



# THE NAV-LIGHT



THE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER OF RIO VISTA  
ESTABLISHED AND INCORPORATED IN 1954

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### In this issue you will find...

President's Letter.....	2
Rio Vista Board Reports .....	3
From the Dock.....	3
New Web Site.....	5
Inviting this Visitor?.....	6
Dates to Remember .....	7
Rio Vista Board & Committee Contact list .....	8

### Welcome Back to School???

Wait a minute that can't be! Isn't it a bit early for this message? Well, no, Fall Sports start August 13<sup>th</sup> and the 1<sup>st</sup> day for students is August 26<sup>th</sup>! So, it is time to remind everyone that the speed limit in Rio Vista is **always 25 MPH!** There are many children running or riding their bikes on our Rio Vista streets. And from the looks of their enthusiasm they are paying little attention to the cars around them. Please keep the speed limit! You wouldn't want **your** speeding to be the cause of an accident. Enjoy the rest of the summer but remember to keep the speed at 25 MPH.



### An Invitation

The Rio Vista Community Association, and organization of the residents of Rio Vista are invited to becoming a member of one of the standing committees. Participation can range from simply being a dues paying member to the additional contribution of your time and talent to the Association's Board of Governors and its various committees.

Although the Association sponsors an annual picnic/general membership meeting every June, the primary objective of the Association is to promote the general welfare of the property owner and the community. This is done in the following ways.

- 1 - Enforce the restrictive covenants in the Deed and Agreement of Rio Vista. The Association approves all construction plans to prevent overcrowding and maintains appearance of the Community.
- 2 - Provide funding to enable the State to conduct mosquito control.
- 3 - Improve the appearance of the Community by planting trees and shrubbery and maintaining community property.
- 4 - Pay taxes and insurance on community property.
- 5 - Protect the interests of the community in dealing with the County and Town of St. Michaels.

**See An Invitation**

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK...



In my last letter I said I was tired of the cold weather and was looking forward to complaining about the heat. Well, I'm complaining! But as most others, I will take the heat over the cold any old time.

For those who could not make our annual meeting in June, there was a nice turn out of your neighbors. Rio Vista is celebrating its 60th birthday in 2014 and we all enjoyed ice cream, which was donated by Justine's, and a beautiful birthday cake. The meeting was held in the evening rather than during the heat of the day. The weather was very comfortable and everyone seemed to like the later format. Hopefully those of you who could not attend will do so next year. It's a great time to meet new neighbors and to renew old friendships after a cold winter.

Sharri Foy was elected for a full term to the Board of Governors and has taken on the finance committee chair. Welcome Sharri. Peter Paris completed his three year term on the board and I want to thank him for his contributions during his term. Peter will be missed, but we all know where he is when needed.

The triangle at Tenant Road and Landing Road was cleaned-up during the Spring and flowers and other plantings were added. If you have not already done so, take some time to visit the garden and enjoy the new look. I want to especially thank Jan Burke who generously donated the money for the flowers and Jim and Jan Swigert who have kept the garden watered during the Summer.

The metal screw pilings at 18 of the slips at the community dock have been removed and replaced with wooden pilings. The wooden pilings are much more secure and safer as the metal pilings had been deteriorating and breaking. Hunter Plog has done a wonderful job as our dock master and he tells me there are still a few slips available for the rest of the season.

I don't want to forget to thank Talbot County Department of Public Works for trimming the large tree at the end of Cove Road. The County trimmed a large amount of dead branches and dangerous limbs that posed a safety hazard to all those who use the community dock as well as to bikers and walkers who use the street. If you have not yet had the chance to visit the community web page, please do so. The web page is in the process of being updated and I think you will find it looks much better with a modern look and ease of use.

Erosion prevention is an ongoing project. The next big item to tackle is the access road to the community dock. The rock on the Miles River side needs to be removed and then replaced after filter cloth has been installed. Additional rock will be added to strengthen the rip rap on the river side of the road. Erosion prevention efforts will then continue for some time until the river side of the point has been repaired and upgraded.

Summer is here. Children are playing outside and we need to be vigilant and careful so they will remain safe. The speed limit in our community is 25 miles per hour. You may have noticed the portable radar units on Riverview Terrace recently. The sheriff has promised to step up enforcement in Rio Vista, especially during the morning and after school hours. Please drive within the speed limit.

As a reminder, open fires, such as yard debris burning, **are not permitted** within Rio Vista at any time.

The Nav-Light is the primary method we use to let everyone know the news about Rio Vista. If you are receiving the Nav-Light by mail, please consider giving us your email address. It looks a lot better in color on the website. We keep email addresses confidential and only use them to advise you that a new Nav-Light has been posted or to inform you of important happenings quickly.

Hope all have a happy, healthy and memorable Summer.

Jack Davis

## TREASURER'S REPORT \$

**Jack Davis**  
**(410) 745-2461**



Your Rio Vista Community Association remains in good financial condition for 2014 with no debt and no known significant financial issues. There are a number of large projects completed or planned for this year. Projects that have been completed this year are the cleaning up and planting of new shrubs and flowers in the flag circle and replacing metal screw pilings with wooden pilings at the community dock. The complete overhaul of the community web page with current software and a whole new look is underway and is nearing completion. Repairing and reinforcing the rip rap along the river side of the access road to the dock is planned, but not yet underway.

Collection of the annual fee has been very good and we appreciate those who have made that payment. There are a few late payers and I hope they will take the time to bring their accounts up to date. The completion of the community projects is dependent upon all of us making this effort.

The annual fee remains at \$50.00 per household. The board has kept the fee at this level for nearly 10 years and does not anticipate an increase in the foreseeable future. The fee is a mandatory assessment that is authorized in the deed restrictions that are a part of each property owner's deed of ownership. If you have not already remitted payment for the 2014 fee, please do so as soon as you can.

## LANDSCAPE REPORT



### **It is hard to believe that Summer Is Half Over!**

The summer months have been good to the recently planted garden in the triangle. The Crew from Dell Sadler Landscaping did a wonderful job Designing and planting the "triangle". Jan and Jim Swigert are watering the flowers, the flowers are blooming, and the birds are singing in the trees. You cannot ask for more than that.

## DOCK MASTER'S REPORT

**Hunter Plog**  
**(410) 745- 5492**



The summer is going by quickly this year with vacations and summer camps. I really have not had a lot of time to go fishing or crabbing this year. The times that I have had an opportunity to crab have not been very rewarding.

The RVC dock project is complete and really looks good. I am waiting on an order of piling caps to protect our community investment and to make marina look even better. This year has been a good year for slip rentals with 14 slips rented this year. The marina continues to be a great revenue generator for our community.

I ask everyone in the community to monitor activity down at the picnic area and marina area. Over the past months someone has been dumping filleted fish and left over bait into the water. This is not the proper way to discard these items because it rots in between rocks. One other thing is that there is **no overnight camping** in picnic or marina areas. Two weeks ago someone had set up a tent in the marina area.

Have a continued great summer.

## ARCHITECTURAL REPORT

**Barry Burke**  
**(301) 482-1929**



The Board of Governors for the Rio Vista Community Association (RVCA) encourages property owners in Rio Vista to improve their homes and their properties to maintain and improve the property values in the community. Therefore a simple one-page form is provided to obtain approval **BEFORE** county permitting is requested. As always, we appreciate your support of this process, and should you have suggestions and feedback for improvement, please contact the Architectural Committee at [architectural@riovistacom.org](mailto:architectural@riovistacom.org) Additional forms may be found at [www.riovistacom.org/](http://www.riovistacom.org/)

## **Day-tripping on the Eastern Shore.**

By Dick Cooper

My wife, Pat, and I love to tootle topless and living on the Eastern Shore makes it easier than ever.

On any given weekend, after sailing season has finished and our beloved Bermuda 40 is on its jack stands, we jump in our powder-blue VW convertible and head out for a daytrip. On sunny days in the winter, we drop the top, turn up the heater and head out for one of the great destinations within an hour or two of our home in St. Michaels.

Bundled up in scarves and gloves, we zip down Route 50 for a walk on Assateague Beach or cruise through the countryside to Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge to watch the snow geese swirl.

When we first moved to the Eastern Shore, big city friends thought we were nuts.

"What are you going to do?" they asked. "There's nothing there."

What they didn't know was that while we are an hour from anywhere, we are only an hour from almost everything.

The cultural treasures of Washington, D.C., Baltimore, and if you stretch it another hour, the museums and theaters of Philadelphia, are within easy reach.

Yet we have found that the trips that are closer to home are more intriguing.

One of our favorite jaunts is to Berlin, Maryland, a gem of a village tucked out of harm's way, south of Route 50, just west of Ocean City.

The red-brick buildings that line the village streets are full of antique shops and boutiques. The Drummer's Café in the historic Atlantic Hotel is a great stop for lunch with a very good menu that offers large sandwiches and delicious soups. The enclosed porch is a bright and cheery dining spot.



From Berlin, it is a quick drive down to the state and national beach parks on Assateague Island. One of the advantages of turning 62, is that you qualify for senior passes that allow you to frequent

**Day-tripping**

Page 5

## **An Invitation**

from page 1

We believe membership in the Association provides the only property value assurance available and we encourage all residents of Rio Vista to join together in our common interest.

The above article was written for the June Edition of the Rio Vista Newsletter which is now commonly known as the Nav-Light. The date of this publication was June **1986.**

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## **The Venice of the North**

by

Charles Rogers

My wife and I recently had the great pleasure of spending two weeks in France. We started off in the grand city of Paris. What is, architecturally speaking, one of the most beautiful cities in the world, Paris offered an amazing array of sites, culinary adventures and people. It lives up to everything you've ever heard about it. After a few days there we rented a car and headed out through the French countryside. We stayed in little villages throughout, known as Les Plus Beaux Villages de France. These are little villages that have been ranked based upon their heritage, beauty and preservation. I highly recommend staying in the little gites that are available everywhere. They're the best way to get not only a place to stay, but usually a colorful taste of the local culture as the owners are almost always the hosts and ready to help!

Out of our entire trip from Paris down through the Loire Valley and back up the French Alps, through Switzerland and back into France we spent our last 3 days in Strasbourg, France. This town is easily one of my favorite places in all of Europe. The church there (Notre Dame de Strasbourg) will be celebrating their 1,000 year anniversary next year. I don't have enough space here to write all of the wonderful things about the city they call "The Venice of the North", but I highly recommend a few days here if you're ever in the vicinity. Bonjour!



## Our Rio Vista Dock Master at Work



### It's About Time

After years and years of dealing with tired, old, rusted, broken off screw in Pilings, new **wood** pilings have been installed on most of the slips at the RVCA dock. All the boats assigned to the "DEEP WATER" end of the dock Are now securely tied to pilings driven deep into ground.

### Thumbs up to the Dock Master!

It is the hard work and time donated by our Board of Governors and the committees that has kept our community renewed over the last 60 years! Thank you everyone!

### Day-tripping

Cont. from page 4

state and national parks for free, as many times as you like and you can bring a carload of friends with you as well.

So after a fine meal in Berlin, we take a walk on the beach. Assateague is one of those places that make you really appreciate the foresighted public officials who preserved parkland. Miles of white sandy beach are uninterrupted by buildings. Wild ponies range up and down the dunes. No boardwalk, no neon, no nothing, just nature. Piping plovers and sandpipers play tag with the breaking surf, scurrying back and forth in the foam, darting for tiny clams rolling in the sand. On a clear day, if you look north, you can make out the Ocean City high-rises and you realize that if Assateague had not been saved, it would have been paved and plundered as well. Pat likes to collect seashells and no trip to Assateague ends without some souvenirs in her pockets.

One thing we often marvel at is the way other tourists react to the ponies. Signs along the road warn that the ponies are wild and will bite. Posters in the restrooms show photos of children that have been bitten by the beasts. Yet as soon as a herd moves into public view, people stop their cars in the middle of the road, get out and pet them. They even pose their children next to them. Go figure.



We recently took a daytrip to another favorite town, Lewes, Delaware. Lewes is an amazing enclave of beautiful homes, unique shops, inns and restaurants in

a sea of strip malls, discount outlets and fast food franchises. This time, the open gates of St. Peter's Episcopal Church enticed us to wander through the graveyard of the church that was established in 1681 and bills itself as "The first church in the first state."



As we were reading the inscriptions on the centuries-old stones, a gentleman approached and pointed out one of the more interesting anomalies in the cemetery. Before he died in 1868, Captain Henry F. McCracken, a Delaware Bay and River pilot, requested he be buried with his anchor. Now, 143 years later, Captain McCracken is still resting in peace, but his anchor is making a break for it. One of its flukes has emerged from the grave and is sticking about six inches out of the ground.

One of our regular day trips is to Blackwater, west of Cambridge. Every season brings new natural wonders to the 27,000-acre swamp. In the winter, the migratory waterfowl turn the preserve into concert hall of quacks, honks and screeches. The air is full of sound. Hundreds of thousands of Canada geese, tundra swans, snow geese and ducks of all kinds move from fields to ponds to the lake in constant motion.



On a warm spring day, we watched turtles by the score sunning themselves on the edge of the ponds. In the summer, green-headed flies large enough to cast shadows, buzz overhead as herons and egrets stalk the shallow waters.

We usually complete the trip by driving out to the end of Hoopers Island where time seems to have stood still and the ways of the watermen still hold sway. In some spots, the Chesapeake Bay feels like it is a foot or two away, depending on the tides. One homeowner has a dinghy mounted on the edge of his porch. At low tide, it is an ornament, at high time a conveyance.

We have found great out-of-the way places with charm and deep history from Taylors Island to Bishops Head, from Vienna to Elliots Island. We have watch the scrimping fleet pull out of Chincoteague Harbor and enjoyed spectacular sunsets from the dock in Rock Hall.

We have found that living on the Eastern Shore has given us a base of operation for day-tripping that we never experienced before. Give us a little sunshine and the top goes down and we are on the road again.



**WE GIVE A THANK YOU.....**

to Justine's Ice Cream Parlor in St. Michaels for donating the ice cream for our annual meeting/ice cream bash.

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**Have you see our new RVCA website!!**

**No, then you need to go to your computer** right now and check it out: [riovistacom.org](http://riovistacom.org) (Of course if you receive your Nav-Light on the site, you already have been surprised by the change.) Designed by our own Rio Vista resident and web designer, Laurie Swain, it is a modern approach with new info. We are still adding content and will update it as we go along. Please let us know what you think.

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**Have you been Inviting This Visitor to Your Home?**



No, you say. Are you providing the following invites?

- \*Leave your house unlocked when away for even a short time?  
Leave valuables in sight from outside?  
Leave car unlocked and worse yet with the keys still inside?  
When away, are your newspapers and mail stacking up?  
Is your outdoor equipment & toys scattered about the yard?  
Do you broadcast to everyone that you will be away for an extended period of time.  
Do you neglect to have someone keep the yard mowed, obviously sending the message that you are away?  
Have you neglected to purchase security/motion lights, making it easier for this visitor to have the time needed to gain entrance?  
You fail to place rods (wood or metal) at the base of your sliding doors & lock windows to prevent an easy entrance?

**If you say "yes" to any of these, then yes you are inviting this unwelcome stranger.**



**"Thank you" to Larry Poore of the Poorehouse for his support of the Rio Vista Community!**

**JUST FOR LAUGHS**

A funeral director asked a young minister to hold a grave side service for a homeless man with no family or friends. The funeral was to be at a cemetery way out in the country. This was a new cemetery and this man was the first to be laid to rest there.

The minister was not familiar with the area and became lost. Being a typical man, of course, he did not ask for directions. He finally found the cemetery about an hour late. The back hoe was there and the crew was eating their lunch. The hearse was nowhere to be seen.

He apologized to the workers for being late. As he looked into the open grave, he saw the vault lid already in place. He told the workers he would not keep them long, but that this was the proper thing to do. The workers, still eating their lunch, gathered around the opening.

He was young and enthusiastic and poured out his heart and soul as he preached. The workers joined in with, "Praise the Lord," "Amen," and "Glory!" He got so into the service that he preached and preached and preached, from Genesis to The Revelation.

When the service was over, he said a prayer and walked to his car. As he opened the door, he heard one of the workers say, "I never saw anything like that before and I've been putting in septic systems for twenty years."



## DATES TO REMEMBER

### St. Luke's United Methodist Church

Rev. Marty Wiley  
(410) 745-2534

[stlukeschurch@verizon.net](mailto:stlukeschurch@verizon.net)

- Saturday August 16<sup>th</sup>** Craft Show  
10AM - 4PM
- Saturday September 13<sup>th</sup>** Craft Show & 14th Annual  
10AM - 4PM Book Sale and Pit Beef
- Saturday September 27<sup>th</sup>** FAITH FEST Christian  
10AM - 4PM Community Music Festival

### St. Michael's Mission Church

Rev. James Nash, Pastor  
Rev. Glenn M. Evers, Associate Pastor  
(410) 822-2344

[www.ssppeaston.org](http://www.ssppeaston.org)

- Saturdays** Evening Mass  
5:30 PM
- Sundays** Mass  
10:15 AM
- Mondays** Spanish Prayer Group  
7:15 PM

### St. Michaels Community Center

Trish Payne  
Executive Director  
(410) 745- 5102  
[trish@stmichaelscc.org](mailto:trish@stmichaelscc.org)

#### Summer Concerts in Muskrat Park

August 7 - Chris Noyes  
beautiful musicianship, a treat for the ears!

August 14 - The Joseph Baione Jazz Quartet  
Baione is a vibrant vibraphonist and hailed as a consummate jazz musician!

August 21 - The St. Michaels Gospel Choir Collective  
an exciting combination of masterful voices from area churches

August 28 - Flatland Drive  
good 'ol, foot-stompin bluegrass magic!

September 4 - Karoke Night!!! You're the Star!!!

Bring lawn chairs, picnic dinner, beverages (non-alcoholic),  
bug spray, dancing shoes & friends!

Sponsored by St. Michaels Community Center  
and our local business partners

### Christ Church

Rev. Mark Nestlehutt

(410) 745- 9076

[info@christstmichaels.org](mailto:info@christstmichaels.org)

- Friday August 22<sup>nd</sup>** 'Green' Dinner  
6:00 PM
- Saturday August 30<sup>th</sup>** Altars in the World Service  
5:00 PM
- Sunday August 31<sup>st</sup>** Combined Service  
9:00 AM
- Monday September 1<sup>st</sup>** Parish Office and Food  
Pantry Closed
- Sunday September 7<sup>th</sup>** Service times return to  
8 AM & 10:15 AM fall schedule
- Sunday September 14<sup>th</sup>** Kirkin' O' Tartan followed  
10:15 AM by Ice Cream
- Sunday September 21<sup>st</sup>** Evensong followed by  
5 PM Fall Harvest Dinner
- Saturday September 27<sup>th</sup>** Altars in the World Service  
5 PM
- Sunday October 5<sup>th</sup>** Blessing of the Animals  
4 PM
- \*Donation items for Rummage Sale  
may be dropped off Oct 6 - 8
- Friday October 10<sup>th</sup>** Rummage Sale  
7 AM - 2 PM
- Saturday October 11<sup>th</sup>** Rummage Sale  
8 AM - 12 PM
- Monday October 13<sup>th</sup>** Parish Office and Food  
Pantry Closed
- Saturday October 25<sup>th</sup>** Altars in the World Service
- Sunday November 2<sup>nd</sup>** Daylight Saving Time  
Ends
- (Turn clocks **back** one  
hour)  
5 PM
- Monday November 3<sup>rd</sup>** Evensong  
7 PM Popcorn Theology
- Thursday November 27<sup>th</sup>** Parish Office and Food  
Pantry Closed
- Saturday November 29<sup>th</sup>** Altars in the World Service

### Union United Methodist Church

Rev. Emanuel Johnson

(410) 745-2784

[uumc@atlanticbb.net](mailto:uumc@atlanticbb.net)

## Board of Governors

<b>President</b>	<b>Jack Davis</b>	<b>(410) 745-2461</b>
<b>Vice-President</b>	<b>Judy Sandground</b>	<b>(410) 745-5118</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Jan Burke</b>	<b>(410) 745-9768</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Jack Davis</b>	<b>(410) 745-2461</b>
<b>Erosion Control</b>	<b>Jack Davis</b>	<b>(410) 745-2461</b>
<b>Architectural Review</b>	<b>Barry Burke</b>	<b>(301) 482-1929</b>
<b>Nav-Light</b>	<b>Charles Rogers</b>	<b>(818) 207-0007</b>
<b>Finance</b>	<b>Sharri Foy</b>	<b>(410) 745-8622</b>
<b>Landscape</b>	<b>Hunter Plog</b>	<b>(410) 745-5492</b>
<b>E-mail</b>	<b>Rio Vista Association</b>	<b>riovistamd@riovistacom.org</b>

## Committees

<b>Architectural E-mail</b>	<b>Barry Burke (architectural@riovistacom.org)</b>	<b>(301) 482-1929</b>
	<b>Doug Gibson</b>	<b>(410) 745-9487</b>
	<b>Patrick Kennedy</b>	<b>(410) 745-2800</b>
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	<b>Sandi Droege</b>	<b>(410) 745-6572</b>
<b>Community Events</b>	<b>Ann Davis</b>	<b>(410) 745-2461</b>
	<b>Sandi Droege</b>	<b>(410) 745-6572</b>
	<b>Jan Burke</b>	<b>(410) 745-9768</b>
<b>Dock</b>	<b>Hunter Plog</b>	<b>(410) 745-5492</b>
	<b>Jan Burke</b>	<b>(410) 745-9768</b>
<b>Document Review</b>	<b>Judy Sandground</b>	<b>(410) 745-5118</b>
	<b>Jan Burke</b>	<b>(410) 745-9768</b>
<b>Erosion Control</b>	<b>Jack Davis</b>	<b>(410) 745-2461</b>
	<b>Bernie Grove</b>	<b>(410) 745-6154</b>
	<b>Roy Droege</b>	<b>(410) 745-6572</b>
<b>Finance</b>	<b>Sharri Foy</b>	<b>(410) 745-8622</b>
<b>Landscape</b>	<b>Hunter Plog</b>	<b>(410) 745-5492</b>
	<b>Jan Burke</b>	<b>(410) 745-9768</b>
<b>Neighborhood Watch</b>		
	<b>Charles Rogers</b>	<b>(818) 207-0007</b>
<b>Web Masters</b>	<b>Sandi Droege</b>	<b>(410) 745-6572</b>
	<b>Dick Cooper</b>	<b>(410) 745-5233</b>