

Illustration by  
Dennis Puleston

# Fire Place

BROOKHAVEN VILLAGE ASSOCIATION, INC.  
Spring 2019

*Organized-1906*

*Incorporated-1944*

## President's Report



The BVA board of directors were busy with many issues in the community over the last few months. We continue to keep in touch with Brookhaven Town officials with concerns from the community.

Squassux Landing Marina continues to be our busiest endeavor. Through the guidance of our committee chair, Andy Lovito, major improvements are underway throughout the marina in water and electrical upgrades, along with dock repairs and replacements. We look forward to the 2019 summer boating season. Brookhaven Fire Department is planning to house a rescue boat in a slip on the river, aiding their response

time to any water emergency.

Plan to join us on June 23rd at the marina at 5 p.m. to honor board director Chris Marshall who will be leaving his position after 9 years of volunteer service.

Our community clean up was held on April 13th, as we partnered with the Brookhaven Library members. A special thank you to Lex Mallon's Boy Scout Troop #4 who once again showed up to lend a hand picking up debris from our local roads. The BVA annual meeting is scheduled for June 19th at the St. James Church Hall at 7:30 p.m. Dick Richards, a noted authority on the Purple Martin will be our guest speaker. He has spoken at numerous garden clubs on Long Island educating people on attracting these birds to their locations in the hope they will stay and reproduce.

Thank you to all of you who sent donations to the Brookhaven Hamlet Foundation. A form is provided in this newsletter if you wish to contribute. If you are not a member of the BVA, I urge you to join.

**John Knapp**  
*BVA President*

## Sunset Salute

It was 9 years ago that Chris Marshall was approached to join the BVA. Luckily for us, his response was, "Yes." Chris has a dedication and passion for the preservation of the neighborhood. Serving on the BVA has been a conduit for Chris to meet others in the community. Chris is the second generation of Marshalls to serve on the BVA board. His father, Steve, also put in 9 years on the BVA. The BVA is forever grateful for the Marshall family contribution—giving us 18 years of service!



Steve and Chris Marshall with a new Brookhaven resident, Magnolia Marshall.

**ANNUAL MEETING  
NOTICE**



**Brookhaven Village Association**  
**WEDNESDAY JUNE 19, 2019 • 7:30 PM**  
St. James Episcopal Church Hall 260 Beaver Dam Rd. Brookhaven Hamlet  
*Presentation by Dick Richards, a noted authority on the Purple Martin.*

# The Squassux Chairman's Report



Photo by: John Knapp

It is hard to believe another winter season has gone by and hopefully a pleasant spring will become evident shortly. Although this past winter was not as consistently cold as the last one, we did have some challenging weeks for the ice-eaters. Thankfully they did their job which means less repairs and more money towards the improvement of the infrastructure. So far, during this late winter and early spring, we have installed all new electric with conduit pipes and new H-frame bibs along Carmans River and the east side of the center canal. New energy efficient dark sky compliant lights have taken place of the old floodlights. We have run new water piping underground to connect with our

new above ground water system on Carmans River. We also ran new piping underground to the east side of the center canal and installed all new above ground piping and H-frame water bibs along that embankment. We are looking to continue this season to improve and expand the replacement of older water and electrical systems. We are going to build and install up to 15 new docks. We will make repairs to existing docks and walkways as needed. The BVA purchased a new shed to house the ice-eaters, which will give much needed space in our security booth. We hired a tree service to come in and thin out all of the dead and dying vegetation along the west side of the West Canal. This should stimulate a more healthy growth of plants along the embankment which are extremely important to the erosion challenge we face. We are going to spread 80 yards of RCA stone to continue our improvement of our roadway and parking. The same security company will be with us again this year.

My goal over time is to have all boaters enjoy access to all of the amenities at Squassux. This will take time, but we are moving forward at a deliberate pace. I believe installing high-grade materials in our infrastructure make for a good long-term investment with less money spent on future repairs. Finally at the risk of being redundant, please adhere to the speed limit, lock the gate, pick up after your leashed dog and please stay off the embankments. Have a happy and safe summer.

Respectfully submitted,

**Andy Lovito**

*Squassux Chairman*

## Janet Whitehead

Janet Whitehead passed away on November 8th, 2018 at age 83. Janet was a resident of Bellport who had a deep love for Brookhaven Hamlet. She was a close friend of the late Hugh and Virginia Brown who were active members of the Brookhaven Village Association. The Browns were passionate about preserving the natural beauty and strong community spirit of Brookhaven Hamlet. Their friend Janet shared that passion. He Brown's daughter Elise, remembered Janet Whitehead as a person who relished sailing on the Great South Bay (especially evening sails), sunbathing at Old Inlet, and the tranquility of Squassux landing. Elise went on to say that as an advocate for expanding opportunities for women, Janet was instrumental in opening up

Brookhaven National Lab to women in both scientific fields and laboratory administration. Janet improved inclusivity at Brookhaven National Lab during the 1970's and 80's. Women like Virginia Brown, and other female Brookhaven National Lab employees benefited directly from Janet's efforts.

Prior to her passing, Janet Whitehead established a trust through which she left a very generous donation to the Brookhaven Village Association's Virginia Brown Scholarship. The Brookhaven Village Association is thankful for her contribution and love for the community of Brookhaven Hamlet.

**Chris Marshall**



# Will They Come?



Photo by: John Knapp

pole at Squassux Landing Marina, as part of his Eagle Scout requirements.

The Purple Martin is a type of swallow that feeds on mosquitoes and is the only North American songbird entirely dependent on human-supplied nesting cavities for reproduction. Jake D'Esposito, a Hamlet resident and Boy Scout In Troop #47, approached the BVA board and proposed to erect a Purple Martin nesting

The BVA board reviewed his written report on how this was going to be accomplished and agreed to fund it entirely. Jake, accompanied by his parents and Mike Scheibel, a noted wildlife biologist, surveyed the marina and agreed on a spot on the southerly section by Arthur's Creek. The pole was erected in early April along with a song box that emits the martin's chatter for 2 hours at dawn. Jake's fellow scouts assisted him in the assembly and installation of the pole and nesting houses. Jake will assume the responsibility of weekly maintenance. We are all familiar with the annoyance of our area mosquitoes, and we are hoping to attract the martins this spring.

**John Knapp**

# Jerry Damm

*The BVA would like to recognize the recent passing of Jerry Damm. He was a long time Brookhaven Hamlet resident, and Squassux Landing Dockmaster from 1990 - 2005. Below are some the recollections of BVA members with whom he worked.*

## **Jerry as remembered by Steve Marshall.**

"I worked with Jerry Damm on the BVA for 9 seasons. He was the dockmaster and I chaired the Squassux Committee. I felt that I was very fortunate to have him to work with. Jerry always had the best interest at heart for the BVA and Squassux Landing. Some would say he was a bit controversial at times, but this helped to spice up quite a few BVA meetings. I will remember Jerry as a good person who will be missed by the community."

## **Jerry as remembered by Marty Van Lith**

"I liked him a lot – he was quite a character. I chaired the Squassux Committee circa 1990-91 when we hired him. Long story short, the BVA was in disarray in the late 1980s and there was a lot going on with development and the landfill. Also at the time Squassux Landing was like the wild west, Dodge City, with a number of not-so-nice people. Jerry was the right fix and was the first to computerize the boaters' list and dock assignments. He had a wonderful sense of humor and was always happy and joking. For us in the BVA at the time, he was all you could ask for in a dockmaster."

## **Jerry as remembered by Jeb Barry**

"I loved Jerry. He was a character and a lovable one at that. He had a great sense of humor and was never shy about speaking his mind. I worked with him as

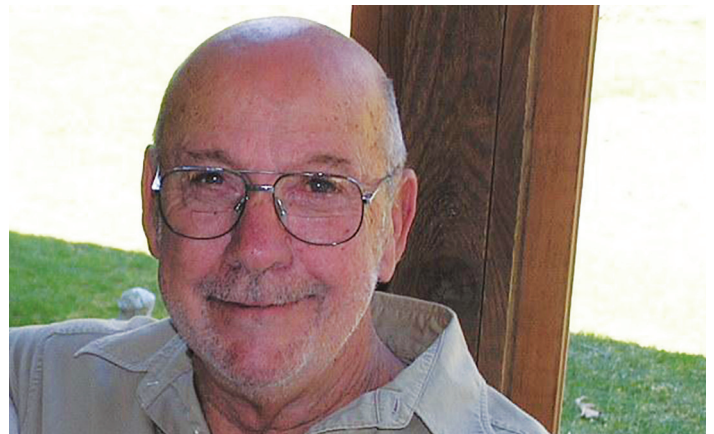


Photo by: Marty Van Lith

the Chair of the Squassux Committee and he was the Dockmaster. There was a lot of good-natured hassling between the two of us."

## **Jerry as remembered by Ed Palace.**

"I worked with Jerry while I was the Squassux Chairman. Whereas Jerry didn't always see "eye to eye" with the BVA Board, he worked very hard and always put the boaters first. A decorated flying ace that flew many missions off of the USS Intrepid. And after retirement from the Post Office, he tutored H.S. math to many area students. Another contribution to his legacy is that he instituted having boaters connect with him while their boats were out of the water so that Jerry could sublet the space and accrue additional funds for the BVA. Between his gruff personality and folksy adages, Jerry was a true Hamlet original and will be missed."



# A New Environmental Organization



Sign on South Country Road in front of CEED at the Washington Lodge estate. Photo by: Rebecca Muellers

Not long ago, the town of Brookhaven turned over the keys of the historic **Washington Lodge** on South Country Road (former Marist Brother's estate and Bay Community School) to a new non-profit nature organization: the **Center for Environmental Education and Discovery (CEED, pronounced SEED)**. CEED is serving as steward of nearly 60 acres of forested town and county land that stretches all the way to the bay, using this resource to inspire reconnection to the joys of nature through environmental education, culture and the arts. CEED's vision is to foster healthier lives, healthier community and conservation of our precious natural lands.

CEED raises awareness of its mission and celebrates the magical changing of our Long Island seasons through public Equinox and Solstice Nature Festivals in March, June, September and December. On June 22, the Summer Solstice festival will once again feature a wonderful mini-Powwow with cultural presentations of music, dance and food by Long Island Shinnecock Tribal members and other regional Native American tribes. Plus, a very special limited-seating Farm Brunch will happen next door at Isabella Rossellini's farm, offering farm fresh organic fare from Copper Beech and an intimate, musical experience with Isabella Rossellini and Shinnecock cultural performers.

Partnering with environmental educators, CEED also offers Forest School programs for toddlers and preschoolers, nurturing and restorative Forest Therapy walks for adults, plus other environmental-based school and public programs designed to get people of all ages outdoors and immersed in the natural world. Through a capital campaign, CEED will renovate the 3-story,

historic building into a bustling community center that supports its programming, and overall mission.

CEED is also collaborating with other local organizations like Friends of Bellport Bay (FoBB) on initiatives such as the Green Lawn Project: CEED & Soil Sale, which offers organic, eco-friendly lawn and garden products and non-GMO birdseed twice a year, as an alternative to synthetic fertilizers that lead to toxic nitrogen run off into the bay. And this July, Post-Morrow Foundation will host CEED's first summer program for kid's at Post-Morrow's preserve on Bay Road. The CEED Summer Nature Experience will offer a hands-on, nature exploration experience for your children or grandchildren entering grades 2-6. Immersed in the outdoors, children will participate in creek seining, catching marsh critters, forest and field exploring, science experiments, live animal encounters, nature crafts and



Traditional drum circle ceremony led by members of the Shinnecock Tribe at last year's Summer Solstice Festival. Photo by: Rebecca Muellers



Local families "Biked for Nature" at last year's Fall Bike-quinox Festival, raising funds for CEED by participating in a bike scavenger hunt. Photo by: Rebecca Muellers





Dream catcher workshop with local artist, John DiNaro, at last year's Summer Solstice Festival. Photo by: Rebecca Muellers

attending CEED's 2nd Annual Benefit Luncheon on May 11th at Christ Episcopal Church in Bellport. For tickets, program and event info, and to take advantage of all the exciting opportunities to help build this collaborative, new kind of nature center in the heart of our community, go to [CEEDL.ORG](http://CEEDL.ORG) or call (631) 803-6780. Volunteer workdays for the building and grounds happen most Tuesdays. Attend a festival, peruse the website or just stop by and meet our friendly new neighbor...CEED!

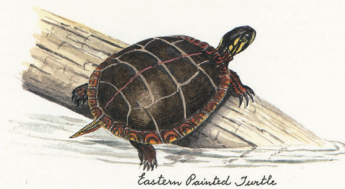
**Upcoming CEED Programs & Events:** Info and registration at [CEEDL.ORG](http://CEEDL.ORG)

- **April & May:** Aishling Forest School
- **June 22:** Summer Solstice Festival & Farm Brunch with Isabella Rossellini
- **July 6:** Forest Therapy Walk
- **July 15-26:** CEED Summer Nature Experience at Post-Morrow Foundation, Bay Road
- **August 3:** Forest Therapy Walk

much more. A half-day option is available for families looking for summer enrichment or a complement to other local camps. Registration is at [CEEDL.ORG](http://CEEDL.ORG).

As a growing community-oriented charitable organization, CEED welcomes new volunteers, donations, and other partnerships to further its mission to provide nature connection opportunities to residents young and old. Consider showing your support by

**Rebecca Muellers**



## ***BVA Membership Application***

Resident membership in the Brookhaven Village Association is open to residents of Brookhaven Hamlet as defined in the BVA bylaws. To become a member, complete this form and send it along with your annual membership fee to

**Brookhaven Village Association, P.O. Box 167, Brookhaven, New York 11719**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

*Checks for Membership should be made out to the Brookhaven Village Association*

**Member Fee (\$15 annually):** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.BROOKHAVENVILLAGEASSOCIATION.ORG](http://WWW.BROOKHAVENVILLAGEASSOCIATION.ORG)**



# Spring 2019 Dockmaster Report



Board members Chris Bland and Chris Cervio building storage shelves for the iceeaters. Photo by John Knapp

We are entering another boating season. Community demand for slips has never been stronger with many new residents committing to dock slips for the first time. At this time, all slips are rented. The BVA Board has worked tirelessly to improve the marina and make it a wonderful asset for the Brookhaven Hamlet community.

As always, safety is paramount. Should you notice or suspect any problem with your dock, please bring it to the attention of the dockmaster immediately. BVA officers, dockmaster, and dock builder have made several walkthroughs this spring to inspect docks and make a list of repairs and replacements.

There is also a lot of infrastructure work being done to the marina to further improve it, including electrical and water upgrades. This work will add to the experience of boating at Squassux.



The new iceeater storage shed. Photo by John Knapp

I would also like to mention the help given to the BVA from the community when needed, as with the ice eater project. In March, they were removed, cleaned and stored in the new shed located on the north side of the west canal. Besides many board members, volunteers from the community included Jeb Barry, John Curiale, Lech Lipski, Steve Marshall, Dennis O'Neil, Ed Palace, Mike Rizzo, and George VonBartheld. We were able to complete the job in under two hours. Additionally, everyone involved is grateful to the new Squassux Chairperson, Chris Bland, and the Secretary, Chris Ciervo, who toiled at installing sturdy shelving in the new shed to house the iceeaters.

For this season, please refer to the Rules and Regulations found in the BVA website, [www.brookhavenvillageassociation.org](http://www.brookhavenvillageassociation.org). Please observe the 5 mph limit for both your car and boat. When you park, please stay as far as possible from the shoreline and try to park on the stone roads rather than the grass. Also, if you kayak, use the boat launching ramp and never launch or retrieve your kayak over any embankment. Erosion is a very real problem at the marina, and staying off the natural shoreline will help preserve Squassux. In matters of security, keep valuables off your boat or at least out of sight, and please lock the gate when security is not on duty. Should you encounter a problem at the marina, please contact me at 631-521-4411.

**Andy Rubin**  
BVA Dockmaster



# Brookhaven Hamlet Foundation

*Hamlet residents have been incredibly generous in their financial support of the Brookhaven Hamlet Foundation. Through your generosity we have restored the historic cemeteries, planted trees, spruced up Fireplace Park, funded scholarships to college bound students and stayed active in environmental projects that protect our community and ecosystems. Thank you to the following generous donors who contributed to the Brookhaven Hamlet Foundation this past year.*

Jane Abell	Wayne Binder & Horacio Fabiano	Pam & Tom Lerner	Cathy & Tom Rolston
Jeremy Barnes	James Farrelly	Ira Lippke	Debbie Love & Robert Sack
Robert & Ellen Bilello	Holly & Robert Felicetta	Lech Lipski	Christine & Gary Schuhmacher
Frederick & Mary Billings	Michael A. Ferrigno	Amelia Chiaramonte & Mark Litcher	E. Clyne & R. Schuhmann
Judith Bird	Shirley & Joseph Fetten	Gary & Liz Lombardi	Paul Weber & Thomas Schultheis
Patricia Bollerman	Mary & Joseph Flaherty	Ann Lucas	Arthur Shaw
Nelson & Johanna Briggs	Eric Forsyth	Margie Ludewig	Matthew Sherman
Robert & Gloria Brown	Patricia Fox-Kilday	Emily Magnani	William & Margaret Smith
Andrew & Linda Bufalo	Tom Francis	Jeri & Dennis Marshall	Renee Smith
Carol & Richard Capaldo	Daniel Freedberg	Stephen C. Marshall	Irene Stahman
Donald Carey-Shaw	Phil Gelfer	Gregory Miglino	John R. Storch
S.Santangelo & M. Cavonis	Richard & Angela Giannotti	Francis Miller, Jr.	Carol & William Strand
Judith & Robert Cherniak M.D.	Claire Goad	Rick Mohlmann	Richard Suett
Cami & Chris Ciervo	Ruth Gould	Lynne & Bill Muller	P. Martin & G. Swenson
Joe & Laura Cipp	Richard & Eileen Green	Thomas & April Murray	Richard Thomas
Peter & Jennifer Clement	Susann Gude	Dennis O'Neil	Jane & Larry Tierney
Carol & Donald Cole	Diane Hall	Sheila Otten	Joel Tompkins
Mary Jane & Brian Cullen	Tim & Laura Hawryluk	Mark & Teresa Platt	A.Cohen & M. Van Lith
John Curiale	Kathleen & Kris Holmberg	Carol Tucher & Pete Puleston	Chris & Joanne Varrichio
Karen Jackson & Kevin Dayton	Jeff Johnsen	Barbara Lapham & Margaret Quinn	George & Julianne Von Bartheld
Constance Dayton	Kevin Johnston	Ralph & Susan Ranghelli, Jr.	Bruce & Linda Wallace
Nick & Lillian De Paolo	Marshall & Lisa Kilthau	Roger & Margaret Realander	Joan Watson
Joanne LaFace & Farrell Decker	James P. Kinsella, Jr.	Lan Rice	Patricia & Jim Wilkie
Nicholas Delihis	Julianna Kirk	Julia Fahey & Ben Rice	Thomas & Ellen Williams
Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Despres	Sarah Knowles	Barry Rockwell	David & Nancy Winslow
Faith Donohue	George & Margaret Koch	Bill Rockwell	Frank & Karen Zahradka
Paul Drummond	Billy Kresse Jr.	Barry Rockwell	Gary & Diane Zanazzi
David N. Ebner	Jennifer Lasker	Barry Rockwell	Lucille Zimmer
Gary Schneider & John Erdman	Richard & Linda Leach		

## Brookhaven Hamlet Foundation

Please consider donating to one of our funds dedicated to projects in the hamlet. Donations to these funds are tax deductible. To donate, please complete this form and send it with your check to:

**Brookhaven Hamlet Foundation, PO Box 387, Brookhaven, NY 11719**



*Common, Surf, and White-winged Scoters (left to right)*

**Dennis Puleston Environmental Fund** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**BVA Tree Fund** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Virginia Brown Scholarship Fund** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Hamlet Historic Fund** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Checks must be made out to the **Brookhaven Hamlet Foundation**

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.BROOKHAVENHAMELTFUNDATION.ORG](http://WWW.BROOKHAVENHAMELTFUNDATION.ORG)**

## BVA BOARD MEMBERS

**BVA PRESIDENT**  
John Knapp

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
Carol Capaldo

**SECRETARY**  
Chris Ciervo

**TREASURER**  
Janet Quirk

Chris Bland  
Chris Joinnides  
Matthew Petheram

**DIRECTORS**  
Carol Capaldo  
Debra Love Sack  
Chris Schaeffer

Kevin Glynn  
Chris Marshall  
Carlton Stewart

**DOCKMASTER**  
Andy Rubin

**HISTORIAN**  
Marty Van Lith

**DOCK MANAGER**  
Andy Lovito

**FIRE PLACE EDITORS**  
Kevin Glynn Carlton Stewert Chris Marshall

The BVA Board meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Post Morrow Annex, 16 Bay Rd. Meetings are open to the public.

WWW.BROOKHAVENVILLAGEASSOCIATION.ORG

Join us for

# Sunset Salute

**SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 2019**

Honoring Board Director, Chris Marshall  
after 9 years of volunteer service

**5:00 - 7:00 PM**

**SQUASSUX LANDING**

This event is *free* and open to all residents of  
Brookhaven Hamlet and members of the  
Brookhaven Village Association.

## ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

**Brookhaven Village Association**

**WEDNESDAY JUNE 19, 2019 • 7:30 PM**

St. James Episcopal Church Hall 260 Beaver Dam Rd. Brookhaven Hamlet

*Presentation by Dick Richards, a noted authority on the Purple Martin.*

## Fire Place

*A Community Newsletter from the  
Brookhaven Village Association*

PO Box 167

Brookhaven, New York 11719

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