

OCTOBER 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 September 2024 meeting will be held on **Monday, October 14** starting at 7 pm. For our October 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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- This Month in History – October
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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
October 2024



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT – Brian Harrington



Our thoughts and prayers are with the families who've suffered from the Hurricane Helene disaster. It was only a matter of a few hundred miles that separated the fortunate from the victims, and it's not difficult to envision a similar situation unfolding right here. I encourage you to provide whatever assistance you can to these people during their time of most urgent need.

Legal Review--For years, our membership has expressed the need for professional legal assistance as OILA has struggled to clearly define its legal relationship with Okaloosa County's Government. In the past, there have been calls to fight against the county on various issues ranging from new construction projects, code enforcement complaints, short term rentals, reconfiguration of Santa Rosa Boulevard, and other potential infringements on both private property and protected public lands. Additional legal complexities arise as island residents have suggested modification to, or abolishment of the island's Protective Covenants and Restrictions. All of these issues underscore the need for professional legal counsel.

As a result of your concerns, last year our membership voted to retain the services of Moorhead Law Group based in Pensacola. Over the past year, our attorneys have provided a review of the Island's Protective Covenants and Restrictions and determined that they remain valid and enforceable. Moorhead Law has determined that OILA is not subject to the threat of dissolution due to the Marketable Records Title Act (MRTA). Moorhead Law partners have facilitated the establishment of rapport between OILA and the office of the County Attorney. Both OILA's and the interests of the county are aligned with regard to a case involving short-term rentals in the island's single-family home zone.

OILA has received an impressive amount of legal advice from Moorhead Law Group and that assistance has been provided to us at a very low cost. However, our counsel's annual contract is due for renewal and that is why I'll be asking you to vote to retain them for another year during our membership meeting on October 14th.

OILA—We're stronger together

October 2024 Meeting Agenda Date: Monday, Oct 14, 2024 Time: 7:00 p.m.

- I. PLACE: For our October 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, President
- IV. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting: Mark Waschak, Secretary Draft minutes, Sept 9, 2024 meeting (printed in this newsletter)
- V. Treasurer's Report - Jim Simpson, Treasurer
- VI. Standing Committee Reports: Brian Smith, ARC Chairman Architectural Review Committee Report for September 2024 (printed in this newsletter and for info only)
- VII. New Business
 - A. Legal review Moorehead Law Group
 - Vote to retain their legal services for another year
 - B. Follow up on the Santa Rosa Boulevard drawings.
- Old Business:
- VIII. Announcements, Speakers and Programs
- XI. Adjournment



SEPTEMBER 2024 RAINFALL 6.7 INCHES

Sept 3.....1.2 inches	Sept 13...0.7 inches
Sept 5.....0.5 inches	Sept 14...0.1 inches
Sept 7.....0.1 inches	Sept 15...0.1 inches
Sept 9.....0.7 inches	Sept 16...0.3 inches
Sept 11...0.1 inches	Sept 17...0.2 inches
Sept 12...2.0 inches	Sept 25...0.2 inches
	Sept 26...0.5 inches
Sept Avg Rainfall.....7.2 inches	
Variance to Average.....- 0.5 inches	
Oct Avg Rainfall.....4.3 inches	
Oct Record High.....99° F (1954)	
Oct Record Low27° F (1989)	
Oct Avg Water Temperature....81° F	
Nov Avg Rainfall.....4.1 inches	
November Record High89° F (1998)	
November Record Low18° F (1950)	
Nov Avg Water Temperature...72° F	
YTD Variance - 3.1 inches	
Year to Date Rainfall.....49.3 inches	
Avg Annual Rainfall65.1 inches	



ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2024 The OILA Architectural Review Committee (ARC) received and reviewed the following building permits during the month of September and upon review and adherence to the OILA Covenants, has approved the following project(s):

Date	Lot(s)	Block	Owner/POC/Address	Description	In-Compliance & Approved
No Approvals During September					

ISLAND GARDEN CLUB MEETING AND INVITATION – OCT 9, 2024

The Island Garden Club is about more than just growing plants, it is about making connections and growing friendships. The programs are varied...some hands-on, a few how-to's, speakers, trips, parties, etc. We also help with community projects such as the October 19th Pancake Fun-Raiser to purchase a cold plunge for the Okaloosa Island Professional Firefighters.



Island residents, visitors and friends are welcome to attend IGC meetings at the El Matador on the second Wednesday of the month. Gathering is at 9:30 a.m., meeting promptly at 10:00 a.m. At the November 9th meeting, we will gift a plant (known to thrive here) to first time visitors. Hope to see you there.

Kathy Foster, President
Island Garden Club
fosterpk@gnt.net
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/618892151579739/>

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 5](#) of this newsletter.



Wuzzle No. 1



Wuzzle No. 2



Wuzzle No. 3



Wuzzle No. 4



Wuzzle No. 5

Minutes (Draft) of the September 9, 2024 Membership Meeting

7:00 Meeting Initiation

Directors present, Bellinger, Harrington, Jones, Hunt, and Adcock

Review of last meeting, cleaning up Jason Autry's visit notes - motion carry

7:03 Treasury report with Jim. September 9, 2024 Treasurer's Report attached (attachment 1) to these minutes.

7:07 Motion to approve reimbursement

Discussion of memberships and renewals

7:11 ARC with Nick Hall, approved one project on 790 SRB

7:12 New business

1) Kathy discussion of grant for fire station, documentation of support for new fire truck, asking for support from owners and condo associations.

2) SRB Improvements - Review of drawings for SRB on website and discussion

7:42 Director Adcock discussion of SRB

7:48 Discussion of SRB updated plans in group setting

8:07 Motion to adjourn

Attachment 1: Treasurer's Report September 9, 2024

MEMBERSHIP TOTAL: 271

June 17, 2024 TOTAL BALANCE: \$25,063.46

ASSOCIATION DISCRETIONARY FUND BALANCE AS OF June 17, 2024.....\$ 23,642.18

RECEIPTS SINCE LAST REPORT:

Membership Dues.....	\$	60.00
U.S. Mail Fee.....	\$	<u>6.00</u>
Total Receipts.....	\$	66.00

EXPENDITURES

Payment to the U.S. Postal Service for the six month (August 2024 to January 2025) rental fee for Post Office Box 4323.....	\$	91.00
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EXPENSES PENDING APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT:

Reimburse Jim Simpson for the cost of postage to mail the Summer 2024 issue of the OIL Lantern....	\$	51.10
Reimburse Jim Simpson for the cost of postage to mail the Sept 2024 issue of the OIL Lantern.....	\$	<u>70.70</u>
Total Receipts Pending Approval....	\$	121.80

ASSOCIATION DISCRETIONARY FUND BALANCE AFTER RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURES & EXPENSES PENDING APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT AS OF Sept 9, 2024\$ 23,495.38

BEAUTIFICATION FUND BALANCE AS OF June 17, 2024.....\$ 1,421.28

BEAUTIFICATION FUND EXPENDITURES SINCE LAST REPORTNo Expenditures

BEAUTIFICATION FUND BALANCE AS OF Sept 9, 2024.....\$ 1,421.28

SUMMARY: September 9, 2024 Fund Balances

-- Association's Discretionary Fund Balance.	\$	23,495.38
-- Beautification Fund Balance.....	\$	<u>1,421.28</u>

TOTAL FUNDS BALANCE.....\$ 24,916.66

Silent Auction

FUN-raiser Pancake Breakfast with Okaloosa Island Fire Department

October 19, 2024

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

\$10.00 donation



Corn Hole

Face Painting

Family Photos

Basketball

Ping Pong



Proceeds towards purchase
of Plunge Cold Bath



Reserve your time slot - pre purchase tickets

Kathy Foster 850-244-4490

Paula Hudson 850-321-2043

Beth Jeter 850-685-2875

MORE ABOUT THE OKALOOSA ISLAND FIRE DEPT PANCAKE FUN-RAISER PANCAKE BREAKFAST

While the Okaloosa Island Professional Firefighters are cooking breakfast, there will be activities for the younger set such as basketball, face painting, pictures with firefighters, etc.

Thanks to the generosity of local businesses, there is an array of fabulous silent auction items.

Stop in to purchase raffle tickets for: Sunset or Dolphin cruises, Pontoon rentals, the Gulfarium, Ray Ban glasses, chair & planter set, certificates for Facials, Manatee Grill, AJ's, Elijah Craig whiskey, Slow Wake Donuts, Lost Pizza, with more arriving each day. Winning tickets will be drawn at 10:30.

Thank you for your support in helping to purchase a cold plunge for the OIFD station!



BLAST FROM THE PAST: Headquarters building for Elgin Field U.S. Army Air Corps base in 1937.

ATLANTIC STORM NAMES - 2024

ALBERTO	LESLIE
5 BERYL	MILTON
CHRIS	NADINE
1 DEBBY	OSCAR
2 ERNESTO	PATTY
2 FRANCINE	RAFAEL
GORDON	SARA
3 HELENE	TONY
ISAAC	VALARIE
JOYCE	WILLIAM
KIRK	

SEASON SUMMARY

Named Storms: 10
Hurricanes: 6
Major Hurricanes: 2

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY – OCTOBER

October 1, 1908 - Henry Ford's Model T, a "universal car" designed for the masses, went on sale for the first time.

October 6, 1927 - The first "talkie" opened in New York. *The Jazz Singer* starring Al Jolson was the first full-length feature film using spoken dialogue.

October 8, 1918 - During World War I in the Argonne Forest in France, U.S. Sergeant Alvin C. York single-handedly took out a German machine-gun battalion, killing over a dozen and capturing 132.

October 10, 1913: The Panama Canal officially joined the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean when the Gamboa dike was demolished with charges of dynamite.

October 10, 680 Al-Hussein (Al-Husayn ibn) and his followers killed at Karbala by army of Yazid, the Umayyad caliph, on the way to Kufa. His death led to the Shia and Sunni schism in Islam.

October 12, 1492 – Columbus landed in present day Bahamas.

October 16, 1978 - Cardinal Karol Wojtyla of Poland was elected Pope. He was the first non-Italian Pope chosen in 456 years and took the name John Paul II.

October 17, 1931: Scarface Al Capone well known gangster is found guilty of income tax evasion. One week later he was sentenced to 11 years in prison and a fine of \$50,000.

October 18, 1867 – For the purchase price of \$7.2 million the U.S. took possession of Alaska from Russia

October 24, 1940: Due to the passing of the Fair Labor Standards Act in 1938, the 40-hour working week goes into effect.

October 26, 1881: The gunfight at OK Corral occurs. Wyatt Earp, his two brothers, and "Doc" Holliday, have a shootout with the Ike Clanton gang

October 31, 1926: Harry Houdini, magician and escapologist, dies of gangrene and peritonitis after his appendix ruptured

WUZZLE PUZZLE ANSWERS

Wuzzle No. 1



Two Way Radio

Wuzzle No. 2



A Slap in the Face

Wuzzle No. 3



In Ground Pool

Wuzzle No. 4

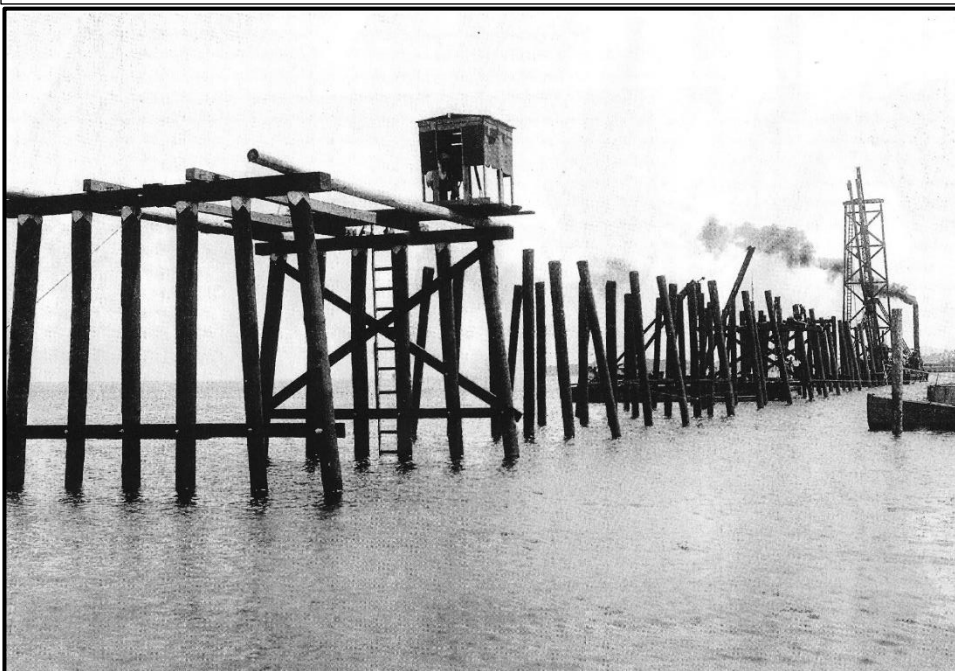


Get in Shape

Wuzzle No. 5



Doctor Doolittle



ANOTHER BLAST FROM THE PAST: THE FIRST BRIDGE BETWEEN DESTIN AND FORT WALTON BEACH

Photo to the left: The East Pass Bridge connecting Destin to Fort Walton Beach under construction in July, 1933. The bridge was completed in 1935.

The East Pass Bridge was 3,210 feet long and was completed in April 1935 at a cost of \$324,656 according to the records of the State Road Department of Florida. The federal government paid \$208,415 of the cost, while the state of Florida paid \$116,240.

The present-day bridge (Marler) was built in 1974.



JUST PASSING THROUGH - BARGE ON SANTA ROSA SOUND APPROACHING BROOKS BRIDGE. QUESTION: WHAT IS THE LENGTH OF A FOOTBALL FIELD?

UPDATE ON THE BRIDGE-TO-BRIDGE MULTI-USE PATH ON THE SLAND



Construction is Under Way for the Multi-Use Path

Local real estate developer Jay Odom has donated \$50,000 to help facilitate the project. Thank you, Mr. Odom.

The Board of County Commissioners approved a change order for \$525,915 in the contract with the project's developer, C.W. Roberts, that will add 76 days to the project's timeline.

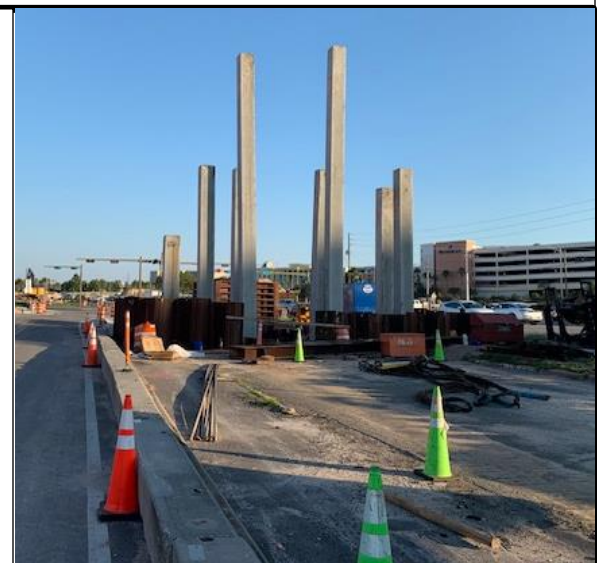


Four main issues caused the project's completion delay. The first is a delay in delivery of the bioluminescent stones used in the path to facilitate night use. Other problems include additional stabilization of the crushed stone in the project to avoid an AT&T fiber line, an extra survey because of a lack of control points on Eglin property, and the relocation of the "Gulf Islands National Seashore" sign because of wetland constraints.

BROOKS BRIDGE UPDATE

← Photo to the left
The first pier cap has been erected. Note how much taller it is than the original road.

Photo to the right →
Piers stored at the work site pending installation for building additional pier caps



TRIVIA CRAWLERS - ALL THAT GLITTERS:

1. Diamonds have been worth more than pearls for only about a century.
2. An ounce of gold can be beaten thin enough to cover an entire acre of ground.
3. In a typical diamond mine, you have to dig 23 tons of ore to find a single one-carat diamond.
4. The largest gold nugget ever found weighed 172 pounds, 13 ounces. (Current value at **\$2,626 per oz: \$7,302,906**)

**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: