

Ocean Park Civic League



NEWSLETTER

September 1999

Serving the Ocean Park Community

Meeting Notice
Thursday, September 2, 1999
@ Ocean Park Volunteer Fire & Rescue H.Q.
Time: 7:30 P. M.

MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Guest speaker: Mr. Barry Frankenfield, Director of Parks and Recreation, will discuss the prospective boat ramp and development of park at East Stratford Road and Shore Drive.
2. Planning and organizational issues

OLD BUSINESS

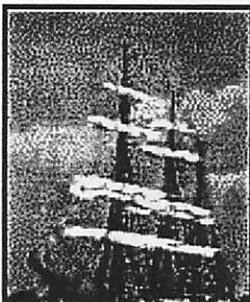
1. Update on issues
2. Mr. Mark Johnson: update on the

Neighborhood Watch

At the conclusion of the meeting a no-charge raffle will be held. Two generous merchants, Colley Marine, Shore Drive, and Seascapes Interiors, Ltd., Shore Drive donated Twenty-five (\$25) Gift Certificates to the civic league. Both certificates will be given to lucky citizens at the September civic league meeting.

YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN !!

OpSail 2000



USCG BARQUE
EAGLE (WIX 327)

The OpSail 2000 Tall Ship fleet of over thirty-five tall ships and an additional one hundred sailing craft will anchor off Lynnhaven on Thursday, June 15, 2000. There will be OpSail Liberty Call for the tall ships' crews. The crews will come ashore for entertainment activities along Shore Drive. Tall ships carry about 250-300 crew comprised of officers and cadets. There may be "Adopt a Ship Opportunities." We should consider if we want to participate in any programs or activities opportunities.

The Shore Drive Advisory Committee will be a coordinator for this historic visit.

MEETING ATTENDANCE SOARS

At the May civic league, meeting we had another great turnout. More than 55 residents attended, and no vital issues were at hand. Let's maintain our interest in the civic league.



Winner of the May Raffle
At the last civic league meeting in May, a Twenty-five (\$25.) Dollar Gift Certificate donated by the **Duck In**, Shore Drive, was won by **Mr. Charles Ballou**. Lucky Gentleman!



Participate in the Neptune Festival

Ocean Park Civic League Officers
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CIRCULATION: 950 Homes & Businesses

Judith Connors Appointed to Board of Zoning Appeals

In its wisdom, the Virginia Beach City Council appointed **Mrs. Judith Connors**, a long-time resident and civic activist, to serve on the City of Virginia Beach Board of Zoning Appeals.

We commend the Council, and congratulate an outstanding Ocean Park resident.

The City of Virginia Beach will be well-served with Judy on the BZA.

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NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH UPDATE

Mark Johnson

Neighborhood Watch is a crime prevention program that requires neighborhood involvement

While some residents of the community have come forward to assist with neighborhood watch, much more involvement is needed in order to implement the program. Based upon the size of our neighborhood, I estimate that we have less than 10% participation. At our present rate of participation, Neighborhood Watch will take much longer to implement. Therefore, we are going to concentrate our efforts on those parts of the neighborhood where we have the most support, and build from there. The neighborhood will be divided into four sections:

- (1) Ocean Park, North of Shore Drive
- (2) Ocean Park, South of Shore Drive
- (3) Mariner's Landing,
- (4) Pelican Dunes

I will continue to be the overall coordinator for Neighborhood Watch and the coordinator for Ocean Park North of Shore Drive. We need coordinators for the other three areas. The coordinator(s) will be responsible for implementing the program in their area. Without a coordinator, the program cannot be implemented in those sections of the neighborhood. As sections of the neighborhood fall under neighborhood watch, it should be easier to grow the program into those areas where support is weak.

Mariner's Landing is closer to complete coverage than any other section. If we can get a coordinator for Mariner's Landing and complete the area, it may be possible to obtain the proper crime watch signs for Mariner's Landing.

Pelican Dunes has some support; Ocean Park, South has no support; and Ocean Park, North, has some support.

Please attend the next meeting and volunteer as a coordinator or block captain. If you are unable to attend, please call me at my office during the day at: 306-3369. It would be very disappointing if Neighborhood Watch fails due to a lack of involvement and lack of interest.

President's Note: With the number of residents I see walking in Ocean Park, I find it hard to believe we have not been able to build more interest in the Neighborhood Watch program. I am asking Mark Johnson to again discuss the program requirements at our civic league meeting on Thursday. Please attend and become familiar with a vital program that affects our safety and security.

Jim McElligott



The 11th Annual Clean the Bay Day

Each year, tons of refuse, especially plastics, enter the marine environment from ships, recreational boaters and land-based sources. This debris is not only unsightly as it accumulates along our shore lines, but a life threatening hazard to marine wild life, especially birds, sea turtles and fish. In an effort to put an end to the problem, Clean the Bay Day, continues to be a one-day effort in states from the headwaters of the Chesapeake Bay to its confluence at the Atlantic Ocean. This year to galvanize interest and to notify all who would volunteer, thousands of WANTED posters were distributed calling for the volunteers to search the Bay and waterways urging them "round up the usual suspects" ----primarily plastic, cigarette butts, paper, cans, glass, wood, and all objects not found on the natural shoreline.

Early on Saturday morning, June 12, our civic league president, **Jim McElligott**, directed the two beach zone captains, **Mr. Patrick Brennan** and **Mr. Deane Rininger** to follow the recommendations of the "wanted poster." They

- ❖ The collective weight of the debris: 1,050 pounds
- ❖ More than 3,200 cigarette butts, the most common item
- ❖ Hundreds of pieces of plastic and paper
- ❖ Aluminum cans and bottles
- ❖ Ten crab pots

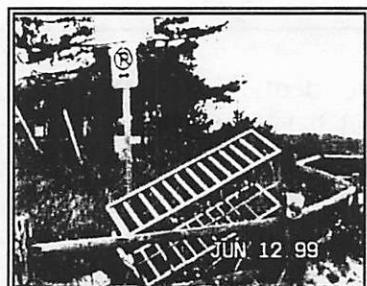
To those who gave their time and efforts,
the community is beholden to them

in turn passed the message to 28 volunteers armed with yellow plastic trash bags and heavy sisal sacks. All the volunteers sharpened their eyes and scoured the beaches for the "usual suspects"—in this case, trash of all sorts not indigenous to the meandering coast line. They rounded up more than they could imagine. All the refuse strewn from the water's edge to the high berms and dunes became their targets. By 11:00 A. M. the task was completed. The refuse, then was delivered to the two designated collection points. The city's sanitation department soon came by and removed it all.

Several Navy volunteers joined us along the beaches as we all worked together to restore and preserve our region's most important natural resource, the Chesapeake Bay and its vast network of tributaries.

From Aries on the Bay and along the Lynnhaven River and Back Bay, a distance of three miles, here is what was recovered:

- ❖ Two loaded waste containers
- ❖ Four automobile tires
- ❖ Two refrigerators
- ❖ A jar with 10 pennies
- ❖ Four turtles and one seagull
- ❖ The most unusual items, a food cart and a piece of boat



ABANDONED FOOD CART

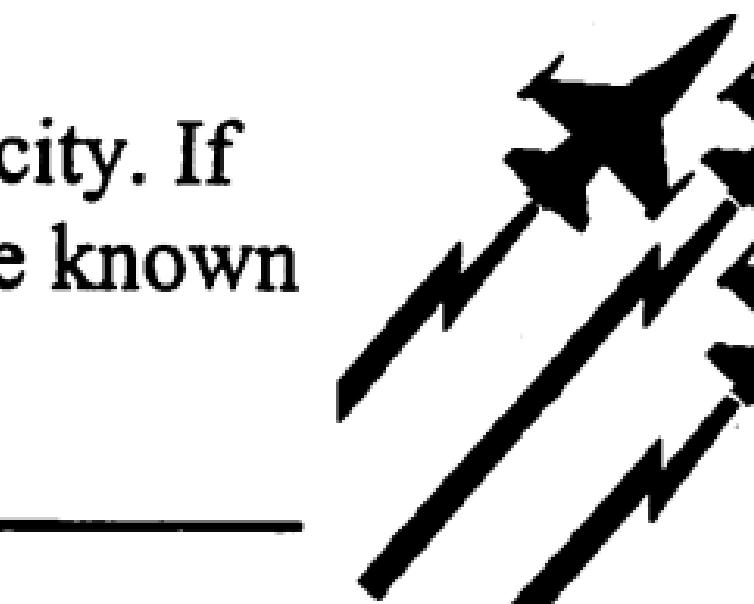
LETTER

Stories having conflict and drama, featuring
news and misfortune, carry interest and
newsworthiness. Community newsletters omit that
style of writing. Problems seem to be the constant

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More Jets Arrive at Naval Air Station Oceana

We are pleased to see more squadrons of F/A 18 Hornets coming to our city. If any new pilots or crew made the move to the Ocean Park area, let it be known that we warmly welcome you and your families aboard.



We ask our readers to contribute articles to the newsletter. Some have, and we are appreciative of their contributions. This newsletter will always carry accounts that concern our community and promote common interests.

This is the fifth edition of the OPCL enhanced newsletter. Since I undertook the responsibility as editor, the newsletters content and style has been facilitated by many in the community. Credits go to our commercial advertisers, businesses that give generously funded gift certificates at our meetings and those who contribute newsworthy items. Judy Connors and Hilda Nelinson proofread the content. Jim McElligott assures the accuracy of the information in the newsletter. Many reliable couriers deliver the newsletter on the weekend before the civic league meeting. All comprise a dedicated team working together for Ocean Park.

Jerome W. Nelinson



Please come to share you vision of a new oceanfront park in Virginia Beach.

THE WATER OAK

The hardy water oak, a native tree, grows along the Chesapeake Bay. Its unique profile easily associates it with our area.



The Shore Drive Advisory Committee adopted it as the indica by which to recognize the area. It is also the advisory committee's logo.

A long time resident and firm civic league supporter, Mr. Dan Brockwell, fashioned the design, which is rapidly gaining popularity. Dan is another citizen who makes Ocean Park a better place to live.

Since the City of Virginia Beach Council mandated how jet skis were to be used on the city's waterways, Chesapeake Bay and the Atlantic Ocean, reckless behavior and a diminished noise level have been observed on the water. The safety of beach-goers and boaters has been restored. The Council must be applauded for its rapid enactment of new laws. The Virginia Beach Police Marine Patrol operates with five boats. The police work three jet skis out of Lynnhaven Inlet. These efforts ultimately protect our beaches. Fewer violations by jet ski users have been recorded this summer. The strict implementation and enforcement of the laws by the Marine Patrol must be commended.



JET SKIS: SLOWED DOWN BY CITY COUNCIL AND MARINE PATROL

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