



Loggerhead Turtles

Summer 2009 Newsletter

The loggerhead turtle is the largest of the hard-shelled turtles, and the most abundant of all marine turtles in the US. Although North Carolina is home to only one percent of the loggerhead turtle nesting areas in the US, this turtle is very much part of Ocean Isle Beach. If you're lucky, between May and August, you might get to see a nest or two, tucked up near the dunes. If you're really lucky, you might witness hatchlings emerging from their nest.

There are two schools of thought as to how the loggerhead turtle got its name. Some believe the name refers to the shape of their heads, which is similar to the pointed blocks of wood used by loggers. The other idea is based on another

definition of the word loggerhead - a blockhead or stupid person. In Spanish, these turtles are called *Tortugas Bobas*, or Silly Turtles. The reason for the name is that young loggerhead turtles tend to float on the surface of the ocean, sunbathing. The warmth of the sun makes them feel sleepy, or in a daze, and makes them very easy to capture. In spite of its name, the loggerhead turtle is far from stupid. It has been around over 240 million years, and is perfectly adapted to its environment. It has strong jaws to crush the mollusks, crustaceans, and other animals it feeds on. It is also known to feed on the poisonous Portuguese Man O'War. Though their movements are cumbersome while on land, in the water they appear to fly, swimming at around fifteen miles an hour. Loggerhead turtles are reptiles, and must breathe air, but they can dive down to 100-200 meters, coming up for air every four or five minutes. Their nostrils are on top of their nose, so they barely clear the surface to take in air. At rest or sleeping, they can stay under water for several hours at a time.

A female loggerhead will travel thousands of miles to return to the beach where she was hatched. She will leave the water, dig a nesting area with her back flippers, and very carefully lay around one hundred ping pong ball shaped eggs. She will then cover the eggs with sand, and return to the sea. The temperature of the nest determines the sex of the hatchlings. Cooler nests (around 82 degrees F) will produce more males. Warmer nests (around 85 degrees F) will produce more females.

Two months later, tiny, two-inch hatchlings will emerge, usually at night, and head towards the brightness of the water's edge. They will spend the first ten to twelve years of their lives far from shore, in the open seas, around the Sargasso Sea. If they survive, the can live up to fifty years, and grow to about four feet and weigh as much as five hundred pounds.



In the South Brunswick Islands, there's a nonprofit program called "Turtle Watch". In OIB, the program is headed by Miss Gloria, better known as The Turtle Lady. Ocean Isle Beach is a protected nesting area, and there are several things that you, as a visitor, or a full time resident, can do to help preserve these beautiful animals.

- 1. Oceanfront homes should turn off their ocean facing outside lights during the summer months, so as not to confuse the hatchlings.
- 2. Never disturb a nesting Mother or her hatchlings.
- 3. Nests are protected with a mesh screen, and should not be disturbed.
- 4. Collect all your trash from the beach, especially plastics.

To learn more about the program, visit their website at <u>www.oibturtlepatrol.com</u>.

Reminders:

•No cabanas are allowed on Ocean Isle Beach, just umbrellas, and all items need to be removed by 7:00 pm.

• Fishing licenses are required for all fishing in Ocean Isle Beach. They can be purchased at <u>www.ncwildlife.com</u>.

2009 OIB Fourth of July Parade

If you're in Ocean Isle Beach on July 5, don't miss the Annual Fourth of July Parade, yep, held on the fifth this year! **Reminder:** No fireworks are permitted on Ocean Isle Beach. In future issues: •Our Tides •29th Annual Oyster Festival •Let's go fishing •Ghost crabs •Annual Trash Bash

•Goblins, & Witches & Ghosts, Oh My



There are land turtles, and marine turtles, and there are also Sand Turtles. This loggerhead sand turtle was sculpted by Eileen Gannon. It was almost life size, and it took her almost four hours to sculpt it.



"Let's go surfin' now, Everybody's learning how, Come on and safari with me." The Beach Boys, 1962



Would you like to learn to surf? Usually, all students are standing up and riding waves on the first day, in the first half hour of camp. Surf camps run Mondays through Thursday, 8:30 am to 11:00 am, with Fridays left open for make-up day in case of inclement weather. They also have "Little Kids" camp for ages 6-9. The academy's

emphasis is on water safety, board handling skills, and surfing fun. The cost is \$235.00, and they provide surfboards, snacks and expert instruction. For more information, or to book a class, please visit their website at www.oceanislesurfacademy.com



Photo courtesy of Reese Patterson **Brunswick Surf and Turf** will be having two surf camps in June, Monday through Thursday. The cost is \$175.00 (not including the surfboard). For more information, please visit their website at <u>www.brunswicksurfandturf.com</u>





This year marks the 50th anniversary of the introduction of the Three-Point seat belt we all use today. That seems incredible when we think back about growing up with no restraints in the car, but it was in August of 1959 when a Swedish engineer named Nils Bohlin acquired patent number 3,043,625 for his breakthrough invention: a seat belt with a strap across the chest, and one across the hips, which was

buckled up at the same point, and could be buckled even with one hand. Seat belts had been around for a while, but with only one strap across the stomach, they caused severe abdominal injuries during a car crash. In 1958 Volvo hired Bohlin, who had developed pilot ejector seats, to come up with a solution, and in less than a year, Bohlin came up with the answer. The three-point seat belt was not introduced in the United States until 1963, and it wasn't until 1985 before two states, Texas and New York, made wearing seat belts mandatory.

Parasailing

I am almost sixty years old - a baby boomer, as we're called. When I was a child, my white haired grandmother would sit up very straight, would wear a shawl, and always – and I mean always – would wear a skirt. My grandmother, nor my mother, would have ever been caught dead riding a bicycle, or running down the street in biker shorts. They missed out on so much! Today, baby boomers don't know the meaning of the word old. We're out there scuba diving, climbing mountains, riding a bicycle across the country, and running marathons. We can't be stopped, but for some of us, it takes a bit of persuasion to get



OIB from the air. Photo courtesy of Martha Russ

involved in those crazy activities. In my case, it took a LOT of persuasion. Years ago, while living in CA, I had seen people parasailing. It looked very exciting, and I thought it was something I would like to do; but it was one of those things I put aside for another day, and another year, and I just didn't get around to it. Years later, in Ocean Isle, while sitting on the beach one day, I saw a huge yellow parachute, with the famous smiley face on it, and a phone number stamped on it. Below the parachute, being pulled by a boat, was a barely seen person, parasailing. You think I ran to call the number on the chute, right? Oh no, I told you I needed a lot of persuasion. I was way too old for such shenanigans. But I started talking to people about their experience on it, and I kept watching that parachute every day, and finally, I called and booked a reservation. I brought a disposable camera which I carried up with me, and that was a crazy idea, since it left me only one hand with which to hold on to the straps, but I ended up with some

great shots. I am heavy set, and I could barely get in the boat, but a ten-year old who climbed in after me had trouble too, so that made me feel better. Now, you get on the boat from the pier behind *The Giggling Mackerel*, which makes it much easier. Captain Barrett and his crew will assist you on board. During the boat ride we got to see some dolphins, so I felt that I had gotten two for the price of one – parasailing, and a dolphin watching boat trip. I was the last one to go up, but it eventually got to be my turn. Was I scared? Oh yeah, you bet! Did I enjoy it? I enjoyed it so much, I went back up the following year, and I plan to go again this Summer. Bring a camera if you can; the straps are very safe, and you don't really need both hands to hold on. You don't need a waterproof camera, but please bring a disposable one, since I don't want to hear my name called in vain if you happen to drop your expensive camera into the Atlantic Ocean. The view from up there is awesome, but it's not just the view. To me it was a sense of adventure, one of those, "Yes, I can do this!" moments, but more importantly, it was so much fun! You're never too old to play. For more information, visit their website at www.ncwatersports.com. See you at 800 feet!



OCEAN ISLE FISHING CENTER

65 Causeway Drive Ocean Isle Beach, North Carolina (910) 575-FISH



Be sure to stop by R.H. McClure Realty's rental office to pick up your Vacation Value coupons good on boat or Jet Ski rentals, parasailing, banana boats, and clothing and food, sponsored by the Giggling Mackerel and the OIB Fishing Center at the foot of the bridge.



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Concerts on the Coast

Once again, the OIB Property Owners Association is sponsoring their Tenth Annual Summer Concert Series. The concerts are every Friday, weather permitting, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m., May 22 to September 4. A different music genre is featured each week. From Beach and Dance Music, to Old Time Bands, there's something for every musical taste. The concerts are free, but a donation of nonperishable food items is encouraged, to benefit the Shallotte Food Bank. The open air concerts take place on the parking lot of the Museum of Coastal Carolina, on Second Street. Bring a chair, or a blanket to sit on, and enjoy a music-filled, relaxing evening. No glass containers are allowed, but you may bring a snack, or a picnic, and don't forget the dancing shoes.



Schedule of Performances

- 5/22 Craig Woolard Band (CWB)
- 6/5 The Imitations
- 6/12 Northern Border Bluegrass
- 6/19 The Attractions
- 6/26 Mark Roberts and Breeze
- 7/3 Men of Distinction
- 7/10 Craig Woolard Band (CWB)

- 7/17 Continental Divide
- 7/24 Band of Oz
- 7/31 GB 4
- 8/7 Sea Cruz
- 8/14 The Holiday Band
- 8/21 Cousin Homer Band
- 9/4 The Imitations

Happy Birthday, Ocean Isle Beach!



Ocean Isle Beach turned fifty, and what a party it was! The festivities started on Friday, June 5th. Under a big tent next to Town Hall, the Town went to town – so to speak. Some of the guests included North Carolina Senators and Representatives, as well as some of the past mayors of Ocean Isle Beach, and its commissioners with Mayor Debbie Smith presiding.

There were photos and memorabilia on display, and there was a continuous slide show – Fifty years of Ocean Isle Beach history. Vern Bender and Fred David signed copies of their just published book, The History of Ocean Isle Beach. If you would like to order a copy of the book, just log on to www.OceanIsleHistory.com.

Between the hotdogs, chili, potato salad and all the other goodies, we all gained a few pounds, but that's OK, because we danced it off later that evening.

As part of the Property Owners' Association concert series, The Imitations performed in the parking lot of the Coastal Carolina Museum on Friday evening, and the party just continued.

Saturday evening, the OIB property owners got together for a photo on the beach. The photographer was taken up in a fire truck crane to shoot the photo, while Darlene (who, by the way, is the designer of the Ocean Isle Beach Birthday celebration logo), tried to get all the homeowners to behave and line up. If you would like to order a copy of the photo, you may log on to <u>www.Calabashphotography.com</u>.

When we were all back under the tent, Miss Virginia Williamson gave a short speech. She said that when she and Odell Williamson bought the island, it was like having another child who needed to be cared for and nurtured. They have tried to do that all these years, and she's happy that there are so many people who love Ocean Isle Beach, and will continue to take care of it and continue to nurture it.

After the Happy Birthday song, Miss Virginia cut the birthday cake, and then it was time for Dancing in the Street, which had been cordoned off for the occasion.

Old friendships were rekindled, and new friendships were made, because everyone there had one thing in common: We all love Ocean Isle Beach!





In our last newsletter we asked for suggestions for beach music to get you in the mood. Some of you were very adamant that we include your favorite band and/or song, so here we go...

More songs to get you (and keep you) in the mood - the OIB mood...

Reader Jerry Polston introduced us to Jim Quick and the Coastline Band. According to their website, they produced "the sound known as Coastline" and the band "truly defines the sound of historical Southern music". We checked them out on YouTube, and their show is pure fun both to listen and to watch.

An anonymous reader suggested *Operation Working Vacation*, by Sugarland. It's a silly song, but it's something we can all relate to: "Gotta get a handle on the situation

Soul solution for my frustrations

So I made myself a little reservation

A one-way ticket to liberation

Way overdue by my calculations."

Reader Michelle Garrett suggested *Those Lazy, Hazy, Crazy Days of Summer*, recorded by Nat King Cole in 1944. It's a great song; can't believe we didn't include it in the first place.

We have something for the kiddies this time too: The Disney Channel show, "Phineas and Ferb" characters sing a cute song called, **Backyard Beach**.

"You got skiing, parasailing, Surfing and flailing, You got the thing sailing, At the backyard beach."

Another anonymous reader suggested the song *Lime in the Coconut* by WizzRapKittyKat. That song ought to come with a warning: "The words to the chorus will stick in your head, and you will be singing it the rest of the day."

Based on that type of song, we came up with another fun one, "*Jump in the Line*" recorded by Harry Belafonte in 1961 and used in the soundtrack of the movie "*Beetlejuice*". One can't possibly sit still while listening to that song. It doesn't have anything to do with the beach, but it sure has a beachy sound to it.

Another one that's not really beach music, but is really uplifting and has a beachy sound is **Call Me AI** by Paul Simon (1986). Jump in the Line and Call Me AI will have you dancing whether you want to or not.

We missed *Summer Nights* the first time around. This was sung by Olivia Newton-John and John Travolta in the movie *Grease* in 1980.

A reader suggested **Summertime** an aria written by George Gershwin in 1935 for the opera *Porgy and Bess.* There are a zillion versions out there, but our favorite one is by American Idol winner Fantasia Barrino. It's an amazing version, but some of you might prefer the more upbeat version done by Greg Kneer in the movie *Stuck on You*. It'll have you tapping your feet and clapping your

hands. We're sure there are many more out there, so keep emailing us your suggestions.



HELP! We need your Oyster Festival photos for our Fall issue. Please send your jpg images of past Oyster Festivals to ncmcclure@atmc.net.



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

Ron Britt 910-524-1144 Bob Kennette 910-540-5940 B. Wayne Melton 910-233-6606 John Hightower 910-520-0533

Or visit our website at www.rhmcclurerealty.com to view all listings in Brunswick County

Beach Homes

Oceanfront-50 East 1 st St 12 bdrm, 12 baths	\$ 2,795,000	
Oceanfront-123 West 1 st St 5 bdr., 4 baths, pool.	\$1,295,000	
Ocean Front-436 East 2 nd St 4 bdrm 2 baths	\$ 750,000	
Ocean Front-392 East 1 st St 4 bdrm 2 baths	\$ 400,000	
Natural Canal- 46 Wilmington St 5 bdrm, 5 bath,	\$ 650,000	
Concrete canal- 8 Goldsboro St 4 bdrm, 4 bath	\$ 699,000	
Natural canal- 1 Concord St 4 bdrm 2.5 bath	\$ 499,000	
Concrete canal- 18 Concord St 4 bdrm, 2 bath	\$ 649,000	
Concrete canal -16 Raeford St. 4 bdrm, 4bath	\$ 629,000	
2 nd Row -55 E 1 st St – 5 bdrm, 5.5 bath	\$ 899,999	
3rd Row-250 E 2 nd St 5 bdrm, 2 bath	\$ 575 <i>,</i> 000	
3 rd Row -286 E 2 nd St -4 bdrm, 3 bath	\$ 595 <i>,</i> 000	
Island Park Cottages-3 Myrtle Ct 4 bdrm 2 bath	\$ 519,000	
Mid- Island-12 Isle Plaza 4 bdrm+loft+play room,4 bath \$ 779,900		

Beach Condos

Windjammer Unit 2A-4 bdrm, 4 baths oceanfront	\$699,000
Windjammer Unit 1-J 2 bdrm 2 baths oceanfront	\$375,000
Windjammer Unit 1-C 2 bdrm 2 baths oceanfront	\$ 359,000
Ocean Point Unit 604 high rise unit 2 bdrm 2 baths	\$ 649 <i>,</i> 000
Ocean Point Unit 1002 high rise unit, 3 bdrm, 3 baths	\$ 685,000
Ocean Cove Unit 122 1 bdrm + bunk nook, 1 bath oceanfront	t \$349,000
Ocean Cove Unit 214 1 bdrm + bunk nook, 1 bath oceanfront	t \$245,000
Ocean Cove Unit 215 1 bdrm + bunk nook, 1 bath oceanfront	t \$359,900
Channel Harbor Unit C1 1 bdrm+bunk nook, 1 bath	\$209,900
A Place at the Beach Unit 2-J 2 bdrm, 2 baths side unit	\$ 298 <i>,</i> 000

Beach Lots

Concrete Canal Lot-50 Union St \$ 1,100,000 Islander Resort-149 Via Marsh Lagoon Dr. Soundfront \$ 595,000

Mainland Lots

Bricklanding GC-1756 Forest Oak Blvd.	\$	75,000
Bricklanding GC-1633 Carriage Pl	\$	120,000
Bricklanding GC-1625 Colonist Square.	\$	120,000
Bricklanding GC-1803 Waterwing Dr.	\$	99,000
Brookhaven SubdLot 10 in Brookhaven,		
5 minutes to Wilmington	.\$3	325,000

Mainland Homes

Hewett Farms-1336 Hewett Farms Rd- 4 bedroom 3.5 baths	\$ 639,000	
Crow Creek GC-9235 Oldfield Rd. Calabash- 4 bedroom 4 baths \$ 649,000		
Nakina-551 Big Cypress Road- 3 bedrooms 1 bath	\$ 104,995	
Calabash1 bedroom, 1 bath in Carolina Shores Resort.	\$ 69,900	
Calabash2 bedroom, 2 bath in Carolina Shores Resort.	\$ 104,900	
Supply2321 Stanley Rd 2 bdrm, 2 bath	\$ 148,500	
Brunswick Commons I Unit 32 bdrm, 2 bath	\$172,500	



Photo courtesy of Donna Peterson



Photo courtesy of Anthony Pakusa