

## Jerol Selby Honored at BHSP Annual Meeting

For the past ten years, the *BHSP Annual Oyster Roast* has been the anchor event for the fundraising efforts for our organization. As the first event of the year, it kicks off the fundraising efforts for the remainder of the year. It is an event which brings together people from all over the state who learn about our mission to rehabilitate the old Bath High School complex.

This February we entertained more than 450 people at this one event and raised more than half of the fundraising budget for the year. This event requires a large venue, many volunteers, and supplies (oyster steamers, tables, barrels, trailers, tanks of gas, tools, a bobcat, trucks, etc.) beyond those available for most people. Jerol and Sonya Selby have graciously hosted this event on their farm east of Bath every year. They have provided labor to clean and prepare for the roast, they have furnished cookers and equipment and every possible convenience that we could possibly need, and they have gathered helpers and consumers to complete the task. Jerol has seen that we have whatever is necessary to accomplish this huge undertaking, even if he and his crew have had to build what we need. If some particular piece of equipment was not available on a given year; when we set up for the next year, miraculously that equipment was on hand. There is no way to estimate the countless hours that Jerol and his crew have spent to get ready for the roast as well as to clean up once it was done. There is also no way to estimate the amount of money they have spent to ensure that we had everything we needed to maximize the returns from the project.

Many times we have tried to do little things to show our appreciation to the Selbys, but they would never accept our offers. Finally, we decided to act without asking. A favorite getaway for the Selbys is a weekend spent in Ocracoke Harbor, fishing, relaxing and enjoying the island. So, BHSP was more than happy to provide the Selbys with a weekend holiday in Ocracoke, a very small return for all the benefits our group has received from their willing and generous efforts to us.



View more pictures at: <https://goo.gl/photos/hVfVrb5746gykt2V7>