



Today's the first day of autumn — which officially makes this the Fall 2015 Edition of the Bell Harbor Newsletter. Where did summer go...?

Boats, Lifts & Docks

Bob's Marine Service has already started removing those lifts that are ready for winter storage. If your boat is out for the season and the lift ready to be removed, you can either call Bob at 641-357-2627, or simply raise your lift bed all the way up and Bob's crew will know it's ready.

All boats must be off lifts by no later than Wednesday, October 14. The next day, weather permitting, will be when Bob's Marine will pick up all remaining lifts and begin removing the docks.

If you do not have your name clearly marked on both ends of your lift, now is the time to do it! Self-sticking letters work the best. This is the only way Bob's staff can identify your lift.

A reminder that your canopy should be removed from the lift the same day you remove your boat. A strong fall storm can turn a lift with a canopy into a giant kite, possibly causing damage to the docks, your lift and those lifts and boats nearby. Have good insurance...?

Please remember: Boats, PWCs and lifts of any size cannot be stored on your property or common property at any time.

Fall Leaves

Rake all those leaves in a giant pile, jump in a few times like when you were a kid, then bag them (in paper or plastic) and place the bags near the street. They'll be picked up and taken to the Clear Lake compost facility. Just DON'T BURN them — leaf burning is not allowed in Bell Harbor!

Or, here's a back-saving solution -- Call Vern Steidl to hire Eli (age 10) and Sam (age 9). They had so much fun last year picking up leaves, they're anxious to do it for you again this fall. They've even upgraded their equipment to include a leaf vacuum and a trailer to haul the leaves to the composite site. Their rate is \$35 per lot.

Contact Vern at vas@teamquest.com or by calling or texting 515-988-1702. Be sure to let him know of any special instructions.

Winter & Water

If you've ever known someone who's had frozen water pipes, you know the terrible destruction that can result. To help avoid these situations, especially when you completely shut down or "winterize" your Bell Harbor residence (meaning there is no heat of any kind inside), be sure to turn off the water at the main valve (it's almost always out by the street). Not sure how to turn it off? Just ask one of your neighbors, or contact a local plumber. If you leave your furnace on during the winter, it's still a good idea to turn off the water valve inside your cabin. That way, if your furnace does go out and your pipes freeze, no additional water can flow into your structure, which is the primary cause of winter water damage. For a little peace of mind, when the temps drop to well below zero, buy a telephone-calling thermometer. It installs into your phone line and automatically dials a number of your choice if the temperature inside the cabin falls below about 45 degrees.

Duck, Duck, Goose

The Bell Harbor lakefront area continues to be a hang-out for an occasional gaggle of geese. While you cannot physically touch any goose (they're still federally protected by the Migratory Bird Act), you or your dog can "harass" them — chase them to fly or swim away. If

you're wearing a jacket or sweatshirt, pull it up to make yourself look larger and walk quickly toward them. Don't get too close, they may turn on you. And don't touch the birds. But usually a loud yell as you stomp toward them will do the trick. We'll be looking at different goose deterrents over the winter for implementation next spring. Ducks are nothing to worry about — they won't be around for long.

Blocked Access to Dodge's Point at 4th Street

You may have noticed the access gate in the wooden fence along the western boundary between Bell Harbor and Dodge's Point (on 4th Street) has been blocked. The property owner of the land on the west side of the property line (within Dodge's Point) has placed these items there — an action that's not endorsed by the Dodge's Point board. Until both boards are able to determine an alternate option for this situation, we ask that you respect this property owner's decision to not allow access. You can walk a few yards west along South Shore Drive, then turn north on Park Avenue (gravel) following it as it turns west to meet Dodge Avenue. We hope for resolution before Spring.

2016 Dues to Mail in Early January

Statements for 2016 membership dues and boat lift fees will be mailed right after the holidays. We appreciate payment as quickly as possible, but please remember that dues and fees not paid by Thursday, March 31, 2016 will be considered delinquent and subject to interest at a rate of 10% per annum.

New Outdoor Grill Installed at Knoer Lodge by Gabus Family

Gene and Lynne Gabus have generously installed a stainless steel grill on the lake side of Knoer Lodge in memory of their daughter. It's a very nice addition to our facility. Use of this grill will be limited to those individuals and groups who rent the lodge.

Knoer Lodge Restrooms to Close October 15

The restrooms in Knoer Lodge will be closed for the season beginning October 15. The Lodge is still available for rental throughout the winter. For information, see the BHHOA website.

The Bell Harbor Homeowners Association Board for 2015-16

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Kent Schlawin | President |
| Bryan Ott | Vice President |
| Rhonda Budlong-Reints | Treasurer |
| Lisa Schmeulewitz | Secretary |
| Kathy Johnson | Director |
| Neela Kottmeier | Director |
| Carma Poppens | Director |
| Dennis Scheidt | Director |

You can contact any board member via the BHHOA website, under the Board Information tab.

Next Board Meeting

The board will meet on Saturday, November 21 at 9:00 a.m. in the BHHOA office. If you have anything you'd like us to discuss, please forward all details via email — bellharb@netins.net before November 15.

Have a great, safe fall!

Bell Harbor Homeowners' Association

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