

## **REPORT OF THE MIDDLESEX BEACH ASSOCIATION 2010 NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

As provided for in the governing documents of the Middlesex Beach Association, the Board of Directors shall consist of eight individuals, plus a past president. They also provide that each year the membership shall elect four Directors to serve for a term of two years. This year the terms of Michael Ambrose, Robert Aberbach, Mary Bode Byrd and Lindy Cohee expire. Mary Byrd and Lindy Cohee have each agreed to be nominated for an additional two-year term. Additionally, Craig Kellerman, Ellen Throop and Greg Pichler have agreed to be nominated for two-year terms as Board members. Biographies of most candidates follow:

### **MARY BODE BYRD: 32 East Errett Road** (see last page)

### **LINDY COHEE: 18 Bridge**

Our family has lived in Middlesex Beach for over 30 years, and it is now our permanent home. My wife Bette and I have two grown children and seven grandchildren, who all enjoy spending time in Middlesex. During my 4 years on the Board, I have served as treasurer, and have been Chair of the Building Committee for the past 2 years.

I was employed as a professional firefighter in the Washington D. C. Fire Department for 32 years, retiring at the rank of Battalion Fire Chief. As Battalion Fire Chief, I was responsible for overseeing the operation of seven fire companies; directing fireground and rescue operations and conducting the administrative duties of the battalion. During my career, I was in charge of the development and operation of the Fire Department's Underwater Search and Rescue Program. These duties included developing and writing the "Standard Training and Operating Procedures" manual, procuring contracts for initial training and equipment, and overseeing the daily activities of the program.

Once I retired from the Fire Department, I worked in the construction industry (both residential and commercial). Following that, I worked as a Home Inspector, inspecting commercial and residential buildings. I am now retired on a full-time basis.

MBA has always had a strong, active Board. Now more than ever, because of the rapid growth in and around Bethany, a strong, vigilant MBA Board is needed to protect our interests.

### **H. CRAIG KELLERMANN – 34 Bridge**

I have been a resident of Middlesex Beach since 1987. Prior to its establishment as a permanent committee of the board, I chaired the Beautification Committee, donating funds to plant a block of Beach Plum Road. I have been and remain a vigorous supporter of and contributor to the Middlesex Beach Patrol.

While now retired, I managed the operations of the Washington Office of Debevoise & Plimpton, a top New York law firm. I directed business development, client relations, case management, finances and human resources. I also oversaw the firm's branch offices in London, Paris, Frankfurt, Moscow and Shanghai.

What I will bring to the Board is an eagerness to further the best interests of our association, to preserve the unique character of our community and to foster an environment in which members participate in and feel ownership of the Board and its activities. I want to continue to make our beach community what it is and always should be: a relaxing haven on the shore.

(over)

## **GREG PICHLER – 20 Dune**

My name is Greg Pichler. I own the oceanfront property at 20 Dune Road, Middlesex Beach, Delaware. In 1960 my grandfather, William Stecher, M.D., purchased the property from Charles Addy, Stanley Addy and Mary Addy-Brale. I took ownership of the property on the passing of my maternal grandmother, Erna Stecher, in 2002.

I have local roots. I grew up in Bethesda, Maryland and in 1978 I graduated from Walt Whitman High School. In 1982 I earned a bachelor's degree in computer and informational science from Lehigh University and in 1989 I earned a master's degree in business administration from the school of Business and Public Management of George Washington University.

Today I am the president and founder of Open Systems Group Limited. Open Systems Group Limited is a systems integrator, specializing in business class telephone systems, automatic call distribution (ACD) products, local and wide area network infrastructure and secure remote computing. Open Systems Group Limited is an authorized Fibernetics Value Added Reseller and a registered Microsoft Business Partner. Fibernetics is a competitive local exchange carrier based in Kitchener, Ontario. Open Systems Group Limited has been in operation since March, 1999.

Although I live in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, I frequently attend the property at 20 Dune Road, Middlesex Beach, Delaware. I have participated in a number in community volunteer events, including the glass planting events and other facility-related events. In 2009 Joe Wolf, Chuck Taylor and I fabricated the hand rail sections of the beach access ramp adjacent to Evergreen Road.

## **ELLEN THROOP – 14 Errett**

My name is Ellen Throop, I am a second generation owner and live in the Pines. Many of my most wonderful childhood memories are those from all my time at the beach. My family's desire is to continue that tradition for the next generations to come. My husband and my son are more than happy to help make this a reality.

Along with this desire, there are many reasons I wish to run for the Board. Naturally, the first item that comes to my mind is to help protect the property values and lifestyle that is the living essence of our community. Having a private beach is an amazing and unique community asset to be treasured. As a volunteer, I wish to do my part and be more a part of the lifeblood of the community. Under the advice of our attorney and with my professional training, I wish to offer my assistance on the board to follow the governing documents and Delaware law. One way for me help to assure these goals is proper communication with everyone that is involved from the owner up to the Board and then to all service providers who work with our community.

You may ask why I am now running for the Board. I am at a stage in my personal and professional life that I can commit my focus and time to the maintenance and ideally the betterment of the community. I feel that I am qualified to serve as one of the members of the Board in that as an attorney with my law partner we represent over 200 community associations throughout the State of Maryland. From this exposure for over a dozen years, I have seen the spectrum of how to handle and not handle the very basic to complex issues that often confront a community. You will find that I am a reasonable level minded person who also possesses the ability to help resolve problems. I am also able to address the smaller at hand topics while noting the impact on the ultimate goals.

As you may well know, the community is entering another pivotal time. Our community needs strong, independent, and well-qualified leaders on the Board. Thank you for considering me for the opportunity to serve on your behalf.

August 18, 2010

Mary Bode Byrd  
Member Middlesex Beach Association, since fall 2006  
32 E. Errett Road

Candidate to continue on the MXB Board of Directors.

My initial reason to be involved with Middlesex Beach was to get to know the people and the community where my husband and I planned to retire.

Having a background in operating my own graphic design agency for over 25 years and our own property management business...I felt my experiences could enhance the Middlesex Beach community.

One of my first projects was to freshen up the MXB entrance signs. When this project went well, I managed the repairs and painting of the MXB median signs.

These activities lead to a leadership position on the MXB Beautification Committee.

Here are *some* of the committee projects completed:

MXB median signs repaired and painted  
Repainted guard house in seaside blue plus  
    added white vinyl fencing and plantings  
Created new community signs for the pine side  
Establish new plantings for the pine side sign area  
Designed and manufactured new reflective MXB street signs  
Some new resin stop signs for the community (more coming)  
Four newly designed gateways, including new gates, signs,  
    plantings, walkways and asphalt

New beach passes with community and water safety info  
MXB Signature Wear: T-shirts, sweat shirts, beach bags  
    plus MXB bumper stickers  
New this summer, 2010 Commemorative benches

Worked on the 50th Anniversary Committee.

In addition to the BC, I am chair of the Commercial Committee, *some* of the projects completed are:

New landscaping in front of Seaside Village  
and Shore Foods

New trash screening behind Dollar General  
and siding Errett Road

*Thanks to the commercial property owners  
who worked with me on these projects.*

All these projects worked hand in hand with the Community Facilities Committee. *Many thanks for their help.*

Here are some projects we are developing:  
Fencing and plantings for the Coastal Highway.  
Better parking and safety measures on Beach Plum  
Road especially behind Mc Donald's.

Considerations for a new community center

Considerations for additional creature comforts for  
our residents

Additional social events

More planting areas

It has been a pleasure to work with the board and our community members. With your vote again this fall, this work may continue.