

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

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JICA Monthly Meeting Items- Monday, Nov 3

JEKYLL ISLAND CITIZENS ASSOCIATION MEETING

October 6, 2014

7:00pm at the Jekyll Island Presbyterian Church

Board members present were Gene Jarrett, Franklin Duncan, Bonnie Newell, Bill Felker, Beverly Hopkins, Ted Rice and Don Kronenberger. Jim Reed and Stan Jennings were absent. Gene opened the meeting at 7:00 with announcements:

- The November 3rd meeting will feature Zack Taylor from Georgia Power and the topic is "How you can pay us less!" He will focus on methods for making our homes more energy efficient.
- Gene introduced Darrell Davidson as the new JICA parliamentarian. We will count on Darrell to keep the meetings on track.
- Bonnie Newell announced the upcoming Christmas lighting contest. Prizes will be awarded: 1st place = \$150 + bonus gift(s), 2nd place \$100 + bonus gift(s), 3rd place \$50 +bonus gift(s). Judging will take place 2 weeks before Christmas. The committee will announce a method for insuring your house gets judged. If you are interested and helping judge, contact Bonnie.
- Nancy Kring Rowan asked Gene to remind members that the Under the Oaks Half Marathon is October 11. Shell Road will be closed from 7:00 a.m.-noon. The roundabout and area by the Convention Center will be closed from 7:15a.m. until 9:30a.m.
- Gene gave a big thank you to Megan and C.J. Jefferies who have been providing the printed agendas for years.
- There are Lion's Club island directories still available and can be purchased at the meeting and through the real estate offices and the bank

Minutes: The minutes from the August meeting were approved with no changes.

Franklin read the statement that the JICA board is sending to Jones Hooks and the JIA Board about the deer. That statement reads: "We recommend that issues related to the deer population be postponed pending further review, research and information on public opinion."

Bonnie read a portion of a letter recently sent to the JIA Board from the Humane Society of the U.S. Copies are available for those who wish to read the entire letter. They are urging the Board to reconsider the DNR's recommendation.

Reports:

There is a nominating committee to identify potential candidates for 3 board positions for the election in January. Darrell Davidson is the chair of that committee. Nominees are to be announced prior to the annual meeting. If you wish to serve or want to nominate someone contact Darrell.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Felker reported that there is a current balance of \$19,375.53. There have been no expenditures or deposits in the past month. The report was approved.

Membership: Megan reported there were no changes and that currently we have 47 individual members and 123 families giving JICA a total of 293 voting members. Megan encouraged members to pay their membership fees now. All are due December 31. Do not wait until the annual meeting as it causes delays at the meeting.

Don Kronenberger chairs a committee reviewing the toll plaza topic. Many residents and others who have annual passes feel there should be a dedicated lane for pass holders. The committee is working on a recommendation that will be reviewed by the JICA board then sent to Jones Hooks.

14 welcome packages have been delivered to new residents on the island by the Island Introductions team.

Jean Poleszak gave the "Echoes from the Past" segment. Jean is reviewing old JICA documents and had several interesting tidbits of Jekyll history:

- In 1982 the Jekyll Presbyterian church created a "closet" of equipment that can be borrowed by residents. It includes things like baby cribs, high chairs, walkers and canes and other items. This closet still exists.

- In 1966 the first "library" was begun using books (some first editions) found in the Jekyll Island Club property which was not in use at the time. It was originally in the Aspinwall room. There is now a lending library maintained by the Rotary Club in the Club Hotel near the Pub. It could use some updates but is available for people to borrow books for free.

Gene introduced the speaker, Cliff Gawron, Director of Landscaping and Planning for JIA.

Cliff has been working on Jekyll since 1990 when he started as an intern. He wrote and enforces the Jekyll Island Tree Ordinance.

Cliff told us that:

- Jekyll Island is in Zone 9 and considered sub-tropical.

- You don't have to have an irrigation system but if you choose to install one be sure it has a timer and rain-sensor so you don't water unnecessarily. Consider drip irrigation for smaller plants and shrubs. You may need to hand water if you don't have a system. Don't saturate your lawn.

- Before planting, consider this:

- o Soil acidity. This can be tested. Because the island was used by Native Americans there are a lot of areas with oyster shells underground which makes it calcium rich. For example, dogwoods do not do well on most parts of Jekyll.

- o Look carefully at the sun/shade conditions in the yard.

- o Consider the appropriateness of a plant for our zone.

Be wary of information you find on the internet. Be sure you know the source.

Cliff reviewed a lot of plants, some of which he displayed samples. Many are highlighted below.

You may contact Cliff's office for assistance in choosing plants and if you have any tree questions or issues. The greenhouses do carry some of the plants he reviewed.

Turf grasses:

- St. Augustine is the most common on Jekyll – does well in shade. Palmetto is a popular variety.

- Centipede works well but not under heavy foot traffic. Best in full sun.

- Seashore Paspalum does well on Jekyll especially near the ocean.

- Bermuda holds up under heavy traffic – it recovers quickly.

Separate shrubs and trees from grass and use mulch. Mulch provides ongoing nutrients and helps retain moisture for trees and other plants. Try to avoid scalping the roots with a mower.

When possible, use native plants. Native plants hold up better, they are acclimated to the soil and climate.

Some suggested ornamental plants and shrubs:

- Russian Sage – purple flowers, deer don't like to eat. Does well in full sun, tolerates salt water. They will have this in their spring plant sale. It is a perennial.

- There are a variety of ornamental grasses that can be used. Lemondra Breeze is another good tough one.
- Muhly Grass/sweet grass – Currently blooming around the island. They are trying to grow a native strain from seeds from Little St. Simons and Jekyll.
- Sea Oats – not great for yards.
- Saw Palmetto – common, it spreads and is hard to get rid of. There are other varieties.
- Variegated Ginger – deer don't like to eat, perennial; will continue to grow if winter is not harsh.
- Autumn Fern
- Sejo Palm, suffers from Asiatic scale. Coffee grinds in the soil helps control it.
- Viburnum, there are many varieties. You can cut them down to the ground every few years to rejuvenate them.
- Yellow Anise – deer don't like to eat
- Wax Myrtle – native
- Yaupon Holly or Weeping Yaupon Holly – deer don't like to eat
- Yucca – deer don't like to eat – shade tolerant
- Beauty Berry
- Confederate Jasmine
- Lantana – consider using the Gold Mound mounding and the Lavender spreading variety are less invasive and different colors
- Dune Sunflower – native, deer don't like and they are planted in Great Dunes Park. Dune Supreme.

Trees:

- Red Cedar
- Bald Cypress does well in a very wet area
- Dahoon Holly
- Live oak
- Avoid the Pindo Palm aka Corkscrew Palm
- Bamboo – be careful as some are invasive. Clumping varieties are better.

No old or new business was presented.

No additional citizen comments were made and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Beverly Hopkins, JICA Secretary

FOHJI Monthly Meeting - Thursday, Nov 20

The Friends of Historic Jekyll Island will hold their monthly meeting at the Jekyll Island Club's Morgan Center on November 20. The meeting will start at 7pm and the program will feature Jim Conine (The Abe Man). Jim is the 3 time winner of the National Abraham Lincoln Speaking and Look-A-Like Competition. There will be a cash bar from 6-9pm. As usual, the presentation is free (donations to FOHJI will be accepted).

Previously Announced Events

Jl Lions Club Cheese and Street Number Yard Sign Sale - Saturday, Nov 22

The JI Lions Club will hold its annual cheese sale from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm at the Shops on Beachview shopping center. In addition to the normal cheese sale, the Lions will be taking orders for Street Number Yard Signs. These signs are like the ones sold by the JI Volunteer Fire Department years ago and costs \$29.50. The JIA and our safety forces would like to see address signs readable from the street on all residences. This is a good way to keep safe and help a worthwhile organization.

JI Blood Drive - Tuesday, Nov 25

Please consider donating blood at our Red Cross Blood Drive on Nov. 25 between 1 pm and 6 pm. It is a good way to say thanks and give back to the community. The drive will be held at the Jekyll Presbyterian Community Church. Previous deferrals in many areas have changed. Please come and donate. If you would like to schedule an appointment, contact Howard Sculthorpe at 635-2866 and avoid a wait in line.

--- and that's the news from Jekyll Island where history lives, nature abounds and winter is hitting the rest of the country, burrrrr!!! -- Jim Reed, JICANet Editor

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