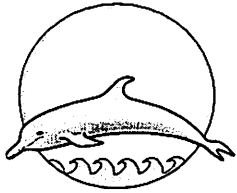


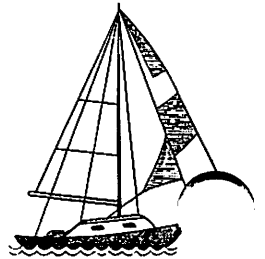
OCEAN PARK CIVIC LEAGUE

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2001



OCEAN PARK CIVIC LEAGUE



NEWSLETTER

May 2001

✧ Serving the Ocean Park Community ✧

Meeting Notice Thursday, May 3, 2001 @ Ocean Park Volunteer Fire and Rescue H. Q. Time: 7:30 P. M.

MERRY MONTH OF MAY MESSAGES

Here it is here! After a long winter, spring has finally arrived.

Of course with the weather this past week, it was like going directly from winter to summer. I hope all of you had an opportunity to get outside and enjoy it. I have spent hours on the beach the past few days walking or just soaking up the sun. How lucky we all are to live so close to such a great beach. However, if you look closely, it is in need of a good "spring cleaning." I hope you can help with this on "Clean the Bay" day. We will have more information on how you can help with this at our meeting next week, so come out and sign up to help us.

Many activities will be going on in our area this summer. We have the sand replenishment program, the new boat-landing project, proposed bike trails and many others. We hope to update you on the new developments for these projects at our meeting.

We also have a newly formed Social Committee and have planned for some fun things this summer.

We are working toward a neighborhood yard sale and a summer picnic/barbecue for all of our members. Jackie Longworth is our chairperson, and for those of you who know Jackie, you know we are in for a great time. Thanks Jackie for taking on this project!

I am looking forward to seeing you at the May 3 meeting of the civic league.

Donna Epperson,

Co-president



Meeting Agenda

1. Social and Refreshments: 7:00 - 7:30 p.m.
2. Welcome and Introduction: Donna Epperson
3. Guest Speaker:
4. Treasurer's Report - Anne Kane
5. Update on property owned by Ocean Park Civic League - Wendy Vaughn
6. Update on Shore Drive Community Coalition - Anne Kane
7. Information on "Clean The Bay Day" - Thomas Couch
8. New Business
9. Raffle: Two (2) Twenty-five Dollar (\$25) Gift Certificates will be raffled at the conclusion of the meeting. You must be present to win.

GIFT CERTIFICATE DONORS: DUCK IN & BAYSIDE EXXON

Ocean Park Civic League Officers

P. O. Box 55385, Virginia Beach, VA 23455-5385

Executive Committee

Donna Epperson (Phone: 460-3052)

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Wendy Vaughn (Phone: 363-9141)

Past President

James J. McElligott, Jr. (Phone: 412-0941)

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Nancy Taylor

Treasurer

Anne Kane

South Side Liaison

John Wigmore

(Phone: 460-2431)

North Side Liaison

Gene Contreras

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Newsletter Editor

Jerome W. Nelinson

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YOUR CIVIC LEAGUE OFFICERS, ALWAYS READY TO SERVE

We will hold no civic league meetings during the summer months. The next meeting of the OPCL will be Thursday, September 6, 2001. Should residents become aware of any problems where they feel the civic league should be involved, please call an officer whose name we list on page 2. Your executive committee will swiftly address the problem

WRITING FOR THE NEWSLETTER

Residents who contribute news items to the newsletter enhance the character of the publication. Fresh ideas and timely news, some background or history of Ocean Park are always welcome. Articles must be restricted to civic league topics only. Please send your stories to the OPCL newsletter editor.



The Executive Board and all the Members of the Ocean Park Civic League would like to say a special "thanks" to Kroger, our newest neighborhood grocery store. Kroger has donated some fantastic raffle items for our Christmas social, and donated cookies and crackers for our last meeting. They have been great in supporting our Civic League regularly. Let us give Kroger our support, and if you have any recommendations to make shopping there a better experience, I know they would welcome your comments. (You can address your comments to Cheryl Ross on their management team.) Thank you, Kroger! We do appreciate all you have done. Submitted by: **Donna Epperson**



ADVERTISING IN THE NEWSLETTER

Please take note of the businesses advertised in our newsletter; patronize them whenever possible. These advertisers help support the newsletter.

We could use more advertisements in the newsletter. Advertisements partially fund the cost of printing this newsletter, which is published bimonthly.

Standard advertisements are the size of a business card and the cost is \$25 for a placement in one edition. Send your ad copy and a check made payable to the (OCEAN PARK CIVIC LEAGUE, P. O. Box 55385, Virginia Beach, VA 23455-5385) for the number of months you want the ad to run.

We will publish the next edition of the Ocean Park Civic League Newsletter September 1, 2001. Following editions will be published for the months of November 1, 2001, January 1, March 1, and May 1, 2002. Ads should be given to us two weeks before publication.

Should you have any questions about advertising, please call Jerome Nelinson, OPCL newsletter editor, at: 464-5018, or contact him via e-mail: baygull7@aol.com.

SHORE DRIVE COMMUNITY COALITION

Overviews of meetings held February 26 and March 26, 2001

We have a spokesperson (a.k.a. "stakeholder" representative) to the recently formed Shore Drive Community Coalition (SDCC.) As such, I am your voice to a group that has come together to represent the Shore Drive area to the City of Virginia Beach (and other agencies and groups) to better the quality of life in our community. We strive to represent the corridor in providing proactive assessments and reactive solutions to civic issues that concern us. We are also eager to organize and encourage participation in annual local events that promote community friendship and camaraderie. Finally, we work to be the effective communication tools for the Shore Drive corridor.

My apologies for the paraphrasing to the people who labored to write very specific and politically correct by laws. I have enormous respect for those who know how to make our voices counts. I want to represent all the people of Ocean Park. Communication ... that is what it is all about! So, share your ideas, concerns, and opinions. That is why you have my home phone (363-7321) and my E-mail (Akten@aol.com)

The major business of SDCC these days is to gather enough people to voice our opinion to City Council that there is no need or desire to widen Shore Drive to six lanes. Although the SDAC (council appointed) and the residents (SDCC) have recommended against it, and the Shore Drive Transportation Study decided to delay their report for about three months (based on public outcry?)... City Council has already budgeted money to fund this program. The plan calls to widen Shore Drive from First Court to the western approach of the Lesner Bridge. Currently they are proposing \$2mil (\$2,000,000) over the next three years (coupled with a \$16 mil of State funding) for a road project that would lead to a major back up at the Lesner Bridge (eastbound), and Northampton Blvd. (westbound). Is this **REALLY** needed?

I encourage anyone with an opinion to let it be known.

Public Hearing on budget: May 15 - Council Chambers heard by:

Calling 427-4303 for appointment to speak at hearing

E-mail City Council ctycncl@city.virginia-beach.va.us

CALL AND WRITE your council representative ... their addresses and phone numbers are available on the above site or calling 427-4303.

Another issue we are working on is the City acquisition of property along the southern borders of Marlin Bay Drive. Spurred by the recent action by the City to dredge Crab Creek, this large, undeveloped area has become a ripe target for developers who see condos and boat slips. Most (all?) residents that I have heard from are quite adamant on the need to preserve this as a park, sanctuary, or a wildlife habitat. We have people talking to environmental groups that may help in our efforts. Comments? Suggestions?

We also have working groups on:

A Community Meeting Place--close off Seashell Road at Shore Drive for a community park?

Transportation / Utilities / Beautification

Open spaces

Speed limits / stop signs/traffic management

Density / zoning / development

Condo issues / trash removal



Our next meeting is Monday, April 30, 2001, 7:30 P.M. at the Ocean Park Fire/Rescue Station. Please come, if only you are curious what 32 Civic Groups along the Shore Drive corridor expect to accomplish with our resolve.

To quote a neighbor; Dave Addis, in his column of February 18, 2001, he sardonically observed, "The sin committed by Ocean Park and several other Bayside neighborhoods - Baylake Pines, Chesapeake Beach and a few others --is that they have not yet paid proper homage to the machinery of untrammelled development."

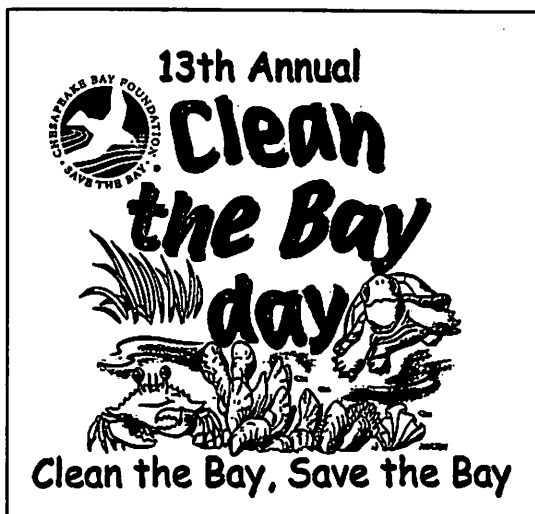
His column continues to observe his take on the plans:

"Translation: Let us widen the road, flatten those annoying little family- owned restaurants, and pave it all over with a carefully designed, artfully rendered, fully plasticized Potemkin villages that will fake folks into believing that it is a genuine Jimmy Buffet-style beachfront neighborhood that they are blasting through at 65 mph on their way to the real Oceanfront"

That is the way I see it. Please feel free to correct me if warranted. And I encourage all to voice their community concerns. Many have already raised a voice calling for some form of "civil disobedience." I think I must reread accounts of the Boston Tea Party to ascertain how the "taxed" fight for their voice to be heard.

I remain respectfully at your service,

Anne Kane



Saturday, June 2, 2001

Time:

9 A.M.~12 NOON

Assembly points for
Ocean Park Residents

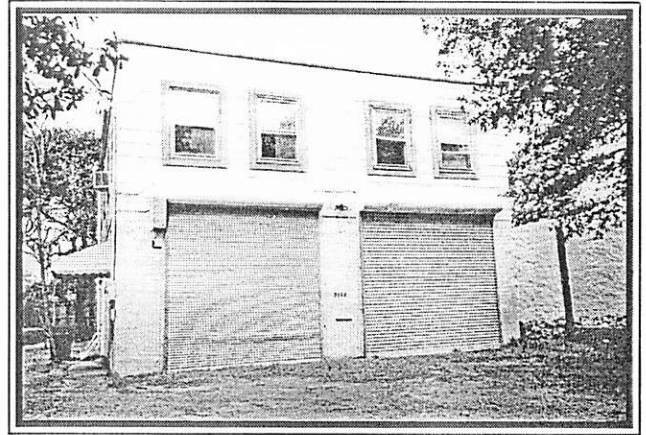
Northside Residents: Meet at Jefferson Boulevard and Albermarle Street

Southside Residents: Meet at the Community Park at East Stratford

Mr. Thomas Couch is the coordinator of this project in Ocean Park.
For more information please call him @ W:456-9410-H:363-1166.

CIVIC LEAGUE OWNED PROPERTY

At the last meeting of the Ocean Park Civic League in March, Co-president Wendy Vaughn, advised the attendees that a complaint was made against the property with a house on 3608 East Stratford Road, which the civic league owns. An unknown individual lodged a complaint with the City of Virginia Beach Department of Housing that the property was overgrown with underbrush and the building had some minor building problems. Wendy quickly organized a working party and more than a dozen residents armed with all kinds of gardening equipment showed up the following Saturday morning to clean the rear yard. They worked for more than two hours and removed all the weeds and debris.



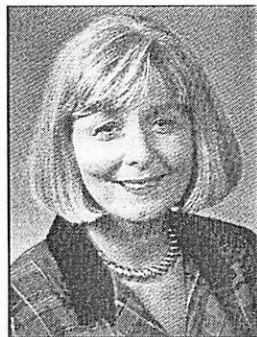
Unknown to all who volunteered to clean up the back lot is that it was contaminated with some hideous poisonous growth—most likely poison ivy. Most of the people who volunteered their time and efforts found their skin scalded by the plants' toxins. They broke out in rashes. Some volunteers needed medical attention. The deleterious effects upon some were long-lasting.

The Ocean Park Civic League, a long-established adjunct to the community has been in existence for about 60 years. We have maintained our responsibility and remains an affirmative dimension to our community.

This building was the original fire and rescue squad station, and also served as a meeting place for the Ocean Park Woman's Club and the Ocean Park Civic League.

We did not know violations existed on the property. If we did, we would have attended to them immediately. If someone did see violations of any City codes, we believe they should have approached the civic league leaders and advised them. Should anyone observe anything indecorous on or about the property, please contact us. It is a community asset. They entrust us to maintain it and we will do exactly that with all our cumulative prerogatives.

John Wigmore, Southside Liaison, arranged to have repairs done to the building that will resolve these issues with the City. We have obtained a ninety-day extension until July 10, 2001 to do the repairs.



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HONORING TWO CITIZENS AND PIONEERS OF OCEAN PARK



A MEMORIAL DEDICATION

The Ocean Park Volunteer Fire and Rescue Squad dedicates a bronze plaque to honor the memory of George C. Lyon, Sr. and Louise W. Lyon

They came from all over the City to honor the memory of George C. Lyon, Sr. and Louise W. Lyon.

George C. Lyon, Sr. was a founding member of the Ocean Park Volunteer Fire Department, one of the first in what is now the City of Virginia Beach. He served as Chief of the Ocean Park Station from its inception in the Year of 1944 until his death in 1977—33 years.

Louise W. Lyon was the founder of the Ocean Park Woman's Club in 1944 and was a member until her death in 1999.

Both gave unselfishly of their time and effort for the betterment of the Ocean Park community and the Ocean Park Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad. They were model citizens and always illustrated compassion. They met the high calling of community service and today remain a legacy to all of us in Ocean Park. The recognition of this outstanding couple was celebration of two marvelous lives and an acknowledgment of their commitments and contributions.

Life Member of the Ocean Park Volunteer Rescue Squad Frank Shield, welcomed the guests. Mayor Meyera E. Oberndorf was the principal speaker. President Kreg Kenney's concluding remarks directed honors to all who serve in a voluntary capacity. He thanked all for being present.



**MEMBERS OF THE OCEAN PARK VOLUNTEER
RESCUE SQUAD SURROUND NEWLY
DEDICATED PLAQUE**

A large bronze plaque was unveiled. Its content paid tribute to the Lyons. The plaque will remain mounted at the Fire and Rescue building.

Following the ceremony, a reception was held in the meeting hall. The Ocean Park Woman's Club hosted the social gathering. With their exemplary style and grace, they provided a full array of tasty morsels, desserts and beverages.



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MONEY MATTERS FROM YOUR TREASURER

Progress continues the OPCL Roster updates. I have found many members to be a year or less in arrears. This being Spring (and after April 15th), I am offering a great financial incentive to pay up your dues. Payments received before June 1, 2001 will receive a full year of credit whatever the length of the delinquency. I will respond to your questions by phone (363-7321) or E-mail (Akten@aol.com.)

We are also hoping to finance some "fun" neighborhood gatherings over the summer.

Anne Kane

MEMBERSHIP DUES 2001

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



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION-2001

NAME:.....

ADDRESS:.....

PHONE:.....RENT:.....OWN.....YEARS IN OP.....

Mail this Application with your dues, Five (\$5.00) to:

Ocean Park Civic League (OPCL), P. O Box 55385,

Virginia Beach, Virginia 23455-5385

STAMP OUT HUNGER

LETTER CARRIER FOOD DRIVE

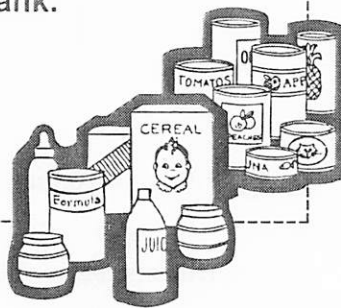
May 12, 2001, The Saturday before Mother's Day

Place nonperishable food items such as canned goods, pasta, rice and cereal at your mailbox before your letter carrier arrives (glass jars and bottles are discouraged as they may break during deliveries.)

Your letter carrier or a volunteer will pick up the items and take them back to the Post Office. They will then deliver the food to the local food bank.

Any contact should be directed to:

Donna Schlotterer (464-0135), Virginia Beach Letter Carrier



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