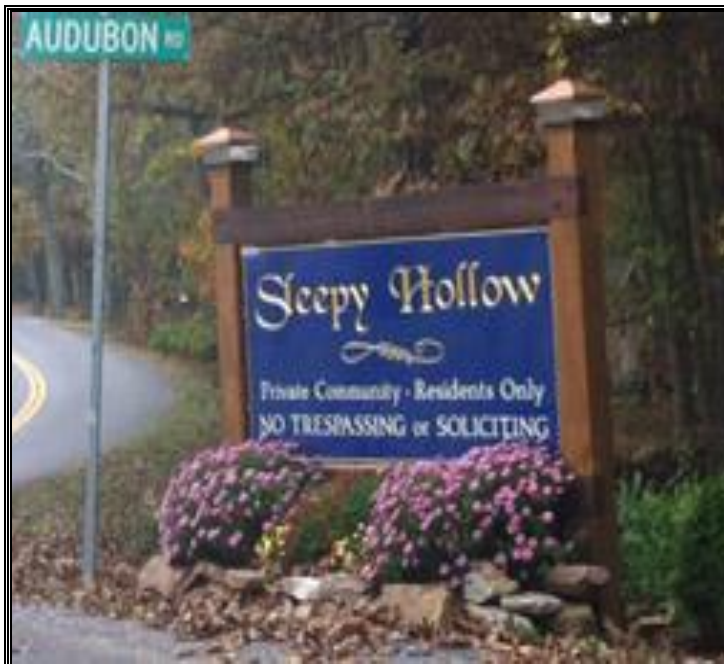


Sleepy Hollow Lot Owners Association Newsletter

www.shloa.com

September 2014



SHLOA BOARD

President	Mary D'Ovidio
Vice President, Interim Treasurer	Rick Roscoe
Treasurer	Kathy Craig
VP Roads, Acting VP Common Facilities	Roger Brown
VP Communications	Rick Inclima
VP Common Facilities	VACANT
Secretary	Mary Oldham

SHLOA BOARD MEETINGS

A notice announcing the Date, Place & Time of a Board Meeting will be placed on the bulletin board at the mailboxes approximately 10 days before each meeting. If you have any questions, please contact a board member.

TO CONTACT THE BOARD

Please address all issues to the Board in writing. Send your correspondence to:

SHLOA
65 Audubon Road
Hedgesville, WV 25427
e-mail: sleepyhollowhoawv@yahoo.com

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

FIRE or Emergencies: Call 911

Morgan County Sheriff Non-emergency	304-258-1067
Berkeley County Sheriff Non-emergency	304-267-7000
State Police/Martinsburg	304-267-0000
State Police/ Berkeley Springs	304-258-2101
Div. of Natural Resources; Enforcement	304-267-0037

*****Remember, SHLOA is not a law enforcement agency***
Call the proper authorities when you need help.**

A Word About Our Roads

Maintaining our roads is a constant challenge. Early spring rains coupled with a long and difficult winter have made this year's road work even more challenging. Ditches and culverts have been cleaned by our contractor, and dirt roads have been graded and crowned to the extent practicable. The Board of Directors is trying to locate funds within our limited budget to add stone/shale to our dirt roads on a prioritized basis. We have over 10 miles of dirt/gravel roads in Sleepy Hollow and we are trying to address the most pressing needs first.

We also have over two miles of paved roads with many areas that need repair. Asphalt repair is costly. The price of asphalt is tied directly to the price of oil. Asphalt repair is also labor intensive and requires specialized equipment. Our Vice President of Roads has solicited bids for repair work to our paved roads. The Board is currently reviewing bids received and we anticipate repair work to begin soon. Again, we will have to prioritize the work based upon available funds to address the most pressing needs first.

There are several things that owners and residents can do to help maintain the integrity of our roads. First and foremost, keep your private culverts clear of debris. Obstructed driveway culverts are a primary cause of erosion on our dirt roads. If your culvert overflows in heavy rains even when clear, that would be a strong indication that the culvert is too small. Please be sure to maintain your culverts and resize them if necessary. This will go a long way in reducing erosion and aiding drainage throughout our community.

Additionally, there are many private driveways that drain directly onto the roadway. The runoff causes severe damage to the roads. Please control your runoff through grading and contouring of driveways. Runoff should be diverted into the ditch lines to minimize costly damage to our roads. It is up to each one of us to do our part.

What can you do to help keep assessments low???

Sign up to receive the SHLOA Newsletter via email!

You can help SHLOA reduce the cost associated with printing and mailing our quarterly newsletter by signing up to receive the SHLOA Newsletter by email. The money saved will be used for other pressing needs such as road maintenance and repair.

Simply email us at sleepyhollowhoawv@yahoo.com and put "NEWSLETTER" in the subject line. Please include your name, current mailing address, Section & Lot number(s), and email address in the body of your message. You will then be added to our growing list of residents who have chosen to receive quarterly SHLOA Newsletters directly via email. SHLOA respects your privacy and will never sell or use your email address for any non-SHLOA purpose.

There are approximately 100 SHLOA residents who have signed up to receive the SHLOA Newsletter by email. Please join your neighbors and help us keep you informed in a cost-effective and environmentally sustainable way. Please sign up today!

FROM THE BOARD

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

I cannot believe this summer has passed so quickly. The weather has been great and a lot has been accomplished although we still have more to be done. A lot of people enjoyed the lake this summer. The lake attendants did a fine job monitoring it so that it could be enjoyed by just our residents which it was intended to do. The fence at the lake will be fixed soon.

The dirt roads have all been graded and the ditches cleaned. The culverts that the Association has installed have all been cleaned. The culverts that are still causing problems on some of the roads are owned by lot owners and it is their responsibility to clean them out. In some cases they were removed because the owners refused to keep them clean and they were causing water to wash out the roads. If you have a blocked culvert, please clean it. If you want it done for you at your expense please contact Roger Brown, VP of Roads. His phone number is on the Bulletin board at the ball field.

We had some patching done on the paved road and were able to have more extensive work done on some of the dirt roads that needed work done the most. We would love to have been able to fix all the dirt roads and to have done more on the paved road. But guess what? It costs money. We spent all that we allocated in our budget and then some from a reserve fund but there is just not enough to do it all.

Where does the money for this come from? You; the lot owners through your assessments! I believe that we had the largest response of people paying their assessments this year than in the past but there are still many owners who have not paid their dues in years. If every lot owner paid their fair share we could have done much more. I thank those who have paid their assessment dues and encourage you to continue doing so. I would ask those who have not paid but get all the benefits that everyone else does that you pay up. It's really not fair for the rest of us to subsidize you and we don't want to take you to court. We also do not want to increase the assessments. Let's all do our share so we can enjoy this wonderful community together.

Mary D'Ovidio
President

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATIONS

SHLOA's web site, www.shloa.com, and email are our preferred methods of keeping you informed. Many newspapers and magazines have converted to web-based publications as a cost saving measure. Sleepy Hollow's newsletter printing and mailing costs continue to climb. Therefore, we continue to move incrementally towards increased web-based communications in an effort to keep you informed of current events while simultaneously saving your hard-earned assessment dollars.

Any homeowner who has not already done so can sign up for electronic newsletter distribution by sending an email to SHLOA at Sleepyhollowhoawv@yahoo.com. Please put "newsletter" in the subject line, and include your name, mailing address, lot number & section, and email address. We will gladly accommodate your request and send future newsletters directly to your inbox. What's easier or more convenient than that?

The monetary and environmental cost of printing and mailing SHLOA newsletters continues to climb. Ultimately, our intent is to reduce the annual cost of producing the newsletter to zero (\$0.00) by transitioning to a fully electronic format (i.e., email and web posting). The current and future savings will be put towards

road maintenance, insurance, taxes, licenses, permits and other budgeted items whose increases we cannot control. This will help us keep our annual assessments affordable for all.

All newsletters are uploaded to www.shloa.com upon publication. However, please note that personal email addresses, phone numbers, and home addresses are “scrubbed” from posted newsletters and other on-line notices to protect the privacy of residents, lot owners, and members of the Sleepy Hollow Board. This is another good reason why receiving your newsletter by email makes sense and cents!

For the time being, our 2nd and 4th Quarter newsletters will continue to be printed and mailed (or emailed) to each lot owner’s address of record. The 1st and 3rd Quarter newsletters will only be emailed and published on-line at www.shloa.com as a cost saving measure.

Thanks to all who have already signed up to receive the newsletter electronically. Please visit our website regularly and sign up to receive future SHLOA Newsletters by email. The money you save will be your own!

Rick Inclima
VP Communications

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR TREASURER

Hello, I would like to introduce myself. My name is Kathy Craig and my husband Jim and I have owned property in Sleepy Hollow for more than 20 years. I volunteered to be on the Board because I enjoy having a home here and want to do all I can to continue to keep Sleepy Hollow a nice place to live. I will begin to learn the job of Treasurer and hope I can do as good of a job in the future as June Clark has done. I am looking forward to serving on the Board of Directors.

Kathy Craig
Treasurer

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR SECRETARY

My name is Mary Oldham. I am a retired dog groomer of 35 years, 25 of those I worked out of my own shop with as many as 5 additional groomers. My husband of 39 years, Ralph, has always worked with me to make our business a great success. After living on a small farm, we moved to the eastern shore for 10 years. We have lived in Sleepy Hollow almost 2 years now and we just love it.

I am now the secretary on the board of directors. Why did I choose to run for a position on the board? This is now my community as well as yours. This position has allowed me to see what it takes to run our community. Why sit and complain about things when you can actually have a voice in the decisions that are made. I wanted to help Sleepy Hollow remain the place we moved to and enjoy. You don't have to be on the board to be an asset to our community. We have limited resources to do what needs to be done. Attend the board meetings. Everyone is welcome. Get involved!!!! Volunteer a service or a skill. Be a good neighbor.

Mary Oldham
Secretary

July 31, 2014 Budget

2014 PROPOSED BUDGET AS OF JULY 31, 2014	2014 BUDGET	YTD	DIFFERENCE
INCOME			
2014 HOME OWNER'S ASSESSMENTS	\$114,300.00	\$103,052.97	(\$11,247.03)
MISC INCOME	\$300.00	\$150.00	(\$150.00)
OPERATING INTEREST	\$100.00	\$0.00	(\$100.00)
TOTAL INCOME	\$114,700.00	\$103,202.97	(\$11,497.03)
2014 RESERVE ALLOCATIONS			
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$17,145.00	\$15,457.95	(\$1,687.05)
EMERGENCY FUND	\$11,430.00	\$10,305.30	(\$1,124.70)
AVAILABLE 2014 RESERVE FUND	\$9,405.00	\$741.91	(\$8,663.09)
TOTAL RESERVE ALLOCATIONS	\$37,980.00	\$26,505.15	(\$11,474.85)
2014 BUDGET	\$76,720.00	\$76,697.82	(\$22.18)
FIXED EXPENSES			
INSURANCE/TAXES/LICENCES/PERMITS	\$4,500.00	\$3,427.94	(\$1,072.06)
STORAGE	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$0.00
PHONE AT LAKE	\$450.00	\$284.40	(\$165.60)
LIGHTS AT LAKE & BALLFIELD	\$270.00	\$139.68	(\$130.32)
RELIEF STATION	\$1,000.00	\$394.85	(\$605.15)
COMMUNICATIONS	\$1,950.00	\$679.68	(\$1,270.32)
ANNUAL ELECTION/MEETING	\$450.00	\$550.00	\$100.00
TOTAL	\$9,220.00	\$6,076.55	(\$3,143.45)
ADMINISTRATIVE			
ADMINISTRATIVE/OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$300.00	\$28.73	(\$271.27)
COMPUTER, SOFTWARE, OFFICE EQUIP	\$400.00	\$206.59	(\$193.41)
LEGAL FEES	\$4,500.00	\$1,330.00	(\$3,170.00)
TREASURERS/ACCOUNTING/INVOICING	\$3,700.00	\$981.27	(\$2,718.73)
TOTAL	\$8,900.00	\$2,546.59	(\$6,353.41)
ROADS			
UNPAVED MAINTENANCE	\$14,000.00	\$6,750.00	(\$7,250.00)
PAVED MAINTENANCE	\$10,000.00	\$168.86	(\$9,831.14)
UPGRADES	\$8,500.00	\$1,395.00	(\$7,105.00)
SNOW REMOVAL	\$11,500.00	\$10,125.00	(\$1,375.00)
TOTAL	\$44,000.00	\$18,438.86	(\$25,561.14)
COMMON FACILITIES			
LAKE ATTENDANT	\$4,500.00	\$2,718.15	(\$1,781.85)
LAWN CONTRACT	\$6,100.00	\$3,600.00	(\$2,500.00)
MAINTENANCE	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	(\$4,000.00)
TOTAL	\$14,600.00	\$6,318.15	(\$8,281.85)
TOTAL 2014 BUDGET EXPENSES	\$76,720.00	\$33,380.15	(\$43,339.85)

Sleepy Hollow Snow Plowing Policy

Yes, it is almost that time of year again! It is possible that we will begin experiencing winter weather before the 4th quarter newsletter is published. Therefore, we are republishing our snow removal policy to keep you informed.

SHLOA follows a long-established policy regarding the plowing of roads during winter weather. The policy states clearly that roads are plowed whenever the depth reaches 3 inches anywhere in the development. We have unpaid volunteers checking on snow depth throughout the community especially in the problem areas. If the depth is not 3 inches, our longstanding policy is that we do not plow due to our limited plowing budget.



2014 ELECTION RESULTS – SHLOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At the Annual Meeting held on June, 21, 2014, the ballots for the 2014 SHLOA election were counted and verified by the Election Committee. Below are the election results:

BALLOTS

Lot Owners Receiving Ballots:	368
Lot Owners Returning Ballots:	82 (22.2%)
Ballots Returned:	120 (23.5%)
Ballots Ineligible/invalid	7

ELECTION RESULTS

Candidates Named On Ballot

Roger Brown	103 Votes
Mary D'Ovidio	109 Votes

Write-in Candidates

Mary Oldham	17 Votes
Kathy Craig	17 Votes
Michelle Ertter	4 Votes
Stacey and Tim Weint	2 Votes

A special thanks to all our volunteers, especially our write-in candidates who stepped up to offer their time and effort to help our community. Everyone is a winner, especially Sleepy Hollow!



The SHLOA Bylaws govern the timeline for submission and publication of resumes and the printing of the official ballot for Board of Directors election. The 4th Quarter (November 2014) newsletter will explain our nomination, balloting, and write-in process in more detail ahead of next year's (June 2014) election. We are extremely proud of all our candidates and thank them for their willingness and courage to run for a position on the Board for the benefit of Sleepy Hollow.

Roger Brown, assisted by Rick Inclima, is currently covering the vacant position of VP Common Facilities. At the time of this newsletter publication, the Board of Directors was in the process of reaching out to our other write-in candidates to see if they would accept the position of VP Common Facilities.

The VP of Common Facilities supervises the summer lake attendants. This includes developing the schedule for lake attendants, approving payroll, etc. In addition, the VP of Common Facilities is responsible for overseeing contractors, work, and maintenance as it relates to any required Department of Natural Resources (DNR) inspection of the lake and periodic dam safety inspections required by the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection Dam Safety Section. The VP Common Facilities also oversees maintenance and repair of the lake docks and beaches, common parking areas, and the ball field and pavilion.

Lake Fence Damaged Again in Another Hit and Run

On the evening of September 2, 2014, the blue metal barrier fence at the lake was hit and run causing extensive damage that will need to be repaired. The hit and run occurred sometime between 6:00PM and 7:30 PM. This was the second hit and run to the fences at the lake. This past winter, the new wooden fence at the lake was hit and extensively damaged. No one has owned up to responsibility for these two incidents; therefore, SHLOA and the residents of Sleepy Hollow are on the hook for repairs. If you have any information regarding these two hit and runs, please forward same to the Board of Directors via email at Sleepyhollowawv@yahoo.com. Remember: The speed limit on all our roads is 20 MPH! Drive safely!

WEST VIRGINIA CODE

§20-2-58. Shooting across road or near building or crowd; penalty.

(a) In addition to any other prohibitions which may exist by law, it shall be unlawful for any person to shoot or discharge any firearms:

(1) Across or in any public road in this state, at any time;

(2) Within five hundred feet of any school or church; or

(3) Within five hundred feet of any dwelling house: *Provided*, That a person who is a resident of a dwelling house, and his or her authorized guest, may shoot or discharge a firearm in a lawful manner within five hundred feet of the dwelling house where the person lives, if the firearm is being discharged with the express or implied knowledge and consent of all residents of that dwelling house, and no other dwelling houses are located within five hundred feet of where the firearm is discharged; or

(4) On or near any park or other place where persons gather for purposes of pleasure.

(b) Any person violating this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not less than fifty dollars nor more than \$500 or confined in jail for not more than one hundred days, or both fined and confined.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, any person operating a gun repair shop, licensed to do business in the State of West Virginia and duly licensed under applicable federal statutes, may be exempted from the prohibition established by this section and section twelve, article seven, chapter sixty-one of this code for the purpose of test firing a firearm. The director of the Division of Natural Resources shall prescribe such rules as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of the exemption under this section and section twelve, article seven, chapter sixty-one and shall ensure that any person residing in any dwelling home within five hundred feet of such gun repair shop be given an opportunity to protest the granting of such exemption. *Note: WV Code updated with legislation passed through the [2013 1st Special Session](#). The WV Code Online is an unofficial copy of the annotated WV Code, provided as a convenience. It has NOT been edited for publication, and is not in any way official or authoritative.*

SHLOA reminds residents and guests that Sleepy Hollow is a family-oriented community with lots of children and pets. Please obey all firearms and hunting laws and practice gun safety. Also, be sure to wear plenty of Blaze Orange outerwear as required by law whenever you are hunting or hiking. Please have a safe and enjoyable Fall, and enjoy the great outdoors!

Mail Change of Ownership and Address update form to: SHLOA, 65 Audubon Rd, Hedgesville, WV 25427

CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP OR ADDRESS/UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION	
<p>Date: _____</p> <p>Section(s) and Lot(s) _____</p> <p>County (for each lot) : _____</p> <p>911 Address (for each applicable lot):</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Section(s) and Lot(s) _____</p> <p>Date of Settlement or Title Change: _____</p>
<p><i>Current Information:</i></p> <p>Your Name(s) : _____</p> <p>Street/POBox/Apt: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>City: _____ State: ___ ZipCode: _____</p> <p>Do you own a mailbox at the ball field? _____</p> <p>Unit and Box? _____</p> <p>Phone Number at above address: _____</p> <p>Sleepy Hollow Phone # _____</p> <p>(if different from above) _____</p> <p>email address : _____</p> <p>Emergency Phone #: _____</p> <p>Emergency Contact: _____</p>	<p><i>New Information</i></p> <p>New Owner's Name(s): or change of address</p> <p>_____</p> <p>(if applicable)</p> <p>Street/POBox/Apt: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>City: _____ State: _____ ZipCode: _____</p> <p>Phone Number at above address: _____</p> <p>Sleepy Hollow Phone # _____</p> <p>(if different from above)</p> <p>email address: _____</p> <p>Emergency Phone #: _____</p> <p>Emergency Contact: _____</p>