



*A Waterfront Community*  
SELBYVILLE, DELAWARE

**Fall / Winter 2016**

## President's Message

It's with a sad heart that I must inform you that we have lost four residents in the last few months — Bill DePuy, Wayne Long, Leslie Giles and Lois Fantini — may they rest in peace and God bless their families. With the passing of our President Bill DePuy, the Board of Directors elected Ronnie Young, as President, George Kirkley as Vice President and John Vai/Pintail will fill the vacancy on the Board. On November 3, 2016, Tom Shamp/Mallard resigned from the Board and Mike Jasper/Blue Bill was the next person to fill this vacancy on the Board.

**Beautification Committee:** The trees in the playground area and the big bushes by the marina were trimmed. Two entrance fences with the Swann Keys logo attached were installed. New street signs are in the making.

**Maintenance Team:** Laws Point Road was paved from the 4-way stop to the end of the road, including three speed bumps. A big tent was installed behind the water building to store pool furniture and putt-putt equipment.

All of our Community street lights were upgraded to LED lighting. We are also installing a new light pole on the playground and changing the existing light to LED. Our Maintenance Team has also changed the lights on the outside of all buildings. New street signs have been installed at the entrance to Swann Keys.

**Boat Parking:** Sussex County has an ordinance on the books that states you cannot park a boat, trailer or camper in front of your house. There was a complaint registered by one of our homeowners and the County visited the office to meet with our President. After much discussion, the homeowner withdrew his complaint. If no one else complains, the County will leave us alone. If they do have to come back, they will send you a letter first and then a fine.

**Office and small Water Building:** Roof shingles are being replaced on these buildings.

**Environmental Committee:** A new committee was formed. It is looking into our receiving a grant from the State of Delaware to take out the bulkhead at the Marina and replace it with special grasses. All information will be on the ballot and voted on at the Annual Meeting on May 20, 2017.

**Swimming Pool:** The pool was a big success this season. This year we added hot dogs, chips and a soda for \$2.00 (Swann Keys Special), which helped us purchase new umbrellas for the pool. A special thanks to the Recreation Committee.

Our security cameras are working well. We caught a person stealing a boat from Swann Drive. The State Police reviewed our camera system in the Office and obtained all the information they needed to make an arrest. The boat was returned to the owner.

On behalf of your Officers and Board of Directors, we wish all a safe and happy Thanksgiving and Holiday Season.

Ronnie Young, President

## Swann Keys Civic Association

37689 Swann Drive  
Selbyville, DE 19975

302-436-5111

Fax: 302-436-5119

Email: [info@swannkeys.comcastbiz.net](mailto:info@swannkeys.comcastbiz.net)

Website: [www.swannkeys.org](http://www.swannkeys.org)

Office is open during the winter season  
Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

## Officers

Ronnie Young, President  
George Kirkley, Vice President  
Sharon Fantini, Treasurer  
Carol Harper, Recording Secretary  
Kathy Berkheimer, Corresponding Secretary

## Emergency Numbers

Ronnie Young, President —  
410-703-3698  
Mel Fetty, Maintenance Supervisor —  
443-790-1141

## Security

Swann Keys has a system of security cameras for our common areas. If you see something suspicious, say something — call 911.

## Newsletter Committee

Sue Sisson, Editor  
Sharon Fantini  
Carol Harper  
Kathy Berkheimer

# Board of Directors

The Swann Keys Civic Association is managed by a Board of Directors composed of 15 property owners who are elected annually in May. As a property owner, you are eligible to run for the Board of Directors. Annually, property owners in good standing receive a form to nominate a person or persons of their choice. Shortly after nominations are closed, property owners will receive a packet containing a ballot to vote for the people they would like to see on the Board of Directors and a proposed budget for the next fiscal year.

Board meetings are held on the 3rd Sunday each month at 10 a.m. Property owners are encouraged to attend all Board meetings. Time is reserved at the end of each meeting for owners to address the Board with their comments or concerns.

## Board Members

Kathy Berkheimer	302-436-5071	37047 Pintail	bkberkheimer@gmail.com
Chuck Der	302-436-4185	36951 Mallard	chuckder@yahoo.com
Sharon Fantini	610-357-2517	37871 Swann	h20sealady46@gmail.com
Melvin Fetty	443-790-1141	36956 Laws Pt.	mhfetty@verizon.net
Carol Harper	302-436-2838	37023 Canvasback	crlharper@gmail.com
Bill Hutchison	301-785-5589	37059 Mallard	marbill66@comcast.net
Michael Jasper	302-864-5185	36929 Blue Bill	michaeljasper3602@comcast.net
George Kirkley, Sr.	443-677-3922	37789 Swann	gtkirkley@yahoo.com
Richard Schofield	443-564-7799	37050 Pintail	no email
Dianna Shade	410-227-4998	36972 Canvasback	dianna.shade@date-international.com
Susie Smith	301-395-5044	37084 Mallard	dizlady@aol.com
John Vai	610-470-1569	36989 Pintail	javai@verizon.net
Ron Wells	302-436-2138	37044 Mallard	cswretired@yahoo.com
Ron Wroblewski	443-244-2982	37066 Laws Pt.	lwroble1@yahoo.com
Ronnie Young	410-703-3698	37851 Swann	0345ronnie@gmail.com





## Swann Keys Sports Club

<b><u>Officers</u></b>	President	Eleanor Bruce	302-436-4946	Vice President	George Kirkley
	Secretary	Nancy Kirkley		Treasurer	Kathy Berkheimer

This is the 20th Anniversary of the Sports Club. We are very happy to announce another successful Picnic in the Park held in conjunction with the Ladies Auxiliary. Although the weather was very hot, we hope everyone enjoyed themselves. The largest attendance so far this year was the Doo-Wop Dance, which was a major success.

Club membership is in excess of 100 and we continue to look for new members. New members (male or female) are always welcome. You can join by calling the Club President Eleanor Bruce. All members of the Sports Club must be owners/residents in good standing with Swann Keys. At present, the annual dues are \$20 per year, per member and are payable April 1. Club meetings are held on the 3rd Saturday of each month.

**Schedule of Events** These upcoming events are open to all Swann Keys residents. We continue to look for volunteers to host Happy Hours and assist in our activities. All activities require reservations and prepayments. Events and updates are posted on the board next to the mailboxes.

2016	Dec 10	Christmas Party	5:30—10 p.m.	Members Only
2017	Jan 21	Chili Cook Off (Participants needed)	5:30— 8 p.m.	Price TBD
	Feb 5	Super Bowl Party	5:00 — ?	Price TBD
	Mar 11	Corned Beef/Ham Dinner	5:30—7 p.m.	Price TBD



## Swann Keys Ladies Auxiliary

<b><u>Officers</u></b>	President	Pat DePuy	302-436-5812	Secretary	Ruth Stevens
	Vice President	Dottie Burke		Treasurer	Mary Burkhardt

This year is the 30th anniversary of the Swann Keys Ladies Auxiliary. We currently have 39 members in our group and invite new members to join. Annual dues are \$15. Auxiliary meetings are the 2nd Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. in the Clubhouse.

Upcoming events are our annual visit to the Delmar Nursing Home on December 7th to distribute gifts and refreshments to the residents. This is our 20th year of spreading good cheer at the nursing home during the Holiday Season.

On December 31, there will be our annual New Year's Eve celebration from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Beer, wine and set-ups will be provided, as well as music by Bob Hughes. Bring your friends and neighbors for a safe and enjoyable New Year's. This is one of our main events for the year that provides us with funds to contribute to the Swann Keys community. Check the front board for ticket prices and reservations. Continuing Auxiliary activities in the Clubhouse are games on Tuesdays 7-9 p.m. and ladies pool on Mondays 1-4 p.m.

For further information on these activities or to join the Auxiliary, please call our President, Pat DePuy.

## **Clubhouse and Community Center**

The Swann Keys Clubhouse and Community Center are available to members (8 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily) using your electronic pass.

No one under 18 will be admitted to the building unless accompanied by an adult. The building is equipped with pool tables, TV's and a lending library. Book donations are always welcomed.

Property owners may use the Clubhouse or Community Center at no charge for memorial services.

Rental includes use of the kitchen facilities and tables and chairs for set up.

Either venue makes an excellent location for baby and bridal showers, weddings, special anniversaries or birthdays. The event possibilities are endless.

For further information about Rental Agreements, please contact the Swann Keys Office. For a video on the property, visit <https://you.tube/swannkeys>.

### **STAY INFORMED**

It is important that you have your current email address on file. You can go to our website [www.swannkeys.org](http://www.swannkeys.org) to add or change your email address. To enter the website, you must have a secured login and password. Contact the Office for this information.

### **Important Phone Numbers**

Police / Fire / Ambulance	911
Human Services (non-emergency)	211
Police (non-emergency)	302-855-2980
Fire / EMS (non-emergency)	302-856-6306
State Police Troop 4— Georgetown	302-856-5850
Troop 7— Lewes	302-644-5020

#### **Hospitals**

Beebe Medical Center—Emergency	302-645-3289
Peninsula Regional Medical Center	410-546-6400
Atlantic General Hospital	410-641-1100

#### **Town Information**

Bethany Beach	302-539-8011
Fenwick Island	302-539-3011
Ocean View	302-539-9797

#### **Miscellaneous**

Board of Elections	302-856-5367
Sussex County Constable	302-855-7819
Delaware Electric Co-op Emergency	302-349-9090
Division of Motor Vehicles	302-853-1000
Internal Revenue Service	800-829-1040
Selbyville Post Office	302-436-8044
Social Security	800-772-1213





## Emergency Preparedness



We live in an area close to the ocean and surrounded by water, making our location a likely area for storms and floods. Many weather events are unexpected and may pose a threat to life and damage to the environment; therefore, one needs to be prepared at all times by taking the following steps:

- Inspect your roof and windows and make necessary repairs
- Place valuable items up high, tie down outside furniture or bring inside
- Make sure your siding, gutters and downspouts are fastened securely
- Place trash bins inside or tie down
- If there is a threat of severe flooding, Sussex County will robo call your home to advise evacuation  
Go to Center for the Inland Bays ([www.inlandbays.org](http://www.inlandbays.org)) for more information
- Enroll in the reverse 911 program
- Register your phone with local TV/radio stations
- Have an out of state contact, whose number should be shared with family members
- Have an emergency kit at home
- Designate a family meeting place
- Have copies of important documents to take with you
- Have cash at home, preferably in small bills
- Fill your gas tank when it's half empty
- Have a food and water supply for 7 days for all persons and pets at home
- Fill your medicine prescriptions 2 weeks in advance of their running out
- If the County forces evacuation, it is advised that you leave

**During a known potential storm, you have two choices—to evacuate or shelter in place**

### If you decide to evacuate:

- Leave early
- Close and lock all doors and windows.—
  - Seal with plastic or duct tape
- Secure all outside furniture and other items
- Turn off electricity, water and gas
- Inform your neighbors that you are leaving
- Evaluate alternate routes to your destination
- Take important documents with you along with an electric and water bill
- Have your most reliable car and have food and water in your car

### If you decide to shelter in place:

- Place a green sign "I AM OK" in your front window, if you are OK. Place a red sign "I NEED HELP" in your front window if you need help.
- Identify at least 2 ways to exit your house
- Have an 8x10 tarp available to shelter outside or on roof
- Have a functioning radio or weather radio
- Have a Go-Bag ready in case you need to be evacuate

## Useful Information for Residents

- In case of an emergency, **house numbers** must be displayed on your home. If you wish to purchase a Swann Keys address sign, contact the Office.
- Call the Office when you want your **water turned off or on**. This requires 48 hr. notice.
- For **new construction or replacement** of a home, there is a Swann Keys Commercial Development Fee of \$800. Contact the Office.
- For **improvements or additions** to your property, you must contact Sussex County Planning and Zoning 302-855-7878.
- If a resident has a complaint concerning a Swann Keys **community service provider** (i.e. Delaware Electric Cooperative, Waste Management, etc.), do not call the company yourself, contact the Office.
- If you need **overnight parking** on common areas, the Office should be notified. DO NOT park and leave.
- Property owners are permitted to have 2 **electronic passes** per lot for the pool and clubhouse.
- **REGULAR TRASH** is collected every Monday. **RECYCLE TRASH** is collected every other Monday—schedules are available in the Office. The dates are posted on the Swann Keys front sign. Bins should be curbside by 7 a.m. and placed with the lid opening facing the street and cans 3 ft. apart. If there is more trash than you can fit in your can, please put it in **black trash bags only**.
- NO **yard waste** will be picked up with the trash. It is your responsibility to dispose of yard waste.

Blue Hen Organics, Frankford	302-732-3211
Millville Organic Center	302-423-2601
- **SWANN KEYS' COMMON AREAS**—The property five (5) feet from the edge of the paved roadway on Pintail, Mallard and Blue Bill and the property ten (10) feet from the edge of the paved roadway on Laws Point, Canvasback, Blue Teal and Swann in toward your front property line belongs to the Swann Keys Civic Association and is considered **COMMON AREA**.
  - **New owners after December 1, 2016**, there will be **NO NEW** concrete, asphalt or other non-permeable surface allowed in this common area. If there is a pre-existing non-permeable surface in this common area, you will be financially responsible for the removal and replacement of this area should an emergency occur.
  - **Existing owners prior to December 1, 2016**, are “grandfathered in”. However, should an emergency occur, you will be financially responsible for the removal and replacement of this area.
  - **No Structures are allowed in this common area**. Should an emergency occur, any structure in this common area will have to be permanently removed and cannot be placed back onto the common area.

Board of Directors/2016



## More Useful Information for Residents

- Swann Keys has a noise ordinance from 11 p.m.—8 a.m.
- The speed limit throughout the community is 20 mph and there is NO parking on the roads.
- Keep pets on a leash and clean up after them.
- Please do not drive over the lift station covers. Safely go around them, if you can.
- **Boat Ramps**—The Board is in preliminary discussions with a vendor to convert our ramps to gate accessibility similar to the ramp at Smitty McGees. Further information will be available on our website and at monthly Board meetings.
- **The BULKHEAD AT THE SWANN KEYS MARINA IS IN NEED OF REPAIR** and, because of this, the Swann Keys Civic Association is exploring options for its repair or replacement. One such option comes from the Delaware Center for the Inland Bays (CIB) which has identified possible living shoreline sites in the state. Swann Keys has been chosen as a possible site and the CIB presented the following information on this project:

**October 16, 2016**

### Summary of Presentation to the Swann Keys Community by the Center for the Inland Bays

The CIB has made an offer to Swann Keys to install a living shoreline on two sides (Activities Way and Laws Point Road) of the marina. The CIB would pay \$81,000 through guaranteed Delaware State Grants and Swann Keys would contribute \$10,000, for a total of \$91,000 to complete the project.

**Why would the CIB want to invest money in our community?** A living shoreline would clean up the water in the marina and the canal; increase oxygen in the water and remove life-threatening bacteria; and increase aquatic life, i.e. fish, crabs and turtles.

**What does the CIB get out of this?** This would be a demonstration project for them. Through pictures, videos, publications and two annual meetings in our Clubhouse, they can demonstrate what can be done to improve water in canals.

**What does a living shoreline look like?** Instead of a bulkhead, the hillside on two sides of the marina would be graded softly downward into the water. Saltwater marsh grass called spartina would be installed just above the water's edge and down into it. Spartina never grows higher than 1.5 feet. The slope would not allow for the growth of phragmites, which are taller and invasive. The installed edge would be a straight line held in place by coir logs and a lip of oysters attached to a concrete strip under the water.

**How would this project take place?** If this project is deemed appropriate for Swann Keys by the Environmental Committee, property owners will be asked to vote on this project on the annual ballot sent out in April 2017. If approved by the community, the project would take a little over a year to complete.

**Will there still be bulkhead on the marina?** The bulkhead on the Canvasback side of the marina will remain and Swann Keys would still be responsible for its maintenance.

**Is there maintenance on a living shoreline?** Yes, weeds would have to be removed and the grass above the living shoreline would still have to be mowed.

This presentation illustrated all the positives of a living shoreline; however, your Swann Keys Environmental Committee still needs to research any negatives of this project on the Swann Keys community. We will keep you updated on our findings via the Swann Keys Website and Nextdoor Swann Keys.

Swann Keys Civic Association  
37689 Swann Drive  
Selbyville, DE 19975

## REMINDERS

- Winterfest of Lights      11/17/16 – 1/1/17  
    Northside Park
- Holiday Shopper's Fair      11/25–27/16  
    OC Convention Center
- New Year's Eve Fireworks      12/31/16  
    Northside Park
- St. Patrick's Day Parade      3/11/17  
    Coastal Highway
- Springfest      5/4–7/17  
    Inlet Lot



- **Swann Keys Annual Meeting**

Saturday, May 20, 2017      Registration 9:45–10:45 a.m.  
Meeting Begins Promptly at 11:00 a.m.