

Road Four

NEWSLETTER OF THE GOLDENS BRIDGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Summer
2009

From the Editor

"Road Four" is now available in electronic (PDF) format. If you, or any friends or family would like to get the electronic version, which is now in color, contact us with the recipient's e-mail address. Road Four is also available on the GB web site: www.goldensbridge.org/GBsite/roadfourmain.htm

Road Four is a community newsletter. If you have any news, be it personal or whatever that you would like to share, please send it to us.

Road Four prints 4 issues per year.

Gerry Sircus, Editor
suki27@earthlink.net
914-301-5507

Aaron Kroun, Prod.
akroun@verizon.net
914-232-8322

Presidential Thoughts:

It's Summer and I'd like to ask you to think about our dirt roads during this past Winter. I would just ask you, when you're out and about, to look around and imagine what the traffic and environmental conditions would be like, now, this Summer, if the roads had been paved. Do you think those conditions would be safer and better with asphalt covering the roads? Would you be able to walk on them safely? How would it impact our Camp? Could you walk barefoot from the parking lot to the Beach on hot tar? Would you feel as comfortable walking your dog? How does asphalt smell in summer's heat? How would the sense of being rural, which is a founding Principle of our Constitution, be forever changed?

Eric Stand

Gala Art Opening and Benefit

This gala art opening brought out neighbors we don't often see at the Barn, creating a lively and exciting atmosphere. I can only speculate that our artists have lots of good friends, admirers, and supporters. Additionally, quite a few purchases were made during the course of the evening, with the artists contributing 25% of the sale price to the Darfur Peace Organization.

So many people were involved in putting the evening together. The Barn was transformed into a gallery with the help of Judy and Dan Fast, Michael Brown, Ashlie Burgun, her friend Matt, Theo Stewart-Stand and Penelope Maillot. Judy, Ashlie, and Theo were exhibitors, as well. Judy Gressin was responsible for obtaining gifts of wine from Kato-nah Wine & Liquors and Goldens Bridge Fine Wine and Spirits. Our wine and cheese bar was arranged and hosted by Adriana Kulczykky (artist) and Chris Broberg. Chris additionally gifted us with a magnificent looking trifle that disappeared before I could taste it. Thanks also to John Bergherr, our Darfur organization contact, and to Lisette Meyers and Abbi Orr for making so many phone calls and helping with publicity.

Maybe, the most important lesson to be learned from such a successful evening is that this community feels good when we support social causes that are meaningful. This is a tradition that needs to be continued. I feel honored to have been part of the evening.

Martha Levites

To John Bergherr from Darfur Peace and Development Organization

Dear John,

We are writing to thank you for the wonderful event that you and the Goldens Bridge Colony Community created for Darfur Peace and Development Organization this past Saturday night at the Barn!

The Art Show and Auction was an extraordinary success in every way. The Barn was packed with community members attracted by the beautiful artwork, the delightful refreshments and the stimulating conversation. Those who attended gave most generously of their time, attention and financial support. We had a constant stream of people visiting the DPDO information table to learn more about our programs, hear the stories of the lives of the women and children of Darfur, to purchase the beautiful handmade baskets made by the Darfuri women or make donations to our schools or solar cooker programs..

We are most excited and grateful to report the results of Saturday's event! The Goldens Bridge Colony Community donated over \$1,000 to our Darfur Schools of Peace, which represents the cost of educating 28 students for a whole year at \$36 per student! \$150 was donated to provide solar cookers for 5 families in our displaced persons camps in North Darfur. This means that 5 women will no longer be at risk of being raped while in search of fire wood to cook their family meals! Lastly, we sold 11 baskets. Each basket sale provides a refugee



DARFUR CHILDREN



Darfur Basket of Strength

woman with enough money to support her family completely for one week!

Thank you for making such a difference for the people we serve in Darfur. Your generosity provides the tools for these women and children to rebuild their lives and create a sustainable future for themselves and their communities.

We hope that more communities will follow your lead and create their own events to support the dignity of human life. Together, we will cause a shift in the quality of life for all the world's people!

We look forward to continuing the tradition of working with the Colony to support Darfur on an annual basis.

With gratitude,
 Ziva Ben Reuven
 Mary Ellen Kramer
 Members, Board of Directors
 Darfur Peace and Development
 Organization

Chinese Mystery Snails Seen in Lake!

The small snails we have in the Lake are probably native to our Lake. The large ones, known as Chinese mystery snails, were probably introduced into our lake by someone dumping their aquarium into our Lake. They are a danger as their only predators are turtles and large fish, and we don't have enough of those, at present, to control the population. They cannot be killed by treating the water chemically. I expect their number to start increasing exponentially.

If you encounter them, please remove them from the Lake. Like all living creatures, including ourselves, they are a host for many parasites, some beneficial; some not. They have not been shown, that I know of, to be a danger to us, but please be cautious and wash your hands if you handle them, or use a net, or rake. I know people who handle turtles can ingest a parasite they carry, giardia, which can be hard to diagnose and treat.



CHINESE MYSTERY SNAIL

So be careful.

Also please follow these rules:

1-If you have a terrarium, an aquarium or the like don't bring it in contact with our local wildlife. The plants and animals you get from stores are largely exotics and don't belong in our ecosystems. Lake Waccabuc is spending tens of thousands of dollars to rid their lake of Brazilian Elodea which is a common aquarium plant that tropical fish like. Someone probably dumped their tank into that Lake and hopefully it can be confined and removed, but it may not be possible.

2-If you go tubing or rafting in another body of water, do not allow that equipment to touch our Lake. No other boats are allowed in our Lake than the ones the community owns.

3-If you go fishing in another body of water, wait two weeks of drying out until that equipment enters our water.

Go get those snails out of our Lake,

Eric Stand

Beach Committee

On May 17th there was a work party at the lake. It was an overcast afternoon, perfect for what was done. The project included weeding, moving compost from the pile to the garden and applying it. While this was going on the rafts were repaired and sand was moved around on the beach. All of this took place during a three-hour period. I would like to thank everyone for the hard work and high spirits. Maggie Hayes and George Levites have given their labor and expertise to the garden project and Connor and friend, Jordan and Friend, Jeremy, Adrianna, JohnB and Martha were part of this team of workers. It was great fun to see the parade of wheelbarrows back and forth and nice to know we were using our own composted material. Mike Brown and Eric Stand

repaired the rafts and found they were not in as poor condition as was previously believed. We talked about the replacement of the rafts and will be reporting to the membership in July. Jeff and I spread sand around and enjoyed the opportunity to get to know each other as we worked.

It is the camaraderie of working together, seeing something beautiful emerge over time, enjoying the good work, with our neighbors, that defines community. I encourage everyone to join a committee and feel the pleasure of making a difference. There is always lots to do.

Georgann Stewart-Stand

Incident At The Lake

Those sitting at the lake on Saturday, August 25th, were party to an emergency situation that ended well. Brandon Orr, the lifeguard on duty, immediately rushed into the water to rescue a swimmer in trouble. Brandon reached him and brought him toward the shore. The victim, Daniel Shapiro, a guest of the Yalowitz family, was not conscious. David Levy and Theo Stewart-Stand observed that the victim was a large man and aided Brandon in getting him prone so that CPR could be administered. Dr. Dennis McGroary, who was nearby began the effort to resuscitate Mr. Shapiro. Meanwhile Joann Ehnes called 911 and ushered all the children to the volleyball court to keep them away from the activity. Dr. Lisa Weinstock and Lisette Meyers, a nurse, were standing by in case their services became necessary.

EMT arrived shortly, taking over responsibility. By now it was apparent that Mr. Shapiro was breathing although still not conscious and he was taken to the hospital for treatment. Nat Yalowitz reported that he was released on Sunday with no clear indication of the reason for the episode but further tests were anticipated.

The Bielski Partisans

At the end of World War II, one heard of the Bielski brothers and their band of Jewish partisans who had managed to hold out in the forests of Byelorussia. Getting any additional information was difficult at that time. On Saturday, July 18th, in the GB barn we were provided a first-person detailed description of those difficult days. The recent film, *Defiance*, a somewhat fictional account of that period was viewed after an introduction by Essie Shor, a cousin of the Bielskis and a member of the partisans upon her escape from the Novogrudok ghetto.

A question and answer period took place and Essie was able to relate incidents in the film to the real events in her life and those of the partisans. She has written an account of her experiences that is particularly appropriate for a young adult audience. Contact John Bergherr for more information.

The Dukhins, Father And Son

The May 2009 issue of the learned journal *Analytical Chemistry* describes the important scientific contributions of two members of the Goldens Bridge community, Andrei Dukhin and his father Stanislav. They began their careers in the Soviet Union and became important figures in the field of electrokinetics. In their research they focused on the behavior of colloidal systems and its connection to microfluidics and nanotechnology. Stanislav established one of the first groups to study theoretical colloidal science. When the Soviet Union collapsed, he started to travel all over the world.

Andrei was inspired by his father and luckily demonstrated a special aptitude for mathematics and science. He followed his father in studying electrokinetics. Many of the papers written during the early research in the field have never

been translated from the Russian and Andrei has become an avid contributor to Wikipedia to give more access to interested scientists.

In 1991, Senator Kennedy introduced a special program to grant green cards to outstanding Russian scientists. "I was the third person in this program. My father was in the first ten", said Andrei. Upon leaving Russia, Stanislav worked for ten years at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. He is now retired but continues to consult. Andrei became an associate of an American scientist and together they established Dispersion Technology, Inc. and developed an acoustic spectroscopy technique.

(Andrei and his father and mother, Stanislav and Helena, have been members for many years. They live on Branch Street in the former Mencher house.)

Grow Your Own

The May 27th issue of *The Jewish Week of Washington, D.C.* article, "The Garden of Eatin': the art of growing produce at home", reporting on the millions of Americans who have become home gardeners. Certainly, we know many of them here in the colony. One who was raised here in Goldens Bridge is quoted in the article.

"I'm very interested in eating locally," said Karla Eisen of Gainesville, Va., "and you can't get more local than your backyard. The less it has to travel, the better it is. I'm happy to say that I am now lessening my carbon footprint."

Eisen, a 45-year-old social scientist for the company Westat, maintains three gardens on her property – a cool-season plot that includes lettuce, asparagus and cabbage; a perennial herb garden; and a patch for hot weather crops, including tomatoes, cucumbers and melons.

We hope she has a good harvest.



Dirt Roads

When Lori and I decided to get out of Dodge back in 95 (we had a house in Sunnyside Gardens, Queens) we didn't know where else to live. We were driving around Westchester and got lost; somewhere in Somers maybe. At one point I thought I was driving on a dirty road but came to realize it was a dirt road. I couldn't believe there were dirt roads this close to the city. We decided to concentrate our house search in the north-eastern part of the county. It seemed so undeveloped and naturally beautiful. Although being on a dirt road wasn't a criteria for our new house, we were pleased that our new Lake Street home was on one. Shortly after moving in there was a petition to pave the roads.

Although the dirt road battle must have been going on for a while before we arrived, we were shocked to think that Lake Street might be paved over. Back then there were articles printed in the Road Four both for and against paving. I remember one for and one against. The letter for keeping the dirt roads ended with an impassioned plea not to pave. It stated that the dirt roads bind us to one another as a community, while paved roads bind us only to our cars. The letter for paving included the usual list of valid problems with dirt roads. I don't remember them specifically but the dust, mud, pot holes and silting of the lake may have been among them. The letter concluded with a final criticism of dirt roads. It stated that people think the dirt roads are paths and walk right down the middle of them. To me, this last comment made the argument for keeping the roads dirt. The vision of a family or a group of kids walking down the middle of one of our dirt roads is exactly why most of us treasure our dirt roads. A dirt road IS a path... a path that binds us to one another. Furthermore, paving will not keep the walkers

off the roads but the increased speed of cars as a result of paving is sure to create serious safety problems for all walkers, young and old, two legged and four.

How about just paving over the "problem areas"? Paving over each person's personal problem area could end up with a large portion of our roads being paved. At the April membership meeting some of the problems with dirt roads were restated. It was pointed out that the properties on the "wrong side" of Hillside Avenue experience flooding after a hard rain. It was thought that paving was the answer. This brings to mind a similar issue with the portion of Hall Avenue at the base of Hillside Avenue. The Highway Department paved this section to solve a similar flooding problem. It worked. The board of directors complained to the town that it should have consulted with the board before taking any action and that paving may have been unnecessary. The town agreed to study whether the same results could have been achieved without paving. They concluded that the problem could have been solved without paving over the dirt road. However, there was no money in the highway budget for digging up the pavement and correcting the problem so it was left as is.

Because of the Hall Avenue episode, I believe that the dirt roads can be made to work without paving all or part of them. They seem to work in other towns. North Salem Road in Bedford and Baxter Road in North Salem have considerable traffic and seem to have less pot holes and ruts than ours do. If we all came to believe that the dirt roads could be made to work perhaps we could unite to make this happen. As it stands now, we are a house divided against itself. If we were to keep the lines of communication open with the Highway Department through our Roads Chairperson, we might bring our

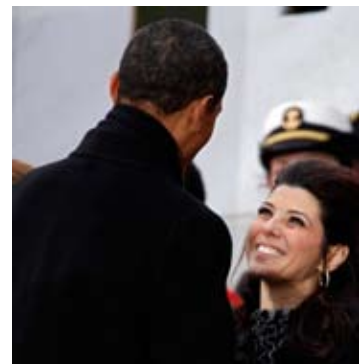
roads up to a standard that, while not pleasing everyone, at least addresses some of the worst of the complaints. The staff at the Highway Department recently went to dirt road school and may have additional skills and ideas for addressing our problem areas.

I am a newcomer here but I understand how important this issue is for some of my neighbors whose parents met here as kids and now have their own grand children playing in the sand at the beach. They want to turn over a Colony to their children and grand children that they and their parents, and maybe even their grand parents, knew and loved. The dirt roads are as much a part of that Colony as the beach, the barn and the lake. In my opinion the Colony would be greatly diminished without them.

John Bergherr

Marisa Tomei & President Obama

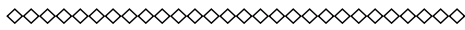
U.S. President-elect Barack Obama shakes hands with Shakira and Marisa Tomei, Bono and the Edge in front of the Lincoln Memorial during the "We Are One: The Obama Inaugural Celebration At The Lincoln Memorial" on January 18, 2009 at the National Mall in



Washington, DC. The event included a diverse array of talent featuring both musical performances and historical readings.

Marisa not only had the opportunity to shake the president's hand, but introduced many of the performers at the celebration.

(Photos by Chip Somodevilla/Getty Images)



Lewis Guthman July 2009

Lewis Guthman, husband of Adina Kole a long time Goldens Bridge family, died Monday July 20th from brain tumors. The funeral was held July 22nd in Bethesda, Maryland where the couple lived with their two children, Noah, 16, and Maya, 13. Adina may be contacted at 301-466-8139 and on Facebook.

Frances Hamburg June 2009

Frances Hamburg died on June 11th at the age of 86 after surgery for lung cancer. She was the wife

of Sidney Hamburg whose family was among the earliest settlers of the colony. Many happy summers were spent here over a sixty year period. Older residents may remember Frances's frequent appearances in GB dramatic presentations. She is survived by her husband and her children Judy and Michael

Social Justice Award Supports Involvement of John Jay H.S. Student

The social justice scholarship award of \$500 given to a graduating senior at John Jay High School provides significant recognition to the awardee. This year, Eric Kutscher, was the selected winner of our award based on his efforts to promote social justice. In his thank you letter he wrote, "I am truly honored and humbled by your recognition of my efforts to bring awareness to troubles in our community, in our country and throughout the world. I am also very grateful for your very generous financial award... This summer I will be going to Maine to become a community organizer for health care reform... I look forward to staying involved and to pursuing policy making in the future."

Eric's letter can make us feel very proud of what we are doing with our scholarship award. Eric, a Goldens Bridge resident, has been involved in leadership activities that have included Save Darfur, AIDS in South Africa, Free Rice for the Hungry, and many others. In addition, Eric has applied his leadership ability to his local synagogue youth group, where he has developed modern programs to reach out to Jewish youth. Eric has also been a representative to the Board of Education and a liaison to Campus Congress. All this was accomplished while maintaining an outstanding academic record.

It is with great satisfaction that we reward such an outstanding student. We hope that another fund-raising event will be held next year to keep the money flowing. Our community can continue its generosity to promising young people who work for the causes that are dear to us. Thanks to all who have made this scholarship award a wonderful community contribution.

Mera Eisen, for the social action committee

GET WELL

Best wishes to Ken Gross for a successful recovery to his recent bypass surgery and to Eric Stand for the surgical repair of a torn shoulder tendon.

SUMMER TRAVEL

Elyse Gordon has spent the last month leading a group of 15 fifteen year olds on a trip to Vietnam. The trip took place through her old camp, Chimney Corners, a YMCA camp. The group are doing service projects and touring the country.

Apartment Wanted

Single Parent Father with three daughters looking to rent a 2-bedroom (one small, one large) apartment in the Katonah-Lewisboro School District (prefer the Colony) as of November 1st 2009 or later. Rental needed on a long-term basis. Family has been living in the Colony since October 31, 2008 but has been known in the colony since childhood. Able to pay up to \$1,200 per month including heat and hot water. We are non-smokers and do not have pets. Father is employed locally. Please contact Nelson Figueroa at (914) 301-5608 (leave message) or cell # (917) 416-4153. Mail address POB 41, Goldens Bridge, NY 10526.

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, the Goldens Bridge Community Association, Inc. (GBCA) Water System annually issues a report (ADWQR) describing the quality of your drinking water. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of drinking water and awareness of the need to protect our drinking water sources. Last year, your tap water met all state drinking water health standards. We are proud to report that our system did not violate a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard. This ADWQR provides an overview of last year's water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact Ron Arnstein, Water Operator and Chairman of the Water Committee, 914-232-8260. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of the meetings of the Water Committee. Information as to when meetings are held can be obtained from any member of the Water Committee. These include, in addition to Ron Arnstein, Mera Eisen: 914-232-8172, Drew Orr 914-232-9684 and Dan Fast 914-232-5397. Ron Arnstein is available to discuss any drinking water issues with you in person.

WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM ?

In general the sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottle water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activities. Contaminants that may be present in source water include: microbial contaminants; inorganic contaminants; pesticides and herbicides; organic chemical contaminants; and radioactive contaminants. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the State and the EPA prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The State Health Department's and the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water system serves approximately 250 people through approximately 65 service connections. Our water source is groundwater drawn from two wells drilled to depths in excess of 800 feet. The water is chlorinated prior to distribution by the injection of sodium hypochlorite at a level sufficient to maintain a chlorine residual at the furthest point in the distribution system from the pumping and distribution station.

SOURCEWATER SUSCEPTIBILITY TO CONTAMINANTS

The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) has completed a source water assessment for this system, based on available information. Possible and actual threats to this drinking water source were evaluated. The state source water assessment includes a susceptibility rating based upon the risk posed by each potential source of contamination and how easily contaminants can move through the subsurface to the wells. The susceptibility rating is an estimate of the potential for contamination of the source water; it does not mean that the water delivered to consumers is, or will become, contaminated. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses of health risk. See section "Are there contaminants in our drinking water?" for a list of the contaminants that have been detected. The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source water into the future.

As mentioned before, our water is derived from two (2) drilled wells. The source water assessment has rated these wells as having a medium-high susceptibility to microbial, industrial solvents and other industrial contaminants. These ratings are due primarily to the close proximity of permitted discharge facilities (industrial/-commercial facilities that discharge wastewater into the environment and are regulated by the state and/or federal government) to the wells and the associated industrial activity in the assessment area. In addition, one of our wells draws from an unconfined aquifer of unknown hydraulic conductivity and the other well draws from fractured bedrock and a lower permeability layer exists above the aquifer. Therefore diligent source protection measures are prudent. Please note that, while the source water assessment rates our wells as being susceptible to microbial, our water is disinfected to ensure that the finished water delivered into your home meets the New York State drinking water standards for microbial contamination.

County and State Health Department will use this information to direct future source water protection. These may include water quality monitoring, resource management, planning and education programs.

A copy of the source water assessment has been filed with the Board of Directors of GBCA and another copy can be reviewed by contacting Ron Arnstein. There is currently an ongoing source water contamination review consisting of inspection of the well environs for contamination sources, including septic tank failures, leakage of liquids from automotive vehicles and improper disposal of contaminants.

“NYS and EPA have promulgated a drinking water arsenic standard of 10 parts per billion. While your drinking water meets the standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The standard balances the current understanding of arsenic’s possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effect of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.”

It should be noted that all drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or the Westchester County Health Department at 914-813-5000.

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN ?

During 2008, our system had no violations as to water quality. Because of the sensitivity of testing methods, some contaminants are usually detected; however, these contaminants were detected below the level allowed by the State.



While our system does not contain lead in an amount above an action level, we are providing as a public service the following information on lead in drinking water.

“Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home’s plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home’s water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).”

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS ?

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During 2008 extensive sampling was done and the sampling showed that the drinking water was in compliance with applicable drinking water requirements.

DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS ?

Although our drinking water met or exceeded state and federal regulations, some people may be more vulnerable to disease causing microorganisms or pathogens in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice from their health care provider about their drinking water. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium, Giardia and other microbial pathogens are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

WHY SAVE WATER AND HOW TO AVOID WASTING IT?

Although our system has an adequate amount of water to meet present and future demands, there are a number of reasons why it is important to conserve water:

- Saving water saves energy and some of the costs associated with both of these necessities of life;
- Saving water reduces the cost of energy required to pump water and the need to construct costly new wells, pumping systems and water towers; and
- Saving water lessens the strain on the water system during a dry spell or drought, helping to avoid severe water use restrictions to that essential fire fighting needs are met.

You can play a role in conserving water by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using, and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water. Conservation tips include:

1. Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.
2. Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
3. Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it up and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.
4. Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the in the tank, watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from one of these otherwise invisible toilet leaks. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons a year.

CLOSING

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community.

The GBCA Water Committee
Ronald Arnstein,
Cert.# NY0030719

Board & Membership Minutes

GBCA Membership meeting minutes April 26, 2009

The meeting was convened at 11:09 AM.

Announcements:

Births, Deaths: Billie Firdman passed away (was announced in Road 4).

Reading of the Minutes: The March board minutes and October membership minutes were read into the record. A motion to approve was made and seconded- carried unanimously.

Camp committee will purchase a portable defibrillator, not the beach committee. This will be corrected in the March Board minutes.

Other meeting minutes are available in back issues of Road 4, posted to the Goldensbridge.org web site.

Nominating committee: Need five members to serve on the Nominating Committee.

Michael Brown (Chair), Georgeann Stewart-Stand, Richard Tauber, Dan Fast, Fred Margolies.

The nominating committee was asked to approach all members for possible participation on the board.

Requests for absentee ballots should be sent to mbrownmw@aol.com

Committee Reports-

Finance: Report was presented.

We leave \$4,000 in the camp budget line at the end of the season; everything else is merged with Community funds.

Stewart-Stand asked if our balance in Capital funds is too low. Levites mentioned that we can move funds between accounts- so despite stated balances, up to \$70k could be made available for capital projects if necessary. We could also vote to increase the capital fund allocation derived from dues payments. Currently, \$3,000 per year goes into the capital fund.

Capital funds are in good shape, but dues collection is behind the norm for this time of year.

Tree-cutting is ordinarily not part of capital expenditures.

There was an emergency tree removal near the handball court at the cost of \$535. Stand asked for a motion that this expenditure be retroactively approved by the membership. Eisen moved to approve, seconded by Halpern; All but one member voted to approve. Passed.

Barn- A date in May will be selected for finishing work downstairs.

Garbage- no report.

Water- New pumps have been put in place. Electrical work, mounting controls, piping and wiring need to be done. Orr handled assembly, and mounting the apparatus in the pump house. There will be a shutdown when tie-ins are done. There is a provision for a third pump. One of the "old" pumps will be tied in, though normally shut off. It will function as a backup that can be brought on line with little or no service outage. Work on "phase 1" is 80% completed.

The shutdown and tie-in will be done during the month of May. 1-week advance notice will be given. The work may be done at night to minimize impact on residents.

Tie-ins to individual houses from the new Hall Ave line will be done in the fall.

Beach/Lake- 6 lifeguards have been hired. Committee met, spread mulch for the path, gardening done. Maintenance work is ongoing. Participation and ideas are welcome- contact Stewart-Stand to get involved. New rules for the season will be published- probably similar to what was developed last year. Need for sand will be discussed at next meeting. We are trying to prevent runoff from washing the sand into the lake.

Raft discussions will be brought to the membership by the maintenance committee.

Town- no report.

Legal/Sales- no report.

Camp- JoAnn Ehnes told us that registration is going well. About 60 campers have signed up already. Most counselors are returning, except for those we would rather not ask back! There are many return campers. 35-40% are kids from the Colony, the rest are from the surrounding area.

Barn- Some steps outside the building need repair. The floor looks good. Thanks to Brown for installing a movie screen in teen center, and for his dedication to maintaining the barn for all its uses.

Maintenance- Membership approved \$3500 to refurbish rafts. A company able to build rafts to our specifications in Washington State couldn't provide a warranty. A NJ company can work with some of our existing materials. Existing rafts may not meet current codes, per Orr; refurbishing work could cause the health department to look at them more closely. 8x16 rafts are what we have and requires custom work; "normal" rafts measure 8x12.

Proposed- Repair rafts until we can afford to replace all three at once. Standard raft, meeting codes (requirement is to draft 12" into the water fully loaded, resulting in new rafts that will sit about 3 inches higher than our existing rafts). Refurbishment up to code is not worth the \$\$.

Suggestion to research the code issues between now and August budget drafting season. Then come up with 3-4 year plan.

Motion (Levites) that Beach Committee determine legal requirements for rafts by the August membership meeting. Seconded. 16 for, 7 against. Carried.

Unspent portion of \$3500 originally allocated for raft work will go back to the capital fund if unspent this year.

Pictures of Orr's proposed raft design and samples of decking were distributed.

Roads- \$6k was spent on removing dangerous trees over the winter. The highway superintendent drove through our roads with Schmid, and was given map marked with problem areas. Town is beginning to address these areas. We should be alerted before re-grading work takes place.

Gross commented on the roads; they have been a concern for many years. He made a motion to have the Board poll all members in writing to determine whether a recommendation to selectively pave identified trouble spots on our roads would be supported.

Amendment (Yalowitz)- accepted- before sending the survey, we should agree on where the trouble spots are. The motion, with amendment, was seconded. 23 voted in favor, 7 opposed, 3 abstentions. Passed.

Road damage claims can be referred to the Town of Lewisboro if they have been notified about road problems but not yet responded. This underscores the importance of promptly reporting road problems to Schmid, who forwards them to the Town.

Road 4- Kroun, Sircus wrote articles last time. We really need stories from the community. Color copies are available by email. Postage price has increased by 17 cents, so members are encouraged to request email-only delivery. For email-only delivery, please contact Sircus at suki27@earthlink.net

Social/Hospitality- Klainberg gave the report. Finances are a concern this year. Barbecues are expensive; members may be asked to bring more in order to defray costs. Chorus is an expense. A headcount was taken to show interest in the Chorus. 5 people responded.

Summer activities: One of the partisans who was part of the plot of the movie Defiance is coming to talk to the community. Stand's musical group will be performing again; Crookston will perform folk music at the end of Aug; the Bearcats are back by popular demand; there will be an Art Show by members of the community. Levites, Judy Fast, Lisette Orr are working on the art opening. Sculpture, photography, kids' work are all welcome. 25% of art sale proceeds will go to a school in Darfur.

Home in Utopia is on TV this week.

A Water Carnival has been proposed; Stand needs assistance in planning activities.

Professional chess instruction will be available on July 6, 20, and August 3. All ages are welcome.

Tuesdays will be kids' movie night.

Old Business: none.

Maintenance, environment, social action reports suspended to allow the Chaim Dubno Memorial Plaque to be dedicated.

Statement written by Adelman was read to the membership and members of the Dubno family by Arnstein. (should be represented here in full)

Response, by family (do we have a video to create transcript?)

The plaque is located in the vestibule.

New Business: Yalowitz would like to revisit the question of how garbage collection charges are assessed to the membership. The membership dispersed and de facto ended the meeting before the matter could be discussed. The President and Secretary apologize for failing to reconvene the group, and promise to raise the issue in our next membership meeting.

Meeting disbanded at 1:10 pm.

GCBA Board meeting minutes—May 17, 2009

Present: Stand, Fast, Rosedale, Brown, Schmid, Sircus, Orr, Levites, Bergherr, Eisen, Shulman, Arnstein, Callen

Absent: Gordon, Finkelman

The meeting came to order at 10:38 am.

April Board Minutes were read and accepted into the record as amended.

Correspondence- none.

Committee Reports-

Finance- Met with attorney about the Rios property; Stand needs a copy of the court file.

4 more members have paid since last board meeting. Letter to be sent to remaining non-paying members. Those households will not be polled for prospective board membership and their beach privileges will be suspended.

Barn- Refrigerators have been cleaned. Projects with Maintenance, Camp are detailed in their respective Committee reports.

Beach- No report.

Town- The Town held a meeting in which our lake report was officially submitted.

We should try to reduce the phosphorus load on the soil from fertilizers and detergents. We might consider adding more sterile carp to the lake to prevent weed problems before they start.

Camp- There is a concern about the lower barn area being ready in early June.

Camp clean-up day is June 6.

Pre-camp cleaning of interior spaces is requested- Orr will speak with the maintenance person who cleans the bathroom and sink areas. Riina Slavin has volunteered to be the new chair of the camp committee.

64 campers are registered for the first session, 19 for second session only, 49 for the full summer.

We need a place to store wood beams currently in the lower barn area.

Environment- Shulman asked for guidance on projects for her Committee. Working on the handball court could be a project; Finkelman and Schmid had offered to help in a previous meeting.

Hospitality/Social- Calendar is in Road 4 and posted online. Attendance will be taken at events. Chorus would like additional participation.

Legal/sales- No report.

Roads- Highway dept. is continuing to respond to problems brought to their attention.

Orr mentioned that grading techniques used in recent road work have created trenches that collect puddles of water and accelerate erosion. Schmid will contact Ripperger and review the results of the work. The goal may have been to get the water to run off into storm drains.

Gross has not yet contacted Schmid about joining the Roads Committee.

Maintenance- Orr is working with Brown on construction and repairs downstairs in the barn. More lower barn floor work may eventually need to be done. Space needs to be ready for the camp before June 6.

Orr will handle ordering mulch for barn, camp and beach- and will work with Levites, Callen, Sewart-Stand and Brown, regarding budgets, timing and drop-off points.

Road 4- Articles requested; send pieces to Kroun or Sircus (Stand, Bergherr will submit). The goal is to get the next issue out at the end of May.

History Committee has met twice. Sircus is chairing; Frieda Halpern, Mollie Arons and Pearl Klainberg are all participating- Shura Saul may join later. The Committee is exploring the idea of creating a "museum", possibly upstairs in the barn. Rosedale can advise the Committee on archival practices and storage. The Board suggested the History Committee locate and go through old Road 4 issues to find materials for republication.

Water- 85-90% of "phase 1" work done. The new pumps have been operational for several weeks. Ca. \$16k spent on materials so far. Labor bill is expected to come to about \$6k. Arnstein will be fixing three leaks in the system.

The Board thanks Orr for his work on the repairs. His house is not on the Colony water system, but he has contributed significant time, thought and effort.

Water test for the camp has been done. BOH approval was obtained.

Garbage- no report

New business- Eisen will try to have committee and project documentation work done by July.

New phone directories requested. Rosedale will update old files and distribute a draft to the Board.

The Nominating Committee requests using the voice broadcast system to solicit volunteers to run for the board. The general broadcast will be followed up with personal calls at the discretion of the Committee.

Both members and tenants can function on committees; only members can serve on the Board. The relevant text from the GBCA Constitution runs as follows:

A "Member" is an individual who is an owner of record, or shares in the record ownership of property within the "Colony", and in the case of joint or multiple ownership is the designee of the majority of the owners.

Shulman requests that the Nominating Committee verify member status of all candidates for the Board.

Next meeting: June 21 at 10:30am

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 pm.

GCBABoard meeting minutes —June 21, 2009

Present: Arnstein, Bergherr, Brown, Callen, Fast, Finkelman, Gordon, Levites, Orr, Schmid, Shulman, Sircus, Stand

Absent: Eisen, Rosedale

Meeting started at 10:39 Reading of the Minutes suspended

Financial Report distributed Progress made in collecting late dues

Committee Reports:

Water

Stand turned over the Chair to Levites during the discussion of the Elias request.

Michael Elias came to Board to request a letter stating that the community well allegedly on Stewart-Stand property is no longer in use. This would give Elias the ability to place a new septic system at 33 Hillside Ave. to accommodate a house expansion. Concerns are that the well is too close to proposed septic system.

Arnstein stated that the well is no longer in use, therefore we should give the Board of Health a letter stating that point so that it can be considered along with his application to build.

Arnstein said Health Dept. already stated that the well no longer exists.

Finkelman- question is moot because the well no longer exists in the eyes of the Health Dept.

Motion (Fast) Have Board authorize the letter to The Health Dept.

In favor: Arnstein, Bergherr, Brown, Callen, Fast, Finkelman, Gordon, Orr, Schmid, Shulman, Sircus

Against: Stand Abstain: Levites

Motion passed.

Camp Jim Callen reports Mulch will be spread under playground equip. by counselors. Camp is ready to go.

Road Jerry Sircus reports that articles are coming in. He is hoping that Road 4 could become entirely community news.

Next issue to come out in August.

Postage is now 61 cents. This will go way up because the annual water report will be in the next issue.

History (Sircus)

Shura Saul has been gathering additional historical documents

Question- When will we see a Colony Museum? Board wants history committee to proceed on an incremental basis.

Roads- Meeting with Ripperger to review problem areas. Strategies were discussed.

Legal- no report

Maintenance/Barn

A trench will be dug and a pipe laid to remove water from around the barn

We need a survey of the barn so that we know where the property line and easement line is.

Problem still exists with fence on Colony property put there by Gecaj and not removed as requested over one year ago. Dan F. suggests we fence off our property around the nursery well area. Ken believes this would be a waste of money. He will look into other options regarding the removal of the Gecaj fence. He will present this information at the July meeting.

Motion: Authorize Ken to file a complaint and to follow other legal options to get the Gecaj fence off Colony property.

Passed unanimously

Lake Rafts go out next week. All is in order.

Environment (Dorothy)

Would like 1 or 2 benches at handball court. Currently there is no place to sit.

Will use environ. budget to purchase split rails for fence

Motion (Arnstein) Provide up to \$1000 for permanently installed benches at the handball court, installed as soon as possible.

Passed unanimously

Authorize Dorothy to get estimates to top trees at the beach. This would go into the 2010 budget. Work to be completed in the spring of 2010

There is a problem with trees leaning over the pump house. Drew will get specific information for the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned

Minutes taken by John Bergherr and Martha Levites



Art: Judy Fast



Road Four Summer 2009