

# Ocean Resorts Island Times

April 2018



Photo by Ray Zwart

You may view a **color version** of each issue on the website at the following website:  
<https://www.oceanresortscopinc.org>

## **SUPERVISOR'S REPORT** by Donna Perez

Hello to all, many of you have already departed for the season, I hope you had safe travels to your destinations. For those of us still here in the warmth of sunny Florida let's continue to enjoy all its benefits. If you have already departed, hopefully you remembered to change your mailing address with the US Postal Service. Changing it in the Co-Op office DOES NOT change it with the USPS. For those who haven't left yet, this is a reminder.

We have a few projects under way in the maintenance department. JA Taylor is also on the schedule to start the comfort station roofs within the next month.

If you are new to the park and this will be your first hurricane season, please ensure you are prepared in the event we are once again struck by Mother Nature's wrath. We were spared by Irma and were very fortunate for minimal damage. There are many resources out there for your reference to make sure you have a plan in place.

Below you will find a few helpful links to help you prepare:

- <http://www.stateofflorida.com/articles/hurricane-preparedness-guide.aspx>

- <http://www.stlucieco.gov/departments-services/a-z/public-safety/disaster-preparedness>
- <https://www.stluciesheriff.com/p/101/disaster-ready#.Ws9nxy7wazc>

A friendly reminder, Hurricane Season, begins June 1, as such By-Law 11.3(i) must be strictly adhered to for the safety and security of all shareholders, residents, and their property in the event of a major storm or hurricane. In short, the By-Law says that if anyone will be absent from their property for more than three days during the months of June-November all items must be properly anchored down and smaller items must be properly secured (the By-Law has quite a few items listed as examples but isn't all inclusive). If you have a question regarding this or any other topic, please don't hesitate to call. This includes any chairs or umbrellas you may be storing under the boardwalk by the beach. If there is anything left under the boardwalk past June 1, 2018 unclaimed, it will be removed and disposed of.

The Building and Grounds committee created a great pamphlet on how to properly secure your property before a storm, these are available at the office and will go out to all shareholders with June quarterlies.

Have a safe and fun filled upcoming summer wherever you may be.

**Board President's Report**  
**Vicki L. Neuman, BoD President**  
**4/7/2018**

Congratulations to all on another enjoyable "high season." Kudos to all committees for your contributions to the successful events and activities held, the on-going operations of trash pick-up, the marina operations, the closing of buildings and all other volunteer efforts. Ocean Resorts is enhanced by the efforts of our volunteers, and they are valued and appreciated.

Many of you have made the great exodus to the North, others are preparing to do so in the next couple of months, and the annual residents will continue to "hold the fort", so to speak (along with management and staff), to keep their watchful eyes upon maintaining our piece of Paradise.

While I truly feel we are fortunate to live in our own Paradise, there is an issue that is most disturbing to me, to the Board and to most shareholders. Sadly, there have been some incidents of inappropriate and unacceptable behavior by a few shareholders. Yelling, swearing, bullying or threats of any nature to office staff, maintenance staff, Board members or other shareholders is a sad commentary on our times. It is bad enough that elementary-aged children act that way but totally incomprehensible when mature adults do so. I simply ask that you apply the "Golden Rule", and treat others as you wish to be treated. We each have a right to our own opinion and can agree to disagree without nastiness. Kindness costs nothing. I have the utmost respect for and appreciate that the majority of you do not exhibit this behavior.

The Board of Directors is working hard to continue to provide governance and direction to OR. One of the most important items on our agenda is to hire a new manager. We have received four resumes for the position and a subcommittee will be reviewing them, setting up interviews and hiring by early May.

The second phase of the security system has been approved and installation will occur this summer.

Continued upgrades to outdated electrical, water and sewer will occur in specific locations. We plan to implement a new reserve study to ensure adequate reserves are being maintained for repair and/or replacement of facilities. A sub-committee of the Buildings and Grounds Committee is researching potential updates to the pavilion area. While some of these projects sound more exciting than others, a continued critical concern is focused on updating our failing infrastructure. Pipes and wires laid decades ago are deteriorating and must be a priority. More information will be provided as these projects commence.

In an effort to keep on top of all issues pertaining to OR, your Board will now meet monthly. These meetings will be conducted at the Club House through the wonders of 21st century technology. Combined efforts, spearheaded by James Rocco, have resulted in the purchased of a new video conferencing system. We are currently testing it for all contingencies and working out all the "bugs". It will first be used at the April 19th Board meeting and we are excited about the possibilities it will afford.

Here's to an awesome April for everyone!



Photo by Ray Zwart

## Ocean Resorts salutes our Nonagenarians - ILSE FECHNER

Born on January 26, 1928, Ilse Fechner and her husband, Wolfram, were born and raised in Kassel, Germany. Wolf studied music, classical and jazz, and played in a jazz band throughout Europe. Ilse went to business college and worked for the state in the payroll department.

They were married in 1951 and immigrated to the United States in 1952, settling on a dairy farm in Hastings, Michigan. They lived the first 2 1/2 years with the owner of the farm. This was a new experience for them since they had always lived in a big city. Wolf and Ilse loved country living so they decided to save up to buy a dairy farm of their own. Wolf got a job in a creamery and Ilse got a payroll job in a local manufacturing company. After a short time, they purchased one of the farms from the couple they were living with. This was the start of life on a Grade A Dairy Farm that they made very successful.



Wolf and Ilse became active in their community and church. Wolf also taught music lessons and worked with the High School bands. They had three children, Nancy, Christina and John, along with one grandson, Jonathon. Wolf developed health issues in his early 50's which eventually lead them to sell the Dairy farm. They kept 35 acres and their house. They were now able to travel south in the winter. They went to Texas in 1982, then to Florida in 1983, where friends rented them a lot at Ocean Resorts.

Wolf and Ilse really loved it at OR and bought a lot on Jib Way where they wintered every year. Then in 1988 they sold their Michigan house and became full time residents at Ocean Resorts. During this time, Wolf also began working for a German wine company called Pieroth Wines. They both enjoyed the wine and traveling with the company. Wolf soon became known as "Wolf the Wine Man". His wines were enjoyed by their many friends at Ocean Resorts. As they became more active in their community, Wolf served on the board, started a band for the OR dances, and helped to get the Post Office opened. For the next 20 years, they really enjoyed Florida life along with the many new friends they made. After 57 years of marriage, Wolf passed away in 2008.



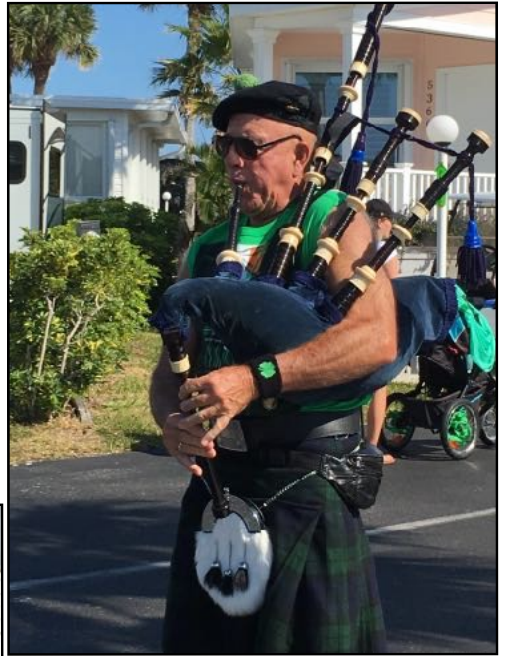
In 2018, Ilse celebrated her 90th birthday. Her three children surprised her with a 4-day cruise to the Bahamas. They did this once before for her 80th birthday and they promised to do it again in 10 years for her 100th birthday, along with having her appear on a Smuckers jelly jar. She feels blessed to have her family so involved in her life.

Daughter Nancy and her husband, Bill, are retired and own a rental in Ocean Resorts. They live in Oceanique, a condo just down the road from OR. Christina lives in Traverse City, Michigan, and works for Michigan Blood. John lives in Hastings, Michigan, working for a construction company in Grand Rapids. Grandson Jonathon lives in Grand Rapids and works for the city water works department.

Looking back, the past 90 years went by in a flash. Now Ilse just tries to stay busy with daily exercise, aquatics. Canasta, bingo, being a member of the Activities Committee. attending church on Sunday and visiting with friends.

**"Life Is Good at Ocean Resorts!!"**





**St. Patrick's  
Day  
Parade**





## ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE - Easter Egg Hunt by Judy Smolarek



The Activities Committee sponsored Easter Egg Hunt was a big success with the visiting children at Ocean Resorts. About 30 boys and girls, ages 12 and under, found the hundreds of hidden eggs and then participated in the Bunny Hop race and Egg on Spoon race. Kids also dug for quarters in the sand pit, received a tattoo, and entered pictures in the coloring contest. As they left, each child got to pick a little prize to take home.

A big Thank You to all my helpers who assisted me in hiding eggs, supervising games and handing out prizes. The adults seemed to have just as much fun as the kids!



All photos by Lee Koesema





# LUAU 2018

## SOCIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE by Julie Hughes, Secretary

It was a beautiful, sunny day in paradise for our Luau, the Grand Finale of the season. The music provided by The Sophisticats and the drinks flowing lent to a great many friends socializing and dancing. Hawaiian decor and a super meal was provided by our wonderful staff of volunteers. We commend them for all their help to make this a memorable occasion.

We have a new committee forming for the fall so please welcome them! If you are returning home, have a safe trip and we'll see you soon!











Photo by Bill Howe

# Easter Sunrise Service On the Beach at Ocean Resorts

If you haven't been at Ocean Resorts to participate in our annual Easter Sunrise Service on the beach, you are surely missing a very inspirational experience! Many people help to provide this event for our residents, families and neighbors. A big thanks to Mary Wilson for providing the message, Marion Stark for leading us in song, and Claudia Woodhouse, Bill Howe, John Provance and John Dombro for participating in the service. Another big thanks to Ray Zwart for providing a wonderful layout of Easter goodies to share for brunch at the Clubhouse after the service.



Photo by Bill Howe



Photo by Cibby Gardiner



Photo by Ray Zwart

## MEDITATION by Nancy Wilder

I was pleased this month to read about a group of cardiac physicians recommending meditation and yoga for their patients. Documentation has shown that a few minutes of meditation every day has great physical and psychological benefit, with lowered blood pressure and decreased feelings of stress and anxiety. An every day practice of meditation will bring an all over feeling of wellness. Try five minutes a day, best in the morning if possible. Sit with your back straight in a chair, sit in silence, with yourself, your body, your mind. Follow your breath, breathing in through your nose and out through your mouth. Close your eyes and be mindful of the feel of your breath in and out of your body. Your mind will wander; gently bring it back to your breath. Tap into the sense of relaxation and feeling of calm. Remember, stress is toxic to your heart.

I challenge you to take five minutes a day, just five minutes to sit with yourself and focus on your breath.



**LET'S EAT OUT**  
**By Sharon English**

JENSEN BEACH GERMAN GEM!  
THE HOFFMAN GERMAN AMERICAN FOOD & DRINKS  
3825 NE Indian River Drive, Jensen Beach, FL 34957  
772-233-8487. Open daily 11:30 AM - 11:00 PM



If you feel like taking a ride down beautiful Indian River Drive, from Fort Pierce to Jensen Beach, you will reach The Hoffman German American eatery on the left side. It's right after Conchy Joe's and before the round about at the Jensen Beach Causeway. We had a wonderful homemade German lunch, outside on the deck, one bright sunny day. Our waiter, an American, spoke fluent German to other patrons and the diners around us were pleasant. What a charming little place with cold beers, grilled bratwurst, sauerkraut, spaetzle, German meatballs in mushroom gravy and home fries. We brought half of our lunch home for dinner that night! Although we opted for the German food, there are more American dishes offered on the menu.

**DAY TRIPPING by Sharon English**

Historic Downtown JENSEN BEACH! While writing the restaurant review for THE HOFFMAN, I realized how many interesting restaurants, art galleries, and shops, exist in the historic little downtown area along the river. To get to historic downtown Jensen Beach, take Indian River Drive, a scenic 23 mile and 40 minute drive, from Ocean Resorts. You will pass beautiful, as well as interesting homes and the glistening Indian River will be on your left.

Historic downtown Jensen Beach has always reminded me of eclectic, hippy, old fisherman kind of places, like Folly Beach in SC. It has a laid back, sleepy kind of feeling, with little streets to walk up and down and explore. For more information, check out the Jensen Beach Chamber of Commerce website: [www.jensenbeachflorida.info/downtown/](http://www.jensenbeachflorida.info/downtown/). A few of the places we have tried are Crawdaddy's, with it's lively courtyard bands, Lures Riverfront Restaurant and the historic Dolphin Bar and Shrimp House. This is a quick little get away that I think you will enjoy.

**OCEAN RESORTS "HAPPY HOUR" - Looking for Hosts/Hostesses for 2018**  
**by Sharon English**

Tom and I have enjoyed hosting the Ocean Resorts Happy Hour the past few years. It is not a difficult job but requires a monthly responsibility and small outlay of personal money. We are looking for volunteers to be hosts/hostesses for the upcoming Happy Hours this June through December 2018. I have decorations for each season, a small supply of paper products and a list of what else would be needed each month going forward. We would continue to help as needed with music, etc. and be the back up plan, should a problem arise. Please let me know if you are willing to host a month (see the list below). Thank you.

Sharon English      412-445-8209      Seahagfl@aol.com

Happy Hour Dates: June 28, July 26, Aug. 30, Sept. 27, Oct. 25 Nov. 29 (Donna Comolli) Dec. 27th



## **POOL COMMITTEE**

**by Sue Ertel**

It was a great winter in Ocean Resorts. The pool was greatly used by so many residents and guests. As temperatures start to climb toward the hot summer months, the pool no longer needs to be covered. I again want to thank all of the volunteers who helped close the pool this winter. I hope you are all open and willing to help again next year. Have a wonderful summer and we will see you all back here in November!

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## **BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE**

**by Mary Dombro**

This committee is looking for a 9 to 9 and 1/2 foot Christmas tree with working lights to be used outdoors for our annual Christmas Lighting Program. A working used tree would be fine, also. Please contact me at [mawdombro@hotmail.com](mailto:mawdombro@hotmail.com) or 586-873-1627 if you have any suggestions. Thank you.



## **9:00 M-W-F Exercise Group**

Nancy, Ilse, Ida,  
Irene and Francis

## **BOCCE CHAMPIONS 2018**



**Monday Champs:** Luxy and Marie LeClaire; David and Barbara Crook



**Wednesday Champs:** Peter and Jennifer Stowe; David and Barbara Crook





## **OR SINGLES DINE OUT GROUP**

**By Gerry Marcus**

Looking for a friendly group to dine out with each month? Starting in the FALL, I hope to begin a new activity for

Ocean Resorts SINGLES interested in going out to local restaurants. Dining out alone is sometimes difficult, lonely and boring, so let's get a fun group of us singles together to remedy that situation. Each month we will be trying a different restaurant. A sign up sheet for the "Ocean Resorts Singles Dine Out Group" will be on the bulletin board in the Post Office or you can call me if you are interested. All Ocean Resorts SINGLES are welcome! I think this will be a great opportunity for those of us seeking another chance to get out socially.

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## **The Nature of Ocean Resort-Brown Anole**

by Linda Smolarek

Up, down and all around, you see them everywhere! Some people call them Geckos but the official name of our little brown lizards is Brown Anole. Originally this little lizard was native to Cuba and the Bahamas. It has been widely introduced elsewhere by being sold as a pet lizard and now found in Florida and as far north as southern Georgia, Texas, Louisiana, Hawaii and Southern California. They are highly invasive since introduction to the United States in the early 1970's and altered the behavior of our native green anole, which generally have been forced to take up residence in the treetops. Green anole's can display either a bright green color or a dull, brown shade. But the brown anole cannot turn green (i.e. it is always brown) and

will usually have stripes spots or bars on its back.

These little brown lizards are diurnal (meaning they come out in the daytime opposed to creatures that are nocturnal coming out at night.) A terrestrial species, they are not aggressive unless you happen to be a cricket, moth, ant, grasshopper, cockroach or spider then look out! They eat nearly anything that will fit in their mouths.

Brown anoles breed March-September although in some tropical areas they breed year round. The males perform an interesting mating display-bobbing his head up and down as if doing push-ups displaying his bright pink dewlap. Females are caught with a strong bite to the nape of the neck. Each breeding season a female lays a total of 15-18 eggs, little white dots the size of a ladybug, 1-2 at a time every 1-2 weeks. She covers them with moist soil or leaf litter than leaves them to hatch on their own.

They like to spend their days sitting on tree branches or rocks, basking in the sunlight. (Sounds like some retirees we know!) Males are quite territorial. The average lifespan is about 4 years. They have a special defense mechanism that allows them to shed their tails immediately if they are captured by it. They are able to run at fast speeds and cover long distances in a single leap. Being excellent climbers, they can climb any type of surface at blinding speed. Like many reptiles, the brown anole shed their skin.

Be sure not to confuse our southern lizards with their northern cousins, the salamanders. Salamanders are amphibians, while lizards are reptiles. The main difference - reptiles like the brown anole are covered in dry scales and live in warm climates. Amphibians have moist skin and survive winter by finding deep cracks in logs or rocks or dig down as far as they can in leaf litter. And they make their own antifreeze!

Should you find a brown anole in your house the best way to capture it is to take a container like a cottage cheese carton, pop it over our fast moving friend on a wall or floor. Slip a piece of paper between the container and flat surface to seal the little guy in the container. Take outside and release!



## ART IN THE PARK 2018

**THANK YOU!!** To all who led a class and to all who participated in one in 2018. We've got some great things lined up for the 2019 season. There are still a few Tuesdays open if you'd like to host. They are held January through March.

If you have any suggestions for the 2019 season, please let me know!

**Contact Cibby Gardiner at [cibbyg@aol.com](mailto:cibbyg@aol.com)**

Art in the Park is a fun Tuesday morning spent making funky, beautiful, unique creations. It's a great way to meet people AND have fun!! No talent needed.

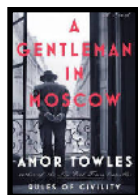
We hope to see many new faces and creations in 2019.

**See you next year!**

**FYI: Art Show and Sale will be held on Sunday, March 3rd.**

### THE JOY OF READING - Nancy Wilder

This month's selections of historical fiction offer a fascinating look at other cultures and times. I love books that inform me about some part of history about which I previously knew nothing. Why not learn a little something as we read?



In Amor Towles' **A Gentleman in Moscow**, we are introduced to Count Rostov and his thirty years of house arrest in a luxury hotel in Moscow (the hotel is still there). The time frame is a few years after the Russian Revolution in a period of great upheaval. The aristocrat, sentenced for writing a poem about revolt, manages to maintain his good natured spirit, adapt to his circumstances and go on with life. This is a delightful book, full of colorful characters and historical references.

**Land of Love and Drowning** by Tiphonie Yanque explores the Virgin Islands in the early 1900's. It is a family saga of sixty years, with much detail of the era, the people and the emergence of St.

Thomas into the modern world. This was a tumultuous historical time and the book presents strong characters and...warning, mature themes weave throughout the stories. Having spent time in St. Thomas I found this a fascinating read.



**Pachinko**, by Min Jin Lee is my new favorite book. The story follows four generations of Koreans (1910 -1989) from Korea under Japanese occupation into Japan itself, where Koreans were treated as second class citizens of the Japanese Empire. Unable to find employment, many Koreans became involved in the Pachinko business, a pinball/slot machine kind of casino game. Although the game is popular in Japan, it is considered "dirty" and even criminal. The female characters are strong, but face challenges due to culture and tradition. Women were illiterate because education was reserved for the male children in the family. But the women are resilient and find ways to help their destitute families. This is a compelling story and a finalist for a National Book Award.

### Ocean Resorts Island Times Staff:

Co-editors: Ray Zwart and Barb Goodman

Staff: Glenn Ludwig, Bill Howe, Lee Koesema, Sharon English, Linda Smolarek

Email articles to: [bgoodman7@me.com](mailto:bgoodman7@me.com)