JANUARY 2019 EDITION OF THE OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS **NEWSLETTER, THE OIL LANTERN** Page 1 of 10 Pages

OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION, Inc.



Ft Walton Beach,FL 32549

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

2019 PPY NEW YEAR!

Next Meeting: **LOCATION**: Okaloosa Island Fire Station, 2nd Floor Meeting Room TIME: 7:00 p.m. DATE: Monday, Jan 14, 2019. **PARKING:** Park behind the Fire Station next to the water tank.

IN THIS NEWSLETTER

- ♦ Message from the President, **Dave Hancock**
- ♦ Okaloosa Island Fire Department responses for November 2018
- ♦ Island Rainfall for Dec 2018
- ♦ This Month in History January
- Christmas Caroling by the Pit Fire Photos—December 7
- ◆ Draft Letter to State Rep Ponder Ref: FS161.142 – Declaration of Public Policy Relating to Improved **Navigation Inlets**

- ♦ Dedication & Ribbon Cutting for New Beach Accesses – Dec 10
- ♦ Veteran's Park Improvements 2019 – Commissioner Carol Ketchel
- ♦ Christmas Decoration Contest Winners & Runners-Up
- Mobile Festival of Flowers-IGC
- ♦ Minutes (draft) Dec 10, 2018 Mtg ♦ Island Garden Club Christmas Luncheon
 - ♦ Island Garden Club Christmas Luncheon – Twisted Grape
 - ♦ Wuzzle Puzzles



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



Meeting Agenda

DATE: Monday, Jan 14,

2018

Time: 7:00 p.m. **Place**: Okaloosa Island Fire Station, 2nd 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 (Draft)
December 10, 2018 Draft
Meeting Minutes (Printed in
January 2019 OIL Lantern)

V. TREASURER'S REPORT January 14, 2019 Treasurer's Report: Jim Simpson

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Dec 2018 Architectural Report – No activity in the month of Dec 2018. B. Membership: - **Jim**

Simpson
C. WebSite: Bob Seitz
D. Street Lighting MSBU:

Paula Hudson

E.Derelict Propert and Beautification Committee (see New Business item)

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Support commitment from Scott Bitterman, Engineer, Okaloosa County Public Works Department for Island beautification.

B. Wrap up of 2018 Christmas program.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Draft letter to State
Representative Mel Ponder
asking for help with: 1. The
Santa Rosa Sound Minimum
wake extension and:
2. Obtaining relief from the
State of Florida Fl sand
placement laws.

XI: ADJOURNAMENT

OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS PRESIDENT'S REPORT - DAVID HANCOCK

First let me wish all Leaseholders a happy and successful new year! 2018 was a great year for the leaseholders and I feel that 2019 will be even better.

Want to thanks Nancy Hunt and her team for the great job with the Christmas events. There were more participants in the decoration contest than last year and local businesses donated more prizes. Held the Christmas Caroling Party at the Gulf restaurant again; nothing better to get you in the holiday mood that libations and caroling around a roaring bon fire. The food drive drive for Caring and Sharing exceeded last years amount. And the decorations at the US 98 intersection and along Santa Rosa Boulevard were better than ever.

The most exciting thing going on is the beautification upgrades to Santa Rosa Boulevard. This will be done working with Okaloosa County Public Works. Received conformation from Scott Bitterman, chief engineer for Okaloosa County, that the process will start in January. Remember that this will be the concept phase. This won't happen overnight and diligence will be needed to get it done. The great advantage we have is that Mr. Birtterman has done these type of projects before.

A crowd of over 15 Leaseholders showed up on December 10 for the ribbon cutting of the new Beach Access Ways. Thanks to everyone who braved the freezing weather to express thanks to Ms. Carolyn Ketchel and the rest of the county commissioners and the TDC for accomplishing this.

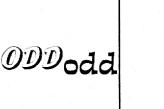
On December 18 a delegation of Leaseholders visited the Office of Mr. Mel Ponders our state representative to ask for his support of the minimum wake zone extension in Santa Rosa Sound. At our November meeting the Okaloosa County attorney discussed the same difficulties they were seeing with the Florida Wildlife Commission that OILA experienced 2 years ago. After hearing this became convinced that FWC simply does not want to do the minimum wake zone extension. Maybe some pressure from Tallahassee can do the trick. While with Mr. Ponder also asked about FS 161.142 which governs the placement of dredged sand in Florida. Per Mr. Ponder that law should be followed. This effectively ties the county's hands on bringing sand to sites other than the eroded beaches adjacent to the dredge site. As a result have drafted a letter to Mr. Ponder requesting relief from that statute. Note that I have no idea how this can be done—amend the existing law, write a new law, etc.—but it has to be done at the state level and Mr. Ponder is the place to start. This draft letter is printed on the last page in this newsletter for Leaseholders review and comments.

Several OILA members have experienced problems with Waste Management's performance. To put a stop to this we reached out to county staff for a "go to" contact when problems occur. That contact is Gail Edge of Public Works – 850-423-4825. It's her responsibility to deal with the Waste Management contract and performance.

Finally, want to mention the TDC meeting on December 20 where a resolution was unanimously passed to provide \$1.5 million in additional funding to carry out the already planned and scheduled dredging of the East Pass In Destin. Okaloosa County had to scramble to come up with this money; the US Army Cops of Engineers was to provide the \$1.5 million but pulled out over legal challenges. I spoke in favor of the additional funding because pass and channel to the Destin harbor is no longer navigable in certain conditions now and will be completely closed soon. If the Destin Fishing Fleet is shut down hundreds of jobs and scores of businesses will be at risk. If anyone has a problem with my action let me know.

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 solutions are available on the last page of this newsletter.

Wuzzle No. 1



Wuzzle No. 2



Wuzzle No. 3



Wuzzle 4



ISLAND RAINFALL FOR DEC 2018: 9.9 Inches



Dec 1 2.2 inches	Dec 20 0.9 inches
Dec 2 1.8 inches	Dec 21 0.1 inches
Dec 3 0.4 inches	Dec 28 1.2 inches
Dec 8 1.3 inches	Dec 29 0.7 inches
Dec 13 0.3 inches	Dec 30 0.5 inches
Dec 14 0.1 inches	Dec 31 0.1 inches
Dec 19 0.3 inches	

December Avg Rainfall4.8	inches
Variance to Average + 5.1	inches

Year 2018 Total Rainfall

Year to Date to Variance – 6.5	inches
Year to Date Rainfall58.6	inches
Avg Annual Rainfall65.1	inches

Year 2019 Rainfall

Avg Rainfall for January	5.0 inches
January Record High	
January Record Low	
Jan Avg Water Temperature	

Block

MOBILE FESTIVAL OF FLOWERS – MARCH 21, 2019



You are invited to travel with the Island Garden Club by Sunshine Coach on Thursday, March 21, to Mobile. Alabama. Three pick-up stops are scheduled.

6:40 a.m. Grand Boulevard, Miramar Beach 7:10 a.m. El Matador Condos, Okaloosa Island 7:45 a.m. Elk's Lodge, Navarre

Arrival at Providence Hospital 10:00 a.m. Departure from Mobile at 3:00 p.m.

\$40 covers the bus, entry ticket &driver's tip.

Please list your location and your cell phone number when sending your check

Please make checks payable to IGC and send to: **Kathy Foster** 849 Tarpon Drive Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548

Questions? fosterpk@gnt.net or 850-244-4490



ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2018 for pemits 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

Description

Touris Development Center building. 2) ASK BEFORE YOU ACT.

Owner/Address

In Compliance and Approved?

THERE WAS NO ACTIVITY FOR THE ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW **COMMITTEE DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2018.**



NEW BEACH ACCESS WAYS DEDICATED ON DECEMBER 10, 2018

Access No. 4 was dedicated to Jerry Melvin. Melvin was elected to the Florida House of Representatives in 1968, a position he was re-elected to for five consecutive terms. He retired from his position in 1978, but returned to serve in the House from 1994 until 2002. Melvin continues to serve with local groups, including the Walton Okaloosa Council on Aging and Okaloosa County Coordinated Transit.

Access No. 6 was dedicated to Mike Mitchell. Mitchell is a 21-year Air Force veteran who served in the Korean War. He was the first Republican elected to the Okaloosa County Commission, on which he served from 1976-92, and has actively served in a variety of civic and community efforts. Mike is also a long term member of the Okaloosa Island Leaseholders Association



Veterans Park Improvements in 2019

This coming New Year, our focus now turns to Veterans Park for long awaited improvements on Okaloosa Island. Those who could attend on a frigid December afternoon saw the opening of two beautiful new access ways on Okaloosa Island named for former Commissioner Mike Mitchell and former Rep. Jerry Melvin. These were paid for with the Tourism Development Bed Tax money and will greatly enhance the experience of locals and visitors who use our beautiful beaches.

The Okaloosa County Board of County Commissioner's (BOCC) in conjunction with the Tourist Development Council (TDC) is planning on additional improvements to Veteran's Park on Okaloosa Island adjacent to the Emerald Coast Convention Center. These improvements include a monument honoring all branches of service in particular dedicated to female units who served or continue to serve our country.

Conceptual thoughts include the life size statues in a circle surrounding a fountain with benches. The landscaped area will be designed for easy access by visitors to the park while protecting the natural habitat. It would also include walking paths to highlight the natural beauty of the property and the adjacent waterfront. Conceptual plans will be developed in early 2019 for review and approval by the TDC and BOCC. Once approved, the park's design will be completed and the project will be put out to bid. The goal of any design will be to bring visitors to the park for recreation but to improve the ability to observe the natural habit of old Florida, including the birds, heron rookery and butterflies such as the monarch. Every attempt will be made to keep the seventeen and one half acres as natural and pristine as possible but creating walking paths for visitors. TDC money and grants will be the funding source for improvements and any amenities.

OKALOOSA ISLAND CHRISTMAS 2018 DECORATING CONTEST WINNERS

THE FOLLOWING ISLAND AND LOCAL BUSINESSES DONATED PRIZES FOR THE CONTEST THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Business	Donation
THE ISLAND	2 Night Stay
RESORT QUEST	2 Night Stay
WILD WILLIES	THREE Gift Cards, \$50, \$30, \$20
SALTWATER	Crabtree, Gift Card - \$50
RESTAURANTS	Floyd's, Gift Card - \$50
	Rockin Tacos, Gift Cards - \$25
	. & \$50
GIOVANNIS	Gift Card, \$50
CASH'S	.Two Bottles of Wine

Business	Donation
GULFARIUM	FOUR Admission Tickets
THE GULF	Gift Card, \$25
AJ's	FIVE \$20 Gift Cards, AJ T-Shirt
FOKKER'S	Gift Card, \$25
FUBAR	FOUR \$20 Gift Cards
RUN WITH IT	Tee Shirt
ANGLERS	Gift Card - \$30
MAGNOILA	THREE Certificates for a Bottle
GRILL	of Wine with Meal Purchase
OLD BAY STEAME	R\$100 Gift Certificate

AND, THE WINNERS ARE

First Place Winner -756 Seahorse Paula and Christopher Previte

First Place prize package:
2 night stay at The Island
\$100 gift certificate Old Bay Steamer
\$50 gift card Wild Willies
2 admissions to The Gulfarium



2nd Place prize package
2 night stay at a Resort Quest
property
\$50 Crabtrap gift certificate
\$50 Rockin Taco gift certificate
2 admissions to The Gulfarium

3rd Place Winner-708 Sailfish Carmen and Allen Parker

3rd Place prize package \$50 Giovanni gift certificate \$25 The Gulf gift certificate \$25 Rockin Tacos gift certificate \$20 Wild Willies gift certificate













Best Condo Island Breeze

Winner's Sign \$50 Floyd's Gift Card



Best Business

The Island

Winner's Sign





735 Starfish

430 Cardinal



837 Tropic



704 Sailfish



OKALOOSA ISLAND CHRISTMAS 2018 DECORATING CONTEST RUNNERS UP AND HONORABLE MENTIONS

Prizes for Runners Up and Honorable mention were given from the remaining prizes. They are listed below; but not in any special order.

Address	Owners

902 SR Blvd...... Ward Surginer.
907 SR Blvd...... Debra Yale
837 Tropic...... Emily Runkle
801 Tarpon...... Michael Rendos
828 Tarpon...... Ron Herring and
Connie Dunlap
735 Starfish...... Sarrah Cumbie

704 Sailfish...... **David & Gilliam Kosiewski**

710 Sailfish......Roy Troutman & Suzanne Glass-Troutman

640 Pompano..... Johnny & Elaine
Smith

604 PelicanBrian & Sylvia
Harrington

430 Cardinal......Lauren Hedenschoug

437 Cardinal.....Justin & Dia Bobb



801 Tarpon



907Santa Rosa Blvd



640 Pompano



437 Cardinal



604 Pelican



902 Santa Rosa Blvd 710 Sailfish 828 Tarpon

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

OKALOOSA ISLAND FIRE DEPT RESPONDS TO 98 CALLS IN THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2018



 Fire Calls
 3

 EMS/Rescue/MVA
 62

 False Alarms & Alarm

 Activations
 23

 Other
 10



(**62** calls were responded to in November 2017)

OILA'S 2ND ANNUAL CHRISTMAS (PARTY) CAROLING EVENT AT THE GULF RESTAURANT ON OKALOOSA ISLAND A BIG SUCCESS

On December 7 at 6:30 PM at the Gulf Restaurant OILA held its 2nd Annual Christmas Caroling Event. The weather was just right and a group of approximately 25 showed up. Nancy Hunt arranged the event including a DJ, **Zoran Subotich**, for music. Everyone enjoyed the company and the singing. Looking forward to the 3rd event next year. Following are photos from this year's "Caroling Around the Camp Fire". Next Year: Be There or be Square.



Sitting Around the Camp Fire



THE CAMP FIRE



The "Warblers" – **Carmen** and **Allen Parker**

LEASEHOLDERS DELIVERY 234 LBS OF FOOD TO



CARING & SHARING!

THANK YOU ISLANDERS!



THIS MONTH IN HISTORY - JANUARY

January 3, 1870: Construction began on the Brooklyn Bridge∖



January 15, 1943: The Pentagon opens.

January 23, 1556: The deadliest earthquake in history strikes Shansi, China, killing 830,000 people

January 28, 1986: U.S. space shuttle Challenger explodes 72 seconds after liftoff, killing the seven crew members. Among the crew was school teacher Christa McAuliffe.

Wuzzle Puzzle Answers

Wuzzle No. 1



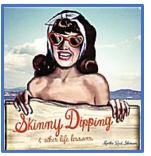
THE ODD COUPLE

Wuzzle No. 2



HEAT WAVE

Wuzzle No. 3



SKINNY DIPPING



Wuzzle No. 4

NEON LIGHTS

Okaloosa Island Leaseholders Association – Minutes (Draft) - December 10, 2018

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Dave Hancock

Michele Seitz lead the Pledge

Roll of Board was called, those present were Dave Miller, Dave Hancock, Paula Hudson, Dean Hanson, Nancy Hunt and Glen McRae. Lynn Dominique was absent

Announcements:

Food Drive for Sharing & Caring will continue at Fire Department till December 19th Looking for storage or Christmas decorations

Agenda:

Minutes 1st Desley Parker 2nd Dean Hanson no discussion- approved

Treasurers Report and Membership Report - Presented by Jim Simpson (December 2018 Treasurer's report follows these minutes) A motion to approve report with reimbursements was made by Paula Hudson and 2nd by Michele Seitz

Architectural Report: In Newsletter

Website: Bob Seitz, No updates

MSBU- Paula Hudson – presented September and October report (see file)

There was discussion regarding uses of MSBU and the need to retain balance.

Informational documents are on website

Derelict Property: Paula Hudson and Dave Miller advised that no volunteers.

Discussed waste management needs

Dave Hancock is going to check with county to see is if water service controls pickup

Beautification: Median improvement was discussed, and it was suggested that turn lanes be labeled for easier identification for visitors

Old Business:

- A: Minimum Wake Zone It appears that FWC does not want to do anything. Board is meeting with Mel Ponders next week.
- B. Boat Basin-Discussed meeting at Conference Center. MDR will be at the January meeting. TDD is still accepting completed surveys. Cathy Taylor, a resident on Cobia, is concerned that not all residents in block 3 and 4 were contracted with the meeting information. She is also concerned with the possibility of commercialization of the beach accessway. She would like it left as a pedestrian accessway.

Adjourned 8:10 p.m.: 1st Paula Hudson 2nd Dave Miller

TREASURER'S REPORT: December 10, 2018	Ÿ.
MEMBERSHIP TOTAL: 240	
November 12, 2018 TOTAL BALANCE: \$27,394.39	
ASSOCIATION DISCRETIONARY FUND BALANCE AS OF November 12, 2018\$	25,951.13
RECEIPTS SINCE LAST REPORT:	
Newsletter Fees\$	<u>11.50</u>
Total Receipts \$	231,50
EXPENDTIURES SINCE LAST REPORT:	
Payment to Connie Dunlap for the purchase of mulch, paint and stain for the Welcome	

TREASURER'S REPORT - December 10, 2018 (continued on next page)

67.21

Triangle Christmas Display......\$

EXPENSES PENDING APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT		
Reimburse Jim Simpson for stamps to mail the December 2018 OIL Lantern	\$	22.50
ASSOCIATION DISCRETIONARY FUND BALANCE AFTER RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURES & EXPENSES PENDING APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT AS OF November 12, 2018	\$	26,092.79
BEAUTIFICATION FUND BALANCE AS OF Nov 12, 2018	\$	1,421.28
BEAUTIFICATION FUND EXPENDITURES SINCE LAST REPORT	No	Expenditures
BEAUTIFICATION FUND BALANCE AS OF Dec 10, 2018	\$	1,421.28
CHRISTMAS DECORATING PROJECT 2016 BALANCE AS of Nov 12, 2018	\$	21.98
CHRISTMAS DECORATING EXPENDITURES SINCE LAST REPORT	No	Expenditures
CHRISTMAS DECORDATING FUND BALANCE AS OF Dec 10, 2018	\$	21.98
SUMMARY: December 10, 2018 Fund Balances		T&
Association's Discretionary Fund Balance.	\$	26,092.79
Beautification Fund Balance		1,421.28
Christmas Decorating Fund Balance (Donations)	\$	<u>21.98</u>
TOTAL FUNDS BALANCE	\$	27 536 05

Respectfully submitted

Jim Simpson, Treasurer

ISLAND GARDEN CLUB







Thank you to Island Garden Club Vice President Nancy Hunt who arranged a delightful Christmas luncheon at The Twisted Grape followed by a design class with Kirby Holt. The January 9th program will feature Mardi Gras - the history with Paula Hudson and necklace making with Sue Pedersen.

DRAFT LETTER TO MEL PONDER: SUBJ: POSSIBILITY OF CHANGES IN THE APPLICATION OF FS 161.142, DECLARATION OF PUBLIC POLICY RELATING TO IMPROVED NAVIGATION INLETS



OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION, INC. P.O. BOX 4323

FORT WALTON BEACH, FL 32549 Webpage: www.oilaweb.com

Representative Mel Ponder 25 Walter Martin Drive Suite 202 Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548-4958

Mr. Ponder,

I want to thanks you for seeing the Okaloosa Island Leaseholders Association delegation on December 18. We were pleased to have a sympathetic ear on the effort to extend the minimum wake zone in Santa Rosa Sound. We need all the help we can get when dealing the FWC and that assistance is greatly appreciated.

We also appreciated your comments on FS 161.142 which governs the placement of dredged sand on beaches in Florida. My and Okaloosa County's legal staff understanding of this law concurs with yours – it must followed.

We do have one request concerning FS 161-142. Okaloosa County Commissioners and staff are constantly criticized by those seeking to reopen the East Pass Management Plan to change how dredged sand is placed. But Okaloosa County's hands are tied with this statute in place. Can Okaloosa County get some relief at the state level to change this? It will end the endless sand placement debate so Okaloosa County can concentrate on valid issues.

Have no idea how to accomplish this - amend the existing law, request an exclusive waver, etc. But if y'all in Tallahassee can help accomplish this it would end a lot of rancorous debate. Would be willing to assume that other local governments around the state have the same issue.

Thanks

Dave Hancock
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TREASURER-NEWSLETTER

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ASSOCIATION WEBMASTER