

**MARCH 2023 OIL LANTERN  
PAGE 1 OF 7 PAGES**



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

**OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS  
ASSOCIATION**

**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

Our March 2023 meeting will be held on **Monday, March 13, 2023** starting at 7 pm. with Congressman Matt Gaetz as our speaker. In order to accommodate the increased audience, we have moved the meeting to **The Breakers of Fort Walton Beach, 381 Santa Rosa Blvd, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548.** For our March meeting, members will have the option of attending the meeting in-person at the Breakers 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**
- Trivia – Names of Groups of Animals
- New Bridge Construction Started
- Rainfall for February 2023
- Architectural Review Committee Report for February 2023
- Draft Minutes for Jan 16, 2023 Meeting (See Editor's Note)
- Wuzzle Puzzles
- This Month in History – March
- Agenda–March 13, 2023 Meeting
- America's Stonehenge
- Latest Updates on Local Projects
- Wuzzle Puzzle Answers



**Congressman Matt Gaetz will be the speaker at the Monday, March 13, 2023 OILA Meeting.**

# THE OIL LANTERN

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE OKALOOSA ISLAND  
LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION, Inc  
P.O. Box 4323, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549  
Editor: Jim Simpson, (850) 585-2116  
Association Website: [www.oilaweb.com](http://www.oilaweb.com)  
March 2023



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## REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT – Ed Henderson

Happy March to All!

It appears we made it through a cold winter and are enjoying the start of a beautiful spring.

I am most excited to announce that our guest speaker for our March 13 meeting will be Congressman Matt Gaetz and to accommodate the increased audience we have moved the meeting to The Breakers of Fort Walton Beach, 381 Santa Rosa Blvd, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548. (Special thanks to Dave and Rebecca Sherry for obtaining this accommodation at no cost to OILA).

Congressman Gaetz has been asked to give an overview of the national scene and will take questions.

The County Commission has been extremely active passing legislative issues that the majority of Okaloosa Island residents do not want such as the reduction of the last mile of Santa Rosa Blvd to two lanes. The BCC stated it is necessary to do so for the storm water drainage and the sidewalk wide enough to land a small aircraft.

It is strongly felt by those opposed both can be accomplished without lane reductions. It was still passed unanimously however funding has not been obtained.

On February 21 the BCC unanimously voted to take control of our beaches and resorted to, in my opinion, a most unfair taxation of the condo owners who already are paying more than their fair share via real estate taxes and supporting Tourism Tax collections. Those who supported this Beach bill need to prepare for what I think is next for The BCC; the pavement of our Beach Freeways for increased parking. I also feel this move will open our Island to increased commercial venues as developers will have better access for potential new hotels and condominiums in Section B 1. I hope I am wrong.

Well off of the soap box for now; with the anticipated increased attendance and our having to put out chairs before the meeting and return them volunteers are appreciated to set up and take down our seating.

I look forward to seeing you March 13 at The Breakers.

Best to you and yours,

Ed



## TRIVIA CRAWLER: Names of Groups of Animals

Buzzards .....A Wake  
Cobras .....A Quiver  
Crows.....A Murder  
Frogs .....A Knot  
Jellyfish.....A Smack  
Leopards.....A Leap

Porcupines. A Prickle  
Rats.....A Colony  
Rhinos.....A Crash  
Skunks.....A Stench  
Swans..... A Bevy  
Apes.....A Shrewdness

Buffalo.....A Gang  
Crocodiles.....A Bask  
Ferrets .....A Business  
Hyenas.....A Cackle  
Parrots...A Pandemonium  
Anteaters.....A Parade

**CONSTRUCTION ON THE NEW BROOKS BRIDGE IS UNDERWAY!**



Shown above is a heavy-duty crane which has been working on the Ft Walton side of the Brooks Bridge. Estimated completion date is 2027. The land the crane is parked on used to be Pat's Bait Shop. All of the buildings which were identified as being in the bridge's right-of-way have been taken down. The OIL Lantern will keep you posted as the construction progresses.

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

**FOR A MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

**CLICK ON THE ASSOCIATION'S WEBPAGE:**

[WWW.OILAWEB.COM](http://WWW.OILAWEB.COM)

OR

**CONTACT JIM SIMPSON at (850) 585-2116**

or by email at [SANLEANNA@COX.NET](mailto:SANLEANNA@COX.NET)



**TOTAL RAINFALL FOR FEBRUARY 2023: 1.9 Inches**

Feb 2 ... **0.2** inches  
 Feb 3.....**0.2** inches  
 Feb 9.....**0.3** inches  
 Feb 10....**0.5** inches  
 Feb 11....**0.6** inches  
 Feb 17 ... **0.1** inches

Avg Rainfall for Feb - **5.8** inches.  
 Variance to Average: - **3.9** inches

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

April Avg Rainfall.....**3.7** inches  
 April Record High.....**92° F**(1985)  
 April Record Low .....**20° F**(1987)  
 Apr Avg Water Temperature.....**72° F**

YTD Variance ..... - **5.3** inches  
 Year to Date Rainfall..... **5.5** inches  
 Avg Annual Rainfall .....**65.1** inches

**ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE REPORT FOR FEB 2023:** The OILA Architectural Review Committee (ARC) received and reviewed the following during February 2023 and upon review and adherence to the OILA Covenants, has approved the following project(s):

<u>Date</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Block</u>	<u>Owner/POC/Address</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>In-Compliance &amp; Approved</u>
02/07	2A/B	12	B. Sanders Alvin's Island	Sign Relocation	Yes
02/07	2	10	D. Harrington Sheraton 4 Pts	Replace Boardwalk ADA Compliance	Yes
02/08	150	4	R. Montalto 423 Caviar Dr.	2 Car Garage Add. and Front Entrance	Yes
02/08	109	3	D. Forstrom 366 Bluefish Dr.	Demo existing New Construction	Yes
02/09			M. Dalton Beasley Park	Boardwalk from Welcome Center to Beasley Park lot	Yes
02/16	219	5	R. Johnson 510 Dory Ave.	Swimming Pool	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).
  - 1.5. (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](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday's of the month)

**Editor's Note: A copy of the draft January 16, 2023 minutes was not available at press time. The draft January 16, 2023 minutes will be published in the April 2023 OIL Lantern for review at the April 10, 2023 meeting.**

## Approved January 16, 2023 Treasurer's Report



OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION, INC.  
P.O. BOX 4323  
FORT WALTON BEACH, FL 32549  
Webpage: [www.oilaweb.com](http://www.oilaweb.com)

### TREASURER'S REPORT: JANUARY 16, 2023

**MEMBERSHIP TOTAL: 273**

**November 14, 2022 TOTAL BALANCE: \$ 28,300.65**

**ASSOCIATION DISCRETIONARY FUND BALANCE AS OF November 14, 2022.....\$ 26,791.32**

**RECEIPTS SINCE LAST REPORT**

Membership dues.....	\$	<b>586.00</b>
U.S. Mail.....	\$	<b><u>18.00</u></b>
<b>Total... .</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>604.00</b>

**EXPENSES PENDING APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT:**

Reimburse Jim Simpson for the cost of stamps to mail the December 2022 OIL Lantern  
(60 copies at .60 per copy) ..... \$ **36.00**

Reimburse Jim Simpson for th cost of stamps to mail the January 2023 OIL Lantern  
(60 copies at .60 per copy)..... \$ **36.00**

**TOTAL EXPENSES PENDING APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT: \$ 72.00**

**ASSOCIATION DISCRETIONARY FUND BALANCE AFTER RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURES  
& EXPENSES PENDING APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT AS OF JANUARY 16, 2022 ..... \$ 27,323.32**

**BEAUTIFICATION FUND BALANCE AS OF NOV 11, 2022..... \$ 1,421.28**

**BEAUTIFICATION FUND EXPENDITURES SINCE LAST REPORT .....No Expenditures**

**BEAUTIFICATION FUND BALANCE AS OF JANUARY 16, 2023.....\$ 1,421.28**

**CHRISTMAS DECORATING FUND BALANCE AS OF NOV 11, 2022 .....\$ 88.05**

**CHRISTMAS DECORATING FUND EXPENDITURES SINCE LAST REPORT .....No Expenditures**

**CHRISTMAS DECORATING FUND BALANCE AS OF JANUARY 16, 2023 ..... \$ 88.05**

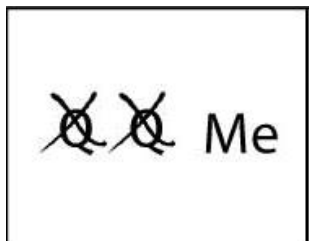
**SUMMARY: January 16, 2023 Fund Balances**

-- Association's Discretionary Fund Balance. ....	\$	<b>27,323.32</b>
-- Beautification Fund Balance.....	\$	<b>1,421.28</b>
-- Christmas Decorating Fund Balance (Donations).....	\$	<b><u>88.05</u></b>

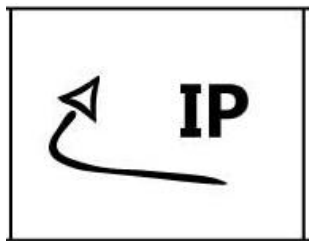
**TOTAL FUNDS BALANCE.....\$ 28,832.65**

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 10 of this newsletter.



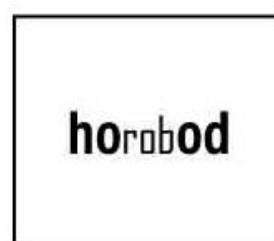
**Wuzzle No. 1**



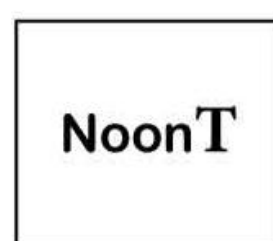
**Wuzzle No. 2**



**Wuzzle No. 3**



**Wuzzle No. 4**



**Wuzzle No. 5**

### THIS MONTH IN HISTORY – MARCH

**March 2, 1836** – Texas declared its independence from Mexico establishing the Republic of Texas.



**March 10, 1880** - The Salvation Army was founded in the United States. The social service organization was first founded in England by William Booth and operates today in 90 countries.



**March 15, 44 B.C.** - Julius Caesar was assassinated in the Senate chamber in Rome by Brutus and fellow conspirators. (The ides of March)

**MARCH 17TH - SAINT PATRICK'S DAY - COMMEMORATING THE PATRON SAINT OF IRELAND.**

**March 22, 1922:** The U.S. Postmaster General (Hubert Work) ordered all homes to get mailboxes or relinquish delivery of mail.

**March 28, 1930.** Two Turkish cities changed their names. Constantinople changed to Istanbul and Angora changed to Ankara.

**March 30, 1981** - Newly elected President Ronald Reagan was shot in the chest while walking toward his limousine in Washington, D.C., following a speech inside a hotel..

### AGENDA – MARCH 13, 2023 MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**DATE:** Monday, March 13, 2023 **TIME:** 7:00 p.m.

**I. PLACE:** For our March 2023 meeting, members will have the option of attending the meeting in-person at **Breakers of Fort Walton Beach, 381 Santa Rosa Blvd, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548** or attending over the internet by Zoom.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**Introduction of the Guest Speaker: U.S. Representative Matt Gaetz, 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District, Florida**

**III. Roll Call of Board Members: Ed Henderson**

**IV. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings:** Approval of the draft Minutes for the January 16, 2023 meeting moved to April 10, 2023 meeting.

**V. Treasurer's Report:** Jim Simpson:

**VI. Standing Committee Reports:**

- Architectural Review Committee Report for February 2023 (printed in this newsletter and for information only)

**VIII. New and Unfinished Business:.**

**IX. Announcements, Speakers and Programs:**

**X. Adjournment**

## AMERICA'S MILITARY STONEHENGE – ANTHEM VETERANS MEMORIAL – ANTHEM, ARIZONA



At precisely 11:11 A.M. MST each Veterans Day, the sun shines through a veterans memorial in Anthem, Arizona. The monument is dedicated to those who have and continue to serve in the United States



The memorial was designed by Anthem resident Renee Palmer-Jones. It features five marble pillars to represent the original five branches of the military, ordered in accordance with the [Department of Defense](#)'s prescribed precedence: the [US Army](#), the [US Marine Corps](#), the [US Navy](#), the [US Air Force](#) and the [US Coast Guard](#). The [US Space Force](#) was not yet in existence at the time of the memorial's construction. The pillars are staggered in size, from 17 feet to 6 feet, and have a circle cut out of their center. This ensures that when the sun shines through them on [Veterans Day](#) that a solar spotlight appears over a mosaic of The Great Seal of the United States on the ground. Anthem resident and chief engineer, Jim Martin, was charged with ensuring the pillars aligned accurately with the sun. He [shared](#) that this was done with a "fixed azimuth (the horizontal angle from astronomical north to the center of the sun that creates the horizontal illumination of the Great Seal)" and a "fixed altitude angle (the vertical angle for zenith, or horizon, to the center of the sun that creates the vertical illumination of the Great Seal)."

### LATEST UPDATES ON LOCAL PROJECTS

**Brooks Bridge:** Construction has begun on the initial phase, which is underground work for utilities. The cost to the State of Florida is estimated to be \$170 million dollars. The north side (Marler Park side) will be built first, and the old bridge will continue in use until the new side is constructed. Estimated completion date is 2027.

**Bridge to Bridge!** Working with the Federal government, Okaloosa County is in the final stages of designing the Bridge to Bridge Trail Project. It is hoped this phase will be completed within the next 3 to 6 months, with construction beginning in the fall of 2023. It's a \$6 million project that will provide a much-needed corridor for walking, running and biking in our beautiful area.

**Around the Mound:** On Tuesday, February 28, 2023, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) announced the kickoff of the Project Development and Environment (PD&E) study for the "Around the Mound" project in Downtown Fort Walton Beach. The proposed conceptual improvements include State Road 30 (U.S. 98) from S.R. 189 (Beal Parkway) to the west end of Brooks Bridge and north along S.R. 85 to south of Hollywood Boulevard. The "Around the Mound" project aims to improve safety and reduce congestion in the area by creating a bypass around the downtown area, while enhancing the overall aesthetic of the downtown area. The project involves the construction of a new roadway and the installation of new infrastructure, such as traffic signals and pedestrian crossings. The PD&E study will provide a critical step in the process of re-routing Highway 98 around the Indian Temple Mound museum in Downtown Fort Walton Beach.

**Smoking or Vaping on County Beach/Park Properties** – The Okaloosa County Commission passed an ordinance banning vaping and smoking on County Beaches and at County parks. New signage with detailed information is forthcoming.

**Okaloosa Island:** The redesign of Santa Rosa Boulevard is underway.

**WUZZLE PUZZLES ANSWERS**

**Wuzzle No. 1**



**Excuse Me**

**Wuzzle No. 2**



**Turnip**

**Wuzzle No. 3**



**Polite**

**Wuzzle No. 4**



**Robin Hood**

**Wuzzle No. 5**



**Afternoon Tea**