



BBG Meeting Highlights December 19, 2007 Herrington on the Bay

President Lynda Streigel opened the meeting with gratitude to Herrington on the Bay for hosting our meetings.

Treasurer's Report from Russ Mogel:

Balances:	Holiday Parade Expenses Report
Checking \$ 243.33	\$ 833.69 so far (\$722.40 for banners)
Savings \$8452.72	
Petty Cash: \$41.66	

Introduction of New Members & Guests

Bonnie Blackwell, Sweet Dreams Candy on 3rd St, North Beach

Kathy Brookes and Carol Koenig, Sisters' Corner, Chesapeake Avenue, North Beach

Committee Updates

Lyn reminded all committee leaders that their action plans for 2008 are due NOW! Please email them to Lyn ASAP.

Norma Robertson, new leader of the **Membership Committee**, asked that all members give her the name of one potential new BBG member to contact one on one in 2008. Either email or call Norma, or give her the name at our January meeting.

Heritage Loop Trail Map Update: *Bob Munro* gave the group a status report on the Heritage Loop Trail Map and brochure, which will be printed in large quantities and distributed to tourists at Welcome Centers throughout Maryland and the Beaches. In order to have your business listed, **you must be an active BBG member**. Please consider joining the BBG ASAP because our low dues make this one major advertising benefit worth it! Membership application link: <http://www.beachbusinessgroup.org/application.htm> - print and send in your check today! Proofs will be ready for members to review and approve in 2008.

Announcements

Our annual BBG post-holiday networking party will be February 13, 2008 at Herrington on the Bay. Watch your email and the BBG web site for details coming soon!

Russ Mogel passed out new 2008 BBG desk calendars. Contact Russ for additional copies.

Lisa Garrett invited BBG members to the Friends of Patuxent - 19th Annual Patuxent Wildlife Art Show & Sale, Saturday, March 29 & Sunday, March 30, 2008 from 9:00a to 4:00pm at Capitol College; William G. McGowan Academic Center; 11301 Springfield Road, Laurel, MD 20708 (off Powder Mill Road & the B/W Parkway/Route 295). Admission to the show is free. Sponsorship opportunities are available and also they are looking for donations, perhaps a BBG basket for a raffle. Please contact Lisa for more information.

Diane Burr invited everyone to the annual North Beach Polar Bear Swim on New Year's Day, January 1. If you don't want to start the year with an invigorating swim in the cold waters of the Bay, come on down to the beach and watch the many folks who will!

Guest Speakers:

- Greg Bowen, Director of the Calvert County Department of Planning & Zoning gave a very interesting PowerPoint presentation on the topic: *The Stewardship Plan for the Chesapeake Bay*. For information on what you can do to protect our bay, see the Planning and Zoning site at <http://www.co.cal.md.us> – access from the left side to see the comprehensive plan, 10 visions, and land use and management information, including a native plants guide which will help prevent run-off and erosion. Other things you should do:
 - Don't fertilize in the spring (fall is the best time)
 - Install rain barrels and/or rain gardens to keep water on your land
 - Don't clear land
 - Plant more native plants
 - Instead of installing concrete or blacktop, use impervious paving (bricks, small pavers, natural stone, etc.)
 - Shop for and use low phosphorous household products (e.g. no Cascade)
 - Take a child fishing, for a walk, bird-watching to instill environmental values (survey – only 9% of high school students spend any length of time outside, once a week).
 - If you are one of the 90% of people in Calvert County on septic systems, consider upgrading to a nitrogen-removing system.
- Erica Stone of the Calvert County Economic Development told us about the Governor's Conference, which drew 350 tourism officials, and gave out copies of the new 2008 Calvert Visitor Guides and Event Calendars. For additional copies to distribute at your businesses, please contact Erica. She also suggested that businesses check out the SBDC Network site for tools to help small businesses: <http://www.mdsbdc.umd.edu>

Our next BBG meeting will be Wednesday, January 23, 2008 at Herrington on the Bay from 8:30a to 10:00a.

And save the date, make plans to attend the BBG networking party February 13, 2008!

Respectfully submitted, Diane Burr, BBG Secretary