

**MARCH 2017 EDITION OF THE OKALOOSA ISLAND
LEASEHOLDERS NEWSLETTER, THE OIL LANTERN**

Page 1 of 7 pages

OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION, Inc.



**P.O. Box 4323
Ft Walton Beach, FL 32549**

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



Next Meeting: **LOCATION:** Okaloosa Island Fire Station, 2nd Floor Meeting Room **TIME:** 7:00 p.m. **DATE:** Monday, **March 13, 2017** **PARKING:** Please park behind the Fire Station next to the water tank

IN THIS NEWSLETTER

- ◆ Message from the President – **David Hancock**
- ◆ Fire Department Report for Jan 2017
- ◆ Derelict/Beautification Committee Report – **Kathy Foster**
- ◆ Public Hearing on Extending the “No Wake Zone” in Santa Rosa Sound
- ◆ Draft Minutes- Feb 13, 2017 Meeting
- ◆ Island Blood Drive a **SUCCESS!**
- ◆ Architectural Committee and Rainfall Reports for February 2017
- ◆ Wuzzle Puzzles
- ◆ Island Garden Club February Meeting
- ◆ Trivia Headers, Crawlers & Corners
- ◆ Emerald Coast Convention Center Capital Improvement Working Group



Leaseholder **Alan Parker** Donates Blood at the Fire Dept on Feb 16, 2017



The OIL Lantern

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE OKALOOSA
ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION, Inc
P.O. Box 4323, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549,
Editor: Jim Simpson, (850) 585-2116
Association Website: www.oilaweb.com



MARCH 2017

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Meeting Agenda

DATE: Monday, **March 13, 2017**

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Okaloosa Island Fire Station, 2nd Floor Meeting Room

Presentation: Deputy from Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office to Speak

I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. ROLL

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you speak, please state your name, address and if you are a member.

IV. MINUTES

February 13, 2017 Meeting Minutes (Draft)

V. TREASURER'S REPORT - Treasurer, Jim Simpson

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Architectural Report – See Newsletter

B. Membership Liaison: **Jim Simpson**

C. WebSite: **Bob Seitz**

D. Boat Basin: **Carol Edlund**

E. Street Lighting MSBU:

Paula Hudson

F. Derelict Property Committee Report – See Newsletter

VII. OLD BUSINESS

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

– David Hancock

Lots of progress continues to be made with different projects and issues affecting Okaloosa Island. Foremost is the **unanimous** approval by the Okaloosa County Board of Commissioners of the Permit Application for renourishing our beaches after a catastrophic storm event. The importance of this permit cannot be underestimated as Okaloosa County needs to have the capability to act promptly to repair storm damage. During the debate about the Permit application learned a lot about sand on the beach from many sources. One fact that I am sure of is that everyone wants the best sand possible on Okaloosa island and that lots of time and \$ have been spent to accomplish this. This is something all concerned parties must work together on.

Beautification continues its great work; many thanks to the members. An article detailing the committee's activities is in this newsletter.

Engineering drawings for the three undeveloped Beach Access Ways that OILA has been pushing for so long are done. With these in hand the beach Access Way project can be sent out for bids so accurate costs are available.

Remember back in the fall the leaseholders began working on a project relocate the no wake sign from in front of the landing to the west. This came about as a result of complaints from Okaloosa Island residents on safety and boat damage. **A public hearing on the request has been scheduled on Friday March 17 at 6 PM at the Emerald Coast Conference.** There is a separate article about the Public hearing in the newsletter with more details. I hope everyone possible can attend the public hearing.

**JOIN THE LEASEHOLDERS!
LET YOUR OPINIONS BE HEARD!**

**FOR A MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION CLICK ON THE
ASSOCIATION'S
WEBPAGE: WWW.OILAWEB.COM,**

or

CONTACT JIM SIMPSON AT

(850) 585-2116

OR BY EMAIL AT SANLEANNA@COX.NET.

TRIVIA HEADER: Men Are From Mars



- If you are an average American male, you will spend 2,965 hours (123.5 days) shaving in your lifetime.
- If the average male never shaved, his beard would be 13 feet long the day he dies.
- In 1898 all cheerleaders were male. Today 3 percent are.



ISLAND RAINFALL FOR FEBRUARY 2017: 4.4 Inches

Feb 7.....0.3 inches
 Feb 18.....0.1 inches
 Feb 21.....3.8 inches
 Feb 22.....0.1 inches
 Feb 25.....0.1 inches



Average Rainfall for February....5.8 inches
 Variance to Average.....- 1.4 inches

March Avg Rainfall.....5.8 inches
 March Record High.....80° F (1957)
 March Record Low 4° F (1985)
 Mar Avg Water Temperature....66° F

April Avg Rainfall.....3.7 inches
 April Record High.....92° F(1985)
 April Record Low20° F(1987)
 Apr Avg Water Temperature.....72° F

Rainfall Total Year to Date.....11.3 inches
 Year Date to Variance +0.5 inches
 Avg Annual Rainfall 65.1 inches

OKALOOSA ISLAND FIRE DEPT RESPONDS TO 95 CALLS IN THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2017



Fire Calls.....6
 EMS/Rescue/MVA..... 43
 Alarm Activations..... 23
 Other.....23

(89 calls were responded to in January 2016)

TRIVIA CORNER: Why Do We Cover a Yawn?

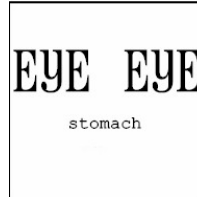
People once thought that their souls could escape during a yawn. They covered their mouths to prevent this and, since yawns were contagious, to try to keep people around them from “catching” the yawn. The apology after a yawn originated as an expression of regret for having exposed people to mortal danger.



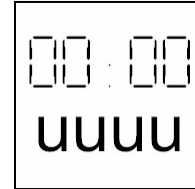
WUZZLE PUZZLES

What is a Wuzzle Puzzle? It is a puzzle consisting of combinations of words, letters, figures, or symbols positioned to create disguised words, phrases, names, places, etc. Are you ready to take the challenge and figure out the “disguised” meaning of these wuzzles? Good luck. The answers are at the bottom of the last page of this newsletter.

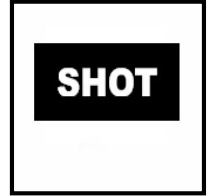
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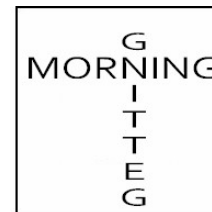
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No.3



No. 4



No. 5



BLOOD DRIVE HOSTED BY THE OKALOOSA ISLAND FIRE DISTRICT A SUCCESS!



On February 16 the Okaloosa Island Fire District Hosted an Island Blood Drive. The OneBlood bus was parked in front of the fire station from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Donors were given a long-sleeve t-shirt in addition to drinks and snacks. The goal of the drive was to collect 15 units of blood. The drive exceeded expectations with the donation of 17 units.

Members of the Okaloosa Island Leaseholders Assoc. (OILA) – see photo - who donated proudly display their “I Donated” stickers (copy inserted) The donors are from left to right: **Alan Parker, Joe Bowman and Patrick Casey** (with his dog **Rocky**). **Rocky** had planned to donate, but a recent vaccination for distemper disqualified him from giving.

The donors are from left to right: **Alan Parker, Joe Bowman and Patrick Casey** (with his dog **Rocky**)

EACH DONATION HAS THE POTENTIAL TO SAVE THREE LIVES!



ISLAND GARDEN CLUB: REPORT ON THE FEBRUARY MEETING



The February presentation on growing tomatoes by Linda Timothy was superb. In addition to her 'secret' soil recipe, she shared growing tips and homegrown tomato plants. Thank you to our fabulous February hostesses (**Helen Johnson, Jeanie Miller, Deborah Yale, Bunny Stephens and Shirley VanRhee**) – see photo - for the delicious food and table decorations

The excitement is building for the Island Garden Club's trip to Bellingrath Gardens on March 23. Only three seats remain unsold!

We will meet once again at El Matador Condominium on April 12th where members (and guests) will create an Easter Bonnet using all natural materials.

Kathy Foster, President
fosterpk@gnt.net or 244-4490

February Hostesses (left to right) **Helen Johnson, Jeanie Miller, Deborah Yale, Bunny Stephens & Shirley VanRhee**



ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR FEBRUARY 2017 for permits submitted to them for consideration. The following information provided by the Architectural Committee.

SPECIAL NOTICES: 1) The Committee meets every Thursday from 9:00 am to 9:30 am at the Tourist Development Center building. 2) ASK BEFORE YOU ACT.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot(s)</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Owner/Contractor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
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THERE WAS NO ACTIVITY BY THE ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE DURING THE MONTH OF FEB 2017

Emerald Coast Convention Center Capital Improvement Working Group – Kathy Foster

In December, 2016, OILA was invited by the Tourist Development Council to participate in the ECCC Capital Improvement Working Group. For the past three months Tripp Tolbert and Kathy Foster have represented OILA at planning meetings administered by the Matrix Design Group. Initial invitees included Fort Walton Beach Medical Center, TDC, Sacred Heart Medical Group, Economic Development Council, Florida Restaurant & Lodging Association, FWB Chamber of Commerce, Destin Chamber, Okaloosa County department heads, ECCC management and staff, Eglin & Hurlburt representatives.

The objective of the ECCC is to attract and produce events which generate economic benefits to Okaloosa County. Approximately \$13 million dollars in capital reserve funds (3rd penny of the bed tax) are available for improvement, expansion and/or renovation of the Emerald Coast Convention Center. Earliest suggestions ranged from erecting a parking garage to constructing an adjacent hotel, to improving the functionality of the existing building, to building a Highway 98 crossover. Although some of those options are not allowable uses of bed tax money.

Concepts now being discussed are connectivity/passageway/transportation between properties; creating a hotel authority and/or a convention district, forming a public/private partnership; integrating ECCC improvements with the Brooks Bridge replacement; building an overpass/underpass on highway 98; establishing a Gateway to the area. Thank you to island residents/property owners who provided ideas for improvements. On February 22, the Matrix Design Group requested that only a single representative from OILA continue in this process. I have stepped aside and Tripp has taken the lead so please share your suggestions with him.

TRIVIA CRAWLER: Women Are From Venus



- In 1950 only 7 percent of American women dyed their hair. Today 75 percent do.
- In 1960, 3 percent of American lawyers were women. In 2005 the number was up to 30 percent.
- Approximately 14% of active members in the U.S. armed forces today are women. In 1950, women comprised less than 2% of the U.S. military.



IMPORTANT MEETING: Public Hearing On March 17 for Extending the No Wake Zone – David Hancock



Back as a result of safety and damage concerns by OILA members, we approached the Fort Walton Beach City Council and Okaloosa County Commissioners to extend to the west the no wake zone in front of the Landing in Fort Walton Beach. Both entities took up the cause and as a result a Public Hearing has been scheduled March 17 by the Florida Wildlife & Conservation (FWC) at 6 PM in the Emerald Coast Conference Center. Yes this is a very inconvenient time as that is a Friday and it is also Saint Patricks Day.



Have already reached out to the FWB city Council and Okaloosa County Commissioners for resolutions supporting this effort. I hope that support of governments on both sides of Santa Rosa Sound will sway the FWC. And we need as many people as possible to show up for the hearings! The more the better! If you cannot attend please send comments to the FWC – their email address is: waterway.management@myfwc.com

This is a Public Safety Issue! Florida Statutes allow for no wake zone at public boat ramps and also at locations where boat fuel is sold. There are 4 of these locations between The Landing in Fort Walton Beach and Liza Jackson Park. Moving the no wake zone to the west so it starts at Liza Jackson Park is the more economic than 4 distinct zone and signs. Please stress the public safety angle at the Public Hearing and in any comments sent to the FWC.

Remember there was almost a disaster on May 28, 2016 on Okaloosa Island where a cabin boat being fueled exploded (photo on the right). The five people on board were lucky as they were blown off the boat. I watched our brave Okaloosa Island Firefighters move the boat away from the gas pumps and extinguish the fire.



PLEASE attend the Public hearing, bring friends and neighbors, and send comments to the FWC!

Information on This Public Hearing Also Posted on the OILA Website: www.oilaweb.com

OILA Derelict Properties/Beautification Committee Report by Kathy Foster

While beauty is in the eye of the beholder, blight needs no description. Posting signs on utility poles and in the public right of way is detrimental to the overall appearance of our island. So is overhanging vegetation on sidewalks and streets. We don't have to be on a committee to take care of this blight.

Four of the stained rock pump covers have been painted... seven more to go once the wind subsides. Century Link responded to our request for repair of their rusted, broken telephone boxes. Their comment was 'we want to be good neighbors.' Where litter and debris collected in the vicinity of Waffle House and Tropical Waves, it appears they are policing the area. Thank you to these three businesses!

We had hoped that pride of ownership and community spirit would prevail, but there has been no response from owners who were sent covenant violation letters. It appears we will be heading to court.

On the wish list... replacing trees in the medians and mounting pole brackets and banners. We hope to have details to share at the March meeting.

Thank you to **Dave Miller, John Dowd, Kim Haines, Bob Haines, Dean Hanson, Kathy Foster** and **Paula Hudson** for their continued commitment to this committee and to our neighborhood. And thank you for all YOU do keeping our island clean and making it beautiful.

TRIVIA CRAWLER ABOUT HONEY:

1. A typical worker bee lives for one month and in that time collects enough nectar to make about 1/12 teaspoon of honey.
2. Honey never spoils. In fact, honey placed in tombs in Southhampton, England, over 400 years ago was still good when the tombs were opened.
3. Honeybees are not native to North America. They were introduced from Europe in the 1600's by the Puritans.

**NOTES - OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION - MEMBERSHIP MEETING
FEBRUARY 13, 2017**

Meeting Location: Okaloosa Island Fire Station, 2nd Floor Training Room Call to Order: 7:00 pm

Board Members Present: Dave Hancock, Dean Hanson and Kim Haines

Announcements:

- Fire Captain Ray Strawn Announced that the OneBlood Donation Bus will be at the Fire Station on Thursday, Feb 16 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. He hopes to make it a semi-annual event.
- Jim Simpson announced that the 2017 Mardi Gras Parade had been cancelled due to weather and that we have 12 gross of mini-moon pies available. Kathy Foster contacted 4 krewes, Harborwalk & Destin Commons looking a buyers of the pies.
- Sheriff's Deputy Rescheduled to the March 13 meeting.
- Question arose about using excess Christmas donations for beautification. The general consensus was not to.

Draft Minutes, January 9, 2017 Meeting: Jim Simpson made a motion to amend the January 9, 2017 Meeting Minutes as follows: "In the report the expense of \$20.68 expense to reimburse Jim Simpson for the cost of the stamps to mail the January 2017 OIL Lantern was credited instead of being debited. Correction of this error changes the following balances as follows: The January 9, 2017 ending Discretionary Fund Balance from **\$36,389.51 to \$36,348.15**. and the January 9, 2017 Total Funds Balance from **\$39,172.97 to \$39,131.60**. The motion was seconded and approved. With this correction, the remainder of the January 9, 2017 Minutes were approved as printed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: FEBRUARY 13, 2017 MEMBERSHIP TOTAL: 244

JANUARY 9, 2017 TOTAL BALANCE: \$39,131.60

ASSOCIATION DISCRETIONARY FUND BALANCE AS OF January 9, 2016.....	\$ 36,348.15
RECEIPTS SINCE LAST REPORT:.....Membership Dues	\$ 17.00

EXPENDITURES SINCE LAST REPORT:

Payment to Kim Haines for items for the Welcome Committee Baskets.....	\$ 33.95
Payment to Dave Miller for the purchase of Mardi Gras beads (13 gross).....	\$ 85.47
Payment to U.S. Postal Service for rental of P.O. Box 4323 for six months.....	\$ <u>38.00</u>
Total Expenditures	\$ 157.42

EXPENSES PENDING APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT:

- Reimburse Jim Simpson for the purchase of Mardi Gras moon pies (12 gross) (Moon Pies - \$237.00 plus Shipping - \$65.35).....	\$ 302.35
- Reimburse Jim Simpson for stamps to mail the January 2017 OIL Lantern.....	\$ 22.05
- Reimburse Jim Simpson for payment of the Annual Filing Fee for the Incorporation of OILA with the State of Florida Department of Corporations.....	\$ <u>61.25</u>
Total Expenses Pending Approval for Payment	\$ 385.65

**ASSOCIATION DISCRETIONARY FUND BALANCE AFTER RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURES
& EXPENSES PENDING APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT AS OF February 13, 2017.....**

	\$ 35,882.08
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BEAUTIFICATION FUND BALANCE AS OF January 9, 2016.....	\$ 1,421.28
BEAUTIFICATION FUND EXPENDITURES SINCE LAST REPORT	No Expenditures
BEAUTIFICATION FUND BALANCE AS OF February 13, 2017.....	\$ 1,421.28

CHRISTMAS DECORATING PROJECT 2016 BALANCE AS OF January 9, 2017....	\$ 1,362.18
CHRISTMAS DECORATING PROJECT 2016 EXPENDITURES SINCE LAST REPORT.....	No Expenditures
CHRISTMAS DECORATING PROJECT 2016 BALANCE AS OF February 13, 2017.....	\$ 1,362.18

SUMMARY: February 13, 2017 Fund Balances

-- Association's Discretionary Fund Balance.	\$ 35,822.08
-- Beautification Fund Balance.....	\$ 1,421.28
-- Christmas Decorating Fund Balance (Donations).....	\$ <u>1,362.18</u>

TOTAL FUNDS BALANCE...\$ 38,605.54

A motion was made and approved to reimburse Jim Simpson a total of \$22.05 to mail the January 2017 newsletter.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Architectural Report: The Architectural Committee Reported No Activity for the Month of February, 2017

Membership Report – Jim Simpson: Jim advised that the membership was 244.

Boat Basin - Carol Edlund: No report

Website – Bob Seitz: No Report

Street Lighting MSBU – Paula Hudson:

Island Lights MSBU - Dept 1602 Revenues & Expenditures – January 31, 2017

Revenues:	Expenditures	Year to Date
Street Lighting Fees <u>\$3,109.87</u>	Electrical Services \$ 957.20	2016 Fund Balance \$247,063.13
	Lighting Services \$2,519.71	Year-to-Date Fund Balance..... \$246,055.16
Total Revenue \$3,109.87	Billing Charges \$ 155.50	Estimated Net Change..... (\$1,007.97)
	Total Expenditures \$3,632.41	

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

There was lengthy discussion of sand renourishment after storms which resulted in the approval of the following two resolutions:

1. Based on a motion by Desley Parker and seconded by Paula Hudson to resolve that the Okaloosa Island Leaseholders Association would support extending the existing U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permit application for nourishment of the beach and berms on Okaloosa Island. The resolution was approved with two votes against.
2. Based on a motion by David Sherry and seconded by Rebecca Sherry to resolve that the Okaloosa Island Leaseholders Association will ask the Okaloosa County Commission to commit to conduct a search for better quality sand for any future beach renourishment. The resolution was approved.

President Dave Hancock advised that he would send a letter to the County Commissioners notifying them of these resolutions.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 8 pm. (Editor’s note: Our Webmaster advised that due to a computer issue the recording file the February meeting was lost. Therefore, there is no PodCast file for February. Since I use the Podcast to extract the minutes, this time I had to rely on canned info (e.g. Treasurer’s Report); sketchy notes and memory to do these minutes (notes?).

WE NEED A VOLUNTEER TO SERVE AS A RECORDING SECRETARY AT OUR MEETINGS – ANY VOLUNTEERS? IF YOU CAN DO IT, CALL ME AT 585-2116. P L E A S E!!! IT’S ONLY ONCE A MONTH!

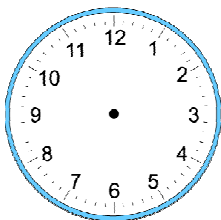
WUZZLE PUZZLE ANSWERS

Wuzzle No. 1



Eyes Bigger Than Stomach

Wuzzle No. 2



No Time for You

Wuzzle No. 3



Shot in the Dark

Wuzzle No. 4



Getting Up in the Morning

Wuzzle No. 5



Tennis Match

DON'T FORGET TO "SPRING FORWARD" THE EVENING OF
SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 2017