

## **President's Message:**

Wow, most of us are now heading for the snorkeling gear and flippers and it looks like the rain is not going away! I sincerely hope everyone's homes, businesses and families have all been safe during these unusual weather events we continue to experience. An earthquake, a hurricane and now being sandwiched between two more major storms have certainly taxed our resources and our patience.

OFBPA would like to say thank you to all facets of our local government, our local police and firefighters, and all public safety and utility crews for their endless monitoring, communication and execution of resources needed. Being married to a retired Baltimore County Highway employee I can tell you from experience that their task was endless and in most cases thankless. Until you "do someone else's job" it's always easy to be critical. So please express your thanks to these folks who worked and continue to work in the most awful weather and dangerous conditions.

In spite of all the negatives of this past two weeks, one has to reflect on how this storm brought out the positive. So for everyone who lent a hand helping a neighbor board up, helped a neighbor pick up debris or allowed an extension cord to plug into your home or business..... Great job! For everyone who checked on their elderly neighbors, lent their freezer space or shower and offered shelter to those evacuated.... Good for you! For everyone who sent supplies out of state to help others..... Awesome job! And you just got to love those who capitalized on the storm and I'm sure the "hurricane sales and parties" will be a lasting memory!

After two weeks of awful weather you will be glad to attend our OFBPA monthly meeting on September 21<sup>st</sup> at 4:30 pm at HealthPlan Headquarters located at 7630 Belair Rd (21236) located in the Belair Road Beltway Plaza. **Deborah Gallant, founder of Bold Business Works**, and a recent transplant to Baltimore from Los Angeles, will join us to lead a discussion about "How to proactively find new customers". Sign up to receive Deborah's newsletter and get important content from Bold Business Works on a periodic basis. <http://www.boldbusinessworks.com>.

**Our meetings are always "open". So bring a business neighbor and plenty of business cards because "every meeting is an opportunity to tell us about your business"**

# WELCOME

We would like to **WELCOME** our newest members **John and Monica Panzer from Just Audio Repair Center, Jeffery Judge of Met Life, Brenda Wolfe and Ryan Guthrie of United Optical and Rachael Waters of White Springs Crossings.**

Special thanks to Auggie Chesser and her ReMax office for allowing us to have our August meeting at their office when a last minute change was needed. We so appreciate her staff accommodating us at the very last minute and apologize to anyone who was inconvenienced. It was unavoidable.

**For all events, membership FYI and meeting updates visit our website at [www.ofbpa.com](http://www.ofbpa.com)**

***Wishing everyone a safe and "dry" week!***

***Donna Bethke, President***