

**OCTOBER 2020 EDITION OF THE OKALOOSA ISLAND
LEASEHOLDERS NEWSLETTER, THE OIL LANTERN**

Page 1 of 10 pages



P.O. Box 4323 OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION,
Ft Walton Beach.FL 32549

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

For the safety of our members and to comply with CDC and the State of Florida guidelines, our October 2020 OILA meeting will be conducted on Monday, October 12 starting at 7 pm **over the internet by Zoom**. In a few days OILA members will receive a meeting invitation by e-mail, with instructions on how to join the meeting.

IN THIS NEWSLETTER

- ◆ President's Msg **David Sherry**
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- ◆ Island Rainfall Report for Sept 2020 (**18.2 inches!**)
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- ◆ Architectural Committee Report – September 2020
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- ◆ Wuzzle Puzzle Answers

**DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR
OILA MEMBERSHIP FOR 2029-2021.
RENEWAL NOTICES WERE SENT
OUT ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2020.**

**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



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

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT – David Sherry



What do you want for Okaloosa Island?: At the September OILA membership meeting we had a discussion about projects for Okaloosa Island – what has been accomplished, the recent County proposals to modify Santa Rosa Blvd., and what we might want to accomplish in the future.

We need your input for what you, our members, want for Okaloosa Island. This can be both for OILA projects and County projects.

Often we have seen a top down approach to what happens to our Island. Sometimes this results in Okaloosa Islanders having to play defense in order to stop bad projects like the Wright Parkway bridge landing near El Matador, the bad sand project for our beach, and removing driving lanes from Santa Rosa Blvd., just to name a few. And other times it means having our TDC bed taxes spent on projects we didn't request.

We now want to embark on a bottoms up, citizen driven approach. So tell us what you want. We'll compile the list, discuss and rank the items at future OILA meetings, and go from there. Destin drives what happens with their TDC contributions and Okaloosa Island needs to do the same.

To get the ball rolling, here are some ideas that have been mentioned: expand the north side sidewalk on Santa Rosa Blvd., possibly wide enough for a bike path; landscape / beautify the medians and/or welcome triangle; perform a sand tracer study; re-open the Inlet Management Plan to include guarantees of East Pass sand for Okaloosa Island; find a better sand source should Okaloosa Island ever need beach restoration; install coastal or offshore structures to protect and preserve our beaches; help preserve our dunes (vehicle access to beach over (not through) the dunes, and dune walkovers above (not through) the dunes); improve storm drainage; move power lines underground for faster hurricane recovery; use TDC funds for street lights and eliminate the MSBU; keep a large reserve so Islanders aren't taxed for hurricane recovery; change and enforce the beach vendor ordinance.

Please send your ideas, comments, improvements, etc. to me via email at beach_boy_dave@yahoo.com, U.S.mail, or phone at 850-244-2744, and feel free to copy the OILA board. I'll compile the list to facilitate the discussion at our meeting.

OIFD goes the extra mile: I'd like to give a special thanks to our Okaloosa Island Fire Department for tarping a hole in a neighbor's roof after Hurricane Sally, helping minimize damage until a roofer could make repairs. We appreciate all our first responders and their efforts on our behalf. As this example shows, they are good neighbors too.

David Sherry
President, Okaloosa Island Leaseholders Association

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October 12, 2020 OILA Meeting Agenda

DATE: Monday, October 12, 2020

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

PLACE: Virtual meeting via Zoom
Call to Order / Zoom Meeting
Protocols

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Roll Call of Board Members:
David Sherry

III. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

- Sept 14, 2020 membership meeting minutes

IV. Treasurer's Report: Jim Simpson

- Membership report.
- Treasurer's Reports for September 2020.
- Treasurer's Reimbursement and Approval.

V. Standing Committee Reports:

*Architectural Review Committee
September 2020 report (printed in this newsletter)

*OILA website: Bob Seitz

VI. New and Unfinished Business:

1. Discussion of the initial responses to the call for input in the October President's Letter; and
2. Discussion of Brick Bradford's article in the October OIL Lantern.

VII. Announcements; Speakers and Programs

VIII. Adjournment

ISLAND RAINFALL

September Rainfall **18.2 inches**

Sept 13.....**0.5** inches
Sept 14.....**0.7** inches
Sept 15.....**7.3** inches
Sept 16.....**8.9** inches
Sept 20.....**0.2** inches
Sept 24.....**0.5** inches
Sept 27.....**0.1** inches

Sept Avg Rainfall... ..**7.2** inches
Variance to Average...+ **11.0** inches

Oct Avg Rainfall.....4.3 inches
Oct Record High.....99° F (1954)
Oct Record Low27° F (1989)
Oct Avg Water Temperature.....81° F

YTD Variance **-2.7** inches
Year to Date Rainfall..... **51.4** 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



**TO RENEW YOUR 2020-
2021 OILA MEMBERSHIP!**

OKALOOSA ISLAND FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS



Accidents can still happen in paradise

Drivers must stop for pedestrians in crosswalks.

There were 43 vehicle vs. pedestrian accidents in Destin & Okaloosa Island in 2019.

Don't become a victim!



Pedestrian Safety Tips

- Avoid distractions
- Obey all traffic laws
- Use marked crosswalks and traffic signals
- Look left, right, and left again when crossing the street
- If possible, make eye contact with the driver before crossing
- Stay sober; walking while impaired increases your chance of being struck
- Stand clear of bushes, hedges, parked cars, or other obstacles before crossing so drivers can see you

Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office
Crime Prevention Unit
cpu@sheriff-okaloosa.org



Crosswalk Information Card

With the installation of the new crosswalks on Santa Rosa Blvd, the flashing lights were deleted from the original plan. As a result, for one reason or another, drivers are **NOT** stopping for pedestrians at the crosswalks. Pedestrians need to be extra cautious when using the crosswalks and should not assume that oncoming traffic is going to stop.

Ashley Bailey, Manager of the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention Unit, created a 4x6 two-sided card ([copy on the left](#)) describing that "Accidents can still happen in paradise". The front of the card notes that drivers must stop for pedestrians in crosswalks. The back of the card provides Pedestrian Safety Tips when using the crosswalks.

If you would like some of these cards to distribute to friends, neighbors, and visitors, please contact Michele Seitz at micheleseitz1@cox.net



ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE REPORT FOR September 2020 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>Lot(s)</u>	<u>Block</u>	<u>Owner/Address</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>In Compliance and Approved?</u>
Sept 3	143	7	Lee Labruyere 723 Sailfish Drive	Install Solar Panels on Roof	Yes
Sept 3	389	7	Stephen Dejoie 712 Sailfish Drive	Contract Pool	Yes

Island Garden Club

The Island Garden Club will be holding their monthly meeting at the El Matador October 14th. Social time begins at 9:30. The project for October will be pumpkin decorating (no carving). You bring your ideas and additional supplies; pumpkins will be provided. For further information please contact Paula Hudson pnh2859@aol.com.

We would like to thank Jim and Shirley Simpson for hosting us at the Glass Slipper last month.

The Garden Club welcomes anyone interested in island gardening; you do not need to be a resident of the island.



Island Garden Club Officers for 2020-2021 (left to right) **Yvonne Earle**, (standing in for **Kathy Foster**) -Treasurer, **Jeanie Miller** - Secretary, **Carmen Parker** - Narrator, **Marty Houston** - VP, **Paula Hudson** - President

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY: OCTOBER

Oct 1, 1962 - First Broadcast of The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson.

Oct 3, 1955 - "The Mickey Mouse Club" begins on ABC.

Oct 7, 1919 - KLM Royal Dutch Airlines of the Netherlands is founded.

Oct 9, 1936 - Hoover Dam Starts Producing Electricity.

Oct 15, 1940 - Charlie Chaplin's satirical comedy The Great Dictator opens.

Oct 19, 1947 - US minimum wage set at 40 cents per hour

Oct 19, 1781 - The American Revolutionary War ended.

Oct 20, 1944 – During WWII General Douglas MacArthur set foot on Philippine soil for the first time since his escape in 1942.

Oct 21, 1879 - Thomas Edison invented the incandescent electric lamp.

Oct 24, 1901 - Anna Edison Taylor is the first person to survive going over Niagara Falls in a barrel.

Oct 25, 1962 - Adlai Stevenson shows photos at the UN proving Soviet missiles are installed in Cuba.

Oct 28, 1886 - France presented the U.S. with the statue of Liberty.

Oct 28, 1965 - The Gateway Arch in St. Louis is completed.

Oct 30, 1925 - The first television transmission of a moving image is made by Scottish inventor John Logie Bair.

Oct 31, 1926 - Magician Harry Houdini dies from complications of a ruptured appendix. (1926)

Oct 31, 1984 - Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was assassinated. (1984)

**DRAFT MINUTES – OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLD
DRAFT MINUTES – OKALOOSA ISLAND LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION – SEPT 14, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 7:01 PM by **President David Sherry** via Zoom due to Covid-19.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Pledge of Allegiance led by **President David Sherry**.

II. ROLL: Board Members Present: **David Sherry (President), Ed Henderson, Jesse Hunt, Jack Pous**.

III. MINUTES: Rebecca Sherry made a motion, seconded by Director Jack Pous, to approve the draft May 11, 2020 minutes. Motion was approved by vote 9-1 (Dave Hancock opposed). Rebecca Sherry made a motion, seconded by Director Jack Pous, to approve the draft June 23, 2020 meeting minutes. Motion was approved by vote 10-1 (Dave Hancock opposed).

IV. TREASURER'S REPORT: Presented by President David Sherry on behalf of Treasurer Jim Simpson (See Attachment 1). A motion to approve the June through August 2020 Treasurer's report and to pay reimbursements was made by Director Jack Pous, seconded by Director Jesse Hunt. Motion was approved by vote 9-1 (Dave Hancock opposed).

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Standing Committees

Architectural Report: President David Sherry stated the ARC report is in the OIL Lantern.

Website: Bob Seitz had nothing to report.

VI. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS:

1. President David Sherry reported on the county proposed Santa Rosa Boulevard changes workshop, the status of the replacement Brooks Bridge, a planned county beach vendor ordinance workshop, new dune sand fencing, and the Architectural Review Committee (ARC).
2. Director Ed Henderson started a discussion on projects OILA has accomplished. This led to President David Sherry offering to solicit ideas for future projects from the membership via e-mail blast and in the OIL Lantern. This initiative was well received by those in attendance.
3. Dylan Hunt inquired about the status of the planned county changes to the Second Beach Accessway. President David Sherry reported the County Commission agreed to design a buffer for the homeowners who back to the accessway when Director Brick Bradford, Director Jesse Hunt, and Nancy Hunt addressed the BCC this summer.
4. Mel Mattison inquired about the large reserve in the MSBU street lighting fund, and potential Okaloosa Island incorporation.
5. Director Jesse Hunt expressed disappointment tonight's agenda did not include OILA action over the county's planned Second Beach Accessway development. President Sherry stated Directors Jesse Hunt and Brick Bradford support OILA filing and funding a lawsuit against Okaloosa County over this project, with the other directors opposed. President Sherry explained Director Hunt could have requested an agenda item individually but instead asked the board to bring the matter to the membership and Director Hunt didn't have a majority of the board's support for that.
6. Dave Hancock asked the status of his request for OILA to include a signature on ballot envelopes. President David Sherry explained the process to change OILA bylaws and that we had 20 months until the next election. Dave Hancock will provide President David Sherry a list of ballots disqualified in the 2019 election due to signatures, and a list of 2019 ballots disqualified for other reasons.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 PM (motion by Rebecca Sherry, seconded by Director Ed Henderson and passed 5 to 1, with Mel Mattison opposed).

Attachment 1 - TREASURER'S REPORT: June to September 2020

MEMBERSHIP TOTAL: 316

May 11, 2020 TOTAL BALANCE: \$26,244.42

ASSOCIATION DISCRETIONARY FUND BALANCE AS OF May 11, 2020....., \$ 24,823.14

Attachment 1 - TREASURER'S REPORT: June to September 2020 (continued)

RECEIPTS SINCE LAST REPORT:	Membership dues ..,	\$	310.50
	U.S. Mail ..	\$	<u>4.50</u>
	Total Receipts	\$	315.00

EXPENDITURES SINCE LAST REPORT

Payment to David Sherry to reimburse him for the Zoom fee to accommodate the June 23, 2020 OILA Meeting	\$	14.99
Payments to Jim Simpson for expenses related to the June 23, 2020 election as follows:		
- Stamps for mailer envelopes and return ballots envelopes.....	\$	341.00
- Printing for mailer, return and ballots envelopes and mailing labels for OILA Members.....	\$	<u>120.35</u>
Total Expense for Election:.....	\$	461.35
Payment to reimburse Jim Simpson for stamps to mail the June 2020 OIL Lantern.....	\$	33.00
Payment to reimburse Jim Simpson for Renewal of the Annual Basic Website fee (IONOS by 1 & 1) for oilaweb.com for the time period 7/20/2020 to 7/20/2021.....	\$	169.68
Payment to the U.S. Postal Service for six month rental fee for P.O. Box 4323.....	\$	<u>53.00</u>
Total Expenditures:...	\$	732.02
Association Discretionary Fund Balance after Receipts and Expenditures....	\$	24,406.12

BEAUTIFICATION FUND BALANCE AS OF May 11 2020.....	\$	1,421.28
BEAUTIFICATION FUND EXPENDITURES SINCE LAST REPORT	No Expenditures	
BEAUTIFICATION FUND BALANCE AS OF September, 2020.....	\$	1,421.28
CHRISTMAS DECORATING PROJECT 2016 Balance AS OF May 11, 2020.....	\$	Zero Balance

SUMMARY: May 11, 2020 Fund Balances

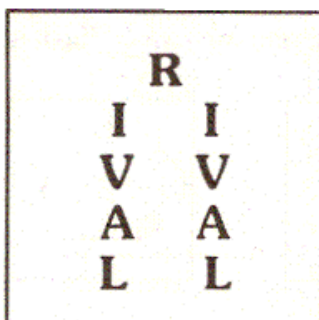
-- Association's Discretionary Fund Balance.	\$	24,406.12
-- Beautification Fund Balance.....	\$	1,421.28
-- Christmas Decorating Fund Balance (Donations).....	\$	<u>Zero Balance</u>

Respectfully Submitted – Jim Simpson, Treasurer

TOTAL FUNDS BALANCE..... \$ 25,827.40

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 the last page of this newsletter.

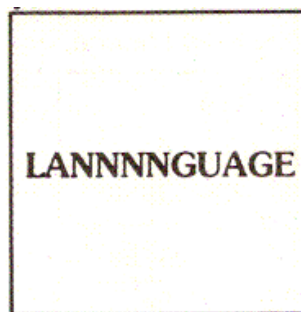
Wuzzle No. 1



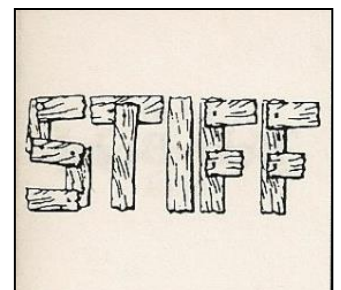
Wuzzle No. 2



Wuzzle No. 3



Wuzzle No. 4



Hurricane Sally Impact on Island Freeways

Neighbors, I wrote an article last March titled *Okaloosa Island Residential Community Under Attack* to highlight the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) intention to turn the Northside Freeways adjoining our residential neighborhood properties into public parking lots. Despite OILA members overwhelmingly voting against such action by our BCC, they continue to pursue Federal and State permitting for a public parking lot at Northside Beach Freeway #2.

One of our collective arguments against “Paving Paradise” has been to emphasize the original purpose of these Freeways in their present state, which was the cost effective and efficient flow of tidal surge during storm events in effort to protect private property. Hurricane Sally proved to be a storm worthy of this existing protective infrastructure and the following images demonstrate the importance of the Northside Beach Freeways during storm events. A neighbor shared an image of Northside Beach Freeway #2, which looked like a lake.



The 3rd Northside Freeway was the scene of a torrent of water cutting a channel as the current swiftly dumped from Santa Rosa Blvd. into the Sound.



The 5th Northside Freeway was interconnected with the Sound and close to compromising Santa Rosa Blvd



The 6th Northside Freeway was also interconnected with the Sound and close to compromising Santa Rosa Blvd. If it were not for the Northside Beach Freeways in their present configuration, the extensive flooding would have been exacerbated with water flowing unto surrounding residential properties.



Additionally, Santa Rosa Blvd. was flooded in many locations due to the extensive amount of water and lack of sufficient drainage.



No doubt, many of you have similar images of the free-flowing water in these Freeways and perhaps along SRB during and after the storm. I strongly encourage you to write and share your experiences and images with our BCC and local newspaper.

As the challenge continues to protect our property values and quality of life in accordance with our Protective Covenants and Restrictions (PC&R'), I have sought to study and understand

OILA's Primary Mission: Why OILA Exists

Article 1 of our Bylaws, section 3 states: "The general nature of the corporation shall be: to coordinate affairs between leaseholder members and the Board of County Commissioners in their role as heirs to the obligations and privileges of the Okaloosa Island Authority, to preserve the public lands on Santa Rosa Island, Okaloosa County, to advise and assist the county in the application of the protective covenants that affect leasehold members, and to advise leaseholders and the public in general in their rights and obligations under said leases."

Essentially, OILA exists to:

- Coordinate affairs between leaseholder members and the Board of County Commissioners
- Preserve the public lands on Okaloosa Island
- Advise and assist the county in the application of Protective Covenants
- Advise leaseholders and the public in their rights and obligations under the covenants

In effort to faithfully administer these charter mandates to the benefit of all Island residents, I have four questions:

- What has been the historical role of OILA concerning the application and enforcement of our Protective Covenants and Restrictions?
- Is legal recourse a tool available to OILA, if so, how does OILA, as a volunteer organization, lead, and fund legal action against violators?
- How and to what extent is OILA expected to preserve public lands on Okaloosa Island?
- Should OILA evaluate alternate forms of organization that better enforce the PR&Cs and legal standing with the county?

I present this subject and these questions to highlight OILA's written purpose for existence, gain perspective, and develop consensus among leaseholders to the mutual benefit of all Islanders who seek to preserve and enhance our quality of life as residents and neighbors on Okaloosa Island. Thus, your input is important, and I look forward to discussing these attributes of our charter during the next OILA meeting.

Your neighbor, Brick Bradford

WUZZLE PUZZLES ANSWERS

Wuzzle No. 1



Arch Rivals

Wuzzle No. 2



Quarterback

Wuzzle No. 3

Українська
радянська
енциклопедія
радянська

Foreign
Language

Wuzzle No. 4



Bored Stiff