

# HILLTOP HIGHLIGHTS



*Happy  
Holidays*



*May you and yours  
Have a joyous Holiday Season  
And a healthy and prosperous  
New Year*



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**Inside:**

**Get Ready for the 2021 BOD Elections**

**Yes, YOU can make the difference!**

**Your Intent to Run Submission is due by Dec. 31**



*A note to website viewers:*

This page does not appear in the printed version. Please scroll down to see the rest of this month's Hilltop Highlights. And, since the printed version is done only in black & white, you can see, here, the full color of the original design.

**Contact Information:**

Office Phone:

760-757-3937

24 Hour Emergency

(Water & Plumbing)

760-757-3937

Fax: 760-757-8177

Website:

[www.oceanaseniors.org](http://www.oceanaseniors.org)

Accounting:

[accounting@ocaoffice.org](mailto:accounting@ocaoffice.org)

Maintenance:

[maintenance@ocaoffice.org](mailto:maintenance@ocaoffice.org)

Homeowner Concerns:

[office@ocaoffice.org](mailto:office@ocaoffice.org)

Non-emergency Police  
(to report suspicious activity):

760-435-4900

Emergency Police:

**911**



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Office Staff:

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kwalter@ocaoffice.org

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**Facilities Manager** Randel Newman  
rnewman@ocaoffice.org

**Maintenance Admin. Asst.** Diane Seely  
dseely@ocaoffice.org

**Admin. & Cte. Asst.** Teresa Brown  
tbrown@ocaoffice.org

**Bookkeeper** Kelly Stinson  
kstinson@ocaoffice.org

**Contact for all:** 760-757-3937

Office Information

- The deadline to submit information for The Hilltop Highlights is the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of every month. Please email to: kwalter@ocaoffice.org.
- Have a payment to make or a work order to submit after office hours? Please use the new drop box located on the front/west side of the OCA Business Office. It is checked Mon. through Fri.
- How do I submit a work request? Both maintenance work requests and landscape work requests are available on our website: www.oceanaseniors.org. After completion, you may submit your form via office@ocaoffice.org, by fax to 760-757-8177 or by visiting the Business Office. All work requests are prioritized with other scheduled work. We do respond to an emergency situation (e.g. sewer backups and exterior water leaks) within 24 hours. After normal business hours and on weekends emergencies should be reported to our live answering service at 760-757-3937.
- Are you moving? Do you have a neighbor who has moved or passed away? Please provide such information to Karen Walter at the OCA Business Office at kwalter@ocaoffice.org.

Current Board of Directors

**President** Carol Finkas  
760-586-8484  
carolfinkas@mac.com

**Vice President** Sue Moore  
951-990-3536  
smoore121263@gmail.com

**Secretary** John Vogt  
760-519-7554  
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**Treasurer** Sherry Jarrett  
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sjarrett@outlook.com

**Director** Bruce Cowgill  
805-807-0492  
perfectfitengineering@gmail

**Director** Stephen Graves  
760-435-0091  
stevewriterscg@gmail.com

**Director** Jackie Konstanturos  
619-247-3569  
Jackie@townsendteam.com

**KEEP INFORMED**

Here are several websites that can help keep you up-to-date on Oceana and your local community.

**OCEANA**

OCEANASENIORS.ORG

**CITY OF OCEANSIDE**

CI.OCEANSIDE.CA.US

**SAN DIEGO COUNTY**

SANDIEGOCOUNTY.GOV

This month's General Session Board of Directors' meeting will take place at 9:30 am on Wednesday, December 16. It will be virtual and the link will be communicated to residents via email and on the posted Agendas.



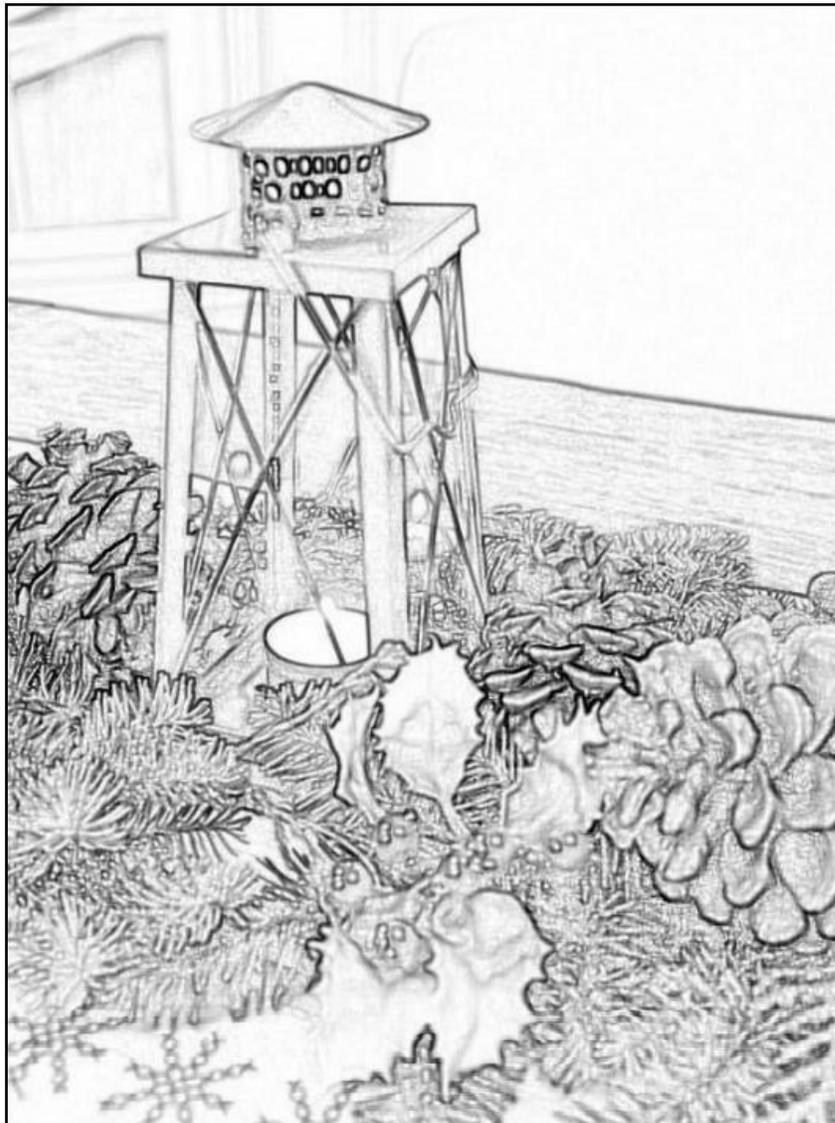
## A Message From the Board Of Directors

**T**oday I received my November Highlights, and my first thought was, "time to write my December article." I do not feel like the holidays yet. What can I say? So, being an artist, I did what I Love to do, I started to work on a sketch for my Christmas Card. Now I feel ready to wish each of you a

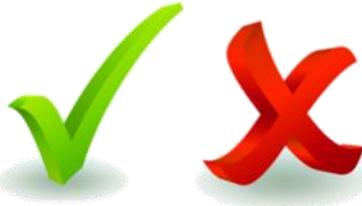
Happy Holiday from your Board of Directors. It has been unusual year, and we end it with many accomplishments. I have made the sketch. Now it is your job to give it beautiful colors.

**Have a Joy filled December.**

Carol Finkas



## Verify!



**W**ith so many of us now shopping on line, it is so very easy for items to be delivered to the wrong address. Whenever you receive a delivery, first verify that it is actually intended for you. When it isn't, do not open the package or the letter. (If it came in the mail, that would be mail fraud.) Contact the person it is addressed to. Maybe you can deliver it to them or they can come and pick it up. Don't know their phone number? Look it up. (If the address is within Oceana, but the person is not listed in our Directory, call the office and they will help you.)

Another thing we need to verify is how our friends are doing. We just do not have the opportunity to see people as often as we did before we started to shelter at home. When you think of someone, give that person a call, or send a note. Pens, paper, envelopes and stamps are all available on Amazon (another online shopping trip!). You need not leave your home to make someone's day better.

Carol Finkas

### COVID-19 Info Sites

#### Federal:

The Centers for Disease Control  
[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

#### State:

CA Department of Public Health  
[www.cdph.ca.gov](http://www.cdph.ca.gov)

CA Department of Aging  
[www.aging.ca.gov/covid19](http://www.aging.ca.gov/covid19)

Assembly District 76  
COVID-19 Resource Navigator  
[a76.asmdc.org/coronavirus-covid-19-resource-navigator-0](http://a76.asmdc.org/coronavirus-covid-19-resource-navigator-0)

#### San Diego County:

[www.sandiegocounty.gov/coronavirus](http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/coronavirus)

#### City of Oceanside:

[www.ci.oceanside.ca.us/gov/fire/home/coronavirus.asp](http://www.ci.oceanside.ca.us/gov/fire/home/coronavirus.asp)

## Did You Know?

# National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day December 7

### History

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day honors the victims of Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor. The attack was the catalyst for American involvement in the Second World War.

At 8am on December 7th, 1941, without prior warning, the Imperial Japanese Navy Air Service attacked the U.S. Naval Station at Pearl Harbor using 353 fighter planes. In total, 2,403 people died, another 1,178 were injured, four U.S. Navy battleships were sunk and 188 U.S. aircraft were destroyed. The aim of the attack was to immobilize the U.S. Pacific Fleet, which would allow Japan to advance into Malaya and Dutch East Indies.

On August 23, 1994, the United States Congress passed Public Law 103-308 to designate December 7 of each year as the National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

### Facts & Quotes

- Canada was the first nation to declare war on Japan just hours after the attack. The U.S. declared war the following day.
- The USS Arizona Memorial was built in 1962 to mark the resting place of the 1,102 sailors and marines who died on the USS Arizona during the attack on Pearl Harbor.
- The Pearl Harbor Commemorative Medal was established by the U.S. Congress on November 5, 1990. U.S. Armed Forces veterans and civilians who served, were injured or killed during the attack on Pearl Harbor were eligible to receive the medal to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the attack.
- "Yesterday, December 7, 1941 — a date which will live in infamy — the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan." - President Franklin D. Roosevelt. This speech by President Roosevelt is widely cited and referred to as the Infamy Speech or Pearl Harbor Speech.



**Do YOU, or someone you know,  
want to make a difference in our community?  
Well, we need you and WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

We are actively recruiting for our HOA board. As a self-managed community, we need board members to make decisions in the community's best interests. We are looking for open-minded people with any of these qualities:

- ***genuine desire to serve the community***
- ***no personal agenda***
- ***patient***
- ***appreciation of long-term planning***
- ***team player***
- ***good listener***

Do you know a good person but need help encouraging them to run? Then give anyone on our Nominating Committee a call. We want to find the best for our community. Please feel free to reach out to any one of us.

**THANK YOU, FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE:**

Mary Ann Alger 503-348-9959

Kelly Byrne 760-335-6597

Connie Ferguson 360-265-5558

Lyn Riley 760-730-3371

Jay Norris 509-939-1680

**Submissions due by Dec. 31.**



# Notices & Reminders

## Opportunities

### Unit Advisors Committee

Unit Advisors are looking for additional volunteers, especially in Units 2 and 4. The Committee is also searching for a new leader and it would be great for continuity if a current committee member would volunteer to lead this important group.

### OCA-TV

OCA-TV is down to one, very lonely, and very overworked volunteer. *Please*, if you have any videography experience at all and can give just an hour or two per week, please step forward so we can keep this valuable communication tool up and running in our community. Please call the Office to demonstrate your interest and ask any questions you might have.

## Barking Dogs

Dogs are wonderful companions and friends. Many of us probably can't imagine living without them. And there are quite a few dogs here in Oceana.

Owning a dog entails the responsibilities of proper care and training, and most dog owners dutifully—and lovingly—comply. But, there are occasional problems such as when a dog is left outside and allowed to bark for hours on end. In a densely populated environment such as Oceana, this problem can be serious.

The fault is not the dog's. It is the owner's. There is something amiss in the dog's environment or its training that the dog's owner needs to address. And, if that dog's owner either **cannot** or **will not** address the problem, then he or she should at least have enough consideration for their neighbors to find a home for that dog with somebody who **can** and **will** address the problem.



*The office continues to be closed to the public. Please call, email or use the mail drop box to conduct your business. All other community facilities/meeting rooms continue to be closed. Committee and Board Meetings will continue to be held via virtual platforms.*

*Pool schedule changes: The pool area is open M-F, 7:30am—3:30pm by reservation only. Sessions are for 45 minutes only, seven residents max per pool and one resident (or family unit) for the spa. Six-foot spacing is required. Reservations for the spa may be made only one day in advance.*

*Announcements and useful links can be found at [oceanaseniors.org](http://oceanaseniors.org) and viewed on OCA-TV (Channel 1960).*

## Wear Your Mask

It shows you care about your neighbors.



We have a new contract with Cox Cable. The new agreement keeps costs to OCA at their current levels and increases the services to our residents. One HBO Channel (200) and one Showtime channel (240) are now part of each resident's basic service package. The agreement took effect on October 1, 2020. If you currently pay for HBO and/or Showtime, your charges should go down. If not, please call Cox.

If you have difficulty accessing the new channels, you may need to re-scan the channels on your mini boxes. If you continue to have difficulty, the cox technical group should be able to assist you. The Cox number is 1-855-512-8876 (press option 1 for retirement communities and then option 1 for technical support.)



When you come across an illegally parked vehicle in OCA (i.e., parked in a red zone, in front of a fire hydrant, or blocking traffic) and if it is during business hours (weekdays from 9am to 3pm), call the Office and a staff member will place a warning ticket on the vehicle. If it is not during business hours (weekdays from 9am to 3pm), call the Non-emergency Police # (760-435-4900) and normally they will come and either ticket or tow.



### Reminder About Green Waste

If you have green waste that you want picked up, please be sure to place it outside early on Friday morning. Our landscape vendor collects green waste on Fridays. It can be in a paper container that they will take away or a permanent container that they will empty and leave.

### Scoop the Poop!

City of Oceanside ordinances state that, when outside, a pet **must** be on a leash at all times. The only place they may be off a leash is in our fenced dog park at the end of Vista Bella. The ordinances also state that you **must** pick up your dog's poop. It's the good neighbor thing to do and



. . . **it's the Law!**

. . . **And, Please**, don't let your large dog pee against a bench on which your neighbor might need to sit.



### What Did He Say?

You hear the ear-splitting drone of a helicopter flying low overhead, and they are broadcasting something via loudspeaker that could be important. But, you can't understand a word they're saying.

Don't worry. You're not going deaf. (That drone can be awfully loud!) But, yes, that message could be very important.

If you couldn't make out the message:

**call or text 1-858-866-(HELO) 4356**

(Courtesy, San Diego County Sherriff's Dept.)



## Thanks to Our Volunteers!



# Updates From



# THE ISLE EST 1966



DECEMBER 2020

Happy Holidays from The Isle! We have plenty of great holiday golf packages for you and anyone needing that perfect gift. Come down to the shop and check out all of our fresh merchandise and warm weather gear to stay stylish this season. Just need somewhere to get out of the house and visit with friends? Cozy up on our covered heated patio for some lunch and enjoy our new options of beers on tap! We hope you all have a wonderful holiday full of love and happiness.



**UPDATED HOURS:  
-6:30AM TO 5PM-  
WALKING ONLY AFTER 4PM  
GRILL CLOSSES AT 4:30PM**



A GOLF COURSE FOR EVERYONE

EMERALD ISLE GOLF COURSE OCEANSIDE, CA

# Things To Do at OCA

**All Physical Meetings & Events Cancelled until further notice.  
Check for Virtual Sessions.**

**Art Studio** -Mon.& Wed., 1-3pm; Water-color instruction, Wed. 1-3pm. Info: David Finkas at (760) 586-8484.

**Billiards** -Thurs. 10:30am. Friendly group for socializing and skills improvement.

## Bridge

**Wed. Bridge** -Wednesdays (except 1<sup>st</sup> of month) 12:30-3:30pm in the Card Room. Info: Tom Miller, 760-757-1393.

**Social Bridge** -Fridays 9:00am in the Card Room.

**Bunco** -1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of the month at 1:30 pm in the Large Card room. Info: Dona White (760) 533-2484.

**Ceramic Studio** -open 1-3:00pm every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Contact: Pat Christie at 442-297-7430.

**Chair Volleyball** - Monday and Thursday at 1:00 pm in the Clubhouse. For info: call Dave Freeman at 818-262-0788

**Chair Yoga** - Monday at 10am in the Auditorium. For info: call David Phears at 714-795-0027

**French Club** - Monday, 4-5pm in the Clubhouse Library. Call Danae Danczyk at 760-529-9226.

**Friends of Bill W.** -Wed. at 5:00 pm in the card room. Info: Lin Riley 760-730-3371.

**Garden Club**-Meetings on occasion. Reserve space in our garden. Info: Casey Fitzpatrick 818-426-4572.

**Hand & Foot** -Fridays at 12:30 pm. Info: Joan Jeffery at 760-637-2384

**Keep Fit Exercise Class**—MWF 8:30am-9am in the Auditorium. Info: Gene or Dee Barilotti at 760-967-2157.

**Knitting** -Thurs. at 10:30am in the Card Room. Info: Karen Jacobson 760-757-2477 or Dee Wylie 760-231-9577.

**Lapidary Shop** -Mon. thru Thurs. 1-3pm. Info: John Pitarresi at 760-917-6631.

**Line Dancing** -Thursdays 3pm-4pm in the Auditorium. Info: Shirley Thralls at 760-433-3164.

**Mah Jong** - Mondays 1:00pm-4:00pm and Tuesdays 12:30pm-4:00pm in the Library. Info: Marlene Kerman at 760-433-0347.

**OCA Book Club** -10:00am 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month in the Clubhouse Library.

**OSERT** -3<sup>rd</sup> Wed. at 5pm in the Computer room. Info: Patricia McArdle, 703-254-8916

**Pickleball** - Playing times Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays. Play levels are Open, Advanced Open and Invitation Only. In the Clubhouse. See the Calendar for specifics. Info: Steve Reigle.

**Pinochle** Mon. at 1 pm in the Card Room. Info: Joyce Poxon 760-859-6728.

**Poker** - Tuesdays 6-8pm. Contact Glenn Groth at 760-754-9646.

**Quilters**—1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays 9am-Noon in the Art Room. Info: Sue Moore, 760-231-7966.

**Sequence** -Thursdays 1pm-4pm in the Card room. Info: Marilyn 760-435-9600

**Sing-Along** - Thursdays 6pm in the Clubhouse Auditorium. Bring snacks & drinks. Info: Glen Hemingway 760-518-5716.

**Trivia** -Mondays 7pm-9pm in the Card room. Info: Colleen Eidson 760-529-9999

## Water Aerobics

**Mornings:** 8:00am Mon/Wed/Fri.

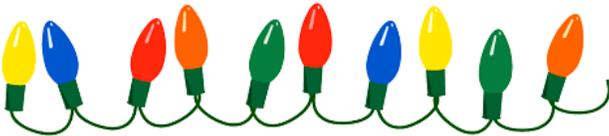
**Afternoon:** 1:00pm-1:45pm Fri.

Info: Betsy 760-439-2879.

**Woodshop** -Monday-Friday 1-3pm. Info: Jim Romans 949-742-2311.

**Writing Group (Write On)** -Tuesdays 10am. For location and other info: Alan Dolit 760 224-6404.

**Scheduled Events**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
		1	2 12 Noon Website Cte.— virtual
6		8 9:30am Arch. Cte. — virtual	9 10am Unit Advisors— virtual
13	14	15	16 9:30am Open BOD Mtg.- virtual 1pm BOD Exec. Session
20		22	23
27	28	29	30

Some group activities are continuing virtually, via electronic contact. The schedule for those activities is listed in the calendar, above. Accesses for electronic communication are as follows:

Group	Meeting Schedule	Access Method
Open BOD Mtg.	Last Wednesday, 9:30am	Reference Friday email update for current access method.
OSERT	Third Wednesday, 6:30pm (every third month)	Reference Friday email update for current access method.
Unit Advisors	Second Wednesday, 10am	Reference Friday email update for current access method.
Landscape Cte.	Second Friday, 10am	<b><i>global.gotomeeting.com/join/958207373</i></b> or Dial in at 872-240-3311 Access Code: 958-207-373
Website	First Wednesday, Noon (every other month)	<b><i>us02web.zoom.us/j/2049731523?</i></b> <b><i>pwd=UFZJMms1Y1Yxd3ZockxsMGZtd0Y5dz09</i></b>



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Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3	4	5
10  Start of Hanukkah	11 10am Landscape Cte.— virtual	12
17	18  End of Hanukkah	19
24 <i>Office Closed</i>	25  <b>MERRY CHRISTMAS!</b> <i>Office Closed</i>	26
31 2021 BOD Elections-Last day for submission of Intent to Run packet  <i>Office Closes at Noon</i>		



# OCA Group Membership

## Activities Committee

**Meets:** 1<sup>st</sup> Tues. ea. Month,  
9:30am, Card Room  
Chair  
Chuck Kruse  
(Open) Vice Chair/Events Coordinator  
Ginny Romans Secretary  
Linda Garcia Share & Wear Mgr.  
Barbara Allen  
Susan Gugino  
Sue Mansis  
Nancy Norton  
Bella Strubhar  
**Carol Finkas Board Exec. Cte.**  
**Sue Moore Board Exec. Cte.**

## Architectural Committee

**Meets:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues. ea. Month,  
9:30am, Card Room  
(Agenda deadline: 1<sup>st</sup> day of month)  
Chair  
Bill Loftus U 10,11  
Lisa Bagot U 7, 7A  
Fritz Beechler U 9  
Kelly Byrne U 5  
Jay Crawford (on leave)  
Tony Hoople U 8  
Harold Marsh U 2,6  
Paula McDonald U 12, 14  
Jay Norris U 1,1A,3,4  
Ed Smith  
**Bruce Cowgill Board Exec. Cte.**  
**John Vogt Board Exec. Cte.**

## Landscape Committee

**Meets:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Fri. ea. Month,  
10am, Billiards Room  
Chair  
Joan Jeffery  
Connie Ferguson  
Kevin Immel  
Sue Mansis  
Bill Matthews  
**Bruce Cowgill Board Exec. Cte.**  
**Sue Moore Board Exec. Cte.**

## Reserve Planning Committee

**Meets:** TBD  
(Open) Chair  
Mike Faulkner  
Patricia McArdle  
Ken Rische  
Tain Soreboe  
**Bruce Cowgill Board Liaison**

## OCA-TV Committee

Mario Badua Chair  
**Steve Graves Board Liaison**

## Safety Committee

**Meets:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed. ea. Month,  
6pm, Comp. Room  
Chair, 335-6597  
Kelly Byrne  
Andrea Anderson  
Ron Cook  
Connie Ferguson  
Patricia McArdle 703-254-8916  
Alice Nolan 214-0221  
Dorothy Thayer  
Mike Thayer  
**Jackie Konstanturos Board Liaison**

## Unit Advisors Committee

**Meets:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. ea. Month,  
10am, Clubhouse Auditorium  
Chair  
(Open)  
**Unit**  
1 - Ron Landsel 231-7586  
1A - Linda Langworthy 562-301-1346  
2 -  
3 - Gisela Lauer 754-0296  
4 -  
5 - Andrea Anderson 510-701-4044  
6 - Steve Lawler 419-7011  
7 (1-34) - Rene Maricque, 920-562-3436  
7 (35-62) & 7A - Pat Hawkins 450-6231  
8 - Kathleen Pursell 439-9282  
9 - Jeff Kern 908-420-1853  
10 - Judy Hartmann 909-518-8767  
11 - Shari Flanders 754-0020  
Diane Pettibon  
12 (1-53) - Jay Norris/Pat Brinson 509-939-1680  
12 (54-98)- Karen Bishop 619-301-6100  
14 - Toby Roberts  
& Kristine Hale 858-775-4253  
**Jackie Konstanturos Board Liaison**

## Website Committee

**Meets:** 1<sup>st</sup> Wed. ea. Month,  
12pm, Computer Room  
Chair  
Anita Romaine  
Steve Ashworth  
Kelly Byrne  
Gene Barilotti  
Don Betts  
Steve Reigle  
**Steve Graves Board Liaison**

### **Attention all Committee Chairs:**

Please contact the OCA office to inform them of any changes to your committee, either times, days, or new contacts for your committee. We need to update all the committees so the Oceana residents can be able to attend your meetings and not be misinformed. Let's keep everyone up to date and active. Thank you.

(NOTE: Unless otherwise indicated, the deadline for Cte. Agendas is 10 days prior to the mtg.)

No Area Code? Assume 760.

# Committee Reports

## Website

So, did you find out how convenient it is to read the Highlights on line for this last month? You know, if you do a new habit for a month, it becomes a full habit permanently from then on. Reading the Highlights online can be that new habit!

We are so lucky to live in the best kept secret of Oceanside - Oceana, our little Community on the Hill! We have everything there is to give our lives a boost and live life to our fullest. Where else can you walk outside and take a 1 1/3 mile trek in safety and see lots of friends walking around. Do you know each dog by the owner's name or the dog's name? Have you seen the wonderful new Rock Garden over there next to P Street? Pretty soon you will be able to see the snow on the mountains to the north east. How lucky can we get?

Have fun and stay SAFE!

Anita Romaine  
Chair Website Committee

- Weeded and cleared debris from much of the outside garden area.
- Thanks to our intrepid garden superheroes: Casey Fitzpatrick, Kevin Immel, Connie Ferguson, Steve Ashworth, Kathleen and Victor Zavala, Sherry Parovel, Christine Gorman, Diane Harris, Peggie Moore, Hoesin Winchester, Nancy McAdams, John Long, Bruce Pahl, Mike Nelsen, Lori Nichols, Mary Murphy.
- Strengthened our relationship with Agri Service to continue their commitment to provide us with free soil, compost and mulch.

I can't wait to see what our 2021 projects look like.

**Fun Fact:** Astronauts aboard the International Space Station are growing lettuce to study outer space growing techniques.

Diane Harris,  
Secretary

## Oceana Garden Club (OGC)

Can you believe we are at the end of another year? And what a year this has been. I feel it is my duty in these trying times to spread more positivity. So, let's look back and admire some of the good things that have happened with the Oceana Garden Club.

The members are such an enthusiastic group if I do say so myself. Our wonderful temperate climate enables eager beginners or seasoned pros to grow fabulous fruits and vegetables, not to mention the beautiful flowers for our friends, the bees and butterflies. Look at all the projects that were accomplished this past year.

### **2020 Garden Club Recap:**

- Added 9 new gardeners—Lisa Bagot, Nancy Strauss, Mary Murphy, Eric and Kathy Buckles, Bob and Patti Bishop, Sunshine and Ron Cook, Victor and Kathleen Zavala, Renee Shippey, and Sherry Parovel joined our ranks this year. Welcome to you all.
- Built 3 new gardens
- Renovated 5 existing gardens
- Built a succulent garden, herb garden and renovated the friendship garden.

## OCA Safety

### Happy Holidays!

And may we all be able to celebrate without a Pandemic hovering over us.

This time of year I want to personally thank the Safety Committee. This group does more than most people think they do to keep Oceana safe. In no particular order:

- Thank you to Alice for the countless steps to secure our amenities.
- Thank you to Connie for the miles on her bike.
- Thank you to Pat for the security light updates.
- Thank you to Andrea for keeping that black and white clean.
- Thank you to Ron, our newest member but always on patrol.
- And Thank you to Mike and Dorothy who although might not be listed in the Hi-Lights as members, are the backbone of this Committee.

### Stay Safe everyone!

Your Safety Committee Chairperson

Kelly Byrne

## Landscape

The landscape committee has held two workshops for the purpose of discussing the needs of the homes in Unit #2 for the master landscape plan. The front view of each home was reviewed and required updates were noted. LaBahn's is working on the landscape plan for the remainder of the unit.

In addition, a smaller group walked Unit #2 with a view to reduce turf areas. There are rebates available when turf area is reduced and we aim to take advantage of any dollars we can in this process. While any turf reduction rebate money will be an advantage for the master plan, the process brings long term rewards as well. Turf requires more irrigation than replacement plant materials, so we will be saving on water consumption long-term. Additionally, replacement planting will be designed to be low maintenance in nature so that our monthly landscape maintenance hours can be better focused on trimming, weeding, and mulching instead of mowing those areas. This will result in fewer mowing hours spent in the Unit. This is the pattern the committee has set as we continue the master plan in other units. Some units lend themselves better to turf reduction than others. Unit #2 is a good example of one providing many excellent opportunities.

The committee members were also asked to make recommendations for additions, deletions, or special usage to the plant palette. Those suggestions were compiled and given to Ron Zaccaro of LaBahn's seeking his advice on the pros and cons of the proposed changes. Based on his advice, changes were made to the palette; which we hope will hold us in good stead for years to come. We were looking for plants with more color, texture, height variation as well as low maintenance requirements. We believe that with introducing these changes, our community landscape will be more vibrant and easier to maintain. As we execute the plan in each unit, we will strive to achieve more continuity with not only the planting, but more harmony in the hardscape. In many areas rock will be moved or replaced in order to carry out the look.

In the month of November, the committee made their final recommendations on proposals for 2020. This was in order to have the work completed, invoiced, and paid by December 31st. So, we will be closing out the books for 2020 and on to the 2021 budget. We hope to get an earlier start in 2021 for the selection

of the next master plan unit.

LaBahn's has made a concerted effort to get caught up on maintenance work orders and has been giving extra attention to the entranceways to all of the units. Check them out, they are looking much improved.

**Joan Jeffery**

## An Interview with an 80-Year-Old Bride

The local news station was interviewing an 80-year-old lady because she had just gotten married for the fourth time.

The interviewer asked her questions about her life, about what it felt like to be marrying again at 80, and then about her new husband's occupation.

"He's a funeral director," she answered.

"Interesting," the newsman thought.

He then asked her if she wouldn't mind telling him a little about her first three husbands and what they did for a living.

She paused for a few moments, needing time to reflect on all those years.

After a short time, a smile came to her face and she answered proudly, explaining that she had first married a banker when she was in her 20's, then a circus ringmaster when in her 40's, and a preacher when in her 60's, and now - in her 80's - a funeral director.

The interviewer looked at her, quite astonished, and asked why she had married four men with such diverse careers.

She smiled and explained, "I married one for the money, two for the show, three to get ready, and four to go."



## Civility —It Has to Start Somewhere

by Kelly G. Richardson  
(Reproduced from HOA Homefront in The San Diego Union Tribune)

From presidential debate stages to courtrooms to families to HOAs, civility is becoming so rare, it should be considered endangered. Differences of opinion are no longer allowed - either you agree with me or you are a demon and I will reject any dialogue with you. So, we need some serious rethinking of disagreement and relationship in HOAs. Here are some thoughts to consider regarding disagreement and what it means (or doesn't)

- You don't know or see it all. In the old parable of the blind monks and the elephant, each monk was stationed at a different part of the animal, and each had a distinctly different impression from the others. None were lying, yet each had a different truth. It is entirely possible that others in the HOA know something you don't and see something you haven't seen. Allow others to share that divergent view.
- These people are your neighbors. While it may be satisfying to lash out and say or write awful things about someone you are angry with, you have to see these folks around the HOA. While you can disconnect on social media, you can't disconnect your neighbors - they are still there. Remember you have to live with these folks and extend courtesy and respect. You'll make your life (and theirs) less stressful and uncomfortable.
- Your opinions are not you, and rejection of your argument is not rejection of you. If I think that a remodeled clubhouse is important and you don't, does that mean one of us is bad? Your opinions about HOA business have no relation to your worth as an individual, so don't take offense when someone votes against your point of view.
- Civility is not the same as agreement, and unanimous votes are unnecessary. Many boards seem to feel that votes must be unanimous. That is legally incorrect and destructive. Disagreement is healthy, and there is nothing disloyal about voting against the majority. Allow for different opinions and dissenting votes - next time it might be you.

- Reject abhorrent abusive comments, whether written or oral. Raise the bar in your community.
- Avoid assumptions or projections about others' intentions. Every four years, our country is split in half, with each side unreasonably thinking the other side's presidential candidate hates America and wants to destroy it. The fact that someone in your HOA disagrees with you does not mean they want to harm the HOA, but only that they have a different view about the HOA's needs. Don't assume someone acts out of spite or bruised ego. Give them a chance to prove good intent.
- Consider adopting a civility pledge. Ask your HOA leaders to sign it annually and adopt it as HOA policy. The Community Associations Institute created a civility pledge, which can be found at [www.caionline.org](http://www.caionline.org). Adopt it or use it as a template to build your association's civility policy.

HOA living requires healthy interaction among people who don't always see eye to eye except on the one nonnegotiable item - neighborly treatment of neighbors. Insist that civility be paramount at all times and in all places. Isn't peace in your HOA worth it?

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