



The Bell Tower

Newsletter of the Ocean Park Association

Chautauqua-by-the-Sea

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Ocean Park, ME 04063

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<https://www.facebook.com/OPAmaine/>

Volume 42 - Issue 5 November 2022

THANK YOU, JERRY

Jerry Gosselin, who has served as our Executive Director for over 10 years, will be leaving the helm at the end of December. During his tenure, he has overseen both the day-to-day business of the Association as well as a number of significant improvements to our programs and properties. His multi-faceted roles ranged from worship leader to construction manager; from counselor to advocate; and from business manager to event manager. He has led the organization through good times and challenging times. For all of this, we thank him.

Some highlights (not all of which he would have chosen) include overseeing the construction of the bandstand in Furber Park as well as overseeing the reconstruction of Porter Hall after a freak storm sent a tree through the roof. Jerry has been a strong worship leader and his work with the R&C Committee brought in a wide range of preachers over the years, topped by the visit of an Episcopal Bishop which brought hundreds to a worship service at the Temple. Jerry's adaptability and creative leadership during the COVID epidemic led to developing our online capabilities and securing two significant Federal PPP grants that let us keep all employees and maintain a responsible budget.

Much of the work of the Executive Director that can easily go unnoticed is the day-to-day management of our staff (which quadruples during the summer months): supporting the Board and Committees in their work; ensuring that financial matters are properly handled; seeing that the buildings and properties are appropriately maintained; and, in general, making things happen when they should happen.

We thank you, Jerry, for all that you have done for and on behalf of the Ocean Park Association. We wish you well.

**Look for an email from OPA in December that shares
how you will have an opportunity to personally thank and honor Jerry
on this service, including words and pictures!**

OPA Board of Directors

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END-OF-YEAR GIVING

As you know, OPA's books are audited every year. In accordance with our audit policy, **all deposits need to be recorded in the general ledger based upon the date of the deposit** as opposed to the date the check was written. The practice of back dating checks for end-of-year contributions has led to revenue reporting in the wrong period. You will receive credit for your contribution based on the date the check is deposited. To ensure your gift is booked for 2022, please make sure we receive your contributions by Thursday, December 29, 2022. Thank you for your generous and ongoing support!

WONDERFUL STEP BACK IN TIME, by Frank Gwalthney

Thanks to some effort by Warren Kenniston, OPA's Director of Facilities, I had the chance to meet some descendants of Agnes L. Park for whom the Rec Hall is named. On September 15 (yes, The Ides of September), Warren and I met four wonderful people who had deep roots in Ocean Park. They were Charles (Chad) Park Henderson – Agnes Park's great grandson from Denver CO, Priscilla Adam West – Agnes Park's great granddaughter from New London NH, Charles (Park) Hutchinson Park Adams – Agnes Park's great grandson from New London NH, and Phoebe Adams – wife of Agnes Park's grandson (C H Park Adams and mother of Priscilla and Park. We met at Jakeman Hall and then walked to the Agnes L. Park Recreation Building for a tour and then we walked up to The Temple for another tour and brief history of Ocean Park.

They were impressed as to how well preserved the Rec Hall was and that it is still a vital, active part of the Ocean Park experience. They took many pictures. On our walk up to The Temple, Phoebe shared her experiences and remembrances of coming to Ocean Park in the 30s, 40s, and early 50s. Her impression was that Ocean Park had not changed much. It still had that quaint, homey feel about it. Their family cottage was at 15 Winona.

As always, The Temple impressed them too. They felt as if they had taken a step back in time and cherished the feeling. They appreciated the brief history of The Free Will Baptists; especially Oren B. Cheney, who was one of the founders of Bates College, Ocean Park (the first president), and his active national leadership in the abolition movement from the 1850s until his death. They shared with me that family legend has it that Agnes Park died while attending one of the Sunday Worship Services in the summer of 1951.

We finished the mini-tour by me handing off the group to Charlie and Ruth Gladu who gave them a tour of the Historical Room and information about Agnes L. Park and the Rec Hall. They were impressed with how much information was available to the public so that they could learn more about their beloved ancestor, Agnes L. Park.



#PRESERVE THE CURTIS CAPITAL CAMPAIGN REPORT, *By Beth Keene*

It is with gratitude to all contributors that the Educational Bureau presents this Capital Campaign donation report. We wish to sincerely thank our donors, including those giving anonymously, for making the critical repairs to The Curtis Guesthouse possible. Your generosity has ensured that this 1882 landmark continues to serve the community today and reminds us of our 19th century heritage. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the donor names and giving levels and we apologize for any unintended mistakes. To report any errors or omissions, please contact Beth Keene at keene1512@aol.com.

Founder \$10,000+
Victor Alvarez Family Foundation
Beth A. Keene

Benefactor \$5000+
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Gwen and James Fountain
Kathy and Ted Wade
Maine Preservation and the 1772
Foundation
Ocean Park Realty/Ocean Park Association

Preservationist \$2500+
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Robert and Judy Hager
*In memory of Marion H. Hager
Ocean Park Grocery/Lisa Kidd
Saco & Biddeford Savings Bank

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Constance Brown
Cindy and Charlie Brown
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Godbout Plumbing & Heating/Jim
Godbout

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*In memory of Samantha Kurkij
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Heather and Mark Dubois
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Kathy and Steve Gardner
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Helen and Frank Gwaltheay
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Jean Kirsch
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Steven and Kristen MacLean
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Sue and Paul Martin
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honor of Jean & Talmadge Rogers
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Randall Steere and Paul Landry
Lynn Steinbrick
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Debbie and David Walker
Shannon Webster
Lorraine Weikle
Helen Liz Wenchel
Chris and Dana Whittaker
Susan and Winthrop Winch
Steven and Kathleen Zannoni
Alouette Resorts/Fred Kennedy
Atlantic Motors Services/Bruce Howes
Carl A. Goodwin Inc/Carl Goodwin
Ocean Park Plumbing/Charlie Walker
Ocean Park Soda Fountain/Judith
Breitmaier
Seacoast Flooring/Jim Mitchell

Friends Up to \$99

Mary Blake
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Sue and Steve Fitts
Jillian Jakeman
Linda and Warren Kenniston
Evelyn King
Catherine and Gary Larkin
Kim and Robert Moore
Elizabeth Monz
Jennifer and Michael Paine
Aaltje Porter
Lori Seward
James and Sharon Smith
Debbie and Steve Sousa
Annalise Spaulding
Carolyn Stringham
Rev. Cyndi Strosahl
Jacinthe Tetrault
Lori Thayer
Helen Thurston
Saco Bay Artists/Ellen Pelletier

Anonymous Donations
\$1332

HOLIDAY GIVING IDEAS

Keep Ocean Park in your thoughts when you are trying to find the right gift for someone special –

Give a gift of OPA membership

Consider adding a new family member or a friend to the Ocean Park family the holiday season. Membership dues are \$150 for Adults, \$25 for Youth (under 21) and \$2,500 for a Life Membership - and most of the amount is tax-deductible. If you wish to give a 2022 membership as a Christmas gift, you can:

- Stop by the office;
- Call Sharon at the office at (207) 934-9068, ext. 0;
- Email the office at opa@oceanpark.org; or
- Print and complete the membership application form found online at <http://www.oceanpark.org/pdf/MembershipApplication.pdf>, and send it in to the OPA office along with your payment.

If you do not want the welcome packet to be sent directly to the new member, you must indicate that this is a gift and to whom the packet should be sent.

Purchase a Celebration Paver

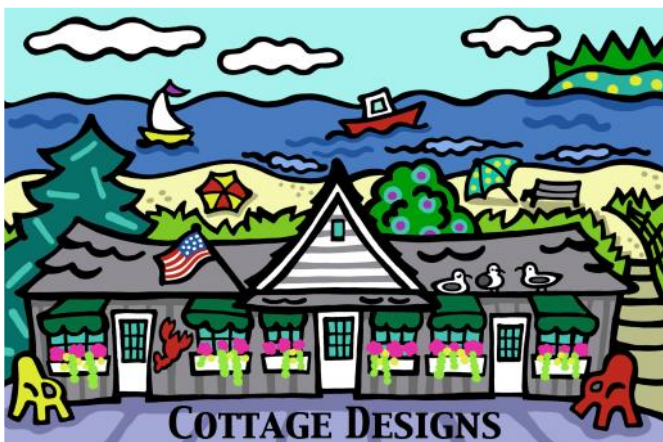
For only \$300, you can add to the history of Ocean Park and permanently celebrate someone special in your life. To purchase a paver, contact the office by one of the methods above or go fill out the form found online at the OPA website at <http://www.oceanpark.org/pdf/order-pavers2022.pdf>.

Make a Donation to the Annual Fund in recognition of someone special

In addition to your donation to the Holiday Annual Fund this year, consider making a donation in the name of someone special to you and to whom this gift would be meaningful.

Use AmazonSmile and Support OPA

If you are making purchases through Amazon this holiday season, you can support OPA at the same time. Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price of all eligible products to OPA when you purchase through AmazonSmile. It is easy to set up an account (if you haven't done so already), which will link with your existing Amazon account. Just go to www.smile.amazon.com and designate Ocean Park Association as your charity.



JOIN US FOR OUR HOLIDAY RE-OPENING

November 19th and 20th

9-3

FOOD AND FUN!!

Giveaways and sales

all weekend!

71 Seaside Ave

Ocean Park

IN MEMORIAM

The following is a list of those friends of Ocean Park whose passing has come to the attention of the Association since the printing of the October Bell Tower:

<i>Rev. J. Ashton Nickerson</i>	<i>Saco, ME and Ocean Park, ME</i>	<i>September 29, 2022</i>
<i>Lisa Parker</i>	<i>Ocean Park, ME</i>	<i>October 7, 2022</i>
<i>Bruce A. Tobey</i>	<i>Hopkinton, MA and Ocean Park, ME</i>	<i>October 17, 2022</i>
<i>Steven L. Belanger</i>	<i>Ocean Park, ME</i>	<i>October 18, 2022</i>
<i>Edward Lincoln "Ted" Gladu</i>	<i>Taunton, MA</i>	<i>October 28, 2022</i>

To notify the Ocean Park Association of the passing of a loved one, please contact the office at (207) 934-9068, extension 0, or opa@oceanpark.org.

Interested in making a donation to the OPA in memory or in honor of a loved one?
 You can send a check to the OPA at PO Box 7296, Ocean Park, ME 04063. Be sure
 to write in the memo line who the gift is honoring. Have a specific fund in mind?
 Give us a call to learn more!

ANNUAL FUND GIVING, by *Bethany Nichols*,
 Chair of the Development Committee

Yesterday I took a look at four postcards that my sister once had framed for me: one of the grove in Guild Park where my father proposed to my mother; one of the beach where watching out for rip tides and knowing when it was going to be low tide was part of our daily plan; one of the Temple, the worship center of our week's activities; and one of the restaurant where they served pancakes with *real* maple syrup in a tiny glass pitcher. I laughed. Substitute the Variety Store ice cream and lime rickies and those four postcards represent much of my, and my family's, history in Ocean Park. They are why I continue to **support the Annual Fund**, which helps to maintain our buildings and grounds, which presents all sorts of worship, musical and educational events throughout the summer along with the daily fun of the Rec Hall and the shuffle board and tennis courts.

The various efforts of the Association to educate, stimulate, and inspire do not generate enough income to support what we cherish unless we continue to give. **The Annual Fund** is another way to provide for the present and the future.

Membership

There are no new members since the October Edition of the Bell Tower.

THANK YOU FOR WHAT YOU DO FOR OCEAN PARK... IT DOESN'T GO UNNOTICED!

- Judi Boehm
- Dana DeFilippo
- Kurk Ditzler
- Walt & Brenda Dowling
- Ruth & Charlie Gladu
- Frank Gwalthney
- Cliff and Nancy Kenney
- Ginny McCall
- Irv & Cindy Paradis
- Kelly Raye
- Helen Ryder
- AND MANY MORE!

There is a long list of these and many more "unsung heroes" - thank you for everything you do for Ocean Park!



Get Ready to...

Deck the Park 2022!



Join us at Jakeman Hall on Sunday, December 4, at 12:30 pm.

*All decorations will be provided. Dress warmly and don't forget your gloves and wire cutters!
Hand sanitizer and masks will be available.*

FRESH BOUGHS ARE NEEDED!

If you have any fresh tree boughs or know of any areas where they may have fallen recently, contact Walt Dowling at 207-281-2644 or let Sharon in the office know (207-934-9068, ext. 0).

The fun continues with the

Ocean Park Holiday Potluck Supper

----- at 5:30 pm in Jakeman Hall-----

*Bring your favorite dish, catch up with friends and neighbors,
and warm yourself with the spirit of the holiday season!*

Come to one or both! Open to everyone in the Park!

Please sign up in advance at the OPA Office or at the Post Office.



Winter Potluck! by Sharon Waterman

The winter potluck dinner at Jakeman Hall is - ON!

Bring a dish to share on Sunday, January 29th (yes, 2023!), at 5:30 pm. For those who are here in Ocean Park braving the snow, ice and winter chill, just sign up at the OPA Office or at the Post Office. Or feel free to give me a call at the office (207-934-9068, ext. 0) and I will add your name to the list.

Mark Your Calendars!

Mahjongg is held at Jakeman Hall every Tuesday at 7:00 pm (except the second Tuesday when Naughty Needles is held) from now until June 6. Hosted by Deb Guimont.



Naughty Needles happens the second Tuesday of every month from now until June 13. Bring your newest needle craft project. "Needlers and Hookers" meet at Jakeman Hall at 7:00 pm. Hosted by Ginny McCall.

Questions? Call 207- 934-9068 to learn more!



**Ocean Park
REALTY**

14 Temple Avenue | PO Box 7518
Ocean Park, ME 04063

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Email: chris@oceanparkrealty.com

jeff@oceanparkrealty.com

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Coming Soon...

This charming 2 bedroom 1 bath year round cottage is ready for your imagination. Being sold As Is. Email for details and availability

List price \$440,000

67 Colby Ave. In Ocean Park



For Sale

22 Oceana #3

This beautiful 1 bedroom Ocean Park condo is a short distance to the beach and town. Furnished. Quick closing possible.

Asking \$250,000



Winter Rental 2022/2023

24 Ancona guesthouse is 2 bedrooms, 1 bath

Ready for immediate occupancy upon acceptable application through May 2023.

\$1800/month includes utilities. Tenant pays WiFi/Cable



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



Jeff Chute
Designated Broker/Realtor
(207) 937-5054
Jeff@oceanparkrealty.com

Ocean Park Realty

Ocean Park Realty, a subsidiary of the Ocean Park Association, is a full-service brokerage that can serve your real estate needs throughout Southern Maine. If you are looking to purchase or sell your cottage, home or condo, or if you are looking for a seasonal rental, call or stop by the office in Jakeman Hall at 14 Temple Avenue, or call (207) 937-5054. Jeff and Chris are always ready to help you!



Chris Whittaker
Broker/Realtor
(207) 937-5054
Chris@oceanparkrealty.com

Ocean Park Association

P.O. Box 7296, Ocean Park ME 04063-7296

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“The holiday season is a perfect time to reflect on our blessings and seek ways to make life better for those around us.” - - Anonymous

*Our best wishes for
Peace, Joy, and Hope
in the New Year ahead.*

*Thank you for supporting the
Ocean Park Association!*