



# Ocean Resorts Island Times January 2023

- IN THIS ISSUE:**
- Thanksgiving Luncheon
  - Decorating the Park
  - Light-up Night
  - Ladies Luncheon
  - House Decorating Contest
  - Christmas Parade
  - New Years Eve Bonfire and Fireworks
  - Board of Director President's Report
  - Committee Reports
  - And MORE!!!



Photo by Jan Sheehan



Photos by Barb Goodman







Photo by Becky Buysee

## Board of Director President's Report by Jim Buysee

A 'welcome back' to paradise to all of our northern family. The park is getting full and it's nice to see all the new and old faces. The last time I checked, I think we have 24 new shareholders since February 2022. To all new shareholders - we are always looking for volunteers and people to join the different committees!

I hope everyone enjoyed the bonfire and the terrific fireworks show. A special thanks to all the guys who helped collect and carry the firewood, and to those who helped dig the fire pit. A BIG thanks to the fireworks crew for another spectacular show. We are always looking for donations to help sponsor next year's show.

I hope everyone has a happy and prosperous New Year and God bless the Ocean Resorts family.



Photo by Barb Goodman



## FIREWORKS by Mary and John Dombro

We never thought that bringing some fireworks a few years back to celebrate the new year would eventually lead to a spectacular event on New Year's Eve at Ocean Resorts. This fantastic, annual celebration is only made possible through the very generous donations of many Ocean Resorts' residents. We only wish we could go door to door to personally thank each donor. Please know that your contributions are very much appreciated.

We do want to thank our son, Ken, who drives to Florida from Michigan with a carload of fireworks. He has very little room left in his vehicle for his own personal belongings. Thanks also to Evert Eklund, Mike Meredith, and Tom Starr who joined Ken to do

additional fireworks' shopping in Florida, transporting them to the beach and setting up the pyrotechnics. Friends of Barb and Al Harding, Vickie and Mike from the neighboring Breakers, donated some leftover fireworks from a July 4th celebration. The youngest members of the group, Mike and Ken, ran along the beach display to light the fireworks.

Just hearing the "oohs and aahs" from the crowd sitting around the fire pit, we knew a good time was enjoyed by all.



Fireworks photos by Barb Harding

## ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE by Sue Ertel

The Activities Committee has been very busy during the holidays. The Thanksgiving Dinner was held on November 24 and 65 people attended. Turkeys were supplied by the Committee and a beautiful variety of homemade foods and desserts were brought by the attendees. Thank you to Gerry Marcus, Pam Reyer and Cathy Moon for organizing.

The Ladies Christmas Lunch was held on December 15 and 40 ladies attended. Food was abundant and delicious. A game of Trivia was played and the prizes were Lottery Tickets. Thank you to Kathy Jankovic and Judy Smolarek for organizing.

The Christmas Potluck Brunch was held on 12/25 and 60 people attended. Turkey, ham, rolls and cheese were supplied by the Committee. A variety of delicious dishes and desserts were brought by the attendees. Thank you to Gerry Marcus, Pam Reyer, Cathy Moon and Nancy Wilder for organizing.

January events are as follows: Wine Pairing on 1/6. The 30 (maximum) tickets were sold during the first half hour. Hot Dog/Hamburger Roast and Flea and Craft Market on 1/18. Watch for Market flyers going up; tables can be rented for \$5.00. This can be a great way to raise money for clubs and committees. Poker Run on 1/26; watch for flyers going up soon.

Thank you to everyone on The Activities Committee who volunteered at the Holiday events.

# THANKSGIVING 2022

Photos by Barb Goodman





# Ladies Luncheon



## SOCIAL COMMITTEE by Donna Comolli

The **Western Dance is Saturday, January 28th**, from 4-8 pm!! Get out your boots, hats and cowboy gear!!

Returning this year is **Whiskey Six**, a 5-piece band who is outstanding!! We will be serving hot dogs (beef), homemade baked beans, coleslaw and sauerkraut. Tickets are \$7 and will be sold at the post office starting Friday, Jan. 20th. **BYOB**



Hope to see everyone there!!!

We will also have a **Happy Hour Thursday, Jan. 26th** after the Poker Run!!





# BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

by Mary Dombro

Our committee is very grateful to all the individuals who volunteered to decorate the entrance, exit, and main islands of Ocean Resorts for the Christmas season. Some new lights and new bows on the wreaths helped to add to the festive atmosphere.



Photo by Donna Comolli



The Christmas tree was lit on Sunday evening, December 4th, as residents gathered to play games, and enjoy the cookies and punch provided by members of the Activities Committee.

Raffle tickets were drawn for poinsettia plants provided by the Beautification Committee.



Photos by Barb Goodman





## BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE (continued)

It was such a pleasure to walk at night and see all the beautiful Christmas lights and decorations on individual homes and in yards. For the second year in a row, residents voted, by ballot, for their favorite decorated house.



**First place:  
Pat Tumanic  
and Ken Klas**



**Second Place:  
Pam and Gary Reyer**

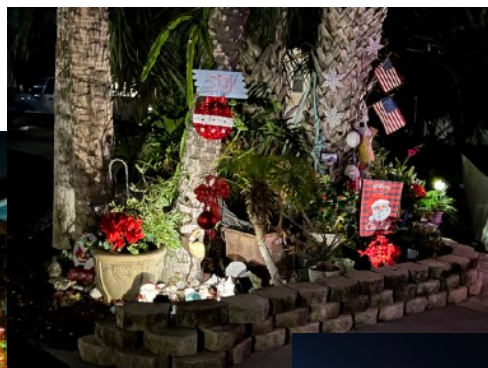


**Third Place:  
Ray Zwart**



Cibby Gardiner designed and created awards for the winners to display. The Beautification Committee provided monetary prizes for those individuals.

### Other great decorations:



Photos by Barb Goodman



# CHRISTMAS PARADE



Photo by Judy Smolarek

Photo by Jan Sheehan



## N.I.C.E. Neighbors In Care of Each other

There have been many impacts from the pandemic on individuals and Ocean Resorts as a community. Some individuals are isolated and disconnected as a result of such. We have been chatting about this and would like to form a quasi-group called **N.I.C.E.** to address such issues and their effects on the Ocean Resorts community. We are especially interested in helping those who are single, those with health issues, and those who have no family or family contact.



We met on January 5th with a number of residents to discuss and get input for this group. We continue to welcome your thoughts, ideas and input. We welcome everyone's participation and want to refresh the sense of community that Ocean Resorts is meant to have. One of the many reasons we reside here at Ocean Resorts is that it has such a neighborly/friendly atmosphere and neighbors check in on each other.

We look forward to your thoughts and interest in participating. Please contact one of the hosts of this group to help out.

Thank you, from your Hosts,  
Gerry Marcus, Jim Connors, Nancy Wilder, Ray Zwart, Nancy White and Joe May



by **Mary Dombro and Marie LeClair**

We have several teams who have signed up to play bocce this season which begins the week of January 16, 2023.

Bocce playing days this year will be on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The season lasts for nine weeks and ends on Wednesday, March 15th.

The last day to sign up is Wednesday, January 11th. The sign-up sheet is hanging on a clipboard, inside the Post Office. There are four members to a team and there are a few people who could use some partners.

If interested in playing, jot your name in an empty cell to complete a team. It would be a great way to meet new people and enjoy pleasurable competition. There is no experience necessary. We will see that you receive schedules once they are prepared.

## YOGA by Nancy Wilder



It is almost time to stretch, bend and breathe! Jean, our esteemed teacher, has arrived and is ready to work with us on Tuesdays and Thursdays (10am) starting on 1/10/2023.

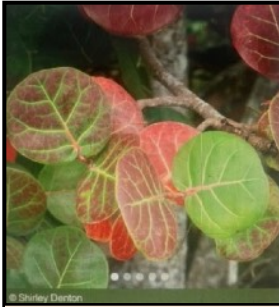
If you have blocks or straps please bring them along with your mat. Jean also indicated a willingness to spend some dedicated time after class to work with chair yoga people.

Jean does extensive work in Minnesota with older adults needing a more supported yoga practice. There is something for everyone in yoga!

Please join us in our practice, beginner or experienced. There is no judgement in yoga; listen to your body, go slow and keep breathing. I look forward to seeing all of you!

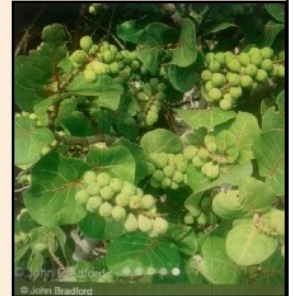


## NATURE AT OCEAN RESORTS by Linda Smolarek



**Why we love Seagrapes:** Seagrapes are a woody tree with circular, hand size cardboard stiff leaves. New leaves are glossy red and old leaves turn brick-red before falling in the winter. Lengths of small ivory-colored flowers bloom in early summer and produce clusters of green grapes on only the female trees. The mature fruits are purple and seldom seen because the ripe fruits are quickly eaten by a variety of birds.

Seagrapes are the dominant woody plant on many south Florida dunes. This sturdy, salt-resistant tree protects other plants and preserves the dunes during hurricanes.



We developed a new appreciation for the seagrapes during Hurricane Nicole. Because the hurricane was predicted to be only a Category 1, my family decided not to evacuate and ride out the storm. Thankfully, by hurricane standards, the storm was mild but we made some interesting observations. During the height of the hurricane my husband went to the beach and was amazed at the difference in wind speed behind the seagrapes. The tall stand of seagrapes to the left of our boardwalk almost completely stopped the wind opposed to the shorter growth to the right. Our house is surrounded by seagrapes and hedge-type palms; the wind almost unnoticeable and the seagrapes seemingly impervious to the power of the wind. This is simply a casual, informal observation but made us think how we want to continue to protect our property and the property of Ocean Resort in the the future. Green space is good!

Like the mangrove, seagrapes are protected because they play an important role in maintaining our beautiful coastal environment. So, when landscaping or adding green space to your property, think seagrapes. It's native, protects your home, is edible and makes a great jelly!



## COURTS COMMITTEE by Pam Reyer

Thank you to everyone who help keep the courts area looking good with minor maintenance and also to Cathy Moon - we are very fortunate to have her overseeing all things pertaining to the courts. A committee was formed to schedule both tennis and Pickleball. A cost analysis committee was also formed to investigate when new courts will become necessary and to find out the cost of new courts. And a committee was formed for the end of season dinner which is to be held March 18.

**Upcoming events:** • Tennis tournament Jan 21, 22 • Pickleball tournament Feb 4, 5



## Hello from the OR Marina,

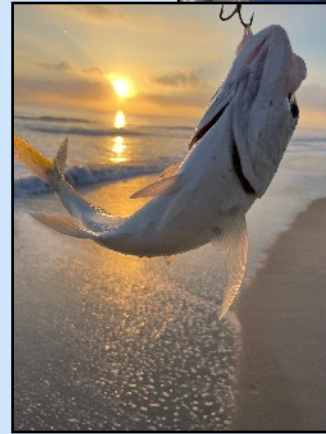
It's a busy season in the marina as most every slip has been assigned. The Marina Committee had a much needed meeting on Jan. 2 to update and ratify the Marina Rules to be presented to the BOD for approval.

The Marina Committee Spaghetti Dinner is scheduled for Jan. 19, please volunteer if you can - the sign up sheet is at the post office. Also, sign up for the OR Fishing Tournament that runs the entire month of February with the awards ceremony and hot dog roast on March 5.



Fishing has been good, both inshore and offshore, except for the week around the Christmas cold front that cold shocked and killed some fish.

See you on the water!  
Andy Stanish, Dockmaster



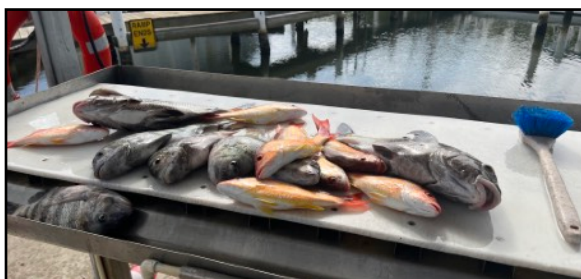
## Another off-shore fishing adventure!!



**Tuna Bonanza by David Cross** - We were fishing 15 miles off shore in the Gulf Stream in 225 ft of water. The water temp was 80 degrees F. We caught 8 Tuna and 1 Mahi, with the largest Tuna being approx 25 lbs. We shared with family , friends, and neighbours!!



Photos by Barb Harding





## Pool News - Making a Splash by Kathy Jankovic



A daily exercise and stretch class is held at the OR pool 9:00-10:00 a.m. weather permitting. All are welcome to attend.

Participants pictured at the first class after extensive renovations are Gloria A., Christiana A., Nancy P., Kathy R., Kim W., Barb G., and Debra B.

Lap swim is scheduled from 8:00-9:00 a.m. daily. Lap lane lines are available if you want to swim laps at other times. They are located in the bins next to the

exercise equipment. It's your responsibility to put them up and take them down after you swim laps. Use common sense if the pool is crowded.

The pool windbreak was installed on December 12, 2022 with the help of Lynn D., Kathy R., Ed S., Gloria A., Deb B., Kim W., Barb G., Joan N. and Kathy J. Gloria lead the volunteers and lots of helpful hands made the project a success. The pool committee will look into obtaining an additional pool break section to cover the north end of the pool. The area was previously protected by the large, outdated pool cover apparatus.

The pool committee will continue to explore options to chill the pool in the summer.



**REMINDERS** • County health regulations require all pool users to shower before getting into the pool. Yes, even if you just showered at home. In addition, wet skin doesn't absorb chlorine. Chlorine and pool chemicals cause skin dryness. You look younger when you shower first. • Jets are set to properly circulate the chemicals. Leave them alone. • For safety reasons do not prop open the pool gates. • Refrain from hanging or standing on the depth marker rope. It's not designed to support weight. • Be courteous and return tables and chairs to their original positions if you move them. Clean up food spills on the tables you use. • Sunscreen protects your skin best when you apply it 10-20 minutes before you go outside. • Only bottled water is permitted near the pool. All other food & drink must be kept 3 feet or more away from the pool.

### **MAHJONG by Elizabeth Flaherty**

Mahjong has really had a great start with many NEW and regular players! It's so nice to have everyone back.

Lots of games are going and we are having good fun.

If you want to give it a try, we have many teachers to help you learn. We play Wednesdays at 12:30 and Thursday nights at 6:30 at the pavilion. You can call Elizabeth at 203-685-5068 for more information. Can't wait to see you there!

### **BE KIND!! From the Editor**

A shareholder gave me a newspaper article related to a shooting in December that killed a homeowner's association president and her husband in south Florida, The shooting occurred over disagreements related to some HOA policies.

How **TRAGIC** that people can not focus on their happiness because of a few things that might not go their way.

**Let's not let disagreements ruin the reason why we are here at OR.**



**Art in the Park**  
**By Kathy Jankovic**

The 2023 season begins on Monday, January 9. Look for the calendar of events on the outside of the post office. A sign up sheet will be inside the post office. It will give details about supplies and costs, if any and class size. Class size is usually limited. Participants must sign up because each leader wants to have enough supplies for each person. • All sessions are held at the clubhouse on Mondays from 10:30-12:30.

**January**



- 9 - Palm Frond Roses, Gail A.
- 16 - Decoupage Shells, Cibby G.
- 23 - "Salmon Laquer", Nancy C.
- 30 - Wire Beaded Bracelet, Donna C.



**February**

- 6 - Ocean Resorts Apron, Sharon E.
- 13 - Ocean Resorts Week - canceled
- 20 - St. Pat's Day Shamrock, Kathy R.
- 27 - Make & Take, TBA, Nancy C.

**March**

- 6 - Character Beaded Keychain, Gail A.
- 13 - Microwave Soup Caddy, Allison A.
- 20 - Leis for the Luau, Sue E.
- 27 - TBA- Kathy J.

**The Art in the Park Show & Craft Sale will be held at the pavilion on Sunday, March 19.**



**SPAGHETTI DINNER**  
**\$12.00 PER PERSON**

Presented by the Marina Committee

**Thursday, January 19, 2023**  
**Servings: 4:30, 5:15 & 6:00**

Pasta~Meatballs~Salad~Bread~Desserts  
 Coffee~Wine

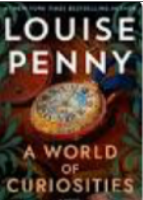
**50/50 RAFFLE & RAFFLE BASKET**  
 Tickets available January 12-18th

**Available at Post Office 1:00 - 3:00**

**OCEAN RESORTS ISLAND TIMES STAFF**

**Editor - Barb Goodman**  
**Staff - Sharon English, Elizabeth Flaherty,**  
**Bill Howe, Lee Koesema,**  
**Linda Smolarek, Jim Thorpe, Nancy Wilder**

**If you have ideas for articles, please email**  
**bgoodman@me.com**



**JOY OF READING by Nancy Wilder** I looked back recently and realized I have written about Louise Penny's detective series, twice before. And here I go again with her newest book "**A World of Curiosities**". The setting is Quebec and the esteemed detective is Chef Inspector Armand Gamache. The author's books are a series (18 so far) but all can be a stand alone story. This book starts with a death and then backs into the events preceding. There's the usual characters from Gamache's village, Three Pines, and the always freezing weather, depicted optimistically as crisp and picturesque.

And there's more! Inspector Gamache has made it to TV! Acorn, a steaming service of English and Australian movies has released "Three Pines". Happily, I found that some of it is offered free. I normally don't like to watch a movie about a book I've read. I have a picture in my mind about how everyone looks and I'm usually disappointed by the movie depiction. But this series is a new adventure for Inspector Gamache, but with all the familiar characters from the books. You must meet Ruth, an eccentric poet with a pet duck. Wonderful casting for that role. You will enjoy the book and the series.