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# Newsletter

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## HOLDEN BEACH PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

November 2011

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**Our Mission:** To represent the property owners of Holden Beach as a unified voice regarding issues that affect their common interests and concerns

### IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2011-12

Nov 26 HBPOA Thanksgiving Meeting  
Dec. 1 [Tree Lighting](#)  
Dec. 30 Holiday Flotilla  
Apr. 7 HBPOA Easter Meeting  
Apr. 28-29 [Day at the Docks](#)  
May 26 HBPOA Memorial Day Meeting  
HBPOA meetings start at 10 AM and are held in the Assembly Room of Holden Beach Town Hall. Please join us

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### PLEASE RENEW

Your dues help us advocate for issues affecting Holden Beach property owners as well as to make charitable gifts to organizations that improve Holden Beach.

Memberships expire on December 31 each year. The year your membership expires appears on the mailing label. Please [click here](#) to renew your membership today.

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### HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

I'm writing this while I sit on a plane working my day job heading to Clear Lake, Iowa to see a client. As I left for the airport at 6:00am, it was 70 degrees and foggy at Holden Beach. Everything was wet with morning dew. In Iowa it is 18 degrees. I wonder what that feels like. Soon I will know. Clear Lake is the home of the Surf Pavilion, the last band stand of Buddy Holly, the Big Bopper, and Richie Valens. So why am I talking about Iowa when you are interested in Holden Beach? Well last September I visited this same



client and while tooling around in my rental car passing miles of corn fields, I saw these spinning objects across a rural farm road from each other.



I sat there mesmerized for 15 minutes watching these majestic giants spinning in unison. Florida Power and Light owns the Wind Farm of Turbines. At their visitors center I learned that with a 12 mph wind speed, the wind turbines called Nu-cellas can generate enough power for 2,000 houses. At 32 mph the Nu cella turbines can generate enough electricity for 22,000 homes. Two weeks after this trip I attended the NC Offshore Wind Forum held at UNC Wilmington on October 17, 2011. I learned about the many different organizations, public, private, and governmental working hand in hand together to bring wind power to our coast. At the last Holden Beach Commissioners meeting a team from Sierra Club and Oceana presented the current state of wind power and the prospects of using wind power in North Carolina. For more information please read the article by Carina Barnett-Loro, Conservation Program Coordinator, NC Sierra Club, later in this newsletter.



Some important items to share:

**Election time** is over at Holden Beach and hopefully life can get back to normal. Elections seem to bring out the best in people with enthusiasm, energy, and excitement with new optimism. It also seems to bring out the... let's just say not the best side of people. It's easy for life to become like a

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soap opera during elections where friends take political sides and rumors, innuendos, and distrust seems like a daily occurrence. Hopefully with the elections over all of God's people now have the freedom to reconcile and friendships to blossom again.

Election Results: We congratulate the winners.

### § Mayor

Alan Holden 206 votes

### § Commissioners (top 5)

Sheila Young 182 votes

Don Glander 181 votes

Dennis Harrington 168 votes

Sandy Miller 154 votes

Ray Lehr 145 votes

**Web Conference Broadcast.** We will be conducting a test Web Broadcast of our HBPOA Thanksgiving Weekend Membership Meeting. We will test the ability for far away members to participate in our live meeting via Web Conference Broadcast. If you live far away from Holden Beach and you would like to be a part of this test broadcast please reply to [hbpoa@hotmail.com](mailto:hbpoa@hotmail.com) to let us know you will join the meeting via Web Conference Broadcast on Saturday November 26, 2011 from 10:00 am-11:30 am. The first 100 members to respond will then be emailed the special Web Conference website and password. This is important, so please respond if you want to participate.

**HBPOA Member Appreciation Breakfast.** We held our first HBPOA Member Appreciation Breakfast on Saturday October 29, 2011 in conjunction with the Holden Beach Chapel Men's club pancake breakfast. The HBPOA paid for 2 breakfasts for each membership family. Guests were \$5.00. Normally the Men's Pancake Breakfast serves 175-190 people. We served a total of 268 people. The turnout was so great we ran out of most of the food by 9:15am but were able to continue serving pancakes through the 10:00 am hour. The proceeds of the event go to fund Thanksgiving dinners for the needy. The Men's club goal for this event was to come up with funding to support Turkey dinners for 50 needy families in Brunswick County. We exceeded that goal and raised over \$1,400. The HBPOA served 117 members of which 16 were new member families. All in all it was a fun event with great food; great fun, and met a lot of great people. A win-win for everyone involved.

We invite you to join us for the Thanksgiving Weekend HBPOA Membership meeting on Saturday, No-

vember 26, 2011, at 10:00-11:30 AM at Holden Beach Town Hall.



Best regards,  
John Lytvinenko  
President, HBPOA

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### FALL BEACH LIFE

This fall is proving why it is a wonderful time to be at Holden Beach. The Festival by the Sea, the recent triathlon, the fishing tournaments, the warm days and cool nights, the boating activities, etc. add to the "fall beach life".



Our beach strand is in pristine condition. The road right of ways, gardens, public piers, etc. all look and are in good condition. The town's financial position is sound. Overall the Town of Holden Beach is in good standing.

Challenges do lie ahead. County, state, and national funding is drying up. Gas tax, sales tax, matching programs, and other sources are getting harder to find and more difficult to get. The Corps of Engineers has no money to maintain the Lockwood Folly Inlet from the waterway to the sea buoy. Late this fall, the Corps will be dredging about 30,000 cubic yards of sand from the intersection of the inlet channel and the ICW. The sand will be placed on the east end of Holden Beach. No dredging of any kind relative to Lockwood Folly Inlet is foreseen through June 2012. Even after June, the future is unknown.

The Coast Guard continues to warn boaters to stay out of Shallotte and Lockwood Folly Inlets. Buoys are not expected to be in place for the next several months. Many boat insurance policies may not cover operation in unmarked inlets.

Many thanks to Ken Kyser for years of hard work and dedication to the Town of Holden Beach as a Town commissioner. and other capacities. Ken resigned his position just before the November election.

Welcome to Dennis Harrington as the new commissioner that will be filling the position Ken Kyser occupied. Congratulations to Don Glander, Ray Lehr, Sandy Miller and Sheila Young as they move the Town ahead through their leadership as commis-

sioners. I have no doubt that the good work will continue with David Hewett and his entire town staff.

More owners are interested and working to help eliminate sandspurs. It will take all of us working together to rid the island of these little pests. Chris Clemmons and the Town's maintenance staff continue their spraying in public areas. Results are starting to show positively more and more. Owners can enlist their lawn care companies to help too!

The e-mail blast I implemented four years ago continues to grow in popularity and usefulness. This has become the quickest, most direct and most reliable resource to give owners, residents, and interested parties Holden Beach information. During emergencies, such as, hurricane evacuations, this has worked extremely well. Anyone not on this "Blast" list and wants to be should contact Town Hall and ask to be added.

Construction and sales activity has picked up a little in recent weeks. Sales prices are still suffering due to bank sales, foreclosures, etc.

Each year there seems to be more and more families coming to the beach for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Come if you can!!

- Alan Holden, Mayor

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### **HOLIDAY SEASON 2011 UPDATE**

Even though it seems like Labor Day was just yesterday, there's been a lot going on here at the Beach. A skinny minute miss by a Category 3 Hurricane Irene, a municipal election, the Town's first triathlon; aka "the Shipwreck" and on a personal note, the completion of my nine year old's first season as a footballer – Go Pirates!!



Here in southeast NC we were all fortunate to have "Irene" go past with minimal personal property damages and no injuries. Even though we saw eighteen to twenty foot shore breaking surf, actual surveyed damages to the strand were limited to less than thirty thousand cubic yards of sand with vegetation and sand fencing seeing more widespread impacts from the storm surge. The Town has officially completed the FEMA coordinated submission of two beach reimbursement claims: one for approximately \$448k that will provide for replacing the sand losses and another for \$189k to replace damaged

sand fence and vegetation. We will attempt to dovetail our FEMA repair efforts on the strand (sand, fence and vegetation) with the US Army Corps Lockwood Folly Inlet/Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway crossing navigation project – the north end of the inlet nearest Varnamtown- which will be starting shortly after the New Year and placing an estimated 30,000 cubic yards of beach sand on the east end. The southern portion or "inlet throat" between Oak Island and Holden Beach will also be dredged just as soon as the Corps of Engineers receives approval on a memorandum of agreement that allows the Corps to accept state and local funds for this purpose. The state of NC, Brunswick County, Oak Island and Holden Beach have all anteed up the required contributions totaling \$450k to keep the inlet navigable. Until inlet dredging maintenance activities are conducted boaters are urged to exercise extreme caution due to the Coast Guard's removal of inlet navigation aids.

We are proceeding with permitting of our offshore sourced sand beach nourishment and expect to have the permit submitted to the Army Corps by the end of this month. This submission schedule may change somewhat depending on how much follow up the staff must accomplish in support of the FEMA/Irene projects.

The Town has held a scoping meeting with the Coastal Resources Commission and the Army Corps of Engineers to review the requirements of permitting a terminal groin at the east end of Holden Beach. Needless to say the process is complicated and lengthy – 2 years minimum. The short version is that the critical path and the baseline element in permitting a terminal groin is the completion of a USACE approved environmental impact statement prepared by an independent third party environmental engineering consultant. Staff is in the process of soliciting qualifications from coastal environmental specialists for consideration by the Board of Commissioners at a soon to be determined later date.

A rough draft of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan has been released to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board who along with town staff are reviewing it individually prior to preparing formal recommendations for the Holden Beach Board of Commissioners. Considerable effort has gone into preparation of the draft with more expected to occur through the holidays.

A vacancy on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board has been created by the resignation of the Chairman Barbara Lowell. If anyone is interested

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they should submit an application –available on the town website- to the Town Clerk.

Happy Holidays!!  
David W. Hewett, Town Manager

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### **PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

My wife and I came to the Chapel Men's pancake breakfast as members of the HBPOA and had two guests. We arrived about 9:30 am. The vestibule area was crowded. We were told that the food supply was getting low and there was no more bacon or waffles. The bridge closing meant that it was doubtful that more supplies could be found. Our guests were told that because of the circumstances that they could eat free. They said they would pay anyway because the proceeds would be used to feed people Thanksgiving dinners. They thought the Chapel was beautiful.

The servers and cooks were cheerfully doing a good job. We had good conversations and fellowship with strangers at our table. We got enough pancakes and coffee to satisfy us. Yes we could have eaten some more but we didn't need more. The scene reminded me somewhat of the miracle of the loaves and fishes.

The Mens Club served 268 people which was about 30 percent more than normally expected and the reason for the shortages. They will be ready next year. One hundred seventeen HBPOA members were served with sixteen new members recruited. I think it was a win-win for our organization and the Chapel Mens Group. I am already beginning to work up an appetite for next years event.

- Jan Fleagle

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### **FESTIVAL BY THE SEA**

For those of you who did not attend the Festival By The Sea because of the predicted bad weather, you missed a good time. The earlier weather was a little cold and damp but Festival goers kept warm by participating in the Halloween Parade, eating hot Italian sausages from the VFW booth or all foods imaginable at the other food stands.

There seemed to be more booths of local art, books from local authors and more shoppers than ever before. The midways were crowded. One ride drew a lot of interest and lots of laughs from onlookers. But the the riders thrown from the mechanical "Bull Named Sue" were not laughing as much.

Meanwhile under the bridge, contestants in a "boogie on down" contest kept warm and entertained the the onlookers while the band played. The Holden Beach Ladder fire truck had its ladder extended higher than the bridge. Some of the fire fighters even tried to ride the "Bull Named Sue" but they are much more successful in firefighting.



After high tide passed, the sand sculptors went to work. The "Big Fish" by the Brady family was named "Best in Show."

- Jan Fleagle

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### **SHIPWRECK TRIATHALON**



The inaugural Shipwreck Sprinternational Triathlon took place November 5 on Holden Beach. 50 men, 17 women and 3 relay teams representing 8 states and the District of Columbia braved the morning surf and completed a 1000 meter swim, 30k bike ride and 8k run. Winners were Dan Young from Cary NC 1:31.12, Melissa Bell from Charlotte NC 1:53.16, and relay team Mellow Johnny 1:56.09.

This was a USA triathlon sanctioned event organized by Set Up Events. The event was well received by the athletes who ranged in age from 19 to 65, and plans are in progress for the 2nd Annual Shipwreck Triathlon next year. Register early if you plan to participate as there is only room for 300 triathletes at least 10 years old.

- Mark Fleischhauer

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### **HOLDEN BEACH BEAUTIFICATION CLUB**

Holden Beach Beautification Club has started out the year with a bang! Town administration has approved several landscaping projects which are in

the process of being redesigned with a completion date of May, 2012.

The Holden Beach club has joined the State Garden Club of North Carolina and the National Garden Club. We are participating in the competitions for our yearbook, landscaping improvements, seasonal decorations and photography.



The Beautification Club will have its first natural plant sale on April 14, 2012 at the EOC building with proceeds going toward a Horticultural Scholarship for a Brunswick Community College student.

We will also have our first ever garden tour on the island on May 19, 2012. Twelve beautiful flower gardens will be accessible to those that buy a ticket.

The Holden Beach Beautification Club has 51 members. Club members own property on the island and attend a monthly meeting on the second Wednesday of the month in the Holden Beach Chapel Fellowship Hall at 1 pm. All property owners are encouraged to join the group and help beautify the island. Please come to share your new and interesting ideas.

- Gayle Todd, President

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### **WIND POWER**

In 1903, the Wright Brothers came to the North Carolina coast to test their prototype airplanes because of our state's strong winds. A century later, North Carolina has the opportunity to harness that resource again, and generate clean, renewable electricity from offshore wind. Unlike the Wright Brothers' airplane, however, offshore wind is a tested and proven technology that has been operational in Europe for over 20 years. By the end of this year, Europe will have nearly 4,000 megawatts (MW) of installed offshore wind generation, and an additional 22,000 MW under construction. (To put those numbers in perspective, 1 MW of offshore wind would power about 300 homes in North Carolina!) While the United States does not currently have any offshore wind turbines, a number of states have projects that are either fully permitted or in the permitting process.



North Carolina has the best offshore wind resources of any state on the East Coast, with approximately 45 GW of potential generation-- even after areas have been removed for military, fishing, shipping, environmental, and a variety of other potential conflicts. In addition to generating electricity, offshore wind development will also create jobs in North Carolina. The National Renewable Energy Laboratory estimates that the deployment of 2,500 MW of offshore wind will create 10,000 construction jobs and 2,000 long-term operations and maintenance jobs in our state. Lastly, offshore wind has minimal impact on the environment. The farms are built so far out that they are barely visible to humans and beyond the main migratory bird paths. In Europe, moreover, turbine foundations have actually positively impacted wildlife, creating artificial reef habitats for fish and other ocean species. All in all, the development of offshore wind could be a win-win-win situation for North Carolina, positively benefiting our energy portfolio, our economy, and our environment.



Carina Barnett-Loro  
Conservation Program Coordinator  
NC Sierra Club

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### **NOVEMBER SUNSET**



November sunsets at Holden Beach are different than the rest of the year with their brilliant reds and deep blues. They set over the Atlantic Ocean. Come to our Thanksgiving weekend meeting and see their beauty.

- Jan Fleagle

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### **TREE LIGHTING**

The Town's 4th Annual Tree Lighting will take place on Thursday, December 1st at 6PM. The event will be held at the Holden Beach Pavilion. Festivities include a visit with Santa, caroling, a cupcake contest and a cake walk. The night will be kicked off with a Chili Contest at 5PM in the Town Hall Public Assembly. You must register in advance to enter the contest. The winner will be announced at the Tree Lighting. Please contact [heather@hbtownhall.com](mailto:heather@hbtownhall.com) if you are interested in donating a cake for the cake walk of you think your chili has what it takes to bring home the prize.



### **MINUTES OF THE LABOR DAY MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

The 2011 Labor Day meeting was called to order at 10 AM by President John Lytvinenko. 49 people were present, 35 of them members.



Police Chief Wally Layne reported the usual rash of car break-ins, most of them with the cars unlocked. The culprits were caught but he encouraged everyone always to lock their cars. At the beginning of the summer a lot of the tourists were upset about taking down their cabanas but after an explanation, the rest of the summer went well. There was a shark bite near the pier. The town handled the problems of Hurricane Irene well. A majority of the residents and tourists evacuated. The sewer system was cut off.

Town Manager David Hewett announced that FEMA was here on August 31 and he presented them with an estimate of \$3+ for damages incurred. The beach is accreting. The sewer was cut off as a protective decision.

Bill Spiers said that he had collected over 20,000 pounds for Second Helping this summer.

Mayor Alan Holden thanked all the volunteers for making the evacuation successful. He also stated that the increasing chain of sand bars on the east end was a positive sign. There are currently over 3,000 people receiving the E blast from town hall.

President Lytvinenko reported that the candidates for mayor and commissioners would be sent questions and the answers would be posted on the HBPOA webpage and the town webpage. Anyone with suggestions for the questions should send them to him immediately. 770 newsletters were sent by email; 217 were mailed.

The new slate of Directors (Dennis Harrington, Tom Myers, Robert Valois, Charles Stokes and Ben Byrnside) were elected unanimously by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 AM.

- Sandy Miller, Executive Secretary

#### **HBPOA Newsletter by E-mail**

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- Arrives sooner
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- Easier navigation to web sites and other links

Send an e-mail with your name, beach address and all the e-mail addresses where you'd like to receive the Holden Beach POA newsletter to:

[friend@atmc.net](mailto:friend@atmc.net)

