Communication, Advocacy and Protection of BHI Property Values

# **BHA's 2022 Annual Meeting Recap**

or the second time due to COVID-19, BHA held its Annual Meeting virtually on Saturday, January 29, 2022. The morning started with a rare show of snow flurries dancing in the strong wind gusts. In just over two hours, the BHA Board presented BHA's accomplishments in 2021 and outlined items on the horizon, followed by presentations from Island organizations, including the Village of BHI, The Old Baldy Foundation, Village Chapel of BHI, BHI Limited, Public Service Auxiliary (PSA), BHI Conservancy/SILT and the BHI and Shoals Clubs. BHA hopes that continuing to hold its Annual Meeting, even in a virtual way, helps give a sense of normalcy during this unsettling COVID world.

To view the recorded Zoom webinar on BHA's YouTube channel, you can find the link from BHA's website (www.baldheadassociation.com), select the "2022 Annual Meeting" link just below the Island Report flipbook and click on the recorded session link. Or, go to www.youtube.com and type

"Bald Head Association" into the search bar and select BHA's channel. The video is titled "2022 BHA Annual Meeting Recording." During the live meeting, there were up to 92 individual viewers watching at one time, with some people coming and going throughout. As of print deadline, there have been 128 views of the recorded session. BHA thanks all attendees and viewers for investing their attention and learning more about Bald Head Association and Bald Head Island.

Now for a recap of the meeting itself. The membership elected John Kinney to an additional 3-year term and newcomer Joe Brawner to a first 3-year term. All proposed changes to BHA's Bylaws and Covenants were passed by the membership. Two BHA committees have new names. The formerly named Socialization, Education and Recreation (SER) Committee is now the Education and Recreation (ER) Committee. And the formerly named Strategic Planning & Long Range Projects

Continued on page 7



# **Announcing the 2022 BHI Community Directory!**

Announcing BHA's Inaugural 2022 BHI Community Directory!

The brand new 2022 BHI
Community Directory will be
here in early March! It's full of
handy and useful information
for everyone on Bald Head
Island. The directory includes
information about Bald Head
Association, government
and nonprofit organizations
on Bald Head Island, a
business directory of BHI
and service organizations, a

property owner directory (listing owners who opted-in) and an advertisement section. *BHA's Compass* email bulletins will announce distribution details. (Not subscribed to *BHA's Compass* yet? Go to *www.baldheadassociation.com* and select "Sign me up for *BHA's Compass*." You can also view all archived email bulletins at *www.baldheadassociation.com/news E-blastPage*.)

BHA thanks all businesses and organizations who supported the directory with advertising. And BHA thanks all property owners and organizations who participated. For a little background, the BHI Conservancy originally created and published a community directory for BHI for several years. In 2019, BHA and the BHI Conservancy discussed and agreed to pass the directory project to BHA. BHA's inaugural directory was started completely from scratch. Note that if you were listed in the previous directory published by the BHI Conservancy but did not opt-in to BHA's inaugural 2022 BHI Community Directory, you may not see your listing. The intention is for the directory to be a helpful resource for property owners, guests, renters and organizations.

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### Ask ARC before any work begins!

- Planning a renovation project or new construction?
- · Wanting to change outdoor lighting or fixtures?
- Thinking about cutting/trimming trees or vegetation?
- Considering any landscape changes?

# ARC office — open by appointment only

Email Fran Pagliaro, ARC Coordinator, at *fran@baldheadassociation.com* or Sharon Beasley, ARC Associate, at *sharon@baldheadassociation.com* or for urgent ARC matters, call 910-477-7246.



## Before you order your spring mulch...

In the interest of public safety and reducing fire hazard concerns, the Village of BHI has requested that BHA eliminate pine straw as an acceptable mulch. BHA therefore discourages pine straw orders by members, landscapers and other contractors as we make this transition in ARC's Design Guidelines.

The best mulch is natural material that breaks down cleanly into the soil, without mold. We recommend you talk to your landscaping professional for the best choices.

### Your Success with Architectural Submittals

Fully completed architectural submittals have the best chance for a successful review. You can help prevent delays and surprises if you ensure submittals for ARC are fully completed and received prior to deadline dates.

When you submit your ARC application, do you know which form to fill out and where to find user-friendly checklists? Everything you need is on BHA's Architectural Review web page at <a href="https://www.baldheadassociation.com/architectural-review-and-design-guidelines">www.baldheadassociation.com/architectural-review-and-design-guidelines</a>.

- Start by identifying the category that best describes your project — new construction, major renovations, minor renovations, demolition, decorative item/other or paint/color.
- Open the **Design Guidelines** document and review the contents. The review processes for all of these categories are on pages 11-23.
- It's helpful to understand what requires ARC approval, which is explained beginning on page 8.

- General landscaping concerns are explained on page 9.
- The new construction review process including all steps, submittal requirements and rules to help ensure a smooth review process begins on page 11.



- The review process for changes during new construction begins on page 20.
- The renovation review process begins on page 21.
- The relocation and demolition review processes begin on page 23.

Continued on page 12

# **Landscaping for Bald Head Island Homes**

ARC thanks the many property owners who follow the Design Guidelines correctly, emailing and **obtaining approval for ANY exterior structure and landscape changes PRIOR to any work beginning.** For property owners who may be new or anyone who may have questions, email Fran Pagliaro, ARC Coordinator, at *fran@baldheadassociation.com*.

Every spring and summer on Bald Head Island, property owners take a look around their homes and contemplate everything from a few minor tweaks to major changes to their landscaping. While ARC thanks those who follow the Design Guidelines, it's important to educate property owners who are less informed why the approval process must be adhered to.

So, let's cover the reason behind **WHY** the Design Guidelines include the need for ARC review and approval before any landscaping changes begin.

"The three major ecological environments on Bald Head Island— the creek side marsh, the open dunes and the

Continued on page 15

## BHA President's Letter ~ Alan Briggs

The new year for BHA is underway. Our Annual Meeting brought January to a close. February for BHA began with the new Board members getting to know each other and beginning to work together. All good.

Two of our members were elected to the Board — both engineers. They will clearly be able to fix anything that is broken in BHA!

John Kinney was reelected to the Board after completing his first three-year term, and Joe Brawner was elected for his first three-year term. We could not have stronger Board members if we had had years and years to look. I am delighted.

John graduated from West Point and, after completing his military service, has worked in the international business world in supply chain logistics. John and his wife, Elizabeth, live full time on BHI. John was vice president of BHA last year and will continue this year in that position.

For his first three years on the Board, John served as liaison to the Resource Conservation and Beautification (RCB) Committee and to the Architectural Review Committee (ARC). Additionally, John has spearheaded Operation Re-forest — We Forest and has personally planted at least half the new trees on the Island. This year John will continue as liaison to the ARC and will chair the Nominating Committee. Welcome back, John.

We are exceptionally fortunate to have Joe Brawner join the Board this year. Joe is a graduate of Virginia Tech and, after several years working as an engineer in industry, he returned to college at the prestigious Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania for his MBA. After completing a career in the international chemical and pharmaceutical business world, Joe and his wife, Judy, retired to BHI.

Since coming to BHI, Joe has served on the boards of the BHI Club, the BHI Conservancy and the BHI Village Public Works Committee, as well as chairing the BHA Stage I ARC. Joe has sort of done it all at the highest level and now comes to

# lying in bed and looking out By Alan Briggs

looking through the panes of my bedroom window I see South Beach on Bald Head Island

but first I see the porch the second story porch has two chairs Aimee and I purchased in High Point

after Christine died

and now where Dianne and I sit to start the day

and then the yard, if you can call it that, and

the cedar shrub where the fawn, after being struck by a golf cart, hid until Toast came and cradled her with his front paws until the conservancy came

and then the dune with the sea oats, baseball gloves that catch the sand and build the dune high in the sky to protect us and then the beach on which we walk with Scout every day on our way to Cape Fear

while fresh air fills us, the waves wash over us and the sounds surround us.

the BHA. I could not be more pleased. Joe has agreed to be the Board liaison of the new Community Wide Standards (CWS) Committee. Welcome aboard, Joe.

So, we on the Board are pleased with you, our members; you have done us well in your election. You have returned John Kinney to us. And you have elected Joe Brawner to join us. Again, all good.

Unfortunately, in late January we temporarily lost the services of our trusted Executive Director Carrie Moffett for a couple of months. She will take some time off to have needed medical care. It is fully expected Carrie will return to us in good health in just a few months. But have no fear. Carrie has trained an excellent staff, and they will fill our needs until Carrie returns.

In the interim, Carol Collins has assumed the position of Interim Executive Director. Carol is a retired high school math teacher from Lexington, NC. She has a BS in mathematics from High Point University and an MA in Teacher Leadership from Grand Canyon University. Carol moved to Oak Island, NC, in 2014 after the youngest of her two daughters graduated high school. She lives there with her husband and two rescue pets.

Carol has been with us for over two years. Carol started as the ARC Associate/Covenants Compliance Associate. Next, she assumed the responsibility for overseeing Community Wide Standards and then the Community Wide Standards Committee. Most recently, she has been working on special projects with Carrie.

On February 22 we, the Board, had our yearly retreat. We gathered at the BHI Club for a full day and talked about what we could do to better serve you. We were pleased to have the Honorable Peter Quinn, our new mayor, and Chad Paul, CEO of Bald Head Island Limited, join us and give us very helpful thoughts from their respective worlds. All of this was quite informative and puts us in the right position to best serve you this year.

In conclusion, we are underway for another year. We are here. We are here to help you. Tell us what you think we can do to better serve you. We will do our best.

And I thank you for the opportunity to serve another year as your president. Call on me anytime for any reason. And, again, I ask you to indulge me for another year of poems that focus on our lives on our little paradise.



# OF SALDHEAD

# Village of BHI Updates

Mayor Peter Quinn addressed the Bald Head Association membership at its Annual Meeting which took place on January 29, 2022. Below is an overview of his statements. (Note: to watch the recorded video, go to YouTube and type "Bald Head Association" into the search bar.

Select BHA's channel, and the video is titled "2022 BHA Annual Meeting Recording." Mayor Quinn's presentation begins at approximately 0:49:00.)

The mayor announced five areas of focus that he will be prioritizing and is committed to following through on behalf of each stakeholder on the Island to include residential, commercial and nonprofits. They are 1) Protecting the foundation of the Island; 2) An Island with a shared and clear vision; 3) The Island must control and be responsible for its infrastructure; 4) Importance of retaining the talented Village staff we have; and 5) Governing with transparency, inclusion, civility and collaboration.

#### Protecting the Foundation of the Island

The mayor explained that shoreline stabilization, wastewater treatment, stormwater management and public safety are essential, well-established and in need of constant attention to sustain the Island.

Shoreline Stabilization — The Village has engineers continuously monitoring and advising on beach erosion and accretion. The Village is maintaining relations with the Army Corps of Engineers to ensure the cycle of sand replacement. The Village must continue the permitting process for the Frying Pan Shoals borrow site.

<u>Wastewater Treatment</u> — The Village has reached 80% capacity and has started the design for expansion. A program of repair, replacement and upgrades to monitor the lift stations is in place.

<u>Stormwater Management</u> — The Village is working with the Bald Head Island Club on the lagoon connections and outfall.

<u>Public Safety</u> – The latest fire showed how vulnerable the Island is, and the Village is establishing a list of critical additions to equipment and staffing.

#### An Island with a Shared and Clear Vision

The mayor pointed to two key components in this

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By Carin Faulkner, Village Public Information Officer

effort — responsibility for completing the projects the Village has started and preparing for planned growth.

Projects — He reported that the Village has plans to repair the construction sites and will establish new practices to ensure that the Village protects the natural environment. The Village has invested in the training and certification of a Village arborist. Qualifications of landscape architects are being vetted to develop ongoing relationships with these professionals. Discussions with the Bald Head Association and BHI Limited have been initiated to support the development of commercial design guidelines. The Village has committed to working with the BHA's Resource Conservation and Beautification (RCB) Committee to study the feasibility of a germination/reclamation garden. Projects that have been backlogged, such as screening at the trash compactor and contractor yard, as well as landscaping at the Public Safety Complex, are being prioritized.

Planned Growth — Since the Island is a little more than halfway built out, there will be new demands on the Island's limited resources. Mayor Quinn explained that the Village needs to start taking this into account now to preserve the character of the community through the changes that lie ahead. He said a high priority of the Village is to continue to engage with BHI Limited in identifying properties, permits, domains, copyrights and standing up codes and laws that were drawn up but not yet approved. This is a very large endeavor and time-sensitive, but the Island will benefit greatly from the investment of effort. The Village will be looking at how growth will affect the density of development and transportation. The Village will be looking at improving access to restroom facilities, beach access and parking and safety-related issues. He pointed out that the opportunity exists in identifying neighborhoods nearing completion and minimizing disruption from deliveries and material laydown. He indicated other areas of improvements and/or long-term planning are at the marina gateway, BHI Conservancy gateway and Edward Teach/Maritime Way.

#### Control and Responsibility for Infrastructure

Mayor Quinn reported that the Village Council is working with staff to ensure that key infrastructure such as the roads, right-of-way, utilities, public safety, fire preparedness and standard building

Continued on page 5



#### • • • Continued from page 4 (Village of BHI Updates)

maintenance remains strong. He thanked Village Manager Chris McCall and staff for their hard work on these areas and more.

The mayor disclosed that discussion continues surrounding the sale of the BHI Transportation System, including the ferry, barge, tram and parking. He asked for islanders' patience as the details of this large transaction are sorted through. The Village is proactively developing simultaneous positions and strategies for any eventuality, whether it is the BHI Transportation Authority (BHITA), Village or a third private party that ends up acquiring the system. He thanked Scott Gardner, Jerry Maggio and Mike Brown for their extraordinary efforts in trying to make this happen. He said he hoped by the end of the quarter that he will have more definitive news to report on this topic.

#### Retain the Talented Village Staff

Mayor Quinn recognizes the important role employees play in the management and protection of the Village. He said that Village staff is performing an analysis of workload, expansion needs and bottlenecks. The Human Resources Department is focusing on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) and recently implemented an updated social media policy and has required DEI training for employees. Village Manager Chris McCall is on top of the day-to-day functions of the Village and is making sure that the Village is prepared for all aspects for the growth that will continue. The mayor wanted to stress that the elected officials do not run the Village as far as the day-to-day operations; staff does and does it extraordinarily well.

#### Govern with Transparency, Inclusion, Civility and Collaboration Mayor Quinn stated that if the perception is that transparency is not happening, then it isn't. He intends to spend additional time in these areas because these principles are about the true soul of our Island:

- Focus on continuing to strengthen relations will all Island entities including the Bald Head Association (BHA), BHI Conservancy, BHI Limited, The Old Baldy Foundation, the Village Chapel and the BHI and Shoals Clubs.
- Study and make recommendations for establishing a voice for all stakeholders, voters and non-voters alike.
- · Work collaboratively with all Island businesses.
- Foster even more volunteerism.
- Pursue a common agenda through direct communication (to eliminate fear and false messaging), quarterly mayoral messages and essential services sessions (semi-annual education events).

The mayor indicated that over the course of his term, he will be reaching out personally and through committees to work with all interests on this special Island. He asked islanders for the following favors: 1) Hold him, the Council and staff to these commitments and 2) Work with the Village to make this Island even better than it is now. He said, "The future can be even brighter if we are working together."





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#### ••• Continued from page 1 (BHA's 2022 Annual Meeting Recap)

(SPLRP) Committee is now the Long-Range Planning (LRP) Committee. The Community Wide Standards (CWS) Committee, formed as an ad hoc committee in July 2021, is now an established committee.

There were two Bylaws changes related to membership meetings. The first change allows BHA to provide electronic notice of any meeting of the BHA membership rather than mailing hard copies of such notices. The second change allows the use electronic voting and not just paper proxies/ballots.

In the Covenants, one change removes the requirement for an officer of the Association to sign a certificate stating whether assessments have been made. In prior years, volunteers performed all of the financial responsibilities of the Association. Today, paid staff perform this function on a regular basis. Removing this requirement allows staff to provide statements to members quicker and more efficiently.

Another Covenants change removes in its entirety the requirement that any improvement to the Common Area be approved by the Architectural Review Committee (ARC) for two reasons. First, this provision as it is currently written provides the authority to the Architectural Review Committee, whose members are appointed by the Board of Directors, to override decisions a majority of the Board whom the BHA membership has duly elected makes regarding improvements

to BHA's Common Area. Secondly, the ARC has expressed concern about approving commercial projects given that the standards by which it would review such projects are largely written for residential development.

Some of BHA's highlighted accomplishments in 2021 included ARC, Covenants enforcement, financial and communication activities; committee updates; review of the Board's 2021 priorities, including the completion of the Wildlife Overlook; and Reserve Study updates. Some items on BHA's horizon include developing a long-term strategy for lagoons, publishing the BHI Community Directory, migrating to a revamped website and owner portal combination, complete turning over maintenance responsibilities for alleyways to the Village of BHI, conducting Community Wide Standards evaluations and celebrating BHA's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

BHA thanks this year's presenters — Hon. Peter Quinn, Mayor, Village of BHI; Chris Webb, Executive Director, Old Baldy Foundation; Kevin Arata, Board Member, Village Chapel of BHI; Chad Paul, CEO, BHI Limited; Chris Shank, Executive Director, BHI Conservancy/SILT; and David Sawyer, CEO, BHI and Shoals Clubs.

BHA's Covenants require that its Annual Meeting be held the last Saturday in January, so for next year, it will be held on January 28, 2023. Save the date!



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# Save the Date and Grab Your Running Shoes!

By Morgan Hooks, Development and Marketing Assistant, BHI Conservancy

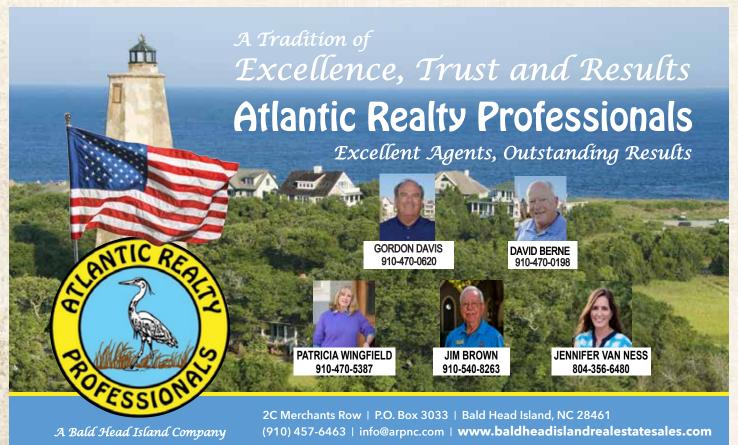
Save the dates and grab your running shoes for Bald Head Island Conservancy's 2022 Turtle Trot 5Ks! Our popular Turtle Trots are a fun fitness activity for the whole family. Join us as we exercise alongside the endless natural beauties of Bald Head Island. All participants can run, jog or walk our race route throughout the Island's treasured maritime forest.

All proceeds support Bald Head Island Conservancy's mission of fostering community-based barrier island conservation, education and preservation — including our nationally recognized Sea Turtle Protection Program. Each participant plays an important part in our mission as We Discover, Learn, Conserve and Preserve in 2022.

Our team is thrilled to offer our popular Turtle Trots with modifications to help keep our supporters safe during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our upcoming Easter Weekend Turtle Trot will have staggered start times and limited capacity. This Turtle Trot will offer online pre-registration only.

Register for our kickoff Easter Weekend Turtle Trot on April 16<sup>th</sup> and stay tuned for additional registration announcements and COVID-19 restriction updates at: <a href="https://www.bhic.org/turtle-trots/">www.bhic.org/turtle-trots/</a>.





# WE OFFER YOU PEACE OF MIND



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## A Bright Road Ahead

As the sun sets on another year of navigating a new normal, the Old Baldy Foundation looks to 2022 with plans to pave a new path for our future. We are humbled to announce that Robin and Mark Prak have purchased the parcel of land at the corner of

Ballast Stone Alley and Lighthouse Wynd and have donated the property to the Foundation. This property will be the future site of a new museum and interpretive center dedicated to stewarding the history of the Cape Fear Region.

Robin and Mark Prak have been involved with the Old Baldy Foundation for ten years, with Mark currently serving as the Board President. As long-time lovers of lighthouses and the history they represent, Old Baldy's distinctive appearance drew the Praks in to be involved with protecting our cultural treasure. "Old Baldy really grabs you. After traveling to see many lighthouses, the unique appearance of Old Baldy draws you in. From the offset lanthorn room to the unique color and the absence of bold white paint and black stripes, everything about it is appealing," notes Mark.

Similar to the Praks, many islanders are drawn to the unique features of Old Baldy, complemented by its picturesque backdrop amongst live oak trees and Spanish moss. Beyond the beauty of the structure we work to preserve, the Old Baldy Foundation is home to a vast archival collection that tells a rich story spanning over four centuries of history. As both our archival collection and

By Abby Overton, Communications and Development Coordinator, The Old Baldy Foundation

staff grow, the Foundation has outgrown our small facility adjacent to the lighthouse. With a new interpretive center, we can safely store, manage and display our collections in a meaningful space.

"We plan to build a center worthy of Bald Head that the community can be proud of," says

Robin. "While we are still in the

visioning phase — and the process will take time — this project is an opportunity for more community members and visitors to participate in and learn about our island's rich history," Mark added.

It is of utmost importance to both the Praks and The Old Baldy Foundation that this facility is congruent with the story of Bald Head Island and its legacy of living in harmony with nature. Included in the deed of gift by Robin and Mark Prak is preservation language to ensure much of the natural land remains untouched.

As the Old Baldy Foundation prepares for what will be a pivotal moment in the history of our organization, we are eager to share the process with the Bald Head Island community. Stay up to date with the project on our website at <a href="https://www.oldbaldy.org">www.oldbaldy.org</a>.







# New to BHA? BHA Covenants — Single-family Residence

Unless specifically zoned otherwise, all properties in Bald Head Association's service area are for single-family residential purposes only. This means that commercial activities are prohibited except for home offices, but even these cannot create traffic, require signage or include retail space, among other things.

BHA's Covenants also prohibit property owners from:

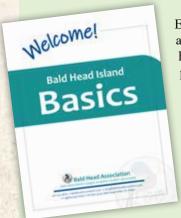
- allowing their homes to be occupied by more than one family or one family with guests
- renting their crofters independent of renting their homes
- simultaneously occupying their homes while renting their crofters or vice versa
- · renting individual bedrooms to multiple guests in one home

These guidelines are specified in Article 10.5(a) of BHA's Covenants, which can be found on BHA's website 24/7/365 at www.baldheadassociation.com.

Remember, as the property owner, you are responsible for knowing your obligations under the Covenants. For any questions, contact Carol Collins at 910-457-4676, ext. 32 or carol@baldheadassociation.com.



# BHI Questions? "BHI Basics" — A Great Resource for Owners, Guests and Renters



BHI is a barrier island with interdependent ecologies and an abundance of unique flora and fauna. Education is key to helping preserve Bald Head Island. This includes educating visitors, whether they are renters or family/guests of property owners; property owners who are new; property owners who have been on BHI for a long time; and property owners anywhere in between, both full-time and part-time residents.

BHA published a brand-new educational resource at the end of 2020 which encompasses the essentials of Bald Head Island — information about the Island, tidbits about everyday life, information about wildlife that live among us, safety information and much more. It's called "BHI Basics."

Every home on Bald Head Island should have a copy of BHI Basics, to help educate guests and renters. If you need a copy, they are available in the BHA office (email Diane Mesaris at diane@) baldheadassociation.com). If you manage the rental of a home yourself and need a copy for your own guest book, contact Diane. If you rent your home through a property management company, make sure a copy of BHI Basics is in your guest book.

#### • • • Continued from page 2 (Your Success with Architectural Submittals)

- The paint/color review process is on page 23. Natural colors complementary to surroundings are encouraged.
- For details about a decorative item/other category, refer to the application form on page 41.
- Note that the 2022 ARC Review Schedule is updated on a separate document link on the ARC web page. The fee schedule on page 29 in the current Design Guidelines edition has not yet been updated, pending additional revisions for 2022.
- · Submit the requirements and the fee (make checks payable to Bald Head Association) to the ARC two weeks or more before that month's ARC meeting for your location. Section A and B meeting/deadline schedules are on the ARC web page. BHI property areas are listed on each section schedule.
- The explanation about timelines and notification of ARC decisions is on page 24.
- Appealing a decision of the ARC is on page 25.

#### Here are additional tips:

- Due to current high volume, ARC recommends that property owners submit applications at least two months in advance of the
- For all tree/vegetation trimming or removal requests, email trees@baldheadassociation.com.
- All online, fillable ARC forms are listed on the ARC web page.
- For keyword searches in the Design Guidelines document, type "CTRL F" to open the search bar.





### **Old Baldy 2022 Events**

After two years of canceled celebrations, The Old Baldy Foundation is proud to present a series of events and programs bringing our region's rich history to life in 2022. The Old Baldy Lighthouse stands tall, personifying over 200 years of history, and we plan to honor it with this program of events. Our staff has been diligently working to

curate experiences that allow you to immerse yourself within the Bald Head Island community and dive deeper into the historical significance of our Island. Enjoy guest speakers, living history reenactments, family friendly festivals, delightful epicurean events and more. You can learn more about our upcoming events at *oldbaldy.org/events*. Interested in taking your support of Old Baldy to the next level? Reach out to *abby@oldbaldy.org* to discuss sponsorship opportunities or find more information at *oldbaldy.org/support*.

Coming up first is our rescheduled "Sip on Soup" cookoff on Thursday, April 14th, on the deck at Island Hardware. Join us for this family friendly cooking competition. Grab your apron and join the competitors or purchase tickets to taste our Island chefs' creations and vote for your favorite. Beer and wine will be available for sale. We hope the jovial celebration will be a great way to kick off Easter weekend. You can find tickets and information about joining the competition at oldbaldy.org/events. All proceeds raised at this event will go directly to Old Baldy's Lighthouse Learner's scholarship fund, which sponsors 4th-grade students from around the state to take an educational and unforgettable field trip to Old Baldy.

By Abby Overton, Communications and Development Coordinator, The Old Baldy Foundation



# DESIGNING AND BUILDING CLASSIC COASTAL HOMES THROUGHOUT BALD HEAD ISLAND



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• • • Continued from page 2 (Landscaping for Bald Head Island Homes)



Maritime Evergreen Forest have been shaped by the natural forces working on the island. The relative stability of the island has been dependent upon its maritime forest. The forest prevents wind erosion and traps wind-blown sand to eventually form the large dunes on the seaward edge. Here in the forest, many species of plant and animal life find their home. Live Oak, pine, palm, bay and Laurel Oak provide a canopy that rises from its salt-sheared edge to about fifty or sixty feet adjacent to the salt marshes. Much of the vegetation is evergreen and the low light levels on the forest floor preclude much understory growth. A lesser variety of animals and vegetation occurs in the dune environment. The plant varieties that do occur on the dunes are very important to the stability of these slow-moving dunes. The sea oats and other salt and wind tolerant grasses, vines, and shrubs inhibit the movement that would otherwise bury the forest. Wetland vegetation along the creek side marsh is another critical component providing habitat to countless birds, fish and

crustaceans. The existing flora should be protected, as this helps to maintain the natural systems which protect our island. Natural landscaping can help accomplish both goals. Natural landscaping is not defined as a total abandonment of planting maintenance, but rather a controlled and guided landscape in character with the charm and beauty of Bald Head Island. Any approved clearing and planting should take into account the environmental impact of such activities and the need to protect plants of special value to the island ecology.

"A successful site/landscape plan is composed of a number of elements that, with quality design and execution, contribute to a unified balance of the natural environment and man-made elements. Native plants will always grow best on Bald Head Island and the use of native grasses, wildflowers or vines for groundcover is highly encouraged. Native plants contribute to the overall resilience of the island and support native wildlife of all types. On the ocean side of the dune ridge, strategically placed appropriate shrubs can detour strong winds and, in combination with the native grasses, will stabilize shifting sands that tend to intrude on unwanted places. On forested sites, protecting and planting trees decreases temperature impacts of seasonal extremes while at the same time providing privacy and beauty. Similarly, landscape plans for elevations facing the creek should attempt to mesh with the vegetation there."

BHA encourages using native plants in landscaping. For a list of native plants and their suitable BHI habitats (creek, ocean and forest), visit www.baldheadassociation.com and click on "Design Guidelines." The native plant list starts on page 161.





# TIDBITS:

(Noun) a small and particularly interesting item of information.

## BHI Loves Dogs, But ...

BHI is a wonderland for dogs. And dog owners are encouraged to be responsible as well as courteous to others. Please keep these rules in mind and inform your guests and renters, especially as a courtesy to others.

Per Village Ordinance, dogs must be "physically restrained by a leash" during turtle nesting and hatching season (May 1 through November 15) from sunset to sunrise. If your dog does any digging on BHI beaches, remember to fill in any holes so that nesting sea turtles and hatchlings are not impeded on their journeys.

Dogs must be leashed or restrained by voice command on all areas of BHI. Dog waste must be picked up **EVERYWHERE**. *Thank you* to the responsible dog owners who already do this. Dog waste bags are available at the Dog Park, beach accesses and other areas around Bald Head Island. Use them! If a dog waste dispenser is empty, you can notify the Village of BHI with a simple online request at <a href="https://www.villagebhi.org">www.villagebhi.org</a>. Click on "Service Request" just below the home page photo.

**SAFETY REMINDER**: Bald Head Island has wildlife such as coyotes and alligators that roam freely. Keep dog food and dog treats indoors so that wildlife creatures are not attracted to a food source. It is recommended to keep dogs leashed and close to you at all times for safety. Note that coyotes are especially visible during breeding season (January through March) and pup season (April through August).

## **Pedestrians and Bicyclists**

It's important to remember that BHI roadways are shared with pedestrians, bicyclists, golf carts, small contractor trucks and vans and large shipping trucks. North Carolina traffic laws apply for safety, and pedestrians and bicyclists should comply with correct traffic flow.

All pedestrians should walk/jog/run against the flow of traffic on BHI roads. Wear brightly colored clothing and be extra cautious on blind curves. Walk/jog/run in single-file and stay on the right side of the road when vehicles approach.

All bicyclists should ride single-file with the flow of traffic. Bicyclists are subject to the same rules of the road as other vehicles — stay to the right. Wear brightly colored clothing for higher visibility and wear a helmet to help protect your head and brain from injury in the event of an accident. Local laws and Village ordinances require anyone under the age of 16 to wear a helmet while on a bicycle, scooter (motorized or non-motorized), roller blades or similar means of transportation. Front and rear lights must be in working order while riding at night. Pull over to the right side of the road when safe to do so to allow carts, trams, Public Safety QRVs (Quick Response Vehicles) and commercial vehicles to pass.

Children wearing helmets while bicycling have a chance to earn free ice cream. If a Public Safety officer sees a child wearing his/her helmet while bicycling, they may give him/her a "Doin' It Right" card, good for a free ice cream cone from Sandpiper Coffee & Ice Cream.

# **Monitored Fire Alarms and False/Faulty Alarms**

Power fluctuations can and lightning strikes can affect home fire and security alarms, sometimes causing false and faulty alarms. All false and faulty alarms are responded to by BHI's Public Safety Department. Did you know that in 2021, Public Safety personnel responded to 179 false alarms and 34 faulty alarms? If you're thinking that's a lot, you're right. What can you do to help reduce those statistics?

BHA encourages property owners to check their fire alarms to ensure they are working properly and, most importantly, that a monitoring service is used (which is required by Village Ordinance). Without a fire alarm system being monitored, there is no notification to Public Safety to respond with assistance. Fires on BHI are especially dangerous, being a barrier Island with ocean winds and surrounded by nearby properties. BHA encourages all homeowners to have adequate power surge protection and battery backup for their fire alarm system in order to prevent danger from fire.

As a homeowner on BHI, you can choose to have your fire alarm monitored by a land line, an Internet phone connection or by cellular network (GSM — Global System Mobile communicator). Whichever method you choose, if that system

goes down for any reason, your system is not being monitored. There may be a benefit of choosing to have your fire alarm system monitored via a cellular network, simply because historical data shows less system downtime compared with other connections. But note, nothing is guaranteed 100%. There are pros and cons to each option, so discuss details with your security provider and insurance carrier.

The Village ordinance that requires monitored smoke detectors was established in 1994 and had an amendment in 2008. Per the Village of BHI: Village Ordinance Section 6-163 includes requirements for *monitored* smoke detection systems in residential structures that are over 500 square feet in size. Monitored means a *working* system. Many crofters on Bald Head Island are over 500 square feet and are required to be on a monitored smoke detection system. Even if a crofter or garage is not over 500 square feet, if it is used for permanent or temporary storage of any electrically powered vehicle, it is required to be on a monitored system. Property owners should take action as soon as possible to make sure their monitored smoke detection systems are functioning and that their crofters are currently included on the home's monitored alarm system.





Dale Giera, owner and master craftsman, created Trinity Design Build on Bald Head Island after building custom, award-winning homes in the Triangle area for more than 30 years. Being an island property and business owner with a keen eye for design. Dale aims to complete projects with proficiency, integrity and exceptional skill. Stop in to discuss your construction needs at Dale's office on the island at Station 32 Edward Teach Extension.



CONTACT 919.485.9901 trinitybuildbhi@gmail.com

### BUILDING AND RENOVATING FINE HOMES ON BALD HEAD ISLAND

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# **2020 IN NUMBERS**



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\*Source: https://www.scotsmanguide.com/rankings/top-originators/2020/top-dollar-volume

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# BHA 2022 Assessments



BHA's annual assessment deadline has passed, which was February 15, 2022. A late fee and interest will accrue at 1.5% monthly after March 15, 2022. Payment questions can be emailed to Denise Eidal at denise@baldheadassociation.com.

# Driveways — Where Are They Going?

The volunteers on the Community Wide Standards Committee are working hard this year to help Bald Head Island look its best. One of the issues that came up multiple times in 2021 meetings was the condition of driveways. Across the Island, driveway compositions vary, including raised wooden drives, pavers, marl (gravel) and mulch. Some communities have a specific type, color and size of material. Other areas allow the homeowner to decide. (Note: Just like any change to the exterior of your home, if you wish to change the type of material in your driveway, you must first submit an application and receive approval from the Architectural Review Committee.) Each type of driveway needs ongoing maintenance.

We are often in a rush leaving our homes or too tired when we return home to really pay attention to the condition of our driveway. An article in *Houzz Magazine* says, "Having a beautiful, well-maintained front walk and driveway increases curb appeal, adds value to your home and makes coming home each day a more pleasant experience. Cracked and damaged walkways and driveways can be dangerous, causing falls and damaging tires; improving this area of your home will add beauty and increase safety." (*L. Gaskill*; Houzz Magazine; *March 8, 2014*)

Next time you arrive at your Island home, pause and inspect your driveway. Is the material still in good shape? Are weeds growing through and possibly damaging the material? Is the driveway safe? Does the driveway add to the curb appeal or detract from it?

# Scan this QR code with your phone app to view BHA's events calendar!



# March 2022:

Mardi Gras	3/1/2022	
Ash Wednesday	3/2/2022	
ARC-A Meeting	3/4/2022	9:30am
Island-wide Shredding Event	3/7/2022	11am
International Women's Day	3/8/2022	
Card Making Class	3/9/2022	2pm
BHA Board Meeting	3/11/2022	11am
Daylight Saving Time Begins	3/13/2022	
St. Patrick's Day	3/17/2022	
ARC-B Meeting	3/18/2022	9:30am
Village Council Meeting	3/18/2022	10am
Howl at the Moon	3/18/2022	6:30pm
Badwater Cape Fear Ultra Run	3/19/2022	7:45am
Spring Equinox	3/20/2022	

# Save the Date in April:

ģ	ARC-A Meeting	4/1/2022	9:30am
i	BHA Board Meeting	4/8/2022	11am
	Red Cross Blood Drive	4/12/2022	9am
į	ARC-B Meeting	4/14/2022	9:30am
į	Village Council Meeting	4/14/2022	10am
į	Sip on Soup Cook Off	4/14/2022	4pm
	BHA Office Closed	4/15/2022	
	Good Friday	4/15/2022	
i	Howl at the Moon	4/16/2022	6:30pm
	Easter	4/17/2022	
i	Village Chapel Easter Services	4/17/2022	6:45am,
	Control of the Personal Property of the Control of	8:30am & 10am	
	Lyrids Meteor Shower Peak	4/21/2022-4/22/22	

 Lyrids Meteor Shower Peak
 4/21/2022-4/22/22

 Earth Day
 4/22/2022

 Arbor Day
 4/29/2022

# **Around the corner in 2022:**

National Teacher's Day	5/3/2022
Mother's Day	5/8/2022
Total Lunar Eclipse	5/16/2022
Memorial Day	5/30/2022
NC Treasures Weekend	6/3/2022-6/5/2022

# **Ongoing:**

Village Chapel Services: Sundays (Additional details at *villagechapelofbaldheadisland.org*)

AA Virtual Meetings: Mondays & Thursdays 8am (Zoom Group: #3909737348, P/C: 217739, Email: sober.lday.at.a.time@gmail.com)

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10am

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