MARCH 2021 EDITION OF THE OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS NEWSLETTER, THE OIL LANTERN Page 1 of 10 Pages

P.O. Box 4323 OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION, Ft Walton Beach,FL 32549 ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

For the safety of our members and to comply with CDC and the State of Florida guidelines, our March meeting will be held on **Monday, March 8, 2021** starting at **7 pm over the internet by Zoom**. In a few days OILA members will receive a meeting invitation by e-mail, with instructions on how to join the meeting.

IN THIS NEWSLETTER

- President's Msg David Sherry
- Architectural Committee Report for February 2021
- This Month in History March
- March 8, 2021 Meeting Agenda
- The Origin of the "Slinky"
- Island Rainfall Rpt for February 2021
- Trivia Corner
- Okaloosa Island Friends & Neighbors
 Meet Justin Hill, Okaloosa Island Mail Carrier
- ♦ Wuzzle Puzzles
- ♦ Blast from the Past Hurricane Ivan
- Trivia Crawlers

- Minutes (Draft) February 8, 2021 Meeting (via Zoom)
- ♦ Wuzzle Puzzle Answers





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



Dune Planting – Volunteers are needed to help plant sea oats and panic grass on the dunes on Okaloosa Island. Okaloosa County <u>estimates</u> the dune planting will begin around Saturday, April 3. There will be no planting on Easter Sunday, April 4.

Dune planting is a simple process: drill a hole in the sand (drill provided by the County), drop in fertilizer and a seedling, close the hole by hand, and water.

Okaloosa County's Tourist Development Department (TDD) is managing the project, with project costs being shared by FDEP and the Okaloosa County TDD. Our thanks go to FDEP, Okaloosa County, the TDD, and all the volunteers for making this project happen.

Please contact OILA President David Sherry if you would like to volunteer to help plant the dunes. If you have a location preference for where you want to plant, please include that information.

As with the beach clean-ups, volunteers will need to sign a liability waiver. Volunteers should wear comfortable clothing and shoes. More details will follow as the date draws closer.

Beach Clean-Up – Okaloosa County's next beach clean-up is Saturday morning, April 24. Volunteers will need to sign a liability waiver. More details will follow at a later date.

Brooks Bridge Replacement – The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) will host a virtual bridge aesthetic workshop for the Brooks Bridge Replacement project. The information can be accessed anytime, anywhere beginning 12 P.M. CDT, Thursday, March 18, 2021 at <u>https://nwflroads.com/virtualmeetings</u>. The purpose of the workshop is to provide interested persons an opportunity to help FDOT's bridge architect develop aesthetic guidelines for the project that consider community preferences.

To provide comments, contact Project Manager Alaina Webb at alaina.webb@dot.state.fl.us, or toll free at (888) 638-0250, ext. 1447. All statements must be postmarked or received on or before Thursday, April 8, 2021.

Additional project information is also available on <u>www.nwflroads.com/projects/415474-2</u>, or by emailing <u>info@brooksbridgereplacement.com</u>.

TRIVIA CRAWLERS



• Until 1975, rules required that all major-league baseballs be convered in horsehide. As horsehide became more expensive, it became acceptable for balls to be covered in cowhide.

• An accident on the north end of Boston on January 15, 1919, flooded the area with 2.5 million gallons of molasses in a wave as much as 15 feet tall. Twenty-one people were killed, and 150 more were injured.

- There are **318,979,564,000** different ways to play the first four moves per side in a game of chess.
- Most women work through 6 pounds of lipstick in their lives.
- Any man coming face to face with a cow has to remove his hat in Fruithill, Kentucky.





ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE (ARC) REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2021 for permits submitted to them for consideration. The following information provided by the Architectural Review Committee. SPECIAL NOTICES: 1) The ARC will meet the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month at 9:00 a.m. The meetings are held via Zoom with in person meetings available as needed. You can reach the ARC at: OilaArc@yahoo.com. 2) ASK BEFORE YOU ACT.

Lot(s) Block Property Address Description

In Compliance and Approved?

Yes

412 7 723 Starfish Ave Construction of a single family home with/attached garage

<u>UPDATE</u>: LEASEHOLDER BRIAN SMITH HAS BEEN APPOINTED TO THE ARC; REPLACING JOHN DONOVAN.

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY - FEBRUARY

March 4, 1789 - The first meeting of the new Congress under the new U.S. Constitution took place in New York City.

March 7, 1876 – Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone

March 11, 1918 - The 'Spanish' influenza first reached America as 107 soldiers become sick at Fort Riley, Kansas. One quarter of the U.S. population eventually became ill from the deadly virus, resulting in 500,000 deaths. The death toll worldwide approached 22 million by the end of 1920.

March 13, 1942 - Julia Flikke of the Nurse Corps becomes the first woman colonel in the U.S. Army.

March 21, 1963 - The infamous Alcatraz prison is closed.



March 24, 1882 - German scientist Robert Koch announces he has discovered the bacillus that causes tuberculosis.

March 26, 1885- The Eastman Dry Plate and Chemical Company manufactures the first motion picture film.

March 28, 1797 - Nathaniel Briggs patents the washing machine.

March 29, 1886 - Coca Cola is invented.



WORLD WAR 2 TECHNOLOGY CREATED THE ATOMIC BOMB AND THE "SLINKY" Following is the story of the "Slinky"

In 1943, Richard James, a naval mechanical engineer stationed at the William Cramp & Sons shipyards in Philadelphia, was developing springs that could support and stabilize sensitive instruments aboard ships in rough seas. James accidentally knocked one of the springs from a shelf, and watched as the spring "stepped" in a series of arcs to a stack of books, to a tabletop, and to the floor, where it re-coiled itself and stood upright James's wife Betty later recalled, "He came home and said, 'I think if I got the right property of steel and the right tension; I could make it walk.' " James experimented with different types of steel wire over the next year, and finally found a spring that would walk. Betty was dubious at first but changed her mind after the toy was fine-tuned and neighborhood children expressed an excited interest in it. She dubbed the toy Slinky (meaning "sleek and graceful"), after finding the word in a dictionary and deciding that the word aptly described the sound of a metal spring expanding and collapsing

With a USD \$500 loan, the couple formed James Industries (originally James Spring & Wire Company), had 400 Slinky units made by a local machine shop, hand-wrapped each in yellow paper, and priced them at \$1 a piece. Each was $2^{1}/_{2}$ " tall and included 98 coils of high-grade blue-black Swedish steel. The James family had difficulty selling Slinky to toy stores but, in November 1945, they were granted permission to set up an inclined plane in the toy section of Gimbels department store in Philadelphia to demonstrate the toy. Slinky was a hit, and the first 400 units were sold within ninety minutes. In 1946, Slinky was introduced at the American Toy Fair.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President David Sherry 554 Coral Court, Unit 511 Ft Walton Beach, FL 32548 850-244-2744 Beach boy dave@yahoo.com

Vice-President Rick Deckert 274 Ventura Court N.W. Ft Walton Beach, FL 32548 850-699-0060 (Cell) 850-862-2675 (Land Line) Richarddeckert@yahoo.com

Secretary John S. Donovan



5135 Trumbull Court Atlanta, GA 30338 770-686-5646 (Cell) 770-393-4993 (Atl Land Line) 850-244-5792 (El Mat Land line)

jdonovan1@mindspring.com

Director Brick Bradford Ft Walton Beach, FL 32548 850-218-0990 brickmbradford@yahoo.com

Director Ed Henderson 520 Santa Rosa Blvd 716 Fort Walton Beach. FL 32548 901-292-1473 rehenderson1@aol.com

Director Jack Pous 118 Lisa Marie Place Shalimar, FL 32579 512-796-896 jpous@ducinc.net

Director Jesse Hunt

Treasurer & Newsletter Editor

Jim Simpson 240 Brooks St, Unit B302 Ft Walton Beach, FL 32548 850-585-2116 sanleanna@cox.net

March 2021 OILA Meeting Agenda

DATE: Monday, March 8, 2021 **TIME:** 7:00 p.m. **PLACE:** Virtual meeting via Zoom Call to Order / Zoom Meeting Protocols

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Roll Call of Board Members: David Sherry

III. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings: John Donovan

- February 8, 2021 membership meeting minutes (draft). Printed in this newsletter.

IV. Treasurer's Report: Jim Simpson - Membership report.

- **Treasurer's Report** for March 8, 2021

- Treasurer's Reimbursement and Approval.

V. Standing Committee Reports:

- Architectural Review Committee February 2021 report (printed in this newsletter)

VI. New and Unfinished Business:

VII. Announcements; Speakers and Programs

VII. Adjournment

ISLAND RAINFALL February 2021 Rainfall: 5.0 Inches



February 5..1.0 inches February 12..0.5 inches February 6..1.0 inches February 13..0.1 inches February 9...0.6 inches February 18..1.0 inches February 10.0.1 inches February 22..0.1 inches February 11.0.6 inches

February Avg Rainfall.....**5.8** inches Variance to Average.....**- 0.8** 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	. 92ºF (1985)
April Record Low	20°F (1987)
Apr Avg Water Temperature	72º F
YTD Variance	- 0.8 inches
Year to Date Rainfall	9.2 inches

Avg Annual Rainfall65.1 inches

JOIN THE LEASEHOLDERS! LET YOUR OPINIONS BE HEARD!

FOR A MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION CLICK ON THE ASSOCIATION'S WEBPAGE:

WWW.OILAWEB.COM



CONTACTJIM SIMPSON at (850) 585-2116or BY EMAIL AT: <u>SANLEANNA@COX.NET</u>

-- OR

TRIVIA CORNER

The idea of a "tip" for a waiter or waitress comes from 17th century boxes in restaurants labeled **"To**



Insure Promptness." Diners would put some cash in the box before eating to get better service.

OKALOOSA ISLAND FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS

MEET JUSTIN HILL - OKALOOSA ISLAND'S U.S. MAIL CARRIER

My name is Justin Hill, started with the USPS at just turning 19 years young. I started on Christmas Eve in 2003 in Southeast Missouri, known as the bootheel. My mother, sister, and brother-in-law are currently Postmasters in offices in Missouri. My father retired from the USPS December of 2019. My wife delivers mail on Pensacola Beach. I love my island route but most importantly I love this career. It's an honor and blessing to work for the USPS, year 2020 and 2021 have been a struggle with the pandemic, short staffing, increasing overtime and parcels but as we do around the nation, keep delivering the route until told different.

My story is long but this career of mine has it true testimonies that make my experience fun and heartwarming. The community outreach is one of my favorites. Letter carriers across the country are the eyes and ears of our communities. We walk or drive these streets daily. From the NALC food drive, semipostal stamps, and simply witnessing many true Heroes that are letter carriers that have saved lives. Not to mention nearly 100,000 veterans that are employed by the USPS.



JUSTIN HILL

But for my story it starts with an elderly lady in a small town of Sikeston MO and a prayer

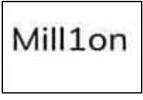
life. She treated me with a grape soda and a three musketeers everyday. Without being judgmental, it would be fair to say this lady did not have much to be happy about with our own eyes. Her house was no bigger than a shed, her daughter born paralyzed from her waist down, and caring for her ill husband. But her heart and action with words was full of love and joy, she looked forward to our hellos and smiles. The mailman, me, was her outside social world. It meant the world to me and still to this day does, so for those that have spoken to me, know I'm not shy from a hello, smile, or wave. A simple smile or kind words can strike a bad day to a good day for someone, in return can pay it forward to another. I found out at a young age, for me, being a mailman is my calling and career to make a community know they can trust, have an honest, and smiling mailman that will go the extra step to make sure that letter or package is in the hands of the right person. For the bills, I apologize. Lol. This is my story.

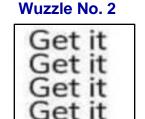


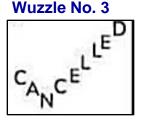
"Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds."

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, phases, 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 the last page of this newsletter.

Wuzzle No. 1







Wuzzle No. 4

1 KNOWS

CAT 3 BLAST FROM THE PAST – HURRICANE IVAN - OKALOOSA ISLAND – SEPTEMBER 4, 2004 While rifling through some files, I came across a CD on which I recorded photos of Okaloosa Island after Hurricane Ivan hit on September 4, 2004. My better 80% and I took off to Northern Alabama to escape the storm. Upon return I took the following photos of the Island. One of the biggest problems was that Hwy 98 between the Island and Destin was washed out. A real pain you know where. It has been over 16 years without a hurricane. Yes, some near misses. **KEEP YOUR FINGERS CROSSED!** - The Editor



Drive Way in Front of Gulf Dunes



Debris Pile Along Santa Rosa Blvd (SRB)



Townhouse at the Intersection of Bluefish & SRB



View of Sunset Cottages from Tarpon Drive



Beach Access No. 5 Between Island Echos & Emerald Isle



Islander Condominium



Tarpon Drive



Sea Oats



Brooks Bridge Marina



Beached Boat North of HWY 98



House on Santa Rosa Blvd

DRAFT MINUTES - OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION - FEB 8, 2021

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by President David Sherry via Zoom due to Covid-19.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Pledge of Allegiance led by President David Sherry.

II. ROLL: Board Members Present: David Sherry (President), Rick Deckert (Vice President), John Donovan (Secretary), Ed Henderson, Jesse Hunt, Jack Pous.

III. MINUTES: Secretary John Donovan made a motion, seconded by Jack Pous, to approve the draft January 11, 2021 minutes (passed 29-0).

IV. TREASURER'S REPORT: Presented by President David Sherry on behalf of Treasurer Jim Simpson (See Attachment 1). A motion to approve the January 11, 2021 Treasurer's report and to pay reimbursements was made by Secretary John Donovan, seconded by Vice-President Rick Deckert (passed 27-0).

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Standing Committees

Architectural Report: President David Sherry stated the ARC report is in the OIL Lantern, and that one application was approved in January.

Ad Hoc Committee Report

IT Modernization Committee: President David Sherry read the motion which established an ad hoc committee at the December 14 meeting. "Jackson Bain made a motion, seconded by Director Brick Bradford, to establish an ad hoc committee composed of Secretary John Donovan, Director Jesse Hunt, Don Didier, Dylan Hunt, and Lisa Johnson, to investigate future OILA online record storage options, limiting the scope to key documents and key emails generated going forward, including who will do the work, what is the cost, and what technology platform(s) can be used. The ad hoc committee will report to the OILA board and membership by the February 8 meeting."

Committee members Jesse Hunt and John Donovan both gave committee reports, with differing positions, followed by questions and comments from the membership and board of directors.

Director Jesse Hunt, a committee member, gave a progress report stating his position. He believes there will be a lack of records availability as directors transition out of their positions. Director Hunt proposed a cloud based system with 12 new accounts with e-mail addresses for \$432 per year. He would eliminate the OILA website and Zoom for meetings to offset part of this cost. He would change the way Treasurer Jim Simpson's records are provided by Jim and stored, and impose new business rules and file nomenclature rules on OILA and its board of directors. Director Hunt stated there was no support within the OILA board for the actions he proposed.

Secretary John Donovan, a committee member, gave a progress report stating his position. He stated that the ideas expressed by committee member Jesse Hunt were very good. He described the current record keeping system, established when he was elected 18 months ago, and stated that he believes this system safeguards OILA online records very well. The system uses a cloud based e-mail account dedicated solely to OILA records, and was specifically designed to easily pass record custodianship to the next OILA Secretary. He supports the continued use of the OILA website, using Zoom for meetings, and insists on protecting the current system of membership record keeping and newsletter publishing by Treasurer Jim Simpson.

John Donovan stated his frustration that the ad hoc committee was intended to help shoulder his workload as Secretary, but instead has been adding to it. He said certain committee members may have strayed from the committee's mission scope; particularly regarding new e-mail addresses for board and committee members, and even worse, made contact with long time Treasurer and Newsletter Editor Jim Simpson to possibly suggest changes to how Treasurer and Publisher records are provided. Secretary Donovan said worst of all, the committee does not have an IT Coordinator candidate. Committee member Hunt's proposal requires that position, but no committee member was able to devote the large amount of development time and ongoing implementation effort that position would require.

Secretary John Donovan stated the five member IT Modernization committee was splintered, and unable to reach a consensus. The other three committee members were absent from this members meeting.

Draft Minutes - Okaloosa Island Leaseholders Association - Feb 8, 2021 (continued on next page)

DRAFT MINUTES - OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION - FEB 8, 2021

President David Sherry asked if any of the board members, who would be tasked with learning and using any new system, had been contacted. Director Hunt confirmed no board members were contacted.

Secretary Donovan stated the board needed to be contacted for their opinions. Director Hunt disagreed, and said he considered his personal work an internal report that would eventually be shared with OILA members, and that is why he had not shared with directors.

Director Hunt said there needed to be a way for OILA information to be collected and made transparent. President Sherry explained there was a lot of OILA information already being collected – the dedicated OILA e-mail accounts for OILA Records and for the ARC ("Architectural Review Committee"), the OILA website, and the Facebook page were all being presently managed within OILA.

President Sherry said, when we communicate a resolution as a body stating a position that the OILA membership took, he copies the board, then the Secretary archives them. The intent is, and was from the start, that when John Donovan leaves that position, he will give the account password to the next Secretary.

President Sherry said he did not see the value in spending \$432 annually for 12 new e-mail addresses that no one who currently does the work has agreed to use. Secretary Donovan also opposed Director Hunt's push for 12 new e-mail addresses. President Sherry offered to send the key documents currently kept in a dedicated OILA e-mail account to a new, additional dedicated OILA records e-mail account. President Sherry also stated that the committee could store and share OILA records with membership by using one account, and there was no need for 12 new accounts in order to accomplish the mission tasked to the committee.

President Sherry recognized long time Treasurer and Newsletter Editor Jim Simpson for all the work he does. Mr. Sherry was disappointed Director Hunt's IT proposal might push more work onto Jim Simpson. President Sherry stated adding anything to Jim's duties was beyond the scope of the committee.

Director Hunt objected to limiting the scope of the motion which established the ad hoc committee. President Sherry re-read the motion verbatim, and asked who would be the person identified to lead this task. Director Hunt deferred, and said absent committee members Lisa Johnson and Don Didier were willing to provide limited support.

President Sherry stated the committee work had been crowding out member projects with higher priority, and stated his priority is to work on Santa Rosa Boulevard, East Pass sand, and dune planting for Okaloosa Island.

Jackson Bain, the author of the original motion, described his experience with a shared drive system at a large not-forprofit. He said that in his motion he had in mind a simple process. Jackson estimated that if a new records system were established, the ongoing time commitment would be 3 hours per day.

Kathy Foster said no one is going to volunteer for a job without knowing what this entails. Secretary Donovan stated per the OILA Bylaws the Secretary is the records custodian, and that is his job.

Several members made comments asking about the current records system. Gary Hunt stated OILA is not subject to the Florida Sunshine Law. He also asked what happens to ARC records. Nancy Hunt considers the OIL Lantern to be the best records OILA has. She also questioned how ARC records are stored. President Sherry explained OILA ARC records are currently stored in the current cloud based OILA ARC dedicated e-mail account, and that many historical records are available on the OILA website.

Director Ed Henderson said Director Hunt had mentioned the OILA web, and asked if he was planning on doing away with that. Director Hunt stated there are better ways to do it. Secretary Donovan repeated his support for keeping the OILA website, and stated eliminating the OILA website is far beyond the committee's scope. Secretary Donovan said we have a reporting of the committee, two members in disagreement, and reiterated we need to take this to the board. Director Hunt restated the board is unreceptive to his ideas.

Director Jack Pous summarized his understanding of the discussion. One of his concerns, from a prior administration, was that information be protected from a computer crash. President Sherry and Secretary Donovan confirmed OILA records are currently stored in the cloud, and under the current records storage system that records would not be lost in a computer crash.

Draft Minutes - Okaloosa Island Leaseholders Association - Feb 8, 2021 (continued on next page)

DRAFT MINUTES - OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION - FEB 8, 2021

VI. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS:

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1. President Sherry stated the Okaloosa County volunteer dune planting will be held around Saturday, April 3. The county has ordered more than 300,000 plants in a combination of sea oats and panic grass. Okaloosa County will first install sand fence with in house labor, then volunteers will plant the dunes. Nancy Hunt and Dave Hancock proposed Okaloosa County hire the unemployed rather than using volunteers, and will make this request to the TDC. President Sherry stated Okaloosa County purchased more plants than originally planned on the premise of volunteer planting. He said he could not in good conscience go to the county and ask them to change course at this late date. He added the volunteer dune planting had been discussed in previous OILA meetings and featured in two recent President's Letters in the OIL Lantern. Rebecca Sherry said she was gathering a list of volunteers, welcomed more, and reminded those present that we have volunteer planted Okaloosa Island dunes three times in the past. President Sherry said more details will be shared when available.
- 2. President Sherry reported per mailman Justin Hill, a North side of the island mail thief suspect has been arrested.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 PM (motion by Director Ed Henderson, seconded by Director Jack Pous and passed 17-0).

ATTACHMENT 1: TREASURER'S REPORT: February 8, 2021	
MEMBERSHIP TOTAL: 272	
January 11, 2021 TOTAL BALANCE: \$ 28,743.82	
ASSOCIATION DISCRETIONARY FUND BALANCE AS OF January 11, 2021 \$ 26,508	3.49
RECEIPTS SINCE LAST REPORT: 120 120	0.00
Newsletter Fees \$	<u>4.00</u>
TOTAL RECEIPTS\$ 134	4.00
EXPENDTIURES SINCE LAST REPORT	ures
EXPENSES PENDING APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT:	
Reimburse Jim Simpson for postage to mail the February 2021 OIL Lantern\$27(50 copies at 55 cents each)	7.50
ASSOCIATION DISCRETIONARY FUND BALANCE AFTER RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURES & EXPENSES PENDING APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT AS OF February 8, 2021	4.99
BEAUTIFICATION FUND BALANCE AS OF January 11, 2021	1.28
BEAUTIFICATION FUND EXPENDITURES SINCE LAST REPORT	ures
BEAUTIFICATION FUND BALANCE AS OF February 8, 2021	1.28
CHRISTMAS DECORATING FUND BALANCE AS OF January 11, 2021	4.05
CHRISTMAS DECORATING FUND EXPENDITURES SINCE LAST REPORTNo Expend	itures
CHRISTMAS DECORATING FUND BALANCE AS OF February 8, 2021	4.05
SUMMARY: February 8, 2021 Fund Balances	
Association's Discretionary Fund Balance\$ 26,61	
Beautification Fund Balance	
Respectfully submitted TOTAL FUNDS BALANCE	

