

# The Caper

Cape St. Claire Improvement Association, Inc. Community Newsletter

## NOVEMBER 2012

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Kathleen Mooneyhan, President

Dear Fellow Capers:

I'm excited to announce the launch of the new design for The Caper! What do you think of it? We are striving for a new "look and feel" for The Caper, and look forward to hearing your feedback. I also want to extend my thanks to Mary Lamb who has done a fantastic job managing The Caper this year, helping to make it a great neighborhood newsletter – and profitable!

On a recent Saturday morning, Beaches and Parks Committee Chairman, Scott Dembowski, and I organized the first Phragmites Clean-up Day at our community's Lake Claire Beach. A group of dedicated volunteers, including two Master Watershed Stewards, from the community helped make a significant dent in the phragmites population around the lake and beach areas.



*Scott applies the herbicide*



*Phragmites slayers*

#### *In this issue:*

- ◆ *President's Message*
- ◆ *Board in Brief*
- ◆ *CSCIA 2014 Budget*
- ◆ *Cape St. Claire United Methodist Church*
- ◆ *Goshen Farm*
- ◆ *Cape St. Claire Volunteer Fire Company*
- ◆ *Rich Veno Biography*
- ◆ *Councilman Dick Ladd*
- ◆ *Breakfast with Santa Registration Form*

*president's message continued.....*

Phragmites are an invasive tall reed-like plant that is a particular problem along the Atlantic Coast. Without eradication efforts, these loathsome plants grow so densely that neither animals nor native plants can get through them, and they threaten to take over Lake Claire and much of the beach area around Lake Claire Beach. We worked in teams to gather and wrap twine around bundles of phragmites, about a three foot circle. Once the bundle was tied, another person cuts off the heads with pruning shears. Finally, herbicide is applied directly to the cut stalks. We plan additional Phragmites Clean Up days, and we will continue to tackle this invasive species as a part of our master plan for shore erosion control and lake restoration. We hope to see even more of you at future clean up days, so please plan to come and bring a friend, or better yet, an entire Scout or other group with you! Thank you to the volunteers who participated and those who also helped behind the scene with supplies, equipment, refreshments and support. To follow this group, please join the Face Book page, "Friends of Lake Claire." These Cape St. Claire volunteers demonstrate that "Make a Difference Day" isn't just one day – it's any day!

I'm also excited to have been contacted by more than nine residents about their interest in running for the CSCIA Board of Governors next year. I hope most of them will indeed volunteer to run for the Board. I look forward to working with them and am encouraged by their new ideas and enthusiasm! Thanks to all who volunteer and make a difference.

Congratulations to Bill Sherwood for winning the Cape St. Claire 2013 calendar cover photo contest! There were many beautiful photos submitted to the contest. Thank you to all of you who submitted your beautiful photos! Starting this year, we will frame the winning photo and hang it on display in the Cox Meeting Room for all to see.

Looking ahead to the Annual Meeting in January, in addition to elections, we will also have Scott Powers, local historian and researcher as a guest speaker. Did you know that during the war of 1812, the British fleet sailed right past our community shores of their way to Baltimore? Scott has a very interesting presentation planned for us, and I am already looking forward to it!

You may have noticed that the 849 Chestnut Tree property has recently experienced a cleanup and looks much improved. "Beautifying AACo., one yard at a time," indeed starts at home! Wishing everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving!

## **BOARD IN BRIEF**

### **OCTOBER 15, 2012**

The October 2012 CSCIA Monthly Board of Governors meeting was convened on October 15, 2012 at 7:30 P.M. in the Cape St. Claire Clubhouse, Cox Meeting Room.

First on the agenda were two variance request presentations.

A resident presented a request for a setback variance to construct a patio with a roofed and screened porch above it. Governor Biondi expressed concern about the increase in area of impervious surface that would occur. The resident explained that they had obtained all applicable permits from the County. Governor Mooneyhan stated that "impervious surface" issues are not part of the CSCIA Building Code. Governor Biondi expressed concern about the County's attention to that issue. The resident provided further documentation regarding the impervious surface and other permit action on their property. The Board advised the homeowner that they would discuss the matter in closed session.

A second resident presented a request to amend the setback variance for construction of an addition. This was the resident's third request for this a variance. The Board advised him that they would discuss the matter in closed session.



*board in brief continued.....*

President Mooneyhan updated the Board on the current status of the civil and criminal proceedings regarding the property at 849 Chestnut Drive, as per CSCIA Counsel:

- Citation for unregistered vehicle: Homeowner was found in contempt of the court order, ordered to pay a fine of \$165.00 and given another 60 days to comply with the court order.
- Citation for junk and debris: Homeowner paid the original \$125.00 fine and cleaned up the property as of 10/2.
- Should junk and debris return to the property, a citation, with heftier fine will be re-issued, as per the County.
- CSCIA civil litigation is also pending with updates expected soon.

President Mooneyhan reminded all of the Quarterly Membership Meeting on Tuesday, October 23rd, and noted that George Eberle, AA Co., will be attending as guest speaker to discuss the zoning enforcement process and address any questions the community may have.

President Mooneyhan noted that the Lake Claire restoration meeting was a success, with over 40 people discussing problems and solutions. A phragmite clean-up day is scheduled for 9 AM., Saturday, October 20. She expressed her desire that each BOG member attend and show their support.

President Mooneyhan commented that there are four residents interested in running for the BOG. Governor Rich Veno commented that he will be running again, as will Mike Buchet for the Budget Committee.

*Thank You for Your Referrals*

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Alan and Denise





  
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*board in brief continued.....*

President Mooneyhan commented that she is looking forward to the updated website next year, and said she was willing to assist with that project. President Mooneyhan also stated that the CSCIA gets "a lot of comments about the 'I Live in Cape St. Claire'" FaceBook page, which is not an official communications arm of the CSCIA. She stated that the BOG should consider starting an official CSCIA FaceBook page, and expressed her willingness to help start it.

#### **GUEST PRESENTATION:**

Dan Friel from State Farm Insurance returned to discuss the CSCIA insurance policies. He commented that the underwriter was very impressed with the level of maintenance of the properties and that CSCIA had met all of State Farm's requirements. There was some discussion of the Swim Club, the Yacht Club, and Youth Sailing's coverage and their relationships to the CSCIA. There was also discussion relative to the amount of coverage, the deductible, and options for tweaking them. The Board thanked him for his presentation.

#### **FY 2014 BUDGET DISCUSSION:**

The Budget Committee thanked Governors Newman and Biondi for their help in preparing the proposed budget.

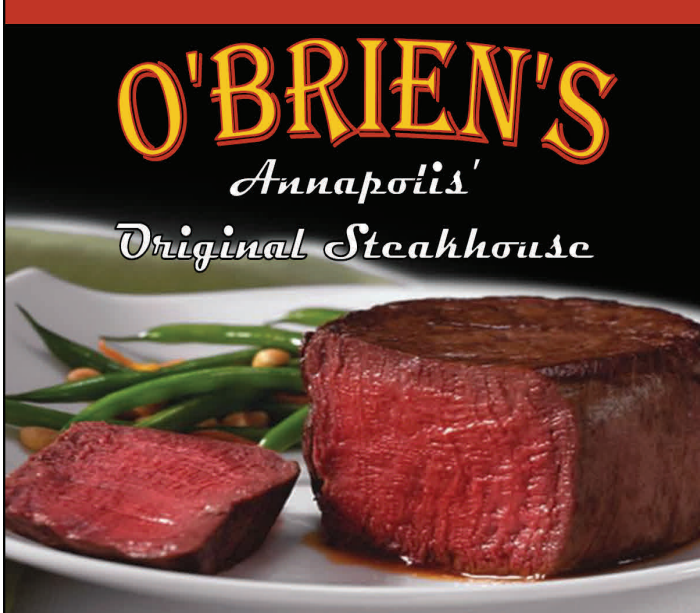
The letter for The Caper, explaining the budget and the need to raise both the assessment and the cap this year, was discussed, as was the budget itself.

Governor Gardner moved that the budget as presented be accepted. The motion was seconded by Governor Dembowski and passed unanimously.

#### **MINUTES:**

**September 10, 2012 CSCIA Monthly BOG meeting minutes:** Governor Campbell made a motion to approve the minutes. Governor Newman seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

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*board in brief continued.....*

## **PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENTS:**

**August 31 and September 30 Profit and Loss Statements (P&Ls):** Governor Myers made a motion to approve the P&L statements. Governor Biondi seconded the motion and it was approved with one abstention.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Roads:** Governor Campbell said there were no updates.

**Budget Committee:** There were no additional comments.

**Piers:** Governor Biondi noted that the season was very successful, and that two additional finger piers would be replaced in the fall. Governor Biondi noted the active and helpful committee of 7 or 8 people working with him on piers.

**Membership:** Governor Veno said he will place notices at the sign on Green Holly and on Graul's bulletin board reminding residents of the upcoming Membership Meeting.

**Beaches & Parks:** Governor Dembowski commented that things have been fairly quiet with regard to the areas. He will be sending banning letters out to 7 non-resident teenagers who were caught trespassing at Lake Claire last month.

**Website:** Governor Newman noted that he had a pending legal matter to discuss in closed session.

**Clubhouse:** Governor Lamb reported that there had been some minor plumbing problems in the past month which have been fixed.

**Caper:** Governor Lamb noted that the Caper will now be edited by Minuteman Press.

*Ask Amy...*

*why this might be the ideal time to buy & sell a home?*



**AMY JURAS**

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**EMAIL: AMY@HOUSEHUNTRESS.COM**

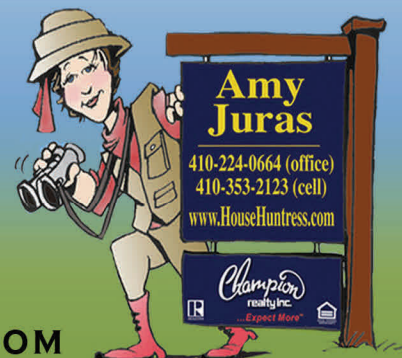


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board in brief continued.....

**Treasurer:** Governor Myers commented that she has discussed accounting and budget procedures with our accountant and Anne Arundel County. Governor Myers said that he County representative said that the commingling of funds has always been done with The caper and clubhouse, but that she could send an inquiry to the law office to see if it has to be done. Also, the County representative said we could absolutely use the money for erosion control. She said the state requires a special district only for the no/low interest loans, but that did not preclude us from finding another way to pay for erosion projects.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no old business.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

There was no new business.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Governor Gardner that the meeting be adjourned to enter into a closed session. Governor Veno seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The regular October 15, 2102 Board of Governors meeting was adjourned at 8:48 P.M.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

A closed session was convened at 8:50 P.M. and adjourned at 9:08 P.M.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Governors Biondi, Campbell, Dembowski, Gardner, Lamb, Mooneyhan, Myers, Newman, and Veno were present, as were Budget Committee chairman Mike Buchet and member David Toy.

**Water Savers**  
TIP OF THE MONTH  
**Sweep it aside**  
INTO THE GRASS!  
**INSTEAD OF USING THE HOSE!**  
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# CAPE ST. CLAIRE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION FY 2014 BUDGET AND ASSESSMENT CAP

Each year the Cape St. Claire Improvement Association, Inc. (CSCIA) Budget Committee develops a consolidated budget for the community. The Committee is composed of up to three committee members elected by the community and two members appointed by CSCIA Board of Governors (BOG), usually the President and Treasurer. This year the BOG assigned the Vice President and Treasurer to the Budget Committee. We are grateful for the insight provided by VP Lou Biondi and Treasurer Dawn Myers. Once drafted, the budget is given to the Board of Governors for review, comment, and presentation to CSCIA members for approval. The enclosed proposed Special Community Benefit District (SCBD) budget has been reviewed by the BOG and recommended for CSCIA member approval.

The consolidated budget includes SCBD and two non-SCBD funding sources: SCBD fees are collected and remitted to CSCIA by the County. CSCIA Maintenance fees and CSCIA pier rental fees are collected by CSCIA, itself. Each year, the community votes to approve the SCBD budget, while the Board of Governors approves the Maintenance and Piers budgets. These two budgets are presented for your information and comment.

The SCBD budget covers three categories of expenditures. They are SCBD General Funds, Clubhouse funds, and Caper funds. These funds appear as the first three columns of the enclosed consolidated budget. An SCBD is created by members of the community, and approved by the County so that the community can provide funding for benefits approved by community members and paid for collectively by community members. These benefits are NOT available to County residents at large. Furthermore, according to law and our SCBD charter, Cape St. Claire SCBD funds may only be expended on four major purposes of our AA County approved Special Community Benefits District. The purposes are:

- Maintenance of community property (beaches and parks, playground equipment, and the fishing pier, the Deep Creek bulkhead, and many CSCIA owned parcels of land.);
- Special security for community property (Off duty police security patrols);
- Acquisition, improvement and construction of real and personal property (such as the Clubhouse, Its roof, Chairs and Tables for Clubhouse functions, CSCIA Office and Office Equipment); and
- Administrative expenses incidental to carrying out these functions.

See the enclosed proposed budget Summary Sheet for more detail.

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*budget and assessment cap continued.....*

The proposed FY 2014 budget includes an increase in the SCBD per lot assessment to \$110 made necessary by inflation and other increases incurred since our last increase years ago. They include legal expenses defending Cape covenants, debt burden and increasing costs for beach attendants, security, security patrol fuel and Clubhouse maintenance/repairs. The current membership approved cap for SCBD assessments is \$110 per lot. The Board of Governors recommends budgeting the \$110 per lot to balance the FY 2014 budget.

In addition to reviewing and proposing the SCBD FY 2014 budget, the BOG recommends increasing the SCBD assessment cap to \$125 per lot in anticipation of still increasing costs. Under the SCBD, a cap may only be raised every two years. If AA County approves the \$125 cap, it would not become effective until FY 2016. Raising the cap is central to maintaining CSCIA's flexibility to meet growing and changing financial needs and continuing to provide services to Cape residents. Raising the cap does not automatically increase the annual assessment. Cape members must approve each annual assessment figure up to the cap by ballot as we will do at the January 2013 membership meeting.

Your vote for or against the budget and your vote for or against increasing the cap are separate ballot items. **For Your Convenience Each Ballot Will Be Enclosed In Dec/Jan Issue Of The Capers.** Under the rules for SCBDs, if Cape St. Claire lot owners fail to pass the FY 2014 budget, the Cape will be stuck operating at a three year old level and risk losing the current level of services provided.

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## CSCIA Draft Budget Fiscal Year 2014

## CSCIA Budget

Based on FY 2012 with Actuals

FY 2014 Early Draft			SCBD						
Ordinary Income/Expense		SCBD Line	Regular	Clubhouse	Caper	SCBD Total	Maint.	Piers	Totals
<b>INCOME</b>									
	1 Caper Advertising	14	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 26,000	\$ 26,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 26,000
	2 BLOA Contribution (Security)	14	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ 3,000
	3 SCBD/Maintenance Fees	15	\$ 232,456	\$ 20,214	\$ -	\$ 252,670	\$ 25,000	\$ -	\$ 277,670
	4 HOA Packets	14	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,000	\$ -	\$ 6,000
	5 Interest Income	14	\$ 150	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 550
	6 Late Fees	14	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,100	\$ 500	\$ 3,600
	7 Misc. Income	14	\$ 200	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200	\$ 775	\$ 100	\$ 1,075
	8 Clubhouse Rentals & Slips Fees	14	\$ -	\$ 34,000	\$ -	\$ 34,000	\$ -	\$ 75,000	\$ 109,000
	9 Fund Balance from FY12	16	\$ 15,853	\$ 10,533	\$ 5,500	\$ 31,886	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 31,886
	10 Additional Parking Sticker Charges		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,200	\$ -	\$ 1,200
	11 Total Income		\$ 248,659	\$ 64,747	\$ 31,500	\$ 344,906	\$ 39,275	\$ 75,800	\$ 459,981
	12 % of Total Income		54.1%	14.1%	6.8%	75.0%	8.5%	16.5%	100.0%
	12a For allocation of shared expenses.		58.0%	17.0%	0.0%	75.0%	8.5%	16.5%	100.0%
	13 % of SCBD Revenues		72.1%	18.8%	9.1%	100.0%			
	13a For allocation of shared expenses.		79.0%	20.9%		99.9%			
	14 % of Piers and Maintenance Revenues						34.1%	65.9%	100.0%
	For allocation purposes, percentages are the same								
<b>EXPENSES</b>									
<b>General and Administrative</b>									
S	1 Accounting Fees	11	\$ 4,521	\$ 1,329		\$ 5,850	\$ 666	\$ 1,285	\$ 7,800
S	2 Audit Expenses	11	\$ 2,369	\$ 627		\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ 1,040	\$ 4,040
	3 Bank Fees & Charges	11	\$ 100			\$ 100			\$ 100
	4 Caper Postage / Distribution	8	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,500	\$ 8,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,500
	5 Caper Printing	8	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19,000	\$ 19,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19,000
	6 Caper - Editor Contract	8	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,000
AA	7 Collection Fees - AA Co.	13	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000
	8 Front Foot Assessments	9	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,170	\$ 1,170
S	9 Insurance	11	\$ 5,506	\$ 1,619	\$ -	\$ 7,125	\$ 811	\$ 1,566	\$ 9,500
	10 Legal Services	11	\$ 12,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,000	\$ 1,366	\$ 2,634	\$ 16,000
	11 Membership (Dues & Fees)	7	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 350	\$ 150	\$ 500
	12 Miscellaneous	1	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ 1,000	\$ 200	\$ 1,700
	13 Mowing (Contracted Services)	1	\$ 8,755	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,755	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,755
	14 Clubhouse Custodial Svcs (Contract)	1	\$ -	\$ 13,500	\$ -	\$ 13,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,500
S	15 Office Supplies/Expense	7	\$ 4,057	\$ 1,193	\$ -	\$ 5,250	\$ 598	\$ 1,152	\$ 7,000
S	16 Payroll Expenses	9	\$ 9,323	\$ 891	\$ -	\$ 10,215	\$ 489	\$ 1,189	\$ 11,892
	17 Permits	9	\$ 200	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 300	\$ -	\$ 450	\$ 750
	18 Postage	7	\$ 100	\$ 50		\$ 150	\$ 3,000	\$ 400	\$ 3,550
	19 Printing	7	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ 4,100	\$ 100	\$ 4,700
	20 Property Taxes	9	\$ 2,800	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,800	\$ 350	\$ 450	\$ 3,600
	21 Refreshments	7	\$ 400	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 400		\$ 200	\$ 600
	22 Repairs/Maintenance	1	\$ 11,120	\$ 9,000		\$ 20,120	\$ 11,000	\$ 12,500	\$ 43,620
	23 Sanitary Services	1	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 7,000
	24 Sewer	9	\$ -	\$ 600	\$ -	\$ 600	\$ -	\$ 250	\$ 850
	25 Signage	1	\$ 300	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300	\$ -	\$ 400	\$ 700
S	26 Telecommunication (Telephone/DSL)	2	\$ 1,217	\$ 358	\$ -	\$ 1,575	\$ 179	\$ 346	\$ 2,100
	27 Trash Collection	1	\$ 3,700	\$ 2,000		\$ 5,700	\$ 4,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 12,200
	28 Utilities	2	\$ 6,500	\$ 5,000		\$ 11,500	\$ 450	\$ 13,000	\$ 24,950
	29 Volunteer Appreciation	1	\$ 250	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250
S	30 Wages - Administrator	10	\$ 30,140	\$ 8,861	\$ -	\$ 39,000	\$ 4,440	\$ 8,569	\$ 52,000
S	31 Wages - Asst. Administrator	10	\$ 3,883	\$ 1,142	\$ -	\$ 5,025	\$ 572	\$ 1,104	\$ 6,700
	32 Wages - Asst. Administrator (Mtg. Spt.)	10	\$ 2,400	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,400	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,400
	33 Wages - Code Enf./Permit Acquisition	10	\$ 4,080	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,080	\$ 1,020	\$ -	\$ 5,100
	34 Wages - Groundskeeping	1	\$ 20,100	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,100	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,100
	35 Wages - Custodial Svcs	1	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000
	36 Wages - Handyman for piers		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500
	37 Wages - Pump-out attendant		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500
	38 Wages - Security Patrol	3	\$ 38,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 38,500	\$ 3,000		\$ 41,500
	39 Security Mileage Reimbursement	3	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000
	40 Wages - Beach Attendant	17	\$ 13,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,000
	41 Web Site	7	\$ 1,800	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,800	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,800
	42 Total General and Administrative		\$ 196,122	\$ 47,269	\$ 31,500	\$ 274,895	\$ 37,391	\$ 57,655	\$ 369,927
<b>Capital Expenditures</b>									
	43 Beaches and Parks Improvements	5	\$ 31,537	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 31,537	\$ 1,884	\$ -	\$ 33,421
	44 Clubhouse Improvements	4	\$ -	\$ 17,478	\$ -	\$ 17,478	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,478
	45 Piers Improvements/Walkways		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 18,145	\$ 18,145
	46 Debt Retirement - Bulkhead	5	\$ 21,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 21,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 21,000
	47 Total Capital Expenditures		\$ 52,537	\$ 17,478	\$ -	\$ 70,015	\$ 1,884	\$ 18,145	\$ 90,044
<b>Total Expenditures</b>			\$ 248,659	\$ 64,747	\$ 31,500	\$ 344,910	\$ 39,275	\$ 75,800	\$ 459,971
<b>Net Income (Loss)</b>			\$ (0)	\$ (0)	\$ -	\$ (4)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 10

# CAPE ST. CLAIRE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

855 Chestnut Tree Drive  
Annapolis, Maryland 21409

Phone: 410-757-4896

Website - [capeumc.org](http://capeumc.org)

Pastor - Rev. Lys Cockrell

Sunday Worship Service - 9:00 am

Sunday School - 10:30am - 11:30am All ages are invited.

November is a month for giving thanks as we prepare for our Advent and Christmas season. If you are looking for a church home, we warmly invite you to our community of faith to surround yourself with the family of God.

All churches in the community will be planning a Community Thanksgiving Service and details will be forthcoming.

**Coffee at the Point** will be set up on the first Wednesday of each month. We will serve coffee and sweets to the students who walk to Broadneck High School beginning at 6:30 until 7:15 AM. In the afternoon we return to offer cold water and/or freeze pops. Our whole purpose is to show the students of the Cape that we do care about them and to wish them a good day at school. The coffee table is set up at the point between Blue Ridge and Chestnut Tree streets in an attempt to offer to the students a positive place to gather.

We would like to congratulate our Cape Kids' Corner preschool who just celebrated serving the community for 30 years!



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# GOSHEN FARM PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Well we have been very busy this past month. We held our first Wine Tasting hosted by Bella's Liquors and Chefs Art & George Lewis. We had a record turnout including Orlando Ridout IV and Councilman Dick Ladd, with all proceeds going towards the restoration. We also gained several new members and sold Halloween Fundraiser tickets and limited edition Christmas ornaments.

We recently received incredibly generous donations from two wonderful organizations; the Cape St. Claire Garden Club matched their Rain Barrel sales of \$700 to give us a whopping \$1,400 donation. We also received another \$1,000 donation from the Anne Arundel County Trust for Preservation.

We are overwhelmed with the tremendous support that we have been receiving from our community. In fact we have many of our local merchants supporting our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Halloween Fundraiser which happened on Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup> with items for the Silent Auction: 31 Bags Heather Stephens, Annapolis Yellow Checker Cab, Artist Flat, Bank Annapolis, Bay Hills Deli, Bergman's Cleaners, Broadneck Grill, Café Mezzanotte, Cakes & Confections, Cantlers, Cape Auto, Cape Exchange, Cape St. Claire Yacht Club, Cape True Value, Ceremony Coffee Roasters, Chesapeake Holistic Health, Cleo's, Cravings, Creative Memories, Curves, Dave & Vicky Jenkins, Dave & Kelly Slosky, Discount Tobacco, Fresh and Greens, Graul's Market, Great Clips, Healing Hands Message Therapy, Jing Ying Institute of Kung Fu, Kentmorr Restaurant, Leigh Glenn, Linda Kneeland Botanicals, Main Street Salon, O'Briens, O'Laughlin's, Pizza Hut, Port Tack Ltd., Red Hot and Blue, Richard's Tree Care, Riverbay Roadhouse, Sedor Signs, 7-11, Shakti Studios, Ski Haus Sports Center, Slumber Parties by Alicia, Spa Nails, TNT, Valentine Bauer, D.D.S., P.A., Vizzini's Pizza 'n Subs, Whimsicality. Thank you to all of these businesses for their support!



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## UPCOMING DATES

*November 3<sup>rd</sup> 9am-1pm:*

*Boat Shrink Wrap Fundraiser*



We've partnered with professionals Atlantic Shrink Wrap to cover your 10-24ft trailered boat for the winter. Call Dustin at 443-871-1791 to schedule a time on Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> to bring your boat to the station parking lot. \$10/foot.

*November 25<sup>th</sup>:*

*Christmas Tree Sales Begin*

Kick off your--- holiday season right-- by visiting your local Fire Company to buy your family's freshly cut Christmas Tree! Trees are competitively priced and purchasing trees from us will allow us to continue to support you and your family throughout the year.

## FIRE PREVENTION

Winter is the most dangerous time for fires. FEMA estimates 108,400 building fires occur every winter in the United States, resulting in approximately 945 deaths, nearly 4,000 injuries and almost 2 billion dollars in property damage. Heating is one of the main causes of residential fires during the winter. Below are some potential heating dangers and helpful tips to be safe this winter.

As the temperature begins to drop, we turn to different forms of heat to keep our homes comfortable. Many of these heating methods use combustion to produce heat. Fireplaces and wood stoves often cause fires, especially if the chimney is not regularly cleaned. Consider having your chimney professionally cleaned this fall to reduce the buildup of combustible byproducts within your chimney. Sparks, and heat from the fire itself, can also transfer to other combustible materials surrounding the fireplace. Please be sure to move combustibles a safe distance away from any heat source. Also consider using a spark screen to help prevent sparks from exiting the fireplace.

Space heaters and combustion-based central heating systems, such as oil and natural gas furnaces, also pose a fire risk. Ensure these are properly serviced.

In addition to increased fire potential, combustion-based heating systems produce carbon monoxide. Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless, tasteless gas, which is extremely toxic to the human body. All combustion heating systems need to be properly ventilated to the outside. Purchasing a carbon monoxide detector can help protect you and your family this winter.

## CHANGE YOUR CLOCK, CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES

The long days of summer are quickly leaving and the switch from Daylight Savings Time back to Standard Time is swiftly approaching. Before you change your clock this November 4th, be sure to replace EACH battery in ALL of your smoke detectors.

Questions, Concerns, Interested in Joining? Email [questions@cscvfc.org](mailto:questions@cscvfc.org)- or visit [www.cscvfc.org](http://www.cscvfc.org)



## GARDEN CLUB

What a balmy October we've had, with lows overnight in the 50s and 60s – this is gardening heaven!

The Garden Club had a very well-attended Seed and Cutting Exchange at our October meeting, which included 6 new members! A warm welcome to Barbara, Pat, Judy, Laura, Jeanne, and Eileen! We're so happy you joined us!

At the October meeting, the Garden Club wrapped up our Rain Barrel Fundraiser. We are so very excited to report a smashingly successful rain barrel fundraiser with the support of our generous Cape and Broadneck community that raised over \$700, all of which will be donated to Goshen Farm Preservation Trust. Having searched in vain for several months for a local business to match this donation, the Garden Club voted unanimously that we ourselves would provide the match, bringing the total donation to \$1400. This donation will be doubled yet again by Goshen Farm's State of Maryland matching grant, to \$2800. We are so happy to be part of Goshen Farm Preservation Society's devoted efforts to preserve this important historic home and treasured open space right in our own backyards. And we are so grateful to all those who bought a barrel or two for your home, supporting Goshen Farm and the Garden Club and also protecting the Chesapeake Bay from excessive storm runoff, and to all those who loyally shop at our Plant Sale year after year. Your generous support is what made all this possible -- thank you!

We will meet later in October to celebrate another wonderful gardening season at our annual Harvest Dinner. Then our **next meeting** will fall on **Tuesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, at 7pm**. And we will meet again on **Tuesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, at 7pm**, for our annual **wreath-making and gift exchange**. Attendees bring fresh evergreen boughs from our yards, and we use them to create 2 large wreaths that are hung at Lawyers' Mall in Annapolis, along with a dozen other wreaths made by other local garden clubs. If you want to join in the merriment and festivity of wreath-making, please do – we always have a lot of fun and learn so much. More information is on our blog at [capegardenclub.wordpress.com](http://capegardenclub.wordpress.com) or you can email [flokell@verizon.net](mailto:flokell@verizon.net) with any questions.

Happy Thanksgiving, Capers!

## BILL SHERWOOD WINS 2013 CSC COMMUNITY CALENDAR PHOTO CONTEST

Congratulations to Bill Sherwood for winning the grand prize in the 2013 Cape St. Claire Community Calendar Photo Contest with his photograph titled "Deep Creek Winter 2011". You'll find Bill's photo printed on the front of the 2013 Cape Calendar. He received a \$100.00 cash prize.

Honorable mentions go to Deborah Callaway, Deborah Miller, Edward Blakely, Sara Marquardt, and Theresa Rainey.

Many thanks to Cape True Value Hardware who graciously offered their store as the photo contest collection and pickup point.

Expect copies of the 2013 Community Calendar to arrive in mailboxes in December. Extra copies will be available at the Cape St. Claire Improvement Association office. Take special note of the last two inside calendar pages that contain important telephone numbers for community organizations, government agencies, schools, Cape St. Claire Shopping Center merchants, *The Capers*, calendar advertisers, and more!

Amy Podd  
Advertising Director  
2013 CSC Community Calendar



# COUNCILMAN DICK LADD

Anne Arundel County Council Fifth District

## October Article

The 2012 election will soon be here. I hope and strongly encourage all of you to exercise our dearest right – the right to VOTE.

In addition to our choices for national level office holders, there will be numerous referendum issues to consider: 4 State and 15 County issues.

Of the 15 County issues, the first six merit some elaboration, utilizing material from the Office of Law. Those ballot questions would:

- A. Require the County Executive to submit the County budget at least 60 days before the end of the fiscal year and would require the Council to adopt the Budget by June 15, thereby retaining 45 days to consider the County budget after the State completes its budget.

*A vote against the amendment keeps the budget submission date April 15 and the adoption date June 1.*

- B. Revise the provision for removing the County Executive from office to include conviction of a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude or misfeasance or malfeasance in office; and would provide, by vote of not less than five members of the County Council, for the forfeiture of post-employment County benefits if convicted of certain crimes.

*A vote against will reject adding felony convictions and authority to withhold retirement benefits*

- C. Add specific authority, where none currently exists, for the County Council to remove a County Councilman from office subject to the same terms and conditions established for removing the County Executive.

*A vote against will leave the Charter without a specific provision to remove a County Councilman and authority to deny retirement benefits.*

- D. Revise the Charter to permit the County Executive to fill a County Council vacancy (if the Council fails to do so within 30 days) by appointment of a candidate recommended (within 10 days) by the State Central Committee of Anne Arundel County (an elected entity) of the same party as the previous member and who also received at least one vote on the Council's last ballot roll call vote; if an unaffiliated member, the Executive shall (within 5 days) select from a list of candidates supplied by the Council of candidates who received at least one vote on the Council's last ballot roll call vote.

*A vote against leaves the County without a process to break a deadlocked vote to fill a Council vacancy after 30 days.*

- E. Require the County to establish a non-lapsing fund into which revenues may be appropriated for the sole purpose of paying retiree health care benefits; would allow the County Council to establish, by ordinance, a non-lapsing fund, successor trust and provide for the appointment of trustees with powers and duties of an independent agency of the County similar to the Pension Trust.

*A vote against leaves appropriations for retiree health benefits exposed in the County's general fund.*

- F. Limit the County Executive's line item veto authority to comprehensive zoning ordinances only.  
*I did not support placing this provision on the ballot and do not recommend its adoption. I believe that if the County Executive finds it better to line item veto a portion of an ordinance rather than vetoing the entire bill, he or she should have that option. The vote to reject the veto of an entire bill or "line item" requires a 5- vote majority in either case.*

The last nine Charter amendments (in sequence) are largely changes to update required processes and practices to reflect current best or better practices. These questions if approved would:

- G. Start councilmanic terms on the first Monday in December;  
H. Permit, by majority vote, the Council to recess in August ;  
I. Require yearly, independent CPA audits of all County financial statements except special taxing districts;  
J. Require "bond premiums" to be used only for capital improvement financing;  
K. Increase decennial Charter Review Commission membership from 5 to 7 (one per councilmanic district);  
L. Establish a limit of two consecutive terms for County Board of Appeals members;  
M. Establish a limit of two consecutive terms for County Ethics Commission members;  
N. Clarify that unsigned bills returned by the County Executive to the County Council without comment become law on the 10th day after presentation to the County Executive;  
O. Permit required budgetary and fiscal copies to be provided electronically or digitally.

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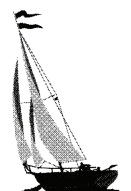
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**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2012**

**8:30 AM AND 10:30 AM**



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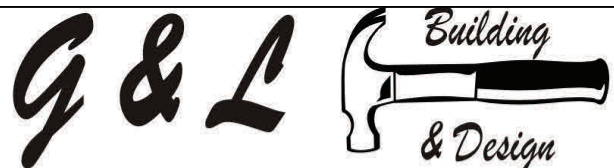
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## The Cape SIGNBOARD

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[signboard2012@cscia.org](mailto:signboard2012@cscia.org) for  
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## Calling All Candidates!!!

Help your community be the best in Anne Arundel County by volunteering to serve on the CSCIA Board!

There are five board seats available in January and we are looking for candidates for the CSCIA Budget committee as well.

The deadline for submitting your nomination is November 15.

Please send your self-nomination to Mary Lamb, Nominating Committee Chair, at:

[Nominating2012@cscia.org](mailto:Nominating2012@cscia.org)

You may also drop off your contact information at the CSCIA office:

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Want to know what's going on in the Cape? Join the "I Live In Cape St. Claire" Facebook page. You will find conversations on issues affecting our community as well as about schools and community events, items for sale and even missing pets.



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Mary Lamb / 410-757-0593 / capermanager@cscia.org

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All submissions for *The Caper* must be received by the editor on the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month prior. Text ads should be submitted in Microsoft Word format (PC only), and image ads should be submitted in Jpeg or TIFF format with a resolution of 300 dpi or greater. All articles/ads must be submitted electronically to caper@minutemanpress.com. DO NOT submit as inline text of email. All articles should be clearly labeled with the 1) submitter's name, 2) phone number and 3) article filename (s). Please keep a backup copy of each file. *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.

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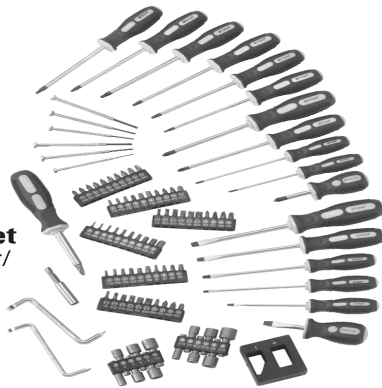
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