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2007 Summer Activities

TAG AND BAKE SALE

Our tag sale held in April was a great success. Between donated sale items and bake sale treats we netted over \$1500. Our only down side was it was more labor intensive than we anticipated. Sorting, pricing, set-up and take down were accomplished by a few dedicated SVBA volunteers. This year we need more help! Not very difficult and we'll take whatever time or bake sale item you can offer. We are planning our 2008 tag sale for May 3-4 and are looking for good saleable items such as furniture, household items, antiques, tools, toys, bric-a-brac, etc. SVBA volunteers will be available at the Community Center on any of the work party dates for drop off throughout the winter months. For items too large for you to bring, we can arrange pickup. If you have any items to donate or are available to work anytime, call coordinator **John Baccaccio** (860) 666-5548 or email rmbjnb@sbcglobal.net.



Dennis, Debbie, Arlene, Val, Bob and "River" enjoying the sun after setting up for the tag sale.

The Association gave out flags to everyone and balloons to the children. The following prizes were awarded:

Best Costume

Madeline Brown • Dillon Evers - up to 7
Avi Miller and Savannah Lamas - 8-12

Best Wagon • Juliette Corriveau

Most Patriotic • Alan Lamas

Best Float • Vinnie Salierno

Best Decorated Bike

Aidan Corriveau • Olivia Colella - up to 7
Courtney Fox • Dante Newman - 8-12

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

The Association sponsored the first ever Shoreline Community Center blood drive in July and the attendance was amazing. **Joann Reis-Lishing** co-chaired this event with **Debbie Schreier**.

The summer months are typically slow for blood drives and ours really put us on the map. As an added incentive one of our members, the "Carousel Shop," offered a free pint of ice cream to everyone and the volunteers - **"A Pint for A Pint."** A great program and we wish to thank Jerry and Dee Vowles for their generous ice cream contribution.

Our 2008 blood drive is slated for July 25. We are looking for volunteers to help with set-up, parking, registration, and canteen. Please keep the date open and "give the gift of life." Come and help. Our blood drive coordinator is Joann Lishing (860) 434-5911 email joann.m.reis@pfizer.com.

PASTA SUPPERS AND RAFFLE

Our first venture into pasta dinners met with good reviews. Two dinners were offered in 2007, one in July and one in August serving an average of 50 at each. As with any first time offering, there was a

INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

The parade was sponsored by the Association on July 7 and was a huge success. The guests of honor leading the parade were veterans riding in classy convertibles. The marching band, the Silver Coronets, did a fantastic job especially playing the Star Spangled Banner in front of the flag at the beach end of Hartford Avenue. The lineup included numerous



Independence Day parade floats.

floats, colorfully decorated bikes and strollers, fire trucks, ambulance, and over 100 adult and children marchers some with patriotic costumes.

~ In Memoriam ~

Tony Melillo
Dennis Michalski
Both of Portland Avenue

East Swan Avenue Coalition Forces on the Attack!

For years, a number of Swan Avenue residents, who for the most part reside on the eastside of Swan Avenue, have frequented Old Colony beach as their beach. However, when they go to Old Colony beach, they have been challenged and harassed by security guards and told to leave. The Old Colony Beach Association maintains that their beach is private and anyone, including those on the eastside of Swan Avenue, must have passes to access their beach.

The deeds for residents living on the eastside of Swan Avenue indicate that they have a right of access through all private roads contingent to their property, which in essence means to Old Colony. In order to seek a resolution, Wayne Gineo, a resident residing on the eastside of Swan Avenue, initiated an ad hoc committee. Consequently, the East Swan Avenue Coalition was formed and met during August and September to determine what course of action

might be followed to resolve this issue.

A number of attempts were made to contact the President and Board of Directors of the Old Colony Beach Association to seek a common ground to resolve this issue, but were rebuffed. The Coalition then decided to interview a number of attorneys seeking their guidance. The group wanted to know what course of action they might take before proceeding with a civil suit against the Old Colony Beach Association. An attorney was hired and, at this point, is researching the deeds of residents that live on the eastside of Swan Avenue that reflect access to Old Colony beach, now and prior to their becoming a private beach.

The East Swan Avenue Coalition will be sending a letter to all those residents. For further information, contact **Wayne Gineo** at **(860)644-0180** or **Linda Larson**, **1980 Stanley Street, New Britain, CT 06053**

2007 Summer Activities (continued from page 1)

learning curve. The good news is that we learn fast.

This year we will be offering two "ALL YOU CAN EAT" pasta dinners. The menu will include salad, dinner-roll, pasta and meatballs. The two dates are July 11 and August 9 to coincide with our raffle drawing. Even if you can't cook, we can use more hands. Of course if you can offer a dessert, that would be good too!

KID'S CRAFTS PROGRAM

Shirley Grande and **Debbie Schreier** started a crafts program on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the months of July and August. These sessions were open to children from two to 12 years of age and ran from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Children ages two to seven had to be accompanied by an older sibling or adult. A minimal fee was charged and the children could play with games or puzzles or choose a craft to make. There were coloring books

and paints also. They received a snack and juice as well.

These sessions were received very well with 20-35 children attending each class. This year Shirley and Debbie will expand the choice of crafts and games offered. An opening date for this activity is July 1st.

BINGO

Bingo is a major fund raising and social event for the Shoreline Community Center. With that said, I work at other bingos and can say that the SVBA bingo is the friendliest and most fun for both players and workers.

I wish to thank all who attended and worked at bingo last summer. Attendance was down a little due to bad weather on bingo nights, but a good time was had by all.

We will have bingo every Wednesday evenings starting June 18th thru September 17th, but due to a lack of volunteers on Saturdays, we will have only two Saturday bingos. "Bingo Bob"

• BINGO WORKERS NEEDED! •

Would you like to help out at bingo? We could use your help one day a month or more. If you are interested, please come to the spring meeting or contact **Bob Donahue** at **(860) 225-9458** or **donahue_bob@sbcbglobal.net**. I will get you registered with the state if you do not have a PIN number through another organization.

Update of the Shoreline Community Center

A great year for the Center: the word is getting out there! Rentals included birthday parties, anniversaries, business events and our own Bingo and Kids' Krafts. Everyone who has come to the Center has given us wonderful praise for the remarkable job we're doing bringing a family oriented event location to Sound View.

Of note this year—we have a new illuminated sign. The sign and the electrical supplies were donated by two members with a value of over \$2,000. SVBA volunteers did the necessary construction and come

this spring, we will have a bright new sign welcoming all.

This winter and spring, the project continues. All sorts of volunteer help is needed as we clean, landscape, complete construction on the office and begin work on the small conference room. Once we finish the small conference room, the first floor will be done! If you can lend a helping hand, it would be very much appreciated. Just come down to any of the work party dates or feel free to contact the Building Committee work coordinator **Frank Pappalardo**, **(860) 871-7582** or **frank@iecleaning.com**.



Dennis, Valerie and Frank putting up the new lighted Shoreline Community Center sign.

• • • Message from the President • • •

I hope this newsletter finds everyone in good health and fine spirits. I would also like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and also hope you had a wonderful holiday season. I can say that I have had about as much as any person can stand regarding the winter weather. Cold, snow, warm, cold, rain and sleet and then snow. That is what makes Connecticut weather so unpredictable.

A number of things have occurred that will benefit the organization. The first thing we have is a newly paved Hartford Avenue. The final paving was done in December just before the 1st snow flew. Although the catch basins are not perfect, they are better than before. Connecticut Water has continued installing the new shutoffs and meters. If you have any questions, please contact CT Water. During one of our work parties, we had taken down the flagpole on that portion of land the SVBA owns at Joe Martino's property. It was scraped and painted and in the spring we will install new hardware and ropes. We also hope to continue the new flags purchase project again this year. We as an organization are working on a couple of things that I cannot divulge as yet. As soon as we can, we will post the news.

There's a lot of building and renovations going on. For those of us who have history in Sound View, we will remember the Old Strand Theater on Hartford Avenue, which was on Frank and Pauline Rocco's property now the Ray Kastner's. This property was one of the first to go before the Old Lyme zoning board as part of the new Sound View Village Design District regulations. SVBA board members attended the zoning meetings, met with Ray Kastner, and reviewed the plans. All requirements had been met and, in our judgment, would be good for the area. During the public comment period SVBA spoke in favor of the new construction and lobbied the zoning board to approve. It is now being sided, a nice design and conducive to the beach area. Unfortunately, there has been no movement at the old Captain Video and El Morocco, but I hope to see something soon. It is good to see people fixing up their properties. New residents come in and spruce up their recent purchases. We should support their efforts as they

bring up the values of our own homes. The sale of the Chapel of Our Lady of Good Counsel has fallen through. The potential owners have backed out and it is in the hands of another realty company. If anyone has any questions they can direct them to Shirley Annuziata of Portland Avenue.

On the municipal side of town, you might not be aware that the elections in November did not change the makeup of the Selectman's Office. Tim Griswold is still 1st Selectman with Bonnie Reemsnyder and Skip Sibley as selectpersons. Also one of our directors and member's, Ed Butcher, was running for Zoning Board of Appeals Chairperson. Unfortunately he lost his bid in this race. I applaud Ed in his attempt to chair this board that usually is a bone of contention to everyone. The referendum vote regarding a revised High School Building Project is tentative for June. The dollar amount has yet to be finalized. The annual referendum on the first Tuesday in May is a definite. As I represent the Beach Community on the Building Committee, if anyone has any questions, you can forward them to me at Dmelluzzo@aol.com. As always, because this is a financial aspect to town government, you can vote in person or by absentee ballot. The SVBA will communicate to you in the future, as we get closer.

Well I am going to end my message and I hope to see everyone soon especially at our fundraisers starting with our Tag Sale / Bake Sale.
Dennis

SVBA - IRS Status

The Sound View Beach Association was granted provisional IRS non-profit status five years ago. This allowed us to accept donations, sponsor our events and establish the Shoreline Community Center. This year our advance ruling period ended and we were required to apply for permanent status. The application process, financial analysis, and mountains of paperwork seemed a formidable task. Fortunately, **Gail Fuller** was up to the task.

Gail has been working since late August compiling the necessary documentation and methodically completing the application. With help from Dennis and other board members, the application was submitted and as of January 2008 we have our permanent 501 c (3) non-profit status. This IRS status designates the Sound View Beach Association as a fully recognized charitable civic organization allowing us to continue to accept tax deductible donations from individuals and companies, matching gifts, grants as we remain tax exempt.

Congratulations Gail and all the others who helped. Your efforts contribute to the success of our organization.



Independence Day Parade - the Silver Coronets Marching Band.



~ Get Well ~

Rosemary Boccaccio
Recovering from a bout of pneumonia.

Tom Schreier
Recovering from knee surgery.
We wish them both



The Shoreline Community Center is available and booking events for 2008.

Sponsored by the Sound View Beach Association, Inc., the Center offers a variety of unique characteristics for:

Meetings • Banquets • Parties

• **Trade Shows • Dances**

- Handicap accessible restrooms
- Seating for 99 seated at tables or
- 143 seated (no tables) or 212 standing
- Kitchen (warming) • PA system included
- On street and private parking available

Contact Rental Coordinator

Michael DeStefano @ 860-434-2871

Schedule for 2008 Activities

March:

- 1: Center work
- 15: Center work

April:

- 5: Center work

May:

- 3,4: Tag Sale and Bake Sale**
Raffle tickets on sale
- 17: Center work & Flags up

June:

- 18: **Bingo starts 6:00 - 10:00pm**
EVERY Wednesday
- 21: SVBA Spring Meeting 7:00pm

July:

- 1: Start of Kids' Krafts every
Tuesday & Thursday thru
JULY & AUGUST



- 10:00am to 12:00 noon
Ending Thursday, August 14
- 5: Independence Day Parade
Saturday Bingo
- 11: Pasta Dinner 6:00pm
- 25: Blood Drive 1:00 - 6:00pm
- August:**
 - 9: Pasta Dinner 6:00 - 10:00pm
 - Raffle Drawing**
 - 16: SVBA Annual Meeting 7:00pm
 - 24: Membership Picnic (day)
 - 30: Saturday Bingo
- September:**
 - 17: Last Bingo
- October:**
 - 18: Center work
Take Flags and trash cans in



ANNUAL FUNDRAISING RAFFLE

Our annual raffle drawing will be held on August 9th. We heard positive feedback last year that the 1st prize (37" HD LCD TV) was a great idea. Therefore we are again offering for 1st prize this year—a 42" HD LCD TV. A real nice addition to anyone's living room or rec room. Our 2nd prize will be a stainless steel grill along with a number of other prizes.

We have rolled back the cost of a ticket to \$1.00 each and hope our members could purchase a number of books instead of individual tickets. Remember that the raffle is the single fundraiser we have to benefit the Community Center besides bingo. I would like us to sell out all the tickets this year.

Thanks, Dennis



New Flags



Sound View has the distinction of being the ONLY community in the area to have American flags lining the streets (Swan, Hartford and Portland Avenues). Funded entirely by SVBA, we have been complimented on our civic pride and community efforts by a number of visitors and town's people.

Over the years, time and weather has taken its toll not only on the flags but also the poles and brackets. Last spring we put out an email request for anyone who wished to assist in the purchase of new flags. More than 20 of our Sound View neighbors responded and we were able to purchase 20 new flag sets. Unlike the old style wood pole set, these are heavy duty aluminum flag poles and brackets and quality flag material. Our objective is to have a flag on each lighted utility pole in Sound View.

Once again, this year, we are offering the opportunity for any Sound View resident who wishes a flag on the lighted pole closest to their house (or just wishes to help with general flag purchases) to help with the funding. We need at least 20 people for the bulk rate of \$55.00 each. You pay for the flag set and the SVBA volunteers will put it up May or early June and take it down in September. If you desire to fund one (or more) of these flag sets, please contact : **Dennis Melluzzo (860) 305-9787** or email: **Dmelluzzo@aol.com**.

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