Oceanside Community Association

January, 2025 Volume 56 Issue 01





Inside:

- 2025 Budget (in News You Can Use)
- Art Studio Offerings



The Phrase Finder website says: "'May you live in interesting times' is widely reported as being of ancient Chinese origin but is neither Chinese nor ancient, being recent and western." According to the site, the phrase was originally said by the American politician, **Frederic R**. Coudert, in 1939. Mr. Coudert certainly lived in interesting times, but the times we are about to experience may go far beyond what he experienced!

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:

Oceanside Community Association 550 Vista Bella Oceanside, CA 92057

Office Phone: 760-757-3937

24 Hour Emergency (Water & Plumbing) 949-833-2600

Website: www.oceanaseniors.org

Statement Questions: tbd

Maintenance: <u>maintenance@ocaoffice.org</u>

Homeowner Concerns: office@ocaoffice.org

Non Emergency Police (to report suspicious activity): 760-435-4900

Emergency Police:

911



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The truth has no defense against a fool determined to believe a lie.

-Mark Twain

Office Staff:

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Facilities Manager	(Open)
Maintenance Admin. As alire	sst. Adam Lira a@keystonepacific.com
Contact for all:	760-757-3937 Office@ocaoffice.org
Office Hours:	

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

Board of Directors

President	Roxanne Remmel rremmel@ocaoffice.org
Vice President	Kathleen Dowling kdowling@ocaoffice.org
Secretary	Evelyn Thomas ethomas@ocaoffice.org
Treasurer	Lynn Leszczynski lynnl@ocaoffice.org
Director	Lisa Bagot Ibagot@ocaoffice.org
	esa Chamberlain-Spradlin iin-spradlin@ocaoffice.org
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All Members	ocaboard@ocaoffice.org

<u>Keep Informed</u>

Oceana

oceanaseniors.org

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City of Oceanside
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ci.oceanside.ca.us

San Diego County sandiegocounty.gov

<u>Report City Code Infractions</u>

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 is 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 the Board President or to the General Manager. Zoom chat is not available.

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 keystone connection.net. The work request forms are available on our website (oceanaseniors.org) or at the office. Submit completed forms to the office, via office@ocaoffice.org, or 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 949-833-2600.
- Are you moving? Do you have a neighbor who has moved or passed away? Please provide such information to the office at: office@ocaoffice.org.



A Message from the Board of Directors

appy New Year, 2025 a Quarter Century! "Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can."—Arthur Ashe (A good guote for us over 55 seniors.)

One of the Board's primary and most difficult jobs is to create the Budget for the New Year. No matter how a board decides to place priorities, it results in some homeowners not being happy. Do we keep the budget the same as the current year, even though operating expenses such as insurance, SDGE, and waste management have increased? That would mean we have to skimp somewhere else. Perhaps the next unit in line would not get painted. Should we create a shortage for reserves and hope and pray that the pipes don't break or a road doesn't need replacement? Other homeowners are more concerned by the lack of available money in our current reserves. They would ask the board to raise the monthly assessment to bring our percentage of funding to a more comfortable level. And then there is the elephant in the room, how will we fund the ongoing lawsuit? A previous board decided it should come from reserves. Another board went with a special \$360 assessment, which some opted to pay in \$30 monthly installments. This board decided to add it as a line item in addition to the operating and reserve budgets for 2025. We listened to the many homeowner comments at the budget meetings and in emails. Our goal for the 2025 budget was to keep the total payment paid monthly by each unit as close as possible to what was required in 2024.

In 2024, each unit was required to pay \$604.25 per month plus a special assessment for ongoing legal of \$360 or an additional \$30 in monthly installments. Our average payments for 2024 over 12 months totaled \$634.25 per month.

The 2025 assessment is going up to \$638 without a special assessment. This will cover the increased operating expenses (primarily utilities, insurance, landscape), the inclusion of legal, and the same amount as 2024 will go into reserves. The total is \$638, which is essentially \$3.75 per month (5.5%) more than our 'average monthly outlay' in 2024.

Our attorneys are in negotiations currently and we are very optimistic that they can arrive at a settlement with OLC. Hopefully this won't need to go to court in June 2025. Wouldn't it be a relief to know where we stand on how replacement of common areas will be financed going forward and that this is the last budget that needs to include a legal budget.

"The future depends on what you do today." — Mahatma Gandhi

I wish all of you a wonderful New Year!

Roxanne Remmel, OCA Board of Directors

News You Can Use

November was a busy and productive month for the OCA BOD. Our work focused on the topics listed below.

Annual Disclosure

Keystone Pacific has distributed the

OCA Annual Disclosure packet. The Davis-Stirling Act requires the OCA to provide an annual report to members on the financial health, governance, and operation details of the association. By the time this article is published, each member should have received the Annual OCA Disclosure packet in the mail.

2025 Budget

In November, the board approved the 2025 Budget. Even though the OCA has taxable income, the tax credit from the installation of the solar project means the OCA will receive a refund on the taxes for 2025 that will carry over another year. Increased costs (water, SDG&E, Waste Management, and legal) result in a monthly assessment of \$638.00. The HOA assessment is broken down as follows:

Reserves:	\$141.60
Payroll:	81.98
Insurance:	76.72
Land Lease:	76.24
Landscaping:	56.69
Water:	43.29
Sewer:	42.39
Cable:	32.12
Trash:	29.76
OLC Legal:	18.15
Com. Area	9.84
OCA Mgmt:	9.73
SDG&E	8.40
Office	8.01
<u>Taxes:</u>	2.28
Total:	637.20

Town Hall Meeting

In November, 96 members petitioned the OCA BOD to request a town hall meeting concerning the two current litigation cases. The event was held on December 14, 2024 at 1pm in the OCA Clubhouse auditorium. In addition, the town hall meeting was broadcast on Zoom and taped. The video of the town hall meeting is available on the Keystone Pacific Membership Portal.

Legal

In November, the OCA BOD met with the OCA legal team by video conference. Preparations for the June 2025 court date were made. Additionally, hiring a mediator and fi-



nancial analyst to attempt to mediate a settlement with OLC was discussed.

Farmers Insurance hired a new attorney to represent OCA in the Vicki Brown Driver litigation case: Garth Ward from The Lewis Brisbois Law Firm. BOD President Roxanne Remmel had a video conference with Attorney

Ward and, on December 11, 2024, gave a deposition for the case.

Fireside Chat November 2024

Fireside Chat was initiated to improve communication between the OCA BOD and the membership. It is held



the 3rd Wednesday of the month from 6pm -7pm in The Clubhouse Library (holidays excluded). In November, a resident suggested a message board on the Oceana website for residents. Another resident suggested printing and posting a hard copy of the weekly Eblast on the bulletin boards outside the HOA Office and The Clubhouse for those residents that do not use email. You are all invited to future Fireside Chats.

2024-2025 Strategic Plan Update:

(Report from OCA BOD)

Evacuation Disaster Ad Hoc Committee (EDAHC): On January 15th at 1pm in The Community Room, the EDAHC will hold a meeting for residents interested in joining the EDAHC. EDAHC is generating a survey and collaborating with Unit Advisors and management to compile a list of the residents with mobility issues and/or a physical disability that need assistance to evacuate their home in an emergency.

Tree Ad Hoc Committee: The Forestry Group plans to meet in January to do Spring trimming. The focus will be on pines, palms, pears and eucalyptus trees. Usually, many other types of trees are added in. If you want the group to consider trimming a tree near you, please complete a landscape work order through the office. While doing the tree inventory this Fall, we discovered a few areas where invasive Brazilian pepper trees have sprouted up. As much of this infestation as possible will be removed. Accordingly, the tree committee has expedited the fall tree removals and trimming of trees.

IT Action Plan: Another Strategic Plan Goal of the OCA board is to improve the effectiveness of OCA's technology. Part of that plan is

January 2025

to convert all our documents in the archives to digital storage. OCA has nearly 60 years of documents in our archives. The board created an IT Action Plan as the framework to complete the steps of the project. The Davis Stirling Act, the California law that governs the operations of HOAs, has a retention policy. OCA is required to store and maintain specific records for a period of time. The goal is to only digitize required documents, to minimize effort and cost.

Electronic Ad Hoc Committee to amend bylaws to comply with the law

In November, the OCA BOD formed an Electronic Ad Hoc Committee to amend the bylaws to comply with Assembly Bill 2159. In September 2024, California Governor Gavin Newsom signed AB 2159 into law, making electronic voting a possibility for California-based community associations. The law aims to maximize voter turnout and improve the voting process for electronic elections, governing document votes, and votes to approve exclusive use of common area transfers. Under the law, membership approval will not be required for electronic voting. Community members will still be able to opt for a traditional written ballot. In addition, paper ballots are required for special assessment votes.

Speeding Ad Hoc Committee

In the past few months, there were several automobile accidents due to speeding. To deter future accidents and curb speeding, in November, the OCA BOD approved the purchase of speeding monitoring equipment through the vendor All Traffic Solutions, Inc. Look for those signs showing your current speed around Oceana soon.

Maintenance Report

- Unit 3 Road Project

Beginning in January, asphalt grinding and installation will commence. Approximately three weeks later, American Asphalt will return to apply a sealer to the new asphalt and paint the fire lane lines.

- On Call System

In December, a Voice Over Internet Protocol (VoIP) 24/Emergency was installed in the OCA HOA Office. The VoIP technology enables emergency calls to be made over an internet connection. This 24-hour phone system allows for quick access to emergency services, often allowing location information to be automatically sent to dispatchers when a call is made.

- Fire Hydrant

In September, employees of AF General, a former vendor of OCA, were in an automobile accident on Vista Campana N. This single-car accident caused severe property damage to a tree, a fire hydrant, a bench, street signs, and the slope. The fire hydrant has been replaced and further repairs are on-going.

- Unit 12

OCA contracted with Pilot Painting to complete the painting project for Unit 12. In September, an AF General employee, the vendor contracted for the Unit 12 Painting Project, had a single auto accident that caused project damage and bodily injury. For liability risk management and good business, OCA, under legal advice, discontinued the contract with AF General.

- The Clubhouse

Adam Lira, Maintenance Admin. Asst., is getting bids for screens for The Community Room, The Card Room, The Billiards Room, and The Art Studio.

-The Keystone Pacific (KP) Membership Portal

Von, the OCA GM, attended the November HUB committee meeting to discuss moving the standing documents from our website,

www.oceanaseniors.org,

to the Keystone Connect Membership Portal. He has been in contact with the Keystone IT trainer, to create editable forms for compliance, landscape, and architecture in the Connect resident portals. More information will be available soon!

> Evelyn L. Thomas OCA BOD Volunteer

OMG, I have finally Discovered what's wrong with my Brain:

on the left side, there is nothing right, and on the right side, there is nothing left.



Zen Tangles

Register and pay at the office by Jan 9. Fee is \$5, limited to 15 participants.

Wednesday, January 22, 10am-Noon

Tie Dye Class Be sure to bring a 100% cotton item (or 2) to dye!



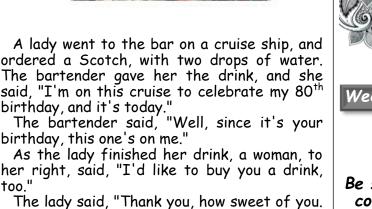
Register and pay at the office by Jan 20. Fee is \$5, limited to 15 participants.

Be sure to check out the Tuesday eblasts and the Oceana website for the latest and greatest sign-up info.

Are you looking to see a particular class or looking to teach a particular class? Please reach out to me and we'll see what we can do

> Caryn Leventhal carynnicole30@yahoo.com





The lady said, "Thank you, how sweet of you. OK, then, Bartender, I want another Scotch, with two drops of water."

"Coming up," said the bartender.

birthday, this one's on me."

As she finished that drink, a man, to her

left, said, "I'd like to buy you a drink too." The lady said, "Thank you very much, my dear. Bartender, I'll have another Scotch, with two drops of water."

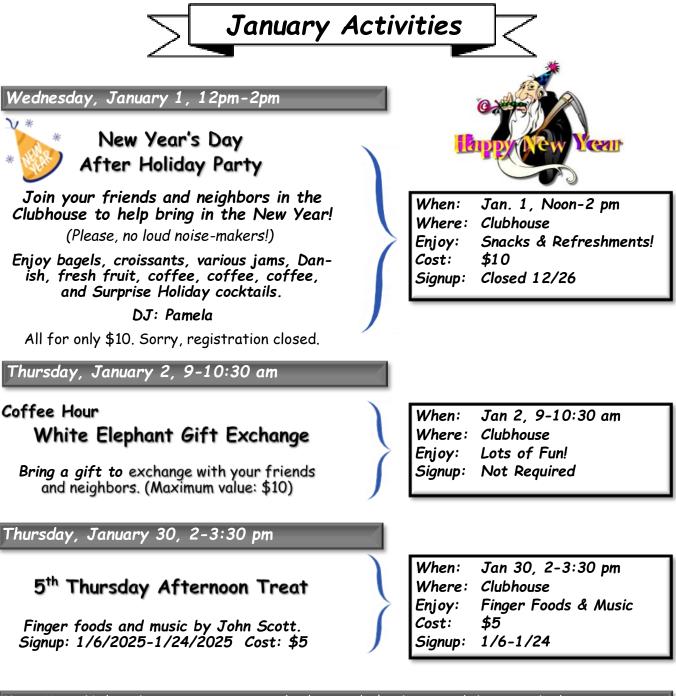
"Coming right up," the bartender said.

As he gave her the drink, this time, he said, "Ma'am, I'm dying of curiosity. Why the Scotch with only two drops of water?"

The old woman giggled, and replied, "Sonny, when you're my age, you've learned how to hold your liquor. Water, however, is a whole other issue."



too."



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

Coffee Hour

From 9 to 10:30 am Thursdays



Jan. 9 : Sarah Ingraham, Vocalist/Pianist Jan. 16 : Ruben DeAnda, Guitarist Jan. 23 : Kevin O'Brien Jan. 30 : No Coffee Hour

5th Thursday Afternoon Treat!

Jan. 2 : White Elephant Gift Exchange - See Above



Questions? Call the office at 760-757-3937

Meet Your Neighbor

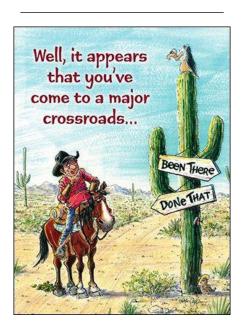


appy New Year Oceana!! Here's hoping that everyone had a joyous holiday season and that 2025 will bring health and happiness to all.

This month's 'Meet your Neighbor' features a gentleman in the community who shares something with me. We are both from New York! I had the pleasure of meeting Geoff Allinson last year, as we both participated in the production of "The Tavern at Oceana."

Geoff was born in October of 1948, in Freeport, N.Y., a village on the South Shore of Long Island. His sister, Dale, was born 5 1/2 years later, making Geoff a big brother. Geoff shared that although his mother was of Episcopalian faith, he was raised according to Judaism, which his father practiced. "We celebrated both holidays," he exclaimed. What fun for a young child. Elementary and secondary education took place in Baldwin, N.Y., and later Geoff attended Wagner College on Staten Island. Initially he majored in Math, but after 3 grueling years, he changed his major to Psychology and received a Bachelor of Arts Degree.

Interested in computers, Geoff worked as a Programmer/Analyst for various companies for over 30 years, ending that career when, at Sony, he broke his back. He was disabled for a while, returning to the work force as a DMV Field Representative until retiring shortly before the pandemic. While life took Geoff to Boston and then on to Washington, D.C., he met his wife Phyllis at an Alternative Healing





Geoff Allinson

Conference. They dated, and then married shortly after, in April of 1987. Geoff recalled that during his temp position at the Navy Yard in D.C., he met a rabbi who was looking for a cantor. He provided Geoff with music to study, which in turn, allowed Geoff a cantor position singing in a liberal reform synagogue. Geoff's singing throughout his life began in elementary school and included solos, duets and choruses.

When Phyllis spoke about moving to San Diego, Geoff had another idea. But, guess who won? They moved to San Diego, landing in San Marcos where they remained for a few years. Then in March of 2020, the Allinsons came to Oceana. "Why Oceana?" I asked. Geoff spoke about the wonderful amenities here including the 2 pools, a spa, our golf course and the lovely view from his home. He enjoys attending the various events here too! Performing in both of the Drama Club plays, participating in the Lapidary Shop and most recently joining a men's a cappella choral group known as 'The Music Men,' has kept him busy.

Thanks, Geoff! It was a pleasure speaking with you. May 2025 bring you the arrival of growth, prosperity, and happiness.

Gail Olenick

OCA Committee Membership

Activities Committee 1st Tues. ea. Month, Meets: 10 am, Card Room Ellen Marciel Chair Charlie Wendt Treasurer Teri Battaglia Share & Wear Mgr. Mary Anne Dilloway Pat Hawkins Carolyn Kruse Chuck Kruse Karin Messaros Gail Olenick Lisa Olivero Donna Wendt Lynn Leszczynski Board Liaison Architectural Committee 2nd Tues. ea. Month, Meets: 9:30am, Card Room (Agenda deadline: 1st day of month) Paula McDonald Acting Chair Compliance Design Tracy Richardson **Review** Coordinator U 1.1A,4 Mike Castoro Paula McDonald U 2,6 Jay Crawford U 5 Fritz Beechler U 3, 12 Barb Belcher U 8 (Open) U 9 Steve Erbe U 10,11 Bruce Cowgill U 7, 7A Charles Daily U14 Kathleen Dowling **Board** Liaison Roxanne Remel **Board Liaison** Community Resource Center Committee 2nd Wed. ea. Month Meets: 10:30am, Card Room HUB Contacts: Connie Iniquez Temporary Chair tbd Secretary Jim Floyd Computer volunteer CRC Greeter Donna Wendt Veterans Affairs Liaison Evelyn Thomas Connie Iniquez Sydnie Wauson Teresa Chamberlain-Spradlin Board Liaison



Finance Committee			
Meets:	3 rd Mon. ea. Month		
	30am, Community Room		
John McDonald	Chair		
Charlie Wendt	Secretary		
Nancy Follin			
Meg Marple	-		
OCA General Manage Lynn Leszczynski	r Board Treasurer		
Roxanne Remmel	Board Liaison		
	<u>e Committee</u>		
Meets:	2 nd Fri. ea. Month,		
TBD	10am, Billiards Room Chair		
Phyllis Allinson	Chair		
Peter Cornog			
Donna Grabel			
Steve Omlor			
Lynn Leszczynski	Board Liaison		
Teresa Chamberlain-	Spradlin Board Liaison		
<u>"The Hub</u>	<u>" Committee</u>		
Meets:	1 st Wed. ea. Month		
	2pm, Community Room		
Gail Olenick	Chair		
Diane Danner			
	Secretary		
Virginia Mann	Digital Coordinator		
Pam Spangler	Digital Coordinator Print Coordinator		
Pam Spangler Sandy Riser	Digital Coordinator Print Coordinator Website Coordinator		
Pam Spangler Sandy Riser Lisa Olivero	Digital Coordinator Print Coordinator		
Pam Spangler Sandy Riser Lisa Olivero Ellen Marciel	Digital Coordinator Print Coordinator Website Coordinator		
Pam Spangler Sandy Riser Lisa Olivero Ellen Marciel Kathleen Dowling	Digital Coordinator Print Coordinator Website Coordinator Website Photographer Board Liaison		
Pam Spangler Sandy Riser Lisa Olivero Ellen Marciel Kathleen Dowling OCA Media Sub-Com	Digital Coordinator Print Coordinator Website Coordinator Website Photographer Board Liaison		
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Pam Spangler Sandy Riser Lisa Olivero Ellen Marciel Kathleen Dowling OCA Media Sub-Com Geoff Allinson	Digital Coordinator Print Coordinator Website Coordinator Website Photographer Board Liaison		

Oceanahub@gmail.com

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 Helpful Links at the top of the home page and you will find the HUB where there is a simple, easy to follow form. Thank you.

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

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

Hilltop Highlights Events Scheduled Every Week - By Weekday

Every Sunday	Every Monday	Every Tuesday	Every Wednesday
Pickleball Adv Open Play (outdoor): 9:30-11:30am Pickleball-Indoor -Private: 2:30-4pm	Water Aerobics 7:30am Keep Fit Class: 8:30-9am Water Aerobics 9am Pickleball Adv Open Play (outdoor): 9:30-11:30am Yoga (Chair) 10am Line Dancing 11am-Noon Ceramics 12:30-3:30pm Chair Volleyball: 1-2pm Lapidary: 1-3pm Woodshop: 1-3pm Pinochle: 1-4pm Pickleball Open Play (indoor) -Open: 2-4pm -Private: 4:15-5:30pm Trivia: 6:30-7:30pm	Lapidary: 1-3pm Woodshop: 1-3pm Pickleball Open Play (indoor): 1:30-4pm Billiards Warm-Up 6-8pm Poker: 6-8pm	Pickleball Adv Open Play (outdoor): 9:30-11:30am Art Studio: 10am-2pm Share & Wear: 10-2pm French Club: 11am-Noon Cribbage: 1-3pm

Other Scheduled Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
	tappy New Ye	an	1 Noon-2pm After Holiday Party - Clubhouse
5	6 1-4pm Mahjong - Community Rm.	7 10am Activities Cte. Card Room	8 9am Unit Advisors - Club- house 10am-Noon Acrylic Pour - Art Room 10:30am CRC -Community Room
12	13	14 9:30am Architecture Cte Card Room 10am Book Club - Library	15 3:30pm Spanish Club - Community Room 6-7pm Fireside Chat - Library
19	20 9:30am Finance Cte Community Rm. 1-4pm Mahjong - Community Rm. Restance Ring Day	21	22 10am-Noon Tie Dye Class - Art Room
26	27 10am BOD Exec. Session	28 1pm Workshop—Setting Intentions for the New Year Community Room	29 9:30am Open Board Mtg - Auditorium

*

	Every Thursday	Every Friday	Every Saturday
	Coffee Hour: 9am Pickleball Adv Open Play (outdoor) 9:30-11:30am Band-It Fitness 10-11:30am Billiards: 10am-Noon Share & Wear: 10-2pm Discussion Group: 10:30am Ceramics: 12:30-3:30pm Lapidary: 1-3pm Woodshop: 1-3pm Spanish4Fun Class:On Hold Billiards (Private): 6-8pm Sing-Along: 6pm	Water Aerobics 7:30am Keep Fit: 8:30-9am Water Aerobics 9am Pickleball Adv Open Play (outdoor): 9:30- 11:30am Tai Chi: 10am-Noon Share & Wear: 10-2pm Hand & Foot: 12pm Ceramics: 12:30-3:30pm Woodshop: 1-3pm Pickleball Open Play (indoor): 12:30-4pm	Pickleball Adv Open Play (outdoor) : 9:30-11:30am
	Thursday	Friday	Cotundou
	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	2 9am Coffee Hour - White Elephant Gift Exchange - Clubhouse	3	4 10am-2pm SSS
	9 9am Coffee Hour - Sarah Ingraham Clubhouse	10 10am Landscape Cte. Billiards Room	11 10am-Noon Zen Tangles - Art Room
* * *	16 9am Coffee Hour - Ruben DeAnda Clubhouse	17	18
	23 9am Coffee Hour - Kevin O'Brien Clubhouse	24	25
Disclaimer: The infor- mation in this edition is subject to change. For updated information, please go to our website at oceanaseniors.org	30 No Coffee Hour today 2pm-3:30pm Afternoon Treat - Clubhouse	31	COFFEE ME

Things To Do at OCA

- **Art Studio** 10am-Noon only on days there is a class. Contact Caryn for studio use appointment. Info: Caryn Leventhal 760-518-6982.
- Billiards Thurs. 10am-Noon. Warm-Up Tues. 6-8pm. Friendly group for socializing and skills development. Private Group Play: Thurs. 6-8pm. Billiards Room. Info: Lonnie Burrows, 760-433-9481.
- Band-It Small Group Fitness—Thurs, 10-11:30am. Contact Deborah Schwab 551-206-5862 to sign up. Only six participants per 30 min session.
- Book Club Second Tues. each Month 10-11am. In the Library. Info: Jeri Gustafsson 760-754-2911.
- Ceramics Studio open every Mon., Tues., Thurs. and Fri. 12:30-3:30pm. Info: Paula McDonald, 760-703-3661, paulamcd@cox.net
- Chair Volleyball Mon. 1pm. Clubhouse. Info: Dave Freeman, 818-262-0788
- **Cribbage** Wed. 1-3pm in the Cardroom. We play 2's, 3's and 4's. Info: Rhonda Christopher, 760-231-1808.
- Discussion Group Thurs. at 10:30am (following Coffee Hour) in the Library. Info: Alan Dolit (760) 519-3765.
- **Dominos Group** Tues., 12pm in the Card Room. Info: Dona White, 760-533-2484.
- 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) 429-9224, or Linriley@cox.net
- Garden Club Meetings on occasion. Info: Lisa Olivero 917-589-2003
- Hand & Foot Fridays at 12pm Card Room. Info: Joan Jeffery, 206-307-7220
- 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.
- Line Dancing Mon. 11am-Noon. Auditorium. Info: Georgette Velez, 661-903-6990.
- 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 (please leave a message) 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: TuWeThFr, 10am 2pm, Info: Teri Battaglia, (714) 458-6842
- Sing-Along Thurs. 6-9pm in the Auditorium. Feel free to bring a snack & a drink. Info: Glen Hemingway, 760-518-5716.
- Spanish4Fun Class Thurs 2 Intermediate Level Vocabulary Until Spring Intermediate Nancy Hi On hiatus Until Spring Intermediate Nancy Hi On hiatus Until Spring Intermediate Spanish4Fun Class - Thurs 2 Intermediate Spring Intermediate Intermediate Spring Intermediate
- Spanish Club -1st and 3rd Weds. 3:30-4:30pm. Community Room. Contact Erin Quinton at eequinton@gmail.com.
- Tai Chi -Fri. 10am-Noon. Auditorium. Info: Janice Burrows , 760-277-5139.
- Trivia Mon. 6:30-7:30 pm. Card Room. Info: Carol & Kyle Roesler , 442-202-5230.
- Water Aerobics Mon-Wed-Fri 7:30am and 9am. Info: text Mary Hurban at (209) 834-6036 or Betsy Wilson at heybtsy0040@att.net
- Woodshop -Mon-Fri 1-3pm. Info: Jim Romans, 949-742-2311.
- Yoga (Chair) Mon. 10-11am. Auditorium. Info: Peggie Moore, 949-887-4641 or YogaWithPeg@gmail.com

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

Committee Membership Continued from Committee Membership page

Unit Advisors Committee

Meets: 2 rd Wed. ea. Odd-Numbered Month 9am, Clubhouse Auditorium Jeff Kern Chair Diane Pettibone Secretary			
Unit: 1 Ron Landsel 1A Lynn Schneidenbach 2 (Open)	760-231-7586 619-889-4612		
2 (Open) 3 Laura Bennett 4 Sally Lopez 5 Dr. Andrea Anderson 6 (Open)	760-224-2524 760-421-4187 510-701-4044		
7 Renee Maricque 8 Jeff Kern 9 Phyllis Allinson 10 Judy Hartmann	920-562-3436 908-420-1853 760-809-9551 909-518-8767		
11 (1-45) MaryAnn Alger 11 (46-77) Diane Danner 12 (1-53) Jaci Ackles	503-348-9959 760-803-1637 760-845-4612		
 12 (54-98) Jaci Ackles (Tem 14 Toby Roberts & Kristine Hale Evelyn Thomas 	p.) 760-721-6077 858-775-4253 Board Liaison		

2025

Updates From The Isle JANUARY

Happy Mew Year!

EMERALD ISLE GOLF COURSE

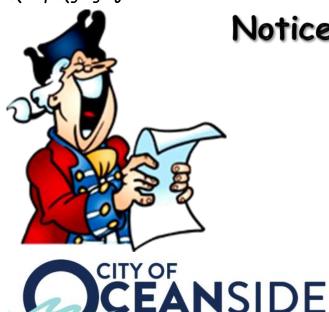
We are welcoming in 2025 with huge things on the horizon. The Isle has just recently celebrated it's 10 year anniversary of John & Holly Kennedy as owners! We could not be more proud to work for such a generous, motivating, inspirational duo in not just the world of golf but in every local community they can help in any way, they do. Congratulations again to guiding this golf course through it's golden era, we can't wait to see what the next years have in store for Emerald Isle Golf Course as we continue on our journey and mission of being A Golf Course for Everyone. Holly personally received the PGA of America's Golf Professional of the Year Award, was inducted into the San Diego Junior Golf Hall of Fame, AND John received his

Quarter Century Membership honors this past December. While on the list of incredible achievements, we also had our Director of Instruction Natalie Vivaldi accomplish an incredible 2 years in a row of Player of the Year for the SCPGA.

Can you believe this little executive course in Oceanside with no dress code, dogs, and plenty of fun happening is also absolutely paving the way for so many different ways for people to engage with the game and remain accessible, welcoming, and affordable. January is the start to a whole new season of tournaments at the golf course. February is our Annual Super Bowl Tournament full of 15+ years of traditions, and plenty of game day fun on the patio to enjoy a pregame to the day as we watch this years winner to the big game. Register for tournaments on our website, social media, and The Emerald Isle Golf App.



Hilltop Highlights



A Survey

The City of Oceanside is committed to creating and maintaining a great community for people to live in as they age. The City's goal is to gather residents' perspectives on what is already working well and what is needed - the purpose of this survey. Your answers to these questions will help identify priorities and challenges facing older adults and individuals living with disabilities. The results of this survey will be used to create a plan to help make the City of Oceanside a more livable, supportive community.

To access and take the survey, use:

https://sdsu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/ SV_5sCHXFXY7qFZWuy

(Note: if you are viewing this on our website, the hyperlink on the above line should be active.)

Or use this QR code on your smart phone:



Share & Wear Re-opens

Share & Wear re-opens Saturday January 4th with a store wide 50% off sale. Come on down and check out our new merchandise. Boutique and Annex. 10am - 2pm

Notices & Reminders

Something New to Do

Line Dancing!

Beginning January 13.



A new weekly activity, of-

fered every Monday from 11am—Noon in the Auditorium. The fun will be led by Georgette Velez, 661-903-6990.

Setting Intentions For the New Year

A Workshop

Did you know that those who set New Year's resolutions have quit by the 2nd Friday of January ("Quitters Day")? Why? It may be that resolutions are not fun, nor created out of feeling inspired, and they feel like work. Tuesday, January 28, 1:00 in the Community Room there will be a workshop on setting individualized **health-focused** intentions with the guidance of a certified life coach. This class is designed for already successful people who want to set fresh goals that fit their values, lifestyles and involve behaviors they enjoy. A small group of up to 8 people will continue for 5 more weekly, individualized-focused workshops. For more information contact MaryAnn Alger, Certified Life Coach at:

oceana.oside@gmail.com

MaryAnn Alger

Event Signup Dates

It takes a lot of planning and plain oldfashion work to bring an event to Oceana. The Activities Committee has experimented with the number of days in between signup dates and cutoff dates. When events are catered, the caterer needs time to order and prepare food. The committee along with the caterers, has determined that the ending time for signup needs to be one week prior to the event.

Beginning in 2025, signup for all catered events will close one week prior to the event date. We strive to make signups smooth and easy for everyone and we hope this new policy will do just that. We look forward to joining all of you at the exciting events we are planning for 2025.

> Sincerely The Activities Committee

New Hours for the Art Studio

Starting this month

The Art Room will be open 10am-Noon only on the days there is a class. If you are interested in working on an art project on a Wednesday when there is no class being held, please reach out to Caryn to make an appointment:

carynnicole30@yahoo.com or call/text 760-518-6982

Caryn Leventhal



Oceana Good Neighbor Fund

\$100 Emergency Grants for Oceana Residents

The Oceana Good Neighbor Fund offers \$100 Emergency Grants to Oceana residents. You automatically qualify if you currently receive any of these benefits:

- Medi-Cal, SSI/SSDI
- CalFresh/SNAP
- SDGE CARE/LIHEAP
- Section 8 Housing

You also qualify if your annual household income is \$40,000 or less for one or two persons. For a household of three persons, the maximum annual household income is \$51,640.

Applications are available at OGNF.org or at the Oceana Community Resource Center (in the Clubhouse lobby).

You'll also find information on donating to OGNF or volunteering with us at OGNF.org. Come help us expand our capabilities!

The Oceana Good Neighbor Fund is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization (EIN:88-2148733). The members of the Board of Directors are Oceana residents. We adhere to strict privacy and confidentiality policies (posted at OGNF.org).

Recycle Your Batteries

If you have smaller-size batteries that you want to dispose of, **do not** put them into regular trash or into the recycle bin. Batteries contain hazardous materials that must receive special treatment.

Enclose old batteries in a plastic bag and put the bag on top of the lid of your recycle bin for regular trash collection. The trash collector will pick it up and handle it properly.

Shhh!, Quiet Zone Ahead

No one can live in a community without producing some noise. Many noises are natural and cannot be avoided. But, there are those noises that are excessive and totally unnecessary.

This is a seniors' community. Roaring vehicle engines, shouting at others at a distance, blaring car stereos (regardless of the music genre), practicing drums on your patio can all jolt your neighbors from a needed sound sleep. Please respect your neighbors and avoid making excessive and unnecessary noise, especially at night.

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)

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.

NOTE: The pool is closed any time there is an outdoor event poolside, from one hour before the event until the event is over.





We had several very fun events this past month. Check them out below!!

Share & Wear Christmas Sale

Share and Wear held its annual Christmas sale for two days in the auditori-



um. A huge assortment of Christmas items was available to purchase. Thank you to those of you who came to purchase items. A Huge Thank You to all our devoted Share & Wear volunteers who volunteered their time in staffing this two-day event and staffing the Annex and Boutique all through the year. Your time and commitment are very appreciated! Sales at Share & Wear help defray costs for many of our Activity Events at Oceana. Please say "Thank You" to any Share & Wear volunteer you meet.

Thanksgiving Luncheon

Thanksgiving Day 2024 was welcomed by over 120 Oceana residents! The auditorium was dressed with festive holiday tableware along with classy black banquet chair covers!



The afternoon began at 1:00 pm as residents arrived, greeting one another while enjoying drinks of their choice. A blessing was read followed by the Thanksgiving feast that included turkey, mashed potatoes, green beans, stuffing, gravy, dinner rolls with butter in the shape of a turkey and cranberry sauce. Let's not forget dessert . . . a slice of pumpkin pie topped with whipped cream! Thank you to Eddie Chiw and his staff for catering the event.

Looking around the gathering, I saw dozens of smiling faces, heard laughter and stories being shared, and felt a true sense of community! I could see that the residents of Oceana were truly appreciative, grateful and thankful for such a special event.

Events such as these are coordinated by the Activities Committee, chaired by Ellen Marciel. Volunteers worked tirelessly as they



planned, shopped, decorated and prepared to host our community. A special thank you to Shelly Lyell, (daughter of Jim and Ginny Romans) and Miriam Loesgen, who assisted in serving the meal. Also to Diane Huntley, Enid Pugh and Fran Jones who so graciously helped with tablecloths, chair covers and table settings! We so appreciate your help!

Thanksgiving represents gratitude and thanks for all; including unity, family and friends and an opportunity to serve others. On a personal note, I am filled with gratitude for my partner, Lisa, my wonderful and caring friends that have embraced us here at Oceana and to the Activities Committee that continues to enrich our lives. As John F. Kennedy once said, "As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."

Luncheon Narrative by Gail Olenick

Coffee Hour

Thursday morning Coffee Hour events start between 8:30 and 9:30 am when you



pick up a beverage (yes, we also offer sodas) and food (donut and rolls) of choice (only \$1 each). It's a Two-Buck Bargain! At 9:30 announcements of upcoming events at Oceana are provided (plus some fun stories and a few jokes). At 9:45 the visiting entertainers begin their acts and the fun starts. Please join us on Thursdays if you can. The following are the great events and entertainers we had this past month.

January 2025

- Bingo

Bingo has been called the "Most Fun, Probability Seminar" we have at Oceana. Well, card players might also make a claim about that too. Ellen Marciel again engaged the attendees to work on their "hand - eye" coordination as she calls out the Letters and Numbers for each game. There are prizes for the winners of





each game. Big prize for the winner(s) of "Black Out" Bingo gets a gift certificate to Share & Wear. It's fun! Come join us most 1st Thursdays of the month for our different games of Bingo.

- Glenn Kramer

Glenn Kramer has been entertaining us for several years with his piano playing and the great smile he brings to the auditorium. He keeps "perfecting" his "Name that Tune" game he plays with us.



We spin the "spinner" on his iPad to find out a category of songs where he picks one song from the category and provides the first few notes, or the first few bars of a recording and we guess what song it is. After the correct guess... he adds the piano to finish out the rest of the song. He always makes it a fun morning!



- Bobby Chandran - Senior Scams

Bobby Chandran works for the U.S. Department of Justice in the Southern California area. He provided some very useful information on several of the different fraud scams that affect Seniors. He gave us clear warning that many of the scams that are effective are very hard to detect. And if you suspect something . . . please check first before losing some of your hard-earned savings. Call 1-800-677-1116 if you suspect anything or want to check it out.

Top 10 Financial Scams Targeting Older Adults

- Government impersonation scams
- Sweepstakes and lottery scams
- Robocalls and phone scams
- Computer tech support scams
- The grandparent scams
- Romance scam
- Business Imposter scam
- Investment scam
- Medicare & health insurance scam
- Internet and email fraud

Charlie Wendt 760-908-8897



Group & Club Reports

Oceana Garden Club

Happy New Year, Oceana!

Our annual fundraiser gala in June was a huge success, and our heartfelt thanks to everyone who supported us. After taking some well-deserved time to recoup, (after all we are not spring chickens), we are rebuilding and revitalizing some of our older garden plots, cleaning up the common grounds and planting our winter crops.

If you'd like to be a part of the Oceana Garden Club, volunteering is a great way to get started! We always appreciate a helping hand with tasks like watering, assisting in the nursery, weeding, raking, along with repairing and rebuilding plots. Please Contact Lisa at:

lisaolivero16@gmail.com

Lisa Olivero



Community Resources Center

Looking Back, Looking Forward

2024 was an active year for the Community Resource Center (CRC). We helped many Oceana residents access free and low-cost programs available in the North County. The CRC also connected residents to the Oceana Good Neighbor Fund to receive free emergency \$100 grants. And, as recapped below, we sponsored the second annual Veteran's Resource Fair where veterans and their families learned about benefits available to those who served.

Remember, we can help you take advantage of **free** and low-cost:

- Food distribution
- Energy cost assistance programs
- Pet food and medical care
- Veteran's assistance programs
- Movies, concerts, and other entertainment
- Transportation to events, grocery stores, medical appointments, etc.
- And much more!

Information on all these programs is available from the CRC office in the Clubhouse lobby or online at OceanaSeniors.org – click on Helpful Links / Community Resource Center.

Looking Ahead

Plan to attend the CRC's inaugural Seniors Resource Fair on Wednesday, April 23 at 10 a.m. in the Clubhouse auditorium. We'll have a wide range of free and low-cost senior service providers on site to help you access their benefits and learn about hot topics such as keeping your driver's license for as long as possible, protecting yourself from scams and abuse, etc.

Look for more information on the Seniors Resource Fair in the next issue of Hilltop Highlights. And stop by the CRC office or website to see how we can help you, starting today!

Sydnie Wauson sawauson@gmail.com

Veterans' Corner

Helen Keller once said, "alone we can do so little; together we can do so much". I understand the true meaning of this statement. The CRC functions because of dedicated volunteers. I cherish the wonderful experience of working with a group of people to help others.

This past November, for the second year in a row, The CRC hosted The Veterans Resource Fair. The goal of the event is to create a bridge for residents to access programs and services available to them and for the residents to become aware of the various resources available for our aging community.

We recognized and honored Oceana residents with military experience that earned the title "Veteran". Our veterans wrote a blank check made payable to "The United States of America" for any amount up to and including their lives. We held a Pinning Ceremony where veterans received a veteran lapel pin. We also held a Veterans Honor Slideshow. Residents provided photos captured during their military days to create the slideshow. From The CRC, we say thank you, veterans, for your service and sacrifice. Over 20 organizations participated in the Veterans Resource Fair:

- The Braille Institute of San Diego
- Bridlewood
- Courage To Call
- Emerald Isle Golf Course
- Foundation of Women Warriors
- God's Heart Ministry
- Military Order of The Purple Heart
- Oceana Good Neighbor Fund
- Seniors Helping Seniors

January 2025

- Carlson Mobile Notary
- Veterans Mortgage Advisor
- VA San Diego Healthcare System
- Women Marine Association
- Veterans Writing Group
- Oceanside Police Department
- FBI Task Force Internet Fraud
- Eternal Hills: Veteran Burial Benefit Program
- Sunrise Living Community
- The CRC
- FBI
- Marine Corps League
- USS Midway Museum

In the military, we work as a team to accomplish a mission. Just like the military, there is an entire team that worked together to make the 2nd Annual Veterans Resource Fair happen. The CRC volunteers were Kris McLaughlin, Connie Iniquez, Sydnie Wauson, Donna Wendt, and Jim Floyd. Bob Werner, vocalist, performed The National Anthem accompanied by the pianist, Georgette Velez. OCA Board of Directors Liaison, Teresa-Chamberlain-Spradlin, volunteered at the Check-In Table. Additional help came from OCA Staff Antoinette Valenzuela, Tracy Richardson, Adam Lira, Felix Gonzales, Jesus Perez, and Andrea Parra. Thank you for making this happen.

Evelyn L. Thomas thoma007@cougars.csusm.edu spveterans@gmail.com (760) 681-4716



"WE USED TO TIPTOE THROUGH THE TULIPS ... NOW WE JUST WADDLE THROUGH THE WEEDS!"

Did You Know?



History

Martin Luther King was born on January 15, 1929, but his birthday is celebrated annually on the third Monday of January. He is one of only two Americans whose birthdays are observed as federal holidays. The other one is George Washington.

MLK made irreplaceable contributions to the American civil rights movement from the mid-1950s until his assassination in 1968. Through peaceful civil disobedience and inspiring speeches, he brought attention to the racial inequality, discrimination, and injustice prevalent in America, ultimately leading towards various legislation changes enacted to bring about racial equity. His philosophy and pursuit of equality continue to resonate with many Americans today, making him an enduring symbol of hope and peace.

Facts and Quotes

- Martin Luther King was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. He was 35 years old, the youngest Peace Prize winner at the time.
- "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of



their skin, but by the content of their character." - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., August 28, 1963.

- According to the U.S. Census Bureau, During his famous speech "I Have a Dream," Martin Luther King Jr. spoke to more than 200,000 people from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial.
- "Life's most persistent and urgent question is: 'What are you doing for others?'" - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
- "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
- "Today, we reflect on the life and legacy of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and recommit to honoring his vision. It's up to us to march forward choosing democracy over autocracy and a 'Beloved Community' over chaos — to take up Dr. King's mantle and make his dream a reality." - President Joseph Biden, Jan 15, 2024.

Ring Out, Wild Bells

(from In Memoriam)

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky, The flying cloud, the frosty light: The year is dying in the night; Ring out, wild bells, and let him die. Ring out the old, ring in the new, Ring, happy bells, across the snow: The year is going, let him go; Ring out the false, ring in the true. Ring out the grief that saps the mind For those that here we see no more: Ring out the feud of rich and poor, Ring in redress to all mankind. Ring out a slowly dying cause, And ancient forms of party strife; Ring in the nobler modes of life, With sweeter manners, purer laws. Ring out the want, the care, the sin, The faithless coldness of the times: Ring out, ring out my mournful rhymes But ring the fuller minstrel in. Ring out false pride in place and blood, The civic slander and the spite; Ring in the love of truth and right, Ring in the common love of good. Ring out old shapes of foul disease; Ring out the narrowing lust of gold; Ring out the thousand wars of old, Ring in the thousand years of peace. Ring in the valiant man and free, The larger heart, the kindlier hand; Ring out the darkness of the land, Ring in the Christ that is to be.

Lord Alfred Tennyson

