



Sprongs Bluff Landowners Association

To: Sprongs Bluff Association Members
From: Doug Riter, 2008/09 Association President
Date: June 2, 2009
Subject: Newsletter #3

Well, the snow and winter weather has finally left us and with the “snowbirds” (my grandmother’s term for those who head south for the winter) returned, I thought it was time to pass on some information in advance of our summer season.

SECOND ANNUAL 4TH OF JULY PARADE- Our second annual Sprong’s Bluff 4th of July parade will be held on Sunday, July 5th at 2:30 p.m. Please invite your families and friends and bring your garden tractor, golf cart, bicycle or feet to walk the parade route. Remember, the colors of the day are red white and blue. We will line up at 2:15 in front of the “Town Hall” (Tom and Bev Garlipp’s house). Remember, it is important to have spectators along the route. The cold beverages and encouragement were appreciated last year. The big question is who will be Miss Sprongs Bluff this year? Fireworks will begin after dark again at the West end. (Please feel free to donate towards the cost of the fireworks to Bill Smith)

ANNUAL MEETING- Given the number of residents at the Bluff on the weekend of the 4th, it was decided to have the annual meeting at 10:00 AM in the “Town Hall” on Saturday, July 4th. Coffee and doughnuts will be provided. If you have items that you would like added to the agenda, please let me know.

ANNUAL DUES: Our treasurer, Ed Saphar, reported to the Executive Committee that a record number of landowners paid dues this year. A BIG thank you to all who have paid dues and for the few who still need to get your dues to Ed, please consider doing so prior to the annual meeting. Our goal is to have all landowners as contributing members of the Association both financially and with participation in events, committees, etc.

ROAD MAINTANENCE REPORT- Kudos to the wonderful job our road committee has done on the road this year. Special thanks go to Bill Smith and Tom Garlipp for establishing a wonderful working relationship with the Town of Sodus Highway Department and for the progress we have made on many fronts this past year. We were put on the town’s snow plowing route this winter for the first time ever which helped keep access open to the cottages and homes all winter. Not only that, but the town was

responsive to salting when things got icy. The millings were provided, put down and rolled at no charge to the association by the highway department last year, and this spring, they scraped from the dumpster on the west road to the bridge on the east road. We also contracted Midland Asphalt to use magnesium chloride on the freshly scraped portions, to bind the materials and keep the dust down. Discussions are underway with the town about obtaining materials to patch and smooth out the main road this spring, hopefully before the summer season. Further reporting on the state of the road and future plans for the road will be discussed at the annual meeting.

RELATIONS WITH THE STATE- After unsuccessful attempts to meet with Bob Oaks, it was decided at our last Executive Committee meeting to obtain the services of a lawyer to look into applicable laws regarding the state's responsibility for both the liability and maintenance of the road. It has been wonderful for the town to step up and provide certain services and materials, but to actually improve the roadway, we have looked into the costs of oil and gravel that would create a more permanent (and in the long run) less costly situation for us. Hopefully once we get legal answers to our questions, we will be better prepared to approach the state with our questions.

PARTICIPATION- There have been questions about how to be more involved with the ongoing workings of the Association. Currently, members are encouraged to volunteer to be on the Road Committee, Nominating Committee, Sign Committee, or Beautification Committee and to present their questions or concerns to any of the Executive Committee members. A question arose about opening Executive Committee meetings to any members of the Association with discussion about meetings being run like a public board meeting. This would provide an opportunity for input from interested members, committee reports and discussion on other Association business by the Executive Committee. This will be discussed at the annual meeting. Please read on for the information about the by-laws.

GARBAGE- We now have a dumpster available for interested residents at the west end of our road. Bill Smith reported that having the dumpster has cut down considerably on the traffic on our roads by the large garbage trucks (at one point, 4 per week). The cost has been about \$10 for each participant per month and is dependent on the number of participants. We will have a sign-up sheet to determine interest at the annual meeting and then be able to determine costs both for seasonal and year-round residents. Bill will cover the cost out of this "garbage" fund ☺ to erect fencing to shield the dumpster from the Scardinale's residence and place a log to avoid turn arounds by the trucks.

SIGNS- We discussed a suggestion by Mark Strodel and Sarah Parsons about creating a sign for the Bluff. With the Sprong's Fruit Farm sign gone, it has been difficult for people (including the State Police at one point) to find our cottages. It was decided that both as a safety measure and a convenience to those looking for our residences,

we would look into erecting an understated sign that would help people looking for our road without attracting unwanted passer-bys.

BY-LAWS- Manfred Lichti put together a set of by-laws for the Executive Committee to review and consider last fall. After some research, Ed Saphar, located a set of by-laws created around or prior to 1985. At this point, the committee members are reviewing both sets of by-laws with the intention of bringing suggestions to the annual meeting for revisions. We will send all members of the association a copy of the current by-laws and the proposed revisions, prior to the meeting. It is our feeling that as we eventually enter into more discussions and negotiations with New York State, having a legitimate association without going overboard would be beneficial.

As always, a BIG thank you to Manfred and Amy Lichti for hosting and revising the Sprong's Bluff website. Details about the picnic, meetings, and other items of interest are available by googling Lichti International and then clicking on the Sprong's Bluff line or going directly to www.sprongsbluff.com

Also, PLEASE feel free to reach me with comments, questions, concerns, ideas, etc by e-mail at driter77@yahoo.com or by phone at 585-383-9017.

Your association president,

Doug