



# DEEP CREEK DISPATCH

Spring 2018

Newsletter of the  
Property Owners' Association  
of Deep Creek Lake, Inc.



## The President's Message

As I write this message to you, trees and bushes are greening up and the promise of consistent warmer weather is evident. It is time for Spring and Summer in Garrett County, we just need our weather to cooperate!

This message will be the last one I write for our newsletter, The Dispatch, as your POA President as I have decided to step down from this office I will have held for five years. I will remain on the board and continue to support the POA as best I can but it is time for someone new to step into the role of President and have some of the fun! As is detailed in the by-laws, we will be pulling together a nominating committee to identify candidates to fill this role and any other vacancies on the board. As I reflect on the time I have served you as President, I am reminded that no one could do this job without the support of a Board of Directors that have done an absolutely fantastic job supporting both me and all of you. Collectively we have devoted countless hours of our volunteer time to informing members about issues of interest involving the Deep Creek Watershed, Deep Creek Lake (DCL), and the community in which we find ourselves.

We have strived to build solid, credible relationships with a variety of elected and appointed officials at the state and County levels. These relationships have allowed the POA provide our support as well as voice our concerns about any number of issues we have faced. We have also strengthened our relationships with the Lake Manager's Office and partnered with DNR in

several projects of mutual interest.

Prior to and during legislative sessions, we have tried to educate you, our members, about particular bills before the State Legislature and why they should be supported. You responded well and in the last two sessions, The State Lakes Protection and Restoration Fund (SLPRF) Bill passed and became law. Likewise, this year, funding will be added to the SLPRF now that Governor Hogan has signed the bill into law beginning a four year funding stream in July 2019 that will total \$4M.

In addition, to presiding over Board meetings as well as General Membership Meetings, the POA President sits on an Advisory Board for the Chamber of Commerce as well as the Policy and Review Board (PRB) which focuses on wide ranging issues involving DCL. Concerning the PRB, Senator George Edwards and Delegate Wendell Beitzel, at the request of the POA, introduced bills in the 2018 legislature to add a seat to the PRB for a representative from the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) which has some significant responsibilities regarding DCL. The bill was signed by Governor Hogan and becomes effective July 1, 2018. I am hoping this step will improve the overall management of DCL over time by having both the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) as well as MDE as part of the PRB.

It has been a privilege and an honor to have served you, the membership, as the leader of this fine organization. I look forward to continuing to support the POA as a board member and doing what I can for the Deep Creek Watershed and DCL.

Cheers, Bob

# Deep Creek Lake, version 4.0

By Chris Nichols

The current version of Deep Creek Lake isn't the first, second or even third time a dam has been planned or built on or around Deep Creek. Almost as soon as permanent settlers lived around it, Deep Creek and the area around it have been of interest to those who wanted to capture and use its waters for a variety of purposes. One proposed plan to dam Deep Creek and two actual dams (one on Deep Creek and one on Cherry Creek) have been found in our research.

In 1824, James Shriver, a leading civil engineer and proponent of expansion of the C&O Canal, published the rather verbosely titled "An account of surveys and examinations, with remarks and documents: relative to the projected Chesapeake and Ohio and Ohio and Lake Erie Canals". In it, he lays out a speculative route for the continuation of the C&O Canal to connect the Potomac and Cheat Rivers by cutting through western Allegany (now Garrett) County. To provide adequate draft for the barges and flood water for the locks, he proposes damming Deep Creek around the site of the current US Route 219 bridge. The plan also called for a tunnel under Backbone Mountain to connect this new waterway with the Potomac around Westernport. His cost estimate for the entire project to connect Cumberland to Pittsburgh was \$5,566,564.

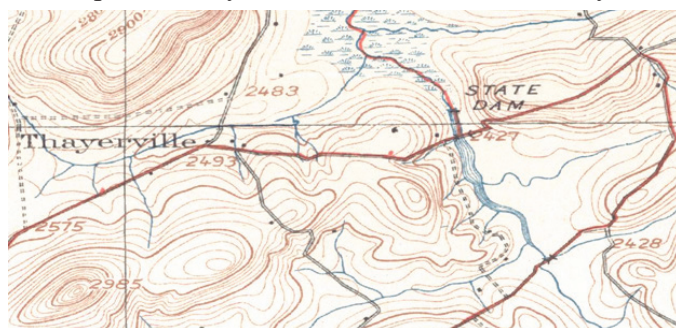
The massive cost and burgeoning railroad industry prevented the development of the C&O Canal past Cumberland, but the rigorous work that Shriver did to plan his route remains an excellent resource of historical data on the area, including a detailed map of the region through which the planned canal would traverse. The text of his report describes some intriguing details of the area including trees of up to 12 feet in girth and a rock formation the locals had named "the Devil's Castle". In the detail of his map below, the green shaded area shows the proposed lake from damming Deep Creek around the current 219 bridge and

captures the current shoreline of the southern end of the lake remarkably well.

You can view and download the fully digitized map [here](#) and read the scanned publication [here](#)

Two more actual dams were built on Deep Creek and Cherry Creek in the late 1800's as aquaculture projects. The first was on Cherry Creek around 1883 and was the project of Gus W. Delawder, Commissioner of Fisheries for Western Maryland at the time. He named the new body of water Lake Cleveland in honor of President Cleveland who visited it and spent the day fishing there. The second dam was overseen by R. T. Browning, the grandson of the famous Garrett County frontiersman and hunter Meshach Browning and was completed in 1893, at the site of present Glendale Bridge. This body of water was named Lake Brown after Maryland Governor Frank Brown (1892 -1896). Local historian Champ Zumbrun has written a great, more detailed article on the history of these lakes that can be found [here](#)

Although we have not been able to track down any maps of the exact extent of Lake Cleveland, the detail of a 1901 topographical map from the USGS shows Lake Brown quite clearly, with the dam almost exactly where



*Lake Brown*

the current Glendale Bridge is today.

From navigation to aquaculture to hydroelectric power to recreation, the waters of Deep Creek have served us well over the years. Your POA continues to work to see that we'll continue to enjoy these waters for the next 100 years as well.



*Shriver map*

# Boat Safety.....Make it a Priority

The Maryland Basic Boating Course is packed full of the basic information you'll need to boat safely and enjoy your time on the water. What are the 'rules of the road' when there's no road? Find out the latest laws regarding personal floatation devices, required safety equipment, operating personal watercraft and towing procedures. Practice some chart reading and review the channel marker system in coastal waters.

**Individuals born after June 1, 1972 are required to have an approved Boater's Safety card in their possession when operating a power boat in Maryland.** Successful completion of the Maryland Basic Boating course will provide that card. The course is open to those 12 years of age and over and we welcome parents and grandparents to take the course as a great refresher. Boater Safety is Family Safety! You will receive your class book at the time of registration and students must bring their text to class with completed pre-test and quizzes. Final deadline for registration is the Thursday a week before class to allow time for students to receive

the study book and complete the assigned homework before class. The classes listed below offered in Garrett County provide additional information specific to Deep Creek Lake.

Online classes are also available through the following link and can be completed at any time throughout the year. <https://www.boat-ed.com/maryland/>



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## MARYLAND BASIC BOATING CLASSES 2018

Join an interactive & dynamic one-day class to learn the basics of safe boating. The State of Maryland requires this course for new boaters and it's a great review for parents and grandparents of younger boaters.

**WHEN: 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (Choose one date only)**

- April 28 – Saturday
- June 9 – Saturday
- May 19 – Saturday
- July 7 - Saturday
- Aug 4 – Saturday

*Continuing Education/Building 100 @ Garrett College, McHenry MD*

**\$29- Garrett County Residents      \$34 - Other Maryland Residents      \$39 - Out of State Residents**  
**\$10 - MD Senior Citizens over 60**

**Class size limited - Call early to register. • Course is open to those 12 years of age and over.**

**Registration deadline- 3:00 p.m. Thursday, the week before class.**

**You will be mailed a book to study and need to complete 'homework' before you come to class.**

**No refunds after the registration deadline unless the class is canceled.**

**PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED • CALL 301 387-3069**

# **POA Form 990-EZ**

## **By Karen Smith and Susie Crawford**

In a continuing effort to keep the membership informed about the operation of the POA, we are providing a link [here](#) to view a complete copy of the IRS income tax form 990-EZ for 2017. As you will see, during 2017 the POA's expenditures exceeded the membership dues collected. The ability of the POA to continue its operations and fund projects of importance to the lake and lake property owners is directly related to the membership paying their annual dues in a timely fashion and the availability of the POA's investment fund, currently managed through First United Bank & Trust.

At the October 7, 2017 meeting of the Board, a Quasi Endowment Statement was unanimously adopted setting forth the policy for future management and use of the POA's Quasi Endowment Fund. This policy allows regular distributions from the Fund in continuing support of the POA's general operations with limitations designed to assure that the Fund will continue to grow and be available for the future.

The Fund that is now the POA's Quasi Endowment came into being in prior years when the POA Board engaged in fund raising to support projects that were in the best interests

of protecting and preserving the lake and its quiet enjoyment for the benefit of lake property owners. Some of these projects included POA opposition to the installation of a sewer system as a "Trojan Horse" for much denser lake development and the permitting of a boat hotel that would have dramatically increased the amount of boat traffic on the lake. However, the principal project for which the POA conducted fundraising revolved around POA efforts to purchase the lake and the dam prior to the State of Maryland's purchase in 2000.

Since 2000 the POA has made significant monetary contributions to various projects including: gypsy moth spraying, the purchase of AEDs (automatic external defibrillators) for Garrett County Sheriff's vehicles, the DNR Sediment Study, DNR's Hydrilla treatment and, most recently, the funding of Aquatic Invasive Species signage and disposal boxes. The POA continues to be a sponsor of the annual July 4th fireworks and is a contributor to the After -Prom events for both of Garrett County high schools.

All of this is made possible through membership dues and the POA's Quasi Endowment.

## **Deep Creek Water Appropriation Permit Renewal**

**By John Quilty**

The POA water appropriation permit committee's research and deliberations have been effectively completed. However, finalization and forwarding of recommendations to MDE has been postponed, pending the Department's announcement of its process and schedule for collecting public/stakeholder input. More information will be forthcoming as it becomes available in future issues of The Dispatch and/or through eBlasts.

# Clean-up on your tax deductions during your spring cleaning this year

By Chris Nichols

As you open your places for the summer, or change over from the winter, you've doubtlessly come across an item or two that you haven't used in a while and have probably shuffled around to keep out of the way. Also, around this time of year, you may have gotten an unpleasant surprise from Uncle Sam once you finished your tax returns. Well, two local organizations want to help you with both problems by taking those unused items off your hands and helping you get the maximum tax deduction for your donation. Both the Deep Creek Lake Lions Club (DCLLC) and Volunteer Fire Department (DCLVFD) are seeking your donations for their fundraising efforts this year. The Lions Club is always accepting donations of boats and other recreational gear to be auctioned off at their annual sale, this year on May 19th. They are also seeking items like gift baskets, sports memorabilia and art for the prizes for their Boat Parade on July 7th and Poker Cruise on August 19th. Proceeds from the DCLLC's fundraisers support their Blind Skier and Camper Programs and maintenance of the community park on Bumble Bee Rd. To donate to the Lions Club, contact Chris at 301-616-7881 or [dimesy23@gmail.com](mailto:dimesy23@gmail.com) or check them out at [www.deepcreeklions.org](http://www.deepcreeklions.org)

The Fire Department is also seeking donations of large items like tools, furniture and any other saleable goods (no clothes) for their benefit auction in June. The DCVFD has served the lake area's fire and rescue needs for over 50 years on an all-volunteer basis. Contact them at [dcvfc30@gmail.com](mailto:dcvfc30@gmail.com) or 301-387-5252 to donate. Both organizations will work with you to ensure all paperwork is completed properly and that you receive the maximum tax deduction for your

donation. Remember, the threshold for deductions will be higher in 2018, so make sure you've donated enough to hit it! You'll get some more room in your closet or garage, and a local organization gets funds for their programs - everybody cleans up!





## Seat Added to PRB

By Bob Hoffmann

The Deep Creek Policy Review Board (PRB) exists in Maryland State Law to assist the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in the management of Deep Creek Lake (DCL) and to bring items of importance to the attention of the Secretary of DNR. The PRB was established at the time the state purchased DCL to insure members of the community would have input into lake related matters. The PRB meets quarterly and has several designated seats, including one for the POA, but has not had a seat for the Maryland Department of the

Environment despite its responsibility for the Water Appropriation Permit for DCL as well as the matter of shoreline erosion. At the request of the POA, a bill was considered by the 2018 General Assembly which would add a seat for MDE to the PRB. The bills were cross-filed in the Senate and the House of Delegates by Senator George Edwards and Delegate Wendell Beitzel. The bill was signed into law by Governor Hogan on April 24, 2018, and will become effective July 1, 2018. Over time, the addition of an MDE representative to the PRB should improve overall management of DCL for everyone concerned.

## 2018 Hydrilla Treatment Schedule courtesy of the DNR

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources has tentatively scheduled dates for the 2018 planned hydrilla treatment at Deep Creek Lake. Hydrilla is a fast-growing aquatic invasive plant that scientists first found in the lake in 2013 and have been treating with a herbicide each year since 2014. The herbicide treatment takes place each summer and is again planned for the summer of 2018. For an overview of 2018 treatment locations and plans, including other information related to the treatment process, please visit <https://go.usa.gov/xX5sM>.

People in the affected areas are asked to stay clear of the treatment boat, while underway, so that the proper dosage of herbicide can be administered. Once applied, there are no recreational restrictions associated with the herbicide.

The 2018 planned herbicide treatment dates are as follows:

- June 4 – 1st hydrilla treatment
- June 26 – 2nd hydrilla treatment
- July 24 – 3rd hydrilla treatment
- August 21 – 4th hydrilla treatment

The above dates are weather dependent. Any updates or changes to the dates will be posted online and go out via the department's automated email delivery system. Registration is available via the website listed above.

Any questions concerning the hydrilla control program can be addressed to Mark Lewandowski at [mark.lewandowski@maryland.gov](mailto:mark.lewandowski@maryland.gov).

**POA General Membership Meetings for 2018  
June 16, 2018 and August 18, 2018  
at 8:30 am at Garrett Cinemas**

# The following is a press release sent on May 3rd by DNR. It is great news for Western Maryland Residents.

## *New Combined Licensing and Registration Service Center Opens in Cumberland*

*May 3, 2018*

### *Centralized Location Becomes “One-Stop Shop” for Services*

Cumberland residents and those living in the surrounding area now have one central location to complete their Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration and Maryland Department of Natural Resources transactions.

As part of Governor Hogan’s Customer Service Promise to make services more accessible to Marylanders, the Department of Natural Resources has opened a service center in the Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration Cumberland branch office.

“Maryland Department of Transportation is committed to listening to our customers and ensuring we’re giving them the best customer experience,” said Maryland Department of Transportation Secretary Pete K. Rahn.

Over the past year, several combined service centers have opened across the state in Bel Air, Essex, Frederick, Salisbury, Annapolis and now Cumberland. As of May 1, 2018, 32,000 total natural resources-related transactions have been completed at these combined service centers.

**“I am very pleased that we are returning to Cumberland after a five-year hiatus to provide licensing and registration services to our customers and stakeholders, especially our anglers, boaters, hunters and off-road enthusiasts,”**



**Natural Resources Secretary Mark Belton said. “Our innovative partnership with the Motor Vehicle Administration allows us to expand our presence and reach in western Maryland and throughout the state even as we transition more and more services online.”**

The Cumberland service center will give customers access to the following services:

- Recreational hunting, fishing and crabbing licenses;
- Commercial fishing licenses; and
- Off-road vehicle permits.

“We are happy to provide convenient access in western Maryland to these Department of Natural Resources services and vital Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration products into one location,” Motor Vehicle Administrator Christine Nizer said. “Maryland Department of Transportation will continue to look for ways to expand services to our customer as a ‘one-stop shop’ by partnering with other state agencies.”

The Cumberland service center will be open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. It will be a limited service center that will only accept credit card payments; no cash, checks or mail-in applications.

The address is 13300 Winchester Road, SW, Cumberland, MD 21502.

# POA Board Members

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