



Chincoteague Island, Virginia Oyster Bay II Community Newsletter December 2016

Season's Greetings OB II Friends & Neighbors,

A big shout out to Paul Kleckner for his award winning (more about that later) photo (see above) of duck hunting heaven here on Chincoteague.

As our friends once put it, "Christmas is a togethery sort of holiday" said Pooh. "That's my favorite kind," said Piglet. Merry Christmas to all!

New To The Neighborhood ...

Please welcome our new neighbor (see pg. 2) and fine feathered friend, OB II's first fall mute swan! This swan would have been born this past spring. The name "mute" derives from it being less vocal than other swan species, so it should make for a good neighbor. Hopefully, Mallard Lake will become its permanent residence.

Updates From The Board ...

The revised Oyster Bay II Property Owners Association Covenants & Restrictions which were presented at the annual October meeting have been officially approved by a 2/3 majority of owners. POA 2017 fees are set at \$260 for unimproved lots and \$335 for improved lots. There has been a successful transition of the OB II Treasurer responsibilities and associated bank accounts.

The 1st meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors of the OB II Water & Sewage Company will be held on Saturday, December 3rd, at 10am at the Hampton Inn & Suites (4179 Main St.). It will be held in the first floor conference room. The election of Officers will be conducted at this meeting as well as the process of organizing the company into a working board. All are welcome to attend.

And The Winner Is ...

The Chincoteague Cultural Alliance conducts an annual amateur photography contest and features the winning photographs in a calendar which is used as a fundraiser. OB II's own Paul Kleckner won 1st place this year with a photo (see 1st page) he captured of a friend's son while they were duck hunting here last winter.



Photo courtesy of Sandy Kleckner

Paul's award winning photo is part of the current "Chincoteague Decoys" exhibit at the Ward Museum in Salisbury, celebrating the place of Chincoteague decoys in the world of carving, and in the heritage of the Eastern Shore. It will be on display until January 22, 2017. The museum is located at 909 Schumaker Drive in Salisbury, MD. For info, visit <http://www.wardmuseum.org>.

Congratulations Paul!

Is It Actually Swan Lake?

In recent weeks, some OB II folks have had the pleasure of seeing a newcomer hanging around on Mallard Lake.



Photo courtesy of Andy Suchoski

The swans are the largest members of the waterfowl family "Anatidae", and are among the largest flying birds.



Photo courtesy of U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

The mute swan can reach a length of over 59 inches and weigh over 33 lbs. While its voice is hoarser and much quieter than those of our native swans, its wingbeats may be heard as much as a mile away.

Neighborhood Watch ...

By Phil Hoey

Are there thieves in OB II?

The other night our Golden Retriever, Dixie, started barking like crazy at something outside. After checking, we found nothing. But in the morning we found an empty water bottle on the side porch????

The next night on hearing the noise again, Janet flipped the porch light on and found two thieves on the side porch. It seems that two raccoons had discovered the plastic bin we keep on the porch for our recyclables. Even a locking mechanism like on ours did not deter these two scroungers from raiding the bin looking for goodies.



Photo courtesy of U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Is this why raccoons have a mask on their face? Hmm... So be on the watch for the travelling OB II furry thieves. They are very resourceful and extremely sneaky!

Pancakes for Supper?

You bet and they're guaranteed to be delicious!

In the true spirit of giving, the Chincoteague Kiwanis Club will hold its annual pancake supper on Wed., Dec. 7th from 4:30pm - 7:30pm. It is hosted by Bill's Seafood Restaurant (4040 Main St.). Kiwanis members and Bill's staff donate their time and tips to help families in need at the holidays. Tickets are \$6 and available from any Kiwanis Member, H & H Pharmacy or Mason Oil Co. Money raised will help make Christmas merrier for many this year.

Why You Should Always Put A Coin In The Freezer Before You Leave Home ...

By Newser

Have you ever come home from being away and noticed your digital clocks flashing the wrong time? You quickly realize that you had a power outage while you were away but it's then basically impossible to tell when it occurred, or how long it lasted. It is therefore also impossible to tell just how long the food in your freezer may have thawed, gotten destroyed, and refrozen again. Or is it?


In connection with Hurricane Matthew, a woman named Sheila Pulanco Russell shared a clever trick with anyone who was forced to evacuate their home. But the trick is certainly also good to know in case of any prolonged departure from your home and it will ease your mind whether or not the food in your freezer is good and safe to eat, or best be thrown out right away. The trick lies in the combination of three simple but effective items everyone already has: a mug, a coin and tap water. It is called the "one cup tip". Put a cup of water in your freezer. Freeze it solid and then put a quarter on top of it and leave it in your freezer. That way when you return home, you can tell if your food went completely bad, and just refroze, or if it stayed frozen while you were gone. If the quarter has fallen to the bottom of the cup, that means all the food defrosted and you should throw it out. But if the quarter's either on the top or in the middle of the cup, your food may still be ok. It would also be a great idea to leave this tip in your freezer all the time and if you lose power for any reason, you will have this tip to fall back on. If you don't feel good about your food, just throw it out. Simple, effective and definitely a money saver, because you don't have to toss loads of food out unnecessarily.

What's Cooking ...

While you may still be lucky enough to find a fresh pumpkin here and there, this recipe suggests using canned pumpkin so you can enjoy this treat all year long. Thank you Kurt Jarvis for sending this along!

Pumpkin Crunch Cake

Ingredients:

- (1) 15 ounce can of pumpkin puree
 - (1) 12 ounce can of evaporated milk
 - 4 large eggs
 - ½ cup sugar
 - ½ cup packed light brown sugar
 - 2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract
 - 1 tablespoon pumpkin pie spice.
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- 1 teaspoon salt
 - 1 box yellow cake mix
 - 1 cup chopped pecans
 - 1 cup unsalted butter, melted

Courtesy of www.mybakingaddiction.com

Directions:

Pre-heat oven to 350°. Butter a 9" x 13" baking pan.

In a large bowl, whisk together the pumpkin puree, evaporated milk, eggs, sugars, vanilla extract, pumpkin pie spice and salt until well combined and smooth.

Pour mixture into prepared baking pan and spread into an even layer.

Sprinkle dry cake mix evenly and through the pumpkin mixture and use your hands to gently press it into the batter.

Sprinkle the top of the cake with chopped pecans and evenly drizzle the melted butter over the entire cake.

Bake in pre-heated oven for 40 minutes. At this point, check your cake. If the top is becoming too brown, cover the cake with a piece of aluminum foil. Continue baking for additional 10-20 minutes or until set.

Remove pan to a wire rack to cool completely. Chill for a few hours before serving.

If desired, top with whipped cream and chopped pecans before serving.

All Around Town ...

It's such a busy time of the year. Everybody's running around, trying to get everything done in time for the holidays. Well, just in case you do end up with some free time on your hands, here are a couple of things that might get you right into the spirit ...

Sat., Dec. 3rd, 11am - 4pm, Homes for the Holidays Tour 2016 – All proceeds to benefit the Island's Holiday Tree Lighting. Tickets are \$20 each and on sale now at Sundial Books and Hollyhocks, both located on Main St. or by calling 484.995.6001.

Sat., Dec. 3rd, 7pm, Chincoteague Old Fashioned Christmas Parade – The evening will actually begin at 6pm with "The Salt Marsh Ramblers" performing in Robert N. Reed Downtown Park. Come early and enjoy the music. The parade will begin at 7pm with the blowing of the fire whistle. Fill the sidewalks on Main St. from Maddox Blvd. to the Chincoteague Volunteer Fire Company Fire House to see enchanting floats, bands, marching units, decorated boats, fire companies from across the Eastern Shore, equestrian teams, classic cars and more. And don't forget to keep an eye out for the big man himself, Santa Claus.

Fri., Dec. 9th, Sat., Dec. 10th, Sun., Dec. 11th, 2016 Christmas in Onancock – Christmas home tours, music festival, holiday decorations, hometown Christmas parade and more. For info, send email to onancockholidays@gmail.com

Sat., Dec. 10th, 11am - 1pm, Annual Holiday Cookie Sale A variety of homemade cookies will be sold by the pound. The proceeds will go to benefit the Chincoteague Cultural Alliance Building Fund. Get there early! For additional info, visit <http://www.chincoteagueculturalalliance.org>

Sat., Dec. 31st, 10:30pm, New Year's Eve Pony Island Horseshoe Drop & Costume Promenade – This year's theme is "Boots, Chaps & Cowboy Hats". Pony Island Horseshoe Drop is an end of year celebration that culminates in a promenade of wacky costumes just before the stroke of midnight. Wear your favorite costume or just be a spectator. Prizes will be awarded in various categories. Dress warm and wear comfortable shoes so you can shimmy to the music. For more info, visit <http://www.chincoteaguechristmas.com>

**Community Property Owners Association
OB II Water & Sewage Company
2016 Membership Committees**

Architectural Committee

Kathy Bradley (Chairperson)

Neal Faircloth

Maria Paccioretti

Ethan Simonson

Phil Hoey (alt.)

Budget Audit Committee

Dave Hudgins (acting Chairperson)

Tim Landolt (Audit)

Phil Hoey

Communications Committee

Jean Hubbard (Chairperson)

Neal Faircloth

Dave Hudgins

Andy Suchoski (Webmaster)

Community Improvement Committee

Dave Hudgins (Chairperson)

Jean Hubbard

Jeff Shelton

Buford T. Rowland (alt.)

Documentation/Records Committee

Monica Suchoski (Chairperson)

Dave Hudgins

Maria Paccioretti

*Jeff Shelton**

Maintenance Committee

Kathy Bradley (Chairperson)

Terry Bradley

Tim Landolt

Ethan Simonson

Utilities Committee

Terry Bradley (Chairperson)

Kathy Bradley

Jack Keene

Jim Smith

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

**OB II Community Property Owners Association
OB II Water & Sewage Company
2016 Board of Directors**

President

Buford T. Rowland

Vice President

Tim Landolt

Secretary

Dave Hudgins

Acting Treasurer

Dave Hudgins

Kathy Bradley

Neal Faircloth

Jean Hubbard

John M. (Jack) Keene

Maria J. Paccioretti

Jeff Shelton

Check out our community website, at www.ob2poa.org as the format and content continue to evolve. Email Andy Suchoski at andy.suchoski@verizon.net if you experience any problems or have any comments.

Slow Down! The speed limit is 15mph. Thanks for following the rules.

Please recycle whenever possible. The Recycle Center is located at 5073 Deep Hole Rd. Open daily (except Tuesdays).

Please mail all OB II POA, Inc. and OB II Water & Sewage Co., Inc. dues, payments and correspondence to:

**OB II POA, Inc., or OB II W & S Co., Inc.
P.O. Box 642
Chincoteague, VA 23336**