

**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, **April 11, 2016**  
**PARKING:** Please park behind the Fire Station next to the water tank

**IN THIS NEWSLETTER**

- ◆ Message from the President – **Vince Bruner**
- ◆ Fire District Responses – Feb 2016
- ◆ Rainfall Report for March 2016
- ◆ Island Garden Club April 13 Meeting
- ◆ Architectural Committee Report for March 2016
- ◆ Minutes (Draft) – March 14 Meeting
- ◆ Message From District 2 County Commissioner **Carolyn Ketchel**
- ◆ Update: Santa Rosa Sound Alternate Crossing Study – Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) Meeting #2
- ◆ Island Garden Club Plant & Treasure Sale – Saturday, April 28
- ◆ Welcome Wagon – Two New Families Welcomed to Island

**Earth Day Beach Cleanup**  
**April 23, 2016 - 8:00AM-11:00AM**

**Clean-up Locations:**

**Okaloosa Island - Beasley Park**  
**(Hwy 98 East of Brooks Bridge)**

**Beach Walk East of Surf dweller**  
**(Santa Rosa Blvd.)**

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**ISLAND GARDEN CLUB PLANT  
& TREASURE SALE**

**Corner of Amberjack & Santa Rosa  
Blvd**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 28**  
**8:00 a.m. TO 11:00 a.m.**



# 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)

## APRIL 2016

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Vince Bruner**  
President  
110 Eglin Pwky SE  
Ft Walton Beach, FL 32548  
243-2222  
[vince@brunerfirm.com](mailto:vince@brunerfirm.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)

**Kim Haines**  
723 Sailfish Drive  
1-850-490-7947  
[kimfhaines@live.com](mailto:kimfhaines@live.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  
[jmhendro1@gmail.com](mailto:jmhendro1@gmail.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)

### Meeting Agenda

**Date:** Monday, **April 11, 2016**  
**Time:** 7:00 p.m.  
**Place:** Okaloosa Island Fire  
Station, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Meeting Room

#### I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

#### II. ROLL

#### III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you speak, please state your  
name, address and if you are a  
member.

#### IV. MINUTES

Mar 14, 2016 Meeting Minutes  
(Draft)

#### V. TREASURER'S REPORT - Treasurer, **Jim Simpson**

#### VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Architectural Committee: (see  
Newsletter)

C. Membership Liaison: **Jim  
Simpson**

D. WebSite: **Bob Seitz**

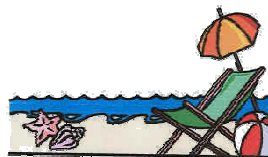
E. Boat Basin: **Carol Edlund**

F. Street Lighting MSBU: **Maryl  
Bednar & Paula Hudson**

#### VII. OLD BUSINESS

#### VIII. NEW BUSINESS

#### IX. ADJOURNMENT



### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT – Vince Bruner

The recent heavy, Spring rains have provided a great test for the swales along the south side of Santa Rosa Blvd. Other than the isolated area on the west end, the swales have been a great success. And they were done at very little cost by the County itself.

The County could do the same thing with the build out of the unimproved public access ways, and save tremendously over the "quoted" cost, that are grossly inflated by state statues, put in place by special interest lobbyist.

Why can't Public Works do the job? There is no trade required that exceeds their competency!



## ISLAND GARDEN CLUB PLANT & TREASURE SALE SATURDAY, APRIL 28 8:00 a.m. TO 11:00 a.m.

The Island Garden Club will hold a Plant & Treasure Sale on Saturday, April 28 from 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. at the corner of Amberjack and Santa Rosa Boulevard. Thank you to **Cash Moore** for allowing the use of his parking lot. We invite everyone to: Donate items (No clothing), help with set-up, sales, clean-up, and shop til you drop! Please bring any donation to the sale by 7:00 a.m. We hope you can join us for a fun morning meeting neighbors and raising money for beautification of the island..

The Island Garden Club is currently maintaining the Welcome Sign Triangle on Highway 98, the first median on Santa Rosa Boulevard and assists with the purchase and placement of pine straw around the palm trees. In recent years, the Island Garden Club has sponsored the purchase of palm trees and benches.

Contact: Kathy Foster 244-4490





## District 2 News – August 2015 Newsletter

### Okaloosa Board of County Commissioners

#### A Message From Your Commissioner, Carolyn Ketchel

Email: [cketchel@co.okaloosa.fl.us](mailto:cketchel@co.okaloosa.fl.us)

Phone: 850.651.7105 Fax: 850.651.7142

Address: 1220 N. Eglin Parkway, Suite 100  
Shalimar, FL 32579



It has been said that knowledge is power and in the case of mosquito-borne illnesses this information can save your life. What do Dengue, Chikungunya, and now Zika Viruses have in common? These are tropical mosquito born viruses, but it now appears the Zika Virus is spreading globally. The Zika virus is so named because it is believed to have originated in the Zika forest of Uganda in Africa and was first reported in the 1940's. There are currently one million cases worldwide with 29 confirmed cases in Florida and this count goes up daily. The most cases are in Miami-Dade (38%). In Northwest Florida, one case was reported in Santa Rosa County. It is important to note that none of these originated in the United States. Those who have this disease were infected in another country while traveling. One case in Texas was sexually transmitted to the spouse of a missionary upon his return. Once a person is infected they become a host for up to seven days and if a mosquito bites them, the mosquito can transmit the disease to another person.

The Zika virus is transmitted by the bite of a mosquito, or human saliva, blood transfusion or sexual transmission. Blood banks in the United States are safe and do not accept, per FDA guidelines, blood donations from people who have traveled to areas with active transmission of Zika in the last 28 days. There is currently no cure or vaccine. Antibiotics are not effective because it is a virus not a bacterial infection. Once infected with the Zika virus the symptoms begin within 2-5 days. It is important to note that some cases are mild and some experience no symptoms. In the beginning there is a fever, rash, joint pain and red in the white of the eyes. It is important to treat only with acetaminophen (Tylenol) as this an inflammatory disease made worse by such medication as Aspirin. The second stage for the disease includes headaches, aching behind the eyes and vomiting. Bed rest is recommended and hydration. A diagnosis can be made by a physician with a blood titer. Complications can arise for pregnant women because the virus passes through the umbilical cord. There are currently 9 pregnancy cases in the United States where the mother is infected with Zika. In Brazil studies are underway to confirm that children born to infected mothers have birth defects such as microcephaly. The CDC is working to investigate the link in Brazil. In addition to pregnancy it appears the virus can begin to ravage the nervous systems producing crippling diseases in adults. There have been cases of complications with Guillain-Barré Syndrome, a type of paralysis. In some adults it causes a form of crippling arthritic symptoms.

The mosquito that carries this disease is a common one in Florida known as the Tiger mosquito. Once these mosquitoes became infected they become aggressive daytime biters. They can also bite at night. This is uncommon for these vectors, because as most of us know; they feed at dusk or dawn. They have no issues with following you inside of your home where other mosquitoes shun the temperature difference. The Okaloosa mosquito control program monitors 12 trap sites across the county in locations of known heavy mosquito activity. No Tiger mosquitoes have been trapped since last October. The Tiger mosquito is rare in the winter time but will begin to hatch this spring and all through the summer and into fall.

What can be done? Okaloosa County will begin an aggressive campaign to destroy mosquitoes through spray. If a case is detected in Okaloosa, additional emergency state funds are available to combat the spread. Santa Rosa has already qualified for these funds. Government alone cannot keep us from a massive outbreak. All citizens must partner with the County in this fight. Mosquitoes can breed in water as small as the amount found in fallen Magnolia leaves. This is important because no leaf must be left unturned in your yards. Pots, gutters, birdbaths must be inspected for water which are prime breeding grounds. It only takes a few days for larvae to hatch once the eggs are laid in standing water. The Tiger mosquitoes do not travel far in their lifespan so truly most hatch and live within a mile of your property. So wear protective clothing and use an insect repellent product with an EPA-registered insect repellent. If you use sunscreen, apply sunscreen before applying insect repellent. Special clothing is made that has insect repellent as part of the fabric for outdoor protection. Wear long-sleeved shirts and pants. Make sure your windows and door screens are in good repair. If you contact this disease you can spread it to a loved one with an exchange of bodily fluid.

The Governor of Florida has opened up an emergency hotline to answer questions or report issues with Zika. The number is 855-622-6735. Mosquitoes are a year round problem. In Florida, and especially in Okaloosa, we are actually fortunate that we have such a well-managed Mosquito control program. Working together as a community with our County we can mitigate the inevitable spread of this disease in our area with education and a willingness to understand the historical fight we are in against an insect that continues to reinvent misery under different names. (Editor's Note: Commissioner Ketchel is also a Medical Social Worker).



**ISLAND RAINFALL FOR MARCH 2016: 7.4 INCHES**

March 3...**0.1** inches    March 24...**1.6** inches  
 March 10...**0.1** inches    March 25...**1.1** inches  
 March 11...**0.1** inches    March 26...**1.3** inches  
 March 17...**0.7** inches    March 27...**1.7** inches  
 March 18...**0.3** inches  
 March 19...**0.4** inches

Avg Rainfall for March .....**5.8** inches  
 April Avg Rainfall.....**3.7** inches  
 April Record High.....**92° F**(1985)  
 April Record Low .....**20° F**(1987)  
 Apr Avg Water Temperature.....**72° F**  
  
 May Avg Rainfall.....**4.0** inches  
 May Record High.....**101° F** (1953)  
 May Record Low .....**38° F** (1971)  
 May Avg Water Temperature .....**78° F**  
  
 YTD Variance to Avg..... **+3.3** inches  
 Rainfall Year-to-Date.....**19.7** inches  
 Avg Annual Rainfall .....**65.1** inches

**THIS MONTH IN HISTORY – APRIL**

**April 2, 1513** - Spanish explorer Ponce De Leon sighted Florida and claimed it for the Spanish Crown after landing at the site of present day St. Augustine, now the oldest city in the continental U.S.

**April 7, 1933** - Beer goes on sale again in 19 of the 48 states and the District of Columbia.

**April 9, 1867** - By a single vote, the U.S. Senate ratifies the treaty to complete the purchase of Alaska from Russia.

**April 21, 1836** - The Battle of San Jacinto between Texans led by Sam Houston and Mexican forces led by Santa Anna took place near present day Houston. The Texans decisively defeated the Mexican forces thereby achieving independence.



**OKALOOSA ISLAND FIRE FIGHTERS HONOR THE MILITARY PERSONNEL WHO DIED IN THE CRASH OF THE BLACK HAWK HELICOPTER IN SANTA ROSA SOUND ON MARCH 10, 2015**



On March 10, 2015, seven elite Marine Raiders of Havoc 31 (Marine Special Operations Team 8231), along with four Louisiana Army National Guard soldiers– the aircrew of Mojo 69, a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter, were killed when their aircraft went down in a training exercise off Navarre Beach, Florida near Eglin Air Force Base.

On March 11, 2016, the Members of the Marine Raider Memorial March set off on their 770-mile ruck march (editor’s note: A “ruck march” is a fast march over distance carrying a back pack weighing from 35 to 70 pounds) from Navarre, Florida to Camp Lejeune, North Carolina in honor of the seven fallen Marine Corps Raiders and the four Army National Guard soldiers who died in last year’s Black Hawk helicopter crash in Santa Rosa Sound. The marchers started on U.S. Highway 98 in Navarre and headed east on U.S. Highway 98. They arrived at the east footing of the Brooks Bridge on Okaloosa Island around 12:30 pm. Waiting at the foot of the bridge was an



**OKALOOSA ISLAND FIRE DEPT HONOR GUARD** (left to right) Captain **Ray Strawn**, Lt **Doug Brown**, Lt **Mike Simmons** and Engineer **Nate Webster**

honor guard of 4 Okaloosa Island Fire Fighters (see photo on the left) waiting to pay their respects to the memory of the deceased. On June 17, 2015 Eglin Air Force Base Fire Chief Mark Giuliano presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Okaloosa Island Fire Fighters for their assistance in responding to the accident.



Marine “Ruck Marcher” Flag Bearer on Brooks Bridge



Okaloosa Island Fire Fighters Saluting the Flag as It Passes in Review

**The Two Above Photos Courtesy of Ms. Valerie Strawn**



**ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR MARCH 2016** for permits 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>
3/3	7	370	760 Seahorse Ave	Kaci Harris	Occupational License for Kaci Danielle Photography	In Compliance
3/24	3	125	380 Santa Rosa Blvd	Best Western	Repair & Replace Existing Freestanding Sign	In Compliance
3/24	1	13 (AJ's Building)	108 Santa Rosa Blvd	AJ's Oyster Shanty	Repair & Replace Existing Freestanding Sign	In Compliance

**FIRE DEPARTMENT RECORDS  
 91 RESPONSES IN FEBRUARY  
 2016**

Fire calls.....6  
 False Alarms.....20  
 EMS/Rescue/MVA ...39  
 Other.....26



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

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

**WWW.OILAWEB.COM**



**BY EMAIL AT:**

**SANLEANNA@COX.NET**

**or**

**CONTACT  
 JIM SIMPSON**

**AT (850) 585-2116**



**ISLAND GARDEN  
 CLUB APRIL 13  
 MEETING TO  
 FEATURE MASTER  
 MASTER GARDENER  
 MARGARET STEWART**



The Island Garden Club is pleased to welcome Master Gardener Margaret Stewart to the 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, April 13 meeting. Ms. Stewart is an entertaining and knowledgeable speaker. Her topic will be on edible flowers ... everyone is certain to enjoy her presentation. We extend an invitation to all island residents to join us ... come a bit early for socializing. And perhaps consider becoming a member. The annual dues are only \$10 and renewable each April.

**Kathy Foster, president  
 fosterpk@gnt.net  
 244-4490**

**WELCOME TO NEW OKALOOSA ISLAND NEIGHBORS**

The Welcome Wagon was out again welcoming 2 new families to our beautiful island. We went over to 622 Pelican Drive to meet **Olivia Dodson** and **Matt Lowery**. Olivia was home and we had a nice chat with her and presented her with our gift bag



**Olivia Dodson**

full of maps, information, coupons and special goodies that represent our island. She is very happy to be on the island and has already met many of her new neighbors.

We also welcomed **Lee & Dawn Newton** who have recently relocated to 612 Pelican Drive from Destin. They are very happy to be here and are looking forward to meeting their new neighbors. Both families



**Lee & Dawn Newton**

are working on renovations on their homes and are very excited to join our community.

We really do appreciate your support and please help us with this awesome way to welcome our new neighbors. If you have any suggestions or would like to join our committee, please give us a call!!

Kim Haines, 490-7947 [kimfhaines@live.com](mailto:kimfhaines@live.com)  
 Carmen Parker, 243-4611 [roofs4living@yahoo.com](mailto:roofs4living@yahoo.com)  
 Maryl Bednar, 243-8359 [bednardon@aol.com](mailto:bednardon@aol.com)  
 Kathy Foster, 244-4490 [fosterpk@gnt.net](mailto:fosterpk@gnt.net)

**UPDATE: SANTA ROSA SOUND ALTERNATE CROSSING STUDY (FM 415474-4-22-01)  
STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY GROUP (SAG), MEETING #2 – FEBRUARY 11, 2016**

Editor's Note: The following information obtained from the minutes of the above meeting. If you wish to read the minutes in their entirety (7 pages), please click on the following link:

<http://www.nwflroads.com/41547442201/41547442201images/Stakeholder%20Advisory%20Group%20Meeting%20Minutes%20-%20February%202016.pdf>

Also, the FDOT has qualified the minutes of this meeting with the following statement:

...This meeting was not recorded by the presenters nor was it transcribed verbatim. These minutes are a general summary of the meeting discussion. Agenda items are in italics. A summary of the key decisions and action items follow each agenda item, in bold text. For the purposes of these meeting notes, individual questions/answers are not recorded verbatim, but overall discussion points are summarized....

The minutes reported the latest review of the current ten alternate crossings under study.

The crossing which is of greatest concern with the Leaseholders Association is Alternative No. 1 (see note) which is the Wright Parkway Extension which would connect Wright Parkway on Highway 98 to Santa Rosa Blvd on the west end of Okaloosa Island. This alternative would loop traffic off of Highway 98 on to Santa Rosa Blvd. This crossing was initially proposed by the now defunct Emerald Coast Bridge Authority (ECBA) and was vigorously opposed by OILA. By 2002 the ECBA was dissolved without any action being taken. In 2002 OILA went on record as...opposing any bridge connecting to Okaloosa Island from the Brooks Bridge westward to Navarre...

The concept of an alternative bridge arose again at the same time FDOT announced the study to replace (in place) the current Brooks Bridge. The current Brooks Bridge will be replaced.

According to the FDOT minutes, each alternative crossing was reviewed to summarize the results of the agency review and to show the overall system traffic performance for that alternative. Following is the FDOT review of Alternative 1:

Alternative 1: This alternative is carried over from the previous Emerald Coast Bridge Authority study and is generally known as "Wright Parkway Extension." Agency review noted several substantial issues. **Alternative 1 was opposed by National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Eglin is currently evaluating all alternatives and will provide their review to FDOT once complete. This alternative is strongly opposed by residents.** Traffic modeling indicates the bulk of traffic flow would be routed along Santa Rosa Boulevard on Okaloosa Island under this Alternative.

In this review it is noted and hi-lited that 1) this crossing is opposed by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Also, the fact that this crossing is strongly opposed by Island residents. And, of other interest is the observation that Eglin AFB is reviewing this crossing (and others); and **has not approved a crossing connecting to Air Force property.**

In addition to the minutes of the SAG, on Saturday, April 2 the results were published of a Northwest Florida Daily News online poll which asked the question: **DO YOU THINK THAT A SECOND BRIDGE SHOULD BE BUILT TO OKALOOSA ISLAND?**

**87% VOTED NO**

**13% VOTED YES**

Note: Alternatives are numbered for the purpose of identification in general from west to east; the number does not indicate a preference or ranking.

**MINUTES (DRAFT)-OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION  
MEMBERSHIP MEETING- March 14 2015**

**Call to Order:** 7:05 p.m. by Vice President Kathy Foster.

**Present:** Kathy Foster, Desley Parker, Jim Hendricks, Jim Simpson arrived late .

Draft Minutes of the February meeting as printed in the February OIL Lantern were approved,  
March 14, 2016 TREASURER'S REPORT - Jim Simpson

February 8, 2016 total balance.....**\$36,716.32**

Association Discretionary Fund Balance as of February 8, 2016.....**\$35,295.04**

Receipts since last report:

Membership Dues.....	\$	<b>55.00</b>
Newsletter Fees.....	\$	<b><u>3.50</u></b>

Total Receipts. \$ **58.50**

Expenditures since last report:

Membership Renewal in the Greater Ft Walton Beach Chamber of  
Commerce.....**\$ 150.00**

Expenses pending approval for payment:

Reimburse Jim Simpson for postage to mail the March 2016  
OIL Lantern.....**\$ 21.56**

Discretionary Fund Balance after receipts and expenses.....**\$35,181.98**

Beautification Fund Balance.....**\$ 1,421.28**

Total fund balance as of March 14, 2016 **\$36,603.26**

A motion to accept the Treasures report and reimbursement to Jim Simpson for his expenditure for postage was made, seconded and approved.

**Committee Reports:**

**Membership:** Jim Simpson reports membership at 242. Increase of 5.

**MSBU:** Maryl Bednar reported that YTD expenditures were \$14,577, YTD revenues \$17,920 and the YTD balance is \$231,941.50.

**Old Business:**

Kathy Foster reported that there will be 2 dumpsters on the island for cleanup Saturday March 19. Remind your neighbors of their availability. They will be located in Cash's parking lot and the 6<sup>th</sup> beach accessway.

**New Business:**

Beach Cleanup will be April 17  
Brooks bridge meeting May 17.

**Adjournment:**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.