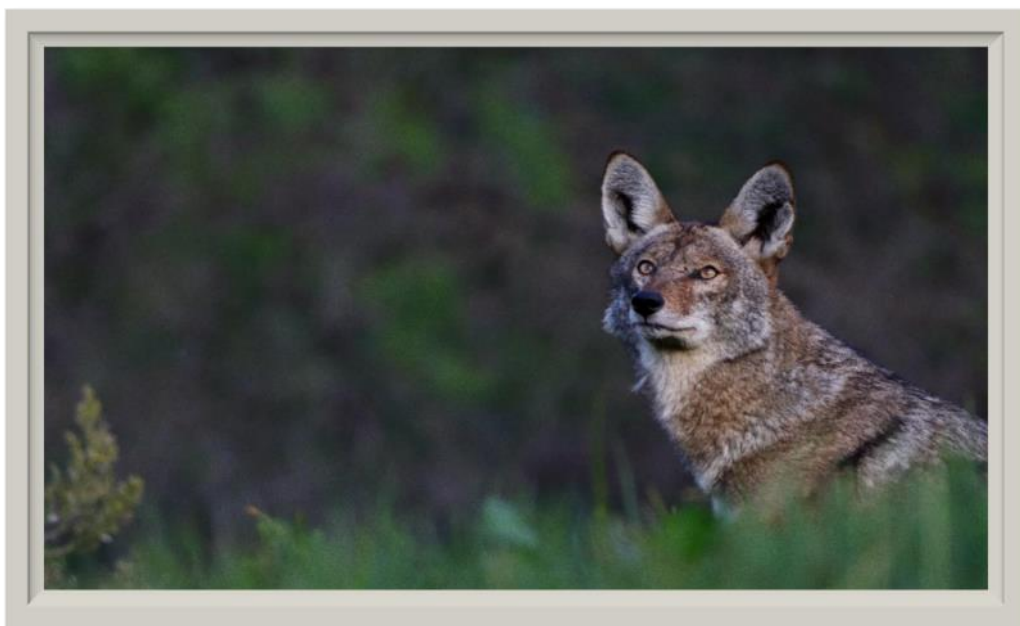


HILLTOP HIGHLIGHTS

Inside:



Bird watching at the Garden Club

Also Inside:



A New Feature: 'News You Can Use'



The Dog Days of Summer



A Look at a Great American

hello



Named after the Roman Goddess, Juno, the goddess of spring and growth. Juno symbolizes marriage and welfare of women. Juno is the goddess of marriage and it is therefore considered good luck to be married in June. She was Jupiter's wife and the mother to Mars.

Flowers associated with June:

- The **rose** symbolizes love, devotion and passion. When matured, the rose expresses a satisfied fulfillment of desires. The color of the rose can alter the meaning with deep reds signifying passion, while soft pinks represent motherly love.
- **Honeysuckle** symbolizes happiness and devoted affection in the form of a lover's embrace. There's superstition surrounding honeysuckle that it induces dreams about love and passion, and bringing honeysuckle blossom indoors was thought to prompt a wedding in the household.

Gems associated with June:

- **Pearl** symbolizes purity and is known as the "stone of sincerity." In ancient Greek culture, the pearl was viewed as a gorgeous natural phenomenon that made love and marriage far more abundant.
- **Alexandrite** is known as the "happy stone." Because of its propensity to change color when exposed to light of varying wavelengths, it is sometimes referred to as a "jewel of transition."
- **Moonstone** represents the harmony of love. As early as the Gallo-Roman Empire, it was thought that moonstone had the same powers as the star from which it came. Its reflections were considered to change with the phases of the moon.

Trees associated with June:

- **Oak** is a symbol of charm, strength, and character. Often a spokesperson and crusader for the underdogs, oaks are stabilizers and gentle giants.

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

Accounting:

accounting@ocaoffice.org

Maintenance:

maintenance@ocaoffice.org

Homeowner Concerns:

office@ocaoffice.org

Non-emergency Police
(to report suspicious activity):

760-435-4911

Emergency Police:

911



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Cover Photo: Taken by Anthony Kay, Secretary OGC.

"I captured this image of a coyote on the canyon bank on the east side of our garden plots as dusk was setting in. He was transfixed with the birds, watching them fly around the canyon. Stay focused."

Office Staff:

General Manager Dan Farrar
dfarrar@ocaoffice.org

Facilities Manager Fernando Montano
maintenance@ocaoffice.org

Maintenance Admin. Asst. Simone Mitchell
smitchell@ocaoffice.org

Admin./Cte. Asst. Tracy Richardson
trichardson@ocaoffice.org

AP/AR Coordinator Amanda Fazio
afazio@ocaoffice.org

Contact for all: 760-757-3937

Office Hours:

Mon.-Thurs., 8:30 am-Noon; 1pm-4 pm
Fri., 9 am-3 pm
Appointments available by calling the office

Office Information

- The deadline to submit information for The Hilltop Highlights is the 1st of the month preceding the month of the publication. Email to: oceanahub@gmail.com. Submissions will be accepted until the 8th of the month and included as space is available.
- Have a payment to make or a work order to submit after office hours? Please use the drop box located on the front/west side of the OCA Business Office. It is checked Monday through Friday.
- How do I submit a work request? (Two kinds: maintenance work request and landscape work request) The most efficient manner is to submit an online request through AppFolio, our property management software. The physical work request forms are available on our website (oceanaseniors.org) or at the office. Submit completed forms to the office or via office@ocaoffice.org, by fax to 760-757-8177. 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 the office at:
ocaboard@ocaoffice.org.

Board of Directors

President Sandy Riser
sriser@ocaoffice.org
520-360-2081

Vice President Peter Cornog
pcornog@ocaoffice.org

Secretary Karen Bishop
kbishop@ocaoffice.org
760-440-8250

Treasurer Lynn Leszczynski
lynnl@ocaoffice.org

Director Peggie Moore
pmoore@ocaoffice.org
949-887-4641

Director Roxanne Rimmel
rremmel@ocaoffice.org

Director Evelyn Thomas
ethomas@ocaoffice.org

All Members ocaboard@ocaoffice.org

Keep Informed

Oceana
oceanaseniors.org

City of Oceanside
ci.oceanside.ca.us

San Diego County
sandiegocounty.gov

Report City Code Infractions

When you encounter a parking problem that is a violation of city code (e.g., blocking access to your garage, parking on red lines, or blocking traffic),
Call: 760-435-4500
ci.oceanside.ca.us/gov/dev/code/oversee.asp

The monthly General Session Board of Directors' meeting takes place at 9:30 am on the last Wednesday of the month. It will be held in the Auditorium and by Zoom. The link will be communicated to residents via email and posted on the website. Agendas are posted on bulletin boards and the website. Homeowners may eMail comments **prior** to the meeting to:
office@ocaoffice.org.
Zoom chat is not available.



A Message From the Board Of Directors

It is hard to believe that it has been almost three months since the election. A LOT has happened in a short amount of time. The Board has been super busy through the spring and we are hoping to breathe a little this summer and enjoy our community and families.

We welcomed our new General Manager, Dan Farrar, in April and he jumped right in! Dan has made a huge impact in a short amount of time and the Board is thrilled to have such a qualified individual lead our management team. I am sure you have seen him at some events, driving through the community, or even a one-on-one chat. Dan is open for appointments if you need some assistance from management - just call the office and set up a call or in-person visit.

By the time you read this, we will have made a decision on staying self-managed or bringing in a Community Management company. I want to personally thank the committee for all their hard work to get the decision process streamlined so the Board was ready to listen, analyze, and decide. And thanks to all our board members for putting in the extra hours to make this pivotal decision for our community.

The Synopsis column here tells you what we have been up to and the Did You Know section is created each month by a board member and is based on questions we receive, homeowners' comments and decisions made at our April board meeting.

Have a great start to your summer and see you in the neighborhood!

Sandy Riser
President,
OCA Board of Directors

Board Activities Synopsis

Fireside Chats:

In April we launched a new board outreach program that takes place from 6-7 PM the third Wednesday of every month in the Library (where there is indeed a fireplace!). President Sandy Riser conducted the first one and it was very well attended, and Secretary Karen Bishop will have conducted the second one in May by the time you read this.

Strategic Plan Update:

As you know, we held our annual Strategic Plan meeting in March and developed our one year goals out of the three year plan developed by the 2022-2023 Board of Directors, along with priorities set by the current board along with homeowner input. Here is a status of where we are:

Effective Association Management - bringing on Dan Farrar as our GM and the Community Management decision put this goal front and center in April and May.

Reduce Physical and Financial Risk - we are launching a new Facilities Committee starting in June and it is being "birthed" by Vice President Peter Cornog and Director Roxanne Remmel. This committee will focus on the physical risk aspect. Treasurer Lynn Leszczynski and the Finance Committee are laser focused on our financial well-being to reduce financial risk.

Resolve Current Legal Issues - the Board is in constant motion on this subject in Executive session and more is coming soon to the entire community.

Improve Communications Between the Board, Employees, and Residents - this new Synopsis feature of the Highlights, the Did You Know section that follows, and the continuous delivery of information on the Friday eBlasts and website are the ways we are improving communication to you. The Fireside Chats, Homeowner Comments at our board meetings, and our global email of ocaboard@ocaoffice.org are ways you can communicate with us. And having a GM in place assists communication with management by both the Board and homeowners.

Make Effective Use of Technology - An Ad Hoc Committee has been developed to look at all our technologies and ways to improve them to better serve our community. If you have a heart for all things technology, come join that

committee!

A new homeowner portal is being developed on the website and the Friday eBlasts have been retooled to include an update from the Board and Management, and continues to highlight all the committee work and activities in the community. If you do not get those emails on Friday, call the office to make sure you are on the list to receive them. This is the best way to ensure that you are up to date every week.

Sandy Riser
President,
OCA Board of Directors

News You Can Use

Based on recent Board of Directors' decisions, homeowner comments and the April BoD General Session, here is news you can use:

Community Management Company

There was a special General Session of the Board of Directors on May 10. Approximately 50 homeowners/residents attended. The board members received the Community Management Exploration Committee's report which identified two highly qualified companies. The board decided to contract with a community management company. Negotiations were started with FirstService Residential California LLC so the transition could take place June and July with the official start on August 1.

Clubhouse Reservations

The board established Guidelines to assist the staff and residents in understanding how to rent any room in the Clubhouse. The Guidelines are posted under Association Standing Documents. The Clubhouse Reservation Request form and the Clubhouse Liability Agreement are under **Forms**. The staff handles the Activities Committee events. There is no charge for homeowner-only events, but a reservation is required. If a homeowner wants to use a Clubhouse room for a private event which restricts access to other homeowners, there is a charge and a requirement for a one-day event, Certificate of Insurance. All events need a Clubhouse Reservation Request approved by the HOA. Once you complete the forms, you can bring them to the office or email them to frontdesk@ocaoffice.org.

Fireside Chats

On the third Wednesday evening of each month, a board member will be available to share ideas with the homeowners. This is a discussion session to answer your questions

about the board and get your suggestions. Look for the announcement in the Friday Update e-blast.

Key Access Ends June 30

Fob distribution continues throughout June. All existing key access will end on June 30. Each homeowner may receive the credit for the key deposit through June (2 keys maximum). After that, all deposits are forfeited. If you are traveling and unable to return the key by June 30, please make arrangements with the office prior to June 30.

Maintenance Projects

Unit 11 is being painted. Roofs are being repaired on Unit 8 & 9 garages and the Annex. AF General was awarded the four contracts. The board asked for an updated bid on the Annex roof to check the cost on some ventilation. OCA's new General Manager is working with the city to improve the gravel strip along the city owned streets, Vista Campana and Vista Bella.

Budgets / Financial Reporting

The board made timely financial reporting a priority. The reports are due to the Finance Committee and the board by the 12th business day of the month. Since moving to the REA accounting firm, the Finance Committee is receiving more accurate reports. The priorities of projects in the reserve budget projects may get a revamp midyear to adjust for the changes due to the emergency repairs necessitated by the rain.

Water

Controlling the use of water will help OCA's budget and the environment. Thanks to the Water Focus Group for their research and investigation. The General Manager is working with the Strategic Planning Committee to identify the locations of the smart water meters, track the notices of water loss and remediate the problem. In addition to the use of water, a project is underway to clarify the distinction between OCA's and a homeowner's responsibility when there is a water intrusion problem. It is challenging due to the individualized construction of the homes and the modifications over sixty years.

Pest Control

It is difficult to determine how to control weeds efficiently and safely in 140+ acres of common area. BrightView's "Protocol and Integrated Pest Management Plan" was approved at the April BoD meeting. BV's plan meets the legal requirements of agencies controlling the use of herbicides. The Friday Update e-blast

now includes the areas of spraying for the upcoming week.

Board Meeting Calendar

The regularly scheduled Board of Director's General Session for August 2023 will be cancelled.

Garden Club

In 1995, the Garden Club was created as a club under the Activities Committee. Over the years, the committee's oversight waned and the Garden Club was functioning independently. The Activities Committee has renewed the working relationship with the club. The officers are working together to find ways for providing more transparency of activities and finances.

Nominating Committee

The 2023 Nominating Committee's work was completed at the Annual Meeting on March 18. The members' recommendations were captured in the final report to the board. One request would be wider representation from different units. Be watching for the opportunity to serve early this fall.

Thank You

The board thanks the volunteers who make Oceana a great place to live. The office staff and board could not be as effective without the volunteers serving on committees, helping at events and doing research to assist with board decisions. A special thank you to Ellen Marciel who stepped in as the board's recording secretary during the management transition. The board approved five new volunteers in April. There are so many ways residents can share their time, talent and/or treasure. Attend a committee meeting to see how you can make a difference.

Karen Bishop
BoD

*Do You realize in about 40 years,
we'll have thousands of OLD LADIES
running around with TATTOOS?
and ---
RAP MUSIC will be
the GOLDEN OLDIES
(Now that's SCARY)*



Discovering the Social History of Oceana

NOTE: Resident David Marple is a retired college professor who has been working on a history of Oceana, using newspaper archives and public documents. He wants to inform the Oceana community of his project, and solicit any information residents might have regarding Oceana.

Following are some observations discovered while I was exploring retirement communities in San Diego County.

1. Beginning in 1963, the construction of Oceana is regarded as an important part of the history of Oceanside.
2. Other than a brief mention of Oceana by the City of Oceanside and the Oceanside Historical Society, archival material in the public domain is limited to newspaper articles. According to the San Diego History Center, social histories of retirement communities in greater San Diego are non-existent. Oceana was heavily advertised in the LA area, and to a lesser extent in San Diego.
3. Judith Trolander, social historian, has used archival material from historical holdings available at the active adult-restricted retirement communities of Sun City, Arizona (started 1960) and Leisure World (1961) in Orange County to provide a valuable portrait of the start and growth of this type of retirement lifestyle. The timeline of both these iconic developers coincided with the venture undertaken by Carl Cutsinger and Morrie Bitker, founders of the Oceanside Land Company that built Oceana.

My quest for information has been limited to the Oceanside Historical Society, Los Angeles Times, San Diego Union and San Diego Evening Tribune. Additional content was available from the Daily Blade-Tribune (Oceanside newspaper).

Other valuable archival material may come from the City of Oceanside (permits and minutes) and the County Assessor in Santee (maps and records of land transactions).

I am interested in anything and/or anyone that can help to flesh out the administrative and newspaper content I already possess, or have yet to discover, relating to the Oceana developments.

This is where you, as residents, come in. Some of you may have or know someone else who has tidbits of life in Oceana during the build-out (1963-1972).

If you know of or have any information on the history of our community, please contact me. I welcome any and all leads you may have.

Sincerely,
David Marple, Unit 12
(310) 386-1472 (mobile)
(760) 757-2592 (landline)
dpmfoots@gmail.com

Oceanside Police Department Senior Volunteers

The following is from OPD senior patrol. OPD needs more volunteers. Since COVID, the senior patrol has seen a drop of almost 50% on their all volunteer staffing. OPD senior patrol serves our community. Both by patrols and through YANA.

Oceanside Police Department's Senior Volunteers are seeking individuals interested in joining the organization's program. Volunteer's duties include vacation checks on the homes of Oceanside residents, contact and visits to seniors in the YANA (You are Not Alone) program, patrolling shopping centers, schools and neighborhoods. When needed, they will also assist in civic functions and traffic control.

Candidates must be U.S. citizens and Oceanside residents, age 50 or older with a valid California driver's license, auto and health insurance and the ability to pass a background check by the Police Department.

Candidates will participate in three introductory ride-alongs and three On-the-Job training ride-alongs before being accepted into the program. Once accepted, the minimum commitment is one six-and-a-half hour patrol each week and attendance at twice a year all-hands meeting.

Individuals interested in becoming members of the Oceanside Police Department's Senior Volunteer Patrol may contact Patrol's office at 760-435-4763. More information is available on the Police Department website:

www.oceansidepolice.com.

Kelly Byrne



April Activities Recap

Paint and Sip

We had the first "Paint and Sip" event **ever** at Oceana on April 5th. We hope it will not be the last one. Around 60 aspiring painters showed up to paint a seaside landscape. It was led by Ryan and some of his associates from "Pinot's Palette". We had aprons, wide and narrow paint brushes, a full palette of colors and a blank canvas to paint under Ryan's easy direction. To help us we had wine to sip and some cheese and crackers to eat as we made our creations. It's amazing that most all produced some very good paintings. Maybe we'll see some of them on our living room walls.



from Mission Vista High School play an outdoor poolside concert for us. Along with some



great food... we watched, listened and danced to about 30 young musicians playing some popular tunes on their steel drums. It was a great way to enjoy our first outside concert of the year!

Steel Drum Band Poolside Concert

Back by popular demand, on April 21st, we had the enthusiastic student Steel Drum Band



Cont'd →

← April Activities Recap Cont'd from prior page

April Coffee Hour

Thursday morning Coffee Hour has been one of Oceana's standard events each week for many years. The Activities Committee tries to keep the costs low and the entertainment options high week after week. If you have never been to one of our weekly events, please come. We gather between 8:30 and 9:30 am where you can pick up a beverage and food of choice (only \$2). At 9:30 announcements of upcoming events at Oceana are provided (plus some fun stories and a few jokes). At 9:45 the fantastic entertainment and fun begins. We had some excellent entertainers through the years, and we try to bring in some new groups as we find them. Please join us and your neighbors on Thursdays if you can. We think you will be glad you did! The following lists the events we had in April.

Week 1: Bingo:
Ellen Marciel again called our Bingo games. We played different combinations of Bingo in addition to regular Bingo. The final game was "blackout"



Bingo (all the squares of the cards have to be filled). Grand prize (awarded to 3 people who had "Blackout Bingo" at the same time) was a gift certificate to our own Share and Wear.

Week 2: Cancelled - No Power!

Glenn Kramer was unable to perform for us since the auditorium was closed due to no power. We will have him back at another date.



Week 3: "Can I Be Frank": We had a new duo present to us on week 3. It was North San Diego County's version of Frank Sinatra. They shared some of that old crooner's music with us. There was good singing and some other antics for our entertainment.



Week 4: Robert Parker: Robert Parker returned to our campus on the 4th Thursday. He always brings a smile, fedora hat and message when he comes to Oceana. He also brought his flute (an all silver instrument) to play in addition to his magical fingers on the piano. Robert has a way to make it seem like



he is joining us in the living room of our home where he talks and plays the piano. We are blessed to have him come to be a part of our community events.

Charlie Wendt
760-908-8897



June Activities

Please Note: Our events are so successful that we must start enforcing a hard policy of no sign-ups and no payments at the door. It's not fair to those residents who signed up and paid on time to have the caterer run short on food due to last minute signups and payments. Please take careful note of the signup time windows. If you haven't signed up and paid before the signup period has ended, you will not be able to attend the event. Don't miss out! Sign up on time!

Wednesday, June 7, 5-7 pm

Wine Tasting Sample 4 Reds & 4 whites
(Cheese & Crackers provided)
 All for only \$7. Sign up May 19 to June 2

When: June 7, 2023, 5-7 pm
Where: Clubhouse
Enjoy: Red & White Wines
Cheese & Crackers
Signup: May 19 - June 2
Fee: \$7

Saturday, June 17, 12-2 pm and beyond

Pride at the Pool
Join us to Celebrate Gay Pride Month!
Enjoy a Hilarious Young Comedian & a
Speaker from the North County
LGBTQ Resource Center

BYO beverage & Snack (nothing in glass, please)
Questions: Gail at 917-734-1086

When: June 17, 2023, 12-2⁺pm
Where: Poolside
Enjoy: Celebrate Gay Pride
Month, have fun!
BYO beverage & snack
Fee: Free

Wednesday, June 21, 7-8 pm

Summer Solstice Drum Circle
 Ring In (or "Bang In"?) the Year's
Longest day
Bring your own drum, or noisemaker, or just
yourself and ENJOY! - And, It's Free!

When: June 21, 2023, 7-8pm
Where: Poolside
Enjoy: All of the Racket!
Fee: Free

Saturday, June 24, 11am-1pm

Dog Days of Summer

Enter the competition to show off your favorite pooch
and meet with pet professionals onsite!
See specifics on page 10.
RSVP: lisabagot@gmail.com or 619-379-4085

When: June 24, 2023, 11^{am}-1^{pm}
Where: OCA Dog Park
Enjoy: Fun with your pets.
Fee: Free—registration & re-
lease waiver required
RSVP: lisabagot@gmail.com
619-379-4085

Thursday, June 29, 2-3:30pm Afternoon Treat

 **The Bell Pepperz**
Finger Foods Catered
by Edie Chiu + Soda & Water
All for only \$5. Sign up June 9 to June 23

When: June 29, 2023, 2-3:30^{pm}
Where: Clubhouse
Enjoy: Great Music & Snacks
Signup: June 9 - June 23
Fee: \$5

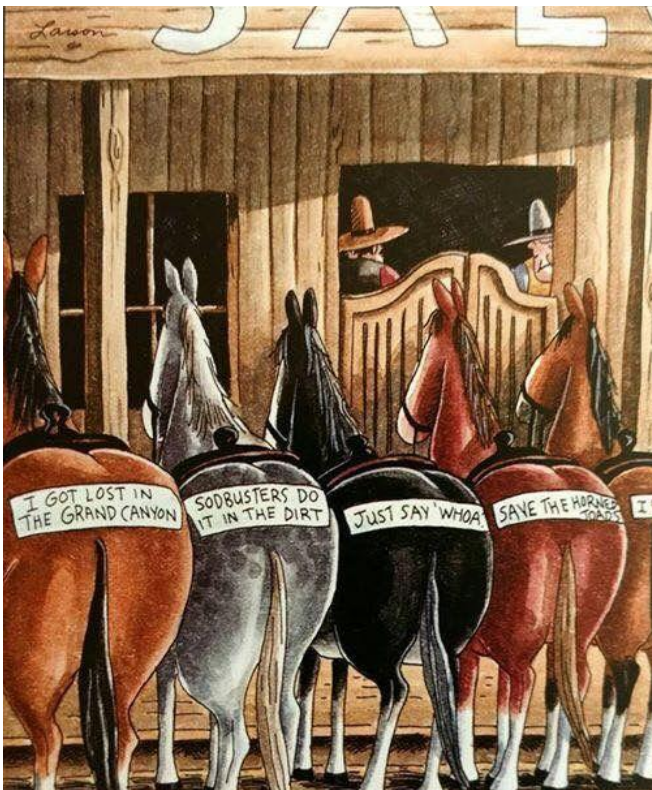


COFFEE HOUR

Get caffeinated. Get energized.
From 9 to 10:30 am, Thursdays

- June 1 : Bingo
- June 8 : John Lowery
- Singer, songwriter, guitarist
- June 15 : The UTurns
(Formerly 'Radiance')
- Musical heat from the 60's & 70's
- June 22 : Celeste
- Blues & Jazz Vocalist
- June 29 : No Coffee Hour
- Special Afternoon Treat

Questions? Call the office at 760-757-3937



Common Rumper Stickers of the Old West

An



Special Event

The DOG DAYS of summer

June 24th from 11am 'til 1pm
At the OCA Dog Park

Show off your favorite pooch and meet with pet professionals onsite!

Compete & Win Prizes for:

- Biggest
- Best Trick
- Oldest (dog)
- Cutest (dog)
- Best Costume
- Smallest



If you are bringing your dog, come a few minutes early to sign a registration form & re-lease waiver.

If you are coming to watch, just show up.

Everyone:
please bring your own
snack, beverage & chair.

RSVP:

lisabagot@gmail.com
or call
619-379-4085



OCA Committee Membership

Activities Committee

Meets: 1st Tues. ea. Month,
10 am, Card Room
Chair
Ellen Marciel
Charlie Wendt Secretary/Treasurer
Linda Garcia Share & Wear Mgr.
Anne Rene Elsbree
Kim Emmett
Pat Hawkins
Don Jones
Carolyn Kruse
Chuck Kruse
Karin Messaros
Sue Moore
Gail Olenick
Lisa Olivero
Isabelle Strubhar
Ginger Thayer
Donna Wendt
Roxanne Rimmel Board Liaison

Architectural Committee

Meets: 2nd Tues. ea. Month,
9:30am, Card Room
(Agenda deadline: 1st day of month)
Chair
(Open) U 10,11
Lisa Bagot U 3,7, A
Fritz Beechler U 1,1A,4
Mike Castoro U 12
Bruce Cowgill U 5
Jay Crawford U 8
Chuck Daily U 2,6
Paula McDonald U 9
Gail Olenick
Peter Cornog Board Exec. Cte.
Lynn Leszczynski Board Exec. Cte.
Peggy Moore Board Exec. Cte.

Community Resource Center Committee

Meets: 3rd Wed. ea. Month
10am, Community Room
Chair
Teresa Chamberlain-Spradlin
MaryAnn Alger
Dorette Amir
Mary Hall
Connie Iniguez
Kris McLaughlin
Suh Mei Phinney
Evelyn Thomas
Donna Wendt
Roxanne Rimmel Board Liaison

Finance Committee

Meets: 3rd Mon. ea. Month
9:30am, Card Room
Chair
Charlie Wendt
Nancy Follin
Nancy Horridge
Lynn Leszczynski
John McDonald
OCA General Manager
Lynn Leszczynski Board Liaison

Landscape Committee

Meets: 2nd Fri. ea. Month,
10am, Community Room
Interim Chair
Mike McLaughlin
Phyllis Allinson
Debra Demary
Sue Mansis
Bill Matthews
Gail Olenick
Steve Omlor
Karen Bishop Board Exec. Cte.
Peggie Moore Board Exec. Cte.
Roxanne Rimmel Board Exec. Cte.

Strategic Planning Committee

Meets: As needed
Chair
Lisa Bagot
lisabagot@gmail.com or 619-379-4085
Wayne Landry
Peter Cornog Board Liaison

"The Hub" Committee

Meets: 1st Wed. ea. Month
2pm, Card Room
Chair
Lynn Leszczynski Secretary/Digital Coordinator
Virginia Mann Print Coordinator
Pam Spangler Website Coordinator
Evelyn Thomas
Ellen Marciel
Sandy Riser Board Liaison

OCAMedia Sub-Committee

Geoff Allison
Lee Mansis
Sara Rodriguez

HUB Contacts: Oceanahub@gmail.com
760-290-4252

Website Committee

Meets: 1st Wed. every Month,
10am, Community Room
Chair
Evelyn Thomas
Concepción (Connie) Iniguez
Lisa Olivero
Christopher (Chris) Scantlin
Evelyn Thomas Board Liaison


Committee Membership
Continued on Things To Do Page following the Calendar

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

Attention all Committee Chairs:
Please inform the OCA office of any changes to your committee, either times, days, or new contacts. We need to keep all published committee info current so the Oceana residents can attend your meetings and not be misinformed. Let's keep everyone up to date and active.

Hilltop Highlights
Events Scheduled Every Week - By Weekday




June 2023

Every Sunday	Every Monday	Every Tuesday	Every Wednesday
Pickleball-Outdoor -Adv'd: 9:30-11:30am Pickleball-Indoor -Adv'd: 9:30-11:30am -Private: 2:30-4pm 4-6pm 	Water Aerobics 8am Keep Fit Class: 8:30am Pickleball-Outdoor -Adv'd: 9:30-11:30am Yoga (Chair) 10am Ceramics 12:30-3:30pm Chair Volleyball: 1-2pm Lapidary: 1-3pm Woodshop: 1-3pm Pinochle: 1-4pm Pickleball-Indoor -Open: 2-4pm -Private: 4:15-6pm Trivia: 6:30-9pm	Pickleball-Indoor -Adv'd 9:30-11:30am Pickleball-Outdoor -Adv'd: 9:30-11:30am Share & Wear: 10-2pm Ceramics: 12:30-3:30pm Dominos: 12:30-4pm Lapidary: 1-3pm Woodshop: 1-3pm Pickleball-Indoor -Open: 2-4pm Billiards Warm-Up 6-8pm Poker: 6-8pm	Water Aerobics 8am Keep Fit: 8:30am Pickleball-Outdoor -Adv'd: 9:30-11:30am Putting Practice: 10am (Golf Course) Share & Wear: 10-2pm French Club: 11am-Noon Art Room: 1-3pm Lapidary: 1-3pm Woodshop: 1-3pm Friends of Bill W: 5:00pm Wood Carving 6-7:30pm


Other Scheduled Events




Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
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4	5	6 10am Activities Cte. Card Room	7 10am Website Cte. - Community Room 2pm The Hub Cte. Card Room 5-7 pm Wine Tasting - Clubhouse
11	12 1-4pm Mahjong - Community Rm.	13 9:30am Architecture Cte. - Card Room 10am Book Club - Library	14 
18 	19 9:30am Finance Cte. - Card Room	20	21 10am CRC - Community Room 6-7pm Fireside Chat - Library 7-8pm Summer Solstice Drum Circle - Poolside 
25	26 1-4pm Mahjong - Community Rm.	27	28 9:30am Open Board Mtg. - Auditorium 1pm BOD Exec. Session

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Every Thursday	Every Friday	Every Saturday
<p>Coffee Hour: 9am Pickleball-Outdoor -Adv'd 9:30-11:30am Share & Wear: 10-2pm Discussion Group: 10:30am Writing Group: 11:30am Ceramics: 12:30-3:30pm Chair Volleyball: 1-2pm Lapidary: 1-3pm Woodshop: 1-3pm Pickleball-Indoor -Private: 3-5:30pm Billiards (Private): 5-7pm Sing-Along: 6pm</p>	<p>Water Aerobics 8am Pickleball-Outdoor -Adv'd: 9:30-11:30am Tai Chi: 10am-Noon Share & Wear: 10-2pm Hand & Foot: 12pm Ceramics: 12:30-3:30pm Woodshop: 1-3pm Pickleball-Indoor -Open: 2-4pm</p>	<p>Pickleball-Outdoor -Adv'd: 9:30-11:30am Pickleball-Indoor -Adv'd 9:30-11:30am -Open 2-4pm</p> 

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 9am Coffee Hour - Bingo Clubhouse</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 10am-2pm SSS</p> 
<p>8 9am Coffee Hour - John Lowery Clubhouse</p>	<p>9 10am Landscape Cte. Community Room</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>15 9am Coffee Hour - The UTurns Clubhouse</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 12-2pm Pride at the Pool - Poolside</p> 
<p>22 9am Coffee Hour - Celeste Clubhouse</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 11am-1pm Dog Days of Summer - OCA Dog Park</p> 
<p>29 No Coffee Hour Today - Special Afternoon Treat 2-3:30pm Afternoon Treat The Bell Pepperz Clubhouse</p>	<p>30</p>	

Things To Do at OCA

Note: All Activities/Clubs are subject to change. Please check with the listed contact person first.

- Art Studio** - Wed., 1-3pm.
Info: Mary Hall, 714-595-4138.
- Billiards** -Thurs. 10am-Noon. Warm-Up Tues. 6-8pm. Friendly group for socializing and skills development. **Private Group Play:** Thurs. 5-7pm. Billiards Room.
Info: Lonnie Burrows, 760-433-9481.
- Book Club** - Second Tues. each Month 10am. In the Library. Info: Jeri Gustafsson 760-754-2911.
- Ceramics Studio** - open every Mon., Tues., Thurs. and Fri. 12:30-3:30pm.
Info: DeeDee Young, 858-525-3035 or deedeeyng@yahoo.com
- Chair Volleyball** - Mon. and Thurs. 1pm. Clubhouse.
Info: Dave Freeman, 818-262-0788
- Discussion Group** - Thurs. at 10:30am (following Coffee Hour) in the Library.
Info: Danae Dancyzk, 760-529-9226.
- Dominos Group** - Tues., 12:30pm in the Card Room.
Info: Dona White, 760-533-2484.
- Drama Club** - Tues., 3:30pm in the Card Room. Info: Tony Schwab 201-739-7521.
- French Club** - Wed., 11am-Noon in the Library.
Info: Diedre Burke, (213) 924-6653 .
- Friends of Bill W.** - On ZOOM Wed. 5pm. Info: Lin Riley, 760-730-3371, or Linriley@cox.net
- Garden Club** - Meetings on occasion. Reserve space in our garden.
Info: Casey Fitzfreck 818-426-4572
- Hand & Foot** - Fridays at 12pm Card Room.
Info: Joan Jeffery, 760-637-2384
- Keep Fit Exercise Class** - MWF 8:30-9am. Auditorium. Info: Don Jones, 760-703-4583.
- Lapidary** - Mon. thru Thurs. 1-3 pm.
Info: John Pitarresi, 760-917-6631.
- Mahjong** -2nd & 4th Mon. 1-4pm. Clubhouse Community Room. Info: Diana Siegel, 760-405-3306
- Pickleball** - Play levels: Open, Advanced Open and Invitation Only. Clubhouse and Outdoors. See OCA website pickleball activity page for specifics. Info: Denny Hanrahan, 760-525-0643 or Steve Reigle, stevereigle@gmail.com.
- Pinochle** - Mon. at 1 pm. Card Room. Double or triple deck; 3,4,5 and 6-seat tables. We play for fun.
Info: Rhonda Christopher, 760-231-1808.
- Poker** - Tuesdays 6-8pm. Card Room.
Info: Glenn Groth, 760-754-9646.

- Share & Wear:** Tuesdays through Fridays, 10am - 2pm, and first Saturday of the month for "Super Saturday Sale", 10am - 2pm.
Info: Linda Garcia, (760) 470-3562 or Teri Battaglia, (714) 458-6842
- Sing-Along** - Thurs. 6pm in the Auditorium. Feel free to bring a snack & a drink.
Info: Glen Hemingway, 760-518-5716.
- Tai Chi** -Fri. 10am-Noon. Auditorium.
Info: Janice Burrows , 760-277-5139.
- Trivia** -Mon. 6:30-9pm. Card room.
Info: Colleen Eidson , 760-529-9999
- Water Aerobics** - Mon-Wed-Fri 8am Pool adjacent to restrooms.
Info: Sue Moore, 951-990-3536 or smoore121263@gmail.com
- Woodshop** -Mon-Fri 1-3pm.
Info: Jim Romans, 949-742-2311.
- Writing Group** -Thursdays 11:30am-12:30pm. Library. Info: alan dolit remembertolaugh@yahoo.com
- Yoga (Chair)** - Mon. 10am. Auditorium.
Info: Peggie Moore, 949-887-4641

Committee Membership
Continued from Committee Membership page

Unit Advisors Committee

- Meets: 2nd Wed. ea. Odd-numbered Month, 9 am, Clubhouse Auditorium
- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| Jeff Kern | Chair |
| Diane Pettibone | Secretary |
| Unit | |
| 1 - Ron Landsel | 760-231-7586 |
| 1A - Linda Langworthy | 562-301-1346 |
| 2 - (Open) | |
| 3 - (Open) | |
| 4 - Sally Lopez | 760-421-4187 |
| 5 - Evelyn Thomas | 760-681-4716 |
| 6 - Steve Lawler | 760-419-7011 |
| 7 - Renee Maricque, | 920-562-3436 |
| 8 - Kathleen & Dan Pursell | 760-439-9282 |
| 9 - Jeff Kern | 908-420-1853 |
| 10 - Judy Hartmann | 909-518-8767 |
| 11 (1-45) - MaryAnn Alger | 503-348-9959 |
| 11 (46-77) - Diane Pettibone | 760-803-1637 |
| 12 (1-53) - Jaci Ackles | 760-845-4612 |
| 12 (54-98)- Elaine McClendon | 626-940-4487 |
| 14 - Toby Roberts | 760-721-6077 |
| & Kristine Hale | 858-775-4253 |
| Evelyn Thomas | Board Liaison |

Updates From The Isle



This June 20th we will be hosting an Emerald Isle Golf Course classic, The Industry Tournament.

This tournament hosted by our course and local company PierClub Presents has been a long time favorite for 5 years now. This tournament celebrates local companies from Oceanside that you all know and love, or maybe haven't had the chance to discover or experience yet!

Teams from your favorite local restaurants, construction, creative marketing firms, real estate and so much more join us at The Isle for a full day of 18 holes. With the golf course in the best shape it has possibly ever been in, hosting our local companies has never been more fun.

The sun is out, the flowers have bloomed, and we are enjoying every second of it all.

Come join us for twilight round of golf, or enjoy our Oceana Only Rate that is offered exclusively to the residents of Oceana daily.

PGA JR. LEAGUE



Our Pga Junior League Team is leading the season with a winning record! Coach Natalie has been training many of these kiddos for over 3 years and getting to watch all of their hard work pay off against other local teams is always fun for The Isle. Stay tuned to see if they win the whole league again this year and move on to post season play offs and more!

WANT TO IMPROVE YOUR GAME?

SIMPLY SCAN THIS CODE WITH YOUR PHONE CAMERA



UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE ISLE



Notices & Reminders



A Ceramics Update

Hi to all of our Oceana neighbors! I am Lynn Schneidenbach and since mid-April, I have been temporarily supervising the Ceramics program here at Oceana. If you have an interest in playing in clay, please come see us 12:30-3:30 PM on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. We'll be happy to get you started! We pour slip, hand-build items and help with wheel throwing skills in our studio. We have all the tools and supplies you'll need to start your project.

We are also looking for our friends who started projects this past year and may have had to temporarily step back from coming to Ceramics. We'd love to help you finish and claim your treasures! Please call with your intentions or just stop by. We'll get you creating again.

While we have no expert instructors on board, we have many talented members willing to start you working with clay! Come play in the clay with us!!

If you have any questions or comments, please call or text me, Lynn Schneidenbach, at 619-889-4612 and leave a message.

Regards,
Lynn Schneidenbach
619-889-4612

Pool & Spa Hours Reminder

Residents

Summer Hours - 7:00 am to 9:00 pm
Winter Hours - 7:00 am to 7:00 pm

Daily Guest Swim Times

11:00 am to 1:00 pm
3:30 pm to 4:30 pm

All guests must be accompanied by a resident at all times.

NO EXCEPTIONS.

The Friendship Garden

An Aladdin Project



The Friendship Garden is transitioning from its winter rest to a spring and summer delight! To our amazement, most of the wildflower seeds sprouted and put on quite a show. They are winding down now and hopefully will reseed themselves for next year. We are grateful for all the rain, it made all the difference, to the gardens, OCA landscape and the entire state.

Thank you to everyone who attended our Spring Fling in April. It was windy and cold, and not much was blooming but a good time was had by all. We raised enough money for an umbrella or two, micro sprayers and of course a few more plants! Thank you to all who donated money, art, and a small table and chairs. We truly appreciate all the positive comments we hear when folks walk by.

By June the mulch will be down and we will be on a bi-weekly watering schedule, along with "refreshing sprinkles" on hot days. By next year most plants will require only monthly watering and a few won't want any water at all! Native plants use 90% less water than



turf and 30% less than "low water plants". Hopefully we'll be able to recommend some worthy shrubs and perennials for the OCA landscape.

Come on by and sit in your garden. Enjoy the smells and sights, perhaps the Monarchs will be here and a few other butterflies. Upcoming native plants to watch for at the Friendship Garden are Matilda Poppy, Penestemon, and several types of Sage. See you there!

Kathleen Dowling
Friendship Garden Coordinator

OCA Neighborhood Patrol Update

Oceana Neighborhood Patrol is on the move. We now have six trained drivers, and patrols can be seen on a regular basis. Three to four more drivers would give us the optimal coverage we are looking to establish.

If you are interested, there's a simple application plus an hour ride along. Then you are ready to begin. What could be better on a summer night than cruising the neighborhoods in a black and white with flashing yellow lights in the rear window? Our mere presence helps keep the bad guys away.

Now that we have the car purchased and re-conditioned, we need your help with continuing maintenance and gas to keep it going. If you appreciate this service, volunteer to drive and/or make a tax-free, charitable donation to the Oceana Good Neighbor Fund.

If you would like to drive, contact Gordon Bishop at OceanaPatrol@gmail.com.

Tax deductible contributions can be made to the Oceana Good Neighbor Fund, a 501 (c)(3). Mail to:

Oceana Good Neighbor Fund
3784 Mission Ave
Ste 148-1115
Oceanside CA 92058.

Thanks in advance for your support. See you all on the road.

Gordon Bishop
President OGNF

COVID-19 Info Sites

Federal:

The Centers for Disease Control
www.cdc.gov

State:

CA Department of Public Health
www.cdph.ca.gov

CA Department of Aging
www.aging.ca.gov/covid19

Assembly District 76
COVID-19 Resource Navigator
a76.asmdc.org/coronavirus-covid-19-resource-navigator-0

San Diego County:

www.sandiegocounty.gov/coronavirus

City of Oceanside:

www.ci.oceanside.ca.us/gov/fire/home/coronavirus.asp

From the General Manager

These past couple of months have flown by as I have met so many nice residents in our beautiful community. The new Fob program continues through the end of June so if you have not returned your Clubhouse keys and picked up your Fob, please do so before June 30th. We will be able to assist you during normal business hours in the office. Also, the Dog Park has a new combination lock for the time being so if you need the code, please visit the website or contact the office at (760) 757-3937 and we will be able to provide this to you. I hope you all have a wonderful summer and I look forward to meeting you at an upcoming Community Event.

Don Farrar

The Importance of Being Timely

Our event signups are starting to stray too far from the rules.

We hope you have been enjoying the many events at our community, put together by our wonderful Activities Committee! Our events are so successful that we must start enforcing a hard policy of no sign-ups and no payments at the door. It's not fair to those residents who signed up and paid on time to have the caterer run short on food due to last minute signups and payments. Please take careful note of the signup time windows. If you haven't signed up and paid before the signup period has ended, you will not be able to attend the event. Don't miss out! Sign up on time!

Ellen Marciel

City Street Sweeping for OCA

No parking on city streets, both sides,
9am-1pm,
1st & 3rd Fridays

Share & Wear Schedule

A reminder for all:

Share & Wear is open for business:

10am to 2pm Tues. thru Fri. Weekly &

10am to 2pm First Saturday each Month

(The Super Saver Sale—50% off)

Committee Reports

Garden Club

Weed Pulling Party

On Saturday 15 April 2023 our garden plot volunteers turned out for the 2nd weed pulling event of this year, a little late due to the massive amounts of rain we had. After the much needed rain, it left many weeds in and around our gardens. There were 22 garden members in attendance, we were all greeted again by the very kind donations that Diane and Liz provided for us all, thank you to both of you! In addition, thank you to the volunteers who turned up after this event to pull their share of the weeds! Thank you also to Lynn Leszczyński, Board Member, for her visit



Our Weed Free Herb Garden



Nursery Time



Orchard Work

and interest in our gardens and club.

A Message from the Club President

Hello Gardeners, I want to remind gardeners of a few things and to introduce them all to our Fundraiser later this summer. Here are a few recent happenings in our garden.

I placed a white waterproof mailbox on the fence near the front gate. It contains the Oceana Home Owners Association (HOA) Risk and Release Waivers required of anyone participating in any activity at Oceana—the garden included. Please make sure you fill one out for any person that you have do any long-term watering or other maintenance at your plot. Return to the OGC President.

Agri-Service again donated 7 yards of Humic compost and 7 yards of Orchard mulch to us. Feel free to use these in your gardens.

All the orchard and nursery areas have Oceana Garden Club (OGC) volunteers assigned to do the necessary watering. Please do not water any trees/shrubs/plants unless you have been told to.

Our trash can procedures are violated every day I go down there. Trash and green waste are frequently wrongly mixed, and cans are constantly overloaded. Volunteers must separate contents and spread heavy waste to other cans. It is not fun. Please avoid mixing trash, and green waste together, please do not overload the cans.



Deliveries: L: orchard mulch; C: compost; R: topsoil

Now for some good news! The Oceana Activities committee and the OGC are proud to announce the first ever "Party Under the Stars," a fundraiser to continue the beautification in the OGC and the Oceana Nursery. The tentative date is Thursday August 24 at 5:30pm. All gardeners are encouraged to help. Opportunities include: Planning, Landscape preparation, Donation items, Event night volunteer duties.

We formed a small committee of several OGC members, Activities Cte. volunteers and a Board member to generate ideas to help the OGC to purchase new trash cans, to put up potting tables for the nursery and to make improvements around the garden, orchards,

and nursery. We will be soliciting donations from many people and committees. Ideas include but are not limited to: Artisanal bread using herbs from our own Herb Garden; OGC shirts; Crafts; Flower bouquets; Farmer's market produce from our gardens/orchards; Pottery, ceramics, art, baskets; Emerald Isle golf course donations

We will have food and wine at the event, entertainment, garden tours, many items for Silent Auctions and Raffles, donated arts, and crafts, etc. Please reach out to me, Anthony or Diane with any ideas or suggestions you may have. We have a lot to do over the next few months to prepare our space for the event. Please let us know if you can volunteer.

Casey Fitzpatrick

Image of the Day



Hooded Oriole

The material included in the Garden Club report is extracted from the club's monthly newsletter. The newsletter is distributed via blind-copy email to all club members. If you would like to receive a copy of the newsletter, please send a request to be included to:

anthony.kay.ogc@gmail.com

**Anthony Kay
Secretary, OGC**

**My friend told me she wouldn't
eat beef tongue because it
came out of a cow's mouth.**

So, I gave her an egg.

Community Resource Center

The CRC is investigating coordinating a few mobile units which would come to the OCA. There are a variety of opportunities from medical vaccinations to pet services. Your input will help us prioritize and schedule the mobile services desired. It will take time to coordinate with the organizations. We hope to have the first one towards the end of Summer.

We are reaching out for ideas for these services. We also would like any suggestions for expanding our current offerings. Please email your suggestions to:

OCACRC@gmail.com

The CRC serves all residents. All are welcome to come to the CRC during our shift times. And we are looking for volunteers to grow the program. The Greeter is the easiest volunteer position.

Veterans Corner

The Veterans Writing Group of San Diego County is a safe and empowering place for veterans to write their stories. The support helps veterans process their experience and eloquently share the depth of their sacrifice, service, and contribution to our country. The benefits of writing are:

- Helps release tension and settles the mind.
- Boost your mood.
- Release negative thoughts about a challenging situation, connect with its positive qualities.
- Note patterns in your thoughts, feelings, or behaviors.
- Increase self-confidence and identify solutions.

Are you a veteran? Do you know a veteran?

The Veterans' Writing Group of San Diego County will host its monthly meeting on 5/20/23 at the Veterans Association of North County (VANC) 1617 Mission Avenue, Oceanside, CA 92058. All Veterans, dependents and active-duty military members are welcome to this free event. Coffee and snacks will be served. The meeting is live 11am-2pm and on Zoom. Contact Garry Garretson at

vwgsdcounty@gmail.com

to request zoom info.

A separate Women's group meets 10am-11am. Contact Shara French at

frenchshara@gmail.com

for questions and zoom information.

Best Regards,

**Teresa Chamberlain-Spradlin
Chair CRC**

Did You Know?



Roses come in more than 150 species across the Northern Hemisphere and even more around the globe. Because their beauty and fragrance speak to lovers, the rose has long been the symbol of poets and artists.

Both wild and domesticated roses grow in the United States. Five states even make the rose their state flower. While New York's official rose is one of any color or combination, North Dakota and Iowa named the Prairie Rose as their state flower. Georgia's state flower is the Cherokee Rose. The Oklahoma Rose is the state flower of its namesake.

First Lady Ellen Wilson started the White House Rose Garden in 1913. Before becoming a garden, part of the property where the Rose Garden grows was allocated to the White House stables, horses and coaches. There are more than just roses in the White House Rose Garden.

No other flower has a wider range of size, color, shape and flower form than the rose. It is attractive and easily adapted to any garden setting. Roses are among the most versatile of plants. They come in every shape, size and color imaginable with architectural dimensions, both in bloom and plant size, that make it possible to please everyone! They bloom constantly from early spring to late fall, providing a rich tapestry of color in the garden.

The Peace Rose

One of the most famous roses is the Peace Rose. French rose breeder Francis Meilland discovered the rose seedling in 1935 simply labeled 3-35-40. and over the next four years Francis and his father, Papa Meilland, watched its development with interest.



Peace Rose Bloom

But, Hitler invaded France and, with the nursery under threat of destruction, three parcels of budwood were hastily sent out of France, one smuggled out in the diplomatic bag to America.

In America the Meilland agent planted the rose in his own trial beds and gave it to other rose growers for testing in all the climatic zones throughout the US. The rose did so well that it was decided to release it in the United States. Thousands of plants were propagated. Although the war was still raging in Europe, the launch date was set for April 29, 1945, in Pasadena, CA.

On the same day that two doves were released into the American sky to symbolize the naming of the rose, Berlin fell and a truce was declared. It was sheer coincidence. In naming the rose, this simple statement was read: "We are persuaded that this greatest new rose of our time should be named for the world's greatest desire: 'PEACE'."

'Peace' went on to receive the All American Award for roses on the day the war in Japan came to an end. On May 8, 1945, when Germany signed its surrender, the 49 delegates who met to form the United Nations were each presented with a bloom of 'Peace' and a message of peace from the Secretary of the American Rose Society.

The timing of its launch was perfect and it struck such a chord that within nine years some 30 million 'Peace' rose bushes were flowering around the world.

History of National Rose Month

National Rose Month was first observed in 1959 when efforts were made to pass a bill to designate the rose as the national flower. Arlene Hennessey of Bayonne, New Jersey was crowned Rose Queen in honor of the month that year. However, the rose wasn't made the national flower until 1986 when President Ronald Reagan made it official.

Celebrate National Rose Month

1. Plant a rose bush!
2. Take roses to nursing homes, hospitals, banks and your local library. You'll brighten someone's day! Encourage your local library to have a rose book display.
3. Give roses to show your love or friendship. Roses are a favorite gift to receive.
4. Give a gift of a rosebush for a longer-lasting gift. There are so many different kinds of roses to choose from with an endless variety of colors, including stripes.
5. Visit a botanical garden or a rose garden. You might find inspiration to start your own rose garden or plant a community garden!
6. Take photos of your roses and share with friends in cards, notes and letters.

A Look at a Great American

Author, Poet, Essayist, Playwright, Civil Rights Activist, Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award nominee, Recipient of 3 Grammys, the Spingarn Medal, the Medal of Arts and the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Awarded more than fifty honorary degrees. Depicted on the reverse of the 2022 US Quarter.



Maya Angelou

On Aging

When you see me sitting quietly,
Like a sack left on the shelf,
Don't think I need your chattering.
I'm listening to myself.
Hold! Stop! Don't pity me!
Hold! Stop your sympathy!
Understanding if you got it,
Otherwise I'll do without it!

When my bones are stiff and aching
And my feet won't climb the stair,
I will only ask one favor:
Don't bring me no rocking chair.

When you see me walking, stumbling,
Don't study and get it wrong.
'Cause tired don't mean lazy
And every goodbye ain't gone.
I'm the same person I was back then,
A little less hair, a little less chin,
A lot less lungs and much less wind.
But ain't I lucky I can still breathe in.

Memorable Quotes

- If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude.
- I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.
- We are only as blind as we want to be.
- Courage is the most important of all virtues, because without courage, you cannot practice any of the other virtues consistently.

When Great Trees Fall

When great trees fall,
rocks on distant hills shudder,
lions hunker down
in tall grasses,
and even elephants
lumber after safety.

When great trees fall
in forests,
small things recoil into silence,
their senses
eroded beyond fear.

When great souls die,
the air around us becomes
light, rare, sterile.
We breathe, briefly.
Our eyes, briefly,
see with
a hurtful clarity.
Our memory, suddenly sharpened,
examines,
gnaws on kind words
unsaid,
promised walks
never taken.

Great souls die and
our reality, bound to
them, takes leave of us.
Our souls,
dependent upon their
nurture,
now shrink, wizened.
Our minds, formed
and informed by their
radiance,
fall away.

We are not so much maddened
as reduced to the unutterable ignorance
of dark, cold
caves.

And when great souls die,
after a period peace blooms,
slowly and always
irregularly. Spaces fill
with a kind of
soothing electric vibration.
Our senses, restored, never
to be the same, whisper to us.
They existed. They existed.
We can be. Be and be
better. For they existed.