

**NOVEMBER 2022 EDITION OF THE OKALOOSA ISLAND
LEASEHOLDERS NEWSLETTER, THE OIL LANTERN**

Page 1 of 13 pages



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

**OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS
ASSOCIATION**

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Our November 2022 meeting will be held on **Monday, November 14** starting at 7 pm. For our September 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.

IN THIS NEWSLETTER

- ◆ Report from the President – **Ed Henderson**
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- ◆ Rainfall for October 2022
- ◆ Agenda, November 14, 2022 Meeting
- ◆ Architectural Review Committee Report for October 2022
- ◆ Okaloosa Island Garden Club Program – **Jonalyn of Bloom Farms**, Nov 9, 2022
- ◆ Draft OILA Membership Meeting Minutes **June 27, 2022 and September 12, 2022**
- ◆ This Month in History - November
- ◆ Trivia Crawler
- ◆ Status Report – Hwy 98 Bridge (Brooks) to Bridge (Marler) Multi-use Path
- ◆ Donate to: **Christmas Shop with an Okaloosa Island Firefighter**
- ◆ Help with the Island Christmas Food Drive
- ◆ Purchase **"4 Lanes 4 Life"** SRB T-Shirts

**DON'T FORGET TO RENEW
YOUR OILA MEMBERSHIP FOR
2019-2020. RENEWAL NOTICES
WERE SENT OUT ON
SEPTEMBER 15, 2022.**

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS
ABOUT RENEWING YOUR
MEMBERSHIP, CONTACT JIM
SIMPSON AT 850.585.2116 OR
BY EMAIL AT:**

SANLEANNA@COX.NET



**UNCLE OILA SAYS
OKALOOSA ISLAND
NEEDS**

YOU!

**RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP
TODAY!**



THE OIL LANTERN – NOVEMBER 2022
THE NEWSLETTER OF THE OKALOOSA ISLAND
LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION, Inc
P.O. Box 4323, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549
Editor: Jim Simpson, (850) 585-2116
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REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT – Ed Henderson

I want to thank everyone for the large turnout for our October meeting where we heard from Commissioner Trey Goodwin, Okaloosa Fire Chief Ray Strawn and Public Works Director Pat Maddox and learned of the BCC Meeting on October 18.



While the BCC voted in favor of proceeding with the SRB plan, Commissioner Goodwin made an amendment to allow for our concerns regarding the reduction of 4 lanes to 2! We plan on further discussion on this topic as well as the potential approval of Short-Term Rentals in residential B1 Zone led by former OILA BOD member, Brick Bradford. It appears that some Commissioners want to take away our “Old Florida” for a 30A environment. We will discuss what steps we should take.

The Board is also searching for a member to take a vacancy on our Architectural Review Committee led by Nick Hall. As a member of this Committee, I can tell you I’ve benefited from Nick’s knowledge and if you have a knack for reading plans and have an interest in preserving Okaloosa Island’s covenants, I would love to hear from you. We meet via internet email whenever there is a new application, so it is not near as time consuming as in the past.

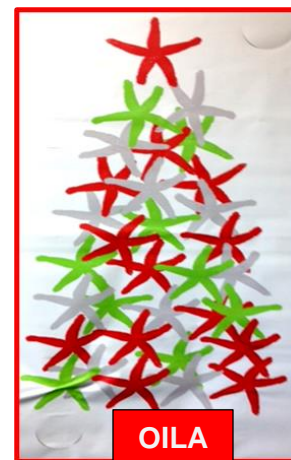
The Holidays are just around the corner and Nancy Hunt will discuss Holiday decorations and Jim Simpson on the OILA Food Drive. You helped more than double the previous years food collection; we want to beat last year’s record. Jim will have a box set up in the Fire Station lobby for your donations; please see his notice in the Lantern.

Our meeting is scheduled for November 14 at 7:00 pm at the Okaloosa Island Second Floor Conference room. It will also be available via Zoom with the invitation to follow. Please make plans to attend this most important meeting.

CHRISTMAS IS APPROACHING: TIME TO START PLANS TO: 1. DECORATE THE ISLAND, 2. SET UP A LIGHT DECORATING CONTEST AND 3. CONDUCT A FOOD DRIVE

Christmas is just around the corner. Not sure what is possible for Okaloosa Island due to bridge construction or what is appropriate considering the devastation from Ian in our state. The past 7 years, we have had great volunteers to help decorate the Island, have a light decoration contest, and a food drive for our local food bank. It might be nice if OILA could come up with a way to help a sister island for Christmas. If interested in helping or brain storming, we can organize committees to discuss.

This goal will be on the November 14, 2022 OILA agenda. If you can’t make this meeting, you may contact **Nancy Hunt** at **850-855-9635**.



May we count our blessings every day!



**PRESIDENT
TEDDY
ROOSEVELT
SAVED
FOOTBALL
FROM
ABOLITION**

In the early 1900s football, the forward pass was illegal and brute strength was required to move the ball. The result was appalling. In 1904 alone 18 football deaths were reported. Forced to intervene, President Roosevelt warned that he would ban football unless player safety was established. In response, the rules were revised, and the forward pass was introduced. A pass that was dropped without being touched first would mean that possession belonged to the defending team.

SPEAKING OF FOOTBALL, WHAT ARE THE LONGEST FIELD GOALS KICKED IN COLLEGE AND PRO FOOTBALL?

COLLEGE: 69 yards – Ove Johnson, who was born in Sweden, Abilene Christian University vs. East Texas State, October 16, 1976. Abilene won the game 17-0.

PRO: 66 yards – Justin Tucker, Detroit Lions vs. Baltimore Ravens, Sept. 26, 2021. The Lions won the game 19-17.

**TOTAL RAINFALL FOR OCTOBER 2022
2.6 Inches**



October 12.....**1.6** inches
October 13.....**0.1** inches
October 17.....**0.1** inches
October 25.....**0.1** inches
October 30.....**0.7** inches

October Avg Rainfall..... **4.3** inches
Variance to Average..... **- 1.7** inches

Nov Avg Rainfall.....**4.1** inches
November Record High..... **89° F** (1998)
November Record Low **18° F** (1950)
Nov Avg Water Temperature..**72° F**

Avg Rainfall for Dec..... **4.8** inches
Dec Record High.....**84° F** (1968)
Dec Record Low.....**8° F** (1962)
Dec Avg Water Temperature ..**64° F**

YTD Variance **- 11.9** inches
Year to Date Rainfall.....**55.2** inches
Avg Annual Rainfall**65.1** inches

**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**



November 14, 2022 Meeting Agenda

DATE: Monday, November 14, 2022, **TIME:** 7:00 p.m.

PLACE: For our November 2022 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

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Roll Call of Board Members: Ed Henderson

III. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings: John Donovan - Approval of the draft Minutes for June 13, 2022 and September 12, 2022.

IV. Treasurer's Report: Jim Simpson

V. Standing Committee Reports:

- Architectural Review Committee Report for October 2022 (printed in this newsletter and for information only)

VI. New and Unfinished Business:

- A. Island Decorations – Nancy Hunt
- B. Vacancy on the Architectural Review Committee – Nick Hall'
- C. OILA Food Drive – Jim Simpson
- D. 4 Lanes 4 Life: Trey Goodwin Amendment to Two Lanes BCC Motion – Jack Pous
- E. Short Term Rentals in the Residential B-1 Zone – Brick Bradford

VII. Announcements, Speakers and Programs: Announcements, Speakers and Programs Deferred to next Members Meeting order to provide maximum time for our Speaker."

VIII. Adjournment



ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE REPORT FOR October 2022: The OILA Architectural Review Committee (ARC) received several applications for review during July and August 2022 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>
10/10	370	7	K. Harris 760 Seahorse Ave	Sunroom	Yes
10/24			W. Bernheisel 376 Santa Rosa Blvd Unit 109	Storm Shutters	Yes
10/29	2	10	P. Berry Gulfarium	Parking Lot mods	Yes

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

[Okaloosa Island Leaseholders Association - OILA - Architecture Review](#)

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

1. OILA ARC review package:
 - 1.1. Completed OILA ARC application,
 - 1.2. Survey plat of the property,
 - 1.3. Overlaid illustration of the project on a copy of the survey plat.
 - 1.4. 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.)

2. 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).



OKALOOSA ISLAND GARDEN CLUB

It's FALL Y'ALL, and the Garden Club is in full swing. We had a fantastic speaker last month with a program about butterflies.

This months program will be presented by Jonalyn of Bloom Farms. She will be teaching us how to collect Fall seeds, and planting and prepping for Spring.

Come join us at El Matador on Nov. 9th at 9:30 for fun, education, and great food.

For more info please contact Susan Wall
205-907-0393

DRAFT MINUTES – OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION – June 27, 2022

CALL TO ORDER: Hybrid in-person and Zoom meeting called to order at 6:30 PM by **President David Sherry** in the Association Room at The Breakers condominium on Okaloosa Island with **Secretary John Donovan** moderating via Zoom.

- I. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** **President David Sherry** leads the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. **ROLL:** Board Members Present: **David Sherry (President), John Donovan (Secretary), Brick Bradford, Rick Deckert, Ed Henderson, Jesse Hunt, Jack Pous.**
- III. **CONDUCT THE ELECTION FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** The Board of Directors Election was the only item of business at this meeting. There were eight candidates for four vacancies on the board of directors. Per OILA's term limits provisions, no incumbent was among the candidates. Members present were allowed to vote from 6:30 PM until 7:00 PM. The polls were closed at 7:00 PM. OILA members Nancy Deckert, Rick Deckert, Jack Pous, and Rebecca Sherry were appointed to certify and count the ballots by OILA President David Sherry. The appointees were divided into 2 teams, with each team counting roughly half of the ballots. After each team counted their stack of ballots, the teams traded stacks and counted the other team's ballots. The two counts matched exactly.

The election results are as follows:

Dr. Frank Adcock.....195 Votes
Louis Belanger.....170 Votes
Brian Harrington.....78 Votes
Tyler Herndon.....55 Votes
Richard Johnson.....74 Votes
David Jones.....168 Votes
Keith Manley.....60 Votes
Brian Smith.....191 Votes

Thus the 4 new OILA board members are **Dr. Frank Adcock, Louis Belanger, David Jones, and Brian Smith.**

After the results were announced, Brick Bradford asked how many ballots were cast and how many were rejected. David Sherry responded that there were 264 valid ballots counted, plus 21 ballots disregarded, and that most of the disregarded ballots were disregarded because the outer ballot envelope did not contain the name or any other voter identification and could therefore not be certified. Brick then noted that therefore, the disregarded ballots could not have possibly changed the outcome of the election, and David Sherry concurred.

After the election, any remaining winning candidates were sworn into office by outgoing president David Sherry. I

- IV. **ADJOURNMENT:** David Sherry made a motion, seconded by Brick Bradford, to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

John S. Donovan, OILA Secretary

DRAFT MINUTES – OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION – September 12, 2022

CALL TO ORDER: Hybrid in-person and Zoom meeting called to order at 7:06 PM by President Ed Henderson at the Okaloosa Island Firehouse with Secretary John Donovan moderating via Zoom.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Director David Jones led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. ROLL: Board Members Present: Ed Henderson (President), Dr. Frank Adcock, Louis Belanger, David Jones, Jack Pous and Brian Smith. Director Jesse Hunt advised the Board he could not attend this Meeting. President Ed Henderson introduced each Director present, as well as the newly elected Secretary, and each person introduced, gave a brief thumbnail biography oriented to their time on Okaloosa Island.

III. MINUTES: Secretary John Donovan made a motion, seconded by Frank Adcock, to approve the draft May 9, 2022 Membership Meeting Minutes. The Motion to adopt the May 9, 2022, Minutes was passed unanimously.

IV. TREASURER'S REPORT: Please see Attachment 1 for the full Treasurer's Report, presented in person by Treasurer Jim Simpson. Ed Henderson moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and to reimburse Jim Simpson for his Treasurer's expenses, which was seconded by Brian Smith, and unanimously adopted.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS: Standing Committees

Architectural Report: ARC member Brian Smith summarized the ARC Report from the OIL Lantern. Director and ARC member Ed Henderson said the committee was working well.

VI. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

President Ed Henderson introduced Jack Pous and Brian Smith, chosen by the OILA Board to approach Okaloosa County to try to convince Jason Autrey, the County Director in charge of the re-design of four-lane Santa Rosa Boulevard, that shrinking Santa Rosa Boulevard's traffic lanes from four lanes to three lanes to two lanes, moving westerly toward El Matador and the Air Base access road.

Director Jack Pous described the specific places where the loss of lanes would occur, with the switch to three lanes occurring at Stewby's and the switch to two lanes coming at Tom Thumb. Jack went on to detail where the difficulties with left and right turns would occur. He highlighted the difficulties with commercial deliveries and buses.

Brian Smith then described two meetings with Jason Autrey trying to explain these difficulties and their impacts on the Island. The first meeting was cordial, and progress seemed possible, but the second meeting did not go well, with a stern reminder from Jason Autrey that there had been a 5-0 affirmative BCC vote in favor of this project design and Okaloosa County would be proceeding with that design.

Jack Pous then described the County's claim that traffic modeling had been done, and wisely described the trash in, trash out tendency of models.

David Sherry indicated that there had been traffic modeling done at the intersection of US 98 and Santa Rosa Boulevard, but apparently no traffic modeling had been done west of that intersection on Santa Rosa Boulevard.

Jack Pous then notified the Members present that the OILA Board could not achieve much to change the County's mind on this... it would require all-out participation from the membership.

Brian Smith pointed out the disturbing fact that certain BCC members, particularly Commissioner Boyles, has no respect for the Island's Protective Covenants, or for OILA, and would sweep them all away if he could.

Jack Pous stated OILA was up against it now, and it was time for people to attend BCC Meetings and speak out; to send emails to Commissioners; put signatures on petitions, and even picket on US 98 and Santa Rosa Boulevard.

Brian Harrington inquired on public surveys that had been taken, with 90% opposed to this project; OILA Membership was 90% opposed; and the Fire Chief was also opposed. Brick Bradford's stats on 4300 condo owners with only 20% living here year-round were cited, and Jack Pous advised that we must find a way to get those out of state owners involved and stepping forward.

DRAFT MINUTES – OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION – September 12, 2022 Continued

David Sherry stated you could check this against the County voter rolls to get some kind of an idea of which owners live here year-round. Jack Pous then turned to his discussions with the Fire Chief, and Frank Adcock joined in, to say the BCC was ignoring the Fire Chief despite that the fire chief firmly opposed the lane reduction.

Rebecca Sherry stated that we can do this, one politician at a time. David Sherry stated that we were successful at defending the 2011 “Bad Sand” Okaloosa Island Beach Restoration project, a project much further along with funding secured, to the point that all Island parcel owners got years of MSBU assessments refunded to them. Jack Pous made the point that the Contract to design all this was likely signed by the Engineers already, but David Sherry stated that could not have happened yet, and a BCC meeting would be needed for that.

The position of the USAF in regard to the lane reduction was next brought up, and it was reported to OILA that the USAF was all in favor of the lane reduction as it would supposedly slow down the speeders. The flooding of Santa Rosa Boulevard came up, ut Santa Rosa Boulevard was an excellent road built to USAF specifications which had survived Opal and Ivan, while both those hurricanes destroyed US 98 on the Island.

Jack Pous stated that despite this, Jason Autrey is “godfather” of the project, and he insists the USAF has approved the project, meanwhile refusing to document that approval. Frank Adcock insisted Jason Autrey should be exposed, but Jack Pous advised public shaming never works. Frank turned to the time Jason Autrey spoke to El Matador about the project and focused on the roundabout down at the west end, indicating USAF Traffic pattern approval, but Brian Harrington recalled no traffic pattern approval by USAF.

Brian Smith wanted to speak with the Engineering firm Halff, but by then Jason Autrey’s tone had changed, and contact was not allowed.

An audience member wisely suggested traffic cones to model the pattern of the lost lanes, but was advised the sheriff would be all over that.

Jack Pous repeated his position about the need to organize, put a larger group together and go for a membership drive.

Jack confirmed that Destin is the County’s crown jewel, and Okaloosa Island is the stepchild that donates all the bed tax and real estate tax to the County without any representation.

Reference was next made to House Bill 3533, the County’s initial effort to get state funding for this project, and that Bill died. The project remains substantially unfunded, which is a weakness we can attack through state legislators. Brian Smith pointed out the state legislative delegations meet twice a year, two Congressmen and two Senators, and anyone can attend those meetings and speak. David Sherry reminded us that people who live on the Island may die as a result of this project, which legislators would need to know.

Frank Adcock got back into the statistics on Condo ownership/occupancy, to eventually make the point that signatures on petitions mean very little to the BCC. A discussion of online petitions and disclosure of HOA members email addresses then came up in the context of FL Stat. Section 718. Frank Adcock advised that El Mat would not disclose owners email addresses, citing this was a political issue.

Jack Pous again referred to “be nice until it is time not to”, in the context of Public Records Requests (PRA Requests), perhaps best by a homeowner who is not an OILA Board Member, trying “a lump of sugar while they urinate on us.”

Frank Adcock again expressed his regrets about the El Mat Annual Meeting this year, with 98 owners present, 80% of whom knew nothing about the Santa Rosa Boulevard Lane closures... but because the issue was political, his 7-minute presentation was cut down to 3 minutes at the end.

Brick Bradford then described the successful community action push to stop the paving of Northside Accessways after Accessway 2, then describing the “magic” of the Sherrys’ push to block the Wright Parkway Bridge project which would have turned Santa Rosa Boulevard into a public thoroughfare. It takes neighbors, we all have neighbors, rally your neighbors, then follow up with state legislators.

Brian Smith dug into possible progress that could be made contacting public utilities that would have to be involved in this project, such as Gulf Power.

DRAFT MINUTES – OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION – September 12, 2022 Continued

Frank Adcock then went into the details of the EMS experience, In an ambulance as the minutes in the “Golden Hour” tick away. The EMS team has that hour to safely pick up a distressed person and deliver that person to the emergency room for commencement of lifesaving procedures. Reducing to two lanes from four lanes MUST impact the Golden Hour... we can use this in the context of the County-guaranteed mission to provide for the safety, health and wellbeing of County residents. Frank Adcock at that point circulated a handout he had prepared, to focus on the words of Chief Strawn that the lane closures would cost lives.

Ed Henderson the reiterated the need to email Commissioners, and to alert and engage the people we know on this topic. He pointed to the Face Book page, and requested an Email blast to members from Jim Simpson on this topic. Brian Smith then reminded the group that he still had not heard a reason why the lane reduction was necessary, following which there was a brief discussion of powerful golf carts and a possible golf cart lobby.

There was reference to a proposed boardwalk over the “leaseholders beach”, which was defeated some time ago in hallowed antiquity.

David Sherry brought up the last BCC Meeting, at which someone had spoken at length against the project, and how we needed many more folks to speak up at the upcoming September 20 meeting... followed by a discussion of the time of that meeting.

David and Rebecca Sherry, both attired in colorful tee shirts with a message in big letters, advised that they did not dress that way by accident, and reminded the group that a huge crowd attended the “bad sand” project defeat BCC Meeting so the meeting was moved to the Convention Center, and that TV Stations covered the protest at the base of Brooks Bridge.

Rebecca Sherry suggested we get a slogan for a colorful tee shirt in support of the crusade against the lane reductions and discussed possible pricing.

At this point, with the end of the meeting nearing, Brick Bradford did a good job of outlining action items and inquiring into who was taking action on them. Ed Henderson authorized an email blast to members by Jim Simpson.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: Ed Henderson made a motion, seconded by Brick Bradford, to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 PM, which motion was unanimously adopted by those members still present.

John S. Donovan
OILA Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT: September 12, 2022

MEMBERSHIP TOTAL: 350

May 9, 2022 TOTAL BALANCE: \$ 26,466.38

ASSOCIATION DISCRETIONARY FUND BALANCE AS OF May 9, 2022..... \$ 24,957.05

RECEIPTS SINCE LAST REPORT

Donations: Shelia Adcock \$3.00 Bernadette Darnell... \$6.00	Membership dues.....\$ 449.50 U.S. Mail.....\$ 38.00 Donations.....\$ 9.00 Total. \$ 496.50
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EXPENDITURES:

Payment to Jim Simpson for the cost of stamps to mail the May 2022 OIL Lantern (44 copies at .58 cents each).....	\$ 25.52
Payment to Jim Simpson for expenses related to the June 27, 2022 election	\$ 543.15
Payment to David Sherry for expenses related to the June 27, 2022 election	\$ 38.36
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:	\$ 607.03

EXPENSES PENDING APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT:

Reimburse Jim Simpson to reimburse him for payment of the annual fee to IONOS Inc. for the annual (07/20/2022 to 07/20/2023) oilaweb.com website.....	\$ 180.00
Reimburse Jim Simpson for payment to the U.S. Postal Service for rental of P.O. Box 4323 for 6 months (Sept 1, 2022 to Feb 1, 2023)	\$ 83.00
Reimburse Jim Simpson for the cost of stamps to mail the Summer 2022 Special OIL Lantern (60 copies at .60 cents each).....	\$ 36.00
Reimburse Jim Simpson for the cost of stamps to mail the September 2022 OIL Lanter (60 copies at .60 cents each).....	\$ 36.00
Reimburse Jim Simpson for the costs associated with the 2022-2023 Annual OILA Membership Renewal. Stamps: \$360 (300 at .60 each); \$15 (Mailing Labels) \$9 (150 No. 9 envelopes)	\$ 384.00
TOTAL EXPENSES PENDING APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT:	\$ 719.00

ASSOCIATION DISCRETIONARY FUND BALANCE AFTER RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURES

& EXPENSES PENDING APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT AS OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2022\$ 24,127.52

BEAUTIFICATION FUND BALANCE AS OF MAY 9, 2022..... \$ 1,421.28

BEAUTIFICATION FUND EXPENDITURES SINCE LAST REPORTNo Expenditures

BEAUTIFICATION FUND BALANCE AS OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2022,\$ 1,421.28

CHRISTMAS DECORATING FUND BALANCE AS OF MAY 9, 2022 \$ 88.05

CHRISTMAS DECORATING FUND EXPENDITURES SINCE LAST REPORTNo Expenditures

CHRISTMAS DECORATING FUND BALANCE AS OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2022 \$ 88.05

SUMMARY: September 12, 2022 Fund Balances

-- Association's Discretionary Fund Balance.	\$ 24,127.52
-- Beautification Fund Balance.....	\$ 1,421.28
-- Christmas Decorating Fund Balance (Donations).....	\$ 88.05
TOTAL FUNDS BALANCE.....	\$ 25,636.85

Respectfully submitted
 Jim Simpson, Treasurer

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 9 of this newsletter.



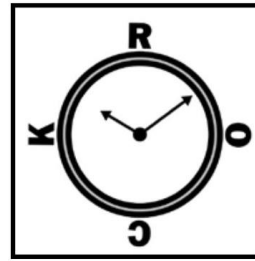
Wuzzle No. 1



Wuzzle No. 2



Wuzzle No. 3



Wuzzle No. 4



Wuzzle No. 5

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY: NOVEMBER

November 1, 1952 - The United States detonates the world's first thermonuclear weapon, the hydrogen bomb.



November 3, 1913 – The first American citizens receive information over the new national income tax. A married man living with his wife, who is in receipt of an income of \$5,000 pays \$10 a year and if his income is \$10,000, he pays \$60 per year.

November 4 – 1862 - Richard Gatling received a patent for the machine gun.



November 9, 1965 - Blackout affecting 30 million people in northeastern states including New York of the United States and Ontario, Canada lasting for up to 13 hours.

November 11, 1933 - Strong winds strip the topsoil from the drought affected farms of South Dakota and within two days, dust from the storm had reached all the way to Albany, New York.

November 11, 1901 - **NABISCO**, the snack food manufacturer, was trademark registered.

November 15 – 1904 - Patent Number 775,134 was granted to King C. Gillette for a safety razor.



November 17, 2007 - Actor Arnold Schwarzenegger is sworn in as the governor of California.

November 19, 1954 - The first automatic toll collection machine is used at the Union Toll Plaza on New Jersey's Garden State Parkway.

November 24, 1836 – The provisional Texas government passed a resolution officially creating a corps of over 50 rangers. This was the beginning of the Texas Rangers.

November 24, 1874 - Patent Number 157,124 was granted to Joseph Glidden for barbed wire fencing.

November 26, 1922 - British archaeologist Lord Carnarvon and the American archaeologist Howard Carter enter King Tut's tomb.



TRIVIA CRAWLER

DON'T HAVE A THERMOMETER? NOT A PROBLEM – GET A TREE CRICKET!

Tree Crickets sing in exact mathematic ratio to the temperature of the air. No need for a thermometer on a summer night – just count the number of chirps a cricket makes in 15 seconds, add 40, the result will be the current temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.



COMANCHE CODE TALKERS: Used in World War II by the Army Signal Corps to send encrypted messages that German troops could not break, referred to Adolf Hitler as *posah-tai-vo*, which means “crazy white man”.

DID YOU KNOW THAT: The Bible contains 32 references to dogs, but none to cats.

LIPSTICK BY THE POUND: Most women work through six pounds of lipstick in their lives.

WUZZLE PUZZLES ANSWERS

Wuzzle No. 3



I'M COUNTING ON YOU (to keep your mouth shut - loose lips sink ships)

Wuzzle No. 1



SIT-UPS

Wuzzle No. 2



BREAKFAST

Wuzzle No. 4



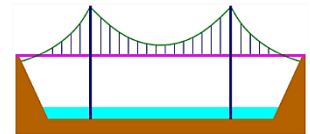
ROCK AROUND THE CLOCK

Wuzzle No. 5

n. **adverb** a word or phrase that modifies or qualifies an adjective, verb, or other adverb or a word group, expressing a relation of place, time, circumstance, manner, cause, degree, etc.

ADVERB

STATUS REPORT – HWY 98 BRIDGE (Brooks) to BRIDGE (Marler) MULTI USE PATH - by Jim Simpson



The project is the construction of a multi-use pathway entirely within the FDOT right-of-way of US 98 on Okaloosa Island from near Pier Road at the eastern end of the new Brooks Bridge to the western terminus of the Marler Bridge in Destin. The pathway will be 12' wide and approximately 4.3 miles in length. Incidental to the construction of the pathway will be safety barriers where necessary, environmental fencing to protect Eglin AFB protective buffers and areas (protected species and habitat areas) and upgraded parking areas at three Eglin AFB-designated beach access points adjacent to the pathway.

Incidental to the construction of the pathway will be safety barriers where necessary, environmental fencing to protect Eglin AFB protective buffers and areas (protected species and habitat areas) and upgraded parking areas at three Eglin AFB designated beach access points adjacent to the pathway. An Environmental Assessment has been completed and a Finding of No Significant Impact rendered. The design of this project is underway and fully funded by tourist development taxes.

Actions Taken to Date:

- On March 5, 2019 the Board approved \$166,122 for preliminary design, survey and an environmental survey which have been completed.
- On July 6, 2021 the Board approved \$323,573 for design. The project is currently 60% designed and Okaloosa County staff are working with Eglin AFB on an out-grant for construction.
- On October 18, 2022 the Board approved a \$2,000,000 state-funded grant award/agreement from the Florida Department of Transportation with a county match of \$2,000,000 from tourist development funds.
- This Florida Department of Transportation grant award for \$2M stipulates a completion date of July 30, 2024.

Discussion with Okaloosa County Public Works indicated that the path is still in the design stage. Each step of the design must be approved the Air Force. In terms of a timeline the staff projected a construction start time would commence in 2023. Also, it was stressed that construction of the path is independent of the construction of the new Brooks Bridge.

Of interest is the planned upgrade of the existing Eglin AFB designated beach access points on the south (beach) side of Highway 98. This improvement will made access to the point much easier for pedestrians and bicyclists.

CHRISTMAS SHOP WITH AN OKALOOSA ISLAND FIREFIGHTER



Okaloosa Island Firefighter, Mario Zayas-Bazan, Christmas Shopping with a Child - 2021

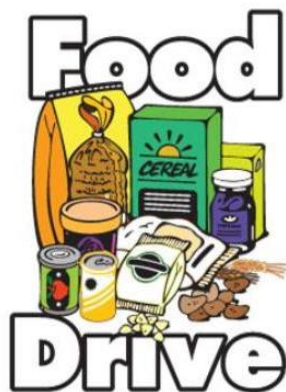
This year, Okaloosa Island Fire Department is teaming up with Children in Crisis, Inc. to provide a merry Christmas to some children and families in need. Our Union Local 2617 will be receiving monetary donations until December 23, 2022, for our annual Shop With a Firefighter event, located at Wal-Mart on Beal Parkway. Donations can be made by cash or check, with all checks made payable to Union Local 2617. Currently, there are approximately 15 children available to sponsor, and we would like to bring joy to as many of them as possible. It costs \$200 to sponsor one child, and Okaloosa Island has already raised enough money to provide for 7 additional families. In case there are funds left over, all money will be allocated to next year's Shop With a Firefighter event. Donations of any kind are greatly appreciated!!!

*(Editor's Note: I have contributed to **Shop With a Firefighter** for many years. It is an excellent program which permits a child in foster care to go Christmas shopping with a Firefighter who serves as a guide and as an adult role model. Also, the child gets to pick their own stuff – and, in many cases that is clothes AND items for their brothers and sisters! - Jim Simpson)*

ISLAND PANTRY FOOD DRIVE FOR 2022 - DECEMBER 5 TO DECEMBER 21

**ANNOUNCING OKALOOSA ISLAND PANTRY FOOD DRIVE FOR 2022
BRING DONATIONS OF NON-PERISHABLE* FOODS AND TOILETRY ITEMS TO THE
OKALOOSA ISLAND FIRE STATION DROP OFF SITE.**

**DONATIONS CAN BE MADE 24 HOURS A DAY FROM:
MONDAY, DEC 5 THROUGH WEDNESDAY, DEC 21**



*** IN ADDITION TO CANNED FOOD, NON-PERISHABLES INCLUDE CEREAL, OATMEAL, GRITS, ETC**

LAST YEAR THE ISLAND DONATED 468 POUNDS OF FOOD TO THE FORT WALTON BEACH SHARING AND CARING FOOD BANK - A RECORD AMOUNT.

**THIS YEAR'S GOAL IS
550 POUNDS!**



4 LANES 4 LIFE T-SHIRTS – SANTA ROSA BLVD

Fellow OILA members and friends,

Okaloosa County plans to reduce Santa Rosa Blvd from 4 driving lanes to 2, and to eliminate center medians and turn lanes. The Okaloosa Island Fire Chief has written the lane reduction “will cost someone their life”. An Okaloosa Island Leaseholder Association (OILA) membership vote and Okaloosa Islander votes from the Okaloosa county workshop overwhelmingly oppose (90% against) lane reduction.

We are ordering more t-shirts to support 4-Lane Santa Rosa Blvd (first order placed September 25 – thank you). The shirts raise awareness and start conversations when worn around town and show our support when worn at County meetings. Please wear them often.



To place an order, contact me via e-mail with size and quantity. Payment is due upon t-shirt delivery. Adult size small, medium, large, and XL: \$10 each. Adult size 2XL is \$12, 3XL is \$13, 4XL is \$13.50.

Rebecca Sherry

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