

**MAY 2024 EDITION OF THE OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS
NEWSLETTER, THE OIL LANTERN**

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

**OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS
ASSOCIATION**

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Our May 2024 meeting will be held on **Monday, May 13, 2024** starting at 7 pm. For our May meeting, members will have the option of attending the meeting in-person at the Okaloosa Island Firehouse (104 Santa Rosa Blvd) or attending over the internet by Zoom. In a few days OILA members will receive a Zoom meeting invitation by e-mail, with instructions on how to join the meeting.

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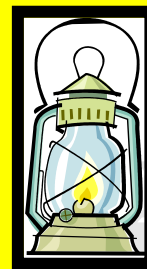


Speaker for May Meeting, **Jessica Valek**,
Coastal Resources Coordinator for Okaloosa
County.



THE OIL LANTERN

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE OKALOOSA ISLAND
LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION, Inc
P.O. Box 4323, Fort Walton Beach, FL 3254
Editor: Jim Simpson, (850) 585-2116
Association Website: www.oilaweb.com
May 2024



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REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT – Brian Harrington

May 2024 President's Message

Summer is rapidly approaching and all of our members and visiting beachgoers should be aware that Okaloosa County has passed several new beach ordinances that went into effect May 1st following last month's public hearing.

In order to reduce potential dangers to people, vehicles and nesting sea turtles, holes dug on the beach are limited to three feet in circumference and two feet deep.

Tents and sunshades on the beach can now be no larger than 10x10ft. This is an effort to protect everyone's view.

The commission also voted to widen two beach access corridors located near Nautilus Court and Scallop Court from 10ft to 50ft in support of local islanders' concerns that the public didn't have enough space free of commercial chair vendors.

Chair vendors and the public will now be allowed to set up at 7am or possibly earlier if the beach is cleared of sea turtle nests.

Preservation of nature and combatting erosion is a constant concern for everyone living on or near a barrier island. According to Mike Norberg, the Coastal Resources Coordinator for Okaloosa County, the north side of Okaloosa Island has lost approximately 4.5 acres of shoreline since 2010. Okaloosa County's Board of County Commissioners recently signed a memo of understanding with Eglin Air Force Base and the Nature Conservancy. Together they will begin the process of examining how to stabilize and transform this 4,500ft of eroded shoreline between Beasley Park and the Marler Bridge adjacent to Choctawhatchee Bay, into a living shoreline. This process potentially adds 1.5 acres of intertidal reef and 6.2 acres of protected sea grass, which will serve as habitat for local fish and wildlife. With permitting, design and construction, the shoreline project could be in place in a couple of years.

Please ensure to attend this month's member's meeting as we're planning on having guest speaker Jessica Valek, from the County's Coastal Resources Department.

OILA—We're stronger together.

Brian Harrington



MAY 2024 Meeting Agenda Date: Monday, May 13 Time: 7:00 p.m.

Guest Speaker: Jessica Valek, Coastal Resources Coordinator for Okaloosa County.

I. **PLACE:** For our May 2024 meeting, members will have the option of attending the meeting in-person at the Okaloosa Island Firehouse (104 Santa Rosa Blvd) or attending over the internet by Zoom.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call of Board Members: Brian Harrington

IV. **Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings: John Donovan** - Draft minutes, April 8, 2024, Meeting (copy in this newsletter)

V. **Treasurer's Report for May 2024 - Jim Simpson**, Treasurer

VI. **Standing Committee Reports: Nick Hall:** Architectural Review Committee Report for April 2024 (printed in this newsletter)

VII. New and Unfinished Business

- Santa Rosa Blvd Update
- Bridge-to-Bridge Path Update

VIII. Announcements, Speakers and Programs

XI. Adjournment

APRIL 2024 Rainfall 2.6 Inches



April 3.....0.2 inches

April 10...2.2 inches

April 30...0.2 inches

Avg Rainfall for April.....3.7 inches

Variance to Average.....-1.1 inches

May Avg Rainfall.....4.0 inches

May Record High.....101° F (1953)

May Record Low8° F (1971)

May Avg Water Temperature... 78° F

June Avg Rainfall.....6.1 inches

June Record High.....102° F (1969)

June Record Low 48° F (1984)

June Avg Water .Temperature...81° F

YTD Variance - 5.4 inches

Year to Date Rainfall.....14.9 inches

Avg Annual Rainfall65.1 inches

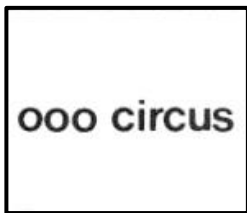
WUZZLE PUZZLES - What is a Wuzzle Puzzle? It is a puzzle consisting of combinations of words, letters, figures, or symbols positioned to create disguised words, phrases, names, places, etc. Are you ready to take the challenge and figure out the “disguised” meaning of these wuzzles? Good luck. The answers are available on page 7 of this newsletter.



Wuzzle No. 1



Wuzzle No. 2



Wuzzle No. 3



Wuzzle No. 4



ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE REPORT FOR APRIL 2024: The OILA Architectural Review Committee (ARC) received and reviewed the following during the month of March and upon review and adherence to the OILA Covenants, has approved the following project(s):

<u>Date</u>	<u>Lot(s)</u>	<u>Block</u>	<u>Owner/POC/Address</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>In-Compliance & Approved</u>
18 Apr			B. Roberts The Beal House 380 Santa Rosa Blvd	Exterior Slat Screening	Yes

Special Notes: The OILA ARC instructions for your project are located on the OILA website:

<http://www.OILAweb.com/ArchitectureReview.html>

Please read and follow the instructions for submission of an OILA ARC application:

- OILA ARC review package:
 - Completed OILA ARC application,
 - Survey plat of the property,
 - Overlaid illustration of the project on a copy of the survey plat.
 - Other supporting documents* (drawings, plans, specifications, etc.) (*If these are large files, they can be submitted separately). (Combine the files into one file for submission to the ARC, either in MS Word or Adobe PDF format.)
- Email the completed ARC application file to the OILA ARC for review at OILAARC@yahoo.com. The ARC applications will be reviewed in the order they are received and the review will be completed within 2 weeks of a completed application. (Note: The ARC no longer holds meetings in-person/zoom meetings the 1st and 3rd Thursday's of the month).

Draft Membership Meeting Minutes OILA April 8, 2024

Board members Present: Brian Harrington, Frank Adcock, Louis Belanger, David Jones

Board Members Not Present: Stan King, Dylan Hunt

Officers Present: Jim Simpson, Treasurer; John Donovan, Secretary.

Meeting started 7pm.

Pledge of allegiance recited by membership.

Draft Minutes Approved, amendment that Director Louis Belanger was in attendance at the March 11, 2024 meeting. Approved by membership. Treasurers Report, copy attached to these minutes, membership approved for postage cost.

ARC Report out (Nick Hall) – Now new business.

County had a workshop April 16th regarding beach ordinance revisions with open discussion on the following topics:

- 25' pathway between **shoreline and beach** chair set up for vendors. County will start to enforce this setback as it hasn't been strictly enforced. This had also included limits to the public but was decided to limit to only beach vendors.
- Reducing the size of canopies, county proposed that the limit will be 10'x10' in size. If a permit is requested, the county may grant larger sized canopies.
- Two proposed non-beach chair vendor areas. The smaller beach accesses where there is no public beach area, proposal is a 50' relative to center line setback at Aqua Villa and Scallop Court.
- Open item is changing of allowable set up time from 7:30am to 7:00am for beach vendors. This is impacted by turtle preservation entities where they search by the pier to Beasley park. 7:00 am time is the enforceable time for vendors being allowed to set up their beach chairs.
- Limits to recreational holes dug on the beach to a max size of 3' L x 3' 2 x2' Deep approximately.

Update on short term rental discussion about county's defense of enforcing short-term rental limitations. Not much traction overall. OILA attorneys have made a public records release at no cost for the purpose of writing a letter supporting the county's case or OILA membership. There may be a directors meeting with the OILA attorney. Per convenance there are no short-term rental properties allowed in the residential area. The property in question there is no certainty that revenue is being generated. Up to County attorney to determine during case.

Brick Bradford – Has written 3 letters to the County with no response. County does not appear to be enforcing the rules based on the convenance. The county seems they do not want to enforce the rule, while they are the defense, yet turn a blind eye on any occurrences. This too seems to be more than one property that is violating the convenance. They seem to not enforce the rule because of the ongoing litigation which does not make logical sense. In direct conversations they will not enforce due to the pending case.

Nick Hall – to get action by county we need to submit a formal complaint physically to the County code enforcement/growth mgmt. group.

Brian Harrington – it may be possible for OILA attorneys to have a discussion with the County attorney. To be determined by the board.

Upcoming meeting, coastal resource visitor Jessica Valek would like to present for 10 minutes to OILA membership. Would like to cover what the coastal resources does (turtle rescue). Will know the date the next membership meeting. She'll also discuss the Living Shoreline initiative.

This month the Fire Dept will have a new fire engine ceremony. They are also adding two new firefighters in April.

Frank Adcock. – Assuming there has been no further communication with the material based on the reduction of lanes on Santa Rosa Blvd. His response mentioned he valued input from local partners to prevent any impact on their mission. They currently do not have a position as he states, "at this time". brought up lane issues to keep it front of mind and the new restaurant that may have an impact at the end of the island.

Motion to adjourn; motion seconded.

END



OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
P.O. BOX 4323
FORT WALTON BEACH, FL 32549
Webpage: www.oilaweb.com

TREASURER’S REPORT: April 8, 2024

MEMBERSHIP TOTAL: 264

March 11, 2024 TOTAL BALANCE: \$27,135.13

ASSOCIATION DISCRETIONARY FUND BALANCE AS OF March 11, 2024.....\$ 25,713.85

RECEIPTS SINCE LAST REPORT:

Membership Dues.....	\$ 12.00
U.S. Mail Fees.....	\$ <u>6.00</u>
Total Receipts:	\$ 18.00

EXPENDITURES:.....No Expenditures

EXPENSES PENDING APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT:

Reimburse Jim Simpson for the cost of postage to mail the April 2024 issue of the OIL Lantern....	\$ <u>47.60</u>
Total Pending Approval...	\$ 47.60

**ASSOCIATION DISCRETIONARY FUND BALANCE AFTER RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURES
& EXPENSES PENDING APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT AS OF April 8, 2024\$ 25,684.25**

BEAUTIFICATION FUND BALANCE AS OF March 11, 2024.....\$ 1,421.28

BEAUTIFICATION FUND EXPENDITURES SINCE LAST REPORTNo Expenditures

BEAUTIFICATION FUND BALANCE AS OF April 8, 2024.....\$ 1,421.28

SUMMARY: April 8, 2024 Fund Balances

-- Association’s Discretionary Fund Balance.	\$ 25,684.25
-- Beautification Fund Balance.....	\$ <u>1,421.28</u>

TOTAL FUNDS BALANCE.....\$ 27,105.53

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Simpson, Treasurer

MEN ARE FROM MARS – GUY TRIVIA

- Most common plastic surgery performed on American men: Liposuction.
- If the average male never shaved, his bread would be 13 feet long the day he dies.
- If you are an average American male, you’ll spend 2,965 hours shaving in your lifetime.
- In 1898 all cheerleaders were male. Today 3 percent are.
- The average single man is one inch shorter than the average married man.
- If a man’s tie is too tight, his vision gets worse.

WOMEN ARE FROM VENUS – GAL TRIVIA

- The average female mannequin is 8 feet tall. The average woman is 5 feet 4 inches tall.
- In 1960, 3 percent of American lawyers were women. In 2005 the number was up to 30 percent.
- In 1950 only 7 percent of American women dyed their hair. Today 75 percent do.
- Life expectancy for women in the United States: 80.1 years. In 1900 it was 48.7 years.
- To imitate men, who started donning high heels in the 1600s as a sign of their masculinity and status, women began to wear heels as well.



Firefighters, assisted by junior firefighters, push in the new fire engine.

OKALOOSA ISLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT DEDICATES A NEW FIRE ENGINE WITH A TRADITIONAL "PUSH-IN" CEREMONY.



At 9:30 am on April 19, 2024 the Okaloosa Island Fire District officially accepted a new fire engine before a sizable crowd of Okaloosa Island cheer leaders by performing a traditional "Push-In" ceremony.

A push-in ceremony is a tradition based on common practice in the 1800's when the fire apparatus was pulled by horses. Following a call, firefighters would have to disconnect the apparatus from the horses and push it back into the bay. The tradition is maintained today when a new fire engine is purchased by a department and the new engine is ceremonially pushed into the bay.

The bottom line of the new engine is this: Emergency and medical services for the residents of Okaloosa Island just got a Big Upgrade.



Fire Chief Ray Strawn Addresses the Attendees



Fire Captain Doug Brown ready to go standing by the door of the new engine.

MEET NEW OKALOOSA ISLAND FIREFIGHTER THOMAS CIAMILLO



Thomas Ciamillo

Age: 28

Years of service: Thomas's first fire job is with the Okaloosa Island fire in April of 2024.

Prior service was with the United States Army.

Birthplace: Greensboro, North Carolina

Achievements: National Registry EMT in 2021, Attended Northwest Florida State Fire Academy and graduated in 2022. Caimillo is a USLA (United certified lifeguard and Jet ski operator. General Information: Thomas grew up actively playing baseball, hockey, and riding his skateboard. In high school he switched to playing Lacrosse. He decided that entering the military after high school was the right path for him. After a yearlong hiatus, Thomas entered the United States Army. During his 6-year career, Thomas and his wife moved around the country to include Kentucky and Hawaii. Exiting the military,

Thomas decided to settle down on the Emerald Coast. He started working with South Walton Beach Safety in the summer of 21' where he was a seasonal guard. He excelled quickly to become a Beach Safety Officer before landing his dream job at Okaloosa Island Fire District. Thomas enjoys spending his free time with his wife at the beach and spoiling his two dogs.



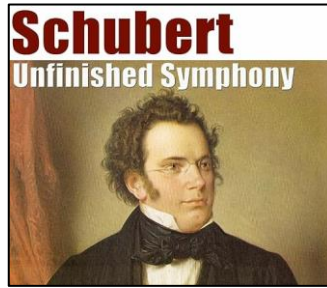
WUZZLE PUZZLE ANSWERS

Wuzzle No. 1



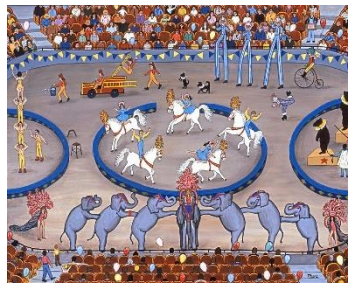
CORNER THE MARKET

Wuzzle No. 2



UNFINISHED SYMPHONY

Wuzzle No. 3



THREE RING CIRCUS

Wuzzle No. 4



WORD TO THE WISE

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY – MAY

May is the **fifth month** of the year, named after the Roman goddess Maia, who oversaw the growth of plants and business.

May 2, 1952 - The world's first commercial jet airliner, a De Havilland Comet, flew from London to Johannesburg.

May 5, 1961 - Alan Shepard became the first American in space. He piloted the spacecraft. *Freedom 7* during a 15-minute 28-second suborbital flight that reached an altitude of 116 miles (186 kilometers) above the earth.

May 9, 1958 - Mattel's Barbie doll was registered. The Barbie doll was invented in 1959 by Ruth Handler (co-founder of Mattel), whose own daughter was called Barbara.
Maia

May 10, 1965 - Warren Buffet gains controlling interest in Berkshire-Hathaway

May 12, 1820 – Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing was born.

May 14, 1607 - The first permanent English settlement in America was established at Jamestown, Virginia, by a Roman Goddess Maia group of royally chartered Virginia Company settlers from Plymouth, England.

May 16, 1929 - The First ever Academy Awards of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences Awards were handed out at a banquet held at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel.

May 18, 1980 - Mount St. Helens located in the Cascade Range erupted and blasted 1,300 feet off its top that sent hot mud, gas and ashes running down it's slopes.

May 20, 1830 - D. Hyde patented the fountain pen.

May 22, 1819 - The first bicycles, called swift walkers, were introduced to the United States in New York City.

May 23, 1934 - Infamous American bank robbers, Bonnie and Clyde, were ambushed by police and shot and killed.

May 28, 1742 - The first indoor swimming pool opened in Goodman's Fields, London.

May 29, 1953 – New Zealander mountaineer Edmund Hillary and Nepalese Sherpa Tenzing Norgay became the first people to reach the summit of the world's highest mountain, Mount Everest.



Roman Goddess Maia

**PLEASE SHARE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WITH FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS WHO MIGHT
BE INTERESTED IN JOINING OILA**

There are now **two ways to join the Leaseholders OILA**: 1. You can join online. Click on this webpage: <http://www.oilaweb.com/Membership.html> (please note that NO donation to Zeffy – our free payment hosting platform is required) or 2. You can join by mail by utilizing the following membership form.

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE
OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION
(OILA)**

{If you have any questions concerning membership, dues or this form, call Jim Simpson, Treasurer, at (850) 585-2116}

NAME: (Please Print): _____
(Last) (First) (Middle Initial)

OKALOOSA ISLAND

PROPERTY ADDRESS:

(Please note: You must hold a land lease, a fee simple title or own a condominium or a co-operative dwelling unit on Okaloosa Island to be eligible for membership)

(Street) (City)

(State) (Zip Code) Telephone No. _____

MAILING ADDRESS:

(Street) (City)

(State) (Zip Code) Telephone No. _____

Membership dues are **twelve (\$12)** a year. With this subscription, your monthly issue of the OIL Lantern, OILA's newsletter, will be distributed to you by email. Please enter your email address on the following line:

(Please enter your email address here)

If you wish to receive your copy of the OIL Lantern by U.S. Mail (in addition to distribution by email) there is an addition postage fee of **six (\$6)** a year.

Please check the block which identifies the level of membership you desire:

\$12 – Annual membership

\$18 – Annual membership (\$12) plus (\$6) U.S. mail delivery. If you select this option, your newsletter will be sent to mailing address you designated above.

Please check the block for the membership category you desire, make your check payable to the Okaloosa Island Leaseholders Association or OILA and mail your remittance (**\$12 or \$18**) to the following address:

Okaloosa Island Leaseholders Association, P.O. Box 4323, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549.

I request membership in the Okaloosa Island Leaseholders Association. I am eligible for membership, have completed the application form and have remitted my dues: