



Island Report

Communication, Advocacy and Protection of BHI Property Values

BHA's 2023 Annual Meeting

BHA held its Annual Meeting both in person and online on Saturday, January 28, 2023, after a two-year, in-person hiatus due to Covid. It was a sunny day, though chilly, and the Association Center was full of interested members. Over the course of two and a half hours, the BHA Board presented BHA's accomplishments in 2022 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 members learned more about what Bald Head Association does on their behalf as well as updates and future plans for the other BHI organizations.

To view the recorded Zoom webinar on BHA's YouTube channel, you can find the link from BHA's web page www.BaldHeadAssociation.com/annual-meeting-online-voting. Or, go to www.youtube.com and type "Bald Head Association" into the search bar and select BHA's channel. The video is titled "2023 BHA Annual Meeting." 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 Paul Carey and Christine Osborne to the Board of Directors. We appreciate all candidates who ran. Outgoing Board members Jennifer and Tiffany received certificates for the live oak Honor Trees that will be planted on Bald Head Island later this year on their behalf. BHA thanks both Jennifer



Above: Alan Briggs presents outgoing Board members Jennifer Lucas and Tiffany Williams with certificates for Honor Trees to be planted on BHI in their names.



Lucas and Tiffany Williams for their years of service and dedication. And thank you to all members for voting. There were no Bylaws or Covenants changes.

Some of BHA's highlighted accomplishments in 2022 included ARC, Covenants enforcement, financial and communication activities; committee updates; review of the Board's 2022 priorities, including cooperation with all Island entities, improve the Architectural Review Committee (ARC) process, education before violations, communications and transparency, welcome and integrate new homeowners and members, support staff and continued financial stability.

Some items on BHA's horizon include continuing to inform members about the sale of the BHI Transportation System, completing the conveyance of lagoons (in whole/ in part) to the BHI Club, updating BHA's website, continuing Community Wide

Standards (CWS) evaluations, working with the Village of BHI to enhance the Dog Park, integrating property owner members into committee structure and training the next generation of organizational leadership, continuing work with the BHI Club and Village of BHI to implement new Non-residential Design Guidelines, working with the Village of BHI to finalize the Boat Park relocation and

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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.

For all questions about trees and vegetation, email trees@baldheadassociation.com.



NO weedeaters

Variances, Hardships and ARC Approvals

When buying a home or lot on Bald Head Island, every BHA member becomes a steward of the Island and agrees to accept the deed restrictions outlined in the Covenants and the Design Guidelines. The Design Guidelines create a uniform review process for obtaining approval of the Architectural Review Committee (ARC). Among the design constraints is a rule that variances to the Design Guidelines require a demonstrated hardship. The ARC prefers to help neighbors obtain reasonable approvals without excessive design expense, so all variance requests should be included in a complete submittal as it is defined in the Design Guidelines. No variance can adequately be given consideration without full disclosure of all specifics in a complete application for the good of the individual member and the BHA membership.

As development increases on Bald Head Island, new property owners are finding their lots have more challenges than what might be expected from a lot in a typical mainland subdivision. While their dream house may be large with expansive views and space to park a couple of golf carts underneath, the Covenants and Design Guidelines may restrict some of these dreams. Consequently, the ARC is often asked to consider a variance request before the member or builder goes through the expense of having a full set of plans drawn. The ARC is sensitive to the time and cost of plans these days and has made exceptions to the Design Guidelines by reviewing variance requests prior to a full submittal being made. Unfortunately, when a member is encouraged by the ARC to move to the design phase because a variance would likely be acceptable, the variance request is often exceeded in the design and/or additional variances are requested.

Variations can be granted where a hardship exists such that, in the absence of a variance, no reasonable use can be made of the property. Something about the property — not the proposed house design — has to create that hardship, such as elevation or an unusually shaped lot.

The architect or designer should understand the site limitations and seek creative design solutions which work within the Design Guidelines. If the proposed solution means a smaller house than the member’s wish list called for because of the site setbacks, that is not a hardship. If the design calls for a long, horizontal band of windows from a third floor to take in the spectacular views but the Design Guidelines limit those windows and the building height, that is not a hardship. Requests for variances relating to impervious coverage are common, but the ARC does not have the authority to grant those — impervious surface limitations are a state permit function. Remember, the Design Guidelines are in place to protect the members’ property values by promoting a harmonious community aesthetic.

So, variances *may* be granted to improve the overall design of the house. For example, a first floor elevation variance may be possible when all the homes on the street have parking under the house, to create a unified streetscape. The variance in this case would create uniformity along the streetscape. An exceptionally “leggy” set of steps may be granted a variance to allow grade-level screening under non-heated space if it greatly improves the design. The ARC expects the architect or designer to exhaust all other possible solutions before requesting a variance based upon the design of the house. Granting of variances is rare, and the expense and time of subsequent resubmittals and the appeal process is then borne by the member as well as the rest of the membership.

By adhering to the Design Guidelines as written, a harmonious community aesthetic can be captured while allowing for individual tastes, lifestyle needs and the specific needs/traits of the BHI environment. It is up to the ARC and all its members to protect and preserve the unique quality of life and ageless appeal of Bald Head Island for generations to come.

BHA President's Letter ~ Alan Briggs

Democracy on Bald Head Island

Democracy is the backbone of America. And democracy is the backbone of the Village of Bald Head Island and is the backbone of Bald Head Association. This year at our Annual Meeting, the election process worked just exactly as democracy should. We needed two new members for our Board of Directors to lead the BHA.

Five of our strongest Island leaders stepped up to the plate and threw their hats in the ring. They volunteered. They all campaigned hard, and there was hot debate and all explained how they intended to make things better for us.

This active participation in the election process is just what makes our country strong, makes our Village strong and makes Bald Head Association strong. We need volunteers who are willing to expose themselves to public scrutiny and take a chance.

And all worked exactly as it should. Two exceptionally qualified and experienced leaders were elected. They are:

Paul Carey received his BA in Economics and Finance from Catholic University in Washington, DC and his MBA from the University of Maryland. He then had a very successful career in business serving as a senior executive of a NYSE Company and a CEO of a technology company.

Paul and his wife Lori moved to BHI in 2001. At BHI, he served as the president of BHI Stage II and served on the Board of the BHI Club, serving as treasurer for five years and president as one.

Christine Osborne and her husband, Rex, have lived on BHI since 2003. Christine attended Wake Tech Community

College and has served on three different HOA Boards in Wake County.

Since she has lived on BHI, she has been very active in our community, serving as the Lead for the Chapel's Outreach Program, a volunteer with the Public Service Auxiliary (PSA) and an Emergency Site Team Leader. She also served on the BHI Club's House Committee and has served as Co-chair of the BHI Holiday Parade.

I thank Paul and Christine for running for election.

I also thank Bob Keiger, Nathan McBrayer and Tiffany Williams who ran for the Board. While they lost this election, they are all three still winners. They took a chance so they could serve us. They answered the call for volunteers. They threw their hats in the ring. They risked losing.

When you see them, thank them. It is not fun to lose. We all prefer winning to losing.

And the new Board is already underway and hard at work for you. We completed our annual BHA Board retreat on February 10, 2023.

Paul and Christine were active participants and showed the other Board members what unique and different perspectives they bring to the table.

Bald Head Association will only be stronger and better because of their addition to the Board.

Congratulations to Paul and Christine. I look forward to serving one more year on the BHA Board, and I know the Board will only be stronger with their leadership and guidance. 

your special place

By Alan Briggs

where is it on bald head island you go
when you just want to have a moment
it could be a moment to be by yourself
it could be a moment to find some quiet
it could be a moment to find the answers
it could be a moment to figure out the questions

is it the point at Cape Fear on low tide
the Maritime Forest surrounded by live oaks
your back porch on a chaise late at night
just walking the beach by yourself in the sunset
lying on the beach at East Beach hearing the waves
playing nine holes by yourself late in the day

we all have a spot where we go for whatever reason
when you need a moment you need to go there.

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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. Deadlines are the 1st of the month for the following month's issue.



Village of BHI Updates

By Carin Faulkner, Village Public Information Officer

The Village wants to remind property owners to make sure that they are hiring licensed contractors. This is for safety and liability. Our Development Services Director, who performs building inspections, cited a recent instance where an unlicensed person was hired to do electrical work. Live wires were left exposed near duct work that could have resulted in injury of an HVAC tech and/or a fire.

In the State of North Carolina, a general contractor must be licensed if the contract is valued at \$30,000 or higher. North Carolina law also requires all electrical, plumbing and heating/air contractors and subcontractors to be licensed.

NC licensed contractors are professionals who have passed technical exams and have proven that they have the financial means to support their business. Should you experience a substantial problem with a licensed contractor, the State Licensing Board for that trade will investigate the complaint and, if found valid, take appropriate action against the contractor.

Below are some tips for working with contractors to avoid any issues that could occur with any project (*Source: NC Licensing Board for General Contractors website*).

1. Plan your project

Plan out in detail what you want done and who you will need to complete it. No two projects are the same, and

10 TIPS FOR WORKING WITH CONTRACTORS

- Hire only state-licensed contractors.
- Check a contractor's license number online at <https://portal.nclbnc.org> or call 919-571-4183.
- Get at least three bids.
- Get three references from each bidder and review past work in person.
- Make sure all project expectations are in writing and only sign the contract if you completely understand the terms.
- Confirm that the contractor has workers' compensation insurance for employees.
- Avoid paying 10% down or \$1,000, whichever is less. Avoid paying in cash.
- Avoid letting payments get ahead of work.
- Keep a job file of all papers relating to your project, including all payments.
- Avoid making the final payment until you are satisfied with the job.

some may require a specially licensed contractor. Contact your local permitting office (sboyett@villagebhi.org / 910-457-9700, ext. 1004) to see if permits are required to assure code compliance. Most licensed contractors know when permits are required.

2. Get several estimates

When comparing estimates from different contractors, don't just compare the bottom-line cost. Look at the cost, quantity and quality of materials in each estimate. Be sure the estimate includes the total price, the materials to be used, a timetable for payments and the expected timeline for completion of the work.

3. Verify the contractor's license

You can check for proof that the contractor you may be working with is licensed by going to the NC Licensing Board for General Contractors website at <https://portal.nclbnc.org/Public/Search>. You can also call 919-571-4183. The required specialty's licenses can be checked online or using these numbers — electrician (919-733-9042) and plumber/HVAC (919-875-3612).



4. Check at least three references

Ask your contractor for written references. Contact each reference and ask if they were satisfied with the contractor's work and if the contractor kept to the schedule and contract terms.

5. Require a written contract

The contract should be a detailed description of the work to be done, the material to be used and the equipment to be installed. Be sure there is a schedule of payments and a timeline for when the work will be completed. Be sure you understand the contract before you sign it. Any changes that occur should be noted in writing.

6. Don't make a large down payment

The down payment you pay in order for work to begin should be minimal. Beware of contractors asking for

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Calling All Garden Lovers! Want To Help Start a Garden Club?

Are you interested in helping organize and start a Garden Club on Bald Head Island? BHA's Education and Recreation (ER) Committee is meeting to discuss organizing this new club. The first meeting is Wednesday, March 22, at 10:00am at a property owner's home. If you're interested in joining the discussion, email Grace Valentine at gracevalentine@verizon.net. Join us and share your ideas!

2023 Board of Directors Election Details

*By Carrie Moffett, Executive Director,
Bald Head Association*

The election of Bald Head Association's 2023 Board of Directors kicked off with online proxy voting in December 2022. The online ballot was only available for property owners on the day of the election — January 28, 2023. There was a misstep during the conversion from the online proxy to the online ballot by our third-party vendor that I did not catch. Regrettably, the name of one of the candidates — Nathan McBrayer — was inadvertently omitted from the final online ballot that was automatically published in the early morning hours of election day. It was not discovered until 30 minutes into the Annual Meeting, which was far too late to be corrected. Six proxies were voted online on election day, which equates to 14 votes. This low number is consistent with the previous three years in which we've utilized online voting. We're confident that this omission, while extremely regrettable, did not change the outcome of the election.

After all of the proxies and ballots were counted, the two highest vote-getters were Paul Carey (receiving 391 votes) and Christine Osborne (receiving 322 votes). The third highest vote-

getter received 246 votes. The total number of votes cast, whether in person or online, was 1,260.

Voting for homeowners' associations in North Carolina, whether via proxy or in person, is already complex. But, thanks to a new state law that allows members to participate electronically, there are new burdensome requirements for how we connect our members to meetings. The resulting online voting process is extremely easy for some members, cumbersome for others (especially those with multiple properties owned by different people) and definitely a challenge for BHA staff. And, there is an additional (albeit small) hard cost associated with it, as well.

To Mr. McBrayer, I am deeply sorry that your name was not included on the online ballot. Please know that we're working over the coming year on how to get back to basics, meet our quorum requirements and still be in compliance with our governing documents and state statute — and we will not make this same mistake again.

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Nature Camp at BHI Conservancy

By Jennifer Wiggen, Senior Educator, BHI Conservancy

The BHI Conservancy (BHIC) is so excited to discover and learn with your children this spring and summer through our nature-based camp experience at the BHIC. Feeling connected to nature, especially to the sea creatures, animals and plants we share Bald Head Island with, and to each other is the best way to explore and learn about this amazing barrier island.

Nature camp at the BHI Conservancy will immerse your child in barrier island ecology as they explore the maritime forest, salt marsh and beach environments. We'll learn through games, crafts, nature-based art, stories and community science while developing a deeper connection and understanding to the natural world around them.

Camp will introduce your child to a variety of topics, conservation activities and animal encounters. Topics introduced will include things like maritime forest habitats, salt marsh ecology and sea turtle conservation. Conservation activities such as birding, tidal exploration, plant identification, animal tracking and so much more will also be incorporated into the day. Students will be able to interact with our education animals that include box turtles, yellow-bellied sliders, corn snakes and a musk turtle. Every day is a new adventure with camp, and no two days are the same!

Spring camp registration started February 28, 2023, and summer camp registration will be available on April 1, 2023. Both camps will offer a half-day experience for campers.



Paint Brushes and Blue Crabs

By Dr. Jennifer Wiggen, Senior Educator, BHI Conservancy

In January 2023, BHI Conservancy's Environmental Content Creator Morgan Hooks and I were fortunate to work with the No Boundaries Art Residency and their youth program — DREAMS of Wilmington — on a collaborative art piece of blue crabs. We'll get to keep one of these pieces, and it will be displayed in the Fleming Environmental Education Center at the BHI Conservancy in the spring.

Before we started painting, we were able to meet visiting No Boundaries artists who were creating all types of art on the Island and hear about what inspires them. It was a wonderful experience to work with these two organizations and be able to

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Adding finishing touches to the piece.

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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What a Wild Year: My Top Wildlife Encounters in 2022

By Morgan Hooks, Environmental Content Creator, BHI Conservancy

Last year was a wonderful, wild year on Bald Head Island. It was my first full year on-staff here at the BHI Conservancy, and it was a year that kept my curiosity peaked, my mind open to learn more and my camera always steady and ready in my hands. Surrounding myself in nature on a daily basis allowed for incredible iNaturalist observations and Island wildlife encounters, which resulted in a year's worth of cherished photographs. I wanted to share with you ten of my favorite wildlife encounters from 2022 and what made them so special for me.



Golden-winged skimmer

Golden-winged skimmer

Dragonflies were a species on my photography “bucket list,” but photographing such rapid-flying insects seemed impossible to me. I remember this encounter being the one that taught me the most valuable tool you can own as

a photographer — patience. Surely enough, when I allowed myself to sit and wait for a dragonfly to fly by, this golden-winged skimmer landed to bask within a few feet of me.



Squareback marsh crab

Squareback marsh crab

I shot this photo of a squareback marsh crab during our *Nature Observations* program this summer and, truthfully, it was also the day I learned that they can climb trees! I remember my participants tip-toeing with me in circles around this

tree trying to get a glimpse of the crab as it scurried from side to side and up and down the trunk of the tree. Everyone was overjoyed with the photos they captured of this crab.



White-tailed deer fawn

White-tailed deer fawn

One afternoon while I was showing my mother around the Island, we came across another mother and child — a white-tailed deer doe and her fawn. We had a quiet moment together as they passed through the forest and onto the golf course green.

While the doe continued ahead through the trees, the fawn poked its head out of a gap to take one more curious glimpse at us before sneaking along.



Black-crowned night heron (juvenile)

Black-crowned night heron (juvenile)

I was still a “baby” birder when I tagged along for a fall bird survey. We had recently added a new stop to the survey route, so we were unsure of who to expect once we arrived. I remember how happy I felt to be the one who spotted this juvenile black-crowned night heron above the pond and then to notice a full flock

roosting together. This was my “spark” bird, or the bird that sparked my passion for birding!

Squirrel tree frog

The squirrel tree frog we spotted was happily resting on a palmetto leaf during one of our *Barrier Island Botanists* programs and was pointed out by one of our students. We were asking the students about what wildlife may use the forest, and a student yelled “frogs!” after noticing one tucked away. I loved how we all immediately circled together to check it out.



White ibis (juvenile)

White ibis (juvenile)

While watching ibis roost at the Wildlife Overlook takes your breath away, I am always partial to watching them messily wading through the marsh mud. After a successful hunt, this juvenile perched a few feet away from me, proudly up-turning its bill to show off the mud still stuck to it. Seeing them so close and stationary, and also seeing just how tall they are was incredible.



Eastern glass lizard

Eastern glass lizard

Hands down, one of the coolest critters on the Island is the Eastern glass lizard, and I think they know it. Despite their intimidating likeness to snakes, they are very skittish and elusive, and not an animal I thought I would see or photograph up-close.

That was until one morning around sunrise on Middle Island, I found this one perfectly posed on the side of the dirt road.

Painted lady

While a painted lady technically isn't “wildlife” and was one of the butterflies our education team raised this fall, both the release of the butterflies into the wild and then watching them explore nature for the first time around our campus was an unforgettable experience.

Eastern amberwing, American alligator (juvenile)

I think there is a gentleness to nature we often don't consider, but I remember it when I think about this gentle encounter

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BHA's Boat Park — the Move Is Completed!

At the request of the Village of BHI, BHA has recently completed moving its Boat Park for property owners. Though in the same area (the access road to the Village's Mulch Site off North Bald Head Wynd), it is now situated to the left at the end of the access road, rather than its original location to the right.

Owners can now store boats up to 17 ft. in length, with an engine size up to 75 hp by leasing one of the 62 spaces from BHA. Currently, the Boat Park is at 90% capacity, and the annual fee remains \$750. For questions about the Boat Park and for lease information, contact Pam Rainey, Customer Relations Associate, at PamR@BaldHeadAssociation.com or 910-457-4676, ext. 24.

Here's a bit of background behind the need for the move. In late 2021, Village personnel approached BHA with a request to relocate the Boat Park slightly in order to expand the Mulch Site area at the Village's expense. With the previous overflow Mulch Site area beside the BHI Club (Swans Quarter) no longer available and in order to qualify for FEMA reimbursement for managing storm debris, the Village's current Mulch Site needed a larger area. Since the Boat Park is beside the mulch site, the Village and BHA worked through the logistics of the move together. The move began in mid-December 2022 and was completed in February 2023. Thank you to all Boat Park lessees for working with us on this relocation. Water will soon be installed for boat owners by Public Works.



Photo by Pat Miller.



Love BHI Night Sky

By Pat Miller

We have been in awe this winter at the beauty of the night sky. With the lack of lights, it seems the stars have multiplied and are smiling on us. As many of us travel the world, we may come to realize that what we have on Bald Head Island is magic. Join in lowering the wattage of your outside lights, turning them off when not needed and stepping outside to watch the miraculous appearance that so few get to experience.



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The Man Behind the Lens, Part 1

By Jake Grossman, Educator and Collections Coordinator

Here at the Old Baldy Foundation (OBF), we care for hundreds of artifacts intertwined with the history of Bald Head Island. Our collection ranges from an 18th century, 1,500 lb. ship rudder to binoculars used by Lightkeeper Captain Charles Norton at the Cape Fear Light Station. Ironically, the most-seen object we own has never been fully displayed. In use from 1903-1958 at the Cape Fear Light Station, our 1872 First Order Fresnel lens warned thousands of mariners away from the Frying Pan Shoals. In addition, the lens dazzled millions of visitors to the multiple symposiums it was displayed at before its official use.

The OBF cares for this lens as well as the one-of-a-kind 1920 mercury float and pedestal that held the lens. Unsurprisingly, displaying a 7'10" tall lens consisting of 1,008¹ prisms floating in mercury within a 6,000 lb. cast-iron pedestal in a 1,000 sq. ft. museum/offices/gift shop is not feasible. One can, however, see various pieces of the lens currently on display. Yet, that will not be the case forever. Indeed, the OBF is now officially raising money to construct a new interpretive center where the Fresnel lens and pedestal will be showcased. Before we delve too deeply into our new center, however, I wanted to share a little about the man behind the lens — Augustin Fresnel.

Augustin-Jean Fresnel was born in 1788 in Normandy,



Left: First Order Fresnel Lens, courtesy of John Havel.

Right: Cape Fear Lighthouse,

National Archives (<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/45697820>).

France, just one year prior to the Storming of the Bastille. Fresnel's childhood was consumed by the turmoil of the French Revolution and his passion for physics. Fresnel, similar to many youths, played fake war games with his pals. Unlike many children, however, Fresnel made such effective toy weaponry that "the local parents united to ban them."² By 1811 Fresnel was employed in the Napoleonic government overseeing the

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-Virginia, BHI Rental Property Guest



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••• Continued from page 10 (*The Man Behind the Lens, Part 1*)

construction of roads to (literally) unite France. Fresnel believed in the work, yet, felt he had a higher calling as a physicist. Fresnel poured himself into researching scientific theories during his downtime. In 1816 Fresnel proved that light was not a beam of particles, as widely believed and vehemently defended, but actually a wave. That discovery placed Fresnel on a path that eventually led him to “the invention that saved a million ships,” the Fresnel lens.

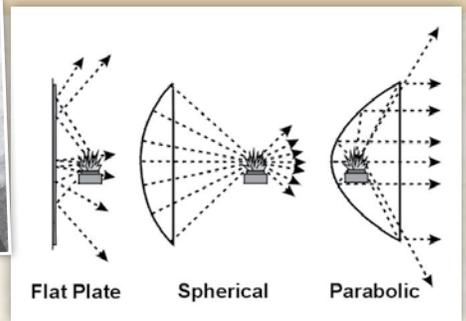
Lighthouse technology progressed slowly from ancient Greece to the 1800s. Ancient lighthouses used open, wooden flames to guide ships into harbors. Wooden flames progressed to coal fires in the 1600s, candles in the early 18th century and, lastly, smokeless oil lamps by 1800. Also in the 18th century, lighthouse keepers started to use mirrored (sometimes parabolic) reflectors to increase the light’s brilliance. These lighthouses were capable for guidance but useless to deter ships away from hazards. One American mariner, speaking about lighthouses without a Fresnel lens, claimed that “a navigator is apt to run ashore looking for them.”³

Indeed, England reported over 300 shipwrecks in just one year, 1816. Thus, it was not surprising when in July 1816, *Le Medusa* ran aground four miles off the coast of West Africa. The crew cobbled together an emergency raft for the 147 passengers who could not fit on the lifeboats. Theoretically, the lifeboats would tug the raft to safety. Theory is often easier than practice, and the lifeboat crews (quite literally) cut their losses and abandoned the hapless raft shortly after they launched.



Left: Augustin Fresnel, courtesy

public domain (Wikipedia). Right: Drawing of Reflective Action by Thomas Tag. This drawing shows how light was reflected before the invention of the Fresnel lens.



After nearly two weeks of riots, executions and cannibalism, 15 out of 147 survived. The details of the tragedy made it into the press and inspired Théodore Géricault to depict them in his award-winning oil painting *The Raft of the Medusa*. The tragedy and publicity of the details, as well as growing globalization, inspired the French to improve lighthouses, and one young French physicist was up to the task — Augustin Fresnel.

See you next month for part 2! 

¹ Not all prisms have been recovered by the OBF, yet.

² Levitt, Theresa. *A Short Bright Flash*. W.W Norton and Company. New York, NY. 2013. Page 25.

³ Ibid. 161.





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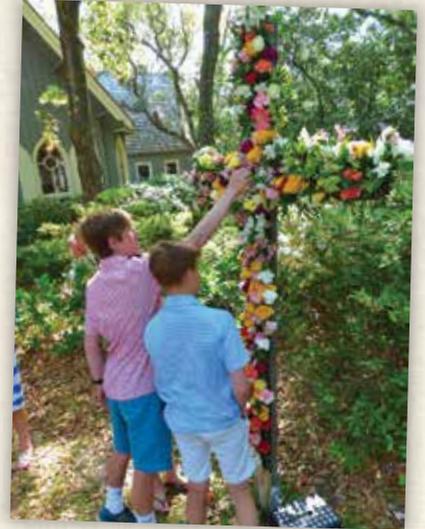
Village Chapel Update | *By Kevin Arata, Village Chapel Board of Trustees*

The Village Chapel’s special Easter Sunrise Service will be held in the Village Chapel Courtyard at 6:45am on Sunday, April 9. Seating will be available on our outdoor benches for up to 50 people. Bring chairs unless you arrive early. This is the first time in quite some time we’ve not done the Sunrise Service at Old Baldy, so we just wanted to reiterate that it’s in the Chapel courtyard.

Regular Easter worship services will be held at 8:30am and again at 10:00am, both hosted inside the Village Chapel, with overflow seating for up to 50 people outdoors in the courtyard. Come early to place flowers on the cross in front of the Chapel.

Rev. Sam Kennedy, a Presbyterian Minister and the Reformed University Fellowship Campus Minister at UNCW, will lead all Easter services. Dan Hlebo, our special musical guest, will also be on hand for all services. The Village Chapel Choir will sing at the 8:30am and 10:00am services.

A Maundy Thursday will also be held at the Village Chapel on April 6, with more information on the timing of that service posted on our Facebook page and website at a later date.



Knox Box — Emergency Responder Access To Your Home

Seconds count. What happens when first responders need access to your home in an emergency? A Knox Box allows emergency responders, such as firefighters and paramedics, with immediate access into secure residences and commercial properties when it matters most. Removing barriers to entry

reduces injuries to responders and minimizes property damage to homeowners.



Need a New Knox Box?

There are two sets of forms to complete — one for BHI Village Department of Public Safety and one for Knox. Knox Box forms and details are on the Village of BHI’s Public Safety Department web page at <https://villagebhi.org/departments-services/public-safety>, under the “Programs” heading.

For security purposes, you must contact Knox directly for the form and the Knox Box itself. It’s a simple process and provides peace of mind.

Already Have a Knox Box — Door Keys Have Changed or Changed Home Ownership?

If you have changed the lock on your front door and have new house keys, contact Public Safety to change the house key contained in the Knox Box — for security purposes, they are the only entity with access to the box. If you are a new homeowner, make sure the correct house key is in your Knox Box and that paperwork is updated.

Need a Replacement Knox Box or Want To Check the Condition of the Key?

Knox Boxes located near the ocean may become corroded over time and need to be replaced. Ensure yours is in proper condition. If you’ve had a Knox Box for some time and want to check the condition of your keys in the box, contact Public Safety to open the Knox Box. If your house key is rusted or unusable, replace it with a new key.

For any questions, contact Public Safety Monday-Friday 9:00am-4:00pm at 910-457-5252 or psadmin@villagebhi.org.



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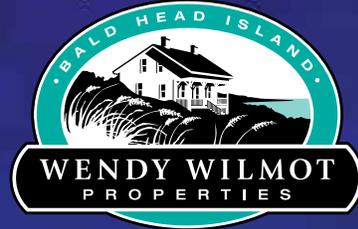
Dale Giera, owner and master craftsman, created Trinity Design Build on Bald Head Island after building custom, award-winning homes in the Triangle area for more than 30 years. Being an island property and business owner with a keen eye for design, Dale aims to complete projects with proficiency, integrity 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
dale.giera@gmail.com

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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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Want To Know More About Community Wide Standards (CWS) on Bald Head Island?

Let's Start with Some Background

Bald Head Island is a unique and special Island where human development is joined in harmony with natural beauty — a balance that has drawn most property owners to the Island. Bald Head Association’s vision for the Island is to promote “a community working together to cultivate a unique quality of life and to preserve the ageless appeal of Bald Head Island for generations to come.”

BHA is charged with the effective management of Covenants, Design Guidelines and Common Areas. The Covenants provide that all property owners maintain and preserve their lots and all structures on them in a clean, neat, sightly and attractive condition.

The Guiding Principle of CWS

It is the intent and purpose of BHA to ensure development and maintenance of the Bald Head Island complex as an exclusive residential community of the highest quality and at the same time to endeavor to retain the natural, unspoiled beauty of the Island. To that end, all structures shall be cared for, maintained and repaired in a manner such that the external appearance of each structure remains consistent with

the other well-maintained structures in the community and consistent with the general tone and nature of the community.

In the normal and ordinary course, members of the CWS Committee will make regular evaluations of the neighborhoods in order to permit BHA to identify properties in need of maintenance to comply with the Community Wide Standards. Select the QR code to view the full CWS document.



Where Are We Now?

A second round of CWS evaluations has recently begun. There are six committee members, and BHI is divided into 12 sections. All evaluations are done using a uniform checklist from the street view, and photos are taken to document any issues. No CWS Committee member, nor any BHA staff or representative, trespasses on a member’s property. Any homes needing attention will receive a letter from BHA, with information about the issue(s).

CWS Committee members are your neighbors on BHI who love this Island as much as you do and want to help keep the integrity of its beauty. For any questions about CWS, contact BHA’s Covenants Compliance Associate, Dora Richey, at Dora@BaldHeadAssociation.com or 910-457-4676, ext. 30.




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New to BHA? BHA Board of Directors

The six-member BHA Board of Directors is elected by the membership for three-year terms. Board candidates are announced in BHA's Annual Report mailed in December, with additional biographical information online. Member votes are tallied the morning of the Annual Meeting, held the final Saturday in January, with election winners announced at the end of the meeting.

BHA Board members are your neighbors on Bald Head Island and welcome property owner input to serve you better. The Board meets monthly for executive and public sessions, and a full-day retreat is held annually in February. The BHA website (BaldHeadAssociation.com) has a list of 2023 Board meeting dates, typically held the second Friday each month at 11:00am. Members can attend the public meetings in person or via Zoom. You can read more about BHA's 2023 BHA Board of Directors and easily email them at [Baldheadassociation.com/board-roster](mailto:board-roster@Baldheadassociation.com). Here is this year's roster:

Alan Briggs, President

Second term expires January 2024

Robert Drumheller, Secretary/Treasurer

Second term expires January 2024

Joe Brawner

First term expires January 2025

Christine Osborne, Vice President

First term expires January 2026

Paul Carey, Assistant Treasurer

First term expires January 2026

John Kinney

Second term expires January 2025 

A huge thank you to...

BHI Conservancy's Paul Hillbrand!



Thank you to BHI Conservancy's Paul Hillbrand for speaking at February's Community Potluck Dinner! It was a great night for food, fellowship and sea turtles, as guest speaker Paul Hillbrand, Sea Turtle Biologist at the BHI Conservancy, shared new research findings about the BHI sea turtles. Mark your calendars for the next Community Potluck Dinner on Monday, March 13, 2023, at 6:00pm at BHA's Association Center (111 Lighthouse Wynd).

Captain Paul Swanson and his team of Public Safety officers!

Thank you to Captain Paul Swanson and his team of Public Safety officers who taught a CPR class on heart day (February 14, 2023). Sponsored by BHA's Education and Recreation (ER) Committee, participants learned and practiced the newest techniques in CPR. The next CPR class will be held at the Public Safety Complex on Wednesday, April 19, 2023. To sign up, email Betsi Stephen at BetsiStephen@gmail.com.





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

a large down payment so that they can purchase the materials to begin your project.

7. **Make payments as work is completed**

Set up a payment schedule that follows the work as it is being completed. Never pay for something that has not been completed. Do not pay for anything in cash.

8. **Monitor the job progress**

Check in regularly on the progress of the work. Permits should be displayed by the contractor while the work is being done.

9. **Don't make the final payment until the job is complete**

Before making the final payment, make sure that you are satisfied with the completed work. Verify that all liens have been released.

10. **Keep all paperwork related to the job**

Be sure to keep a record of all documents that pertain to your project. This includes the contract, any written changes, all bills and invoices, receipts of payments and all correspondence with your contractor. You should also include photos of the job in progress.

••• Continued from page 6 (Paint Brushes and Blue Crabs)

create art together, plus teach the students about terrapin excluder devices (TEDs). (Note: stay tuned for a new educational program BHIC will be offering this summer that teaches our guests all about our Island's turtles, including the diamondback terrapin.)

You can view the art that was created by the No Boundaries Art Colony and DREAMS of Wilmington during their visits to Bald Head Island at the opening reception through March at the Wilma W. Daniels Gallery (200 Hanover Street) in Wilmington.

Learn more about No Boundaries Art Residency at nbiar.com and DREAMS of Wilmington at givetodreams.org.



Educational graphics about blue crabs for inspiration.



No Boundaries' Fritz Huber teaches about sea turtles.



ISLAND EXPERTS

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••• Continued from page 1 (BHA's 2023 Annual Meeting)

continuing to work closely with Island entities, particularly as BHI Limited's ownership of the Island wanes.

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 27, 2024. Save the date! 

••• Continued from page 7 (What a Wild Year: My Top Wildlife Encounters in 2022)



Eastern amberwing, American alligator (juvenile)

between one of our smallest dragonflies and one of our largest reptiles. This juvenile American alligator did not seem to mind the dragonfly using its head as a portable basking spot and even paraded around the pond as if to show the yellow-bellied sliders its new companion.



Loggerhead sea turtle hatchling

Loggerhead sea turtle hatchling

Of course, one of the highlights of my year was experiencing my first sea turtle season. This hatchling had a hard time with the first few waves

that rolled in, but in the moment that I captured, you can see a look of determination on the hatchling's face as it crawled towards the next wave (and it successfully caught it). Seeing that expression was always my favorite thing during a release.

What was your favorite wildlife encounter or sighting in 2022? Tag us in your on-island observations with [@BHIConservancy](https://twitter.com/BHIConservancy). 

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



March 2023:

ARC-A Meeting	3/3/2023	9:30am
BHA Board Meeting	3/10/2023	11am
Daylight Saving Time	3/12/2023	
St. Patrick's Day	3/17/2023	
ARC-B Meeting	3/17/2023	9:30am
Village Council Meeting	3/17/2023	10am
BADWATER Cape Fear	3/18/2023	
First Day of Spring	3/20/2023	

Save the Date in April:

BHIC's Johnston Coastal Sustainability Symposium	4/4/2023	
ARC-A Meeting	4/6/2023	9:30am
BHA Office Closed	4/7/2023	
Easter Egg Hunt	4/8/2023	TBD
BHI Artisans Show & Sale	4/8/2023	10am
Easter	4/9/2023	
Community Potluck Dinner	4/10/2023	6pm
Lyrid Meteor Shower	4/15/2023-4/29/2023	
Eta Aquarid Meteor Shower	4/15/2023-5/27/2023	
CPR Class	4/19/2023	TBD
ARC-B Meeting	4/21/2023	9:30am
Village Council Meeting	4/21/2023	10am
Island Litter Sweep	4/22/2023	10am
Earth Day	4/22/2023	
BHA Board Meeting	4/28/2023	11am

Around the Corner in 2023:

Community Potluck Dinner	5/8/2023	6pm
Editing Your Phone Pictures Class	5/9/2023	1pm
BHA Board Meeting	5/23/2023	11am
Smith Island Art League Show & Sale	5/27/2023 & 5/28/2023	10am
Memorial Day	5/29/2023	
Calligraphy Class	7/6/2023	7pm
Perseid Meteor Shower	7/14/2023-9/1/2023	
Pirate's Weekend	8/4/2023-8/6/2023	
Editing Your Phone Pictures Class	8/15/2023	6:15pm
Orionids	9/26/2023-11/22/2023	

Ongoing:

Knitting Group:	Wednesdays	9:30am
Village Chapel Services:	Sundays	8:30am
AA Virtual Meetings:	Mondays & Thursdays	8am
(Zoom Group: #85999065097, P/C: 570863, Email: sober.1day.at.a.time@gmail.com)		
Yoga Classes:	Mondays & Wednesdays	11:45am
Women's Fellowship:	1st & 3rd Mondays	10am
Men's Group:	Every Other Monday	8:30am



Bald Head Association

111 Lighthouse Wynd
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www.BaldHeadAssociation.com



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and neighbors
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BADWATER Cape
Fear runners on
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- former Beach Music owner

“ Please know we sincerely appreciate you and your team. ”

- Giggling Oyster owner

“ You did an incredible job for me. ”

- former Fish Bowl owner

“ We are so grateful for your amazing job! Thank you! ”

- Villa 3 owner

“ You have been nothing short of amazing over the past five years. We are truly grateful. ”

- No Hurry owner

“ We're proud to be one of your customers. ”

- Dewey's Paradise owner

“ Thanks for all you do. It is much appreciated. ”

- Elephant's Foot owner

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