



President's Message **Tisa Head**

Spring is in the air, and I know that we are ALL looking forward to warmer weather (and less wind!!) First, since our last Newsletter, we elected and installed a new Board. In this Newsletter I want to introduce our new **2024 Board members** and their areas of responsibilities:

Aida Alvarez – A first time SSCA Board member, Aida has taken on the Volunteer Coordinator role. Aida has brought some exciting ideas for new community events that I think we’re all going to enjoy, along with our traditional annual events of Earth Day Clean-up, Volunteer Appreciation Event, and a Holiday Event (the Santa ride seems to be a new favorite tradition for our community)! Stay tuned for announcements about SSCA events!

Jeff Johnson – Jeff stepped up and volunteered to take the spot that was vacated by Steve Hotchkiss in late January. Steve was elected by the membership in January, but after the election had to step down for personal reasons. Jeff, who was a previous SSCA Board member (including SSCA President) and served as a Recording Secretary many times over the last couple of years, volunteered to take on the role of Secretary. George Kirby (a current Board Member who previously served as Secretary), is now in the role of Westside Parks and Marinas.

Susan Ippolito – A first time SSCA Board member, Susan has taken on the role of Treasurer. Susan’s background and skills are an excellent fit for this role. Susan also served as the Chairman of the SSCA Audit Committee in 2023.

Sue Bigbee – A first time SSCA Board member, has taken on the role of Membership and Marina Slips. She has quickly become familiar with “boats and slips”, and – for the first time ever – all of our slip rentals have been paid up by the end of February!

Communications Schedule
Monday—Weekly Event Email
Wednesday—Social Media
Send news and information to:
communications@sscaobx.org

SSCA Office Hours:
Monday: 10 AM-1 PM
Thursday: 10 AM-1 PM

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President's Message (continued)

Penny Lobred – Penny is serving her second consecutive term, and will continue in the Communications role. Penny will continue to build on improving our communications, which includes our website, and other social media. We are grateful that she was willing to serve another term!

The SSCA and our volunteers have been busy getting ready for the summer season. So much has been accomplished in the last few months, including the completion of our pickle ball courts! Folks were patiently waiting to start playing, and we were FINALLY able to hold our Grand Opening on January 27th. Still to be completed is new landscaping along the east side of the courts, and some additional seating by courts. If you're not a Racquet Club member, and you want to learn a new fun activity, and meet other pickle ball enthusiasts, you can still join! New docking (and water/electric hook-up) at Loblolly along where new slips were installed last year will also be completed soon (hopefully by the time you receive this Newsletter).

Our "Super Volunteer", **Joel Newton**, has been working on many projects at our crossovers, getting them ready for the beach season. And, our new West Side Parks and Marina Director, **George Kirby**, has been taking care of repairs at our marinas and parks. Our new Volunteer Coordinator, **Aida Alvarez** has some fun events planned for this year – including 6 musical events that will be held at the North Marina throughout the summer. **Aida** has reached out to musicians that will come share their talents with our community.

In past years, the SSCA held a General Membership Meeting in April. In 2023, a bylaw change allowed us to reduce the number of General Membership meetings to two. This year, our General Membership meetings will be held in January (where we introduced the new Board), and in October (where voting for the 2025 Budget will be announced). With online voting, and online communications, we can get to many more members than those few who attended the General Membership meetings.

In April, typically at the General Membership meeting, we asked for volunteers to serve on the Nominating Committee. In the past several years we have not received any volunteers at that meeting. It is important that we have a Nominating Committee that will help us find volunteers to serve on the Board each year. Please consider helping the SSCA out by volunteering to serve on the Nominating Committee!

Happy Spring!!

REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEERS!!!

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE THIS YEAR, PLEASE LET US KNOW! There will be 2-3 Board positions open to fill for 2025. To volunteer (or answer any questions), please contact our Secretary, **Jeff Johnson** at secretary@obxbeach.net.

Boat Club **Rick Koch**

As we kick off 2024, there are several things that were discussed at the February SSBC Board meeting regarding plans for this year that we want to pass on. But first, the SSBC Boat Club and all the members of the club want to express heartfelt thanks to **George Berry**, the outgoing Commodore, for his outstanding efforts and leadership over the last several years. His management and attention to detail were instrumental to the success of the SSBC. Hats off to **George!**

Beginning in March, registration for GAMs and events are now online, eliminating the paper forms and mailings that were quite cumbersome. Sign-up and paying for the GAMs is now easier than ever!

The April 11th GAM will be about the wild horses of OBX. The May 9th GAM will be an update on the Mid-Currituck Bridge project. This is something that many are interested in and is critical to our community. Space will be limited, and this GAM will be popular!

A couple projects have either been completed or are in the works:

- Six new picnic tables have been put in place at the North marina.
- Refurbishment of one of the 2 sheds by the dry slips on the east side of N Marina. This will provide a dry, covered space for the oyster tables (now stored behind the westside shed under tarps).

Volunteers are always needed to help with the four annual Boat Club events! To encourage more volunteers, the price for the event will be discounted for volunteers. The exact amount will be determined closer to our first event in July.

Mark your calendars for this year’s Boat Club Events:

6 July	Independence Day Picnic
7 September	Labor Day Picnic
9 November	Oyster Roast
14 December	Holiday Celebration

Sign up and mark your calendars for the following events coming soon!

THE SOUTHERN SHORES CIVIC ASSOCIATION, CHICHAUK PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, AND THE TOWN OF SOUTHERN SHORES PRESENT

THE ANNUAL SOUTHERN SHORES CLEAN-UP EVENT



EARTH DAYS 2024

APRIL | 20-22 | 2024

VOLUNTEER. LEARN. WIN COOL PRIZES.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20 (9AM-12PM): CROSSOVERS
SUNDAY, APRIL 21 (1PM-5PM): PARKS
MONDAY, APRIL 22 (9AM-12PM): MARINAS AND COURTS

VOLUNTEERS ARE INVITED TO KICK THINGS OFF ON SATURDAY, APRIL 20 AT THE HILLCREST BEACH ACCESS. LEARN GARDENING TIPS FROM A MASTER GARDENER AND PICK UP A FREE TREE SAPLING FROM OBX TREE DOC. ENJOY A LIGHT BRUNCH AND BE REGISTERED TO WIN COOL PRIZES INCLUDING TICKETS TO A VUSICOBX CONCERT AND DINNER FOR TWO AT STEAMERS!

WITH SUPPORT FROM THE DARE COUNTY EXTENSION MASTER GARDENERS, HOME DEPOT, OBX TREE DOC, STEAMERS, THE SURFRIDER FOUNDATION, AND VUSICOBX

Rain dates: Saturday April 27, Sunday April 28, and Monday, April 29

FOR MORE INFO AND TO VOLUNTEER PLEASE VISIT: SSCAOBX.ORG
@SSCAOBX | COORDINATOR@SSCAOBX.ORG



THE SOUTHERN SHORES CIVIC ASSOCIATION
presents

SONGWRITERS AT SUNSET CONCERT SERIES

May 5 | 5-8pm | Julie Clark

June 2 | 5:30-8:30pm | Derek Smith

July 7 | 5:30-8:30pm | Carrie Brockwell

August 4 | 5:30-8:30pm | Bryan Campbell

September 1 | 5-8pm | Phil Watson

October 6 | 4-7pm | Chris Toolan and Maslin Seal

NORTH MARINA PAVILION
SOUTHERN SHORES, NC

SSCA members are invited to come enjoy the beautiful sunset and lovely live music on the first Sunday of each month from May to October.

PADDLING SOCIALS

Come on out and enjoy our beautiful waterways and meet your neighbors!
You can canoe, kayak, or stand up paddleboard.



JUNE 9 & 23
JULY 14 & 28
AUGUST 11 & 25

3:30 PM

LOBLOLLY MARINA
MEET IN WATER



- Must have CG Approved PDF on board.
- We will paddle for about an hour and a half and will pick a route based on the wind that day.
- Bring your own chair, beverages and snacks for a happy hour/social event after the paddle (5-6pm).
- Open to all SSCA members and their guests. (Residents of SS should be SSCA members in order to attend).
- Events will be cancelled in the case of lightning or forecasted lightning.

POC - Susan Ippolito - 757-469-7760

All SSCA properties are private property owned by SSCA members. These properties include the North, South and Loblolly marinas, the North Marina pavilion, the 34 beach crossovers, Hillcrest Tennis Courts, Seat Oats Pickle Ball Courts, Sea Oats and Soundview Parks, and the Sunset and Kingfisher Overlooks. Your membership in the SSCA is critical to the maintenance and repair of the parks, parking areas, marinas, beach accesses, and other common properties that serve your community. It also shows your support for those who volunteer with the SSCA to keep it running - from the board members to the teachers of the exercise and star-gazing classes, the beach clean-up organizers, parking monitors and to those crucial volunteers who pound the nails to keep our community properties repaired. We are truly a community of volunteers! Membership dues help to support the maintenance and improvements of all these amenities. Membership is totally voluntary, but it is so vital to our community!

Through March 17, about 86% of our SSCA memberships have renewed. The introduction of electronic payment of SSCA invoices was instrumental in achieving this high rate of renewal. If you have not renewed your membership yet and want to continue to support the SSCA, please renew as soon as you can (this can be done online at scaobx.org). The dues for full-time residents, second homeowners, and non-seasonal long-term renters are only \$70. The dues for seasonal rentals (including those with rentals through Vacasa, VRBO, AirBnb, etc., as well as traditional local rental companies) are \$100. Racquet Club and Boat Club memberships are separate. A Boat Club membership is \$30 each and a Racquet Club membership is \$25 each.

If you do not renew your membership soon, you will stop receiving newsletters and notices of other SSCA events! You don't want to miss out!

Slip Rentals

The wait list for wet, dry and kayak slips shows us that demand for slips is high! To try to meet that demand, your SSCA added two additional kayak racks in late 2022 - four at the Loblolly Marina and four at Soundview Park, and they have all been rented. We are looking at adding more kayak racks at Loblolly Marina in 2024. In 2022, we submitted two Major CAMA Permit applications to the North Carolina Division of Coastal Management, in anticipation of adding additional wet slips at the Loblolly and North Marinas. In 2023 we added six new wet slips at the Loblolly Marina, two new wet slips and one transient wet slip at the North Marina. We are currently in the process of constructing a walkway and adding water and electric to service the six new slips at Loblolly. This will be completed this Spring. While these slips didn't get rid of our wait list, it did give us a few more slips to offer our members. Unfortunately, there is no additional space at our current marinas for more slips.

While we know that some people rent slips, but do not always keep a boat in their slip for the entire season, the SSCA does not require a member, who has paid their slip rental fees, to always keep a boat in the slip. Members who have paid can use the slips when and as they wish.



- Repairs were made to Sunset bulkhead after being damaged by a dead Cypress tree which acted as a battering ram propelled by Sound waves during a late January storm.
- Plan developed to constructing a 4' wide x 167' long deck along the bulkhead for the six new wet slips at Loblolly Marina. A contractor was hired to construct the deck as well as install electrical and water lines to the power pedestals. The new slips will be fully completed by boating season! All these slips have been rented.
- Working with a contractor, replaced 64' of handrails for the 48A Ocean Boulevard crossover, plus the joists and deck boards through the dune at Hillcrest crossover.
- Contractor replaced Hillcrest shower sunshade boards, deck boards on the ramp from Hillcrest gazebo to the viewing deck.
- Replaced west stairs for the East Dogwood crossover.

Still to be done before the season begins is preparing for the replacement of the 10th Avenue crossover, the west side of the 132A Ocean Boulevard crossover and potentially the Mockingbird crossover due to it being entirely buried in the dune.

Shoveling Sand off of Crossovers

If you wish to shovel sand off of dune crossovers, especially from oceanside stairs, please throw the sand as far as possible to the SOUTH side. If you throw sand to the north (predominant wind direction) side, sand will be blown back in to the area you excavated faster and deeper. This may create a need to replace these stairs prematurely. Thanks for your help!

Except for a few adjustments, pickle ball opened at Sea Oats Park and we celebrated the event with an open house on a warm Saturday morning in January. Courts are open for play daily and, starting April 1, will be open from 8 to 8 – reservations are required.

The Club held their Winter Social at Pine Island in February. The event was well attended by pickleball and tennis players and all had a great time mixing it up.

Spring is here and we are enjoying warmer weather (mostly) and more daylight time in the evening. This is the best time of year to play tennis or pickleball. Planning is in the work for our Spring Social at Hillcrest Courts on May 4. Pickleball and tennis activities are planned. Look for details to be circulated shortly.

In the meantime, everyone is reminded about open play opportunities at our SSCA tennis courts at Hillcrest and pickleball courts at Sea Oats Park.

Tennis

All play is by reservation using the sign up sheets located inside the courts at Hillcrest. We have three open play times reserved each week:

1. **Wednesday Mixed Doubles** - meets at 5 pm. Format is short 4-game sets with no ad. Play is casual, but all levels are welcome. Please email me at tennis@sscaobx.org for more information.
2. **Friday Womens** - meets at 9 am. Please contact me at tennis@sscaobx.org and I will get your name on the mailing list.
3. **Saturday Mens** - meets at 8:30 am. Format is flexible depending on how many players we have. No reservations are needed. Just bring your game.

Pickleball

Open play: Monday through Thursday, 8 AM to 12 PM. All SSCA Racquet Club members can sign up for open play. If you are a new user, follow the steps below to register to play online:

1. Enter this website address in your browser window OR click this link: <https://www.yourcourts.com/yourcourts/security/showLogin/836280>
2. Enter your SSCA primary or secondary email address and the temporary password **sscalogin**
3. Click the blue “Log In” bar
4. You will be prompted to create a new secure password for your YourCourts account. Password does not have to match SSCA password. If you are an existing user, just login.

The Reservation Screen will appear with a Schedule for the current day. You may join a Pickleball Open Play session or reserve a court for Casual Play. You can scroll to other days and can reserve time up to two weeks in

advance. The Reservation Instruction window to the right includes information you need, including rules of play and the gate code.

If you have not joined the Racquet Club or have forgotten the new gate code, please contact the SSCA office at **(252) 261-8617** or SSCA@obxbeach.net.

SSCA Contributions

THANK YOU!

The SSCA and our community received two very generous contributions in the last couple of months.

- The Dares of Dune Garden Club donated a bench made of recycled plastic bags. The club has given away several of these benches in the last few years, and the SSCA is so happy to be a recipient of one this year! The bench will be placed at Triangle Park to provide seating for folks walking by the park or returning from the beach.



As a reminder, this is the second contribution we have received from the Garden Club in the last year. Some of you may remember that the Garden Club donated their time and energy to design, plant and nurture through the winter our new garden located at Triangle Park! We are so grateful to these ladies who give back to our community!

- A new Little Free Library (LFL) was installed at Kingfisher. **Bob Baculik and Joel Newton** volunteered their labor, and **Zahra Richards** will donate her artistic skills in painting the library. **Zahra** has also volunteered to be the steward of this LFL. Thank you **Zahra, Bob and Joel!!**

Treasurer's Report**Susan Ippolito**

The SSCA Civic Association major income categories include owner and rental memberships, marina rentals, and boat and racquet club memberships. We are happy to report that we are \$44,340 ahead in these categories from where we were at this point last year. We have commitments for all our marina rentals and are confident that our membership goals will be met or exceeded this year. It is exciting to see the membership in the racquet club grow after adding our beautiful new pickle ball courts!

Spending continues in accordance with our 2024 budget. We have set targets for our reserve account balances and work towards adding to the balances each year, to eventually meet the balance targets. Reserve account balances are a vital part of the health of our civic association. These accounts are used for major projects, such as building the pickleball courts, but most importantly are held in reserve in case of minor to catastrophic storm damage when we would need these funds to be able to repair and rebuild the SSCA's extensive amenities.

We have formed our internal audit committee for the 2023 audit and the committee members are already hard at work. We expect to complete the audit sometime in the second quarter of 2024. A big thank you to our committee members, three of whom are returning for a second year, **Noel Langlois, Katie Frampton, and Teddy White and a new addition to the team, Pam Lamb.**