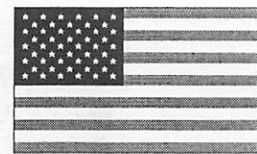




OCEAN PARK CIVIC LEAGUE



NEWSLETTER

March 2002

Serving the Ocean Park Community

Meeting Notice
Thursday, March 7, 2002
@ Ocean Park Volunteer Fire & Rescue H. Q.
Time: Social-7:00 to 7:30 P. M.
Meeting: 7:30 to 9:00 P. M. Sharp!!

**COME TO THE MEETING TO HEAR ABOUT FIRE AND RESCUE
BUILDING PLANS, POSSIBLE RELOCATION OF THE FIRE UNIT,
AND MORE!**

SPRING IS ALMOST HERE..

It is right around the corner - and lots of things are happening in our neighborhood. Ocean Park is growing and improving. We need your ideas and help to stay our course. At our next meeting, we will be appointing a Nominating Committee to select a new slate of officers for the Civic League. Should you want to help in any capacity, please come and let us know. A variety of things have progressed in the past few years and many great things are in the works. The civic league is a community resource and it needs support from all the residents of our area. Give us your ideas. You can make a difference!

The new Lynnhaven Boat Ramp and the replenished beach are very positive improvements to Ocean Park. The work goes on at both sites. The live oak tree planting program taken on by volunteers enhances the beauty of our neighborhood.

At the next meeting, guest speakers will update us on the prospects of a new building for the fire and rescue squads. These are very important to us. We want to let them know how much we



want to keep them in Ocean Park. The prospective building improvements at this site will add another page to the storied history of Ocean Park. In this edition of the newsletter, we are printing the second chapter of the history the Ocean Park Fire and Rescue Squad. A longtime resident, William G. Sykes, researched the background.

Getting together to socialize is always fun. At the civic league meetings, we do not have enough time to get to know each other. I would like to form a social committee this year just to plan social functions. We can start by planning a summer cookout and a winter Christmas dinner. In the past, we have had a great deal of fun at these functions, but we need a few people to put the events together. Let us start this year and make these events a tradition! Will you volunteer to help with this committee?

I look forward to seeing you next Thursday evening at the civic league meeting.

Donna Epperson CO-PRESIDENT

Meeting Agenda

(We will keep to the time schedule)

- 7:00 - 7:30 P. M: Social and Refreshments
- 7:30 P. M.: Welcome and Pledge to Flag
- 7:32 P. M: Introduction of Guests: Chief Gregory Cade, Virginia Beach Fire Department; Director Bruce Edwards, Department of Emergency Medical Services; Honorable Louis Jones, Council member representing Bayside Borough. Other guests: Kreg Kinney and Frank Shields, Ocean Park Rescue Squad; Irwin Kroskin, architect, designer of new Ocean Park Fire and Rescue building.
- Ocean Park Fire House/Rescue Squad update. Fire Chief Cade, Director Edwards will speak on options for fire department
- Secretary's Report-Nancy Taylor
- Nominating Committee report-Billy Hook
- Treasurer's Report - Anne Kane
- Shore Drive Community Coalition -Anne Kane
- Open Spaces report-Anne Nelson
- 8:45 P. M. New Business
- Door Prizes: Two (2) Twenty-five Dollar (\$25) Gift Certificates will given at the conclusion of the meeting. You must be present to win.
- 9:00 P.M. Good Night! Firm!

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Ocean Park Civic League Officers

P. O. Box 55385, Virginia Beach, VA 23471

Executive Committee

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William Sykes (Phone: 464-2015)

Wendy Vaughn (Phone: 363-9141)

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Treasurer

Anne Kane

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OCEAN PARK VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE

57 Years of Caring

1944-2001

Part II

WILLIAM G. SYKES

THE 1960s AND 1970s

As the area grew, and world changed, so did Ocean Park. In 1963, the town of Virginia Beach and Princess Anne County merged, creating "The World's Largest Resort City." Norfolk Naval Base became the world's largest Naval Base. Naval Air Station Oceana's planes crisscrossed the skies (and still do).

In 1963, Ocean Park Fire Department and Rescue's service area was defined. Spanning from the western edge of Fort Story, down London Bridge Road (now Great Neck Road) almost to First Colonial Road, and east to the entrance of Bayville Farms, the area is surrounded almost entirely by water. The Lynnhaven, Broad, and Chesapeake Bays all still provide spectacular views, but also hazardous conditions. The Ash Wednesday Storm of 1962 proved especially violent. The storm surge caused significant flooding in the low-lying areas of Ocean Park; the station itself was under 18 inches of water at the worst of it. Bayville Dairy Farm had the only potable water in the immediate area. But the community came together, as it always does. The station members and local residents worked to pump water out of homes and businesses, speeding the recovery efforts. But flooding was not the only water hazard.

Fast-moving currents running under and around the Lesner Bridge, in and out of Lynnhaven Bay, frequently caught swimmers off guard, and several drownings occurred. Even moving from one sand bar to another was hazardous. Today, warnings are posted, and serious incidents are rare, but they still occur. Then, recovery efforts consisted of searchers probing the waters with a metal rake from a boat; today, divers are used.

In 1974, the Princess Anne County Board of Supervisors and the Virginia Beach Town Council created the Virginia Beach Fire Control Council to represent the interests of all the fire and rescue services in the city. The Council requested supplies and building materials for the local departments to improve roads and facilities.

Three hospitals served the area: DePaul and Norfolk General Hospitals in Norfolk, and Virginia Beach Community Hospital in Virginia Beach. Virginia Beach Community Hospital was a private facility located at 25th Street and Pacific Avenue; soon the hospital outgrew itself too, and moved to its present location on First Colonial Road in the late 60s.

In the 1970s, more room was needed for the fire and rescue service. Fund-raising events brought in the money, additional land was purchased, and the building was expanded upon. Eventually, the grounds stretched from Mystic Cove Road to East Stratford Road, fronting along Shore Drive. A new bunk room was added, with Murphy beds, and, in 1979, the building was remodeled to include a large kitchen, extra truck bays, and additional office space.

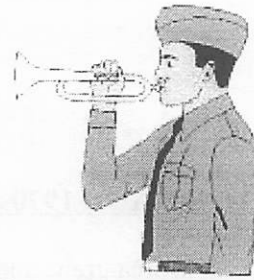
Along the way, the city of Virginia Beach began the Virginia Beach Fire Department, staffed first with volunteers and a few paid firefighters. The fire department has evolved to an almost entirely paid service, but the rescue services of Virginia Beach are still volunteer professionals, sharing the current building with the paid fire service.

Next Edition: Part III-The 1980s and 1990s -Technology and Pre-Hospital Care

A Call for Volunteers!

GET INVOLVED

Give a Little ----- Get a Lot



If you are interested in any topics listed below, please come to an Ocean Park Open Space Committee meeting. The committee meets at 7:30 P. M. on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the Ocean Park Fire and Rescue Headquarters, Shore Drive. The next meeting is Tuesday, March 19.

1. Live Oak Preservation in Ocean Park / Tree Conservation Ordinance /Neighborhood Tree Planting
2. Bike Path Routing and Design
3. Wetlands Preservation / Pleasure House Point
4. Returning spoils areas to a natural state.



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Spring 2002 is on its way. Let us clean up Ocean Park. Let us look good!



Some places around our neighborhood look rather shabby. Actually, some are simply atrocious. Several vacant lots are littered with all kinds of debris, some appears to have been rotting there for years. Some construction sites are littered with scrap materials and several weeks of "lunch leavings." Trash is blown into the streets and adjoining properties. Even the pathways to our beloved beach are littered. No excuse, considering each has a trash barrel or two.

The City does the best it can to keep Shore Drive clean. We, the citizens, can do more to keep our streets and vacant properties looking better. If you know the owner of a vacant lot, give them a call to advise them of the condition of their property. If there is no response, call the City and inform them of any nuisance/or unsanitary conditions. Sometimes, taking on the task themselves is easier for a few neighbors. It should not have to be that way, but sometimes taking the necessary action is much more effective than just complaining.

**PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE OF YOUR NEIGHBORS
REGARDING GARBAGE AND DOGS
HELP KEEP OCEAN PARK CLEAN**

DOS

Place garbage and recycle cans out early the morning of pickup or late the prior evening.
Put these cans away as soon as possible the same day after pickup.
Call the City for special item pickup - things that will not fit in the can. Ph:430-2450
Talk to the City about dangerous items like glass windows, sharp wires, appliances. Think about dangers these items may pose to children.
Pick up after your dogs. Carry a bag or other disposal container.



DO NOTS

Please do not leave your garbage and recycle cans on the street beyond pickup day.
Do not pile loose trash next to the cans. They will not pick it up, unless you call ahead to arrange it.
Do not leave trash sitting on the street after pickup day. If your special items have not been picked up, take them in., Call the city to arrange for the next pickup.
Do not let your dogs defecate or urinate on your neighbors' yards.
Do not let your dogs run loose.

Reprinted from the City of Virginia Beach Citizens Services Guide: Garbage Collection

"Refuse is collected once a week, and is to be placed at curbside before 7:00 A. M. on your assigned day. Collections are made on all holidays except Christmas Day. All refuse should be placed in automated containers with the handle toward your house. Do not put containers, bags or limbs near mailboxes, cable boxes or vehicles."

Special Item Pickup

"Collection service for normal household items is provided free of charge for residents who live adjacently to public streets. Types of items that can be collected are furniture, appliances, water heaters, fencing, up to four tires, carpet & padding, dismantled swing sets, storage sheds and barbecue grills. Collection is on your normal collection day, and you must call in advance to schedule a work order." Call 430-2450.

Reprinted from the City of Virginia Beach Animal Control Bureau brochure: Dog Waste

"It is unlawful to allow a dog to defecate or urinate on public or private property; however, this will not constitute a violation on public property if the owner of the dog immediately removes the material defecated and disposes of it in a safe and sanitary manner."

Barking Dogs: "It is unlawful for a dog to bark in an untimely or continuous manner as to disturb the peace of others. If a dog is found in violation of this ordinance, the dog can be impounded and the owner issued a summons."

Dogs Unleashed: " It is unlawful for a dog to be on any public street or sidewalk with its owner unless the dog is on a leash or other restraint not injurious to the dog."

"No animal is permitted to run at large upon any public street, or public or private property of the City. When an animal leaves its owner's property, it must be under the control of a responsible person and the dog must be wearing a City tag."

Ocean Park Volunteer Rescue Squad Receives Building Fund Donation

Most of you know that Ocean Park Volunteer Rescue Squad is planning to build a new station in the future. That future got closer in December with the receipt of \$264,000 from a trust distribution from the estate of George and Luba Smith, longtime residents of Lynnhaven Colony.

This unexpected contribution was placed in the squad's building fund and has provided the impetus needed to get our building fund drive going. Our building committee will be meeting over the next several months to find a fund-raising chairperson to help us raise the remaining funds necessary to construct the new station. The squad currently has cash and property sufficient to finance more than sixty percent of the projected construction cost of \$1.2 million.

The new station will be on the same property as the existing station. If the fund-raising goes well, we hope that we can be housed in our new station within the next three to five years.

If you would like to help us with fund-raising or if you would like more information on remembering Ocean Park Volunteer Rescue Squad as you plan your estate, please contact me. As always, we could not survive without the generous support of our community.

Kreg Kinney, President
Ocean Park Volunteer Rescue Squad
Phone: 468-4709



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MEETINGS AND DATES TO KNOW ABOUT

March 2002

7 Ocean Park Civic League Meeting -Ocean Park Fire and Rescue Headquarters, 7:00 P.M. - Meet and hear Fire Chief Cade speak on Options for Fire Department. Choose Nomination Committee for new OPCL board elections.

19 Ocean Park Civic League Open Space Committee - Ocean Park Fire and Rescue Headquarters, 7:30 P.M. - Join us? You may find something that interests you!

25 Shore Drive Community Coalition Meeting -Ocean Park Fire and Rescue Headquarters, 7:30 P.M. - OPCL sends our representative, but all members welcome.

April 2002

17 Ocean Park Civic League Open Space Committee -Ocean Park Fire and Rescue Headquarters, 7:30 P.M. - Join us? You may find something that interests you!

29 Shore Drive Community Coalition Meeting -Ocean Park Fire and Rescue Headquarters, 7:30PM - OPCL sends our representative, but all members welcome.

May 2002

2 Ocean Park Civic League Meeting -Ocean Park Fire and Rescue Headquarters, 7:00 P.M. - Hold new board elections.

21 Ocean Park Civic League Open Space Committee -Ocean Park Fire and Rescue Headquarters, 7:30 P.M. Join us? You may find something that interests you!

28 Shore Drive Community Coalition Meeting -Ocean Park Fire and Rescue Headquarters, 7:30PM - OPCL sends our representative, but all members welcome.

City of Virginia Beach Public Meetings

City Council: (Public Hearing 1st and 4th Tues.) 1st, 2nd, and 4th Tuesday 6:00 p.m. Council Chambers, Building 1-427-4303

Beaches and Waterways Advisory Commission: 1st and 3rd Monday, 4:00 p.m. Public Works Conference Room., Building 2- 427-4167

Chesapeake Bay Preservation Area Board: 4th Monday 11:00 a.m., Council Chambers Building 1- 427-4621

Zoning Appeals Board (BZA): 1st and 3rd Wednesday 2:00 p.m., Council Chambers Building 1- 427-8074

Wetlands Board: 3rd Monday 9:30 a.m., Council Chambers Building 1- 426-5790

Parks and Recreation. Commission: 2nd Wednesday. Noon, Council Chambers, Building 1- 427-4621

Open Space Subcommittee: 4th Monday 3:00p.m. , Municipal Center, Building 14- 563-1100

The Council of Civic Organizations: 2nd Wednesday. (no meeting. in July) 7:00 p.m., Central Library- 321-9971

Shore Drive Advisory Commission: 1st Thursday 3:00 p.m., Bayside Recreation Center

Princess Anne County/Virginia Beach Historical Society
Upper Wolfsnare Plantation – 2040 Potters Road, Virginia Beach 23454
Circa 1759

**The Princess Anne County/Virginia Beach Historical Society
is pleased to announce a presentation on the history of
Ocean Park and the Shore Drive corridor.**

When: Sunday, March 17, 2002, at: 2:30 P. M..

Where: Ocean Park Volunteer Rescue Squad Meeting Room, Shore Drive
(entrance and parking behind the building)

Speakers:

Dr. Steven Mansfield, Academic Dean and Professor of History,
Virginia Wesleyan College

Bill Hook, longtime Ocean Park resident

Others pending

Admission: Free

Copies of Dr. Mansfield's book,
Princess Anne County and Virginia Beach:
A Pictorial History, will be for sale

Hope to see you there!

Sid Vaughn,

President

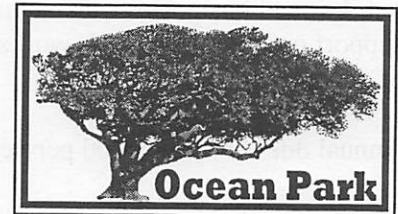
Princess Anne County/Virginia Beach History Society
2081 Tazewell Road (Ocean Park), Virginia Beach 23455



Live Oaks for Ocean Park

On Saturday, January 12, fifteen Ocean Park residents planted 65 live oak tree (*Quercus virginiana*) saplings on public rights of way throughout our community. The trees were made available to the civic league by the City of Virginia Beach, who obtained the trees from the National Tree Trust. The city receives trees at least annually from the National Tree Trust, and we hope to make the tree planting an annual event for our neighborhood!

The trees provided by the National Tree Trust must be planted either on public property, or on public rights of way on privately-owned property. The Trust requires that somebody commit to taking care of the tree for one year after it is planted by watering it weekly, keeping it mulched, and maintaining a stake or protective cage if necessary. The saplings planted in January ranged in height from one to three feet. The city has focused on the Shore Drive area for live oak trees, but other tree species also may be available.



Historic pictures of our community show that before its intensive development, the Shore Drive corridor was a dense live oak forest. While the saplings provided by the National Tree Trust cannot immediately replace the stately old trees that once predominated, they provide a symbol of hope for the future. Additionally, your civic league has adopted a graphic of a live oak tree as the symbol of our community.

The civic league hopes to obtain more trees in March, 2002. If you are interested in planting a tree on a public right of way on your property, or are willing to take care of a tree planted on public property in the neighborhood, please contact Tim Solanic at 464-6922 or solanika@quik.com; Michael Spangler at 318-9487, or mlspangler@earthlink.net, or Anne Nelson at 318-7525, or annenelson5331@yahoo.com.

Submitted by Anne Nelson

B A Y S I D E

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MEMBERSHIP IN THE OCEAN PARK CIVIC LEAGUE

In the Ocean Park neighborhood, there more than 1,100 residences and businesses. Barely one quarter of the families and businesses maintain a membership in the Ocean Park Civic League. Surely, we can all do more to support our civic league. It works for all of us every day. We carry on and support many programs of interest to all of us.

Annual dues are just \$5.00 per year. If you have not sent your membership dues check in for this year—do it now!

Just fill in the Membership Application. Send it in today. You will be helping your community and yourself. If you attend the next meeting, please give your dues to Anne Kane, our treasurer

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION- YEAR 2002

NAME:.....

ADDRESS:.....

.....

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YEARS IN OP.....PHONE:.....e-mail.....

Please consider helping on one of this committees

Newsletter contributions.....

Newsletter distribution.....

Refreshments, OPCL meetings.....

Social Events Committee.....

Web Site design.....

New Development.....

Zoning

Crime Watch Committee.....

Tree Planting.....

Other.....

**Mail this Application with your annual dues, Five (\$5.00) to:
Ocean Park Civic League (OPCL), P. O Box 55385,
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23471**