

Road Four

NEWSLETTER OF THE GOLDENS BRIDGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Fall
2011

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
geraldsircus@gmail.com
914-301-5507

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

Public Service Advisory

The recent deluge has wreaked havoc on private wells all along the Eastern Seaboard but of particular interest to Colony owners is the private well I recently tested for Coliform Bacillus (a naturally occurring bacteria). Normally, a laboratory can report the number of these rod-shaped bacterium colonies observed, but Mollie Arons well was too compromised to make a count. She was advised to boil the water, to disinfect her well and then retest the water. Fortunately, no e-coli bacteria (fecal) was found but "healthy" well water should be coliform-free. It's doubtful that Mollie's well is unique in the Colony and it would be well advised for all private wells to be tested for total coliforms.

This is not an expensive test but

requires that a sample be taken to a testing laboratory in a sterile bottle that is available at no cost from the laboratory. The lab will also advise how to take the sample.

While the Colony water operator does these tests routinely for its water system, he cannot be responsible for private wells.

Mollie consented to publicize her test results as a precautionary indicator for other private wells in the Colony. At the very least, water used for drinking should be boiled for a few weeks, especially if children are in the household.

Ron Arnstein

SUMMER SOCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Another successful Colony season has come and gone. Surprisingly entertaining new events drew large crowds. There were also two repeat performances from last year. A perennial contributor that's always a crowd-pleaser was Eric's groups (see below). Two groups in one night this year; that must be a record!

UpSouth Twisters

This year the UpSouth Twisters included a Johnny Cash type vocalist singing highlights from Cash's extensive repertoire. My personal favorite was Folsom Prison. He was having such a good time that his enthusiasm was contagious. This was a nice addition and, for some, was the highlight of the evening. The Twisters performed many new tunes and others we remembered from last year. A group of our dancing neighbors occupied the space behind the last row of seats. Efforts by the band to coax them

up to the dance space in front of the stage failed.

Walk About Clearwater Singers

Also returning this summer were the Walk About Clearwater Singers. They led the beach crowd in singing old folk favorites. It was a beautiful, lazy summer evening and having the Walk About Singers there made it exceptional.

Jerry Sokolov

Jerry Sokolov and The Dave Hinkendorn Septet brought the house down with a stage full of professional jazz musicians. They played on the hottest night of the summer. Many of us were driven outside to sit on a bench and catch a cool breeze for a while. But the heat didn't seem to have any effect on the musicians. The members of the band played with abandon and seemed to ignore the heat under the stage lights. I had the job of keeping them supplied with bottles of ice water. Their energy kept the barn full to the end of the evening.

Caroline Chanin

Caroline Chanin and the Arnie Gross Trio were the entertainment for a Cabaret night at the barn. Caroline performed many well-known cabaret standards as well as a few clever tunes that were new to me. Her beautiful operatic voice and engaging manner contributed to an entertaining, pleasant evening. Many of her fans were in attendance filling the front few tables. Drew had borrowed round tables from the firehouse and Lisette put candles and snacks on them that created a friendly, party atmosphere.

Tappan Zee Trio & Highbridge Quartet

Eric Stand, who usually brings the Trio Con Brio to the barn for an evening of classical chamber music, decided to shake things up a little now that he is semi retired and devoting more time to his music. This year he brought two entirely different groups to the barn for tandem performances. The Tappan Zee Trio performed classical music by Hyden and Max Bruch. There was a sonata for piano and cello that was especially nice. The Highbridge Quartet was a big surprise. The quartet performed the Claude Bolling Jazz Suite for flute, piano, bass and drums. Eric alternated between playing two flutes, one of which was a borrowed bass flute. Changing between two flutes during a performance is a big challenge and Eric handled it very well. The electric bassist, Philippe Charles, was a big hit and was mobbed at the end of the performance. I know I am not alone in hoping this group can return next summer.

Barbecues

As usual the two summer barbecues were big successes. With free food and beer how can you go wrong? And even though all of our Saturday night events were well attended, Colony people love to talk and tell stories. And what better venue for this than one of our special BBQs?

Special Thanks

Although the Social Committee works a good part of the year to plan and present the summer social calendar, it couldn't happen without the help provided by many of you, our neighbors. You show up to work behind the counter, adjust the lights and sound system, set up the chairs and tables and a myriad of other tasks. Many times you do these things without even being asked. Thank You!!!

Gen X'ers Please Note: WE WANT YOU!

We want the younger members of the community to consider joining the Social Committee. If you

are a member of our growing 30- to 40-something population, please contact us. There is much need for fresh ideas; especially things that would draw you to the barn on a Saturday night. For a no-strings-attached introduction to the Social Committee, please call Pearl at 232-5204

John Bergherr

GBCA Constitution And Bylaws Amendments

As approved by the membership at the regular Membership meeting on 7/31/11

The changes follow:

- 1-Article II, Section 3 of the Constitution now reads: "A "Member" is an individual who is the 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. The owner of record, or a majority of the owners of record, may designate as the "Member" a spouse, domestic partner, or adult family member."

- 2-Article IX, Section 5 of the Constitution now reads: "Expenditures of over \$500 will require the approval of the membership. The "Board" may authorize expenditures of up to \$500, or in the case of the Water System up to \$3000, toward any single unforeseen non-budgeted item. Any emergency expenditure above those amounts would require approval of the majority of the Officers of the Board. These expenditures must be reported at the next general membership meeting."

- 3-Article V, Section 1 of the By Laws now reads: "A member of the Board of Directors who may provide goods or professional services to the Association for a fee or other compensation shall not vote on any matter in which they have such an interest. The interested Director may participate in any discussions on these matters."

Strange weather we've been having, first Irene blowing through the area and then an early present of snow for Halloween. We hope you weren't inconvenienced more than we were. Below are some items reflecting some of our experiences.

My Adventures With Dan Fast: Myth Buster

Hercules and his 12 labors; Paul Bunyan, his axe and Babe, in legends of yore, pale besides the heroics of Dan Fast.

On August 28, hurricane Irene vented her fury on the Colony by knocking out our electricity, TV, internet and phone service. Alarmed, I called NYSEG who had no estimate when service would be resumed. At about 2pm it was done, so I breathed a sigh of relief. But having been lulled into complacency, Mother Nature then wreaked her vengeance.

At about 4pm a keening sound rent the air and one of my trees fell down in the direction of Pond Street. What I saw stupefied me. I saw a yawning maw, a chasm of about 5 feet wide and deep, exposing the giant roots of the tree. Panic-stricken, I called Mark Schmid, road liaison, to come and assess the situation. He told me not to be too concerned because the tree was lying across the support of a canopy of other trees. He did issue a caveat. Should a strong gust ensue, the equation would be upset and most likely the tree would fall precipitately. I called NYSEG again and the situation was noted. Little did Mark know how prescient he was!

Moments later a thunderous roar split the quiet and nature delivered her coup de grace. Now it was the full weight of this approximately 200 foot tree that fell down. I ran down to Pond Street and saw that the tree had fallen across the electric wires and was lying on the ground blocking access to either pedestrian or vehicular traffic. At this point, I burst into tears because of the feeling of utter help-



Photos: J. Arnstein

lessness and at being at the mercy of the capricious elements.

But lo and behold, whom did I see but Dan Fast walking away from the debris in the direction of his house. He told me he was going to get his chain saw to cut the tree. Here was a savior! But how was he going to do that when branches were lying on the wires! I told him to wait for NYSEG. But I of little faith should have believed. Dan is a master electrician, multi-talented, confident in his abilities, exuding an inner strength, non-loquacious but absolutely sure of his convictions. What ensued next is testimony to the core spirit of the founders who declared this to be named Goldensbridge Cooperative Colony.

In a little while Dan returned with Ron Arnstein and Tim Inch (tenant of the Sokolov's), and he started the arduous task of cutting the tree. They were later joined by David Arons and Freddie Margolies in removing the ponderous logs from the road thus opening up Pond Street bit by bit. Dan worked unceasingly for over an hour in

taming the tree. The others as well, toiled in tandem. Judy Fast and Jackie Arnstein offered moral and vocal support to all.

For Dan's tenacity, his palpable sense of what was the right thing to do, transfixed me with awe. This was no idealized myth; this was reality incarnate. For all their work no recompense was sought; no thanks were deemed necessary. They did what had to be done, thus evoking the communal ethos inherent in the beliefs of the founders of our Colony. And for that I say thanks and bravo!

Mollie Arons

Abey's Poem

This is a poem that 8-year-old Abey wrote after the hurricane swept through Wyndam, which is where he and his family were. RIP 97.9 is the local radio station, which went off the air for a few days when the power went out. He posted it on his blog: "abey.school.blogspot.com".

We asked him if it would be OK to send it to you for Road 4, and he

said yes, and don't forget to remind you about his blog.

Tuesday, August 30, 2011

Irene came windy

She flooded our town

Destroying houses

Knocking the trees down

Trying our patience

Waiting for the sound

Of the rip ninety

Seven point nine

Posted by Abe at 3:07 PM

Abey is the grandson of Judy and Dan Fast

What Was That Purple Box Hanging From Tree Near Beach Parking Area?

The New York Times, Sept. 12, 2011

WEST POINT, N.Y. — The cartoon-purple boxes are hard to miss. The foresters who hang them from roadside trees all over the country call them Barney traps, for the friendly dinosaur whose color they resemble, but their purpose is anything but gentle.

The three-sided contraptions, baited with a chemical lure and coated with glue, are designed to catch the attention of the emerald ash borer — a deceptively pretty little beetle from Asia that has killed tens of millions of ash trees in less than a decade.

"Right now, the emerald ash borer is the most destructive insect we have in North America," said Nathan Siegert, an entomologist with the United States Forest Service.

Named for its wing covers, which look so much like emeralds that people in some countries string them into jewelry, the borer is thought to have come to North America in wooden pallets from China. Since they were discovered near Detroit in 2002, the beetles have spread to 15 states and Ontario.

The ash is a commercially valuable tree whose straight trunk and true grain make its wood perfect

for furniture legs, baseball bats and other products.

It also makes great firewood, and foresters say the beetles' rapid advancement has been aided by campers who unknowingly carry the infested wood, moving the beetles farther and faster than they could fly on their own.

Except for woodpeckers and a few parasitic wasps, nothing stops these shiny little bugs from depositing their eggs in the diamond-shaped bark of all varieties of ash. The larvae then burrow under the bark and feast on the living tissue of the trees for a year or two, eventually cutting off their water supply and killing them. Adult beetles bore their way out of the tree, leaving a telltale D-shaped hole.

Though no one is raising a surrender flag, the ash borer has already spread so far that eradication is no longer considered a possibility. Instead, officials want to slow the spread, aiming to protect as many of the nation's 9.5 billion ash trees as possible. The Barney trap is the strategy's centerpiece.

The Forest Service, which developed the trap, distributed 61,500 of them this summer to state and local conservation groups in 48 states, including those where ash borers had not yet been detected.

The traps are not meant to catch enough beetles to reduce their number. Rather, they are designed to detect the leading edge of an ash borer infestation. If officials know where the beetles are, and where they are going, they have a chance to slow them down.

Finding even one beetle in a trap will set off federal and state quarantines, as happened this summer when an emerald ash borer was found at the United States Military Academy here, 60 miles north of New York City. Knowing that West Point's 16,000 acres were in the path of the ash borer onslaught, Robert G. MacKenzie, a forester who works for the military academy, had volunteered in May to put up Barney traps.

He hung 16 traps in healthy ash trees at the center of the academy's grounds. Each side of the trap is corrugated plastic, 14 inches wide by 24 inches high and tinted a deep purple; inside is a chemical lure known to attract emerald ash borers. The panels are folded to form a prism and covered in a glue that ensnares the insects.

On July 13, Mr. MacKenzie lowered one trap and found a single insect that looked like an ash borer. Once the Forest Service confirmed the find, all of Orange County, N.Y., was put under federal quarantine, which prevents the interstate transportation of any ash wood or ash wood products. A state quarantine, which restricts some movement within New York, was added in August.

Only two other beetles were found at West Point, suggesting that it was early enough to try a preventive strategy. One option is to inject trees with insecticide, but that can cost several hundred dollars per tree, and is not practical for large stands.

Instead, West Point conservators have decided to cut down about 78 ash trees that are so close to buildings that they would cause serious damage if they become infested and fall. The countless ash trees in West Point's woods will be monitored, but not cut down.

Although foresters for years have relied on detection traps to survey the movement of other destructive insects, like gypsy moths, they have not been used until now to attract these buprestids, or jewel beetles, because they do not respond as readily to chemical lures. To detect the emerald ash borer, entomologists at the United States Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service first had to do some detective work, getting behind the beetles' eyes and antennas to find out what turns them on.

The first clue, said Victor Mastro, director of that service's pest control laboratory in Otis, Mass.,

came from simply getting a good look at the insect. It is smaller than a penny, with a coppery red belly and huge eyes. Mr. Mastro said that if a human being had eyes that were proportionally as large as the ash borer's, they would be the size of softballs.

"We suspected that because of their eye size and their coloration, they were visual insects," Mr. Mastro said.

Goucher College, Towson, MD

What can I say about my first year at college? Initially the change of scenery and lifestyle was a little daunting but that was not unexpected in the least. What I did not expect was my incredible compatibility with my college; its professors, students, and classes. Goucher College is located in Towson, Maryland, a suburb of Baltimore. Even though the college is only home to about 1500 students, most of who commute, I found the size to be rather comforting. The small college campus made me feel as if I had started living in another Colony, with its intimate class sizes and friendly professors, who, unlike those who work at larger colleges and universities, actually know who each of their students are and truly care about their welfare. With these professors, I took classes in cognitive psychology, Russian language, music, English, and statistics. My experience with all these classes, and the professors by extension, was both rewarding and a lot of fun. While I am still undeclared, I am leaning toward a psych major, with a possible music minor. I cannot wait to continue my education there this coming academic year.

Brandon Meyers-Orr

The membership has asked that an update of the phone list be completed by the spring. E-mail addresses would be a valuable addition. Please mail the information to pearl.klainberg@gmail.com or rarnstei@optonline.net

Teen Center to Open December 1st.

We're pleased to announce that during the winter the Teen Center will be open every Thursday from 2:30 to 6:00 PM, beginning December 1st. Cyndi Hicks will be there to meet and greet the teens. Donations of games would be appreciated. For more information or to volunteer, call Cyndi at 232-4977.

Avon Walk for Breast Cancer

The 3rd Annual Tag Sale benefiting the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer was a huge success. Thanks to generous donations from the community, we raised \$2100 in 2 weekends. That's right, 2 weekends! We had so much good stuff that we extended the sale. We had shoppers from within the community as well as many from outside. The money went towards my walk, Julia's Youth Crew fund, Lesli's walk and we even had some to

give to one of the Youth Crew who was having difficulty raising money. Thank you all so much for your donations and continued support. See you again next year!

Ilene Rietsch

Houses For Sale: Goldens Bridge Colony—Active

33 Hillside Ave. \$179,000
16 Pond St. \$249,000
30 Main St. \$279,000
8 Hall Ave. \$299,000

For Sale—Under Contract

326 Waccabuc Rd. \$239,000

For Rent—Active

21 Lake St. \$2,200 (Until Summer)
18 Pond St. \$2,300 (Until Summer)
8 Hillside Ave. \$2,700

For more information call Ken at 322-6353 or Fred at 589-0824.

RENTAL BRANCH STREET: \$825 w/lease & security (914) 232-8172, 1 BR small effcy, pvt entr of pvt house, owner occ, utility, pvt pkgg. no pets/smoking. Sgls or cpl.



Paul Stewart-Stand arranged a pot-luck dinner at the barn for those who were in need of support.

STORM DAMAGE



End of West Main St. ➔

➔ Downed Tree at Beach Resting on Power Lines



➔ Sand Erosion at Beach

BOARD & MEMBERSHIP MINUTES

GBCA Membership Meeting Minutes, May 22, 2011

The meeting was convened at 11:30 AM.

Present: 28 voting members and approximately 10 other community members.

Reading of Minutes:

The minutes from the October 24, 2010 Membership meeting were read, corrected, and accepted as corrected.

The reading of Board meeting minutes was waived as they will appear on the GoldensBridge.org website, and in Road 4.

Nominating Committee:

-Mike Brown volunteered to chair the Nominating Committee.

-Dan Fast, Paul Stewart-Stand, Faye Lieman, and Richard Tauber volunteered to serve on the committee.

Proposed Changes to the Constitution and By Laws:

Dan Fast, Secretary, read the proposed changes:

The GBCA Board of Directors is proposing to amend the Constitution and By Laws as follows:

1-Article II, Section 3 of the Constitution shall be changed to read: "A "Member" is an individual who is the 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. The owner of record, or a majority of the owners of record, may designate as the "Member" a spouse, domestic partner, or adult family member."

Article II, Section 3 of the Constitution presently reads: "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."

This definition of "Member" has not been adhered to for at least the last thirty years. The definition of "Member" has been extended by custom to include any family member residing with the actual "Owner". This presents the problem of persons serving on the Board who are not, according to the Constitution, "Members" of the "Colony". The Board wishes to change the Constitution to reflect established practice, and remove any possibility of a legal challenge.

2-Article IX, Section 5 of the Constitution shall be changed to read: "Expenditures of over \$500 will require the approval of the membership. The "Board" may authorize expenditures of up to \$500, or in the case of the Water System up to \$3000, toward any single unforeseen non-budgeted item. Any emergency expenditure above those amounts would require approval of the majority of the Officers of the Board. These expenditures must be reported at the next general membership meeting."

Article IX, Section 5 of the Constitution presently reads: "Expenditures of over \$500 will require approval of the membership. The "Board" may authorize expenditures of up to \$500 toward any single unforeseen non-budgeted item. An emergency expenditure above that amount would require approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the Board. These expenditures must be reported at the next general membership meeting"

This change is recommended to bring the Constitution into established procedure dealing with the water system. The cost to repair a major leak in our aging water system often runs close to \$3000, and is often undertaken immediately, on an emergency basis by the Water Operator. It should be noted that the Water Operator is constrained by law to repair major leaks as close to immediately as possible. The procedure that has been followed is: the Water Operator repairs the leak and reports on the expenditure at the next regular Board meeting. In the case of the loss of a well pump, at approximately \$6500, the Water Operator lets the Executive Committee know the situation, and then proceeds with the repair. All emergency repairs have always been reported on to the membership at the next regular membership meeting.

3-Article V, Section 1 of the By Laws shall be changed to read: "A member of the Board of Directors who provides goods or professional services to the Association for a fee or other compensation shall submit a disclosure statement to the Board. No Director shall vote on any matter in which they have such an interest. The interested Director may participate in any discussions regarding his or her exclusion."

Article V, Section 1 of the By Laws presently reads: "No official of the Association or Member of the Board of Directors can be employed by the Association."

This has not been rigorously adhered to in the past, and at the present time the Board has a member who at times does work for the community for compensation. When this occurs this person bills the community at a reduced rate, often saving the Colony a good deal of money. It should be noted that this person also does a very large amount of work for the community on a volunteer basis. Once again, the Board wishes to bring the governing documents into line with established practice. The Board feels that the disclosure and voting exclusion requirements provide adequate safeguards for the Community.

Discussion ensued on the proposed changes.

1-The first two proposed changes garnered minimal discussion, with the consensus being to accept them as written.

2-The third proposed change engendered considerable discussion, during which the following points were made:

-Paul Stewart-Stand stated that the Ad Hoc Committee had been unable to reach a consensus on this item, and Mera Eisen agreed Martha Levites stated that "disclosure" must include what work is to be done and the price of that work.

-Marty Adelman stated that other bids on the work must not come through the Board member who is also bidding on the work.

-Jeremy Metz revised item 3 to read as follows:

Article V, Section 1 of the By Laws shall be changed to read: "A member of the Board of Directors who may provide goods or professional services to the Association for a fee or other compensation shall not vote on any matter in which they have an interest. The interested Director may participate in any discussions on these matters."

It was the consensus of the Membership to accept this proposed change, as revised by Jeremy.

These changes to the Constitution and By Laws will be voted on at the next regular Membership meeting, which will take place on July 31, 2011 at the Barn.

Social Committee report, was given by Pearl Klainberg:

The season's schedule was presented:

-No Choral Director has been found yet for the Chorus, though we do have a pianist.

-Tuesdays, 7/11 and 8/15: Chess Club at the Barn.

A Finance Report was given by Martha Levites, Treasurer:

Camp Committee Report, given by Paul Stewart-Stand:

-Session 1 is full; Session 2 has a few spots available.

-We have approximately three times as many children from outside the Colony as from within the Colony, producing an excellent financial situation.

Roads, reported on by Mark Schmid:

-Work on bad spots is ongoing, and grading will be done in the near future.

-NYSEG will be taking down trees that threaten the power lines in the Colony.

-The Road committee is getting bids for the removal of trees that they have marked.

-A discussion of problem areas ensued.

-The Beach committee wants the roads graded away from the Lake at the entry to the Beach, and at the intersection of Hall Avenue and Main Street.

-Ron Arnstein suggested that the Road committee set up a meeting with Mr. Ripperger to address the above problems.

Good & Welfare:

-Eric Stand claimed that there were inaccuracies in the Road 4 article about the Lake. Ron Arnstein told Eric to send the corrections to Gerry Sircus, and Gerry will put them into the next issue of Road 4.

-A discussion of suction dredging around the swimming area ensued. It was pointed out that this was not done this year due to a lack of funds for an un-budgeted item. Eric will present the plan at the July Membership meeting for next year's budget consideration.

Meeting adjourned at 1:20 PM

Minutes of Executive Board of GBCA, June 26, 2011

Present: Ron Arnstein, President; Mera Eisen, Vice President; Martha Levites, Treasurer; Dan Fast, Secretary; Michael Brown, Fred Margolies, Drew Orr, Dorothy Shulman, John Bergherr, Gerry Sircus, Chris Rietsch, Paul Stewart-Stand, Jay Martin, Ken Finkelman

Absent: Jody Folster

Meeting called to order at 9:40 AM

1-The minutes of the 5/22/11 Board meeting were read, corrected, and approved as corrected.

2-Financial:

- Martha reported that, although she had not prepared a full report for this meeting, we are in good financial condition,

- Financial Issues

A-Ron reported that Gecaje was away for the last month, and has promised to pay his dues by the end of this month.

B-Ken will set up another Confession of Judgement for DeAngelis, and Ron get it signed by DeAngelis.

C-Mera obtained some information on the Decaudin situation from him. His lender, Ocwen Bank, is foreclosing, or has foreclosed, on his property.

Ocwen has a very bad reputation, and is involved in a class action suit with its customers.

D-Hom/Mansfield house is still on the market. They have all necessary approvals for the construction of a 4 bedroom home, and they have plans for a 3 bedroom.

E-So far the following have not paid this year's taxes: Gecaje, DeAngelis, Decaudin, Rios property, Cousins.

3-Water:

A-Ron got a price of \$1100 from an excavator to clean out the catch basin and extend the drainage for the Branch Street well and the Pump House. It was decided that the extension of the drains be placed on hold until we are sure of the configuration of Colony property in that location. Dan moved, seconded by Dorothy, to spend up to \$1100 to have the drains from the Branch Street well and the Pump House, and their catch basin cleaned out. Passed unanimously.

B-Ron stated that there are three dead trees threatening the Pump House, which need to be removed, at a cost of \$2500.

4-Freedman tree situation:

A-Dan had drafted a letter from the Board to the Freedmans in reference to the tree cutting situation, in answer to a letter which the Board received from their attorney. Dan's letter was read, and minor corrections made. The letter will be sent to the Freedman's attorney, with a copy to the Freedmans.

B-Dan, Fred and Martha were appointed by the Board to meet with the Freedmans about the situation.

5-Roads:

A-Dorothy reported that the erosion of the road in front of her house was so bad that she had to call the Town to make a repair in order to get out of her driveway.

B-Fred read a report on the condition of the roads, which was generated by Mark Schmid.

C-A new Road committee was formed to meet with Peter Ripperger, the Town Highway Superintendent, about the repair of the roads consisting of: Fred (Chair), Ron Chris, Drew, Gerry, and Paul Milliot.

6-Beach:

A-The Beach committee and a number of other volunteers worked at the beach yesterday and last week cleaning up and spreading sand and mulch.

B-Mera stated that all of the stone walls, particularly behind the lifeguard's chair, are in need of pointing. Ron suggested that we hire a laborer to do the pointing of the walls at a rate of \$150 per day for three days, plus the cost of materials. He feels that most, if not all, of the work could be done in three days by a competent laborer. Fred moved, seconded by Dan, to proceed with this work, as described by Ron, at a cost not to exceed \$500. Passed unanimously.

C-A tarp has been placed over the boat house roof, which is in serious need of repair, as a temporary measure. Drew and other Board members feel that the boathouse should be replaced.

7-Social committee:

A-The season begins with a Barbecue at the beach next Saturday.

B-John feels that we may not be covered for the serving of alcoholic beverages at events where there is a "suggested contribution". Other Board members felt that this was not the case. John will speak to our insurance broker, and report back to the Board.

8-Environmental;

A-Mark Schmid is surveying the community for problem trees.

B-We anticipate placing some lightweight fencing around the basketball court to prevent the balls from going into the swamp or out on the road. Money has already been allocated for this.

C-A discussion ensued on extending and refurbishing the basketball court. The Environmental committee will get estimates for this work, which will be a capitol improvement.

9-Camp:

Paul reported for the Camp committee:

A-Session 1 is completely full with 82 campers. Session 2 has a few openings left with 64 campers now.

B-Nursery will end at 1:30 PM instead of 3:30 PM. This was done to limit the number of people at the beach in response to feedback from Colony membership.

C-The Camp and the Camp committee are trying to re-route traffic for pick up and drop off of campers to improve the flow of traffic through the Colony.

The Meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM.

Minutes of Executive Board of GBCA, July 24, 2011

Present: Ron Arnstein, President; Mera Eisen, Vice President; Martha Levites, Treasurer; Dan Fast, Secretary; Michael Brown, Drew Orr, John Bergherr, Gerry Sircus, Chris Rietsch, Jay Martin, Jody Folster

Absent: Dorothy Shulman, Ken Finkelman, Paul Stewart-Stand, Fred Margolies

Meeting called to order at 9:40 AM

1-The minutes of the 6/26/11 Board meeting were read, corrected, and approved as corrected.

The minutes of the April Board meeting, which had been circulated to the Board via email, were approved without corrections.

2- Financial:

- Martha presented the financial report:

Financial Issues:

1-No money from Brennan yet: owes \$2537. \$2000 spent on legal fees.

2-DeAngelis offered \$1200 against the \$3562 owed. Not accepted. Martha explained that we are seeking legal action if the entire amount is not paid by mid-August.

3-The following items were unbudgeted expenditures:

-Life vests \$536

-Beach expenses are app. \$3600; original \$660

Budget line was \$2940

-Second dumpster \$644

-Pump out septic tank for beach(Halpern) \$628

-Survey of Freedman / Colony prop. Line \$575

It was noted that the pumping of the septic tank for the beach, which must be done bi-yearly, was never in the budget, and should be added from now on.

There was discussion on the unbudgeted expenditures, and the fact that all are over the \$500 without membership approval limit. Martha suggested that the figure should be raised to at least \$1000.

3-Water:

A-Ron stated that he will get bids on cutting down, and cutting into 10' lengths, the three dead trees threatening the Pump House. The Board agreed that the trees need to be removed. The work will be done in the fall.

B-Drew reported that the Main street well was down for a week due to a burned out motor starter. He replaced the existing starter with a new and better unit at a cost of \$700, which will come out of the Water Capitol fund.

4-Roads:

A-Drew reported the Road committee meeting with Ripperger. Mr. Ripperger and his worker agreed that the "gutters" at the sides of the roads were not a viable solution to the drainage problem, and they would seek a better method.

B-The Hall and Main intersection problem was discussed, and Ripperger said that they could grade the road to slope away from the lake. They also discussed putting very large rocks along the road on the lake side to buttress the grading away from the lake.

C-The adding of drains to divert water around the beach and into the lake.

5-Beach:

A-Repair work on the stone retaining walls at the beach was started, but then was stopped. Instead of an actual repair, the person doing the work was merely patching eroded mortar. Drew will get estimates on a proper repair of these walls. Discussion ensued on how to handle this work: whether to hire a contractor, or an individual mason. The Board will wait for estimates before deciding on this.

B-Mera stated that she was approached by Eric Stand, who was objecting to the fact that one of our WSIs was being paid to give swimming lessons to a member's children on his own time. Eric stated in an email that the WSI should not be charging for these lessons due to a membership decision at a past meeting to have swimming lessons provided to community members as part of their GBCA community charges.

The Board discussed the situation, and it became clear that the lessons were given on the WSI's own time, not on Colony time, and were therefore not a problem. The Secretary will answer Eric's email.

C-Jay asked what the minimum age was to be on the beach alone (without adult supervision). The answer: 12 years of age.

6-Barn:

Michael reported on projects that need to be scheduled for Barn repair and upkeep:

A-Construction of the rest of the Barn basement floor, including a separate dumpster.

B-Re-coating of the Teen Center floor.

C-Painting of Barn.

7-Camp:

Jody reported for the Camp committee:

A-Camp is going well, with kids, staff, and parents all happy.

B-A camp out was successfully held at the 17 acres.

D-Camp Night raised a little over \$900. Expenses were app. \$200.

8-Correspondence:

Mera received a letter from Ellen Doherty, Principal of John Jay High School, thanking the GBCA for providing the "Social Justice Award" to a graduating senior, which went to Veronica Brady this year. Veronica will be attending Tufts University this fall.

9-Good & Welfare:

Ron asked the Board members to provide an estimate of their time spent doing volunteer work for the community. He would like to present that to the membership as a way to begin a discussion of the amount of time spent in this manner, by whom spent, and whether the community can continue to function as it now does, with volunteer labor being a large part of what is needed to make that happen.

A brief discussion ensued on the subject of how to involve more people.

The Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.

GBCA Membership Meeting Minutes, July 31, 2011

The meeting was convened at 11:30 AM.

Present: 30 voting members and approximately 10 other community members.

1-Reading of Minutes:

The minutes from the May 22, 2011 Membership meeting were read, and accepted as read. The reading of Board meeting minutes was waived as they will appear on the GoldensBridge.org website, and in Road 4.

2-Proposed Changes to the Constitution and By Laws:

Dan Fast, Secretary, read the proposed changes:

The GBCA Board of Directors is proposing to amend the Constitution and By Laws as follows:

1-Article II, Section 3 of the Constitution shall be changed to read: "A "Member" is an individual who is the 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. The owner of record, or a majority of the owners of record, may designate as the "Member" a spouse, domestic partner, or adult family member."

Article II, Section 3 of the Constitution presently reads: "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."

This definition of "Member" has not been adhered to for at least the last thirty years. The definition of "Member" has been extended by custom to include any family member residing with the actual "Owner". This presents the problem of persons serving on the Board who are not, according to the Constitution, "Members" of the "Colony". The Board wishes to change the Constitution to reflect established practice, and remove any possibility of a legal challenge.

2-Article IX, Section 5 of the Constitution shall be changed to read: "Expenditures of over \$500 will require the approval of the membership. The "Board" may authorize expenditures of up to \$500, or in the case of the Water System up to \$3000, toward any single unforeseen non-budgeted item. Any emergency expenditure above those amounts would require approval of the majority of the Officers of the Board. These expenditures must be reported at the next general membership meeting."

Article IX, Section 5 of the Constitution presently reads: "Expenditures of over \$500 will require approval of the membership. The "Board" may authorize expenditures of up to \$500 toward any single unforeseen non-budgeted item. An emergency expenditure above that amount would require approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the Board. These expenditures must be reported at the next general membership meeting".

This change is recommended to bring the Constitution into established procedure dealing with the water system. The cost to repair a major leak in our aging water system often runs close to \$3000, and is often undertaken immediately, on an emergency basis by the Water Operator. It should be noted that the Water Operator is constrained by law to repair major leaks as close to immediately as possible. The procedure that has been followed is: the Water Operator repairs the leak and reports on the expenditure at the next regular Board meeting. In the case of the loss of a well pump, at approximately \$6500, the Water Operator lets the Executive Committee know the situation, and then proceeds with the repair. All emergency repairs have always been reported on to the membership at the next regular membership meeting.

3- Article V, Section 1 of the By Laws shall be changed to read: "A member of the Board of Directors who provides goods or professional services to the Association for a fee or other compensation shall submit a disclosure statement to the Board. No Director shall vote on any matter in which they have such an interest. The interested Director may participate in any discussions regarding his or her exclusion."

Article V, Section 1 of the By Laws presently reads: "No official of the Association or Member of the Board of Directors can be employed by the Association."

This has not been rigorously adhered to in the past, and at the present time the Board has a member who at times does work for the community for compensation. When this occurs this person bills the community at a reduced rate, often saving the Colony a good deal of money. It should be noted that this person also does a very large amount of work for the community on a volunteer basis. Once again, the Board wishes to bring the governing documents into line with established practice. The Board feels that the disclosure and voting exclusion requirements provide adequate safeguards for the Community.

Minimal discussion on Item #1 ensued, and then voting commenced.

On Item #1; 22 for, 2 opposed, 3 abstaining. Item #1 accepted by the membership.

On Item #2: 25 for, none opposed, none abstaining. Item #2 accepted by the membership.

On Item #3: 25 for, 2 opposed, 1 abstaining. Item #3 accepted by the membership.

3-Nominating Committee:

Mike Brown, Chair of the Nominating committee, reported:

The Nominating Committee has fielded the following slate:

For President: Ron Arnstein, Paul Stewart-Stand

For Vice President: Mera Eisen

For Treasurer: Martha Levites

For Secretary: Dan Fast

At Large: There are four openings: John Bergherr, Mike Brown, Cynthia Hicks, Drew Orr, Georgann Stewart

There were no nominations from the floor.

4-Committee reports:

A-Beach committee

A discussion ensued pertaining to the matter of Brandon Orr, who is one of the WSIs, giving private swimming lessons for pay to a community member's children. Brandon is hired by the Camp as a WSI, and works a 37 ½ hour week. The lessons were given on Brandon's own time, outside of his regular hours. It was noted that at this time we have two WSIs: the Aquatic Director, also required for the Camp, is also a WSI. We must Have

an Aquatic Director, who must be 21 or over, for the Camp. Brandon is not yet 21, so we had to hire a person who is, and has Aquatic Director certification, and also happens to have WSI certification.

A discussion ensued, and a letter from Maggie Hayes on the subject was read, in which she also noted that we have two WSIs, questioned the need for both, proposed that "30-50% of the second WSI hours be switched to non-camp time, including some Saturdays and Sundays", and suggested that the other lifeguards could fill in the gaps.

It was explained that we are not paying two people as WSI. The Aquatic Director happens to be a WSI, but is not being paid as such (different pay scales), and that she is giving swimming lessons to Camp children during her regular working hours because she has the WSI, although she is not being paid extra to do so.

Martha Levites moved, seconded by Mera Eisen, That we have a WSI available to the community to give swimming lessons, and that the policy be sent back to the Beach committee to implement. In favor: 18, Opposed: 1, Abstaining: 5. Motion carried.

B-Social Committee: Report by Pearl Klainberg:

There have been changes in the social schedule. Pearl described the changes, and noted that the updated calendar is on the "goldensbridge.org" website.

C-Beach Committee: Report given by Mera Eisen:

1-We are waiting for bids on the retaining wall repairs.

2-We need to budget \$25,000 for the repair / rebuilding of the boathouse.

3-We need to budget money for the lake improvement.

D-Lake Committee: Report given by Eric Stand:

The suction dredging of the beach area, which was not done this past year due to budget constraints, should be done in the Fall.

5-Finance Report was given by Martha Levites, Treasurer:

6-Good & Welfare:

A-It was reported that the Camp cookout at the Ballfield was disturbed by a large dog belonging to Joy Radulovic running unleashed and uncontrolled around the field. When the person with the dog (not Joy, but apparently a friend) was asked to control the animal they were unresponsive. The Camp Director will be instructed to immediately call the police should such an incident reoccur.

Denise Cossu stated that there is an Animal Control Officer in Lewisboro to whom such problems would be referred, and that the Officer was quite responsive to this type of problem.

B-Paul Stewart-Stand Thanked Eileen Rietsch for running the Camp Night, and the Eisens for providing wine tasting.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM

Minutes of Executive Board of GBCA, August 21, 2011

Present: Ron Arnstein, President; Mera Eisen, Vice President; Martha Levites, Treasurer; Dan Fast, Secretary; Michael Brown, Drew Orr, John Bergherr, Gerry Sircus, Chris Rietsch, Jay Martin, Jody Folster, Ken Finkelman, Paul Stewart-Stand

Absent: Dorothy Shulman, Fred Margolies

Meeting called to order at 9:40 AM

1- The minutes of the 7/24/11 Board meeting were read, corrected, and approved as corrected.

2- Financial report was given by Martha Levites:

Financial Issues:

1-No money from Brennan yet: owes \$2537. \$2000 spent on legal fees.

2-Reminder letters sent to Rosvally and Camporeale. Rosvally responded; Camporeale did not. No money has been received to date.

3-DeAngelis paid in full. His water was turned back on.

3-Budget:

A-Martha went over the proposed 2012 Budget. Extensive discussion ensued.

Paul expressed his desire to see the method of budgeting changed. He felt that the present method does not allow for long term depreciation of costs or Colony resources. Martha pointed out that much of what Paul described was provided for in the current proposed budget. It was agreed that while Paul's suggestion merited further discussion, the present budget structure would be used for the 2012 Budget.

B-Martha and John described a preliminary draft of a new policy dealing with financial issues. Martha read the section that applies to non-payment problems. Martha and John will email the complete document to all Board members for discussion at the next Board meeting.

C-Extensive general discussion transpired dealing with budget matters.

4-Water:

Ron reported that there is a leak on Danger Road, which is currently small, and is being monitored. It will be repaired in the early Fall.

5-Camp:

Paul reported as follows:

A-There is approximately \$30,000 left in the Camp account. There are various

expenses that will come out of that account, but there should be a goodly amount left over after all expenses have been paid.

B-Camp had a successful summer, with a return to the "old Camp format".

C-Maureen Martin will be taking over as Chairperson of the Camp committee.

6-Beach:

Bonnie Schulman has complained that there are people at the Beach, perhaps guests of Colony members, who are there without the member being present. Extensive discussion ensued on the policy of guests at the beach. It was decided to bring the matter before the membership at a future Membership meeting.

7-Lake:

According to Eric Stand, from a meeting with the "wetlands consultant", there is an "East of Hudson" grant of \$90,000 available for lake remediation work. Paul Milliot suggested the installation of catch basins. Eric will speak about catch basins and suction dredging (also known as "suction harvesting") at the next membership meeting.

8-Barn:

A-Mike and Tim Folster will be looking into the sound system situation due to problems that cropped up at the last two performances.

B-Mike reported that the curtain rope had been chewed through by animals. He and Dan re-rope the curtain, and are looking into ways to

prevent the problem from re-occurring.

9-Road 4:

Gerry reported that there hasn't been much material coming in, and asked for Board members to try to get him more.

10-Old business:

Martha reminded the Board that the committee which had been set up to deal with the Freedman tree cutting problem should meet with the Freedmans. A date and time will be set up.

The Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.

GBCA Membership Meeting Minutes, September 4, 2011

The meeting was convened at 11:15 AM.

Present: 37 voting members and approximately 10 other community members.

1-Reading of Minutes: The minutes from the July 31, 2011 Membership meeting were read, and accepted as read. The reading of Board meeting minutes was waived as they will appear on the GoldensBridge.org website, and in Road 4.

2-Election: Mike Brown, Chair of the Nominating committee, reported:

Eighteen Absentee Ballots, which were received by the Secretary, were turned over to Mike Brown. Faye Lieman and Richard Tauber, the two members of the Nominating Committee not running for the Board, agreed to count the votes. The counting of the votes was postponed until Noon to give those who arrived late time to turn in their ballots.

3-Committee reports: A-Financial: Report was given by Martha Levites, Treasurer:

B-Beach: Report given by Mera Eisen:

1-Beach committee still working on problem of guests of members at the Beach without the member(s) being present.

2-Problems with the lifeguards should be brought to the attention of the Beach committee, rather than individual members dealing with them.

3-Most of the lifeguards, who are college students, leave for school before the summer ends, which often results in a lack of lifeguard coverage. Discussion ensued on this topic.

C-Camp: Report given by Paul Stewart-Stand:

1-Maureen Martin will chair the Camp committee for the coming year.

2-Camp had a successful summer, with a return of the Camp to an older format.

3-The Camp committee thanks the membership for the renovations to the Camp facilities in the lower Barn.

D-Roads: Reported on by Fred Margolies and Mark Schmid:

1-The roads are in pretty good shape after the hurricane, all things considered.

2-Fred and Mark met with Ripperger to discuss problems with road maintenance, and needed changes in that work: specifically: removing the crown, flatten the roads, fill in the gullies at the sides of the roads, and slope the road to drain to one side.

E-Barn: Reported on by Michael Brown:

1-The lower Barn floor should be completed this coming year.

2-The sound system, which had seemed to be damaged, was checked out by Michael and Tim Folster. It turned out that a dial had been set incorrectly by a sound person working with a previous performance. When adjustments were corrected the system functioned as it should.

F-Water: Reported on by Ron Arnstein:

1-We have two minor leaks, one at the intersection of Lake Street and Danger Road, and one in the new Hall Avenue 3" line. Both will be attended to in the Fall.

2-A sump pump was installed in the Pump House to insure against flooding during severe storms.

3-The drains for the Branch Street well pit and the Pump House need to be cleaned. To be done in the Fall.

G-As it was now Noon a motion was made by Eric Stand, seconded by Blanche Salsky, to close nominations and count the ballots. Passed unanimously.

H-Social: Reported on by Pearl Klainberg:

1-Some events were well attended, and some were not.

2-The starting time for Folk dancing was changed to 8 PM from 8:30 PM.

3-The Beers fee is covered by charges to people from outside of the community.

The outside charges do not cover Jim Gold's fee.

4-As always, the Social committee is looking for volunteers.

I-Lake: Reported on by Eric Stand:

1-Suction harvesting (sometimes referred to as "suction dredging") does not change the contour of the lake. it removes accumulated vegetable matter. It is done with a small barge on the surface, with a diver below. The suctioned material goes into filter bags on the barge, with the water draining back into the lake. The bags are then placed in a designated spot on land where they dry.

2-We cannot do this work this Fall due to permitting issues. The permitting process is time consuming. We can schedule the work for the spring, and it should cost approximately \$3500. This would be for the area around the crib, and would demonstrate the process, as well as cleaning up the bottom there.

4-Good & welfare:

1-A tag sale will be held in the Barn on Sept. 24th & 25th. Proceeds to go to Breast Cancer benefit. Contact Chris and Eileen Rietsch to donate.

2-Gergeann Stewart suggested that signs be installed requesting dog walkers to clean up after their animals, and providing bags for that purpose at the signs.

5-Election Results: The Election committee reported the results of the balloting as follows:

President: Ron Arnstein

Vice President: Mera Eisen

Treasurer: Martha Levites

Secretary: Dan Fast

At Large: John Bergherr, Michael Brown, Cynthia Hicks, Drew Orr, Fred Margolies

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM



Road Four Fall 2011