

JICANet Update
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Prior Updates can be found on our website at www.jekyllcitizens.org

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JIAA Speaker Presentation - Wednesday, Mar 30

Come and listen to Tallu Scott present a talk on "Jekyll Island - What Happened After the Millionaires Left" at the Jekyll Island Methodist Church starting at 6:30 pm. This event is free and sponsored by the Jekyll Island Arts Association.

JIAA April Exhibit -

The April Exhibit at Goodyear Cottage will feature Denise Murphy - Glass and Ann Kemp - Photography. An Artist reception will be held April 3, 1-3 at the cottage. Admission is free.

April JICA Board Mtg - Monday, Apr 4

The April JICA Board meeting will be held on Monday, Apr 4 at the Jekyll Presbyterian Community Church. The meeting will start at 7 pm and feature a talk by Eamonn Leonard, Natural Resources Biologist from the Georgia DNR on "Planting for Birds" after a normal business items. The meeting is open to the public. Light refreshments will be available at 6:30pm.

JICA March Meeting Minutes -

JEKYLL ISLAND CITIZENS ASSOCIATION MEETING

March 7, 2016

7:00 p.m. at the Jekyll Presbyterian Community Church

Board members present were Franklin Duncan, Bonnie Newell, Beverly Hopkins, Ted Rice, Ame Ivanov, Jerry Locascio, Dave Buisson, Jim Reed and Ron Franke.

Franklin opened the meeting at 7:00 with announcements:

- The next JICA meeting will be Monday, April 4th at 7:00 pm at the Jekyll Presbyterian Community Church. The guest speaker will be Eamonn Leonard, Natural Resources Biologist from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. His presentation will be "Planting for Birds".
- Jim Reed reminded everyone of the annual Easter Egg Stroll Saturday, March 26th (the Saturday before Easter). Volunteers are needed to help stuff prize bags on March 24th 10 am – noon, at the JIA annex. Help is also needed on the day of the Stroll to hide Easter eggs and to hand out prizes. The shifts for Saturday are 8 am - 10 am, 10 am – noon, noon – 2 pm. Please contact Nancy Reed if you can help, 635-3535

- C.J. Jefferies mentioned the new membership card that was distributed to existing paid members. The business community is working on identifying participating businesses that will offer specials or discounts to card holders. Ron Franke has cards that will be given to new members as they join. The card expires 12/31/2016. Look for the card at local businesses and they will post the participants on the JICA website.
- Bonnie Newell reminded people of the upcoming Jekyll Art Association festival. She told us about Augusta Russa, a pottery guild member, whose husband died suddenly. There is a special pottery raffle at the festival to help her with expenses.
- Bonnie passed along the information that Terry Norton and the Turtle Center need housing for a few more interns for this summer. Please call Bonnie if you can help.

Minutes: February minutes were approved.

Reports:

Membership: Megan reported that as of the day of the meeting there are 281 paid members. She has membership forms available at the meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Ame reported there is a current balance of \$24,251.43. Some expenses were for the printing and distribution of the membership cards and accounting supplies. JICA made a contribution of \$500 to the Stacys who lost their RV home after a fire. Dues continue to be received. The report was approved.

Island Introductions: JoAnn Buisson thanked Megan and C.J. for assisting her in creating a welcome letter that will be given to new residents. This should help her get contact with the new people so she can provide them the welcome bag. If you know of anyone who is new, please get that information to JoAnn.

Old Business: None reported

New Business: Franklin reminded the group we need to volunteer to help with the refreshments for the meetings. JICA pays for them but we need someone to bring them, set up and clean up. There is a sign-up sheet on the refreshment table.

Member comments: None

Franklin introduced Jason Richardson, Jekyll's Public Safety Director. Jason has been in public safety since 1987. He has had positions in Fire, EMT, Police, and as a SWAT emergency medic. With Jason was Reid Trawick, Fire Marshall.

Jason gave a little history of the Jekyll Fire and Emergency Services.

- The fire station was opened in 1961. Prior to that the service was housed in the historic district.
- There have been 4 Fire Chiefs in the history of the department.
- Jason has been on Jekyll since 2006.
- There are 9 full time employees and 25 part-time. There are 3 shifts.
- The Fire Marshall is responsible for compliance, inspections and post-fire investigation. For the new buildings coming on line the plans are sent to Atlanta for review.
- Each firefighter must do 240 hours of training each year. New recruits get 320 hours of training. One requirement is that all firefighters are trained on all aspects of the truck, from driving to operating the hoses and equipment. This insures that everyone can operate all aspects even under pressure. There are usually 4 people on the truck.
- There are also federally mandated training such as CPR and EMT that must be completed.

- They inspect hydrants each year. There are 153 hydrants on Jekyll, with great water pressure! Because pressure is good they do not have to run lines through the truck to increase pressure.
- They must complete physical agility tests twice a year. The tests and training mimic things they would actually do in an emergency.
- The reflective stripes on their emergency clothing serve 2 purposes. They can be seen in smoke or darkness but also if the strips begin to melt that means the person needs to get out.
- The truck holds water, but they must attach to the hydrant quickly if it is a significant fire.
- The firefighters will periodically walk through areas like the historic district and beach village including offices, hotels and businesses so they become familiar with the layouts and locations of hydrants or stand pipes. This is to assist them if they ever need to fight a fire.
- Ladders must be inspected annually. They hire a company to inspect them and do weight tests to insure they are not damaged. They do not have any wooden ladders. They also cannot paint them as it may hide defects.
- Hoses must be tested and inspected.
- They do station tours especially for children. He believes that educating children has a lasting effect – there has been a decrease in house fire cases over the years that may indicate that as children become adults they are more conscious of fire safety.
- A decrease in the need for fire services has resulted in the combination of Fire/EMS at the same station. This is a logical move.
- They are equipped to cut a car apart to rescue a person. They can also use an airbag to raise a car that has fallen on someone.

Questions/Answers/Comments:

- Ted Rice commented on how much praise has been given to the Fire/EMS staff after the RV fire at the campground. Everyone was very impressed with how professional and efficient the staff was.
- In addition to emergency services, the staff can do blood pressure checks for people who need them.
- Do they assist people with smoke detectors? Yes they will replace batteries and try to provide detectors when someone needs one. Let Reid Trawick know if you need assistance.
- When should you actually replace the whole smoke detector? The recommendation is to replace the unit after 10 years. Batteries should be replaced annually.
- What is the status of the fire roads behind residential areas? Those are buffers and they go through and cut them back every other year. This helps prevent any potential forest fire from spreading.
- Are there any plans to do more mosquito prevention this year in light of the Zika virus? Glynn County will continue to spray and they now have a contractor who is going around treating standing bodies of water. Residents can assist by treating or dumping standing water.
- How many people/vehicles are sent to any fire call? 2 vehicles go for any call whether it is fire or emergency. 2 staff people are on the ambulance and 2-3 on the fire truck.
- What emergency number should you call when using a cell phone? 911 – be sure to identify yourself as calling from Jekyll Island.
- Will there ever be an ordinance prohibiting the release of sky lanterns during events on Jekyll? Unfortunately they are included in the list of allowable items in the fireworks law that went into effect last July. It is unclear whether JIA could write a separate ordinance.
- Does a new business have to submit their plans to his office? If it is a new or refitted building, after JIA approves any plans, they send the plans to Atlanta then Jekyll would be responsible for any compliance after that.
- Do they have agreements with other services if JI needs additional help in case of a major event? Yes, they have mutual agreement with Glynn County to assist if needed. They even got calls from Glynn County during the RV fire to see if assistance was required.
- Do they do sea rescues? They do not have sea rescue trained personnel. They do have a kayak and vests and will go out and assess the situation and help if needed. If necessary they call the Coast Guard and DNR. They do patrol the beach when the tide begins to come in to see if

people are on the sandbar and try to get them in before it becomes a problem. They do have the all-terrain vehicle for the beach or other hard to reach areas.

- Do they have special training for a plane crash? No but their training can be applicable for any kind of emergency. They did have one slide into the marsh and one that knocked out its front landing gear on an alligator.
- Do they offer CPR training for citizens? Yes, they just did that at the campground. If you are interested, call the station.
- How do we get emergency notifications, such as hurricane evacuation? Register with Glynn County's "code red" system. All the numbers with 635 prefixes are already in the system. If you have a cell phone you also want to register, go to the Glynn County website and look for the code red link.
- How is the increase in hotels, businesses and visitors impacting the JI fire service? The new building regulations and sprinklers actually work in the favor of JI firefighters. Their call volume has increased some with more people and events on the island.
- The one new piece of equipment they have is the Firewise trailer that allows them to share information at a festival or event but also be available for safety as needed.

Franklin thanked Jason and Reid for taking the time to talk to the group.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:00.

Respectfully submitted by Beverly Hopkins, JICA Secretary

Previously Announced Events -

Red Cross Blood Drive - Thursday, Apr 7

The next JI Red Cross Blood Drive will be held on Thursday, April 7 at the Jekyll Presbyterian Community Church from 1 to 6pm. Come and support this life saving event. Some facts about blood donations:

A single car accident can require as many as 100 pints of blood.

Many of the 1.5 million people diagnosed with cancer each year require blood, sometimes daily.

Although 38% of the population is eligible to donate blood, fewer than 10% actually do.

To avoid waiting in line, make an appointment by calling the Red Cross, contacting them on-line or calling Howard Sculthorpe at 635-2866.

GSTC Summer Housing Request -

Three graduate students from the Georgia Sea Turtle Center are looking for housing. They haven't had much luck finding a house (or an apartment) to rent in the Brunswick/Jekyll Island/St. Simons area. Brea Ondich, JIA Park Ranger, told them that she found an apartment in the area by asking Jekyll residents if they knew of any places to rent, so they were hoping someone can help them out.

As a note, they are looking for something between \$600-\$1000 per month and plan to move in at the beginning of May. Contact Miranda Miller at the University Nebraska at [507-381-2506](tel:507-381-2506) or marmiller2008@hotmail.com if you can help these graduate students out.

And that's the news from Jekyll Island where history lives, nature abounds, and our winter quest are heading home after contributing to a wonderful winter season of activities.

JICANet Updates are distributed periodically by the Jekyll Island Citizens Association to its members and interested parties. To subscribe or unsubscribe send an email to jicanet@jekyllcitizens.org.