



Bonnet Shores

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The shortest days of the year loom on the horizon and the skies have taken on a decidedly brooding aspect. Daytime walks are shorter and quieter — accompanied by blowing leaves and new vistas opened up by the absence of leaves from the trees. Different cars are parked in some driveways, showing signs of a student population; while other houses are buckled up tightly in anticipation of whatever Old Man Winter may bring. It is November in Bonnet Shores — a poignant reminder that life along the shore is like living in two different places.

With the holidays just around the corner, the Recreation Committee is completing plans for the annual Holiday Party scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 13, at the Larchwood Inn, Wakefield. Menu choices are the same as last year, and RSVP forms and further details will be included in the Fire District's fall/winter newsletter, which will be in the mail very shortly.

Speaking of parties, Fire District residents will be invited to a "burning of the mortgage" party the last weekend in June celebrating the final payment on the Community Center building on Bonnet Shores Road. The District Council is sponsoring the celebration, with the Historical Committee providing the entertainment. A slide show, exhibits of materials relating to the long-awaited and much-anticipated building of the center and special commemorations of organizations and individuals who contributed to its fulfillment will be featured. The community building, sometimes called the "club house," is certainly one of the most important features of the Bonnet community, and those responsible for it deserve the party they are going to get.

A new committee, the Long Range Planning Committee, met recently to begin an in-depth study of the district's future. Among the concerns are the condition of Wesquage Pond, accessibility of the community building and several issues relating to the quality of life in Bonnet. All agree that tremendous strides have been taken in the last 10 years — and are looking ahead to what the next decade will bring.

And how better to anticipate the future than by embracing the past. The Historical Committee has acquired a 1928 blueprint map of Bonnet Shores. The stunning white-on-blue reprint features the often-mentioned golf course, the five buildings that existed at the time (including the original Bonnet Shores Beach Club House at Col. John Gardner and Bonnet Shores roads, a single bathhouse at Wesquage Beach and a gate house "at the fork") and the wide open spaces we know today as the Log Cabin section. As they did with the 1934 map a couple of years ago, committee members will have reprints available for sale. Look for details in the district newsletter or call me at the number above.

Enough for now. It's time for a walk before it gets dark. Now, where's that heavier coat?