

Kiawah Island

DIGEST

The Official Publication of the Kiawah Island Community Association

Message from the Chair: Renewed Focus for 2017



Having been elected last year to a two-year term on the KICA board, I am honored to spend the final year of my term as the chairman. I plan to focus the bulk of my efforts this year assisting our COO and the board in creating a deeper sense of transparency and community engagement, and enhancing our governance practices and board routines.

Community Engagement

A sense of transparency is critical for KICA members to feel engaged and view KICA as effective and trustworthy. This can be challenging in an environment with the complexities of Kiawah. We have the "maze of K's" (KICA, TOKI, Kiawah Partners, Kiawah Island Golf Resort, etc); full and part-time residents; homeowners and condo owners; folks that rent and folks that don't; Kiawah Island Club members, Governors Club members, and folks with no club affiliation.

We also have financial complexity. KICA's funds come from a variety of sources, including annual fees, real estate transactions and gate access fees. We have a special reserve for major repairs and replacements, which is funded differently than our operating budget, which primarily covers security, landscaping, maintenance and administration. This financial complexity, combined with members having varying interests and levels of engagement, puts a huge premium on the importance of great communications.

In Jimmy's note on the following page you will see some of the initial steps we're taking toward this goal.

Governance Practices and Board Routines

KICA is a large and complex organization, with nearly \$15 million in annual income and expenses. In addition to providing maintenance, security and amenities, KICA is responsible for repairing and replacing roads, bridges and drainage systems. KICA has transitioned from being controlled by the developer to being controlled by homeowners. We have a rotating board made up of community volunteers that serve relatively short terms, and the chairman role is typically rotated in short bursts also, which puts a premium on having an effective governance model.

KICA follows a "Policy Governance" model. Under this model, the board approves the key policies that serve as guidelines for the KICA staff so they can make decisions and execute against longer-term projects. These policies limit the risk that rotating boards and chairmen make unnecessary changes to priorities. Although every board has the right to change any policy, a well-considered policy will likely survive intact unless sufficient change has occurred to justify a new policy. This allows the community to know what to expect, and allows the staff to make decisions and execute against long-term priorities.

Policy Governance was originally adopted in 2006, and the current board recently reaffirmed its commitment to this model. We will work together in 2017 to clarify key policies, share them with the community for input, and then adopt them to guide the decisions and priorities of the KICA staff. Once finalized and published, these policies will support maintaining a strong sense of transparency, as KICA's priorities and actions should be directly traceable to these policies.

I am confident that the actions listed in Jimmy's note on the following page will go a long way toward improving transparency and community engagement. Then, by codifying our governance principles and publishing the key policies, we can ensure this sense grows as KICA works to fulfill its mission and keeps Kiawah the great place we all love.

Dave Singer

KICA Board Chair

Message from the COO: Community Engagement

The beginning of every board term is always an exciting time, as we gain fresh perspectives along with a renewed sense of enthusiasm about service to the community. I look forward to working with our new board, and in particular our new chairman, who brings to KICA a wealth of experience, along with an enthusiasm for ensuring our governance practices are sound and effective.

As I reflect on the state of KICA, it's clear to me that we need to encourage more engagement from the community. This was made clear by the fact we did not garner a quorum to approve the recommended covenant change, which was supported by nearly 80% of those who did vote, but too few people voted to approve this important measure. Better engagement and transparency build on one another so our efforts in both of these areas are critical.

To that end, we'll make several changes, some of which have been previously requested by members of the community. These include:

- We'll live stream and/or record board meetings, Java with Jimmy, etc.
- In addition to the six regular board meetings, the annual meeting, Java with Jimmy, and Regime Council meetings, we'll look for additional ways to engage property owners in a face-to-face setting.

- We'll engage in dialogue with members who take time out of their schedules to come to meetings and make comments or ask questions, as opposed to responding after the meetings.
- We'll evaluate the best way to provide an unfiltered member forum similar to the old KICAList, while striving to preserve the desire of many members to use it in the way that it is used today - to simply look for plumber referrals, etc.
- We'll conduct surveys using an online tool to get community feedback on KICA's performance and to develop a better understanding of how the community feels about important, controversial or expensive topics.
- We'll simplify our financial reporting, while preserving the detail and "sea of numbers" we currently share for those who want it.
- We'll reconsider ways to encourage board service and how potential candidates will be presented to the community.

Over the next year, I look forward to working with our new chairman and the board of directors to improve community engagement, build a stronger sense of transparency, enhance our governance processes, and ensure we remain great stewards of this extraordinary place.

Jimmy Bailey
Chief Operating Officer

Two New Directors Elected at Annual Meeting



From left to right: Ben Cheatham, Raj Govindan, Cathy Pumphrey, Dave Singer, Lynn Morgenstern, Bruce Sterman and Townsend Clarkson

At the 2017 Annual Meeting in March, two candidates were elected to the board of directors - Ben Cheatham and Cathy Pumphrey.

Ben, a Kiawah property owner since 1982, has a background in business leadership and has served on a variety of area boards.

Cathy has been a property owner since 2011 and has extensive experience in mental health counseling, clinical psychology, public service and other fields.

The two newly elected board members officially began their terms at the board meeting on March 6.

"Board service is vital to the continued growth and stability of our island," said KICA Chief Operating Officer Jimmy Bailey. "KICA would like to thank the candidates for their willingness to serve the community,"

Bailey also praised the two outgoing directors – John Connolly and Marilyn Olson – for their time on the board.

"They gave up countless hours to board service, and every decision they made was in the best interest of Kiawah," said Bailey. "They left the island in better shape than they found it."

At its meeting on Monday, March 6, the board appointed the following officers:

Chair - Dave Singer
Vice-Chair - Lynn Morgenstern
Treasurer - Ben Cheatham
Secretary - Holly Newman (KICA Staff)

For more information on the KICA board, including a complete list of board members, board meeting minutes and schedules, and more, visit kica.us/board.

Kiawah Island Utility Rate Settlement

The Town of Kiawah Island and the Kiawah Island Community Association are pleased to inform Kiawah's residents and property owners that they have reached a tentative agreement with the Kiawah Island Utility, Inc (KIU), and the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff on a proposed rate adjustment for water and sewer service. The settlement was submitted to the South Carolina Public Service Commission for approval on March 21 (*This issue of Digest was published prior to the approval date. For status of final approval, visit kica.us after March 21.*)

In late 2016, the utility filed for a rate adjustment that included a 25.6% increase to water and sewer rates. Their proposed increase was intended to reflect their increased costs since their last rate adjustment in 2012, and to recover the significant costs associated with the completion of a new water line connecting the island to the utility's supplier on Johns Island. Both the town and the community association filed to intervene in the case, concerned about the size of the increase and its impact on property owners.

If ultimately approved, the agreement calls for a 14.6% adjustment to water and sewer rates, significantly lower than the 25.6% requested by KIU. This agreement and the new rates require and are pending final approval by the South Carolina Public Services Commission

According to Kiawah's mayor, Craig Weaver, "We think this adjustment reflects an equitable agreement for both the utility and Kiawah's property owners. The utility was urged several years ago to make this investment in a new water line to ensure that residents and businesses had reliable and uninterrupted service. At the same time, it is important that KIU maintain an operating and cost structure that provides residents and businesses on Kiawah with competitive rates and limits the need for rate increases. This agreement is a good example of the benefit of the town and community association working closely together on concerns important to the community."

Kiawah Island Utility, Inc. is a private company and is the sole provider of water and sewer services to Kiawah Island. Originally owned and operated by Kiawah Development Partners, the company was sold to and is a wholly owned subsidiary of Southwest Water Company, headquartered in Sugar Land, TX. Further information will be provided by KIU directly to their customers after a final ruling on the proposed agreement by the South Carolina PSC later this month. For more information on KIU, visit kiawahislandutility.com.

Planning, Cost-saving Techniques Lead to Stable Finances



Drainage repair is just one of several areas where cost-effective methods were implemented by KICA staff in 2016.

Thanks to sound financial planning and a variety of cost-saving techniques implemented by KICA staff, the association is in a strong financial position as it moves through 2017. That was the message from (then) KICA Board Treasurer Raj Govindan at the Annual Meeting held in March.

Though actual 2016 revenues were down \$166,111 from budget, expenses, excluding those related to Hurricane Matthew, were more than \$500,000 below the amount budgeted for 2016. A portion of the savings may be attributed to cost-effective Major Repair and Replacement methods implemented by KICA staff, such as the spincasting method for drainage repairs, which has reduced pipe replacement costs since first implemented in 2015.

Staff continue to look for cost saving methods for 2017 and beyond. For example, an upcoming island-wide road rejuvenation project is expected to save a significant amount when compared to the traditional mill and replace method of paving - and will extend the life of the roadways.

"Better planning has led to better spending," said Govindan. "KICA has an incredible team of staff finding better, more efficient ways to manage the island."

For a detailed look at the Treasurer's Report, the 2016 and 2017 budgets, and other in-depth financial statements, visit kica.us/finances.

DIGEST CONTRIBUTORS

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STAFF PRODUCTION TEAM

DOUG REYNOLDS - COMMUNICATIONS/EDITOR
TAMMY McADORY - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DIGEST MISSION STATEMENT

KIAWAH ISLAND DIGEST IS AN OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TOOL OF THE KIAWAH ISLAND COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION. ITS MISSION IS TO

ACCURATELY AND EFFECTIVELY COMMUNICATE INFORMATION TO THE MEMBERSHIP IN A BALANCED AND CONSTRUCTIVE MANNER.

STATEMENT OF EDITORIAL POLICY

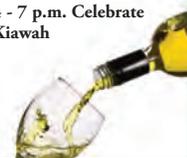
KICA WILL ENDEAVOR TO REPORT SIGNIFICANT ISLAND NEWS AS WELL AS INFORMATIONAL TOPICS, PROGRAMS AND EVENTS OF INTEREST TO ITS MEMBERS. KICA MAY FROM TIME TO TIME PUBLISH EDITORIALS IN SUPPORT OF ITS STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES. MEMBER SUGGESTIONS ON CONTENT SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY EMAIL TO COMMUNICATIONS@KICA.US

April 2017

Community Calendar



Sandcastle: Monday-Friday - 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. • Saturday - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. • Sunday - 12 to 5 p.m.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday						
<p align="center">Recurring Events at the Sandcastle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandcastle Bible Study - Mondays at 8:30 a.m. • Sandcastle Bridge - Tuesdays at 1 p.m. • Women's Community Bible Study - Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m. • MahJongg at the Sandcastle - Wednesdays at 1 p.m. 						<p>01</p> <p>Kiawah Women's Group - Cooper River Bridge Run/Walk</p>						
<p>02</p> <p>POPS Spring Dinner</p>	<p>03</p> <p>9 a.m. Photography Club 1 p.m. Sandcastle Book Club</p>	<p>04</p> <p>10 a.m. Charleston County Bookmobile 10 a.m. Kiawah Women's Group Newcomers Coffee (Java Java) 2 p.m. Town Council</p>	<p>05</p> <p>3 p.m. Planning Commission 3 p.m. Conservation Matters - Audubon Shore Birds SC</p>	<p>06</p> <p>3 p.m. Our World - Don Compagna - The Navy Century in Charleston 3 p.m. Arts Council</p>	<p>07</p> <p>10 a.m. Made With Love Fleece Fridays</p>	<p>08</p> <p>12 - 4 p.m. Sea Island Food Truck Rodeo</p> 						
<p>09</p> <p>3 p.m. Blues by the Sea</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9 a.m. Photography Club</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10 a.m. Kiawah Residents Art Guild 2 p.m. Public Safety Commission 5 p.m. Arts Council Presents: Piano Bar Series (Sandcastle)</p>	<p>13</p> <p>3 p.m. Our World - Malte Pebl, College of Charleston - EU Update</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9 a.m. Cars and Coffee 9 a.m. Kiawah Island Golf Resort Kids Triathlon</p>						
<p>16</p> <p>Sandcastle Closed 6:15 a.m. Easter Sunrise Yoga on the Beach 10 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt and Toss</p> 	<p>17</p> <p>9 a.m. Photography Club 10 a.m. Kiawah Women's Group - Introduction to Camp Christopher's Youth Outreach Program 3 p.m. Conservancy Documentary 4 p.m. Board of Zoning Appeals</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10 a.m. Charleston County Bookmobile</p>	<p>19</p> <p>3 p.m. CERT</p>	<p>20</p> <p>8:30 a.m. Java With Jimmy 2:30 p.m. Sea Islands Parkinson's Support Group (Church of Our Saviour) 3 p.m. Our World - Amy Walter - Election Retrospective</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10 a.m. Made With Love Fleece Fridays</p>	<p>22</p>						
<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Turtle Patrol Kick-off 9 a.m. Photography Club</p>	<p>25</p> <p>2 p.m. Ways and Means</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9 a.m. - 1 p.m. KICA Landscape Symposium and Plant Sale (KICA Greenhouse) 3 p.m. Regime Council (Town Council Chambers) 4-7 p.m. Spring Artisans Craft Show Reception</p>	<p>29</p> <p>10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Spring Artisans Craft Show 4 - 7 p.m. Celebrate Kiawah</p> 						
<p>30</p> <p align="center"> Kiawah Regime Council Meeting Friday, April 28 at 3 p.m. Town Council Chambers Visit kica.us/regimes for more information. Agenda will be posted in advance of the meeting. </p>				<p align="center"><i>Association Fitness Classes Offered</i></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Yoga</td> <td>Water Aerobics</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Zumba</td> <td>Body Sculpt</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Strength and Stretch</td> <td>Assorted Cardio Classes</td> </tr> </table> <p align="center"> <small>**View class times and descriptions at kica.us (Facilities/Fitness Center). Please note that all fitness classes are complimentary to members.</small> </p> <p align="center">- KICA Paddlesports Program - www.tidaltrailskiawah.com -</p>			Yoga	Water Aerobics	Zumba	Body Sculpt	Strength and Stretch	Assorted Cardio Classes
Yoga	Water Aerobics											
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KICA (Sandcastle)
843-768-3875
kica.us (Events)

Kiawah Cares
843-768-9194
kiawahcares.org

Kiawah Island Golf Resort
843-768-2121
kiawahresort.com

Freshfields Village
843-768-6491
freshfieldsvillage.com

Town of Kiawah Island
843-768-9166
kiawahisland.org

May 2017

Community Calendar

Sandcastle: Monday-Friday - 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. • Saturday - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. • Sunday - 12 to 5 p.m.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	01 9 a.m. Photography Club 1 p.m. Sandcastle Book Club 1 p.m. KICA Board Meeting	02 10 a.m. Charleston County Bookmobile 10 a.m. Kiawah Women's Group Newcomers Coffee (<i>Java Java</i>) 2 p.m. Town Council	03 9 a.m. Photography Club 3 p.m. Planning Commission	04 3 p.m. Arts Council 3 p.m. Our World - Photo Club Joint Program 5:30 p.m. Sunset Music - Blue Grass Gadgets and Kay's Southern Kitchen Food Truck (<i>Rbett's Bluff</i>)	05 10 a.m. Made With Love Fleece Fridays	06 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Cars on Kiawah (<i>Ocean Park</i>)
07 4 p.m. Arts Council Presents: Piccolo Preview (<i>Holy Spirit Catholic Church</i>)	08 9 a.m. Photography Club	09 3 p.m. Environmental Committee	10 10 a.m. Art Guild 2 p.m. Public Safety Committee	11 5:30 p.m. Sunset Music - Chris Crosby Solo Acoustic and Caribbean Creole Food Truck (<i>Rbett's Bluff</i>)	12	13
14 5 p.m. Kiawah Women's Group End of Year Picnic (<i>Rbett's Bluff</i>)	15 10 a.m. Photography Club Annual Meeting 4 p.m. Board of Zoning Appeals	16 10 a.m. Charleston County Bookmobile	17	18 2:30 p.m. Sea Islands Parkinson's Support Group (<i>Church of Our Saviour</i>) 5:30 p.m. Sunset Music - High 5 Duo (<i>Rbett's Bluff</i>)	19 6th Annual Haygood/Grady Memorial Tennis Tournament 10 a.m. Made With Love Fleece Fridays 	20 6th Annual Haygood/Grady Memorial Tennis Tournament 9 a.m. Cars and Coffee
21 6th Annual Haygood/Grady Memorial Tennis Tournament	22	23 2 p.m. Ways and Means Committee	24	25 5:30 p.m. Sunset Music - Shane Clark Solo Acoustic and Kay's Southern Kitchen Food Truck (<i>Rbett's Bluff</i>)	26 6 p.m. Memorial Day Weekend Concert Series - Java Band	27 Castle Grille and Sandbar Official Opening 6 p.m. Memorial Day Weekend Concert Series - The Counts
28	29 <i>Happy Memorial Day!</i> KICA and Town of Kiawah Offices Closed 	30	31			

Recurring Events at the Sandcastle

- Sandcastle Bible Study - Mondays at 8:30 a.m.
- Sandcastle Bridge - Tuesdays at 1 p.m.
- Women's Community Bible Study - Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m.
- MahJongg at the Sandcastle - Wednesdays at 1 p.m.

Association Fitness Classes Offered

Yoga
Zumba
Strength and Stretch

Water Aerobics
Body Sculpt
Assorted Cardio Classes

***View class times and descriptions at kica.us (Facilities/Fitness Center).*
Please note that all fitness classes are complimentary to members.

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freshfieldsvillage.com

Town of Kiawah Island
843-768-9166
kiawahisland.org

Celebrate Kiawah, Artisans Showcase and Landscape Symposium Highlight Big Weekend at the Sandcastle



For more information or to make reservations for events at the Sandcastle, please contact the Sandcastle Community Center at sandcastle@kica.us or at 843-768-3875.

Landscape Symposium and Plant Sale

Friday, April 28 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

KICA Maintenance (22 Kestrel Ct.)

This is truly a one stop shop! Listen to a series of informative speakers offering expert advice for your home landscaping and maintenance, or explore a vast selection of annuals, perennials, native plants and tropicals for sale (complimentary home delivery).

Lowcountry Artisans Craft Show and Sale

Friday, April 28 from 4 - 7 p.m.

Saturday, April 29 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Sandcastle Community Center

Local artisans, crafters and creators will exhibit their wares on Kiawah Island this spring at the Lowcountry Artisans Craft Show.

“The Lowcountry is home to some amazingly talented artistic individuals,” said event organizer and KICA Assistant Director of Recreation Amy Cook. “The showcase is a great opportunity to support many of these local artisans all in one place.”

The showcase and sale will feature a beautiful selection of handcrafted pottery, sweetgrass baskets, jewelry and home decor. The first day of the event (April 28) will include a beer and wine bar along with light hors d'oeuvres.

“The event is free and open to the public,” said Cook. “So whether you live on Kiawah or elsewhere, we hope you’ll come out and support our local artisans.”

Dance the Night Away at Celebrate Kiawah

Saturday, April 29 from 4 - 7 p.m.

Sandcastle Community Center

All Kiawah property owners are invited to KICA's annual poolside party! **The O’Kaysions Band** will entertain the crowd with selections ranging from East Coast style beach music to Top 40 favorites, all performed in The O’Kaysions' trademark style. **Charleston Gourmet Catering** will provide a delicious selection of heavy hors d'oeuvres, and your very own KICA staff members will be pouring wine and beer. Celebrate Kiawah is complimentary for all association members.

Guests are welcome to attend at a cost of \$25 per person. Please RSVP as soon as possible to ensure that catering and seating needs are met. Donations benefiting the Kiawah Cares Foundation will be accepted at the event. For more information on Kiawah Cares, visit kiawahcares.org.

Kiawah Regime Council Meeting

Friday, April 28 at 3 p.m.

Town Council Chambers

Join the Kiawah Regime Council (KRC) on April 28 at 3 p.m. for an informative meeting covering a variety of topics.

The KRC is a platform for regime owners to gather, learn and share information common to regimes. Meetings occur twice annually, generally in April/May and October, and are open to all property owners. KRC was established to unite the more than 1,500 regime property owners, serve common interests and achieve common goals.

Kiawah Conservancy Earns National Recognition

This spring, the Kiawah Conservancy announced it has achieved the national recognition of Land Trust Accreditation - joining a network of only 372 land trusts across the nation that have demonstrated their commitment to professional excellence and to maintaining the public's trust in their work.

"Accreditation demonstrates the Kiawah Conservancy's commitment to permanent land conservation" said Kevin Cox, chairman of the Kiawah Conservancy's Board of Trustees. "We are a stronger organization for having gone through the rigorous accreditation program. The lands we preserve will be protected forever, ensuring the natural habitats, wildlife, and beauty of these special places remain for the enjoyment of generations to come."

The Kiawah Conservancy had to provide extensive documentation and undergo a comprehensive review as part of its accreditation application.

"Accredited land trusts are united behind strong ethical standards ensuring the places people love will be conserved forever," said Tammara Van Ryn, executive director of the Land Trust Accreditation Commission. "Accreditation recognizes that the Kiawah Conservancy has demonstrated sound finances, ethical conduct, responsible governance, and lasting stewardship."

The Kiawah Conservancy is one of 1,363 land trusts across the United States according to the most recent National Land Trust Census, released Dec. 1, 2016 by the Land Trust Alliance.

A complete list of accredited land trusts and more information about the process and benefits are detailed at landtrustaccreditation.org. The conservancy envisions all citizens of, and visitors to, this area enjoying the natural habitat, wildlife, and unique beauty of Kiawah Island for generations to come. Visit kiawahconservancy.org

KICA Land Management Director Reaches Milestone, Two Longtime Staff Members Announce Retirement



At the March 6 board meeting, KICA COO Jimmy Bailey presented Land Management Director Dave Achey with an official proclamation acknowledging his 25 years of service with the association. Dave is KICA's second-longest serving employee.

"During his time here, Dave has been instrumental to the growth of the association" said Bailey. "Dave's consistent, strong leadership, endless knowledge of the island, loyalty and passion for the living habitat has been, and will continue to be, a vital part of what makes Kiawah Island a special place to live."



At the Annual Meeting, Bailey announced the retirement of two long-serving KICA employees: Assistant Director of Security Bob Grafing and Human Resources Director Maggie Hawkins. Between them, Bob and Maggie have a combined 43 years of experience with the association.

"Our company has grown leaps and bounds during Maggie and Bob's time here," said Bailey. "This is sad for KICA, but a wonderful new chapter for both of them, and we are forever grateful for their innumerable contributions to Kiawah."

*c/o Kiawah Island Community Association
23 Beachwalker Drive
Kiawah Island, SC 29455*

Address Service Requested

Call KICA to Request Backflow System Inspections

Did you know KICA offers, at request only, the expertise of its irrigation technicians for basic backflow testing and repairs?

Backflow prevention devices are used to protect potable water supplies from contamination or pollution due to backflow. Kiawah Island Utility requires residential water systems be tested every two years to ensure that they are working properly.

Please note that this is a service offered on-demand by KICA. To receive a backflow inspection, you must contact KICA and schedule the service in advance.

Cost of Services

- Basic Backflow Certification: \$60
- KICA's technicians can make the repairs, when needed, for \$37.50 per hour, plus the cost of materials. A one hour minimum charge applies (\$37.50). After one hour, the cost is \$18.75 per half hour or \$37.50 per hour.

Request Backflow Certification Services

Email memberservices@kica.us or call 843-768-9194 to schedule an appointment. Services will be billed to your existing KICA member account and invoiced to you.

