

The Islander

Your Rumsey Island Residents Association Publication



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February 2008

2008 Meeting Dates

All R.I.R.A. Membership Meetings are held at the Joppa Library beginning at 6:30 p.m. There are NO meetings held in January or February. See you in the Spring!

- **March 20, Thursday**
- April 17, Thursday
- May 15, Thursday
- June 19, Thursday
- July 17, Thursday
- August 21, Thursday
- September 18, Thursday
- October 16, Thursday
- November 20, Thursday
- December 17, Wednesday

2007 Holiday Home Decorating Contest

Congratulations go out to these Winners!

Single Homes

1st Place - 80 Neptune
2nd Place - 200 Bridge Dr.

Towne Homes

1st Place - 665 Shore Dr.
2nd place - 4 Neptune

Thanks to all the residents that lit up our Island during the holidays!!

Our Guard House

We're looking into a new sign to be placed in front of the Guard House on the corner of Bridge & Town Center so we can have a second location to display our meeting dates.

Vacation Rental

Bi-level Ocean City townhouse available for all year round rentals, weeks, weekends or mini weeks. This two bedroom, two baths home is conveniently located on 138th Street Bayside, directly behind the Fenwick Inn. Reasonable rates. Call 410-538-5668 or send email to jbrooks38@hotmail.com for more information.

Copies of Covenants Now Available

The Association will now provide residents with a copy of the Rumsey Island covenants for a small processing fee. You may obtain your copy by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope, along with a check made payable to R.I.R.A for \$10.00, to:

R.I.R.A., P.O. Box 196, Joppa, MD 21085

Look For These Upcoming Events in 2008

Spring Yard Waste Pickup
(R.I.R.A. Members Only)
Spring Yard Sale
Independence Day Parade
Crab Feast
Halloween Parade
Fall Yard Waste Pickup
(R.I.R.A. Members Only)
Fall Yard Sale
Holiday Decorating Contest

Homeowners Tax Credits

The Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation has several property tax relief programs which are specifically designed to provide needed relief to certain groups of property owners. Additional information about these programs may be obtained by calling the Department's Taxpayer Services Office at (410) 767-4433 (Baltimore area) or 1-800-944-7403 (toll free).

Homeowners' Property Tax Credit

The State of Maryland has developed a program which allows credits against the homeowner's property tax bill if the property taxes exceed a fixed percentage of the person's gross income. In other words, it sets a limit on the amount of property taxes any homeowner must pay based upon his or her income. You may request an application by calling the numbers listed above or you can download the application, Homeowners Tax Credit Program Application (HTC60), from their web site: <http://www.dat.state.md.us>.

Once the application has been completed & signed, mail to:

State Dept of Assessments & Taxation
Tax Credit Program
301 W. Preston Street Rm 900
Baltimore, MD 21201

Please specify "Homeowners" on the outside envelope.

Homestead Tax Credit

To help homeowners deal with large assessment increases on their principal residence, state law has also established the Homestead Property Tax Credit. The Homestead Credit limits the increase in taxable assessments each year to a fixed percentage. Every county and municipality in Maryland is required to limit taxable assessment increases to 10% or less each year. The Maryland General Assembly will require homeowners to submit a one-time application in order to continue their eligibility for the Homestead Tax Credit.

NOW ACCEPTING 2008 MEMBESHIP DUES

WHY JOIN RIRA ?

RIRA Membership is open to all residents, both homeowners and renters. Membership dues support community activities, landscape maintenance, fund our growing web site, and pays advertising costs for seasonal yard sales. In addition a membership allows you to purchase a discounted ticket to the Annual Crab Feast and to participate in the Yard Waste Pickup twice a year. RIRA annual membership dues of \$25.00 are payable each calendar year and are in effect from January to December of that year.

!.....Cut along the dotted line and mail in with your membership dues.....!

Enclose \$25.00 payment for annual membership dues.

**R.I.R.A.
Box 196
Joppa, Md. 21085**

Name _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

YES! Send me notification of meetings and upcoming events via E-mail