

**JULY - AUGUST 2015 SUMMER EDITION OF THE OKALOOSA I  
ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS  
NEWSLETTER, THE OIL LANTERN**

Page 1 of 6 pages

**SPECIAL NOTICE:** The Association does not hold regular meetings in the months of July and August. The next schedule meeting is Monday, Sept 14.

**OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION, Inc.**



P.O. Box 4323  
FT WALTON BEACH,  
FL 32549

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

**Next Meeting: LOCATION:** Okaloosa Island Fire Station, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
**Meeting Room TIME:** 7:00 p.m. **DATE:** Monday, **September 14, 2015.**  
**PARKING:** Please park behind the Fire Station next to the water tank

**IN THIS NEWSLETTER**

- ◆ Message from the President – **Vince Bruner**
- ◆ Fire Department Report for May & June 2015
- ◆ Architectural & Rainfall Reports for June & July 2015
- ◆ Okaloosa island Fire Department Awarded a \$8,794 State of Florida Grant for the Purchase of Defibrillators
- ◆ Take a Tour of Veterans Park
- ◆ Coyotes and Okaloosa Island
- ◆ This Month in History - August
- ◆ Okaloosa Island Fire Department Presented a Certificate of Appreciation from Chief Giuliano, Eglin AFB Fire Dept
- ◆ **Kathy Foster**, OILA Vice-President, Selected for the FDOT Stakeholders Advisory Group for the Santa Rosa Sound Alternate Crossing Study



**COYOTES, OKALOOSA  
ISLAND & DOMESTIC PETS  
More information on page 3**



# 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)



## July-August 2015

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Vince Bruner**  
President

110 Eglin Pwky SE  
Ft Walton Beach, FL 32548  
243-2222

[vince@brunermfirm.com](mailto:vince@brunermfirm.com)

**Kathy Foster**  
Vice-President

849 Tarpon Drive  
Ft Walton Beach, FL 32548  
244-4490

[fosterpk@gnt.net](mailto:fosterpk@gnt.net)

**Desley Parker**  
Secretary

890 The Masters Blvd  
Shalimar, FL 32579  
651-8197

[Desley.parker@gmail.com](mailto:Desley.parker@gmail.com)

**Tripp Tolbert**

1500 Miracle Strip Pkwy NE  
Ft Walton Beach, FL 32548  
243-9161

[tripp@tolbertgroup.com](mailto:tripp@tolbertgroup.com)

**Jill Higgins**

727 Sailfish Drive  
229-560-1889

[jill@jillhiggins.com](mailto:jill@jillhiggins.com)

**David Hancock**

113 Brooks Street - Unit 401  
Ft Walton beach, FL 32548  
376-5923

[dshancock49@cox.net](mailto:dshancock49@cox.net)

**Jim Hendricks**

846 Tropic Ave  
Ft Walton Beach, FL 32548  
850-543-0516

[imhendro1@aol.com](mailto:imhendro1@aol.com)

### ASSOCIATION WEBMASTER

**Bob Seitz**

709 Sailfish Drive  
Ft Walton Beach, FL 32548  
243-1399

[webmaster@oilaweb.com](mailto:webmaster@oilaweb.com)

### ASSOCIATION TREASURER

**Jim Simpson, Treasurer**

624B Pelican Drive  
Ft Walton Beach, FL 32548  
301-3547

[sanleanna@cox.net](mailto:sanleanna@cox.net)

### Doggy Droppings (or, Proper Pooper Scooper Protocol) - by

Kathy Foster

We know that everything an owner's pet does is precious to them. However, wrapping doggy doo in plastic bags and hanging them on



island posts along Santa Rosa Boulevard (see photo to the left) is not precious to others, nor is it adding to the beauty of our neighborhood. Please take all fancily wrapped

### NEWS NUGGET!



**KATHY FOSTER, VICE PRESIDENT OF OILA, HAS BEEN SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE ON THE STAKEHOLDERS ADVISORY GROUP FOR THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT) FOR THE SANTA ROSA SOUND ALTERNATE CROSSING STUDY!**

The purpose of the advisory group is to facilitate ongoing community dialogue in the study process and to provide opportunities to input in developing and evaluating project alternatives. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) meeting is anticipating the first meeting during the month of August at the City of Ft Walton Beach Public Library.

A separate Advisory Group is being formed for the **Brooks Bridge Replacement Study**. If any other OILA member is selected for either group, please let the Association know.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The traffic snarls that we experienced in June and the first half of July, seem to have eased up some. A lot of the locals have gotten their annual excursions to our beaches, out of their system some. While many locals in the north part of our county will continue to come most every weekend, some of the enthusiasm has diminished as the hot, sultry summer runs along.

In the meantime, our local law enforcement, and Island fire and rescue department, continues to do a great job of getting people to pull off the road when there is only a minor fender bender involved. Signs are still in place along the bridge asking people to pull off of the bridge and get out of the line of traffic, after they have been involved in an accident.

Many visitors from other jurisdictions, are unfamiliar with this, and policy of pulling off to the side of the road and getting out of the lanes of traffic, so the congestion won't get out of control.

Hopefully, all of our first responders will continue to emphasize the importance of clearing up the congestion in these situations, as the season progresses. Those of us who live and work in this are much appreciative of their efforts, already.

Sincerely,

Vince Bruner

**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).

**ISLAND RAINFALL FOR JUNE (0.9 inches) & JULY (2.1 inches) 2015**

June 3.....	<b>0.2</b> inches	July 5.....	<b>0.5</b> inches
June 10.....	<b>0.2</b> inches	July 13....	<b>0.1</b> inches
June 27.....	<b>0.5</b> inches	July 17...	<b>0.2</b> inches
<b>June Total</b>	<b>0.9</b> inches	July 18...	<b>0.2</b> inches
		July 19...	<b>0.1</b> inches
		July 23...	<b>0.2</b> inches
		July 27...	<b>0.5</b> inches
		July 29...	<b>0.3</b> inches
		<b>July Total</b>	<b>2.1</b> inches



Average Rainfall for June.....**3.7** inches  
 Variance to Average:..... **- 2.8** inches

Average Rainfall for July.....**8.5** inches  
 Variance to Average:..... **- 6.4** inches

Aug Avg Rainfall.....**7.2** inches  
 Aug Record High.....**103° F** (1980)  
 Aug Record Low .....**59° F** (1989)  
 Aug Avg Water Temperature...**85° F**

Sept Avg Rainfall.....**7.2** inches  
 Sept Record High.....**102° F** (1954)  
 Sept Record Low .....**37° F** (1967)  
 Sept Avg Water Temperature.. **85° F**

YTD Variance to Avg.....**-19.6** inches  
 Rainfall Year-to-Date.....**16.6** inches  
 Avg Annual Rainfall .....**65.1** inches

**OKALOOSA ISLAND FIRE DEPT RECORDED 117 CALLS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY AND 172 CALLS FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE**

	<b>May</b>	<b>June</b>
Fire Calls.....	<b>4</b>	<b>17</b>
Alarm Activations.....	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>
EMS/Rescue/MVA.....	<b>68</b>	<b>146</b>
Other.....	<b>37</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>TOTAL CALLS:</b> .....	<b>117</b>	<b>172*</b>

**\*Record number of calls for one month!**

**HISTORY CORNER: THIS DAY IN AUGUST**

**August 2, 1939** - Albert Einstein wrote a letter to President Franklin D. Roosevelt concerning the possibility of atomic weapons. "A single bomb of this type carried by boat and exploded in a port, might very well destroy the whole port together with some of the surrounding territory."

**August 6, 1945** - The first Atomic Bomb was dropped over the center of Hiroshima at 8:15 a.m. by the American B-29 bomber Enola Gay.

**TAKE A TOUR OF VETERANS PARK – directions map below**



Best directions: Park in the far northeast corner of the Convention Center Parking lot. Take the side walk which runs parallel to the parking lot to the Veterans Park entrance gate and let yourself in. Then follow the wooden boardwalk and enjoy. **See photos recently taken in Veterans Park on page 5 of this newsletter.**

**COYOTES & OKALOOSA ISLAND**

Yes, there are coyotes on Okaloosa Island. An information stand (top photo on the left) has been positioned next to Santa Rosa Blvd in front of Okaloosa Island Fire Station. A State of Florida Fish & Wildlife information pamphlet, "A Guide to Living with Urban Coyotes," is available at this stand. Also, a copy of the pamphlet has been posted on the OILA website by our always alert Webmaster, **Bob Seitz**. Click on [www.oilaweb.com](http://www.oilaweb.com) to view the pamphlet.

Since many Island residents have reported the loss of pets to these predators, this pamphlet will be helpful in understanding the problems of "Urban Coyotes". The pamphlet directs anyone experiencing a coyote problem to contact them.

The middle photo on the left of an Island coyote was taken by Island resident, Kent Dunning. It was published along with an article in the March 23, 2015 edition of the North West Florida Daily News.

The bottom photo on the left was taken by Island resident and OILA member Cecil Jones. This night time photo of a coyote standing in the middle of Tarpon Drive was taken on Sunday, Aug 4, 2013.



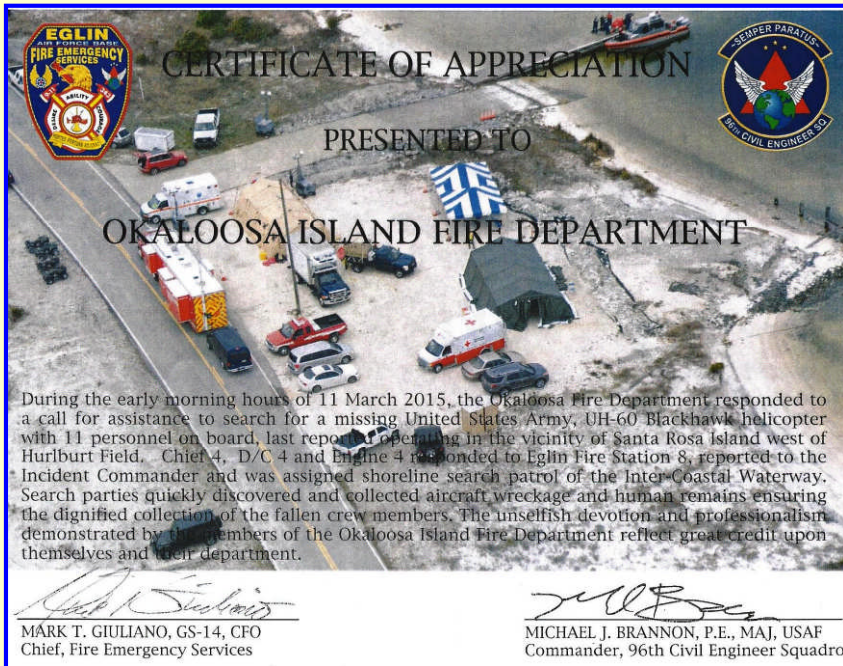
Photo by Kent Dunning



Photo by Cecil Jones

# OKALOOSA ISLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT PRESENTED A CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION BY CHIEF GIULIANO FROM THE EGLIN AFB FIRE DEPT

At the June 17, 2015 meeting of the Okaloosa Island Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners Eglin Air Force Base Fire Chief **Mark Giuliano** presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Okaloosa Island Firefighters for their assistance in responding to the search on March 11, 2015 for a missing U.S. Army HU-60 Blackhawk helicopter with 11 personnel aboard. Tragically, the helicopter had crashed and none of the passengers survived. Below is a copy of the certificate of appreciation (which also shows a photo of the recovery command post) followed by separate read box which restates the wording of the certificate). Chief Giuliano went on to state how his Department's relationship with the Okaloosa Island Fire Department..(continued below photo)



Left to Right: Firefighter Engineer **Jared Vause**, Capt **Michael Ray Strawn**, Asst Chief **Carvalho**, Chief **Tilley**, Firefighter Engineer **Greg Lloyd**, Chief **Mark Giuliano** Eglin Fire (USAF)

**During the early morning hours of 11 March 2015, The Okaloosa Fire Department responded to a call for assistance to search for a missing United States Army, UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter with 11 personnel on board, last reported operating in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Island west of Hurlburt Field. Chief 4, Assistant Chief 4 and Engine 4 responded to Eglin Fire Station 8, reported to the Incident Commander and were assigned shoreline search patrol of the Inter-Coastal Waterway. Search parties quickly discovered and collected aircraft wreckage and human remains ensuring the dignified collection of the fall crew members. The unselfish devotion and professionalism demonstrated by the members of the Okaloosa Island Fire Department reflects great credit upon themselves and their department.**

...is rock solid and by having made this tragedy easier by knowing people from different agencies. Chief Giuliano went on to state the official cause of the accident was spatial disorientation in which the pilots didn't switch to instrumentation in the fog and caused them to become disoriented to their location to the shoreline and water. Chief Giuliano said he assigned OIFD to shore duty and when items such as body bags were needed for a dignified recovery, Chief Tilley quickly obtained them. Chief Giuliano said he was at the Fire Board meeting to say thank you and that he could not have started the recovery without Okaloosa Island Fire Department help. Chief Giuliano presented **Chief Tilley (Chief 4) and K.C. Carvalho** (Assistant Chief 4) Appreciation Letters from Commander Lt Col Moore, Commander's Coins and Chief's Coins. **Captain Ray Strawn, Engineers Greg Lloyd and Jared Vause and Firefighter Mario Zayas-Bazan** (Engine 4) were also presented Chief's Coins for their efforts in the recovery.

# TAKE A WALK THROUGH VETERANS PARK



This roughly 15-acre tract boasts an active heron rookery, coastal dunes, a pine and oak hammock, drainage ponds and wetlands. It's home to box turtles and more than 100 species of birds including red-winged black birds, American bitterns, osprey, loons, egrets, summer sparrows, hawks, rails, yellow warblers, great horned owls and brown creepers



A Raptor Sits Up House on a Light Pole at the Entrance to Veteran's Park



HERONS!....



HERONS!....



HERONS!...EVERY WHERE...!

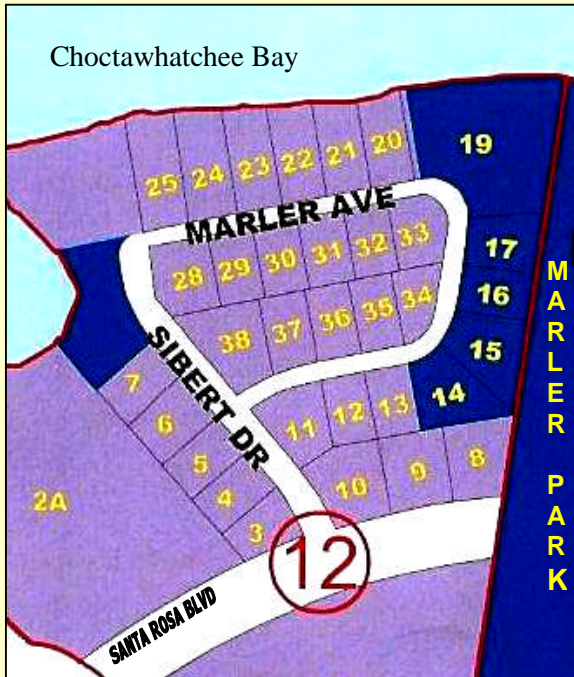


**ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR JUNE AND JULY 2015** for permits and Applications submitted to them for consideration. The following information provided by the Architectural Committee. **SPECIAL NOTICES: 1) The Committee meets every Thursday from 9:00 am to 9:30 am at the Tourist Development Center building. 2) ASK BEFORE YOU ACT.**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot(s)</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Owner/Contractor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
June 4	12	8 & 9	1225 Santa Rosa Blvd	Joe & Eddies	Festival Sign	Approved
June 11	3	101	359 Bluefish #7	Anita Burton	Occupational License for AB Catering	Approved
June 11	12	1	1219 Miracle Strip Pwky	Surf Style	Two Building Signs	Approved
June 18	12	1	1221 Miracle Strip Pwky	Destin Vintage Cycles	Scooter Rental License	Approved
July 2	12	14 to 25* 28 to 38		FWGV, LLC	Road Vacation	Approved
July 9	3	79	336 Bluefish Drive	Vic Custer	Construct Dock	Approved
July 2	12	14 to 25* 28 to 38		FWGV, LLC	Construct "The Gulf" Restaurant	Approved

**\*See below map for the location on Okaloosa Island of Lots 14-25 and 28-38 in Block 12**

\*Okaloosa Island Subdivision Map Extract: Shows Block 12, Lots 14 to 25 and Lots 28 to 38.



**OKALOOSA ISLAND FIRE DEPT WINS STATE OF FLORIDA GRANT FOR THE PURCHASE OF 7 PHILLIPS AED (Automated External Defibrillator) MACHINES**



**The Phillips Automated External Defibrillator**

Okaloosa Island Fire Department Medical Division Officer, Phil Metz, wrote a grant to the State of Florida requesting monies to purchase 7 Phillips AED machines totaling **\$11,725.25**. The grant was approved and OIFD received **\$8,794.00** making the OIFD cost a total of **\$2,931.25** – a savings of 75% for the Fire District. The machines have been received and are in service.

An **automated external defibrillator (AED)** is a portable electronic device that automatically diagnoses the life threatening cardiac arrhythmias of ventricular fibrillation and ventricular tachycardia in a patient, and is able to treat them through defibrillation, the application of electrical therapy which stops the arrhythmia, allowing the heart to reestablish an effective rhythm.

With simple audio and visual commands, AEDs are designed to be simple to use for the lay person, and the use of AEDs is taught in many first aid, certified first responder, and basic life support (BLS level cardiopulmonary resuscitation

**MEANINGFUL QUOTE**

Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.

**Mark Twain**