



Chincoteague Island, Virginia Oyster Bay II Community Newsletter February 2016

Hello OB II Friends and Neighbors,

Good riddance Jonas! Many, many thanks to everyone involved for getting the word out to members of OB II during and after the storm. The information you provided and your efforts were extremely helpful. We truly are a community.

In the event you're wondering, there are 49 days (as of 2/1) left until spring 2016 arrives! I'll include hours and minutes info in the next issue. Don't forget, 2016 is a leap year so we're getting nailed with an extra day of winter this year.

Thank you Karen Frank and Neil Faircloth for continuing to share your terrific photography (see above) with our community. Their photos help to remind us of how beautiful Chincoteague and the surrounding areas are.

New To The Neighborhood ...

Still no new neighbors to tell you about but a lot of construction progress has been made on N. Hibiscus Dr., Green Glade Ct. and Pine Tree Way on homes at various stages of being built. When we have any further updates, we'll be sure to let you know.

Updates From The Board ...

The work required to re-establish OB II's Community drainage system is moving ahead toward its completion, however, the freezing weather has caused additional delays. The contractor is continuing to resolve any issues with what has already been installed.

Please make sure all culverts and swales are kept free of debris, natural (pine cones and needles, sticks, etc.) and otherwise (garbage) so that the flow of water does not become interrupted by these kinds of items.

The BoD is researching the use of Crusher Run gravel as a potential remedy for patching the ever expanding potholes on our community roads until the roads are repaved. This option is being considered over using the asphalt patches

Help Wanted ...

It's that time again when I have to ask you for your help with keeping our newsletter going. Your photos, articles, ideas, creative writing, recipes, etc. are all welcome. I look forward to making them a part of these pages.

Polar Pony Plunge Participants ...

Cheers, hooray, yippee and woo-hoo for OB II residents, Carol Smith, Carol Simonson and Terry Bradley for braving the elements on New Year's day and diving into the Atlantic Ocean off of Assateague Beach!



The 6th Annual Pony Plunge took place on 1/1/16 at 1:16pm (for 2016). The air temp hovered around 50°, add the 10-15mph wind conditions and it was even cooler, but those minor details didn't seem to keep a lot of people out of the water nor did it seem to have any negative effect on people's enthusiasm to get a unique start to the new year. As you can see from the photos, both before and after the plunge, a good time was had by the plungers and the spectators.

Let's hear it for Terry Bradley & Carol Smith

Our OB II friends and neighbors unanimously told me that they have always been interested in taking the plunge. This was Carol Smith's first New Year's Day living by the ocean and she thought "it would be real hoot." For Carol Simonson, this was her second plunge and she considers it to be a part of her adventurous spirit. "If I can jump out of an airplane, I can jump into the ocean in the winter." For Terry Bradley, 2016 marked his fourth year of participation in the event. "Our group of friends entire New Year's Day evolves around this event. There's no backing out."

Did anyone know what the water temperature was pre-plunge? Carol Smith didn't. She "still thinks that's best." Carol Simonson "was hoping the water would be warmer this year because the winter had been so mild leading up to the plunge." Terry Bradley said that "It was the warmest ever this year." He added "I don't even feel the water. I don't know how cold is too cold. Last year Kathy was taking pics of the ice everywhere on the way and it didn't deter me at all."



Ethan & Carol Simonson ready for Carol to take the plunge.

The January 1st Plunge culminated a six-week long celebration called "Chincoteague Christmas By The Sea", a non-profit started by supporters six years ago to attract visitors to Chincoteague during the off season. Attendees are challenged to wear the craziest costume they can come up with and prizes are awarded. The Pony Plunge is the shortest duration of all the "Chincoteague Christmas By The Sea" events but it attracts the largest crowd.



Super heroes, super friends - Stephanie Kramer & Carol Simonson

Will they be taking the plunge in 2017? Absolutely. In fact, Carol Simonson and Stephanie Kramer have already started to plan next year's costumes.

OB II's List ...

Thank you to everyone for your positive response and interest in developing "OB II's List" of recommended contractors and vendors. Going forward, "OB II's List" will be featured on the last page of each newsletter. If there's someone or a business you'd like to recommend, please email info to jhlovesdogs@yahoo.com. A minimum of two endorsements from OB II property owners will be required to be included on "the list". I'm pleased to announce that the following three contractors/vendors each received several recommendations from members of our community. So if you're looking for someone to provide you with ...

Lawn & Yard Maintenance: Richard L. Taylor, Inc.
757.824.3839
757.894.1475 (cell)
rltaylorinc@verizon.net

Power Washing: William Kambarn
757.336.6886.
757.894.2569 (cell)
wokambarn@hotmail.com

Tree Cutting & Removal: John Henry Howard
757.336.6777
757.894.1249 (cell)

Should I Stay or Should I Go ...

By Dave Hudgins

I'm sure that there are OB II POA members that decide each year weather to head south for the winter or stay put where they are at. Should I head down to Florida for a couple months or a couple weeks once the cold weather sets in? Obviously, there are birds, butterflies and other creatures that hangout on Chincoteague during the warmer months and head south in the winter. Likewise, there are birds that hang out in the northern latitudes only to head south to Chincoteague for the winter.

Then there are some birds that remain on Chincoteague year round. You will see cardinals, chickadees, song sparrows, vultures and great horned owls year round. Why is it that some birds stay and some leave?



Cardinal

Birds, like mammals, are warm-blooded, meaning they must maintain a constant body temperature to survive. To do this, birds spend much of their time feeding to provide the energy to generate heat.

Many of the song birds feed on insects during the majority of the year. When the insects go dormant, they switch to a primary diet of seeds. Birds that cannot make this switch will migrate. Those that can subsist on seeds will hang around. This is the primary drive for people putting up bird feeders and enjoying the most popular wildlife activity.



Turkey Vulture

Vultures and owls are meat-eating birds. If there's an ample food supply available, they will hang around. If the food supply is insufficient, they will leave to find a new location that will provide a buffet to satisfy their palate.

Food supply is most important. But birds need to be able to adapt between summer and winter climates. Birds have an outer layer of stiff but flexible contour feathers and an inner layer of fluffy down feathers. The outer layer protects against wind, rain and snow. Most birds have an oil gland at the base of the tail. The oil is spread on the outer feathers when the bird preens, providing a further mechanism for shielding out wind and repelling water.

The inner downy feathers provide insulation. The feathers overlap in such a way as to provide a pocket of warm air above the bird's skin. In the winter, you might see the bird puffed up. Using certain muscles, the bird puffs out the feathers, creating a larger area of heat buffer about the skin. Like people out for a winter walk, a bird's primary concern is heat loss through exposed areas. Birds use a few tricks to combat heat loss from exposed extremities. You may see a bird with its beak tucked into its feathers. You may see a

bird standing on one leg, with the other tucked up into its lower feathers. You may see a bird crouched all the way down using feathers to keep the cold off of its legs and feet.

Birds that can adapt to the environment make for year round pleasure for those who enjoy watching them. Enjoy the year round winter birds.

All Around Town ...

Folks, let's face it; Super Bowl 50 ain't the only thing happening during the month of February:

Sat., Feb. 5th, 5pm - 8pm, Winter Rest Watercolor Workshop - Fine Artist, Daniel P. Turner Thomas will teach this class at the Island Family YMCA. This is a perfect opportunity for beginner and intermediate artists 16 and older. \$35 per class with materials and snack provided. Limited to 12 participants. For more info or to register, call 757.336.6222 or send email to danielpthomas@gmail.com.

Fri., Feb. 5th, Sat., Feb. 6th; Sat., Feb. 13th, Sun, Feb. 14th, 7pm, Mornings At 7 – The Chincoteague Island Theatre Company presents the 1939 comedy by Paul Osborn about four sisters and their husbands in a small Midwestern town. Tickets are \$10 and they go on sale Jan. 15th at Sundial Books, H&H Pharmacy and online. Doors open at 6:30pm. For more info, visit www.chincoteagueculturalalliance.org.

Thurs., Feb. 11th, 1pm - 3pm, Chincoteague Bay Field Station New Volunteer Training – All who are interested in getting involved in the 2016 season are welcome. Register at www.cbfieldstation.org

Fri, Feb. 12th, 7pm, Singing in the Rain (1952) at the Island Theatre – Sponsored by S. Lane and N. Chidester, tickets are \$5 at the door with discounts available online at www.chincoteagueislandarts.org

Sat., Feb. 13th, 6:30pm, Nature Lovers Dinner, Sponsored by the Chincoteague Bay Field Station
Do you love delicious food, good conversation and trivia? Then, get "Wild" on Valentine's Day eve and join the Marine Science Consortium for a Nature Lovers Dinner event. Enjoy a gourmet buffet style dinner complete with appetizers, desserts, beer and local wines. Eat, drink and then play team trivia based on the fun dating and mating rituals of the animal kingdom. Winners will receive fabulous prize packages. Ticket cost is \$30 per person and \$55 per couple. Register early, tickets sold out last year. For more info, visit www.cbfieldstation.org

Sat., Feb. 13th, Death by Chocolate
Journey from business to business with a playing card and answer a question or get a business card from each participating merchant along Main Street. Eat chocolate along the way to help keep you focused and your energy up. Stay for the prize drawing at your final destination and have fun exploring all Main Street Chincoteague Island has to offer. Sponsored by the Historic Main Street Merchants. For more info, call 757.336.3434.

Fri, Feb. 19th, 7pm, 2001: A Space Odyssey (1968) at the Island Theatre – Tickets are \$5 at the door with discounts available online at www.chincoteagueislandarts.org

Fri, Feb. 26th, 7pm, Raiders of the Lost Ark (1981) at the Island Theatre – Sponsored by the Fairfield Inn & Suites Marriott, tickets are \$5 at the door with discounts available online at www.chincoteagueislandarts.org

**OB II Community Property Owners Association
2016 Membership Committees**

Architectural Committee

Kathy Bradley (Chairperson)

Neal Faircloth

Maria Paccioretti

Ethan Simonson

Phil Hoey (alt.)

Budget Audit Committee

Karen Frank (Chairperson)

Tim Landolt (Audit)

Phil Hoey

Communications Committee

Jean Hubbard (Chairperson)

Neal Faircloth

Dave Hudgins

Andy Suchoski

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 (on-site rep)

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

**OB II Community Property Owners Association
2016 Board of Directors**

President

Buford T. Rowland

Vice President

Tim Landolt

Secretary

Dave Hudgins

Treasurer

Karen Frank

Kathy Bradley

Neal Faircloth

Jean Hubbard

John M. (Jack) Keene

Maria J. Paccioretti

Jeff Shelton

**IMPORTANT NOTE: 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**

**Please recycle whenever possible. The Recycle Center
is located at 5073 Deep Hole Rd. Open daily (except
Tuesdays) from 7am – 6pm. There are additional bins
for donations of clothing and shoes and a dumpster for
used tires. Thank you for keeping our community clean.**

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

**I need your help with our newsletter! Please email your
ideas, photos, articles, recipes, upcoming events,
suggestions, etc. to jhlovesdogs@yahoo.com.**