



# Chincoteague Island, VA Oyster Bay II Community Newsletter September 2015

Hello OB II POA,

Welcome to September 2015 on Chincoteague Island!

Hope everyone gets some time to relax and enjoy Labor Day weekend.

## Neighborhood News ...

There are no new neighbors to report on this month, however, we did have hundreds of weekend visitors of another kind last month. Due to the weather, wind, algae, etc., Mallard Pond was clearly the place to be for many fine feathered friends (see pg.3). Thank you to everyone who emailed photos.

## It's A Party And You're Invited ...

Joe & Arlene Dougherty have invited all of us to come to their first annual Labor Day Mallard Pond Party on Sat., Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> at 11am (rain date – Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>). Bring your canoe, kayak, paddle boat, etc. and launch from their back yard at 5330 N. Hibiscus Dr.

After we've all had our fun on the pond, Joe & Arlene invite everyone for hotdogs, chips and soda on their back porch.

P. S. Don't forget your bug spray and life jackets!

## Updates From The Board ...

There will be a meeting of the OB II Board of Directors on Sat., Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> at 10am. The meeting will be held at the Fairfield Inn & Suites (3913 Main St.). The primary purpose of the meeting is to review the activities since the last meeting and prepare for the OB II POA annual meeting in October. Committee members will be expected to provide updates and concerns moving forward. All members of the OB II POA are welcome to attend. Time will be allotted for members' comments and concerns. If you cannot attend and have a concern, please pass it along to any of the Board members for consideration.

In addition, the Board continues to work on resolving the issue of Parcel E and will keep the POA informed of any future developments.

**An important reminder:** Please check your Pine Trees for any signs of Southern Pine Beetle activity. All infected trees should be cut and removed from the property as soon as possible to prevent the beetles from moving on to neighboring trees and to keep the infected trees from falling on your own house or someone else's!

# Fall Migration ...

By Dave Hudgins

It's that time of the year again. Time for the fall migration of shorebirds. But fall migration in August and September? Has global warming messed things up that bad?

Well, it turns out that many shorebirds migrate north into the Canadian tundra in the May time frame. By the end of July, they have completed breeding and the immature birds have become independent. So it's time to head south for the winter. South, as in South America. There are several strategic stopping points along the flyway that afford birds food and habitat to rest while preparing for the next leg of their journey. The Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge typically proves an excellent place to spend a few weeks tanking up. So, if you've been noticing increased numbers of shorebirds on the beach, in the mud flats of Tom's Cove and on the wildlife loop, that's why.



**Group of shorebirds with a Skimmer and Tern**

What are shorebirds? They are small to medium size birds that fall under the scientific order Charadriiformes. In most parts of the world, these birds are referred to as waders. But in North America, we think of waders as the larger Egrets and Herons and use shorebird to describe these families. There are about 36 different species that might be seen in the area. Most would be classified as Sandpipers and Plovers. But, there are Willets, Dowitchers, Yellowlegs, Godwits and others.



**Piping Plover**

Some shorebirds breed at the National Wildlife Refuge. One example is the endangered Piping Plover which requires keeping parts of the beach on Assateague closed every summer much to a lot of people's dismay. However, many birds just pass through on their travels north and south each year.



**Semipalmated Plover**

The challenge is in the identification of individual species. Some can be rather obvious, like a Ruddy Turnstone or a Black-necked Stilt. But some can be difficult to determine, especially if lighting isn't great and they are in groups of mixed species. Having other known birds to compare size and coloration can help in identification.

Seeing a single shorebird by itself might be difficult to discern the species without some detailed study. But having two similar species in sight (or in your bird guide) make it easier to identify one from the other.

## What's Cooking ...

Did you know that tomatoes are great for your health? They are loaded with many, many benefits. For example, tomatoes are good for your skin and they help to maintain strong bones. They provide essential anti-oxidants and they're good for your heart, kidneys and eyes. So whether you've got them growing in your own garden or you're taking them from your generous neighbor's garden or stopping at your local farm stand, there's no better time of the year to enjoy fresh tomatoes. And here's an easy and delicious recipe that'll have you enjoying them even more.

### Tomato Pie

- 1 cup Bisquick
- 1/4 cup water
- 1 tbsp butter
- 4-5 medium tomatoes, peeled and sliced 1/2 " thick
- 1 cup shredded cheddar cheese
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 2 tbsp parsley
- 1 – 2 chopped scallions



**Directions:** Mix Bisquick, water and butter together and press into a 9" pie pan. Arrange tomato slices on crust. Sprinkle cheddar cheese on top of the tomatoes. Mix mayonnaise, parsley and scallions together and smear mixture over cheese. Bake at 350° for approximately 40 minutes in lower half of the oven.



## The Bird Extravaganza ...

Three weeks ago, there was quite a bit of bird activity on Mallard Pond over the weekend. There were hundreds of Egrets, Herons and Ibis. Specific species that were seen included: Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Great Blue Heron, Tri-Colored Heron, Little Blue Heron, Green Heron, Black Crowned Night Heron and White Ibis. Here are some of the photos people were able to capture. Many thanks to the Suchoskis, Doughertys and Smiths for sharing their pics



## All Around Town ...

If you have some free time over a weekend in September and you're looking for something to do or maybe to eat or watch, we might have an idea or two for you

**Fri., Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 2pm - 4pm Friday Afternoons on the Porch** – Join the folks on the Chamber of Commerce porch to meet local organizations and artists who will teach you about the history and wonder of Chincoteague and Assateague Islands thru interactive demonstrations. 6733 Maddox Blvd. For more details, call 757.336.6161 or visit [www.chincoteaguechamber.com](http://www.chincoteaguechamber.com)

**Sat., Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> (9am - 5pm); Sun., Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> (10am - 4pm) 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Chincoteague Decoy Carvers' & Artists' Association Decoy Show** – Over 25 exhibitors showcase some of the finest waterfowl carvings and wildlife art from the area. Meet the carvers and artists. Participate in the many raffles to be held. Most exhibits are for sale and a lot of the proceeds will be donated back into the community to support worthy causes like the Island Library, the Scouts and the Scholarship Fund.

**Sat., Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>, 11am, 2015 Chincoteague Police 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Poker Run for Kids** – Bikes leave at 11am from Stingray's on Rte. 13 in Cape Charles and finish at Don's Seafood on Chincoteague. The fee is \$35 per person and it includes poker hand, t-shirt, pin, door prize ticket and food. For more info, call 757.336.3155

**Sat., Sept 26<sup>th</sup>, 8am, 2015 Annual Beach Clean-Up** Assateague Island National Seashore would like to invite you to help keep our seashore clean. Registration begins at 8am at the Herbert H. Bateman Center, 8231 Beach Rd., Assateague. For more info, call 757.336.6122.

**Sat., Sept 26<sup>th</sup>, 12pm - 4pm, Chili Chowder Cook-off and Antique Car Show** – Chili and chowder will be prepared by amateurs and professionals for your tasting pleasure. Music, arts 'n crafts and fun for all ages. This event will take place at the Carnival Grounds at 3648 Main St. It is sponsored by the Chincoteague Volunteer Fire Company. For more info, call 757.894.3285 or send email to [email@chincoteaguechamber.com](mailto:email@chincoteaguechamber.com)

**Sun., Sept 27<sup>th</sup>, 8pm - 11:30pm, NASA Wallops Flight Facility Total Lunar Eclipse** – Telescope and binocular viewing will be available (weather permitting). This total lunar eclipse will be visible from most of North America, South America, Europe, west Asia and parts of Africa will be able to see the eclipse.



This eclipse will last for 3 hrs and 20 mins from beginning to end. The Moon will be totally eclipsed (totality) for about 1 hr and 12 mins.

**OB II Community Property Owners Association  
2015 Membership Committees**

**Architectural Committee**

*Maria Paccioretti (Chairperson)*

*Phillip Ettinger*

*Phil Hoey*

*Ethan Simonson*

**Budget Audit Committee**

*Phil Hoey (Chairperson)*

*Tim Landolt*

**Communications Committee**

*Jean Hubbard (Chairperson)*

*Dave Hudgins*

*Andy Suchoski*

**Community Improvement Committee**

*Dave Hudgins (Chairperson)*

*Jean Hubbard*

*Buford T. Rowland*

**Documentation/Records Committee**

*Maria Paccioretti\* (Chairperson)*

*Dave Hudgins*

**Maintenance Committee**

*Tim Landolt (Chairperson)*

*Kathy Bradley (on-site rep)*

*Ethan Simonson*

**Utilities Committee**

*Kathy Bradley (Chairperson)*

*Jack Keene (on-site rep)*

\*Corporate Registered Agent for Oyster Bay II Community POA and  
Oyster Bay II Water & Sewage Company, Inc.

**OB II Community Property Owners Association  
2015 Board of Directors**

***President***

*Buford T. Rowland*

***Vice President***

*Tim Landolt*

***Secretary***

*Dave Hudgins*

***Treasurer***

*Phil Hoey*

*Kathy Bradley*

*Arlene N. Dougherty*

*Phillip Ettinger*

*Jean Hubbard*

*John M. (Jack) Keene*

*Maria J. Paccioretti*

**Please recycle whenever possible. The Center is located at 5073 Deep Hole Road and it is open every day, except Tuesdays, from 7am – 6pm. Additional bins have been added for donations of clothing and shoes as well as a dumpster for used auto and truck tires. Thank you for helping to keep our community clean.**

**If you have a Community concern that needs urgent attention, please call: Jack Keane or Kathy Bradley.**

**Attention OBII Members: Please help with our newsletter! Email your ideas, suggestions, articles, photographs, recipes, restaurant reviews, fishing and crabbing spots, favorite activities, places of interest, Jean Hubbard.**