



**R.H. McCLURE Inc.**  
CONSTRUCTION • REAL ESTATE • RENTALS

# Ocean Isle Beach Rentals

24 Causeway Dr.

Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469

(910)579-3586 | (910)579-3557 | (800)332-5476

E-mail: [ncmcclure@atmc.net](mailto:ncmcclure@atmc.net)

Fall 2012 Newsletter

## Fall Means Oysters in North Carolina!

Oysters, like seagulls, have a bad PR agent too. Every day, during low tide, we look out the “rear window” and see oyster beds all over, but we hadn’t thought to feature the mollusks on our newsletter. We’re not worried about them, though: Oysters have no back bone. It could be that the two of us involved with the newsletters see them so much that we don’t even think about them; or it could be that neither one of us likes oysters. I don’t know if I should admit this, because most people around here think oysters are soooo yummy. I wonder how hungry was the prehistoric man who first ate an oyster? After struggling to open its shell, this man was faced with the gray, slimy meat inside the shell. However, I am told by oyster connoisseurs, that he was very much rewarded for taking the risk, not just because of the taste, but also because of their nutritional value.



True oysters are members of the family Ostreidae. Pearl oysters are not true oysters, since they belong to the family Pteriidae. Oysters are both male and female, changing sex as needed. Oyster larvae are called spat, and they mature in about one to three years. Their shape depends on the surface to which they attach themselves. They must be eaten or cooked alive. I am told it’s easy to tell if an oyster is alive: its shell is clamped shut tightly. Once dead, the shell

tends to open slightly. It is said that they’re tastier during the months that contain the letter R, since the meat of the oyster thickens when the water temperature is cooler, but this idea might date back from when there was poor refrigeration. They can live up to forty years, and grow up to eight inches, but most are harvested when they’re about three inches long.

During Colonial times, people ate oyster ice cream, which is made by heating oysters and cream, almost like oyster stew. Then you run it through an ice cream freezer. It was usually served topped with a single raw oyster on the half-shell. It wasn’t sweet, like one would think of ice cream, but it was considered a delicacy. In the early 1900’s, the practice stopped, since oyster ice cream was considered to be poisonous.



Those of us who do not eat oysters still can appreciate the fact that they are filter feeders. An oyster can filter over a gallon of water per hour. They most definitely improve the marine environment by removing toxins. I was also told by someone who claims to have been “raised on oyster beds”, that complete oyster beds can be removed from polluted areas and relocated, where they will repopulate and again be fit to be eaten.

Oysters are such a huge part of our local community, there has been an annual Oyster Festival in Brunswick County for the past 31 years! Now, we’re all about festivals, but we’ll still leave the oyster eating to others, thank you very much!

## A Glimpse into Oyster Festival History

What began as a small gathering of a few hundred locals with the purpose of having some fun while having an oyster roast, has evolved into a two-day event with over 50,000 visitors. The first of what later became known as the North Carolina Oyster Festival took place in October, 1981 in an old hangar at the Ocean Isle Beach Airport. NASCAR driver Richard Petty was the star attraction. Through the years, the festival has been held at different locations. In the early to mid nineties, it took place at what is now The Village at Sunset, then, in 1996, it moved to West Brunswick High School. During that time admission was \$2.00. In the 1980's the Chamber of Commerce started charging admission to offset the cost of paying entertainment, parking attendants, electricity, etc. Admission is now \$5.00, and free for children 12 and under. In 1999 the festival took place on Main Street, Shallotte, next to the Chamber of Commerce, and in 2000 it was moved to its present location, on Second Street in Ocean Isle Beach, next to the Museum of Coastal Carolina.

## 32nd Annual North Carolina Oyster Festival

**This year's Oyster Festival will be held on Saturday, October 20 and Sunday, October 21.**

The center of Ocean Isle Beach will become a walking district that offers something for everyone: local cuisine, arts and crafts, children's activities, live music and the Oyster Shucking Contest. Other events include a 5K, 10K road race and children's fun run. The 'Fest is made possible by the Brunswick County Chamber of Commerce and the support of many generous area businesses and a wonderful group of volunteers and, most importantly, the weekend's dedicated revelers. This year Season 9 American Idol finalist (he came in third place), Casey James will perform at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 20. The festival is open 9-6 on Saturday, and 9-5 on Sunday.

Visit [www.ncoysterfestival.com](http://www.ncoysterfestival.com) for more information.

## More Upcoming Events

### *Grissettown Longwood Fire & Rescue*

### *Haunted Trail*

October 12 & 13, 19 & 20, and 26-31 7:00 pm until

Located at the Grissettown Longwood  
Fire Department on Hwy 904

Call 910-287-3030 for more info.



## OIB Ghost Walk

The Ocean Isle Beach Ghost Walk that runs during the summer season will be hosting some walks for the Halloween season on October 27 and 30, and on November 2. Meet on the beach at the Public access between the Breakers restaurant and the OIB pier at 7:00 pm. Tour Ocean Isle and learn about its haunted history.

Tickets are sold on location and cost \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under.

## Pirates in Ocean Isle?

September 19 is "Talk Like a Pirate Day". Did you know that we have our own pirate history right here in OIB? According to the book The History of Ocean Isle Beach, by Fred R. David and Vern J. Bender, "The era of pirates off Ocean Isle Beach was at its height between 1690 and 1720." Three pirates, especially, "operated freely off OIB" – Sam Bellamy, Stede Bonnet, and Edward Teach.



Sam Bellamy was also known as "Black Sam", or "Black Bellamy" due to his rejecting the powdered wig worn at that time, and just tying his long, black hair in a ponytail. He served alongside Blackbeard for a while, on the Mary Anne. After taking over that ship, he also acquired The Sultana. In 1718, the Mary Anne and the Sultana gave chase and captured a slave ship called the Whydah, which he then outfitted into a 28-gun pirate ship. Bellamy gave The Sultana to the former captain of the Whydah, earning him the nickname, "Prince of Pirates". Shortly after, the ship hit a sandbar and sank, along with "Black Sam" and a hundred and forty three pirates.



WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU WERE BONNET, ONE OF THE GREAT PIRATES, OWNER OF THE LEASE AND HAD PROBABLY HUNDREDS OF SUBJECTS ON MARIAGU'S AND RECENTLY PIRATE CAPTAIN?

Stede Bonnet was an unusual pirate. He had been a plantation owner in the Barbados, and one day he decided (some say due to his nagging wife) to leave and become a pirate. He was known as "The Gentleman Pirate". Unlike other pirates, Bonnet actually bought a ship, called Revenge. He also hired some sailors, since he knew nothing about sailing. When Teach visited him on the Revenge, he quickly realized Bonnet's incompetence, and was able to convince him to become a "guest" on his ship. Teach tricked him and left him stranded on an island. After sailing off the island, Bonnet renamed his ship Royal James, and went in pursuit of Edward Teach. In October 1718, pirate hunters hired by the governor fought him near the Cape Fear River, and Bonnet was forced to surrender. He was finally sentenced for piracy and hanged at the age of thirty, in November 1718.



Edward Teach, also known as Blackbeard, is probably one of the best known pirates. According to early writings, he would weave gunpowder wicks into his hair and beard, and then light them. His scary persona was emphasized by his bright red coat, the two swords he carried at his waist, and the numerous pistols and knives he wore around his chest. He must have been one scary-looking dude. Sometimes he didn't even have to fight, since the sight of him was enough for some captains to surrender. He was known around Shallotte Inlet, Tubbs Inlet, and all along the North Carolina coast. Blackbeard's death, in 1718, marked the end of piracy in American coastal waters.

## R.H. McClure Realty's 2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL FACEBOOK SWEEPSTAKES



[RH McClure Realty, Inc.](#) is on Facebook, and we want more FANS!

Like us on Facebook to keep up-to-date with Ocean Isle Beach news, rental updates, and even our silly office antics! Make sure you're a fan of our page by November 30, because on that date, we'll choose one of our fans to win a free reservation fee (a \$60.00 value). If you have a 2013 reservation, or are planning on booking a reservation for 2013, then make sure you [fan up!](#)



Judges' decisions are final. Winner will be announced in the Winter 2012 Newsletter. Entering the contest gives us permission to use winner's name and city on our newsletter. Prize has no cash value – it can only be applied to 2013 reservation.

*We would like to take a moment to say THANK YOU to those of you who contributed to this and past newsletters with articles, photos, reviews, and more. THANKS SO MUCH!*

# BEACH PHOTOS 2012

The Clem Family shared their photos from their time in Ocean Isle Beach this summer.

The Clem family stayed with us during the Fourth of July week and they had a super time!  
Photos courtesy of John Clem of Harlan, KY.



The young ones flipped for OIB!



The twins lost their heads on the beach!



The whole family left their imprint on the island.

**Another family who returns annually to Ocean Isle Beach is the Renfrow/Evans family.  
Samanthia Renfrow Evans wrote the following article sharing her story with us.**

July Fourth is a week-long celebration at Ocean Isle Beach for the children and grandchildren of Isla Frances and the late W. Jesse Ford of Lake View, SC. The family began to consider the island their home-away-from-home when they took their first vacation here in 1956. At that time there were only eleven family members, including Isla Frances, Jesse, their five children, one son-in-law, and several grandchildren. Later on, Isla Frances' sisters and their families joined the group occasionally at Ocean Isle.

Ocean Isle has changed in many ways since the family's first vacations, but it was always inviting. There were only about twelve houses on the whole island just after Hurricane Hazel. Jimmy Renfrow, the Fords' son-in-law and father of eleven children who currently participate in the trip, remembers swimming the waterway nightly after working second shift in Dillon, SC. Since the ferry closed at midnight, he had to park his car and swim across the waterway to be with his family for a few precious hours before returning to work the next day!

Both the island and the family have grown rapidly. Now there are nearly one hundred family members who take the yearly trek across the bridge, traveling to this special place from South Carolina, North Carolina, Florida, and Virginia. Isla Frances, now 91, still makes the trip to spend time with her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren. Five generations eagerly attend the gathering every year. This year, the youngest members of the group included an eleven-week-old baby girl, six-month-old twin girls, and an eleven-month-old boy.

Enjoying family and experiencing the adventures of the island have been the focus since the beginning. In the early years, the children were thrilled by the ferry ride, fishing on the pier, long walks from one end of the island to the other, and picnics on the strand. Now the family occupies seven McClure rental houses as part of an extensive family reunion. Family members take turns preparing the nightly suppers, which they share underneath the houses. Brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, and cousins catch up with each other throughout the week by sharing Sunday morning church, baby and wedding showers, graduation celebrations, and several birthday parties, including one on the 4th of July. Children and adults participate in a family photo, talent show, sing-a-long, crab hunt, crafts, card games and board games, and fun times on the beach. Over the years the family has also enjoyed sand castle contests, beach Olympics, "water bogging," and putt-putt golf. All these activities include lots of laughter and quite a few chocolate oatmeal cookies (a family favorite). Family members have accumulated many wonderful memories from OIB over the years, including two family weddings celebrated right on the strand.

For the Ford family, the quiet and beauty of OIB are the chief attractions. Because they are a large but close-knit group, being together is most important, and they prefer to concentrate less on the shows and the shopping and to emphasize a simpler time with family. Year after year, McClure Realty and Ocean Isle Beach have provided the perfect environment for our annual family gathering.

*July 18, 2012*



Photo courtesy of  
Samanthia Evans

**HALLOWEEN** is coming up, so here are some fun facts about some of the goodies we'll be stealing from our children's bags next month.

**Tootsie Rolls** were first made in 1896. It was the first penny candy to be individually wrapped. It was named after the maker's daughter.

**M&M's** were first advertised on TV in 1954. Production of the candy started in 1941. They were specifically made for the soldiers during WWI, since the coating kept the chocolate from melting.

**Snickers** were named after a horse owned by the Mars family.

**Reese's Peanut Butter Cups** were created in 1928 by Harry Reese, who opened the Reese Candy Company in the basement of his house.

**Milky Way** was created in 1923 and it was the first commercially distributed chocolate bar.

**Three Musketeers** was created in 1932, and it came in three flavors in one package – vanilla, strawberry & chocolate – hence the name.

**Bazooka Gum** with the Bazooka Joe comic strip inside was named after a musical instrument of the 1930's.

**Butterfingers** were created in 1923, and named only after the company ran a contest to name the new product.

**Jolly Ranchers** were originally produced in Golden, CO, and were given that name to suggest western hospitality.



## Today in America

The popular Travel Channel TV show, *Today in America*, with Terry Bradshaw, called Ocean Isle Beach, "one of the best family vacation spots." On August 31, the film crew from TIA spent the day in Ocean Isle Beach, for an upcoming segment of the show. No air date has been set yet, so keep your eyes open, or check our Facebook page for updates.

## Since our last newsletter...

Cinelli's Restaurant next door to us became Scoози, and Scoози became Pogie's Seafood. They're open for dinner only, Our long awaited for Golden Corral is finally open. It's on the corner of Business 17 and Hwy 17 in Shallotte. Warning: Be very hungry when you go, because the food is excellent, and you'll definitely overdo it. (Well, I did.)

On December 1, a new Italian restaurant will open next to the OIB airport. Antonio's Restaurant will be next to Chubby Buddha. Drinks, food and taxi service (for those who need it, if you know what I mean...). How can you go wrong?

## Kids Corner

We need your help to produce our Kids Corner! Tell your kids about it and let them know they can draw a picture, tell us a story, share their favorite beach memory, etc. Send it in to us at [ncmcclore@atmc.net](mailto:ncmcclore@atmc.net) and we'll feature it here!



Kate and Bill Beardlee's grandkids look forward to "Sunset Slushie time" every day when they're on the beach in Ocean Isle every August. If they miss Pat coming by on the beach, they make sure to stop at their location on Beach Drive.

From left to right: Shelby with baby Sofia, Sarah in back, Karolina, Thomas and Matt. Sofia is only 13 months and enjoys them as much as the rest of them.

Photo courtesy of Kate Beardslee of Ridge, Maryland.

### RH McClure Real Estate Sales

Below is a current list of properties that are available through R.H. McClure Realty, Inc. We would like very much to represent you in your quest for properties on or around Ocean Isle Beach. Our sales staff will assist you with any listed property in this area. Please check with us often, as prices and listings change frequently. Call

**Bob Kennette**  
910-540-5940

**B. Wayne Melton**  
910-233-6606

**John Hightower**  
910-520-0533

Or visit our website at [www.rhmclclurealty.com](http://www.rhmclclurealty.com) to view all listings in Brunswick County

#### Beach Homes

Oceanfront-149 Ocean Isle West 6 br, 6.5 ba	\$ 2,200,000
West Ocean Palms-13 Coggeshall-6 br,6 ba-gated	\$ 2,289,000
Summerplace-74 Private Dr 4 br, 3.5 ba	\$ 497,000
Soundfront-125 SSD – 5 br, 5.5 bath	<b>SOLD</b> \$ 749,000
Canal-45 Raeford-4 br, 3 ba, new dock	<b>Under contract</b> \$ 499,000
2 <sup>nd</sup> Row-67 East First – 4 br, 2 ba w/ 3 <sup>rd</sup> row lot	\$ 649,000

#### Beach Lots

Soundfront Lot-192 West 4 <sup>th</sup> St	<b>SOLD</b>	\$ 349,000
Second Row Lot-313 East First St	<b>SOLD</b>	\$ 250,000

#### Beach Condos

Windjammer Unit 1-J – 2 br, 2 bath, oceanfront	\$ 299,900
Windjammer Unit 1-I – 2 br, 2 bath, oceanfront	\$ 274,900
Ocean Point Unit 1002 – 3 br, 2 ba, oceanfront	\$ 565,000

#### Mainland Lots

Brookhaven Subd – Lot 10, 5 minutes from Wilmington	\$325,000
Bricklanding Golf Course Frontage - 1633 Carriage Pl	\$ 99,000
Bricklanding Golf Course Frontage - 1625 Carriage Pl	\$ 99,000
Crown Stream – 1602 Crownstream Drive	<b>SOLD</b> \$ 35,000

#### Mainland Homes

Wood Duck retreat-3 br, 2 ba manufactured home in quiet subdivision \$ 141,000

**The Massies, from Elon, Ohio, were thrilled to arrive in Ocean Isle Beach for their annual beach trip in June 2012.  
Way to get into the spirit, guys!**

