

SHORE LINES

Bayview Community Council NOVEMBER 2022

Events &
Activities



THE BOLSTAD BROTHERS

By Sheryl Puckett



Once you experience Bayview, Scenic Bay calls you back again. That's what happened with **John and Terry Bolstad.**

The family rented a log house on Hudson Bay Road in 1946 when John was 6 years old and Terry 2 years old. That was before there was McDonald's Resort or any other marina.

Terry remembers the log house having a huge fireplace that he could walk into. Since the house was on the lake, and their father could not swim, he was nervous about the boys being near the water so they had to wear life jackets 100% of the time. "We had a 14 ft. cedar strip boat and were allowed to go out in the bay as long as mom could see us from the house window. We would go all over the bay," says John. He remembers being 7 years old catching silvers (kokanee) and taking them to JD's to sell. "That was the only way to have money for boat gas."



Terry adds, "Dad said as long as you can start the motor you can take the boat out"

The lake would go way down in the summer, and there used to be a sand spit out in front of the house. There was a big cottonwood tree and the boys used to play in the sand all summer long with their toy cars. There was a beaver building a dam in front of the house out of that tree. Terry could smell him. "With the lake receding and all the driftwood on the beach it was our job to collect it for burning in the fireplace.

Boats would be out in the bay commercial fishing all the time. "Used to be you could go as fast as you wanted in the bay, so we'd water ski there. We called it surf boarding since there weren't water skis yet so we made one with orange crate material with cross braces on it," recalls John.

The brothers used to sometimes go by boat to get the mail for their mom. The post office was located in the Bayview Mercantile then. One time the wind was blowing hard and it blew them into the Navy Base.

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The guard shot several times at them (undoubtedly shooting into the air) but it scared them enough that they were rowing like crazy.



Motor Winding Shop

After the war all the Farragut Navy buildings were left and the base was turned into a college called the Farragut College and Technical Institute. John and Terry's parents

worked at the college, their mom teaching biology and anatomy for the nursing school and their father running the motor winding and electrical shop.

John recalls there were about 400 to 500 hundred students; they were all getting the GI bill and the base was full of supplies. "All the infrastructure was still there: microscopes, hospital equipment, electrical equipment, a 25 meter swimming pool, a giant drill hall, and dormitories the guys could stay in. What more could you ask for? We had everything we needed." Terry remembers watching movies in the movie theatre and swimming in the pool.

"We used to go to the hospital and play cops and robbers on the roof and run the gurneys down the hallways. "We never lacked for things to do."

John remembers the college being successful but after three years, they wanted the money in CDA for North Idaho College and shut it down. John says, "It was a sad deal."

"After the war, they closed the Bayview School which was located where the Community Center is now. Everyone had to go to the school located right behind what is now the Farragut Park headquarters," said John. John and Terry attended school there; Terry entered kindergarten and John was the only 4th grader in the class.

Terry would walk from the school to his Dad's shop often. One time, after getting a plastic saxophone for Christmas, Terry would practice it in his Dad's shop and remembers a fellow teacher saying, "I'll give you a coke if I can use your saxophone for a while". Terry adds, "He wanted to get the thing away from me."

Once John forgot his homework, which resulted in an eight mile walk when the teacher had him go back home and get it.

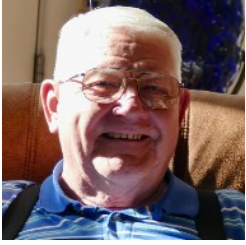
Recently, a chance encounter on the lake, led to an invitation by the current

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Childhood Home on Scenic Bay

CON'T. owners of their childhood home. Terry says, "Funny, the fireplace had shrunk, I know it was huge back then."



Terry Bolstad

After retiring in Bayview John became a volunteer fireman for the Timberlake Fire District and later was a Commissioner.

While the larger than life memories from childhood may not always mirror reality, no one coming to Bayview now, any less than those years past, can deny that the first impression of Scenic Bay lasts a lifetime. The beauty draws us back and holds us here in our beloved Bayview.



John Bolstad

It's been 76 years since the brothers experienced those idyllic halcyon

days. Both now have homes in Bayview; one built off Cape Horn and the other lives in town. John is 83 years old, and Terry 79.

Tractor Supply Coming

Alan Johnson, with Hughes Investments, is responsible for attracting businesses to Athol Crossroads. He is currently in escrow with the large retail chain that sells "products for home improvement, agriculture, lawn

and garden maintenance, livestock, equine and pet care" according to the company's site.

This is a store for everybody. It was obvious with the new freeway everything would change.

If you haven't heard Jitterz Espresso and Roger Dunteman physical therapy are also coming to Crossroads. Shore Lines' newsletter featured articles on Grease Monkey, Dollar Tree and Northwest Specialty Hospital. All of the above are "a done deal."

BWSD Update *editorial by Sheryl Puckett*

Two years ago, Bayview residents approved a 3.4 million dollar bond to rehab our existing water tank and to replace some very old distribution lines. Last month Phase 1 bid, the distribution lines, was awarded to a Rathdrum company, **LaRiviere**. Their base bid came in at **\$2,903,109.00** with a total bid of **\$3,541,221**.

System Operator, Bob Kuchenski, says, "We have to hold their feet to the fire on notifying customers in advanced with unexpected water shut downs."

If you're like me, you're asking yourself where are we getting the money for rehabbing the water tank? The answer I was told is from grants. Let's hope so. BWSD applied twice with the Navy for a \$900,000 grant and didn't get it, but I do believe persistence pays off.

Bids to rehab the tank are planned for this December. Things are moving along.

Waste Not *editorial by Ali Spahn*

On Sept. 17, 2020, **Innovate**, a consulting firm with an award-winning history of delivering state-of-the-art services and solutions to Federal, State, Tribal, and local government clients, submitted a proposal to the BWSD. It was unanimously approved. Innovate was tracking the number of ER's associated to each property, then as well as now.

During this meeting the Administrator Treasurer, Jessie Roe, stated: "When a parcel number has changed or a subdivision was created, there is an immense amount of work to tie in what those are. If I get hit by a bus tomorrow, that person would have to update the GIS map and someone would have to look in 5 different places. With this software every time we enter an update into our billing software, this program would update the GIS map. This is going to be incredibly helpful."

Colleen Dahlseid, former BWSD board member, confirmed, "Our systems (billing and mapping) are not tied together. The mapping doesn't talk to the billing system so if we don't go with Innovate, we'll be in the same position as before."

The Innovate team listed the benefits of the ER Reconciliation and GIS Mapping to the Board as:

- Each ER will have a geographical location through their address.
- ER's assigned parcel numbers with the tax ID number
- ER data in Innovate is more multifaceted than the county data
- ER information can be accessed via cell phone in case of an emergency i.e. office internet is down
- The City of Ponderay, City of Bonners Ferry and the City of Plummer utilize the Innovate programs, just to name a few.

In a SPECIAL MEETING on January 19, 2021, the Innovate team reported the inclusion of the float home data into the GIS application. The search function is now operating with the parcel number, owner name and address. The application can now also take distance measurements. Innovate demonstrated the legends and layers which will aid in historical research and tying to existing information.

During my tenure as BWSD President, I worked with BWSD Clerk Clint Kuhman to validate the information currently in the Innovate system. Unfortunately, since I resigned from the Board in September of 2021, the process has not been continued to the extent it should. The district paid over \$16,000 for the program. As a resident of Bayview, I am appalled that the office staff is not utilizing this program to its full potential. Let's hope the current board members connect with the Innovate team this year and require the staff to be trained on how to integrate the billing with the GIS mapping.