



Point O' Woods Board of Governors

2023 Fall Newsletter

November 2023

From the President

Dear Residents,

I hope you and your families had a healthy and enjoyable 2023. I want to thank the Point O' Woods community for your patience and support as we completed the first phase of the Boat Basin Bulkhead Restoration Project involving the East ("ice cream") Wall, the boat ramp and addition of the small dock. The project finished under budget and resident feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. In particular, the new small dock has been a hit with many community members. It has enabled residents to safely embark on their vessels. As a reminder, the restoration of the West ("golf cart") Wall comprises the next phase. This restoration is necessary due to the aging concrete walkway and the failing bulkhead wall which has holes that are visible at low tide. As a reminder, this wall was noted as being in need of restoration in a 2018 Condition Report and as reported at the 2022 annual meeting. We are planning for phase two restoration in the winter of 2025-26, and more information will be forthcoming about this project.

In addition to the West Wall restoration, the POW Board of Governors is also planning several other smaller preservation projects. The first is the replacement of the aging playscape. The board hired a playground evaluation expert this fall and the expert recommended replacement in the near future, as well as some other priority fixes to carry us through the immediate future. A much smaller project is the replacement of the two bulletin board walls that surround the beach. These boards are very valuable to promote news and communication in the community. More information on these projects will be forthcoming.

One new effort I would like to apprise community members about is a change affecting the annual meeting. As you may know, the POW Charter requires that a notice of meeting be mailed to property owners 10 days prior to the meeting. Historically, we have included the entire annual meeting "packet" in the mailing. Next May, we will pare down the mailing to include the prescribed notice as well as other

important information such as the agenda and ordinance changes; the supplemental pieces of the packet will be available on our website. This change is expected to save our community approximately \$3,000 in shipping, printing and materials costs. Copies of the full packet will also be available from the administrative office for anyone who does not have access to the website.

This season, in an effort to collect feedback and gather data regarding operations and projects, we have created a survey to gather input from the community. We would appreciate if you would take a few minutes to complete this survey by clicking on the link below (the survey link is also available on our website).



I would like to thank the amazing people who work to make POW great. I would specifically like to thank members of the POW Administrative team (Sara Chamberlain, Helen Francis, Rick Frascarelli, Tom Cretens and Joan Lanzo), the POW Water Pollution Control Authority, the POW Board of Governors, and the POW Women's Club, as well as other community members who may not be part of an official organization but who contribute to the community in some way. It is humbling and inspiring to watch the hard work, dedication and care given by the members of these groups to better our community.

I am grateful for the opportunity to have served as board chair over the past two seasons and look forward to continuing to fulfill this responsibility. Like most of you, I love Point O' Woods and I am committed to serving our community. If you have any concerns or interest in communicating about a POW issue, feel free to reach out to me at 860-690-0650 or krisst@juno.com.

Have a healthy and safe winter.

Abe Krisst, President

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Beach

Karen Galvin, Beach Commissioner

I hope that everyone had a fun and relaxing season. The weather certainly cooperated for the most part this year. With the season coming to a close there are a few matters that need to be attended to. A few residents contacted the board with some beach concerns that should be addressed.

- **Deep holes on the beach.** We all enjoy digging holes in the sand and building sandcastles. Please remember to refill any holes at the end of your beach day as these holes can become quite dangerous at night. Anyone walking on the beach at night could sprain an ankle or throw out their back. Please take a few minutes to refill any holes that you may have created.
- **Treatment of our sea creatures.** Many of us have grown up crabbing on the rocks - putting a scrap of hot dog on a string and lowering it down into the water to catch a crab! We encourage curiosity in observing these sea creatures but ask that you honor the “catch and release” practice; please return the crabs, eels, etc. to the water in a timely manner so as not to endanger their lives. Also, a reminder that horseshoe crabs are a protected species and should never be disturbed.
- **Beach Cleaning.** As you probably know, our beach is raked and cleaned every morning between 7am and 8am. For this to be done quickly and easily we ask that

residents refrain from putting beach chairs, umbrellas, etc. on the beach until after 8:00 am.

- **Kayaks/Paddleboards in Swim Areas.** Over the summer, several people questioned whether paddle boards and kayaks are allowed in the swimming area. Our swimming area is designated by the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP). The DEEP is very clear that “(v)essels are prohibited inside the authorized swim areas per RCSA Section 15-121-B12(a). This includes the use of all paddlecraft such as stand-up paddleboards, kayaks, and canoes.” It is necessary to follow this regulation for the safety of both swimmers and the vessel operators.
- **Respect for Security.** Following our beach ordinances is necessary to make our beach safe and enjoyable for everyone. Our security guards are there to enforce these ordinances. They should be given the respect they deserve when attempting to do their jobs.
- **Beach after Labor Day.** Our official cleaning contract expires on Labor Day weekend, but as you know, the weather is still beautiful in September and October and the beach is a great place to spend a fall day. I want to extend a special thank you to Rick and Tom for their work in keeping the beach clean for everyone to enjoy.

Boat Basin

James Noel, Boat Basin Commissioner

Thank you to all the POW boaters and residents for a safe and enjoyable boating season. I would like to thank all the boaters and residents for their patience during completion of the restoration project. In particular, I would like to thank some of the boaters who had their slips moved to maximize space in the boat basin. This has been an age-old practice, but last season a few more boaters had to be moved and I appreciate everyone's flexibility.

One of the enhancements in the boat basin this past season was the addition of the floating dock to improve access and safety for those enjoying Long Island Sound on the water. This dock has been a huge success and its use was constant throughout the season. For those using it, please be mindful that it is to be used as a temporary drop off/pick up location and that boats, kayaks, paddleboards, wave runners, and jet skis should not be tied up there for a period more than 10 minutes.

We are aware that the channel may need to be dredged in the next few seasons. We are currently monitoring the depth and also working with several vendors to consider cost estimates.

Finally, a note to slip holders, please continue to ensure your boat is properly moored. This includes:

- Having 2 bumpers on each side of the boat;
- Using quality mooring lines and pulleys that are not worn; and
- Considering the use of two bow lines so that if one is broken, then the other will act as a safety line.

Please feel free to contact Boat Basin Commissioner James Noel at noels15@comcast.net with any questions.

Grounds

Bud Phelps, Grounds Commissioner

Another summer has passed and autumn has arrived with all its colors and beautiful weather. During the summer season, our grounds and maintenance crew of Rick Frascarelli and Tom Cretens did their usual outstanding job of keeping POW grounds mowed and trimmed and in beautiful condition for all to enjoy. They also accomplished the huge task of removing all the debris from the beach following the unprecedented Connecticut River flooding.

Now that fall is upon us, their attention has turned to trimming shrubs and grasses, removing leaves from our common grounds, and preparing for the community leaf pick-up. A leaf vacuum was purchased last year and a new leaf blower this year which will make fall clean up more efficient and hopefully easier on the backs of Rick and Tom!

Leaf pick-up begins **Monday, November 13 and ends Friday, December 15**. Please remember that only leaves placed in biodegradable paper bags will be picked up. No sticks, twigs, or grass trimmings will be accepted. As in prior years, there is no residential or commercial drop off spot inside POW.

Last winter we had only one plowable snow event. We can all hope for another mild winter, but when and if it DOES snow, our crew will be out plowing and sanding roads inside Point O' Woods. Even without snow, there is always plenty of work to be done during the off-season, including

Fall Leaf Pick-Up

November 13 – December 15

- Leaves must be placed in biodegradable paper bags (no plastic)
- No sticks, twigs, or grass trimmings
- No residential or commercial drop off at Anderson Field



refurbishing and maintaining all our equipment so it is ready for spring. As a side note, it remains important during the off-season months that you, your guests, and your contractors observe all of our street regulations and speed limits.

The community garden continues to be a great success thanks to Phil Schmidt and the efforts of several other volunteers. If you're interested in getting on the Garden waitlist, please email the Admin Office, or visit the website for more information.

For our seasonal residents who have left or are leaving soon and for those who remain year-round, know the grounds crew will continue their work to keep Point O' Woods the beautiful place that it is.

Ordinance

Glen Bassett, Ordinance Commissioner

This summer proved to be a busy one for emergency home repairs. The Board approved 14 "no hammer rule" exception requests. As cited in our ordinances under "Nuisances," the no hammer rule prohibits construction work of any kind from June 25 to Labor Day that creates excessive noise or otherwise disturbs the peace and tranquility that we all enjoy at Point O' Woods.

It is important that anyone who needs to make an emergency repair to their home or property complete the "Emergency Extension of the Hammer Law" form requesting Board approval. The form should be submitted prior to the

repairs so the Association can coordinate and ensure the request is allowed in accordance with the approved process (i.e., Security knows to allow a specific contractor to enter POW on certain required dates). Homeowners have until Tuesday, June 25, 2024 to complete any home repairs, construction or yardwork. Please plan accordingly.

Thanks to all who submitted an exception/extension request and we hope your repairs were successful. Additional information regarding the No Hammer Rule, including the Exception Request Form, can be found on our website under "General Information" ([link here](#)).

Recreation

John Sulick, Recreation Commissioner

What an incredible summer! This year the Recreation Department offered more than 25 different events and activities, including the 5K Run/Walk, Golf Tournament, High Stakes Bingo, Pickleball Clinic, Concerts, Wine Tasting and the Labor Day Pickleball Social Tournament. Each event was a resounding success and it was the residents

who made it happen! Hopefully the variety of events accommodated different interests and vacation schedules. We continue to review our successes and gaps to broaden the offerings to match requests from the community. As a result, in addition to our high stakes bingo for adults only,

next year we will be offering a family bingo night and a few more events for the younger crowd.

A big thank you once again to the Point O’Woods residents and community members. The events we put on throughout the summer are only as good as the people

who show up for them. The more residents who participate means the more successful (and more fun) the events are going to be. Look for the full 2024 events calendar in early spring, and remember that we are always looking for volunteers, so if you’re interested in helping out, please email [John Sulick](#) or the [administrative office](#).

Security

Fred Callahan, Security Commissioner

PROTECT
YOUR PERSON
AND
YOUR PROPERTY
LOCK YOUR
VEHICLE


THERE HAS BEEN A HUGE RISE IN CAR BREAK-INS RECENTLY IN THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT. ALL POW RESIDENTS ARE URGED TO TAKE AN EXTRA MINUTE WHEN PARKING THEIR CARS. LOCK YOUR CARS EVERY NIGHT, AND DO NOT LEAVE YOUR KEYS AND KEY FOBs IN YOUR CAR.

Golf Carts. As a reminder, all golf carts must be registered with Point O’Woods on an annual basis if they are going to be used on Point O’Woods roads (this includes golf cart rentals). If you purchase a new golf cart, please contact the Administrative Office to obtain your side cart ID numbers (which are assigned by Point O’Woods). All golf cart owners will receive an invoice in the spring for their 2024 registration; golf cart agreements and proof of insurance must also be provided to the office before new stickers are issued.

Due to a noted increase in reckless driving and underage drivers, letters were sent to property owners/parents of children whose behavior on golf carts was not appropriate. These made some impact, and we appreciate those who worked to rectify this dangerous behavior. Quite simply, if you don’t have a valid driver’s license, you cannot drive a golf cart.

Parking and Security Violations. For anyone who received a motor vehicle violation ticket (cars and golf carts), please note that you if you **have not paid your ticket, you will be invoiced, and you will not receive 2024 stickers until the ticket is paid** (this applies to stickers for resident access, parking, boat, kayak, and golf carts, as well as community garden plot privileges).

Now that the summer has ended, winter watch is in effect. If you ever need to call the police, the number is **(860) 434-1986** for routine calls. In an emergency always dial **911**.



2024 Annual Meeting

Saturday, June 1, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m.

Old Lyme Middle School

2024 Board Meeting Schedule

Monthly board meetings are generally held on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Phoebe Griffin Noyes Library in Old Lyme, CT. Virtual participation may also be offered. POW residents are welcome and encouraged to attend. (Meeting locations are subject to change; please check the published agenda on the bulletin boards or website.)

⇒	Tuesday	March 26	Regular Meeting
⇒	Tuesday	April 9	Budget Planning Session
⇒	Tuesday	April 23	Regular Meeting
⇒	Tuesday	May 28	Regular Meeting
⇒	Saturday	June 1	Annual Meeting
⇒	Tuesday	June 25	Regular Meeting
⇒	Tuesday	July 23	Regular Meeting
⇒	Tuesday	August 27	Regular Meeting
⇒	Tuesday	September 24	Regular Meeting
⇒	Tuesday	October 22	Regular Meeting
⇒	Tuesday	November 12	Regular Meeting

Keep Your Address Current

All POW mailings are sent to the property owner’s address on file at the Old Lyme Assessor’s Office. If you have a change in mailing address or a change in property ownership, you must notify both the Old Lyme Town Assessor’s Office as well as Point O’Woods.

1. **Old Lyme Town Assessor’s Office**,
860-434-1605 x219
2. **POW Administrative Office**,
email: powbeachoffice@gmail.com



Point O’Woods Association

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Phone: 860-434-5686

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Email: powbeachoffice@gmail.com

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