



# The Powhatan Signal

*Powhatan Secondary Newsletter Spring 2021*

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## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING NOTICE**

**Date:**

Tuesday, May 18, 2021

**Location:**

Due to the COVID-19 mitigation requirements, the Board Meeting will be via Zoom

**Time:**

6:00 p.m. Call to Order, Agenda to be announced

The meeting includes a Homeowners Forum where owners have a few minutes to relay any concerns or compliments to the Board. Please submit written comments or sign up to speak in advance via email to the manager, Diane Clarcq, [dclarcq@berkeley-realty.com](mailto:dclarcq@berkeley-realty.com). Any written comments submitted will be read at the meeting. Consider attending the Board meetings to learn about current topics in the Association- if you have a computer or a telephone, with the Zoom format you can attend from your home.

## **President's Message**

Kevin Fleming President PCSA Board

Springtime heralds a season of change and renewal. Our community association is looking forward to the reduction of restrictions placed upon us due to the Covid crisis. In May, the pool will reopen, and bring with it the outdoor activity and energy we are all longing for after a long winter. We are hopeful that, as costly Covid cleaning requirements for indoor meetings expire, we will have more leeway in the utilization of the clubhouse.

The PCSA Board, like so many other organizations, has been using Zoom for meetings. I joined the association board at the in-person annual meeting in February of

2020. Since that time, we have only had one other in-person meeting, an outside and socially distanced event where we all wore masks. Yet despite these limits, we can be grateful for of the work our community volunteers have done during the crisis. This work includes but is not limited to, the free library, the food drives, the food trucks, pool vending machines, the Christmas decorations at the monuments, the repair of the walking trail bridge completed by Don Reeves and Scout Troop 103, and the ongoing work of the ARC.

I would also like to thank our management company, Berkeley Realty and our liaison, Diane Clarcq, for all their work facilitating our communications and keeping operations flowing during these challenging times. I apologize for anybody I have left out, but we are thankful for all the efforts that help make our community a great place to live, raise a family, and spend time with friends.

Please be on the lookout for an emailed survey coming from the PCSA board in May. We are putting together a simple questionnaire that should take less than 5 minutes to complete. Your association board has seven members, five of which have joined after January of 2020. The board is crafting the survey to help set priorities for the coming year, so please help us out and respond when you see it.

We hope everyone has a terrific spring, and we look forward to the changes that will bring us closer together and create and even stronger community! Thank you.

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## **Clubhouse Committee News**

The playground, basketball court, and pavilion are open for resident use, with the reminder that the facilities are **not** cleaned per CDC recommendations. Please bring supplies and clean the playground equipment and tables before and after use.

The Louise Pearson Clubhouse remains **closed** at this time for residents to reserve for club meetings, parties; the association cannot meet the opening requirements at this phase of the reopening process.

Below is a list of resources for information and updates on the virus.

Center for Disease Control (CDC):  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus>

James City County:  
<https://jamescitycountyva.gov/3753/Coronavirus-Disease-2019-COVID-19>

State of Virginia: [www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus](http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus)

## **Architectural Review Committee (ARC) Notes**

***This continuing segment in the Powhatan Signal is intended to inform homeowners on requirements and to highlight recurring issues.***

The ARC is dedicated to assisting the residents in processing their plans for renovations to their home and landscape. The guidelines and forms are available on the website, [www.powhatansecondary.org](http://www.powhatansecondary.org).

The spotlight this issue is on lawn maintenance. With the growing season underway, the ARC guidelines, p. 6 and 7, assist in providing a standard for the community.

Curb appeal and the appearance of the lawns is important aspect to consider for the value of our homes:

### i) Lawns.

- (1) In general, it is recommended that lawns be limited to relatively restricted areas around the principal buildings on a home site, and that the balance of the property, insofar as is practicable, remain in forest flora. This has the obvious advantage of minimal disruption of the immediate environment, ensures the prospering of established trees, and offers the additional advantage of minimal maintenance.
- (2) Landscape plant materials should be of native varieties (they look best and should live).
- (3) Yards that present no green grass at all are generally discouraged. In those instances where the total yard is so-called natural, care must be taken to present a planned, "groomed" appearance; continuing maintenance is required to keep out tall grass and noxious weeds.
- (4) While the ARC does not wish to be about the business of policing grass height, yards need to be maintained well enough to avoid devaluing any adjacent homes. With that in mind, the maximum acceptable height of grass on a lawn (or weeds in a "natural" yard) is six inches.

## **New Social Activities Committee Forming**

Laura Fisher & Teri Collins

We are crossing our fingers and toes in hopes of a return to social activities in our community very soon. When it is safe to enjoy some face-to-face activities again, we want to be ready. For this purpose, a new Social Activities Committee is in the works. If you would like to learn more, we encourage you to join us for some light snacks,

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information sharing, and idea gathering on Monday, April 26, 6:30 pm at the pavilion next to the Louise Pearson Clubhouse. We have a few traditional activities in Powhatan Secondary, but would love to expand our social calendar. To do that, we need volunteers and ideas! Please reach out if you think you will be joining us, [powhatansecondaryfun@gmail.com](mailto:powhatansecondaryfun@gmail.com). We hope to see you there.

### Gardening Corner

Submitted by: Lyn Natanski, Master Gardener

#### **POISON IVY ~ LEAVES OF THREE? LET IT BE!**



Those who experience the blisters, swelling, and extreme itching that result from contact with poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*), poison oak (*Toxicodendron pubescens*), or poison sumac (*Toxicodendron vernix*) learn to avoid these pesky plants. Although poison oak and poison sumac do grow in Virginia, poison ivy is by far the most common.

Poison ivy can grow as a groundcover or small bush in woods, fields, at the edges of openings and trails, and pretty much everywhere else. Poison ivy also grows as a vine that climbs on trees, barns, and fences for support. The vine has small aerial roots along the stem that make it look like a fuzzy rope and often has much longer aerial roots as well. Because the plant grows in so many different forms, its leaflets are the best way to identify poison ivy.

The leaflets grow in clusters of three. Hence the old saying "leaves of three, let it be." These leaflets are from two to four inches long with pointed tips. The middle leaflet is usually larger than the others. The edges of the leaflets don't always look the same. They might be smooth, or they could have teeth. The leaflet surface can be many different shades of green and appear glossy, dull, or in between.

Poison sumac is a small tree that primarily grows on moist sites in the southern and eastern parts of the state. There are several other species of sumac that are not poisonous at all. Poison ivy can be controlled by spraying the leaves and stems with an herbicide mixture that contains dicamba, triclopyr, or glyphosate.

Poison oak is a shrub that grows on dry sites, mainly in eastern Virginia. It is usually less than ten feet tall. All parts of the poison ivy plant, including the roots, stems, bark, and leaflets, are poisonous year-round.

The blistering rash people get is caused by an oily toxin known as urushiol. The most common way this toxin gets on your skin is when you touch the plant, especially one that has been damaged in some way, such as being stepped on or run over with the lawnmower. The toxin is oily and sticky and is easily spread around when you touch other parts of your body.

Symptoms begin to appear within a few hours-or days-of contacting poison ivy. Your skin might start itching and burning. This is followed by a rash, redness, swelling, and even watery blisters. Contrary to popular belief, the rash from poison ivy is not spread by touching the oozing blisters. It is a good idea to wear a long-sleeve shirt, long pants, and gloves. Be sure to wash clothing and gloves after working in an area where poison ivy is growing. Cases of poison ivy have occurred when a person sweat through a long-sleeve shirt, thereby allowing the toxins to absorb through the fabric and onto the skin!

## Pool Season Opening Information

The Pool Committee is working on the plan for opening the pool -beginning the pool season on Saturday, May 29, 2021. The details are in progress with changes to the Executive Order and also the implementation of the pool being open to all residents. Please stay in tune with emails from the association as the date draws near!

## Volunteer Spotlight

Don Reeves, Scoutmaster and members of Troop 103, parents and leaders: Jose Robles, Beth Robles, Gordon Shelton, Mike O'Neal, Dave Smith, and Dr. Rodriguez repaired two walking trail bridges heavily damaged due to the heavy rains-water packs quite a force! Jose's son, Sam Robles, was the Eagle Scout that put these bridges in place for the neighborhood almost 7 years ago for his Eagle Scout project.

Thank you -Don and the volunteers and members of Troop 103 for a job well done!

## ADVERTISING IN THE POWHATAN SIGNAL

Would you like to advertise your business to the owners and residents of Powhatan Secondary? Consider an ad in this newsletter as part of your marketing plan! The Powhatan Signal is published four times a year and distributed email to the community and is also placed on the website: [www.powhatansecondary.org](http://www.powhatansecondary.org).

Contact Amy Wygans at 757.229.6810, ext.214 or by email at [awygans@berkeley-realty.com](mailto:awygans@berkeley-realty.com) for additional details.

## *Important Contacts for Powhatan Secondary homeowners and residents*

### **Master Association: Berkeley Realty Property**

Assessments/money owed to PCSA contact Talaya Spratley, 757-229-6810, ext. 212 [tspratley@berkeley-realty.com](mailto:tspratley@berkeley-realty.com)

- Clubhouse reservations contact Danielle Cooke, 757-229-6810, ext. 204 [dcooke@berkeley-realty.com](mailto:dcooke@berkeley-realty.com)
- Architectural control/covenant enforcement, all areas, except the sub-associations, contact Diane Clarcq, 757-229-6810, ext. 209 [dclarcq@berkeley-realty.com](mailto:dclarcq@berkeley-realty.com)

### **Sub-association contacts**

- Cromwell Ridge Condo Association –Diane Clarcq/Danielle Cooke, Berkeley Realty Property Management, 757-229-6810
- Waterford HOA- Chesapeake Bay Management, 757-706-3019
- Powhatan Place HOA – Melinda Settle Harris, Berkeley Realty Property Management, 757-229-6810
- Powhatan Village HOA – Beth Pryor, Community Partners VA, 757-327-0037



**Keep Your Lifestyle and Your Neighbors!**

Continue living a full, independent life in Powhatan of Williamsburg Secondary with a comprehensive care program designed to fit your needs as they change as you age.

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ChooseHome member  
Maureen Ford

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## Board of Directors

Kevin Fleming, President  
Mike Fisher, Vice-President  
Jason Villaflor, Secretary  
Dave Banks, Treasurer  
Tuan Henry Vu, Director  
Michael Reed, Director  
Kathy Varacalli, Director



## PCSA Committee Chairs

Kathy Varacalli, Clubhouse  
Dave Banks, Communications  
Chris Walls, Pool

Continental Pools has open lifeguarding positions at area pools for the 2021 summer season and interviews are being held for those who are interested.

This is an entry-level position and discounts on the lifeguard training course are available. Applicants must be a minimum of 15 years old and be able to pass a swimming test.

Text **SPLASH** to **25000** to get started!

[www.continentalpools.com](http://www.continentalpools.com)



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# When it's time to find a new home for your loved one **Call Me First**

We all know how challenging it is to find a new place for Mom or Dad to live when they can no longer take care of themselves at home. Deciding where they will be happiest and what you can afford is a daunting task. There are so many choices.

**That's where I come in.** I can help you explore and understand the most appropriate senior living options for your specific needs and budget. My experience and connections to the living options available for your loved ones will help you save time and give you the peace of mind knowing you have made the best plans for the future.



**My name is Dawn Michelle,**  
and I am your neighbor, right here in  
Powhatan Secondary.



[www.ChoiceConnectionsVA.com](http://www.ChoiceConnectionsVA.com)

The search to find the "perfect fit" senior residence has never been simpler, whether you are looking for:

- Independent Living
- Assisted Living
- Residential Care
- Alzheimer's/Dementia Care
- Nursing Home

Choice Connections of Virginia can help you understand the differences between the many choices you have in Williamsburg as well as surrounding areas.

**Call me today.**  
**(757) 570-3357**

[DMichelle@ChoiceConnectionsVA.com](mailto:DMichelle@ChoiceConnectionsVA.com)

## **DAVE'S TESTING**

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**Email: [Davestesting4@gmail.com](mailto:Davestesting4@gmail.com)**

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