permit for two new piers at Deep Creek, and that about six boats were damaged at the Lake Claire slip area during the recent wind/rain storms. (A

Board member commended Governor Gallagher for calling boat owners during the height of the storms to advise them of boat damage potential.)

Beaches and Parks – Governor Newman reported that recent vandalism at the Cape fishing pier resulted in a burned 4-foot hole through the pier and the destruction of a light structure.

Additional Board discussion took place on the subject of installing parking gates with card sensors at the Deep Creek and Lake Claire park areas.

Adjournment: The regular May 12, 2008 BOG Monthly meeting ended at 10:15 p.m. The next monthly Board of Governors meeting is scheduled for June 9, 2008 at 7:30 p.m.

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Letters to the Editor

Letter #1:

I've had to call the police several times this week. The police ticketed yet another car that chose to park on my front lawn at ... Magothy Park Lane on Wednesday evening. [My] family lives directly across the street from the Graul's Ballfield in Cape St. Claire. The policeman who came in response to my call noted "This parking problem has been going on since I was a teenager playing ball here." Isn't it about time something definitive was done?

Last night before midnight, someone threw raw eggs and strips of turkey bacon (??) on two of our cars. I was at a church youth meeting in Northern Virginia 'til past midnight and my car missed the attack. We assume it's someone who thinks it's our fault they got a ticket for parking illegally, and not through any fault of theirs. We are not sure what message eggs AND bacon is supposed to convey except that no one else in the area was attacked.

When we moved here four years ago, we did notice a couple "No Parking" signs laying by the park

dumpster. We were naive then and didn't figure out the signs must have been torn out of the ground. We are asking for your assistance in getting additional signs installed on this street. I am willing to have one placed on a corner of my property. Several more need to go on the opposite side of the street, replacing the ones that were torn out. Also, signs need to be turned around since most of the illegal parkers are parking on the "left" side of the road when they drive down the street. That way they can't claim they didn't see the signs.

Getting more signs re-installed probably won't keep the die-hards from ignoring the obvious, but please pass on to your coaches that – because of those folks who insist on their "right" to park illegally on this street – a man died several years ago when the ambulance that was responding to a 911 call to aid a heart attack victim got stuck maneuvering down the street and had to back up and go around. He died moments before the EMS reached his house at ... Magothy Park Lane. His widow ... has since sold the home and moved to the Eastern Shore. She cannot stand to see

those cars parked there. It's too painful.

We've had several instances where we've politely asked people to remove their car parked on our lawn and have been met with curses and one-finger salutes. [Recently, a husband and wife who had illegally parked] unleashed a volley of curses [at me] in front of their young child. When a policeman told [the husband] to move, he parked his car literally in the center of the street and walked off. I also came home one day to find a ... woman in [a]...large truck had backed into my driveway. She was busy eating and had a good view of the game on the field from her seat. She got very irate when I asked her to move along. Naturally, I got a single finger salute as she stuffed the last bit of her hot dog in her mouth and drove off.

Let me state that we love the activity in the park - the sounds, the kids playing, the smell of hot dogs - it's all fun. My kids enjoy the park and we willingly pick up quite a bit of the litter after a busy game weekend. Playing ball is a good way for kids to get exercise and learn all sorts of important life lessons in fair play, teamwork



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and sportsmanship. However, many of those lessons are diluted by arrogant parents who, in front of their children, willfully ignore posted signs and choose to park illegally. When these people curse the residents of this street for having their cars ticketed, they are passing other, more negative, lessons on to their children. Further, when their conduct directly endangers the ability of the residents of this neighborhood to receive lifesaving emergency medical assistance or to reach their homes unimpeded, what messages are these people imparting to their children?

"It's more important for me to park easily and avoid walking 300 feet from the half-empty parking lot than for these people to travel freely on their own street, park in their own driveway without having to ask strangers to remove themselves or look out their front window without seeing someone parked on top of their lawns?" We are hoping the attack on our vehicles last night was an isolated incident, and will not be repeated. We can assure you, we will continue to call for police assistance every time we are aware of people parking illegally on this street. I know [the CSCIA has] worked hard to provide additional parking at the fire station

and on Cape St. Claire Community property, and I sincerely appreciate those efforts. Hopefully, your coaches can redouble their own attempts to pass the message on to their team parents, as it is the local folks, not "outsiders," who park illegally on this and the other side streets surrounding three sides of the park.

Regards,
Wendy Winters,
Cape St. Claire Resident

Letter #2: Community Security FROM MY PERSPECTIVE

Due to increasing unauthorized access of Cape St. Claire parking lots and beaches and parks, drug trafficking and vandalism, the CSCIA is considering the installation of controlled access security gates at Lake Claire, Deep Creek and the Main Beach.

Some believe that controlled access gates will severely cut down unauthorized use of our piers for boat launch/retrieval and use of beaches by neighboring communities. It is hoped that the gates will also curb vandalism and drug trafficking on/around our community property.

In my opinion there has been a rush to place these gates in the community without first considering the

efficacy of the solution. It is not simply that some don't want gates; many board members, I thought, felt it prudent not to move forward without fully considering the ramifications of such a project.

I can not speak for my fellow board members, but I will speak for myself now that it is clear there was disagreement among board members and that I chose not to support the idea or project at this time.

Security Gates

The initial plan I remember being discussed on the Board in February or March was to install automotive security gates at the Clubhouse, Lake Claire and Deep Creek. In addition, there was to be a pedestrian gate installed at the Main Beach. Key cards issued to homeowners would control all the gates.

The price was around \$50,000 for the initial installation (including one key card per household). As I understood it, a modified plan was to install two gates, one at Lake Claire and one at the Clubhouse, with key cards, for \$28,000. After some discussion in April, which I wasn't present for, I heard that Deep Creek replaced the Clubhouse as an initial site due to all the legitimate non-resident traffic that uses the Clubhouse parking lot.

(Cont. on page 6)

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Letter #2 (from page 5)

What are the True Costs?

In March there were questions about operations costs that were not answered. Questions that cross my mind (and not all were even asked yet): What is the cost to replace a gate arm? What is the estimate as to replacement needed per year? How much is an annual maintenance contract? Who fixes it when it breaks? What is the response time for repair? How many cards per homeowner should be issued? What is the increased administrative cost to assign, track, void, and replace cards for homeowners? How many cards will be needed per household (1, 2, 3, more)? How much will we charge for extra or replacement cards? Who will residents call when faced with a gate malfunction after regular Cape office hours? Where will the funding come from to pay for ongoing replacement, repair and administration of the gate systems? Basically, I don't believe we understand the costs associated with running this project beyond installing the gates at this time.

A suggested compromise, that did not pass at the May board meeting, was to have a 'pilot project' for the Lake Claire parking lot. The amount of \$18,000 was needed just for a gate at Lake Claire and a single key card for every homeowner. But how do we support a project when we don't understand the cost or operation of it? And, I believe it is harder to kill a bad project than it is to start one.

The benefits described for undertaking this project included: cutting down the non-resident use of community property, preventing vandalism, and stopping people from parking in community parking lots. In addition, it was said that we should save money by not having to have beach attendants. I am not convinced that these benefits would come to pass.

Security Gates - The need for them?

As I have said, I am yet to be convinced that we have a need for security gates all over the community. Our problem is that non-residents use our facilities; parking, beaches, and boat ramp.

We also have a problem with night time vandals, fireworks, and some other issues (a lot of which is home grown I believe). None of which, in my opinion, can be solved with unmanned security gates. With unmanned gates, during the day, others might walk in from the street. Does that mean we just pushed the parking problem onto the surrounding streets? You can still walk onto the main beach anytime without entering through the gates.

I believe there is a real question as to the effectiveness of unmanned gates and fences. Do they work or deter? The answer I have always gotten; talking to security professionals, reading, and logically is, **No**. And in my mind the answer makes sense. The truism goes something like "fences are only as good as the people watching them".

Another issue to consider is how this will affect our lives within the community and the look of our neighborhood? I personally moved here for the look of the community and the water (just to be honest). It reminded me of home with the narrow streets, lines overhead, abundance of trees, etc. I liked the 1950s/1970s look compared to the barren/sterile new communities. The Cape is also a friendly place and I love it for that to (I sure wouldn't do the work I do in the community if I didn't).

But here we go and install gates and give the illusion that we have

locked the place down (as if it were really possible). How will others now view the community? If I saw a bunch of gates, I would have wondered why. What is the problem in this place? I might have thought twice about moving here. What will happen to housing prices? This is an honest question, which I have no answer for.

What are the Possible Solutions?

If the real problem is the use of community property and facilities by non-residents, then there may be several solutions to consider. Including:

- Continued use of Beach Attendants.
- Video surveillance of community parking lots to curb outside use, both nuisance and illegal.
- Changing past towing practices to hire a towing company to come at peak hours to tow anyone without a sticker, though I would fully notify the community before this type of policy where undertaken.
- Installing a security gate at Deep Creek to prevent the use of our ramp, perhaps paid for by slip renters and residents who wish to register their trailers and get a key card for a fee. This way the people who use the facility are paying for the security and controlled access.

These are all potential solutions to our problems. I am not going to take credit and say, "I thought them up", because that would be untrue. I am just putting out the most plausible solutions I have heard over the past month or two. I welcome the chance to discuss these with the membership at the next Quarterly meeting, which is July 22nd.

The need for Community Involvement?

I believe in the need for community involvement on this issue. Whether

you agree with me on this issue or not, I welcome the opportunity to discuss this with you. As of this article printing there is no guarantee that this issue will come to you via a mail ballot. What was proposed was to see if a mail ballot was warranted, which means we could end up with security gates at the end of the next quarterly meeting. It is up to you to come to the July Quarterly meeting, to make your voice heard, and to vote on whatever motions are presented.

This is an example of why I support a Long Range Plan and standing committee to maintain it. This will require by-law changes to make it happen. If we do it correctly, we can guarantee that capital expenditures over a specified dollar amount always go out for a community vote. So please come to quarterly meeting.

Sincerely,
Dan Wolin



***Rugby is
back this
Summer!***

Play RUGBY this summer. The Cape St Claire "Cougars" Youth Rugby Football Club, located on the Broadneck Peninsula in Annapolis, Maryland, will be playing again this summer. Players come from Arnold, CSC and the USNA complex.

American Football is based on RUGBY. It's different from football because there are no huddles, no time-outs, and the same players play offense and defense. It's a co-ed, non-contact sport where all players get to run, pass, and kick the ball.

Youth "touch" rugby involves running, passing, kicking, offense, defense, scrums, lineouts, mauls, and scoring – lots of scoring for everyone on the team! It brings together skills from soccer, basketball, lacrosse and football and a lot more...all wrapped into one, fast, exciting game. The game needs players of different sizes and shapes. If you can catch, pass and run and want to learn, you can play.

Youth Rugby replaces the usual tackle with a two-hand tag, allowing for co-ed teams. The Rugby season will be from June to August supporting two age brackets, 7 to 10 (U-11) and 11 to 14 (U-15). RUGBY is played all over the world including England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, France, Argentina, New Zealand, South Africa, Australia and Canada. The CSC Cougars are one of forty Youth clubs in the Potomac Rugby Union Youth League which also includes the Anne Arundel County Youth Rugby Association teams of Green Hornets in Severna Park, Andover Apaches in Linthicum, Edgewater, Arden and Bowie. Additionally, two U-17 Tackle teams, 1 girls, 1 boys, are forming.

No experience is necessary. New players and coaches are needed and welcome. Signup going on now. Practice starts the first week of June, 6pm, CSC elementary school soccer fields. For additional information, and registration go to: www.capesports.com. email: cscrugby@hotmail.com.

Submitted by: Ric Kempton

Another Successful Dash to Discovery

The Cape St. Claire Elementary PTO would like to thank everyone who participated in this year's Dash to Discovery and showed their support for the kids and teachers at Cape St. Claire Elementary. This year's Fun Run was a big hit as always, and we appreciate everyone – participants and patrons alike – who came out to take part in and celebrate this remarkable neighborhood. We would like to especially thank our valued and loyal sponsors who demonstrate such commitment to the community they serve by contributing their time, money, and resources. They include:

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Submitted by:
Laura Seebeck
CSC PTO

Students, Schools and Seats

Council in Action
by Cathleen M. Vitale
Councilwoman, District 5

It's that time again, Budget Month for the Anne Arundel County Council. The County Council has been busy the last two months, struggling with multiple pieces of legislation on a variety of topics, most of which have a direct impact on the families and businesses of our County. Within the month, the Council will be addressing more than two dozen different pieces of legislation, some specifically tied to the budget and others routine government matters. Additionally, hearings will be held on proposals to change the number of students that can be enrolled in a school before the school is con-

sidered "closed for development". If ever there was a time to tune in or mark your calendar, it's May. In addition to checking the County Council website, www.aacounty.org/CountyCouncil, please note the following crucial dates: **Budget Presentation** - May 1, 11:00 a.m., Arundel Center; **Public Hearing on Budget** - May 12, Chesapeake Arts Center, 7:00 p.m.; **Public Hearing on Budget** - May 14, Council Chambers, 7:00 p.m. Additionally, the County Council will sit beginning May 1 at 1:00 p.m. to hear department testimony regarding specific budget requests. If you have an area of interest, please contact the County Council Offices at 410-222-1401 to inquire as to when a specific de-

partment will be testifying before the County Council. For those interested, the Board of Education will be present May 2, beginning at 1:00 p.m., to present their budget. During the presentations, the public is invited, but no public testimony is taken at that time.

At the same time, the Council will be considering Bill 23-08 sponsored by Councilmen Dillon and Benoit. This bill will be of great interest to those who have students in our public school system, as it seeks to increase the acceptable capacity levels for students to **105% of the elementary school state-rated capacity and 110% of the middle school and high school state-rated capacity**. The bill will also reduce the time a developer has to sit on a waiting list from six years to three. I have many concerns

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about this bill and have begun to talk to the sponsors about those concerns. The bill appears, on its face to say that at the end of three years, if the school is still overcrowded, a development may proceed, even though the school is over capacity, **regardless of how overcrowded**. That, is my first concern.

Recently I completed my tour of every school in our District. I had opportunities to speak with parent groups, students, and administrators and to walk around and see for myself how schools are being used for instruction and learning. I toured open and closed spaced schools, recently renovated schools, new schools and a few that somehow keep getting overlooked each year. I am happy to report that at every school, the students, staff and faculty were wonderful, making

me feel quite comfortable as I roamed the schools, interrupted classes, used new technology (I love the Smart boards!) and received a few lessons from students who made sure I knew what was important to them. Let me pause... and say **THANK YOU** to each and everyone of you. I also saw schools busting at the seams with students, classes being taught in hallways, multiple classes being taught in space traditionally intended for one class or type of instruction, and in some cases, classes being taught in storage spaces. Specialized classes were being "horned in" wherever possible.

Like all of you, my son's education is very important to me. The quality of the education not only involves the quality of the teachers and

staff, but also the quality of the environment in which the child learns. Despite what people say, just like the straw that broke the camel's back, there is a point at which one more student breaks the school. There are very particular nuances in this bill and you need to be watchful of what is going to happen in your schools. Hearings will have begun (April 21st), and will continue into the month of May at the regular scheduled May Council hearings (May 5th and May 19th, beginning at 7:00 p.m.).

I look forward to seeing you at our Council hearings! Remember, email me your budget thoughts at cvitale@aacounty.org or call me at 410-222-1401. Think of me during those beautiful May afternoons.

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Cape Cuisine

By Ben and
Kathleen Hatcher

Hello Fellow Capers!

We recently visited Pusser's Caribbean Grille which is located adjacent to the Marriot hotel by the Eastport bridge in Annapolis (80 Compromise Street Annapolis, MD 21401, 410.626.0004, info_annapolis@pusstersusa.com). Various public parking lots are available, or you can use valet parking at the Marriot. This is a fun restaurant with a lively atmosphere and is located right on "Ego Alley," so the people watching is very good!

And "how did it get its name, you may wonder; "Pusser's? Just a corruption of the word "purser," the British Royal Navy officer who doled out the daily ration of rum to the ship's mates." The crab cake was outstanding, Pusser's claims; "Our crab cake recipe was derived from a Calvert county cookbook from 1898, but with a few modern twists to make it even tastier. Our biggest secret is that we do not use seafood seasoning, but we do use only the best jumbo lump crabmeat available." The menu is interesting and features Caribbean style food with jerked spices and Creole flavors, along with traditional favorites like pastas, several fresh fish dishes, ribs, steaks, fish and chips and more. Be sure to check out the collection of black and white photo-

graphs of Annapolis from the 1880's through the 1970's. A fun place for a nice spring or summer day!

Wanting to try a very local restaurant, we had sushi at the House of Hunan in the Cape St. Claire Shopping Center, 410.757.3959, <http://houseofhunana.ucraa.com>. We were curious about the advertised "Chinese sushi bar." But we were not disappointed! The Baltimore and Millersville rolls were a special menu item and were very tasty. The orange sherbet with fortune cookie was a fun touch at the end of the meal. The service was fast, pleasant and polite. They offer dine in, carry-out and delivery. We'll go back!

Ben's Best Salsa (Serves 6)

Summer is almost here, and this

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salsa recipe along with some homemade chips is just the ticket for your backyard get-togethers. I like to leave the seeds in the jalapeno, but I tend to like my foods hotter than most folks. You may wish to remove the jalapeno seeds, but save them on the side. You can always add them back in if you want things a little hotter.

My suggestion is to have a little extra of each ingredient. You will likely want to tailor things to your own taste. It's worth it to go the extra mile and use good quality fresh tomatoes instead of canned, if you have time.

Ingredients:

6 Medium to Large tomatoes (peeled and seeded)
 ½ cup chopped green onion
 1 Jalapeno pepper (seeds removed unless you like it hot)
 2 cloves garlic
 ¼ cup chopped fresh cilantro
 Squeeze of fresh lime juice
 Salt to taste

Peel and seed the tomatoes and add to food processor or blender with the rest of the ingredients. Blend until smooth. Serve with homemade tortilla chips and enjoy!!!

Homemade tortilla chips
 What is good is salsa without tortilla chips, right? If you've never made homemade chips before you will be amazed at how easy it really is, and how much better they are than store bought chips.

Ingredients:

Package corn tortillas
 24 oz. bottle of peanut oil
 Salt
 Dried Cumin (optional)

In a skillet add approximately ½ inch of the peanut oil. Heat the oil over medium heat for approximately 5 minutes. Be careful because you don't want to get the oil too hot, and have it start popping and burn you. While the oil heats, quarter the tortillas, slicing them into 4 pieces. Add one of the tortilla strips to the oil.

If it starts to sizzle when you put it in, the oil is hot enough. If not, give it a minute or two and try another chip.

You'll get the hang of it pretty quickly. Fry each chip for approximately two minutes, then using a pair of tongs flip each chip and fry for two additional minutes.

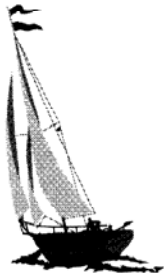
Remove chips and transfer to a plate lined with paper towels to help remove excess oil. Sprinkle with salt and the cumin if you desire. Enjoy!!!

Beer of the Month:

The beer of the month is "Blackout" by DuClaw Brewing Company. I recently had the pleasure of trying this newly released beer from DuClaw. Blackout is quite simply a spectacular beer. This dark German style lager offers a subtle trace of hops, with roasted malt flavors. The beer is smooth and not bitter. If you like the hoppiness of a Pale Ale, but are turned off by the bitterness found in some Ales, Blackout is a great alternative!

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