



Home Owners Association Newsletter

May 2006

HOA Officers Elected

The HOA Board of Directors have elected the following officers for the 2006 calendar year:

President: Kerry Hemphill

Secretary: John O'Loughlin

Treasurer: Russ Craig ❖

HOA Board Meetings

Regular HOA Board meetings will be held at the Longwood Community Center from 7:00PM to 9:00PM on the following dates: Wednesday, June 28; Thursday, September 14; and Wednesday, November 15. All homeowners are welcome to attend. An open forum for homeowners is scheduled for the last 10 minutes of each meeting. ❖

Hallen/O'Bryan Party

The Fifth annual Hallen/O'Bryan Brookeville Farms and neighbors party will be held on Saturday, June 10 starting at 5:00 PM, at 2120 Bordly Drive. Burgers, hot dogs, munchies, beer, and soda will be served. Please bring a side dish, dessert, beverage, or something to put on the grill. Please RSVP to the O'Bryan's at 301-774-8396. ❖

HOA Web Site

There is an HOA web site located at <http://www.geocities.com/bfmdhoa/>. This web site includes information pertaining to the HOA such as ARC forms, minutes from previous board meetings, current and previous newsletters, as well as contact information for board members. ❖

Newsletter Articles

If you would like to submit information to appear in the next HOA newsletter, or for any inquiries, please send them to David Sager (david.sager@jhuapl.edu or 2105 Bordly Drive).

❖

Trash Collection Service

Our trash collection contractor, Waste Management, is scheduled to pick up trash on Wednesday and Saturday. Please have your trash by the street no later than 7:00 A.M. the day of pickup. All trash should be contained in cans with lids. If your trash does not get picked up on the scheduled day, please call the Waste Management dispatcher at 301-840-0211 ext. 523 or ext 522. ❖

Street Light Not Working?

Do you know of a street light in the community that is not working properly? Is it out, broken, or on all day? If so, you may contact Lisa Barksdale (301-570-9441 or lisa.barksdale@comcast.net) who will report it to the proper authorities. Please provide the number that is affixed to the pole and a detailed description of the location of the light pole. ❖

Pet / Baby Sitting Lists

If you would like your name to appear in a list of available pet/baby sitters, please send your name and telephone number to Debbie Stine (debstine@verizon.net). ❖

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed for the Architectural Review Committee, the Communications Committee, and the Landscape and Grounds Committee. If you would like to help, please contact the respective committee chairperson:

Debbie Stine - debstine@verizon.net

David Sager - david.sager@jhuapl.edu

John O'Loughlin - john.oloughlin@weil.com



HOA Board Members

The following are the names and contact information for the volunteer board members:

President – Kerry Hemphill -

kerry@cbc401k.net

Secretary – John O'Loughlin -

john.oloughlin@weil.com

Treasurer – Russ Craig - rgc226@comcast.net

At Large Members:

Lisa Barksdale - lisa.barksdale@comcast.net

Ed Herron - herron.ed@orbital.com

David Sager - david.sager@jhuapl.edu

Peter Schmidt - peter@prstech.com

Debbie Stine - debstine@verizon.net

Mark Wesolowski - markweso@hotmail.com



Electric Utility Deregulation

In 1999, a law was passed in Maryland called the Customer Choice Act. The Act gave Maryland customers the right to choose their electric power supplier, beginning in July of 2000. The Act also separated the different pieces of the electricity product from each other. When you buy power, you are buying generation, transmission, and distribution. Generation creates the power, transmission brings it to your area, and distribution brings it to your home. The only piece of the electricity product that customers can choose is generation. The generation part of the industry is what was deregulated. Transmission and distribution continue to take place in much the same way, and according to many of the same rules, that they did before deregulation.

Currently there are price caps on the residential electricity provided by Baltimore Gas and Electric (BGE). Under deregulation, these price caps are scheduled to expire on June 30. BGE announced a 72% rate increase beginning July 1. To minimize the impact on state residents (or

maybe to protect his political future), Governor Robert L. Ehrlich Jr. announced a plan that would allow residents to choose an option of spreading the increase over a couple of years. The bills of those who opt in to the governor's plan would rise 19 percent in July. In June 2007, those in the plan would pay another rate increase estimated at 25 percent. Also, from June 2007 to June 2009, they would repay the deferred rate increase. By January 2008, they would begin paying so-called full market rates. Customers who didn't opt in would begin paying full market rates in July.

Consumers must decide whether to accept the increase up front, when rate caps come off, or whether to defer it and accept periodic increases. Customers who opt in would have to repay the amount of the rate increase they deferred plus interest over two years.

There is another option. Before the Customer Choice Act was passed we could only buy electricity from BGE. Now it is possible to buy electricity from any supplier in our area. The electricity will still be delivered to our homes by BGE, and will be delivered through the same wires and poles. In addition to BGE and its parent company, Constellation Energy Group, the following companies can supply electricity in our area:

Pepco Energy Services, Inc. (also doing business as Conectiv Energy Services)

1300 North 17th Street

Suite 1600

Arlington, VA 22209

Phone: 703-253-1800

Fax: 703-253-1799

Website: www.pepcoenergy.com.

Washington Gas Energy Services, Inc.

One Texas Station

Suite 230

Timonium, MD 21093

Phone: 410-628-9437

TollFree: 888-884-9437

Fax: 410-628-1391

Website: www.wges.com

Last week, Washington Gas Energy Services Inc., a sister company to the District-based Washington Gas Light Co., began offering a 10 percent discount off BGE rates to Maryland customers. ❖