



Fall 2017 Newsletter

Dear Neighbor,

Where did the summer go? It seems we were just having our Annual Homeowners Meeting in May and now it suddenly is August! I hope your summer was pleasant and that you were able to view the 2017 solar eclipse from wherever you were.

I am sending a few lines of information keep you posted on things happening on Oystercatcher Island. Please feel free to contact any HOA Board member should you have any questions, suggestions or concerns.

Speaking of Board members, at the Annual Meeting we said farewell to Rick Broberg, our past President of the Board who stepped away from the day to day work of the Board but has volunteered to remain active. We also welcomed Tom Humphrey (89 Oystercatcher) to our Board of Directors. Tom has years of experience in commercial sales and equipment and he is eager to help keep our island safe and looking good.

As you look around, we hope you like seeing the water once again! The landscaping project is continuing but, as we explained at the start, weed management is an ongoing concern. We have trimmed up trees, cut overgrowth and removed bushes/trees to open up space. We are still treating the opened areas for weeds (a four-season cycle was recommended to destroy unwanted growth) but we hope to be able to replace some of the water-side plants with ornamental grass or short bushes/trees as soon as it is the optimum time for planting. We continue to work problem areas where roots that hold our shoreline may be more exposed than is cosmetically desired and are seeking solutions to this situation. For now, we have more visibility and therefore have reports of more wildlife and bird sightings than in recent years!

Please remember that our wildlife (especially alligators) is just that - WILD. This year we have seen more people attempting to feed the alligators. Please remind your guests that feeding the alligators will ultimately result in them being destroyed since they will learn to associate humans with food and may become aggressive. We have signs posted to remind everyone that this is also against State law. Remember, too, that swimming or wading in Osprey Lake is not only not permitted, it is not safe!

We continue to work on house painting and have now completed 15 homes and the pool house since late 2015 when we focused on a systematic paint schedule. Houses are still being prioritized by need and work schedule and we appreciate everyone being as cooperative as possible with this ongoing project.

We do have some houses that seem to have recurring water problems and all efforts are being made to address these problems. One thing homeowners can do to help prevent roof damage is to insure all deck furniture has non-metal, flat footings. Rusting metal or rough edges can slice the Duradeck on the roof leading to leaks. Also, cigarette burns causing holes have been noticed on roofs. Such needless damage is costly to our Association. Unfortunately, it has been a wet year. As I draft this enter we are recovering from Tropical Storm 10 and the yet undisclosed amount of rainfall it brought. (Thank you, Tom, for being willing to travel over 4 hours to go check our area for damages.) We have at least one newly reported leak. TS 10 not included, the rainfall totals for May - Aug are up tremendously (average amount of precipitation for this period is 0.44 inches and this year we have had 4.70 inches!) so all projects have needed and continue to need to be worked around the weather and, while it has been nice to see the lush gardens and green lawns all work scheduled is challenged by the persistent and predicted rainfall.

We also have been looking into pressure washing (and inspecting) the roof decks again as they were done last year but any such work will require good weather and we have not sought bids for this work yet.

We do want to remind all OCI homeowners to follow approval processes before taking action on any outdoor home improvement projects or ones that will alter the outward appearance of the house in any way. Seeking approval before you begin any work could save a lot of frustration and personal expense. Forms for approval can be found on the website or you can email any Board member with project information and they will be happy to assist you with the approval process.

We did have a contractor inspect and provide immediate needed repairs to all entry stairways. We also have installed a "cap" on a test house stair bannister to see if this will provide a splinter solution. The cap will be monitored for its condition and information from the homeowner will be requested before this effort goes community wide.

We have contracted to replace the awning at our community pool and have added more lounge chairs and another table and chairs set to accommodate more users during the busy months. We are seeking bids for replacement of the pool deck so there may be some use restrictions during this work but we hope to schedule it for late fall or during the winter months to minimize impact on users.

Some other changes to our area include the addition of the new North Gate. This gate installation is an action taken by LBTS. Your car sticker gate pass should already be

programmed to work at it. Please see Security if you have access problems. Be aware of the new traffic pattern and remember to always drive slowly and safely within our area.

In closing, I wish you all a good fall filled with dry, sunny days. I am including the contact for all current HOA Board members should you wish to contact us. Stay healthy, neighbors and we hope to see you on the Island soon.

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