

**Scott T. Gardner** Retired, Director NC Government Affairs, Duke Energy Graduate – UNC-Charlotte 1977

Married to Anne S. Gardner, Retired IBM

My community engagement involves serving two terms on the BHI Club Board, including as President in 2018-2019. I have also served on the Village Broadband Committee, Hurricane Florence Task Force, Planning Committee, and this past year on the Village Council.

My philosophy is simple. I understand that all property owners pay the taxes that make this island work, not just the ones that vote. I am a firm believer in consensus building – listen to all sides and develop the solution that best solves the problem. As such, my position on any issue will be based on gathering various perspectives, gathering and analyzing pertinent data, and developing the solution that works best for the majority of island homeowners.

Anne and I first visited the Island in 1997 and purchased our home shortly thereafter. We admired the beauty, the natural environment, the architecture, and soon came to love the people here. Our family spent as many weekends and summers here as possible. Now our grandchildren come here and love it as much as we do. Bald Head is truly a special place for our family; one we must protect and preserve.

Most of us made the decision to purchase a home here knowing Bald Head still had a lot of room to grow. When we reach build out, we will have achieved peak population. Our long-range planning must be designed for full growth. We should not stop growth. We should not allow runaway growth. We must plan FOR growth. Sustainable development means working together to preserve our island paradise. Instead of fighting against growth and changes, we should welcome future homeowners in true Bald Head fashion and continue to espouse the ideal of "harmony with nature AND with each other".

I spent most of my thirty-three-year career with Duke Energy as Manager of Local Government and Community Relations in the Triangle area of North Carolina. During the last five years, I was Director of State Governmental Affairs in Raleigh. As such, I understand how local and state governments work – a critical skill to being effective on Village Council. Property owners deserve and need a Village Council that is pragmatic and with the background and experience to work with Island organizations to deal with critical issues going forward.