

**JICANet Update**  
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**April 27, 2016**

*Prior Updates can be found on our website at [www.jekyllcitizens.org](http://www.jekyllcitizens.org)*

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**JIA BioBlitz - Wednesdays, Apr 27, May 4 & May 11**

Jekyll Island Golf Club is excited to announce it will host BioBlitz, a species counting competition, now through Saturday, May 14. In addition to golfers who play the course each day, three free events are open to all families and community members. BioBlitz is organized by Audubon International to create awareness among golfers and the community about the environmental value of the habitats supported by golf courses. The species counting competition is open to any golf course worldwide.

Jekyll Island Golf Club will close one of its golf courses from 1 to 5 p.m., Wednesdays, April 27, May 4 and May 11. The public is invited to assist the Jekyll Island Conservation Department with the count. Participants will be given species sheets, similar to BINGO cards, to aid in the identification of flora and fauna. Families, friends, and neighbors will then walk or ride the golf courses, identifying all the species they encounter.

“We’re inviting everyone to enjoy a beautiful spring afternoon outside looking at wildlife,” said Ben Carswell, JIA director of Conservation. “This is a great way to be part of the island’s conservation and preservation efforts, with the added benefit of helping all four golf courses achieve Audubon certification.” The event also provides a rare opportunity to explore the historic Oleander course up close and at no charge. “It’s not something you get to do every day,” said Rob Ellis, director of Jekyll Island Golf. “Except for the greenkeepers, few people have the chance to explore the course this thoroughly. At the end of the day, participants will have been on one of the coolest scavenger hunts and had a one-of-a-kind experience.”

The animal counts will be entered into a database and used to create a species profile of the island. This data will help researchers better track and understand environmental changes, animal behavior and migratory patterns, and more.

For more information, please visit the Jekyll Island Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/jekyllisland](http://www.facebook.com/jekyllisland) and click on events.

**JIA Plant Sale - Saturday, Apr 30 -**

The JIA will hold its annual plant sale this Saturday at the Greenhouse off of Stable Rd. The hours are 9 to 3. Here is a chance to pick up some plants for your landscaping.

**JICA Monthly Meeting - Monday, May 2 -**

The last monthly meeting before our summer break will take place at the Jekyll Presbyterian Community Church on Riverview Dr. It will start at 7 pm. This meeting will be an open forum for membership input on future plans for the organization. Light refreshments and conversation start at 6:30. The meeting is open to the public.

### **Do You Know About the Lending Closet -**

The Jekyll Presbyterian Community Church has a lending closet for medical equipment (wheel chairs, walkers, etc.) & other items (cribs, etc.). If you need any of these items on a temporary basis, please call Jim Gertis on his cell phone at [912-222-2783](tel:912-222-2783). He'll be more than happy to talk about what is available and how to make arrangements to borrow items

### **JIAA May Exhibition -**

Beginning May 1st through May 31st, the Jekyll Island Arts Association will be displaying the beautiful pastel and watercolor of Roseanne Dieterich and the handmade woodturning of Roy Yarger at the Goodyear Cottage in the Jekyll Island historic district. A reception for the artists will be held on Sunday, May 5th, from 1 – 3 p.m. at the Goodyear Cottage. The Cottage's hours are Monday through Friday – 12:00 to 4:00 p.m., Weekends – 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission to the Goodyear Cottage is free to the public.

### **JICA April Meeting Minutes**

#### JEKYLL ISLAND CITIZENS ASSOCIATION MEETING

April 4, 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, May 2nd at 7:00 pm at the Jekyll Presbyterian Community Church. This meeting will be an open forum and members are encouraged to bring concerns and ideas for future JICA presentations.
- Franklin thanked Paula Stevenson for providing the March refreshments and the Buisson's for providing the April refreshments. If you want to volunteer for May, there is a sign-up sheet on the table.
- Jim Reed thanked everyone for their support of the Easter Egg Stroll. They gave out 650 gift bags and appreciate all the citizens who volunteered to make the event a great success.
- Bonnie passed along the information that Terry Norton and the Turtle Center need housing for two interns for this summer. You will get a free Turtle Center membership for housing someone. Please contact Bonnie if you can help.

Minutes: March minutes were approved.

Reports:

Membership: Megan reported that as of the day of the meeting there are 286 paid members. We have added some new members and have some renewals from people who have not renewed lately. Membership forms are available at the meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Ame reported there is a current balance of \$21,157.95. Some expenses were for the printing and distribution of the membership cards. JICA made a donation of \$500 to the Presbyterian Church for use of the space. JICA also made the first of two \$2500 contributions to the Jekyll Island Foundation for the Mosaic project. The report was approved.

Island Introductions: JoAnn Buisson is working with each of the real estate companies to get a letter to any new resident welcoming them and she will be working to get a welcome bag to them. If you know of anyone who is new, please get that information to JoAnn.

Old Business: None reported  
New Business: None reported  
Member comments: None

Franklin introduced Eamonn Leonard, Natural Resource Biologist from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Non-game conservation. He is currently working on a project to study invasive species along the coast and to promote use of native plants. He is chairman of Coastal Wildscapes. He participates in many organizations concerned with coastal plants and wildlife. Eamonn's presentation is "planting for birds". Here are some highlights. Eamonn provided his detailed slide show. Look for it on the Jekyllcitizens.org web page under News/Bylaws or use this link: [http://www.jekyllcitizens.org/home/ne/Jekyll\\_Birders\\_April2016.pdf](http://www.jekyllcitizens.org/home/ne/Jekyll_Birders_April2016.pdf)

- Planting for birds can provide both shelter and food and moisture for the birds.
- Since some of our birds are migratory, it is helpful to provide different plants and some that bloom at different times.
- Remember that even though a plant itself does not provide food, if it attracts insects those may be food for many birds.
- Unfortunately by attracting birds to your yard you may also be attracting larger birds that hunt the smaller birds. There may also be threats such as roaming cats and large windows that cause bird-strikes. Be careful about using pesticides or products that may harm birds.
- He also tried to address deer-resistant plants.
- He highlighted trees, shrubs, herbaceous plants, grasses and vines.
- Coastal Wildscapes uses locally gathered seeds to start native plants which they sell twice a year at the Ashantilly Center in Darien.
- Some of the trees he recommended: Tulip Poplar, Oaks, American Beech, Magnolia, Wild Cherry, Cedars. Logically, most trees take a long time to grow and produce fruit or nuts but if you already have any of these protect them.
- Shrubs: Viburnum (more wetland oriented), Sweet Sumac, Yaupon Holly, shrubby Dogwoods, Elderberry (another one for a wet area), Beauty Berry, native Hibiscus and Azaleas.
- Vines: Muscadine, Trumpet vines (can be aggressive), Poison Ivy (birds love the fruit), Coral Honeysuckle (native),
- Herbaceous plants/grasses: Salvia (there are some native), Goldenrod, Purple Love grass, Little Bluestem, Coreopsis and Black-eyed Susan provide seeds, Spotted Bee Balm (native)

Questions/Answers/Comments:

- Does Trumpet Vine affect a tree if it grows up into the top? It is not likely to affect the tree.
- Is Pyracantha invasive? It is not native but it is not considered invasive in coastal Georgia. Some plants are found to be invasive in one region but not in another.
- How do you get rid of Bamboo? The clumping variety spreads less. There is information on line about getting rid of Bamboo. One way is to cut it down and pour an herbicide right into the plant.

- One resident told a story of Cedar Waxwings getting “drunk” on holly berries. Eamonn said they tend to gorge on berries and in one county a flock died after gorging on Nandina which can be poisonous in large quantities. Nandina is considered invasive.
- When is the plant sale you mentioned? Wildscapes does 2 sales a year. The spring one was April 2 and the fall one is in September. They hold them at the Ashantilly Center in Darien. Information can be found on the Coastal Wildscapes Facebook or web page.
- Mexican Petunias can be invasive, so be careful about planting them.
- Why does one Tung Oil trees reproduce, but some do not? They can be invasive, but he did not know why one would not reproduce. They had problems with them reproducing on Cumberland and had a lot of trouble controlling them.
- Does Jekyll have Chestnut Oaks? Yes, there are native but uncommon. It is more of a wetlands tree. There is also a Saw-tooth oak that was planted along the causeway that is not native but provides good foraging for the deer. It can be invasive further inland.
- Bottle Brush trees are great for hummingbirds also.
- You don’t have to use native plants, but do try to avoid invasive species.

Franklin thanked Eamonn for taking the time to talk to the group.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:45.

Respectfully submitted by Beverly Hopkins, JICA Secretary

**Previously Announced Event -**

**National Day of Prayer, Jekyll Island Events - Thursday, May 5**

The National Day of Prayer will hold a celebration on Jekyll Island May 5 starting 3:30 pm at the Great Dunes Pavilion. There will a Red Bug Ramble, walking strolls and Agency tables at 4 pm with a band concert with Wee Pub Picnic Eats at 5 pm and the Observance commencing at 6 pm. Go to [www.prayjekyll.com](http://www.prayjekyll.com) for more information. Alternative location will be Villa By the Sea Conference Center if inclement weather.

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And that's the news from Jekyll Island where history lives, nature abounds, and we are in the middle of another building boom.

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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](mailto:jicanet@jekyllcitizens.org).