

OCEAN RESORTS CO-OP, INC.

SEPTEMBER, 2017

## ISLAND TIMES

### Manager's Report Todd Holcomb, CAM

Well Hurricane Irma came and went - it was a very trying time for most of South Florida as it's projected path kept changing. Overall we fared very well with minimal damage; we lost two trees and some limbs but the association didn't have any damage to our buildings, pool area, or other structures. The staff did a great job and they all fared well at home also. It was a great reminder to everyone that these things are unpredictable and everyone needs to be prepared during hurricane season. To those who were here and helped out,

**THANK YOU!**



## HURRICANE IRMA

Photos by Ray Zwart



## Manager's Report, continued

The upper elevator is complete and is now in operation. One thing to remember is that there is a delay when pushing the button to move up or down; this is normal.



**Photo by Ray Zwart**

The permit application has long been submitted to the County for the exterior renovation of Comfort Station 4. I spoke with the permitting office to try and speed things up, however, the slow wheels of County Government

continue to grind. Not sure if that conversation will help but I gave it a shot, so we'll see. Once the permit is issued I will set up the roofing for Comfort Stations 3 and 4.

I am still trying to obtain additional proposals to repair the retaining wall at the pavilion. Most contractors have been unresponsive and those that have responded initially have since gone silent. We do have one proposal from earlier in the year and I am reaching out to them for a site visit to go over the scope of work and make sure we are all on the same sheet of music.

We are researching our options to connect to reclaimed water and/or add a well pump for irrigation. If we are able to do that it will come with some upfront costs but it should significantly reduce our water consumption and sewerage charges.

Volunteers are a big part of the daily routine here at Ocean Resorts. As such, if anyone is interested in being added to the list let me know.

If anyone would like to be added to my blast email contact list, either call the office or send us an email and we will add you so you will receive future blast emails.

As you know, we are still in Hurricane season so please abide by By-Law 11.3.i Tie Downs. The end of season is typically the busiest time for tropical storms and hurricanes to develop so please ensure that all your items are properly stored.

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## President's Message by David R. Comolli

With our financial year quickly coming to an end I am pleased to announce that our manager and office staff have tightened many loose ends to bring our operating budget in line. Also the numerous issues that arose this summer were handled expeditiously and in a very professional manner. We as a co-op are moving in the right direction.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many volunteers and committee members for the endless hours they donate to improve our experiences at O.R. A special thank you to the volunteers that close the game room, recreation hall and swimming pool every night at 10 pm. Also a special thanks to the many volunteers that assist with garbage and recycle truck pickup and covering the pool in the winter months. Our greatest asset is our volunteerism! Please think about what you could add to Ocean Resorts; your experience and expertise are needed and welcomed!

I am looking forward to returning to O.R. to see old friends and meeting the many new shareholders. Hope everyone has a good fall season!!

## **BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE**

**by Mary Dombro**

During the past winter season at Ocean Resorts, our committee held discussions on a way to remember our former chairperson, Linda Hulse. Linda held this position since 2005 and was forced to resign due to her declining health. Cancer took her life in the spring of 2016.

Linda, and her husband, Jim, were very active members of the Ocean Resorts community. One of the many projects of interest to both of them was the restoration of the anchor that washed ashore many years ago and is now positioned to the right of the boardwalk. Several members of this committee and some of their spouses spent many hours renovating the anchor.

Jim suggested that perhaps the committee could place something by the anchor to honor Linda's memory. With that in mind, the committee members chose to have a palm tree planted just behind it. This was done this past April.

Please keep in mind the following dates:

- Saturday, November 25, 2017 – Decorate the park for the Christmas holiday.
- Sunday, December 3, 2017 – Light-up Night – Meet at the post office at 6:30 p.m.

Volunteer help will be needed to decorate. Look for specific times and details for each event on the post office bulletin board in November.



Photo by Ray Zwart

## **OCEAN RESORTS "HAPPY HOUR"**

**by Sharon and Tom English**

The Ocean Resorts "HAPPY HOUR" has continued throughout the summer months. Each month about 30 full timers, guests and summer visitors have joined in the fun. The "HAPPY HOUR" will be held on the last THURSDAY of each month through December from 4-6 pm at the pavilion. The following dates have been set: October 26th, November 30th and December 28th. September is cancelled due to our vacation. Please mark your calendars and see you there!



Photo by Ray Zwart



## **Ocean Resorts Celebrates our Nonagenarians: Al Levesque**

This month we are celebrating Joseph Maurice Albert Levesque, becoming one of our most recent residents to turn 90 years old! Nicknamed 'Al' because there were too many "Joes" in the army already, he was born on Thanksgiving Day of 1925 at his home in Lewiston, Maine to Raoul and Aurore (Bosse) Levesque. In fact, the turkey had to be removed from the table in order to provide a spot for his birth!

Al had an older brother, Gerard, who is now deceased, and has a younger sister, Constance. He was educated at the St. Peter and Paul parochial school, Lewiston High School (class of 1944) and the University of Maine (class of 1950).

As a high school freshman on December 7, 1941, Al wanted to help his country. In the fall of 1943 he enlisted as an Army Air Force cadet, rather than be drafted after graduation, in order to choose his own career path.

After the Battle of the Bulge and D-Day, no new infantry troops were needed so as an enlisted Air Force cadet, Al was sent to Savannah, Georgia as an Air Operations Specialist.

A highlight of his military career was flying in a B-24 to Havana, Cuba and enjoying some nightlife with fellow cadets. A lowlight was escorting the body

of a fellow enlisted-man back home to Holyoke, MA and presenting his mother with an American flag. Al was honorably discharged in 1946 with the rank of Sargent and professes that he "went in as a boy and came out as a man". Al then attended the University of Maine, graduating with a BA

in 1950. He married Joye Ann Cleveland in 1951 and they have four children, Linda, John, Mary and Jim, and two grandchildren, Ian London and Ellen London Crane.

Al was an Honor Ring Agent with Allstate Insurance from 1953-1992. He enjoys sports having skied, played tennis, golf and bocce, and loves sharing his Red Sox and Patriots with daughter Linda. Al and Joye have been Florida snowbirds in Ocean Resorts since 1994 and reside at Highland Green in Topsham, Maine during the summer months.



## LET'S EAT OUT by Sharon English

While we are on the subject of DAY TRIPPING, a short drive north up A1A or on US1, can lead you to some interesting dining experiences. Here are two that we have enjoyed several times this past year.

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### CAFE COCONUT COVE - German and American food

4210 S Hwy A1A, Melbourne Beach  
32951 (about 50 minute drive north)  
321-727-3133

Open Tuesday-Saturday 5-9 pm  
[cafecoconutcove.com](http://cafecoconutcove.com)

With Oktoberfest right around the corner, I'd like to suggest an authentic German restaurant in Melbourne Beach. CAFE COCONUT COVE, don't let the name fool you! This quaint little restaurant is on the left hand side of the road and sits along the Indian River. Reservations are a must in season and on weekends. It's very popular with locals and snowbirds. We always order the potato pancake appetizer. There are several very good Schnitzel dishes. The last time we were there we split a wonderful Roasted Pork Shank. Of course you must try the Apple Strudel Ala Mode! They have wine, German and domestic beers.

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### THIRSTY CLAM - Seafood, Live and Raw Bar

5900 US1, Grant/Valkaria 32949 (about 45 minute drive north) 321-345-7220

Open 11:00 am-11:00 pm every day for lunch and dinner. [ThirstyClam@thirstyclam.com](mailto:ThirstyClam@thirstyclam.com)

The THIRSTY CLAM is truly a locals hang out for fresh seafood. The owner told us nothing is fried - "go to the restaurant in front of his for that"! This little restaurant is super casual, with indoor and outdoor seating, occasional live music, and a full bar. I had a terrific fresh hogfish dinner for \$14. Try any of the shrimp dishes! The seafood is sautéed, broiled or steamed. I also recommend you try one of their homemade chowders. The place has that "old Florida" atmosphere and the friendly owner, his wife and staff are welcoming.



## DAY TRIPPING!

by Sharon English

Living in Ocean Resorts all year round is great! However, in the summer one needs a little diversion or break. We found that Florida is filled with unusual little places to visit all within a day's ride. Check out this website: Newsletter@onlyinyourstate.com and subscribe to receive emails about places to go in any state in the USA. Sign up for FL and check out interesting things to do.

Our post office also has a stand with brochures for local points of interest and many offer discounts



and coupons. One day trip I highly recommend is Lion Country Safari in West Palm Beach. It is a beautiful park for visiting families with children. It features a drive-through for animal viewings, as well as an amusement park, water slides and a

camping area. The brochure in the post office has a coupon but we used our Enjoyment Book for half off savings. It is only 75 minutes south on either I-95 exit 68 or FL Turnpike exit 97.



Want to take a scenic drive? I recommend the Martin Glade Road "Tunnel of Trees" on CR-714. Sally and Jim Kraszewski introduced us to this beautiful 12 mile stretch of road west of Palm City. Take I-95 to exit 110 and go west about 10 minutes.

From Route 1/Federal Highway in Stuart turn right onto CR-714 and drive about 30 minutes west. After the Tunnel of Trees you will end up near Lake Okeechobee. We had a late lunch at a local place, The Happy Hour Tavern and Grill. It is not much to look at but the food was good, the beer cold and the wait staff was friendly. We had country fried steak, with all the fixings for \$8.

A link to more information and photos go to <http://martingrade.org/>



### **Meditation for Stress Reduction by Nancy Wilder**

Starting Jan. 8th, we will have a guided stress reduction and relaxation class at 11:15 on Monday. I have been teaching meditation classes for several years now, but finally realized the class would be perfect after yoga. Its an opportunity to get the week started in a relaxed and balanced mode.

In our classes we will follow several great teachers. One of my favorites is Jon Kabat Zinn, a professor of medicine and a creator of the Stress Reduction Center at the University of Massachusetts Medical School. Listening to Dr Zinn, we get into a comfortable position, on the mat or in a chair and follow along with his instructions. Often we will start with the mindful relaxation of the body.... our toes and on up and through. The class will be about forty five minutes long. Relaxation is guaranteed.

### **Mahjong Madness by Nancy Wilder**

The tiles keep clicking with this ancient Chinese strategy game. This past season found a very active Wednesday afternoon group of players at the card room. And on Thursday nights the rec hall was busy with tables of four in deep concentration, with occasional outbursts that cannot be printed...Mahjong can be challenging! There was a run for the new Mahjong cards when they came out in April (you can get them on line or at the Vero bookstore), and everybody complains that they "like the old card better".



**Photo by Lee Koesema**

There is conversation already about offering a table for two next season, on Thursday nights, for instructions to new players and early plans are being formulated for one of our legendary Mahjong Martini Madness parties.



**Photo by Lee Koesema**

### **NEW!!! Ocean Resorts Website** by Barbara Goodman

The website for Ocean Resorts has been updated to include new pictures and current documents of interest to our shareholders. The new website serves two purposes; 1) to inform the public about our co-op, and 2) to share important information with shareholders and renters.

We want to send out a big thanks to Carolyn and John Lehman for their dedication in updating and managing the old website in recent years. The Lehman's 'retired' and the website was in need of a 'face-lift'. Ray Zwart and Barb Goodman took the challenge to update the site and make it into a dynamic site, meaning that we hope to keep it updated with new information and pictures all of the time, especially during season. Our manager, Todd, will also be using the website to broadcast information to shareholders as necessary.

The new website contains an event calendar in the bottom right area of the home page. Please note that the times related to each of the activities may not be accurate yet as we were unable to get that information from the various committees but a time had to be entered to enter the event. This information will be updated within the next month. Also, some shareholder pages are password-protected. You may get the password from the office or by sending an email to the address below.

The website address is the same as in the past: [oceanresortscsco-opinc.org](http://oceanresortscsco-opinc.org). We hope that you will use the website often, even marking it as your home page during season so that you don't miss any information that may be posted. We will work closely with the various committees and the office to ensure that the website stays updated.

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, you may send them to us at:

[webmaster@oceanresortscsco-opinc.org](mailto:webmaster@oceanresortscsco-opinc.org)

### **SOME NEW "KIDS" ON THE BLOCK:**



**Photos by Ray Zwart**

#### **Ocean Resorts Island Times Staff:**

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