

# The Heron

Bay Harbor Newsletter  
Bay Harbor - The Friendly Subdivision



Pam Williams, Editor

## Fall Edition 2016

### *The Prez Says....*

I'm hoping all had a wonderful Thanksgiving. We had the opportunity to spend our Thanksgiving here in Bay Harbor and noticed several "visiting" families doing the same.

Since making a request in a prior newsletter, I have noticed more ditches being maintained, facilitating drainage in our community, but there are still some ditches that need attention. Just a little standing water draws a multitude of insects. So, please, if you take care of your own property, it helps everyone if you maintain the drainage ditch in front of your property. If you have a yard service, please ask them to cut the grass in the ditch.

We are in the process of arranging electricity and plumbing for the pavilion. The Board hopes all members enjoy the use of the pavilion for whatever family activity arises. The pavilion belongs to the members of Bay Harbor Improvement Association for their use. However, we request that if you want to reserve the use of the pavilion that you contact Gail Choate (409-737-1707) or [gschoate@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gschoate@sbcglobal.net).

I discovered one of the locks cut (AGAIN) on the boat launch. This is probably the third time a lock has become compromised this year. A few months ago, the entire chain for the launch was stolen. These types of actions are going to force the board to put into place different procedures for the use of the boat launch. The BHIA board will

be meeting December 10, and discussion of the use of the launch will be on the agenda. More commonly, I often see the chain laying on the ground and the lock simply not replaced after someone has used the launch. When you cruise the neighborhood, please take a few minutes to drive by the boat launch. If you notice the chain not locked, please take a few minutes to relock it. We ask those who use the launch to follow the posted launch rules that state to relock the chain after use.

One day soon the weather will turn cold. More than once I have driven around during a very cold day and noticed water running out of a house due to a frozen pipe or a broken water line. When the weather does turn cold, it might be suggested "visiting" residents begin turning off their water upon leaving. It also helps if Gail Choate, the BHIA board secretary, has all your current phone and email contact information in case of an emergency. Please check with Ms. Choate to be sure she has your latest contact information including your email address.

I have been in contact with the City of Galveston regarding repairing of the streets throughout our community. It has been a slow process as you can imagine. I am attempting to arrange an onsite meeting with the Public Works manager for the City of Galveston. I want to personally drive around Bay Harbor and point out all the needed street repairs. Everyone has always known of the needed repairs on the street near the mailboxes. We'll report the results of the proposed meeting.

**Bay Harbor Improvement Association  
Board Members**

**July 2016- June 2017**

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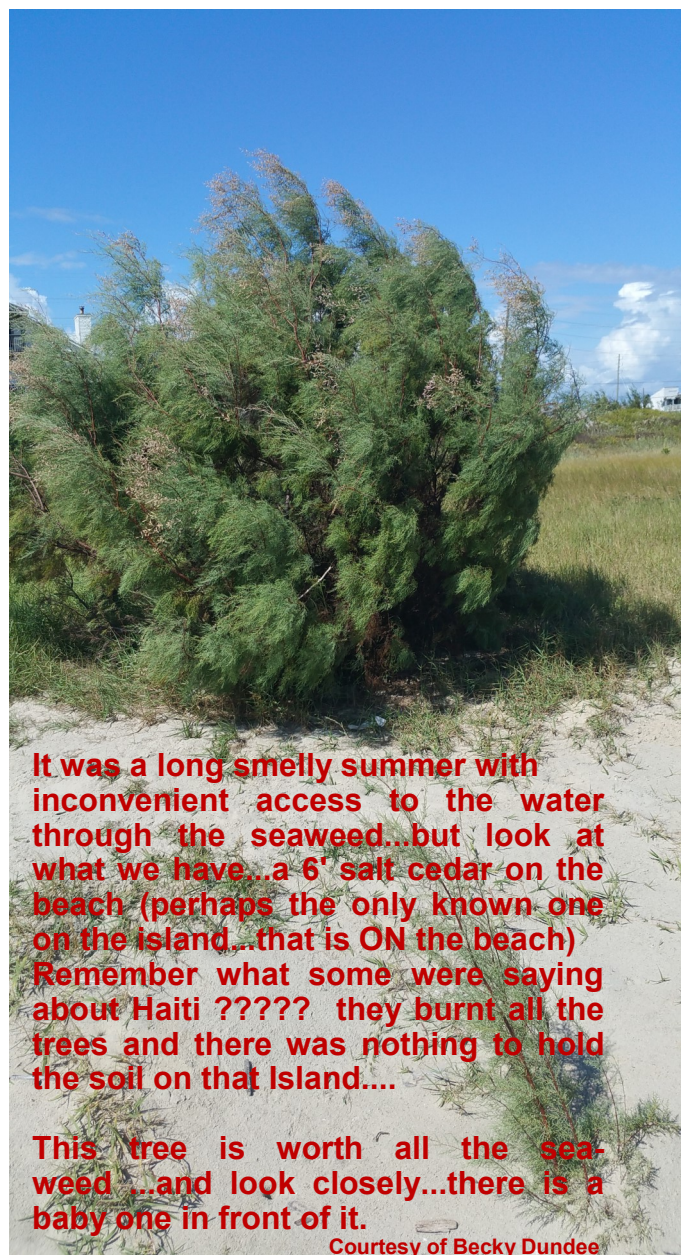
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pwilliams0601@sbcglobal.net

**Kathy Winsor** cathyfwinsor@gmail.com  
**Webmaster**

**Website: WWW.BHIATX.ORG**

I will close by requesting EVERY HOME and LAND OWNER to become a member of the Bay Harbor Improvement Association. The association concerns itself with all aspects of the community, and the greater percentage of owner involvement, the more we can do and the greater the actions will reflect the desires and needs of the whole community-- street repairs, safety, drainage ditch cleaning, neighbor "watch dog" for broken pipes, security, pavilion, boat launch, entry signage and lighting, etc. The dues for membership are only \$150 a year, and all owners benefit.

**Charles Winsor, President B.H.I.A.**



**It was a long smelly summer with inconvenient access to the water through the seaweed...but look at what we have...a 6' salt cedar on the beach (perhaps the only known one on the island...that is ON the beach) Remember what some were saying about Haiti ????? they burnt all the trees and there was nothing to hold the soil on that Island....**

**This tree is worth all the seaweed ...and look closely...there is a baby one in front of it.**

**Courtesy of Becky Dundee**

A Note from the bhiatx.org Webmaster:

Seeking Bay Harbor providers of services and products!

With bhiatx.org webmaster being a volunteer role, the bhiatx.org website had gone a couple years without updates. Upon taking on the task of volunteer webmaster for the association, the complexity of the task became evident, and the first priority became updating content on the site before adding new content.

The site has always offered affordable advertising space for ad copy, including complimentary space for ad copy to businesses donating items for our annual meeting silent auction. Please contact [webmaster@bhiatx.org](mailto:webmaster@bhiatx.org) or Cathy Winsor at 281-995-8502, if interested in purchasing space for ad copy on the bhiatx.org website.

Now ready to add some new content to the site, in order to benefit Bay Harbor owners who are always looking for recommendations of local services and products, the BHIA board has authorized free listing of services and products that Bay Harbor owners might like to offer their Bay Harbor neighbors.

To have your service or product listed in the format below on the bhiatx.org website, simply email the following information to [webmaster@bhiatx.org](mailto:webmaster@bhiatx.org):

<u>Service or Product Name/Description</u>	<u>Provider Name</u>	<u>Email Address</u>	<u>Phone</u>
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\*\*\*\*\* INFORMATION WORTH REPEATING \*\*\*\*\*

**Bay Harbor Homes Rented or Borrowed**

There seem to be more and more homes in Bay Harbor on rental programs or rented or loaned to others by homeowners directly. Lately there have been enough issues with these situations that the Bay Harbor Improvement Association Board has been asked to address these homeowners with issues that have arisen by writing a welcome letter for homeowners to copy and place in their homes for their guests to read, in order to better communicate neighborhood courtesies, regulations, and ordinances. The welcome letter follows and is worthwhile for all Bay Harbor residents to read and review, and remember to put out, even for family that might be using your home, when you are not there.

It is difficult for a renter or borrower to do anything about lights outside the home. It is important for all homeowners to note whether their lights are lighting up others' nearby or distant property and to take measures to direct those lights downward, encase them, or disconnect them, so they cannot be turned on by others using the property. It also has an impact on your electrical bill when these lights are left on day and night for the entire rental period. There are options for fishing lights that are less disruptive to others.

Since the city of Galveston will only pick up trash that is placed in the approved green, wheeled, lidded trash receptacles, it is important that your home have sufficient number of these, particularly if your home is going to be used by the size crowds we have seen at some of these homes. A renter or borrower cannot secure an additional approved receptacle from the city. This must be done in advance by the homeowner.

Please place a copy of the welcome letter as shown on the next page in a visible location in your home, along with any other home specific instructions you may have prepared, if your home is going to be rented or used by others, even family, when you are not there. If a company is handling your rentals for you, please also ask that they distribute this letter with other paperwork they may give renters.



**Welcome to our Bay Harbor neighborhood!**  
**We hope you love it here as much as we do and want to come back.**

**While you are here, please observe the following:**

- Lights**—If any outdoor lights at the home, particularly fishing lights, light up another home, please turn them off at 10 p.m. to respect Galveston city nighttime hours of 10 p.m.-7 a.m., if they cannot be adjusted downward.
- Trash**—Pick up daily and keep trash out of reach of our plentiful varmints. Use the large green wheeled approved city of Galveston trash can only, and, when leaving, place it on the home's driveway near the street, handle facing the home. City will not pick up loose trash bags. Trash pick-up is Monday morning.
- Wind/Storms**—This area is subject to unexpected wind/storms, so secure all yard/dock items before retiring.
- Speed Limit**—Please encourage all drivers to observe the 20 mph speed limit throughout Bay Harbor.
- Boat**—If using a boat, access shallow West Bay via the deeper marked channel west of the bird sanctuary island and observe no wake signs and all posted marina and harbor rules.
- Island**—Be aware the island in West Bay just north of Bay Harbor is a protected bird sanctuary, not a play area.
- Grilling**—Grilling on a wooden deck is a fire hazard. Please safely grill on ground level on a non-wooden surface.
- Sewer**—Bay Harbor is not on the city sewer system, all homes are on septic tanks. Please make sure all are notified to flush only toilet paper (and locate a plunger before needed for fast access in case needed).

**GALVESTON COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES LOCAL REGULATIONS:**

**Pets** (If allowed by the homeowner)

- Animals must be restrained off the premises of this home. Dogs must be on a leash at all times.  
Animals should be taken indoors if barking, whining, howling, or making other sounds in an excessive, continuous, or untimely fashion (particularly past 10 p.m.).

**GALVESTON CITY ORDINANCES:** (Surprisingly, Bay Harbor is located in the city limits of Galveston.)

- Sound Nuisance**—Particularly during nighttime hours of 10 p.m.-7 a.m., please do not exceed the maximum permitted sound level of 70 dB(A), or basically produce any sounds that travel beyond the home property lines to disturb the comfort and sleep of others in our peaceful Bay Harbor.
- Fireworks**—Because we are in Galveston city limits, fireworks are not permitted. (If you are setting off fireworks at your own risk anyway, doing so at the beach is safer than in the neighborhood, and, if not New Year's Eve, please stop by 10 p.m. to comply with the sound nuisance ordinance.)
- Golf Carts**  
Golf carts may only be legally driven by licensed drivers. (Police do give tickets for this.)  
Outside Bay Harbor, golf carts may legally cross, but not drive along, FM 3005. (Using 2<sup>nd</sup> St. allows you to cross the street to access the beach without risking a ticket on FM 3005.)  
Golf carts may only be driven beyond beach parking areas if handicap placards are displayed.  
Golf carts may not be driven on sand dunes.  
In Bay Harbor, golf carts should be driven on streets like cars, not on berms or across any lawns.  
Lights are required to be on, if driving a golf cart at night.
- Parking**  
Park on this home's driveway and not on another's property.  
Be sure that parking does not obstruct or render dangerous for passage any street.
- Intruding on Other's Premises**—Do not intrude on the grounds, bulkhead, or boat docks of other owners without consent of the owners or occupiers. (A violation of this section shall be a class C misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500.00.)
- Firearms**—It is unlawful to discharge any firearm in Bay Harbor. The discharge of shotguns is permitted only in excess of 500 feet from a residence or commercial structure and only using birdshot ammunition.

**Thank you!**

**Bay Harbor Improvement Association Board**

# Garden Club

The Bay Harbor Garden Club held their annual Christmas Party Saturday, December 10, 2016.

The celebration was a progressive dinner starting with appetizers at the home of Theron and Annette Moore, 4117 Second Street. There was a wonderful large seashell bowl of boiled shrimp, cocktail sauce, artichoke dip with crackers, chili con queso, jalapeno pimento cheese spread, mixed nuts and both red and white wine. There were over 20 attending guests.

The second stop was at the home of Gail Choate, 4016 Fourth Street, for the main meal. On the menu was sliced spiral ham, praline sweet potatoes, green bean casserole, rolls and coke salad. There was also an open bar with several kinds of alcohol and mixers plus red and white wine.

The final stop was at the home of Jimmy and Ann Choate, 4111 First Street. There were two different sweet appetizers, Brownie bites and Red Velvet cake bites, then Jimmy made Bananas Foster, served over ice cream, for the crowd. There was also red and white wine available.

At the end of the evening, May Bonno announced that Pam Williams had agreed to become the next President of the Bay Harbor Garden Club, replacing co-presidents Ann Choate and Gail Choate.

The evening was a hit with those attending.

Gail Choate, Co-president





Any BHIA member who wishes to may purchase a commemorative plaque and display either their support for the pavilion or their remembrances of a loved one. A picture of the very first plaque is included that commemorates one of the finest friends of Bay Harbor: Randy Choate

You can easily have a plaque next to this one. Fees start at \$150. (Of course, we will gladly except extra funds.) Contact any board member if you wish to make a purchase of if you have any questions. Installation will take about three weeks.

In Memory of

# Randy Choate

They're Blowin' in the Wind  
By David Labbe

In addition to escaping from the traffic and daily frustrations of city life, one of the reasons people come to the beach is to enjoy the sun and sea and gentle breezes that are typical. However, we all know that nature regularly whips those gentle breezes up into substantial winds that can really blow things around and leave our neighborhood a little disheveled. One result of this is that trash cans and debris, especially palm fronds, tend to litter the neighborhood. The palm frond situation could be alleviated by property owners being sure that their trees are trimmed regularly and the occasional minor falls placed at the street and tied together. If you have palm trees on your property please help our neighborhood by cleaning up after them.

The trash can situation on the other hand, can be exacerbated by the fact that many people are not home to retrieve theirs if it has blown away. These can lay around for days if not picked up by their neighbors. During this period the neighborhood can be quite unsightly. It has been suggested that a potential solution to this problem is for Bay Harbor property owners, especially those who are only here on weekends, to make arrangements for someone to put away their trash cans after the Monday trash pickups. Since this may be difficult to do on an individual basis, an idea has surfaced that someone be hired to put away trash cans after Monday trash pickup. It is thought that that person (possibly a local youth or retired person with time on their hands) could charge a weekly or monthly fee to provide this service. They could be given a list of the addresses of participants and the locations to place the trash can. No doubt a few details remain to be worked out but if any of our readers are interested in the proposition to provide this service, please contact our BHIA secretary via email at [gschoate@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gschoate@sbcglobal.net) or call Gail Choate at 409-737-1707. If there is enough interest, the board might consider adding this as a service of membership in the Bay Harbor Improvement Association.

**Visit our website at [www.bhiatx.org](http://www.bhiatx.org)**

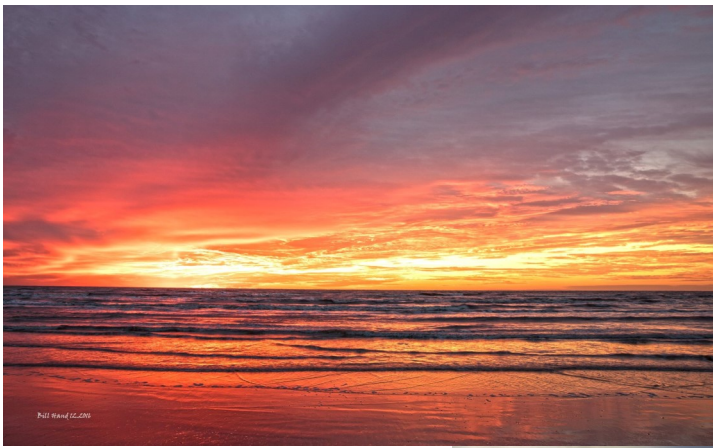
### Heron Advertising Rates

Rate:	Per Edition	4 Editions get 1 Free!
Business card size (3.5 x 2)	\$25.00	\$75.00
1/8 page (2.75 x 5.5)	\$45.00	\$135.00
1/2 page (5.5 x 8.5)	\$80.00	\$240.00
Full page (8.5 x 11)	\$115.00	\$345.00

To place an ad, call or write Pam Williams or any BHIA board member.  
(713) 924-7647 or [pwilliams0601@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pwilliams0601@sbcglobal.net)

## Bay Harbor Classifieds

Rates: For a 2" wide, \$2.00 per line (minimum of 3 lines).



In lieu of the usual fishing report, enjoy these exquisite photos taken by our master angler, Bill Hand!



Before the storm



After the storm comes rolling in.

## Bay Harbor Improvement Association

Bay Harbor, Bahia Azul, Bahia Azul-Orner, BeeGee Bay

Route 4, Box 190 B26

Galveston, Texas 77554



Visit our **updated** website at [www.bhiatx.org](http://www.bhiatx.org)

## Upcoming Events

### DECEMBER

#### 02-04 Dickens on the Strand

- 17 **B.H.I.A. Christmas Party sponsored by the Garden Club—Progressive Dinner**  
**Beginning at home of Theron and Annette Moore, 4111 2nd St**
- 17 **WGIPOA meeting 9am at Galveston Country Club**
- 21 **GAIN meeting 5:30pm at Moody Mansion**

### JANUARY

- 14 **Galveston Art Walk 6p-9p**
- 18 **GAIN meeting 5:30am at Moody Mansion**
- 21 **WGIPOA meeting 9am at Galveston Country Club**

### FEBRUARY

- 05 **SUPERBOWL—Houston NRG Stadium**
- 11 **B.H.I.A. Board Meeting-home of Tim Kurtin**
- 15 **GAIN meeting 5:30pm at Moody**
- 18 **WGIPOA meeting 9am at Galveston Country Club Mansion**
- 25 **Bay Harbor Garden Club Meeting-home of Pam Williams, 3917 1st St**