



The Lighthouse

Queen's Landing Community News • September 2023



Notes from the EDITOR

Hello Queen's Landing and welcome to your September 2023 Quarterly Newsletter!

This month we've got features on summer in Queen's Landing and an article about dolphins that may surprise you along with some QL history.

But first let's talk business. In the last week, we have gotten five articles emailed out to you on the 2024 Budget, highlighting some of the different things the Budget committee has been asked to consider funding.

Whether or not people agreed with some of the content, they did appreciate the extra communications and I would love to get more info like that out.

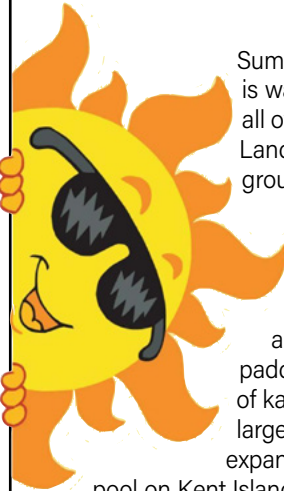
If you've got an idea for an article about the business in a certain committee, or in the office, or on the Board, I would love to hear it. Please contact me at mike@queenslanding.org and I'll see what I can do.

—Mike Rabinowitz



Queen's Landing Summer!

By Susan Buckingham



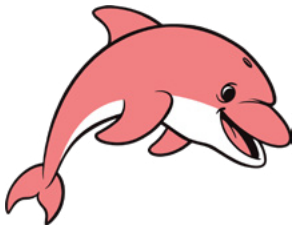
Summer is special at Queen's Landing. The sun shines, the weather is warm, our snowbirds and weekenders return, the pool opens, and all over people are enjoying themselves. There's lots to do at Queen's Landing in the summer whether you prefer to be on your own, with a group, or attend organized community wide events.

Individuals walk the various waterfronts available at Queen's Landing; the lovely Chester River, serene Macum Creek, cheerful Lake Amleto, and the busy marina. Extending out of the community, it's possible to walk or ride all over Kent Island and beyond via the Cross Island Trail. For getting out on the water, paddle sports are popular here, and two kayak launches plus plenty of kayak storage make for easy access. Of course, the marina homes larger craft which engage in all manner of water sports. The pool, with expanded hours and season, is very popular. I don't know of a prettier pool on Kent Island, especially when the sunsets and the pool lights come on. The clubhouse, with its work out room and lovely balcony views is a great place to hang out and maybe grill some dinner. Fishing is also good along the river and in the lake. A special bonus of living at Queen's Landing is the great view of the Kent Narrows fireworks along the Chester River. People are out on their patios, at the clubhouse, and on the lawns enjoying the show and each other.

If you want to participate in activities with others, you will be spoiled for choice. Volunteers organize a variety of opportunities for your body, mind, and spirit. Perennially popular, water aerobics is offered twice daily at the pool. There is a games day and a mah jongg day; each meets one afternoon a week in the Landing—a room with a view. Pickleball is popular in Queen's Landing and 20-30 folks play a few times a week on the newly cleaned tennis courts. Although tennis is not organized as a group, several play there as well. There's a fitness group that meets at the clubhouse a few mornings a week, and a gentle yoga class is offered on Saturday mornings in the Chester room. Volunteer-lead activity information is on the calendar on queenslanding.org or on the weekly calendar emails.

The Social Committee organizes community wide events on a regular basis. Monthly, the volunteers host both happy hours and bingo nights at the clubhouse. They kicked off the summer in early June with a tradition in the making, the well-attended and kind of hilarious Cardboard Boat Regatta on Macum Creek. The treasure or trash yard sale let some community members sell their unwanted household items while a trash dumpster was available for getting rid of items no one wants. Another popular tradition was enjoyed in August—the walk about ice cream social. Residents strolled the community tasting several of the free ice cream stations set up in various parts of the community on a beautiful summer's evening. It was a great chance to catch up with and meet new neighbors. Additionally, the social committee organized a line dancing lesson/session in the Chester room. In conjunction with the marina, a US Coast Guard boating safety class was also offered in the clubhouse. All too soon, it will be time for the end of summer barbeque, and Queen's Landing will start into fall.

I'm sure I have left out some events or activities. For this, I apologize. We are lucky to have a community so well served by our volunteer board, committees, and residents. Thanks to all who helped make 2023 a great summer!



Dolphins all over the Bay... and the downside

By Rick Baamonde

For much of the summer, it has seemed like pods of dolphins have been popping up all over the Bay. The dolphins, specifically Atlantic Bottlenose dolphins, appear to like spending their summers in the Chesapeake. With the advent of smartphone apps, it has become much easier to compile information using crowd-sourced data from apps like 'Chesapeake Bay Dolphin Watch' and 'The Whale and Dolphin Tracker.'

Dolphins have been seen in the bay since the late 1800s but scientists think they are more prevalent now. Warmer waters could be part of the reason, pushing the range of fish further north, with the dolphins that feed off them following. Dolphins are also rebounding from disease outbreaks from 2013 to 2015. Studying all this in depth (pun intended) is group, called the Potomac-Chesapeake Dolphin Project, that keeps track of when the dolphins arrive in the bay (as early as February) and they have identified and catalogued close to 2000 individual dolphins by their dorsal fins. They've even witnessed live births in the area and believe the Chesapeake is a safe haven from predators for the dolphins.

All good, so far.

Then I saw a post on Facebook from a page called 'Fish with Weaver,' a charter fishing service out of Annapolis. On June 7th, Weaver claimed that the dolphins are further north than ever because of a Canadian company that is over-fishing the main food for the dolphins, menhaden, in the southern part of the bay. This is causing the dolphins to search farther up the bay for food. His exact quote: "Omega Protein—a Canadian company allowed to operate in Virginia portion of the Chesapeake Bay are removing all the Bait fish (menhaden) from the southern Chesapeake Bay. This has forced the Dolphins to travel north in search of food—WAAAAAY North. The eco system is COMPLETELY out of balance, the dolphins have displaced the Rockfish, the rockfish are forced to eat the crabs etc. ...a very sad tale of human interference and destruction Follow the \$\$\$\$\$"

He had two pictures, as well, to reinforce his point.

The Canadian Company, Cooke Inc., owns a subsidiary, called Omega Protein Company, in Reedville Virginia. This company is using 1500 foot long nets to drag up to 112 million pounds millions of pounds of menhaden out of Virginia's side of the bay every year. Only Virginia allows this type of activity in such huge volumes, and it seems that might be due to Omega routinely donating money to legislators that support their efforts. Here is a link to an article in the Virginia Mercury that spells it all out. *<https://www.virginiamercury.com/2023/05/23/the-battle-for-menhaden-corporate-greed-threatens-the-chesapeake-bay/>



Some other interesting links:

<https://chesapeakebaymagazine.com/bay-dolphins-venture-further-north-dolphinwatch-researchers-find/>

<https://www.trcp.org/2019/09/19/omega-protein-breaks-rules-chesapeake-bay/> (with a lot of angry comments)

So, while it is always great seeing dolphins in the bay, keep in mind that the reasons behind that might not be as pleasant. A number of groups are trying to get Omega Protein in check and restore the bay to a more natural balance. Hopefully they succeed.

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Retiring soon? Let's talk.



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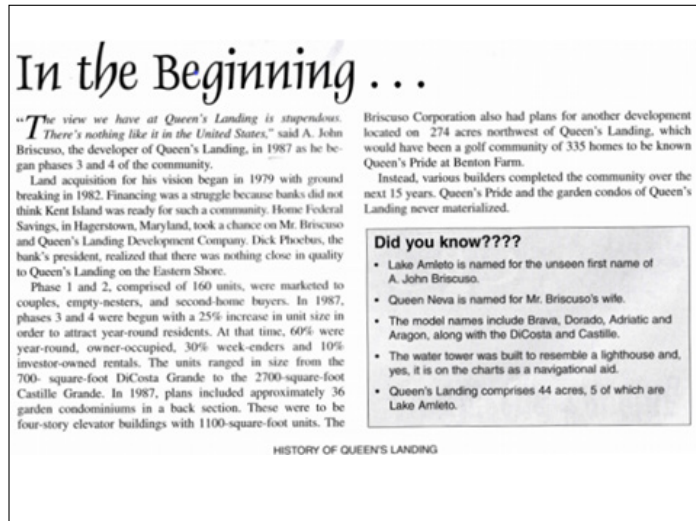
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In the Beginning ...

Courtesy of Diane Morales from 2020!

Those of us who have lived for a while at Queen's Landing will perhaps remember nostalgically the time when our community published a very attractive yearly Resident Directory of homeowners. This directory was arranged by both name and unit number, and included names, phone numbers and e-mail addresses of all homeowners who wished to be included. It also provided a handy center-fold map of Queen's Landing, a listing of important phone numbers for Queens Landing Management, State and County agencies, and local utility companies, as well as other useful community information.

My favorite page of the directory, though, was the third page, which provided a brief but interesting history of Queen's Landing. For those who have not been fortunate enough to see it, here is a copy of that page.



Before reading this little gem, I had often puzzled about who Queen Neva was. While all of the other street names do have their counterparts in English history or English legend, I could never find any reference to a Queen Neva in any of my searches. But of course: every family has its queen, and so naturally there had to be a street named after developer A. John Briscuso's wife—especially since he had named Lake Amleto

to memorialize his first name. The name "Amleto" actually does have some connection to England, since "Amleto" is the Italian version of the given name "Hamlet." In fact, there is an opera by that name, by Franco Faccio. According to Wikipedia, it was first performed in Genoa in 1865, but subsequently revived in the United States by the Baltimore Concert Opera in 2014, and a year later by Opera Southwest in Albuquerque, New Mexico. And what about the name Queen's Landing? Certainly, no queen has ever landed here.

It is true that Princess Anne did visit nearby Centreville in 1977. ([read more here](#)) and Queen Elizabeth II also visited Maryland (but not Kent Island, and not until 2017) ([read more here](#)).

Undoubtedly Mr. Briscoe's choice of name for our community had more to do with a desire to evoke the area's historical past, and with the community's location in Queen Anne's County. Established in 1706, when Maryland was still a British colony, Queen Anne's County was named for the then-reigning Queen Anne of England, Scotland, and Ireland (Great Britain was formed in 1707). I suspect that the real "queen" who set foot at Queen's Landing was also Briscoe's wife—all speculation, of course.

There are other questions that beg to be answered:

- Who compiled this little history?
- What do all those model names refer to? Except for the Adriatic units, I am not sure I could identify any of the other models listed, including that of my own unit.
- Who were the other builders? I think I can name some of them: the Westfield Corporation, Mallard Homes, and I believe the Anderson Corporation. Please correct me if I am wrong or if I have left out any of the builders.
- And what about our current make-up of owners and renters? Maybe we could organize some sort of census every few years.

Knowing something about our past is always fun and informative. I, for one, would like to know more. Certainly, there must be a wealth of information buried in past minutes and newsletters of our community, in local news and archives.



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Boat Slip Classifieds

The Queen's Landing website now has a Classifieds section for the **buying, selling, and leasing of slips in the Queen's Landing Marina** by the owners of those slips, each of whom is, of course, a Queen's Landing unit owner.

[View Boat Slip Classifieds](#)

ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT

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Mike Rabinowitz, Secretary

(Term expires 2022)

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Newsletter, Website, and Community Relations Committee

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(Term expires 2024)

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Andres (Tito) Sandin

(Term ends 2023)

23G Queen Victoria Way
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Insurance & Claims Committee, Long-Range Planning Committee

Please Note: The Facebook page named "Residents of the Queen's Landing Community" is not sponsored by Tidewater Property Management Company or the Queen's Landing Board of Directors. Information posted on that page does not come from the Queen's Landing Office or Tidewater Property Management.