

HILLTOP HIGHLIGHTS



Happy Holidays

Inside:



The OCA Garden Club Fair and Market



Board Election Info—See Notices & Reminders

The Four Ages of Man

(At least from a Christmas perspective)

First Age: You believe in Santa Claus



Second Age: You don't believe in Santa Claus



Third Age: You are Santa Claus



Fourth Age: You look like Santa Claus (maybe)



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

Statement Questions:

lindsie.fierro@fsresidential.com

Maintenance:

maintenance@ocaoffice.org

Homeowner Concerns:

office@ocaoffice.org

Non Emergency Police

(to report suspicious activity):

760-435-4900

Emergency Police:

911



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Facilities Manager Fernando Montano
fernando.montano@fsresidential.com

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Nina.ybarra@fsresidential.com

Front Desk Associate Lindsie Fierro
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Maintenance Admin. Asst. Simone Mitchell
simone.mitchell@fsresidential.com

Admin./Cte. Asst. Tracy Richardson
tracy.richardson@fsresidential.com

Contact for all: 760-757-3937

Office Hours:

Mon.-Thurs., 9 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 publication month. Use the HUB submission form on the website. If you have attachments, then you may send your information along with the attachments to: oceanahub@gmail.com. Late submissions will be included as space permits.
- 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 (checked Mon-Fri).
- 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 to Connect. 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 back-ups and exterior water leaks) within 24 hours. After normal business hours and on weekends emergencies should be reported to our customer care center at 800-428-5588 .
- 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 Kelly Byrne
kbyrne@ocaoffice.org

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 normally 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 who cannot attend may email comments by noon the day before the meeting to:
sriser@ocaoffice.org
Zoom chat is not available.



A Message From the Board Of Directors

By the time you read this, you will be deep into the holiday season - no matter what holiday you celebrate. It used to be my favorite time of the year, then 19 years ago I started producing a 1000-person, two-day New Year's Eve event in Arizona with my business partner, famed trumpeter Rick Braun (for you smooth jazz fans, you know who Rick is for sure!). Last year I decided I needed more space in my life, so it was my last New Years after an incredible and highly successful run. It feels so weird to be able to take a moment and enjoy my favorite holiday again.

A Different Holiday Season: Of course, the medical gods decided this would be a good year for me to have surgery on my right foot the day before Thanksgiving! If you were around for the 2022 election, you will remember me in a wheelchair just three days out of surgery to remove a bone spur on my left back foot that was impaling my Achilles tendon. My first months as a board member were in various states of recovery. As fate would have it, I have a heel deformity that is prone to these spurs and now I have one that hurts a whole lot on my right foot. I have an excellent surgeon (after two failed surgeries on the left foot I found the new guy!) and I am in good hands. But no weight bearing for a month, then the boot for a month with no driving for those two months since it is my right foot. Instead of my usual walking to meetings and the office, I will be chauffeured by my husband, a board member, or a neighbor and eventually a powered scooter on my own - watch out! But I will be in that boot and in the scooter the week before Christmas, attending a jazz Christmas show in downtown San Diego, and enjoying a real holiday - so yay!

This Past Year: The end of the year is always a time for reflection. I am eternally thankful for Peter, Karen, Lynn, Evelyn, Roxanne, and Kelly who brighten my days by

being an incredibly thoughtful and smart board of directors. They always think of what is best for our community, even when it is really hard. This past year has called for lots of hard decisions, but I believe the decisions we made point us in the right direction. I am thankful for the FirstService Residential management staff who support all that we do at OCA, especially Dan Farrar who serves as our GM and with whom I have daily interactions. I so appreciate his undaunting spirit and dedication.

Looking Forward: At our October board meeting we voted that we had completed the Board Strategic Plan as designed and we would spend the rest of this board year firming up all we had started. We are working a lot from Ad Hoc committees formed to bring the right people together to accomplish a goal. You will read more on those in the News You Can Use following this column.

The big change will now be the election of a new board - FOUR positions are open in the March 18, 2024 election and December 21 at 4 PM is the deadline for submitting your Intent to Run packet to be part of the solution. If you want to really impact our community, this is the single biggest impact you can have. You will learn so much about all the parts of OCA, the people, and be able to continue to steer the ship. We have worked hard to hand you policies that support the pivotal functions of our community. Come make a difference! I am happy to meet with any of you to just talk about what it is like being on the board if you are interested - I will be sitting a LOT the first part of December and I welcome the opportunity to do so. I can be reached at sriser@ocaoffice.org.

Happy Holidays: Thanks for reading this far. I celebrate Christmas and my husband celebrates Hannukah - so from our blended home to yours, happy holidays!

Sandy Riser
President, OCA Board of Directors

News You Can Use

Annual Report

By now or any day now you should have received the annual report by mail to all homeowners. This report is full of very important information and you should make sure to thoroughly review it as soon as it is received. The new rental form (see below) must be turned back into the office by year end and one must be on file for every home in OCA.

Minutes from Board Meetings

The board voted, in compliance with the law, that the draft minutes of board meetings are available to Members within 30 days with a request to the office. The final minutes will be posted on the FirstService Connect platform and can also be requested from the office. A Director will continue to prepare the News You Can Use part of the Highlights to include a summary of our board actions. Draft minutes will no longer be included in the Highlights. Members have to obtain, if desired.

Temperature Control

As requested in homeowners' comments in September, the thermostats in meeting rooms will now be available for homeowners to adjust during open hours in the complex. The thermostats will go back to the controlled cycle during the closed hours. **Please** remember to set the temperature back to where you found it when you leave a room, turn off ceiling fans/lights, and close all windows. We will be monitoring this to make sure we are not increasing our SDG&E costs and hopeful that homeowners will use the new process wisely.

2022 Year End Review

The board accepted the 2022 Year End Review as accurate, and you will receive a copy in the Annual Report packet mailed to every homeowner.

Kelly Byrne (Re)Joins the Board

Immediate past president, Kelly Byrne, was voted in at the October meeting to fill our board vacancy for the remainder of the term (until March 16). Welcome back, Kelly!

2024 Proposed Budget

After numerous meetings by the Budget Committee, Finance Committee, and Community Town Halls, a final budget was approved. This was a very difficult cycle due to the demands of our aging infrastructure, increased costs (for example, Waste Management, after negotiations, is going up between 20 and 40 percent next year due to new laws), and of course,

our continued requirement to pay the land lease. The actual amount needed was an increase of \$109 a month, but the Budget and Finance Committees were able to trim 40% of that down. While this has some risk, we heard the homeowners loud and clear at the town halls. The monthly assessment, starting January 1, 2024 is \$604.25. A difference may occur when the final cost of insurance is known. Our insurance policy is up for renewal February 1, 2024.

Please Note: the weekly eBlast now contains a Line Item of the Week that explains the larger items and why they are budgeted the way they are. We hope you are finding this useful.

2024 Special Assessment

A one-time special assessment of \$360 per home was approved to cover the 2024 costs of litigation in the OCA vs. OLC (Oceanside Land Company) action. This will be assessed on your January statement unless you made other arrangements with the office by the end of November. We communicated the available payment plans by email multiple times and by mail with the annual report.

We have released a set of notes by now from the October 11 meeting with our general counsel and our legal counsel for the OCA vs. OLC litigation. A cover page was developed to show homeowners what impact the land lease has on us as an association and you as a homeowner. This is the reason we continue down the path of litigation with OLC. Rest assured that the board meets every time something happens with the litigation to reconfirm our commitment to this process. To date, we are unanimous in moving forward.

Landscape Contractor Selection Ad Hoc Committee

The Board formed this committee in September and they have already sent out the board approved RFPs. The committee will begin interviews in late November/early December, before making a recommendation to the Board in December. The Ad Hoc is made up of two board members, two members of the landscaping committee, management, and two community members at large. The new landscape year will begin March 1, 2024.

CC&R and Bylaw Review Ad Hoc Committee

The Board formed this committee in October to look at the CC&Rs and Bylaws to determine what amendments, if any, should be submitted to the Members on the March 2024 ballot. The committee is comprised of Directors Karen Bishop and Kelly Byrne. We reached

News You Can Use Continued on page 20

December Activities

Wednesday, December 6, 5-7pm



TV Game Show Night Holiday Price is Right

How well do you know the prices of holiday items? Find out, have fun and maybe win some prizes

When: December 6, 5-7pm
Where: Clubhouse
Enjoy: Pizza, beer, wine, soda.
Signup: 11/17-12/4
Fee: \$7

Saturday, December 9, 11am-2pm

The First Holiday Garden Club Fair & Market

Food, arts & crafts vendors, raffle prizes, succulent arrangements, holiday entertainment. Attendance is free!

Note: Arts & crafts vendors will need to register for a table for \$15. See the ad on page 19.



When: December 9, 11am-2pm
Where: Oceana Gardens
Enjoy: Food, fun, prizes & shopping
Attendance: Free
Vendors:
Signup: Ends November 30.
Fee: \$15

Please Note: No late sign-ups or payments at the door, so don't miss out and sign-up on time!

COFFEE HOUR

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



- Dec. 7 : The Music Men
- Dec. 14 : Bell Pepperz
- Dec. 21 : No Coffee Hour—Enjoy the Holidays!
- Dec. 28 : No Coffee Hour—Enjoy the Holidays!

Questions? Call the office at 760-757-3937

Upcoming Activities

Save the Dates!

The following events are planned for January. Look for specifics in the January edition of the Hilltop Highlights.

- Monday, January 1: Monday Mimosas!
- Saturday, January 6: Hypnotist Dr. Ken!
- Sunday, January 7: Movie Afternoon



Activities Recap

October 2023

Oktoberfest Beer Tasting



Can you celebrate Oktoberfest without beer? It's hard! But we had Johna Nilson [left] back (remember the "Wine and Chocolate Pairing" night?) to provide some different beer tastings for us. She provided tastes of the following beers:

- Wild Barrel Crispy Boiz Pils (German Pilsner),
- Hacker-Pschorr Oktoberfest Marzen, and
- Wild Barrel Vice Mixed Berries Fruited
- Berliner Weisse.

Food: We had delicious "Brats and Dogs" cooked/provided by the "Grill Master" Jim Romans [right]. Chips and pretzels were also available with the beer selections.

Entertainment: Topping off the night was a musical group called "The Oktoberists". The flautist Adriene Nims put together a trio of musicians (Joe



McNally on bass and Mark Danisovszky on accordion) playing non-stop traditional Oktoberfest music. They had many



people up and dancing to their songs and especially polkas. They finished with the "Beer Barrel Polka" with everyone wanting more.



Halloween Costume Party

The evening started out with a meal of "eyeballs and worms" (meatballs and spaghetti) with "worms in dirt" (gummy worms and chocolate pudding) for dessert. The costume parade followed with many different and interesting costumes marching around the auditorium. The judges then announced the winners in different categories.

Funniest: Lori Nichols, and Mike Nelsen as "Parrot Heads in Mourning" and their Traveling Tiki Bar



(where they made drinks for folks from it).

Most Creative: Charlie and Donna Wendt in their "Oceana Extreme" Roller Coaster outfit.

Scariest: Don and Alita Jones as Dracula and Ms. Dracula.

The music and dancing were led by 2 young dance "teachers" from McCann Dance Studio. They were great teachers as they were patient and able to get most of the attendees up and dancing. The final dance song was "Thriller" with us trying to imitate the Michael Jackson dance sequence. We may not have been perfect... but we had fun!

Mary Ann Alger also provided some fun Tarot Card Readings throughout the night.

It was a full evening with lots of fun, food and friendship!



'Twas the Nightmare before Christmas



Coffee Hour



Coffee Hour in October had good crowds and new great entertainment! The Activities Committee brings you the best local entertainers each

Thursday mornings at 9 am at the Auditorium. \$1 food and \$1 beverage begin at 8:30. Upcoming Oceana events are announced at 9:30. At 9:45 the entertainment and fun begins. Please join us on Thursdays if you can. The following lists some of the great events we had in October.

Week 1: Bingo: We had a great crowd for our morning Bingo session in October. Ellen Marciel again called the games. After several regular Bingo games, a last game of "Blackout" Bingo was for a gift card to Share & Wear. Everyone has an exciting time trying to get their last square called to win!

BINGO				
1	27	33	48	75
8	19	45	56	61
3	18	FREE SPACE	49	69
15	26	41	53	66
2	21	37	46	65

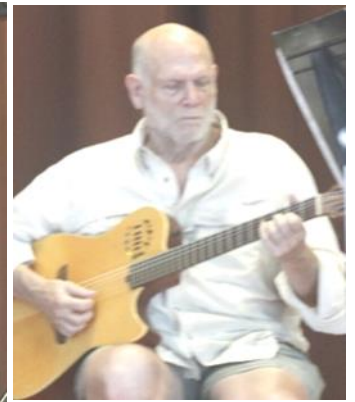
Week 2: Beethoven To Broadway: The auditorium was filled with Classical and Broadway music in Week 2. Bruce (on the French Horn) and Beverly Dorcy (Pianist) of the San Diego Chamber Music Society presented a



wide variety of music for our residents. Bruce has played the French Horn his whole life for different orchestras from New York to California. They played several beautiful duets from shows ranging from "Promises Promises", "Man of La Mancha", to "Fiddler on the Roof". Bruce also provided a short history lesson on the modern development of the French Horn. We hope to have them back in the future.

Week 3: John Scott and partner Brian -

John and Brian were back again at Oceana to perform and sing for our residents. John has



composed many songs and presented a few of them such as "Don't Call Me Johnny" and "I Can't Take it No More". Brian has a deep music background and has played on the road with Weird Al Yankovic and Monty Python's Road show. They are both very good musicians.

Week 4: Susie Lotzof: From a suggestion

of one of our regular attendees, we introduced a new entertainer for Coffee Hour this month. It was Susie Lotzof. She lived up to her name... she was "lots of" fun, heart, and a great singer/dancer. She sang some "old-ies", some originals and told some stories. She really loved singing the "blues" and "moved" right with the songs. Her vocals were a cross between Patsy Cline and Etta James. Watch for her when we hope to have her back in the future.



Charlie Wendt
760-908-8897



Oceana Art Show

Another wonderful event for Oceana; more than 130 people showed up to support our talented artists and craft residents on 14 October. There were 27 artists with their creations from jewelry to pixie baskets, from hand painted water cans to exquisite one-of-a-kind woodwork pieces. There were donations from each table being given away every 15 minutes. You just had to be there - it



was amazing!

We had a special guest attend the event, Dee Dee Young. She even won one of the drawings. She looks wonderful and was happy to see her old friends again. I organized this Art Show for her, but her shoes could never be filled.



The Art Show was a full three hours of non-stop excitement and loads of items for this year's Christmas gifts. What lucky people to be able to receive such a special handmade gift.



Next year will bring another Art Show but we are looking to find a better name for it, as there is more than just Art being shown at the event. The talent in Oceana truly does need a special name. Do you have one?



Thank you all for coming to the Clubhouse to support our residents in their day of glory. Hope you all had a grand time.

Anita Romaine

OCA Committee Membership

Activities Committee

Meets: 1st Tues. ea. Month,
10 am, Card Room
Chair
Ellen Marciel
Charlie Wendt
Linda Garcia
Maryanne Dilloway
Pat Hawkins
Carolyn Kruse
Chuck Kruse
Karin Messaros
Gail Olenick
Lisa Olivero
Deborah Schwab
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)
Interim Co-Chair
Lisa Bagot/Paula McDonald U 10,11
Lisa Bagot U 3,7, A
Fritz Beecher 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
Maura Parsons
Peter Cornog Board Exec. Cte.
Lynn Leszczynski Board Exec. Cte.

Community Resource Center Committee

Meets: 2nd Wed. ea. Month
10:30am, Community Room
Chair
Teresa Chamberlain-Spradlin
MaryAnn Alger
Mike Archer
Mary Hall
Connie Iniquez
Kris McLaughlin
Evelyn Thomas
Sydnie Wauson
Roxanne Rimmel Board Liaison

Finance Committee

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

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

Landscape Committee

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

"The Hub" Committee

Meets: 1st Wed. ea. Month
2pm, Card Room
Chair
Gail Olenick
Virginia Mann Secretary/Digital Coordinator
Pam Spangler Print Coordinator
Caryn Leventhal Website Coordinator
Lisa Olivero Website Photographer
Ellen Marciel
Sandy Riser Board Liaison
Evelyn Thomas Board Liaison

OCA Media Sub-Committee

Geoff Allison
Lee Mansis

HUB Contacts:

Oceanahub@gmail.com
760-290-4252

Committee Membership
Continued on Things To Do Page following the Calendar


Attention all Committee Chairs:

Please remember to update ALL changes (times, days, contacts), by submitting the information directly to the HUB; not the OCA office. The form for submission is on our website. Just click on the logo at the top of the home page and a simple, easy to follow form will appear. Thank you.








Hilltop Highlights
 Events Scheduled Every Week - By Weekday

December 2023



Every Sunday	Every Monday	Every Tuesday	Every Wednesday
Pickleball-Outdoor -Adv'd: 9:30-11:30am Pickleball-Indoor -Private: 2:30-4pm 4-6pm 	Water Aerobics 8am Keep Fit Class: 8:30-9am 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: 7-8pm	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: 1:30-4pm Drama Club: 3:30-5pm Billiards Warm-Up 6-8pm Poker: 6-8pm	Water Aerobics 8am Keep Fit: 8:30-9am Pickleball-Outdoor -Adv'd: 9:30-11:30am The Groove Movement/ Dance: 10-11am Share & Wear: 10-2pm French Club: 11am-Noon Art Room: 1-3pm Lapidary: 1-3pm Woodshop: 1-3pm Pickleball-Indoor -Open: 1:30-4pm Friends of Bill W: 5:00pm

Other Scheduled Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
			
3	4	5 10am Activities Cte. Card Room	6 2pm The Hub Cte. Card Room 5-7 pm Holiday Price is Right - Clubhouse
10	11 1-4pm Mahjong - Community Rm.	12 9:30am Architecture Cte. - Card Room 10am Book Club - Library	13 9am Unit Advisors - Clubhouse Auditorium 10:30am CRC - Communi- ty Room
17	18 9:30am Finance Cte. - Card Room 10am BOD Exec. Session	19	20 9:30am Open Board Mtg. - Auditorium 10am Strategic Planning Cte. Card Room 6-7pm Fireside Chat - Library
24 	25 	26	27
31			

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Every Thursday	Every Friday	Every Saturday
Coffee Hour: 9am Pickleball-Outdoor -Adv'd 9:30-11:30am Billiards: 10am-Noon Share & Wear: 10-2pm Discussion Group: 10:30am 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	Water Aerobics 8am Keep Fit: 8:30-9am 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: 12:30-4pm Pickleball-New Player Lessons 3:45-4:45pm	 <p>Happy Holidays</p>

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2
		
9am Coffee Hour - 7 The Music Men Clubhouse <i>Pearl Harbor</i> REMEMBRANCE DAY	8 10am Landscape Cte. Community Room	9 11 am-2 pm Garden Club Fair & Market - Oceana Gardens
14 9am Coffee Hour - Bell Pepperz Clubhouse	15  Bill of Rights Day	16
21 No Coffee Hour Today- Enjoy the Holidays! 	22	23
28 No Coffee Hour Today- Enjoy the Holidays!	29	30

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: Lynn Schneidenbach 619-889-4612
a53lynns@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. 1-4 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: Rhonda Christopher, 760-231-1808.

- 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.
- The Groove-Movement/Dance** -Wed. 10-11am. Auditorium. Info: Deborah Schwab 551-206-5862.
- Trivia** -Mon. 6:30-7:30 pm. Card room.
Info: Colleen Eidson , 760-529-9999
- Water Aerobics** - Mon-Wed-Fri 7:30 am
For information please call Betsy Wilson at (760)439-2879 or email at heybetsy0040@att.net
- Woodshop** -Mon-Fri 1-3pm.
Info: Jim Romans, 949-742-2311.
- 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 - Laura Bennett	760-224-2524
4 - Sally Lopez	760-421-4187
5 - Dr. Andrea Anderson	510-701-4044
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

DECEMBER 2023

This month at The Isle we are so excited to be hosting another SnowSide! This first weekend of December we are turned into a winter wonderland for all ages, be sure to get your tickets now! To add to our busy weekend at The Isle we are celebrating the holidays with a festive 'Deck the Holes' 4 player scramble tournament. Saturday December 2nd is SOLD OUT, but be sure to check for availability on Sunday December 3rd to get into our event.

This past month, did you know our Director of Instruction Natalie Vivaldi has been crowned Player of the Year for all of Southern California? We are so proud to be home to such talent and incredible instruction. Way to go Nat!

Our Junior League team finished out the year with an epic hole in one on 18 at Emerald Isle on their last home match! With a large crowd of kids and parents witnessing it, young player Dylan has no idea how lucky he is to not be 21 yet and owe everyone a drink!

The golf course conditions continue to thrive and improve each day. Our Fall Maintenance has set us up for yet another year of success and gorgeous affordable conditions for all. Come hang with us and enjoy some food, drinks, golf, and so much more.

THE ISLE




2023
SNOWSIDE
winter festival

DECEMBER
1-3, 2023

all ages welcome
tickets required!

SCAN HERE FOR MORE INFO



BOOK A PRIVATE LESSON
BOOK A GROUP LESSON
MORE INFO ABOUT OUR
DIRECTOR OF INSTRUCTION
NATALIE VIVALDI, PGA 



VIEW & SAVE OUR
MASTER CALENDAR OF
ALL EVENTS UPCOMING
AT EMERALD ISLE GOLF COURSE 



THE ISLE GRILL MENU
OPEN DAILY 6:30AM
JOIN US ON THE PATIO FOR
SOME FOOD & DRINKS OR
CALL US FOR A PICK UP ORDER

Notices & Reminders



Emerald Isle's Summer Music Final

It's a wrap for Emerald Isle Friday Night Music! Friday night, October 27 saw the last night of entertainment for this season at the Emerald Isle Golf Course.

Audio Perdisco, a music group based out of Oceanside, CA, performed their original music and covers for a welcoming crowd. Although Gaby's Tacos was a bit late due to traffic, it was well worth the wait.



Oceana Good Neighbor Fund (OGNF)

In April 2022, resident Dr. Gordon Bishop created a non-profit organization and applied for status as a 501c3. The IRS awarded the status. The goal was to create avenues to help our OCA neighbors.

- Safety project. Approved as an Aladdin Project. The Oceana Good Neighbor Patrol is totally funded by the OGNF.
- Grant writing. The OGNF provides an avenue for grants to assist our community.
- Financial assistance. The OGNF financially supported the Community Resource Center (CRC) in 2023. In 2024, the OGNF will work with the CRC to provide individual assistance.

Since creating the OGNF non-profit and starting the patrol, Dr. Bishop has had numerous health challenges which require new leadership which can grow the non-profit. OGNF is looking for volunteers, especially those with experience in non-profits, grant writing, administration, fund raising and/or financial record keeping.

To learn more, save the date - OGNF Board Meeting on January 23, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. in the Clubhouse.

2023 tax deductions. There are possibilities for residents who can donate to help others. Consider donating before the end of December 2023.

Oceana Good Neighbor Fund 501(c)(3),
not-for-profit EIN 88-2148733
3890 Vista Campana S, #63,
Oceanside CA 92057



The food was delicious and plentiful and the music inspired many to enjoy singing along and dancing. Emerald Isle has provided us with many Friday nights of entertainment and food, and now the season has come to an end.

We look forward to our Snowside Winter Festival December 1-3, a one of a kind family event. Real snow and sledding, Santa, live music and more!



Note:

Residents can each request one free ticket per household for the Snowside Winter Festival, Friday, 1 December! Contact Holly:

holly@emeraldislegc.com

to request a ticket, Tickets for all will be sent out 24 hours in advance. And if there are any who do not have a computer, the Isle can add their name to a guest list at the door. Be on the lookout for flyers soon!

Previous Play at Oceana

The Tavern at Oceana isn't the first theatrical production to grace the stages of the Oceana Clubhouse!

Our neighbor Dave Marple is an historian for all things Oceana and he recently unearthed this article from the 3 Feb 1970 Oceanside Blade Tribune:



Board Meeting Minutes

An Extract from News You Can Use

The board voted, in compliance with the law, that the draft minutes of board meetings are available to Members within 30 days with a request to the office. The final minutes will be posted on the FirstService Connect platform and can also be requested from the office. A Director will continue to prepare the News You Can Use part of the Highlights to include a summary of our board actions. Draft minutes will no longer be included in the Highlights. Members have to obtain them, if desired.

Sandy Riser

2024 Election for Board of Directors

Nominations Due December 21st

The Nominating Committee is now seeking candidates interested in serving the Community and making a difference in the lives of our residents! There are four open Board positions this upcoming March 16, 2024. This is an excellent opportunity for you to be a part of our solution-based team. If you would like to learn more about serving on your Association's Board of Directors, please contact our General Manager Dan Farrar before December 21st by email at Dan.Farrar@fsresidential.com or call (760) 757-3937 ext. 104.

Process for BoD Elections

At the October 25, 2023 Board Meeting, the Board of Directors selected the Nominating Committee of Ellen Marciel, Patricia McCardle, Gail Olenick, Tony Schwab and Peter Cornog. Peter Cornog is serving as a homeowner and not as a representative of the Board of Directors. In addition, Kelly Byrne is assisting the committee as a homeowner due to her previous experience serving on the committee. Ellen Marciel was selected as the chair of the committee and Patricia McCardle as Secretary.

There will be four Director positions available this upcoming March 16, 2024. Those Directors completing their terms are Sandy Riser, Peter Cornog, Karen Bishop and Kelly Byrne.

In addition to nominations from the Nominating Committee, members may nominate themselves or other members for election to the Board of Directors by way of a nomination application. Any candidate nominated by another person will be contacted to confirm that he or she agrees to be a candidate.

This is a wonderful opportunity to help serve your fellow residents and make a difference in the overall community experience. Nomination applications may be picked up at the office or downloaded from the website and must be completed and received by the Management Office by 4pm on Thursday December 21, 2023. Only those candidates who are qualified and have returned their completed application forms on time will be listed on the voting materials.

In late January and early February, the candidates will be announced, and Candidate Forums will be held so homeowners can learn more about each candidate's qualifications and goals. The dates and times of these Forums will be announced on the website and Hilltop Highlights.

Ballots will then be sent to homeowners in mid-February and must be returned before the Annual Meeting on March 16, 2024. More details will be announced in next month's Hilltop Highlights.

Best regards,

Dan Farrar

City Street Sweeping for OCA

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

Committee & Club Reports

Community Resources Center

The CRC is asking for your input for our 2024 events. Please submit your ideas to ocacrc@gmail.com. All residents are welcome to attend the CRC committee meetings and all residents are welcome to volunteer for a shift at the center. Watch your email for the Friday E-Blast providing the date and time of our December meeting.

Some residents still don't know that the Community Resource Center in the lobby of the clubhouse is known as the CRC. The office houses two computers and a printer for residents to use, along with information resources. The printer is now up and functioning with WIFI thanks to volunteers.

CRC has had an exciting year.

First, I want to recognize all of the volunteers who helped create and staff the shift times, and/ or participate on our committee, for a job well done. We can't flourish without you, and the time you give to CRC. You help keep the center doors open for residents to use our resources and all of you deserve special recognition.

Here are some of the highpoint's residents prospered from as a result of the CRC volunteer work.

- SDGE lower kWh through the Medical Device Program and the Care Program.
- Affordable Connectivity Program, (ACP), savings of \$30 per month on their WIFI bill.
- Leisure opportunities through Parks and Recreation such as summer Friday music in the parks, library events and general activities.
- Transportation services offered to seniors.
- Food and nutrition resources and programs.
- The first free flu shot event sponsored by the Vista Community Clinic. The event offered on-site shots eliminating having to drive to a pharmacy.
- The first Veteran's Resource Fair at which there were 16 veteran-centered resource organizations. Plus, a raffle for Midway tour tickets donated by the Midway Museum.

The following Written by Corporal Thomas USMC

When I placed my feet on the yellow footprints, I remember the variety of emotions that flowed throughout my body. When the

drill instructor's mouth (just inches from my face) yelled, "recruit, don't you be eyeballing," I quickly asked myself, 'what have I gotten myself into?'

Did I really understand what I signed up for, when I raised my right hand and swore an oath? I made a commitment, "to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign, and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States and the orders of the officer appointed." While knowing and understanding, if need be, to give my life, shed my blood for our principles and way of life.

Veterans Day is a bittersweet memory for some, as well as somber and even joyous for others. Whether you were drafted into the military or volunteered to serve, you gave your all and did something many did not have the courage to do. The CRC wanted to honor you for the service and commitment you made to this country and say thank you. The CRC Veterans Resource Fair was a success due to the many volunteers that worked to make it happen. We wish to thank:

- The OCA office team
- The OCA maintenance crew
- The Activities committee
- The CRC volunteers
- The HUB
- The Residents
- The OCA Board of Directors
- The 16 Veteran Organizations

Respectfully submitted

Teresa Chamberlain-Spradlin
Chair CRC

Ceramics Group

Hello Oceana!

Our Ceramics group leader has been radio silent for a few months due to some personal issues but there is light at the end of the tunnel. I'm feeling good about the progress I've made the last 2 weeks. Meanwhile, our members have been very busy keeping things running smoothly while making beautiful pieces as usual. Some of us have been working on Christmas items for gifts or decorations. Please stop by the studio and experience the fun that our members have working in this great space. There's always someone there to help you get started.

By the time this is posted, December will be in full swing. We know that time during the holiday seasons from September to January brings many celebrations and gatherings with family and in our Oceana Community. Be blessed at this wonderful, magical time of year!

Peace,

Lynn Schneidenbach

OCA Garden Club

OCEANA GARDEN CLUB

PRESENTS

A

HOLIDAY FAIR & MARKET



Saturday 9 December 2023

11:00am - 2:00pm

at the **Oceana Garden Plots**

Art & Craft Vendors

Holiday Food ~ Entertainment



A unique event in the beautiful and tranquil surroundings of Oceana Garden Club. A limited number of tables are available for \$15 to sell your arts and crafts. Come and enjoy this unique event and spread the Holiday Cheer!

Please Contact

Diane Huntley (323) 691-7121
or anthony.kay.ogc@gmail.com



Ad Hoc IT Committee

Oceanside Digital Equity Plan

Congratulations to the City of Oceanside for creating and implementing the Oceanside Digital Equity Study. Oceanside aims to advance three pillars of digital equity, including access to reliable Internet, access to digital devices and digital literacy skills training.

The city has created the project: Oceanside FiberCity. The \$200 million investment is funded through The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. High speed, fiber optic network will be installed on every public street by SiFi Networks LLC, which can provide the infrastructure into all businesses and homes at no charge. The company will install and maintain the system. SiFi Networks has contracted with its first provider, T-Mobile Fiber. When you check the availability, Oceanside is one of eleven locations nationwide.

A low-income component will make high-speed access more accessible to all, including seniors. The new T-Mobile Fiber program is advertising gigabit speeds, great streaming on multiple connections, no cap on data and no contracts.

The Ad Hoc IT Committee is researching the possibilities for Oceana. The COX contract will be up for renewal in 2025. With fiber, competition could make a difference in services and pricing. Through a bulk contract between OCA and SiFi Networks LLC, 932 homes install a fiber network connection at no cost. For those who are not interested, the connection would be capped until the homeowner is ready.

The committee invites you to learn more by searching the Oceanside Digital Access Study, Oceanside FiberCity, SiFi Networks Oceanside and T-Mobile Fiber.



Thanks to Our Volunteers!

Internet Safety

The Veterans' Information Fair held at Oceana's clubhouse in November included two FBI agents, who provided very useful information about dealing with scammers. The agents were there to warn veterans about internet fraud including the growing risk of scammers tricking you into revealing your email, your passwords, your address, your phone number or even your bank account info. Until I spoke with these agents, I had no idea that U.S. government law enforcement agencies have task forces working on this critical issue full time.

The agents encouraged all of us to report any internet or home phone fraud/scam attempts to the "Internet Crime Complaint Center" at <https://www.ic3.gov>. Although the FBI is rarely able to take any immediate action if you have been scammed, they would like you to report any emails or phone calls you believe are potential or real scams. The more reports they get, the faster they can track down the scammers and stop them.

One way to verify that an email is actually from someone you know is to move your cursor over the name of the sender. A tiny upside-down 'v' will appear to the right of the sender's apparent name. Click on the v and the real email address of the sender will appear. It's usually quite obvious when it's not a valid email.

The agents told us that every piece of information they receive helps them narrow down the location of the scammers (many of whom are in other countries). Sharing information with other international organizations, helps them catch and stop these criminals. It's a huge undertaking but they can't do it without citizen participation. Below are more detailed instructions from the FBI about the type of information they would like you to submit to them if you have been the victim of a scam or an attempted scam.

Log into: <https://www.ic3.gov> and follow the instructions for reporting a scam.

The FBI requests that you hold onto the following information/documents which can help them identify the scammers.

- Original records: emails, letters, checks, receipts, shipping documents
- Financial transaction information used by the scammers
- Other information used by the scammers such as bank accounts, addresses, emails, websites, and phone numbers.

The most effective things you can do to keep your assets safe from scammers are:

- Do not open any emails from senders you do not recognize.
- If an email looks suspicious, be sure to click on the tiny upside-down 'v' which appears to the right of the sender's apparent name. Clicking on the 'v' will reveal the real email of the sender.
- DO NOT click on any links in an email unless you are 100% certain that it is from someone you know. If you have any doubts about its authenticity, contact the sender (friend, family member or other sender), to make sure they really sent it. (If they were hacked, scammers can use their email to fool you and get access to your personnel info).
- When you receive emails from banks or other financial institutions asking you to click on a link in the email—don't. Go instead to the actual website of the organization and log on with your ID and password.
- In addition to providing the requested information to the FBI, immediately contact your financial institution and credit bureaus if you believe you have been hacked.
- Another way to protect your credit if you are not planning to borrow money in the near future is to have your credit frozen through one of the credit bureaus. (You can always unfreeze it if you need to apply for a loan.)
- Phone scams: Never answer the phone if you don't recognize the caller. Let the call go to voice mail then listen to the message. No legitimate organization (private or government) will call you asking for personal information or for money. Never give out any personal or financial information to someone who calls you or sends you an email. If you find it all too confusing ask a neighbor or a family member to help you. Stay safe, everybody!

Pat McArdle
(Veteran U.S. Navy)



Drama Club

A Rave Review

The new Drama Club at Oceana performed the world premiere of "The Tavern at Oceana" on 11/11 and had a matinee on 11/12. Both performances were standing-room only.

The play ran under an hour but was packed with humor and warmth. It was written by all the



actors involved, including every actor creating their own soliloquy for Act 2. The funny dialog describing what it's like to live at Oceana was augmented by the singing of show tunes, a little dancing, and some inspired physical comedy. Tony Schwab, the director and coordinating author, did a great job of showing that Oceana



is a family (complete with family feuds) that is tolerant of "weirdos." As Paul Mecklenburg said during his entrance, "We all like each other - and I don't even know why!" All the actors



were absolutely endearing, especially Carol Finkas who re-wed her late-in-life love Jack Griffiths at

the triumphant conclusion of Act 3. Then the wine started to flow for a post-performance wine-and-cheese celebration for audience and actors alike.

While listening to Georgette Velez play the theme to Cheers as the show opened, this reviewer was amazed that Oceana doesn't have a tavern already. Hanging out with our neighbors, where "everybody knows your name," immediately seemed like a really good idea. The only better idea is to have a Drama Club here at Oceana, and I sincerely look forward to their next performance.

Kyle Roesler

Meet Your Neighbor

Al Arnold

The library in the Oceana Clubhouse seemed like the perfect venue to speak with Al Arnold, our neighbor for the December issue of the Hilltop Highlights.



Al was born in 1944 in the wilds of western Pennsylvania, the Pittsburgh area to be more specific. Al received his education there and, while in college, had the opportunity to work with one of the earliest commercially available computers. He leveraged that experience into a career of developing and implementing computer-based manufacturing management systems. His work took him to Philadelphia, Chicago, Los Angeles and finally, here to San Diego.

Al retired at age 55 and moved to Oceana in 2011. For the past 7 years, Al has been the "brains" of the Hilltop Highlights, developed the current format that we now enjoy and spends many hours a month to bring us a wonderful community magazine.

"What other things do you enjoy," I asked, as if the Highlights was not enough. Al smiled and responded, "I enjoy tinkering with stuff."

He shared that he has built many things from kits: furniture, puzzle boxes, scale models of world heritage site buildings, bookcase vignettes. Al has also taught himself how to make wire-wrapped jewelry. And he does all of this as his hobbies. Weekly games of Poker and Pinochle are also on his agenda!

As we concluded our talk, Al added, "I also enjoy my alone time."

- Gail Olenick

Bah!
Humbug!



Did You Know?



History

The Beginning of Winter, also known as the Winter Solstice, marks the astronomical start of winter. It occurs when the tilt of the Earth's axis is farthest away from the sun, resulting in the shortest day and longest night of the year. In the northern hemisphere, it is in December & in the southern hemisphere, it occurs in June.

The solstice has been celebrated for millennia across the globe, serving as a significant event in various religious and cultural traditions. Many cultures held various ceremonies throughout the centuries to mark and honor the solstice, which they viewed as a time of rebirth and renewal, signifying the return of longer daylight hours. Today, many Americans may not be aware of the traditional significance of the Winter Solstice, but its influence can still be felt through popular holiday customs, such as Christmas and Hanukkah, whose origins date back to pre-Christian and pre-Jewish Solstice celebrations.

Today, many acknowledge and observe the solstice through a variety of private celebrations and communal gatherings. People light candles, attend bonfire ceremonies, or host feasts with friends and family to mark the return of the light and the promise of spring.

Facts

- On the Winter Solstice, there are 24 hours of sunlight in the Antarctic Circle, and 24 hours of darkness in the Arctic Circle.
- Many pagan rituals have revolved around the Winter Solstice. The short days and long hours of darkness prompted rituals intended to lure the Sun back.
- There is a tradition in the northern part of China to eat "Lidong water" or "winter water", which is water stored overnight. Drinking it is believed to protect from the cold and diseases.
- The Mayan calendar ended on the Winter Solstice, December 21, 2012.

Things To Do

- Eat more Vitamin-D rich foods to balance out the lack of sunlight.
- Light some candles and enjoy the early evening.
- Finish some last minute Christmas shopping.

News You Can Use *Continued from page 4*

out to the homeowners in early November for any suggestions they might have.

IT Ad Hoc Committee

This committee has been reinstated with Director Karen Bishop and a technical team, previously part of this group, to work with Management. Their first priority is the cable contract.

Nominating Committee

Thanks to the five-member committee who is fast at work on the next election cycle with Management. Gail Olenick, Tony Schwab, Ellen Marciel, Patricia McCardle, and Peter Cornog (as a homeowner) make up this new team...with assistance from Kelly Byrne where needed.

Cell Phone Tower—Golf Property

The board approved OCGI exploring and approving, if they so desire, a new cell tower at the entrance to the golf course. Vice President Peter Cornog will be working with them to determine a design that is acceptable to OCA residents, given his vast experience in this area. The association, as the sole stockholder in OCGI, will receive part of the profit, if OCGI accepts a proposal.

Home Rentals

Dan and Sandy were voted to work on the rental process and procedures, recording of leasing, and communication to homeowners (old and new) on rental homes. The first step you found in your Annual Report packet is each home needs to have a form on file stating if the home is not rented and lived in by the owner, a rental and currently empty, or rental and who is renting the home. Like the age verification form, this form is required for each and every home in the community to insure we are in compliance with our CC&Rs.

Sandy Riser



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.