



Bald Head Association

October 2023

Volume 34, No. 10

# Island Report

Communication, Advocacy and Protection of BHI Property Values

## Want to Join the BHA Board of Directors?

BHA's Board of Directors believes it functions most effectively if it has diversity among its members. This includes, but is not limited to, sex, gender, sexual or gender preference, national origin, religion, race, age, educational background, employment experience, prior HOA experience, prior BHA committee experience and any and all of the other differentiating characteristics that makes each of its members special and unique.

The overall expectations of a BHA Board member are to:

- Serve a three-year term
- Serve as a Board liaison to one of BHA's committees
- Attend meetings in person and/or remotely

There are two ways to be considered for BHA Board service. First, the Nominating Committee is charged with selecting at least one candidate for each vacancy and recommending them directly to BHA's membership for consideration at the Annual Meeting. This year's deadline for 2024 Board candidate submittals was July 31. Nominating Committee Chair Joe Brawner informed the Board of the

committee's selections of candidates at its regular September Board meeting and include:

- Michael Bumarch
- Chris Parrish
- Elizabeth (Betty) Robinson
- Steven H. Smalley

Additional information will be shared with the membership in the 2023 Annual Report, mailed in early December. New this year, Board candidates will be invited to participate in a forum hosted by BHA and moderated by the League of Women Voters (LWV) of the Lower Cape Fear. The forum

### Meet the 2024 BHA Board Candidates

BHA will host its first-ever Board Candidate Forum in early December. It will be held in-person and via Zoom, and the recording will be posted on BHA's YouTube channel following the event. The League of Women Voters (LWV) of the Lower Cape Fear will manage and moderate the event. Stay tuned for additional details.

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## BHI Native Plant Feature of the Month

### Partridge Berry

Partridge Berry (*Mitchella repens*) is a ground cover no taller than 2" high that is native to Bald Head Island and is easily sourced locally. Its common names include Partridgeberry, Partridge Berry, Partridge-berry and Twinberry.

According to the North Carolina Cooperative Extension, "Partridgeberry is an evergreen, perennial, woody herb that is a low growing, creeping delicate vine in the Rubiaceae (madder) family. It is found naturally in forests, stream-banks, on rotten logs and in bottomlands and other wet habitats throughout eastern and central North America. The stems run along the ground in a vine-like fashion often carpeting an area. The leaves are opposite with a smooth margin and white central vein. White, sometimes pinkish, flowers mature in summer. The

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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](mailto:Fran@BaldHeadAssociation.com) or  
Chris Howard, ARC Administrative Assistant, at [Chris@BaldHeadAssociation.com](mailto:Chris@BaldHeadAssociation.com)  
or for urgent ARC matters, call 910-477-7246.

For all questions about trees and vegetation, email [Trees@BaldHeadAssociation.com](mailto:Trees@BaldHeadAssociation.com).



**NO weed eaters**

## Holiday Decorations

For upcoming holidays such as Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas, some property owners may be wondering about exterior decorations on Bald Head Island and what is compliant with the Design Guidelines.

Here are some important points to be aware of for any outdoor decorations you are considering. Visit [www.BaldHeadAssociation.com](http://www.BaldHeadAssociation.com) for the Design Guidelines. “Decorative Items” are on page 116. You can also perform a key word search by clicking “CTRL+F” once the document is fully open, to bring up the search window.



All exterior decorative items such as planters, statuary, water features, feeders, wind chimes, birdbaths and other ornamental items and structures must be harmonious with the community aesthetic, site, home and surrounding environment.

All exterior decorative items (including temporary holiday decorations) must be constructed of natural and organic materials and blend seamlessly within the home and landscape design. Colors should complement the natural surroundings. Holiday novelty decorations like blowups

## ARC Quiz – True or False?

1. Garden art, such as a sculpture or bird bath, is allowed without ARC review, providing it is harmonious with the community aesthetic, site, home and surrounding environment. (Answer: False.)
2. Exterior decorative items must be constructed of natural and organic materials and blend seamlessly within the home and landscape design except for temporary holiday decorations. (Answer: False. Temporary holiday decorations must comply with the Design Guidelines.)
3. House signs or decorative items on homes should have colors compatible with the structures on which they are hung and do not require ARC approval. (Answer: False. House signs are considered a Category II change and need a Minor Renovation/Change application.)

### Calling for Volunteers to Serve on the Architectural Review Committee

Do you have a background that could be helpful to the Architectural Review Committee (ARC)? Property owners with backgrounds such as city planning, home building/design, art, architecture and more are encouraged to apply. Learn about the bylaws charge at [www.BaldHeadAssociation.com/committees](http://www.BaldHeadAssociation.com/committees). To volunteer, fill out the form at the top of that web page.

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## BHA President's Letter ~ Alan Briggs

This month, I would like to share my thoughts with you about a member of our staff, Pam Rainey, and her work to manage BHA's Common Area.

After a long career in the tech industry in Research Triangle Park, Pam finally made her way to the coast, currently living in Southport. Having lived in 10 different states plus Canada throughout her career, she knows just how special life is on the coast. Pam graduated from Western Washington University with a degree in Human Resources. With an additional 15 years of experience as a real estate broker, she joined BHA four years ago.

First, let me explain one of the significant responsibilities of BHA — the management of the Common Areas. BHA's Articles of Incorporation direct BHA to own and manage the Common Areas:

- Manage all aspects of the three communities of Keeper's Landing, Surfman's Walk and Sumner's Crescent.
- Manage amenities or assets of six additional neighborhoods (Braemar, Cedar Court, Muscadine Grove, Loggerhead, Palm Court and Palmetto Cove).
- Maintain 12 alleys located in the East End along 117 individual properties.
- Manage and maintain improved Common Area — Association Center, Battery 4, Boat Park, Community Garden, Wildlife Overlook, Master Walkway (Cape Fear Station).
- Help protect the natural uniqueness of Bald Head Island through the management of approved tree and limb removal.

I also would like you to take a look at a map of the Common Areas, so you can better understand our responsibilities.

### A Bald Head Island Moment

By Alan Briggs

Yesterday I was driving my golf cart on South Bald Wynd going to the market a four passenger golf cart was ahead of me two clearly upset pre-teens were in the rear-facing seat looking at me each wore a frown—you know the look—it says "I don't want to be here" I smiled and waved to them instinctively they smiled and waved back

that is a whole lot of transformative power that just a smile and a wave can generate.

Go to BHA's website ([www.BaldHeadAssociation.com](http://www.BaldHeadAssociation.com)), click on "About BHA" at the top of our homepage and then select "BHA Common Area." At the top of the page, there is a link for the Common Area map. Click on it and take a look.

Pam Rainey's job title is "Customer Relations Associate." That does not tell you much. But, Pam is the staff member who fulfills most of our responsibilities in our Common Areas. Pam's most significant and time-consuming responsibility is working with the property owners in our three managed communities in fulfilling the first above-listed responsibility in our Articles of Incorporation: "Manage

all aspects of the three communities of Keeper's Landing, Surfman's Walk and Sumner's Crescent."

These three communities are what are known as "drip-line" communities. What that means, generally, is that the owner of the home "unit" owns to the "drip line" of their roof. Everything else around the home, including the trees, is common property. It is the responsibility of BHA to maintain these Common Areas. And, in BHA, this is the responsibility that Pam has.

On a daily basis, she responds to the questions and concerns of the homeowners in Keeper's Landing, Surfman's Walk and Sumner's Crescent. All three communities are heavily wooded, and tree issues are common. Landscaping issues are common. Maintenance of the dock in Keeper's Landing has been a recurring issue as the ebb and flow of the creek has impacted the dock. These are just a few of the daily problems Pam has helped solve for our members.

These three managed communities came to BHA's management responsibility in 2018, when Stage II merged

*Continued on page 18*

### Managing Editor

Carrie Moffett, BHA Executive Director

### Production Manager, Copy Editor, Writer and Ad Sales

Pam Henson, BHA Communications Manager

### Bald Head Association Board of Directors

Alan Briggs, President; Christine Osborne, Vice President; Robert Drumheller, Secretary and Treasurer; Paul Carey, Assistant Treasurer; Joe Brawner; John Kinney

### Contributors

BHI Conservancy • Old Baldy Foundation  
Village of BHI • Village Chapel of BHI

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### Editorial Policy

Letters to the Editor and articles written by property owners about BHI issues and experiences are encouraged, subject to the Content Approval guideline as well as the following space guidelines:

(1) The maximum length of a letter for publication in the *Island Report* will be 250 words. This limit will be strictly enforced. If the article or letter exceeds that length, the contributor may be granted more space by the Communications Associate or Executive Director, if appropriate. (2) Any individual will be limited to one letter every six months. BHA reserves the right to edit letters in the interests of accuracy and civility or to publish a letter as written, followed by a correction by the editor. In the interest of covering diverse topics and opinions, BHA reserves the right to select among submissions for publication. For the full *Island Report* Editorial Policy, [www.baldheadassociation.com/about-bha](http://www.baldheadassociation.com/about-bha). Deadlines are the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month for the following month's issue.

# Introducing your three 2023 Village of BHI Council Candidates

All candidates were asked to submit answers to the following questions, for publication in this *Island Report*. Candidates, with their answers, are in alphabetical order.

- Name
- BHI Address
- Profession
- Why are you running for Village Council?
- What makes you different than other candidates?
- What do you see are the issues facing BHI in the next 5-10 years, and how would you address them?

In addition, candidates were asked to submit answers to the following questions, with their answers posted the candidate web page. Visit BHA's website at [www.BaldHeadAssociation.com](http://www.BaldHeadAssociation.com).



- Name
- Profession
- Education
- Spouse name and profession
- Community involvement
- What principles do you adhere to?
- How do you envision balancing the wants and needs of full-time residents, part-time residents, renters and day-trippers?
- What's your philosophy on prioritizing infrastructure needs for growth vs. increased costs borne by BHI property owners?
- What does your background and experience tell you will be important on BHI within the next 10 years? 20 years?

BHA hosted a Village Council Candidate Forum on September 25, 2023. To watch the recording, visit BHA's website or YouTube channel.

## Gerald (Jerry) Maggio

431 So. Bald Head Wynd, Box 3487



**Profession:** I have forty years' experience in financial positions (retired) including Chief Financial Officer of two U.S. healthcare companies, a division of a multi-national firm, as well as extensive experience managing

real estate transactions, construction and corporate acquisitions.

**Why are you running for Village Council?** I am running for Village Council as our Island is at an inflection point where the rapid growth of residential and commercial properties, combined with the transition of BHI Limited owned assets, must be carefully overseen to ensure our Island maintains its unique character.

### What makes you different than other candidates?

Appointed to the Village Council in 2021, one other candidate and myself have experience with respect to current island issues. The Council needs a proactive approach in leading the effort to supply essential services such as public safety, residential and commercial growth standards, water, waste management, beach stabilization, roads, disaster preparedness and communications, to name a few. The Council must also ensure reasonable and affordable access to the island's ferry transportation system.

**What do you see are the issues facing BHI in the next 5-10 years, and how would you address them?** As the island develops, it's the Council's responsibility to manage growth consistent with the feedback of island residents. Such requirements include additional food and beverage services, common areas, housing for our employee population, parking and landscaping.



## Introducing your three 2023 Village of BHI Council Candidates

### Scott Thomas 5 Palm Court



**Profession:** VP,  
Brunswick Electric  
Membership  
Cooperative

I've owned a home  
on BHI for 20+ years,  
and I rely on the ferry  
to commute daily. My  
decision to run for

office is driven by a desire to ensure Bald Head Island continues to be, as it always has been, an idyllic place to live, work and play in harmony with nature.

**Why are you running for Village Council?** I am readily distinguishable from the other candidates because I have a working, local perspective about critical issues affecting our island home – specifically in utility system design, long-range planning, hurricane/disaster preparation and commercial transportation. I proudly serve as a senior leader with BEMC, one of the nation's fastest-growing electric utilities, and I regularly work with state and local officials on disaster response planning and coordinated delivery of electric power to our region.

**What makes you different than other candidates?** The near-term challenges for BHI are centered on the ongoing litigation and continued uncertainty with ferry operations, unsustainable local tax increases, rapid depletion of sensitive natural resources and overburdened public infrastructure.

**What do you see are the issues facing BHI in the next 5-10 years, and how would you address them?** I seek to add a fresh perspective to achieve AMICABLE RESOLUTION of the ferry dispute, REDUCE TAXES (by eliminating wasteful spending), prioritize PROTECTING our natural environment and PLANNING IN ADVANCE for infrastructure improvements.

### Virginia (Ginnie) White 216 Station House Way, Box 3116



**Profession:** I am  
an attorney (retired)  
and was a partner in  
large, international  
law firms. My practice  
was concentrated in  
commercial litigation  
and environmental  
matters.

**Why are you running for Village Council?** It is because I find this island so special that I want to give back to it by continuing to serve on the Council. I also am on the Board of Governors for the Clubs and am a member of the Executive Committee. This has allowed me to discern issues of common interest or concern and to help facilitate coordination between the Clubs and the Council on various matters important to the island as a whole, such as erosion, shoreline stabilization, storm events, water drainage and infrastructure. I believe our island is best served when its various entities work together to make this a better place.

**What makes you different than other candidates?** I was appointed to the Council in March 2022. Therefore, like one other candidate, I offer experience. I have background in environmental regulation.

**What do you see are the issues facing BHI in the next 5-10 years, and how would you address them?** With hundreds of lots still undeveloped, it is essential that we manage this growth by balancing residential and commercial development with nature and island aesthetics AND work to ensure a safe, reliable and reasonably priced transportation system.

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All numbers represent sales of all property types (except commercial sales) located on Bald Head Island from 1/1/2022 to 12/31/2022, and are sourced from NCRMLS Market Penetration Report run by Company Type (offices within same have been company combined). An agent who is both Buyer's Agent and Seller's Agent in any one sale is granted 200% credit. All information deemed reliable, but not guaranteed. (C) 2022 NCRMLS



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## Village of BHI Updates

### Flood Protection

The Village of Bald Head Island participates in the National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS). The CRS is a voluntary program for recognizing and encouraging community floodplain management activities exceeding NFIP standards. Participating in the program can result in the reduction of flood insurance premiums, reduction of flood damage to property, strengthens and supports the insurance aspects of the NFIP and encourages a comprehensive approach to floodplain management.

The Village remains at a Class 7 rating. This means all federal flood insurance policyholders on Bald Head Island are eligible for a 5-15% discount on their NFIP premiums. This information has been sent to all Write Your Own (WYO) Principal Coordinators and National Flood Insurance Program Direct Servicing Agents. Since this is a fairly new designation for BHI, you may want to follow up with your insurance agent to make sure that the discount is applied at renewal.

One of the CRS activities that the Village has implemented since participating in the CRS is the Program for Public Information (PPI). Including the following flood information in this issue of the *Island Report* is one of the Village's public information initiatives. Additionally, all of the information below is available on the Village's website at <https://villagebhi.org/residents-owners/learn-about/flood-protection>, along with several downloadable brochures.

### History of Flooding on Bald Head Island

The Village of Bald Head Island is bordered by the Cape Fear River on the west and the Atlantic Ocean on the South and East. To the north, the Village is bordered by wetlands in the Bald Head Island State Natural Area.

Flooding in Bald Head Island may be the result of thunderstorm events or heavy rain. Due to its vulnerable coastal location, the Village is also susceptible to flood impacts from hurricanes, such as those experienced during Hurricane Florence, as well as coastal wave action, beach dune erosion, high tide flooding and sea-level rise.

By Carin Faulkner, Village Public Information Officer

### Being Prepared Is Your Best Defense Against A Flood.


#### How Do You Prepare For A Flood?

The following steps are covered fully on the Village's web page. Use the accompanying QR code to view online.



- Step 1: Know Your Flood Hazard
- Step 2: Insure Your Property
- Step 3: Protect Yourself And Your Family
- Step 4: Protect Your Property From The Hazard
- Step 5: Build Responsibly
- Step 6: Protect Natural Floodplain Functions
- Step 7: General Preparedness
- Step 8: Hurricane Preparedness
- Step 9: Flood Education
- Step 10: Protect Dunes And Marshes

**For more information about flood safety or the NFIP, please note the following:**

- [www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov)
- [www.ready.gov/floods](http://www.ready.gov/floods)
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## The Majestic Beasts of Bald Head Island

By Paul Hillbrand, Sea Turtle Biologist, BHI Conservancy

Bald Head Island is home to a diverse and enchanting array of sea creatures. Among these remarkable marine inhabitants, sea turtles reign supreme. The beaches of BHI are home to four species of sea turtles, including the Loggerhead, Green, Kemp's Ridley and Leatherbacks. Our surrounding waters are home to the four aforementioned species as well as the Hawksbill. All of these species have captivated both researchers and beachgoers alike. Follow along as we delve into the fascinating world of these magnificent sea turtles.

**Loggerhead Sea Turtles** (*Caretta caretta*): Loggerheads, named after their large heads and strong jaws, are the most commonly observed species of sea turtles on Bald Head Island. They are renowned for their powerful bite, which allows them to crush and consume hard-shelled prey like crabs and mollusks. Weighing an average of 200-350 lbs. and measuring 3-4 feet in length, loggerheads undertake remarkable migratory journeys, often traversing thousands of miles between their feeding and nesting grounds. Bald Head Island's beaches serve as important nesting sites for these majestic creatures, as they make up about 98% of the nesting activities the Conservancy records each nesting season. Since 1991, the Conservancy's Sea Turtle Protection Program has recorded an estimated 2,872 loggerhead nests on the Island!

**Green Sea Turtles** (*Chelonia mydas*): The enchanting green turtle derives its name from its greenish-colored fat, **not its shell**. These herbivorous turtles are the largest of the hard-shelled sea turtles, with adults weighing an average of 300-400 lbs. and measuring 3-4 feet in length. Their unique diet consists primarily of seagrasses and algae. As herbivores, green turtles help maintain the health of seagrass beds by grazing on them. This feeding behavior promotes new growth, enhances biodiversity and provides habitat and food sources for various marine organisms, including fish, crustaceans and mollusks. Since 1991, the Conservancy's Sea Turtle Protection Program has recorded an estimated 35 green nests on the Island!

**Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtles** (*Lepidochelys kempii*): Kemp's ridley turtles, the smallest and most endangered sea turtle species globally, grace the waters surrounding Bald Head Island. These turtles typically measure around 2-3 feet in length and weigh about 80-150 lbs. They possess a distinctive triangular-shaped head and a predominantly olive-gray carapace. Kemp's ridley turtles exhibit a unique behavior known as "arribadas," during which thousands of females gather on certain beaches to nest simultaneously, creating awe-inspiring spectacles. But, along the southeastern coast of the United States, we have solitary nesters. This means that they nest as individuals and do not participate in an arribada or a mass nesting event. The only Kemp's nest laid on BHI was recorded in 2020 and produced 79 hatchlings!



This is a loggerhead sea turtle, and her name is FFL110. Photo by the BHI Conservancy.

**Leatherback Turtles** (*Dermochelys coriacea*): The leatherback turtle, a true marvel of the sea turtle world, can also be spotted around Bald Head Island. Unlike other sea turtles, it lacks a hard, bony shell and instead sports a leathery, rubbery carapace. This adaptation enables them to dive to remarkable depths in search of their favorite prey — jellyfish. With a length of 6-7 feet and a weight of 600-1,500 lbs., leatherbacks are the largest sea turtle species globally. Their impressive size and unique physiology make them capable of undertaking extraordinary migrations across vast oceanic expanses, including the waters around Bald Head Island. The only leatherback nest laid on BHI was recorded in 2010 and produced 59 hatchlings!

*Continued on page 19*

To our neighbors on Bald Head Island, if you have bikes you need serviced or would like to purchase new bikes or e-bikes, please call the shop. We are happy to pickup, deliver and tag your bikes for delivery on the Bald Head Island Ferry.

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## Collections Spotlight: Rudder from *La Rosa de Bilbao*

By Jake Grossman, Educator and Collections Coordinator, Old Baldy Foundation

In November 1804, the Spanish merchant ship *La Rosa de Bilbao* ran aground about 1.5 miles from Bald Head Island. The 140-foot-long ship carried 1,616 boxes of sugar from Havana, Cuba, to Bilbao, Spain. The only deaths were the captain and mate who, allegedly, died at sea before things went awry.<sup>1</sup> The crew claimed that without anyone to pilot the ship, they rode the wind until they ended up aground.

Officials from Fort Johnston were suspicious of a mutiny and decided to imprison the crew until they sent them to Charleston, SC. Some reports suggest that there was a “great deal of treasure.”<sup>2</sup> The court dropped the case due to lack of evidence, even though the accused were apprehended with silver coins stuffed into their attire.<sup>3</sup> The crew did not leave enough evidence behind to be convicted; however, they did leave behind the *Bilbao* (quickly being buried under water, clay and mud), which would be discovered by divers years later.

In November 1987, Kent and Mark Mitchell hired Dr. Dennison Breese to do an underwater dive 1.5 miles from Bald Head Island (likely near beach access 15), seeking a possible shipwreck. After diving 20 feet and removing 4 feet of mud, the crew unearthed the *Bilbao*. They secured a host of small objects as well as the ship rudder that was 16 feet long, 1,500 lb. and had oak and white pine with copper bands. Breese highlighted that it was recovered in remarkably good shape, perhaps because it was double-coated in lead.

**Note:** Part 3 of the “Hurricanes of the Past” series will return in the November *Island Report*.



Fishing the rudder out of the ocean and putting into a conservation bath. Photos courtesy of the Office of State Archaeology/ Underwater Archaeology Branch.



*Continued on page 14*

## ISLAND EXPERTS



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## LET US BUILD YOUR BHI DREAM HOME

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 owner who has completed many new construction and remodeling projects on the island, Dale is well versed on the details of building on Bald Head Island. He's currently building a beautiful, custom home on Brown Pelican Trail and recently completed new construction projects on Kinnakeet as well as the Esplanade building on Maritime Way.



**Dale Giera**  
919.485.9901  
dale.giera@gmail.com



# Island-wide Trick or Treating



Saturday  
October 28  
1:00-3:00pm



For details and the link for a list of homes and businesses giving out Halloween candy, use the QR code or visit BHA's web page at [www.BaldHeadAssociation.com/trick\\_or\\_treating](http://www.BaldHeadAssociation.com/trick_or_treating).

For additional information, contact Betsi Stephen at [BetsiStephen@gmail.com](mailto:BetsiStephen@gmail.com).



Bald Head Association ~ "The voice for BHI property owners"

Sponsored by:

BHA's Education & Recreation (ER) Committee

910-457-4676 • 111 Lighthouse Wynd, Bald Head Island • [www.BaldHeadAssociation.com](http://www.BaldHeadAssociation.com)

## Save the date:

BHA is hosting an  
**Insurance Forum**  
Friday, October 27, 2023  
2:00pm

BHA's Association Center  
and online via Zoom

*Stay tuned for details!*



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—Robert, BHI Owner



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## BHA's Owner Portal, Automatic Payment Sign-up Deadline and Contact Information Updates

BHA has an owner portal that provides a secure vehicle for automated, one-time or regular online payments with lower fees. Through the portal, you can choose to sign up for TOPS AutoPay and have your annual assessment automatically drafted from your account. There is a small convenience fee of \$2 if you sign up using a bank account; fees for using a credit card are based on a percentage of the charge. Note that property owners must sign up for TOPS AutoPay by December 31, 2023, for auto draft of the 2024 assessment. You will need a different email address for each property you own.

TOPS AutoPay cannot be used for quarterly payments. For property owners with assessment balances over \$1,000 who wish to make quarterly payments, please make arrangements

by contacting BHA Bookkeeper Leigh Ann Fink at [LeighAnn@BaldHeadAssociation.com](mailto:LeighAnn@BaldHeadAssociation.com). For questions, email Leigh Ann or call her at 910-457-4676, ext. 27.


### Make Sure BHA Has Your Current Contact Information

It has always been important for BHA to have your current mailing address. However, with changing times, it is also essential that we have your up-to-date emails and phone numbers. BHA's owner portal also allows property owners to view, add or change phone numbers and mailing addresses easily. Make sure BHA has your current contact information by either reviewing your owner portal information or emailing updates to Diane Mesaris at [Diane@BaldHeadAssociation.com](mailto:Diane@BaldHeadAssociation.com). 

••• Continued from page 1 (BHI Native Plant Feature of the Month — Partridge Berry)

sprawling herb produces a shiny, red berry with a tiny dimple and star-shaped marks. This evergreen ground cover displays interesting foliage, flowers and fruit. Plant in woodland/shade gardens, under trees and in part shade areas of border fronts and rock gardens.”

According to the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, “All parts are dainty, including its pairs of small, rounded,

evergreen leaves; tiny, trumpet-shaped, pinkish-white flowers; and scarlet berries. A most attractive woodland creeper with highly ornamental foliage, it can be used as a groundcover under acid-loving shrubs and in terraria in the winter. The common name implies that the scarlet fruits are relished by partridges, and they are consumed by a variety of birds and mammals.” 



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## Pardon Our Dust...


**Association Center** — General repairs and maintenance for the Association Center like power washing or paint touch-up are an annual occasion. But this year, after 22 years of use, the flooring in the administrative offices is being replaced. The hardwood floors in the Association Center have been sanded and refinished. Several doors and all window screens in the Association Center are also being replaced. All of the work was budgeted and approved by the Board as part of the annual capital budget.

**Wildlife Overlook** — BHA is making a couple of improvements to the Wildlife Overlook to make it easier and safer for visitors at the location. Parking will be delineated, and the existing retention wall near the structure will be extended to the road to prevent erosion in the area. BHA sent out a Request for Proposals in August for the project, and Trinity Builders BHI was the successful bidder. The enhancements were scheduled for late September and should be completed by early October. 

••• Continued from page 10 (Collections Spotlight: Rudder from La Rosa de Bilbao)

Anything recovered within three miles of the beach belongs to the state, thus the rudder was turned over to the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR) Underwater Archaeology Branch at Fort Fisher. The NC DNCR proceeded to conserve and stabilize the rudder and then loan it back to the Old Baldy Foundation (OBF) for display. Unsurprisingly, displaying a rudder that is 16 feet tall (and must be displayed upright for stability) and weighs 1,500 lb. is not easy. The only appropriate location at that time is where the rudder still remains today, which is inside the entrance of Old Baldy, tucked underneath the first stairwell.

Unfortunately, each year thousands of visitors enter Old Baldy and breeze right past the rudder (perhaps without noticing it) in their haste to begin their climb. Not only is the gigantic rudder somehow hard to notice, it is also in an

uncontrolled and unstable climate. Thankfully, there are plans in motion at the OBF to construct a new interpretive center across Lighthouse Wynd. In this new space, we will safely and prominently exhibit the rudder alongside hundreds of other objects that are currently resting in our collections area until they, too, can be properly displayed. 

<sup>1</sup> Perhaps, Don Policarpo Maria Fernandez was still captain, according to *Wilmington Gazette*, September 24, 1801.

<sup>2</sup> This is hard to prove, as even if a ship's manifest were to be found, it may not necessarily reflect what was on the ship. According to historian/diver Dr. Dennison Breese, who claimed due to "the smuggling practices of the time," gold chains, emeralds, diamonds and precious religious artifacts were also not listed on the manifest, as these were considered personal items and, as such, were not subject to the "Crown's Tax." Old Baldy Foundation Archives.

<sup>3</sup> "Bald Head museum acquires rudder," by Jason Tyson, *Star News*, November 29, 2000.

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# TIDBITS:

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

## New Homeowners — Update Your Knox Box

If you have recently bought or sold your home on Bald Head Island, don't forget to update your Knox Box paperwork and, if necessary, replace any inoperative keys. A Knox Box allows emergency responders access to your home. In an emergency, every second counts. Contact Public Safety at 910-457-5252.



## Outdoor String Lights

With crisp, cool evenings of fall right around the corner, it's a good time to remind property owners that outdoor string lights are not allowed on Bald Head Island. For full details, refer to page 120 of the Design Guidelines, which can be found at [www.BaldHeadAssociation.com](http://www.BaldHeadAssociation.com). Specific points are detailed here. For any questions, email Chris Howard at [Chris@BaldHeadAssociation.com](mailto:Chris@BaldHeadAssociation.com).

*Light pollution is avoidable. Homes on the island must be extremely frugal with exterior lighting. All exterior lighting fixtures, regardless of design, are subject to ARC approval. All lighting will be baffled to prevent direct visualization of the light source. No holiday or string lighting is to be used for exterior decoration any other time during the year, including clear or white lights, nor is it permitted to be used to illuminate any exterior steps, porches, arbors, structures, etc., any other time of year.*

## Lost & Found on BHI

Have you lost or found something on Bald Head Island? There is one official lost & found repository on Bald Head Island — the Public Safety Complex, located at 273 Edward Teach Extension. To arrange found drop-offs or lost pickups, call 910-457-5252.



## Bald Head Island Services Rentals & Sales

Bald Head Island Services is about making a house a home. Whether you want to rent a beach home, rent your property or talk about purchasing a home. We are here for you every step of the way.

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••• Continued from page 1 (Want to Join the BHA Board of Directors?)

will be held in early December. Additional information will be forthcoming.

Second, if someone wants to be considered by the membership for Board service and is not identified through the Nominating Committee process, BHA's Bylaws identify an alternative path: "A petition signed by a minimum of fifteen (15) individual property owners, advocating a nominee for election to the Board of Directors, may be submitted to the Association office no later than sixty (60) days prior to the annual meeting and this candidate or candidates shall be added to the final ballot which will be mailed to the membership no less than thirty (30) days in advance of the annual meeting."


This year, November 27 is the 60-day deadline for petitions to be received by BHA. Of course, **that date is the final deadline, and submissions can be sent any time prior to the deadline.** Note that all Board candidates are required

to complete a biography/questionnaire and send a photo for publication in BHA's Annual Report and on BHA's website to help inform members of candidates' credentials. **With a tight print deadline, all biography/questionnaires and photos must be received by 4:00pm November 28, 2023.** All who are interested in submitting a petition can email BHA Executive Director Carrie Moffett at [Carrie@BaldHeadAssociation.com](mailto:Carrie@BaldHeadAssociation.com).

The Nominating Committee is appointed by the Board of Directors and consists of a chairperson, who is a member of the Board of Directors, and four members of the Association who are not currently members of the Board of Directors. The 2023 committee members approved at the Board's June regular meeting are: Rick Nelson, Robbie Nixon, Claude Pope and Kirby Ward. Matt Scibienski is the alternate, and Joe Brawner is the Board Liaison. 

••• Continued from page 3 (BHA President's Letter ~ Alan Briggs)

into BHA. For the last six years, management of these three communities has been a new and very time consuming, and important responsibility of BHA. These owners pay supplemental dues for this service. Pam carries out this responsibility for BHA and is very dedicated to those property owners whom she serves.

This is only about half of Pam's work. As you can see from the other Common Areas listed above, Pam has much more to do. When you see Pam Rainey, thank her. She is making life better for all of us. 



**Dale Giera**

919.485.9901

[dale.giera@gmail.com](mailto:dale.giera@gmail.com)



LET US TILE YOUR ISLAND HOME



••• Continued from page 2 (Holiday Decorations)

and items that are inconsistent with this guideline are not allowed. See additional information under Lighting.

These exterior decorative items must be few in number and consistent with the general subdued and natural character of the Bald Head Island conservation consciousness.

Regarding exterior holiday lighting specifically, here is the guideline (on page 121 of the Design Guidelines):

*Holiday lighting is permitted from November 15 to January 15 only. Moderation is recommended. No holiday or string lighting is to be used for exterior decoration any other time during the year; including clear or white lights, nor is it permitted to be used to illuminate any exterior steps, porches, arbors, structures, etc., any other time of year.*



••• Continued from page 8 (The Majestic Beasts of Bald Head Island)

#### **Hawksbill Turtles (*Eretmochelys imbricata*):**

The hawksbill turtle, known for its stunningly beautiful shell featuring overlapping scales, graces the waters near Bald Head Island. Its shell gives it a distinctive, saw-like appearance. Hawksbill turtles play a crucial role in the coral reef ecosystems, as they primarily feed on sponges, maintaining a balanced ecosystem by preventing sponge overgrowth on reefs. Hawksbills are relatively small compared to other sea turtle species, typically measuring around 2-3 feet in length and weighing about 100-150 pounds. Unfortunately, their numbers have declined significantly due to habitat destruction and the illegal wildlife trade.

These remarkable creatures captivate us with their majestic presence and inspire awe with their incredible journeys and distinctive characteristics. As we continue to witness the threats facing sea turtle populations worldwide, it is crucial to raise awareness and support conservation efforts on Bald Head Island to protect these ancient mariners for future generations to cherish and admire. Together, we can ensure the preservation of these magnificent sea creatures and their invaluable contribution to the delicate balance of marine ecosystems. All species of sea turtles are considered endangered in the United States and are protected under the Endangered Species Act.



Scan this QR code with your phone camera for full details on BHA's events calendar!



## October 2023:

ARC-A Meeting	10/6/2023	9:30am
Absentee Ballots Available Start Date	10/6/2023	
Community Care/Project Longevity	10/9/2023	9am
Community Potluck Dinner	10/9/2023	6pm
BHA Board Meeting	10/12/2023	11am
Voter Registration Deadline	10/13/2023	
One-stop Early Voting	10/19/2023-11/4/2023	
ARC-B Meeting	10/20/2023	9:30am
Village Council Meeting	10/20/2023	10am
Thad Wester Fishing School	10/20/2023-10/22/2023	
Flu Shot Clinic	10/23/2023	10am-2pm
Insurance Forum	10/27/2023	2pm
PSA Chili Supper Fundraiser	10/27/2023	4pm
Island Litter Sweep	10/28/2023	10am
Island-wide Trick or Treating	10/28/2023	1pm
Howl at the Moon	10/28/2023	5pm

## Save the Date in November:

ARC-A Meeting	11/3/2023	9:30am
Daylight Saving Time Ends	11/5/2023	
Municipal Elections	11/7/2023	
BHA Board Meeting	11/9/2023	11am
BHA Office Closed	11/10/2023	
Veterans Day	11/11/2023	
Community Potluck Dinner	11/14/2023	6pm
ARC-B Meeting	11/17/2023	9:30am
Village Council Meeting	11/17/2023	10am
Thanksgiving	11/23/2023	
BHA Office Closed	11/23/2023-11/24/2023	
Old Baldy Annual Christmas Tree Auction	11/24/2023	
Smith Island Art League Show & Sale	11/24/2023-11/25/2023	10am
Community Tree Lighting/Sing-a-long	11/25/2023	5:30pm
Howl at the Moon	11/27/2023	4pm

## Around the Corner in 2023:

BHA Board Candidate Forum	TBD December 2023	
Cookie Exchange	12/4/2023	4pm
Hanukkah	12/7/2023-12/15/2023	
Geminids Meteor Shower	12/14/2023-12/15/2023	
Christmas	12/25/2023	
BHA Office Closed	12/25/2023-12/26/2023	
Howl at the Moon	12/26/2023	4pm
Kwanzaa	12/26/2023-1/1/2024	

## Ongoing:

AA Virtual Meetings:	Mondays & Thursdays	8am
(Zoom Group: #85999065097, P/C: 570863, Email: <a href="mailto:sober.1day.at.a.time@gmail.com">sober.1day.at.a.time@gmail.com</a> )		
Knitting Group:	Wednesdays	9:30am
Men's Group:	Every Other Monday	8:30am
Shag Dance Classes:	Tuesdays (Oct. 3, 10, 17)	6pm
Village Chapel Services:	Sundays through Memorial Day	8:30am
Women's Fellowship:	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mondays	10am
Yoga Classes:	Mondays & Wednesdays	11:45am





## Bald Head Association

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