

Living in I'On

Monthly Newsletter for the Residents of I'On ... October 2008

October Calendar

- 10/3 First Friday Cocktails
- 10/7 Conservati'on Corps Meeting
- 10/8 Trust Lecture Series
- 10/9 Recycle
- 10/11 Breakfast for Obama
I'On Birdwalk
Concert for Change
- 10/14 Women's Coffee
- 10/15 Community of I'On
Artists Meeting
I'On Potluck Supper
- 10/16 Lowcountry Children's
Center Oyster Roast
- 10/20 I'On Chili Cook-Off
- 10/22 Yarn Buddies
October Newsletter
Copy Deadline
- 10/23 Lunch Bunch
Recycle
- 10/24 I'On Ghost Walk
- 10/26 Halloween in the 'Hood
- 10/30 HOA Trustees Board
Meeting

I'On Homeowners

In the March issue of this newsletter, I wrote about the necessity and benefits of having a Capital Reserve Fund to protect and replace I'On's infrastructure and amenities. At the semi-annual Assembly meeting in June, the Board proposed an amendment to the By-Laws that would permanently fund two-thirds of the annual reserve contribution through a new property transfer assessment paid by **home buyers**.

Our goal is to pass this amendment in 2008. I'm pleased to report that 90% of the proxies we've received so far support it, and we have two-thirds of the votes needed for passage. However, **we need to get 75% of all I'On lot owners to support the amendment.** This is a big hurdle, and I realize people have busy lives and lots of priorities, but **we need everyone to take a few minutes to sign and return your proxy. Not voting is the same as a no vote.** I am writing now to urge you to vote today.

I am also aware that inertia isn't the only reason people might be hesitating. Some owners worry that the Assembly Board could misuse the reserve fund for "pet projects" or other ill conceived ideas. But this concern really has nothing to do with the transfer assessment. It's more a trust issue with your elected officials. My response to this is that in I'On you have a voice in the community and you have the ability to vote for whom you trust. I have faith in our I'On community to elect responsible people.

The other group who might not be totally in favor of the amendment are people trying to sell their homes. They may feel that the .15% fee paid by the buyers would be a deterrent. My reply is that a transfer assessment is common for most home owner associations. Evidence shows a well funded reserve is truly an asset valued by home buyers (see article inside), and that a transfer assessment has not dampened sales. **This is why The I'On Company and many of the most active I'On builders and realtors have endorsed the amendment.**

[Click here](#) to access the transfer fee documents and proxy. If there is anything you don't understand or if you have any concerns, please contact me directly at bkinn94@gmail.com. If we're going to reach our goal **everyone** must participate. **Please act on this as soon as possible, and encourage your friends and neighbors to do the same.**

Thank you!

Bruce Kinney

Are You Registered to Vote?

Deadline to
register to vote in
the November
general election in
South Carolina is
this Saturday,
October 4th!

If you need to
register, or just need to
change your address,
there are South Carolina
forms in an envelope kept
inside the side-porch
mailbox at 110 West
Shipyard Road (the
Rosengrens). Follow the
directions on the
envelope.

If you have questions or
comments about this
newsletter, or information
you'd like to get into future
issues, please contact
Barbara Fry at
brbfry@comcast.net.

Around I'On ...

First Friday Cocktails

Friday, October 3 6:00 - 8:00 pm

All I'On residents are invited to the October First Friday Cocktails at 10 Boathouse Close. Yup, at the house for sale that overlooks East Lake! Sponsored by **Joanne** and **Ralph Grant**. BYOB, a glass, and an appetizer to share. Contact **Brooke Niznik** at Bniznik@comcast.net or 216-3475 with any questions you may have.

Conservati'on Corps Monthly Meet-up

Tuesday, October 7 1:00 - 2:30 pm

We're meeting at 52 Rialto Road, hosted by **Martha Morgan**. If you have energy to save energy, or other conservation related ideas, come join us! Questions, contact **Martha Morgan** at 216-6567.

Breakfast for Obama

Saturday, October 11 8:00 am

Come to Bodacious Bagel to kick off a full day of East Cooper campaign activities to support Ketner and Obama. We'll begin by collecting canned protein food for the "Red Meat for the Base" food drive for ECCO Community Food Pantry. Register at www.barackobama.com.

I'On Birdwalk

Saturday, October 11 9:00 am

Meet at the Creek Club and join **Craig Richard's**, our very own I'On neighborhood bird expert, for a walk along the marsh trails. Walk should take about 1 hour. Binoculars recommended.

Concert for Change with Sharon Robles & Nu Myth

Saturday, October 11 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Join neighbors, family and friends at the **Amphitheater** for upbeat music focused on Hope, Change and the 2008 Elections. Representatives from the Obama, Ketner and Gaillard Campaigns will be invited to assist people who want to be involved in the campaigns, help with early voting and absentee voting options and provide information about the candidates. You're welcome to bring a picnic. Blankets or folding chairs are suggested for lawn seating. Children welcome.

Ace Breast Cancer Tennis Tournament

October 10-12

Please join us for the 6th Annual Ace Breast Cancer Tennis Tournament hosted by the I'On Club. All proceeds are donated to the Hollings Cancer Center for research. To register go on-line to www.acebreastcancer.org. Come out and play or just to watch!

Around I'On ... *continued*

Women's Coffee

Tuesday, October 14 10:00 - 12:00 am

Please join us for the I'On Trust sponsored Women's Monthly Coffee. Our hostess this month will be **Barbara Fry** who lives at 28 Mobile Street (west of the church). Bring your own mug. For questions or a ride, contact **Carol Morgan** at 216-5631 or **Gail Lauder** at 971-0985.

Community of I'On Artists

Wednesday, October 15

The Community of I'On Artists will be off on another "field trip" this month. We will visit the studio of Linda Fantuzzo in Charleston. A members' dinner will follow at a nearby restaurant to be announced. Members should check their email for details. Attendance is limited to twenty due to the building size, so this will be a member's only event. Guests, please join us for our next meeting, Nov 19th at the Creek Club at 9:30 am. Questions ... contact **Pamela Schussel** at 216-7755.

I'On Residents Potluck Supper at the Creek Club

Wednesday, October 15 6:00 pm

The hosts for this potluck supper will be **Annie** and **Barry Bonk** or **Libby** and **Tim Eble**, depending upon who's in town. As always, we meet at **6:00 pm** to socialize. **Supper will begin at 6:30**. If you haven't been to one, it's a great way to meet your neighbors and visit with new or familiar faces. Bring a dish to pass (*there is no rule it has to be made in your kitchen*), your beverage of choice, glasses, plates, napkins and flatware. Since this is a do it yourself event (*no staff*), we hope that everyone who participates will not mind helping to set up and clean up (*folding the chairs and tables*). No reservations required! **ALL I'On residents are welcome!** Questions ... please call **Annie Bonk** at 881-7601 or email Annie at abbonk@msn.com.

Dee Norton Lowcountry Children's Center Oyster Roast

Thursday, October 16 6:00 - 9:00 pm

At the Creek Club. \$25.00 per person. Proceeds benefit Dee Norton Lowcountry Children's Center whose mission is to keep children safe from abuse, and when abuse occurs, to work with our community to bring healing to these children and their families. For more information, log onto www.dnlcc.org.

I'On **Chili Cook-Off**

Monday, October 20 5:30 - 7:30 pm

It's fall, which means Chili & Football! Since we have too much passion here to pick the best college team, maybe we can pick the best chili! Come to the Creek Club and bring you best recipe for chili. BYOB. Everyone is invited, even if you just want a taste. Let's enjoy the evening together in our beautiful neighborhood.

Welcome New I'On Neighbors!

Anna Graham &

Chas Fox

162 Ionsborough Street

Robin & Rance Gossett

23 Eastlake Road

Louise Ruch &

Robert Hall

15 Prescient Street

Ellen &

Jim Klemawesch

111 Ionsborough Street

Rolf & Sylvia Leveen

90 Latitude Lane

Rana & Aresi

Maran Pullatt

183 East Shipyard Road

Betty Jo &

William Schleier

301 North Shelmore Blve

Nancy Williams

86 Secession Street

New Neighbors,

Please inform

Cheryl Wilson of AMCS
of your new address at
cwilson@amcs-inc.com.

[Click here](#) to view the
Events Calendar

2009 Directory Update!

In October we start actively assembling information for our 2009 I'On directory. If you have any changes in your listing (marriage, divorce, new baby, phone number or email) please update your profile NOW! Log onto the website, www.ioncommunity.com, and click on "My Profile" to make changes (be sure to click "save" at bottom of form). **Deadline for changes is October 15th.** Any changes made after that date are not guaranteed to be in the 2009 directory. If you are renting your house, please [click here to send us the name/address of your renter](#) so we can include them, too!

Around I'On ... *continued*

Yarn Buddies

Wednesday, October 22 10:00 - 11:30 am

Yarn Buddies will meet at the home of **Betty Barbieri**, 26 McDaniel Lane. All skill levels welcome. Questions ... call Betty at 849-8411.

Lunch Bunch "Charleston Tea Plantation"

Thursday, October 23 11:30 am till ...

We're going to eat at "The Tomato Shed Café" at the Tea Plantation on Wadmalaw Island (the only tea plantation in the country!). Meet at the I'On Square no later than 11:30; should be back by 3:30. We'll have lunch (ordered from the menu) and then a Trolley Tour of the plantation (Trolley costs \$15.00). They are not harvesting but we'll be able to see the fields. Gift Shops available. Questions ... contact **Joyce Gentry** at 971-3581.

Ghost Walk I'On 2008

Friday, October 24 7:00 pm

Meet at the fountain at Perseverance Park ... surrounded by the names of the departed ... to begin a walk to the Graveyard and Indian campsite. Continue along the marshwalk to the Hopetown fire pit hearing classic Lowcountry Ghost Stories. **Free.** Bring a flashlight and a coat hanger to toast marshmallows.

HOA Trustees Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 30 6:00 pm

All residents are welcome to attend. Meeting is held in the I'On Realty Office. See agenda posted at www.ioncommunity.com.

A Word About the Fire ...

The **Laurencelle Family** is doing fine and would like to thank all their I'On neighbors and friends for stepping up and helping them in so many ways after this terrible event. They were simply overwhelmed by peoples' generosity. Plans are still up in the air but they hope to be able to make some new housing decisions in the very near future.

One of the lessons learned from this event for the community is how important accurate information in our I'On Phone Directory is. Many numbers were called in the wee hours of that morning to alert neighbors of the fire to make sure they were out as well as contact those who were away. Please go to www.ioncommunity.com and make sure your profile is up-to-date!

And a HUGE thank you to the Mt Pleasant Fire Department for their rapid response and expert handling of what could have been a much larger disaster. If you'd like to thank the department, you can call Acting Fire Chief Herb Williams at 884-0623 or send an email to jlee@townofmtpleasant.com.

Seal Hunt Report ...



Brooke Niznik and **Rose** are our Seal Hunt winners for September. The Seal was hidden under the bench that is dedicated to “Katie” on Maybank Green. We moved it a bit to get the picture without having Brooke and Rose stand on their heads! The September prize was a gift certificate to Sweet Olive (they have dog treats!). Brooke and Rose will have their names added to the drawing for the grand prize in December.

Remember, the Seal will be hidden on the day before the first of the new month somewhere in the neighborhood, in a public area, and all I’On neighbors are invited to find it. Start looking again on October 1.

Here’s the October clue:

***“The watercraft house you should seek,
To find the Seal, don’t be meek,
Go down the stairs,
But it’s not on the floor,
Look on a vertical surface to score.”***



If you’re the lucky one who finds it, contact Anne Register at 881-7541 or aregister@theiontrust.org. Give your name, your phone number or email and the details of the location where you found it. **Don’t move the seal from the spot** – just report to us that you have found it. We’ll have winner’s name and photo in the next community newsletter.

Coming Events ...

Lecture Series

Wednesday, October 8 6:30 pm

Join our neighbor, **Erik Calonius**, for a presentation on his fascinating book, *The Wanderer: The Last American Slave Ship and the Conspiracy That Set Her Sails*. Erik is a former reporter, editor and London-based foreign correspondent for the *Wall Street Journal*. He was also the former Miami Bureau Chief for *Newsweek*. He and his family live on Isle of Hope in I’On.

Since leaving full time journalism, he has collaborated on about 15 non-fiction books. *The Wanderer* is his first work of “narrative non-fiction,” in which history is told with some of the conventions of fiction-writing. The book offers a “gripping account of the high seas and the high life in New York and Savannah” and “brings to light one of the most important and little remembered stories of the Civil War Period.” (*Google Book Search*). We’re in for a unique and informative evening.

Refreshments will be served at 6:30 pm, and the program will begin at 7:00. **This event is free and open to the public.**

"War of the Worlds" at the Village Theatre

Saturday, October 18

For I'On Trust Members only. Contact [Anne Register](#) at 881-7541 if interested.

Halloween in the 'Hood

Sunday, October 26



We hope your family will join neighbors and "kids of all ages" for one of the I'On Trust's most anticipated occasions on the Sunday afternoon before Halloween. Thanks to **Amy Mathisen**, Coordinator for the event, there are lots of surprises in store, including costume contests, pumpkin decorating, a dunking booth, a cupcake walk, the Kitchen Witches, hot dogs and a covered dish picnic. It promises to be lots of fun. **Watch your mailbox for flyers with more details.**

And, **Barbara and Bob Fry** will again take charge of the Adult Pumpkin-Carving Contest. The competition stiffens each year. Rules will be posted on the Trust website by mid-October.

Membership Update

Thanks to our I'On Trust supporters who have already joined up for next year. Discounts are available when you join at a Trust event (the Lecture, the Coffee, the Village Theater event, Halloween in the 'Hood). The I'On Trust makes possible many of the events and happenings that make I'On such a special place to live, and we need your support.

Very Special Thanks to SunTrust for offering I'On Trust members a fantastic evening with the Footlight Players on September 11. Thirty of our members and guests enjoyed food, beverages and socializing and then the opening night of *Biloxi Blues*, a Neil Simon play. SunTrust is one of the valued corporate sponsors of I'On Trust programming, and their generosity helps us make good times happen.

Stop in and meet Benjie Anderson and the other friendly bankers on Mathis Ferry Road if you are looking for a banking home.

Looking Ahead to "Giving Lights of I'On" Annual Luminaries

Sunday, December 7

Here's some advance notice for a unique opportunity to join your neighbors to give back to our community! Support this year's charities, **East Cooper Meals on Wheels** and **HALOS**, and celebrate our annual luminary lighting. You and your family can help by:

- Making a donation and ordering luminaries. Information will be delivered to your home by your I'On borough area captain.
- Lighting your luminaries on December 7 at 5:30 pm after the **Holiday Tour of Homes** in I'On. Then join us at the Westlake Amphitheater for a concert by I'Onissimo Sings, a check presentation to the charities, and refreshments.

Very special thanks to **Phyllis Sheffer**, our 2008 Giving Lights of I'On Coordinator. If you'd like to volunteer to help, please contact her at Phyllis.sheffer@comcast.net or 881-5485.

An interesting chat regarding the benefits of a Transfer Fee ...

I had a conversation the other day with a representative of the **Wild Dunes Home Owners Association**. Seems they implemented a 0.50% Transfer Fee (that's more than 3 times what we are proposing!) in 2001 to help build up their reserves. It took about 6 months, but they eventually got a 90% vote from their community supporting the fee (they require 75% as do we). Initially, some realtors had concerns that the fee would dampen sales, but their experience did not prove that to be true. To this date, my contact is not aware of any sale that did not proceed due to the fee!

I think it was 2004 where the fee netted the community **\$1 million additional** which allowed them to make some sorely needed improvements. Needless to say, their residents have seen the benefits of the Transfer Fee and are very pleased with the results!!!

If you have questions or need another proxy, [click here](#). If you want to verify that we've received your vote, contact Barbara Fry at brbfry@comcast.net. Thanks!

Support your Local Farmers - Buy Local!

What's in Season Now!

Apple	Beans (snap, pole, butter)	Beets
Broccoli	Cilantro	Cucumbers
Green Onions	Leeks	Leafy Greens
Muscadine Grapes	Okra	Oriental Veggies
Parsley	Pecans (welcome back!)	Peas (try White Acre!!!)
Peppers	Radishes	Yellow Squash
Sweet Potatoes	Tomatoes	Zucchini

And ... Save The Date!!!

Friday, November 7th is a special edition of First Friday - celebrating local foods and farmers - for the **2nd Annual LocalMotion Fall Festival**, to be held at the Amphitheater. The festival, hosted by the Conservati'on Corps & First Friday organizers, is funded in part by a grant from the I'On Trust. There will be children's activities, and of course FOOD! Stay tuned for more details, but plan to join your neighbors as we celebrate the fall local harvest on November 7th.

It's Election Time ...

And I'm not talking National. The election I'm referring to is for our very own I'On Home Owners Association.

We have three openings on the HOA Board of Trustees this coming year. **Ward Mundy** will be leaving the board after fulfilling his two-year term; a second seat was vacated earlier in the year; and **Sheri Cooper** will be running again to help balance expiring terms (more on that below). These seats will be voted on at the **I'On Annual Home Owners Association Meeting** in December.

Following is a brief description of the open committee positions we need to fill:

- **Chair of the Landscaping Committee.** This person is responsible for developing the landscape budget for the neighborhood; recommending improvements as needed; is the primary liaison with the HOA landscaping contractor; and surveys the neighborhood on a regular basis to ensure adequate maintenance by the landscape contractor.
- **I'On Design Committee (IDC) Liaison.** When homeowners want to make changes or improvements to their property, they are required to submit a plan to the IDC for approval. This position will grow in importance as the committee moves away from developer control into HOA control.
- **Compliance Officer.** A very hands-on position that enforces the I'On rules and covenants in a neighborly manner. This person is also the go between for neighbors who have rule or covenant issues with one another.

In an effort to even out the expiration of the two-year terms so that approximately one-half of the Board will be up for election each year, **Sheri Cooper** has volunteered to run again this year. If re-elected, she and the other members will start a new two-year term in January. We then will have four seats expiring at the end of 2009.

At the Board's invitation, **George Flynn** has been designated to help assemble a team of neighbors to coordinate the candidate nomination process as well as to coordinate the assembly of candidate information for distribution to all homeowners. If you are interested in running for the Board, or in helping to find qualified candidates to do so, please contact George at gdflynn@comcast.net. Thank you!

South Carolina Charter School Superintendent to Visit ECMCS

This month, East Cooper Montessori Charter School (ECMCS) will welcome **Dr. Tim Daniels** as a guest speaker at the October Parent Network Night meeting. Dr. Daniels is the Superintendent/Executive Director of the South Carolina Public Charter School District. He comes to South Carolina from his position as the Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Coalition of Charter Schools.

Dr. Daniels is a nationally-known educational leader in policy and program development as well as the author of several published articles. His dedication to achieving organizational goals that increase the educational achievement of children is well documented. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Bucknell University, a Master of Arts in Teaching from Harvard University, and a Doctor of Education, University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Daniels will address the families of ECMCS, as well as invited guests from seven other Charter Schools in the school district. He will discuss funding challenges and opportunities for charter schools as well as his vision of charter schools and their role of public school choice for the state of South Carolina.

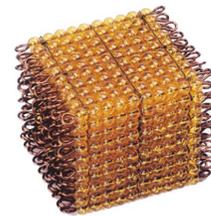
Please join us on Tuesday, October 21, 2008 at 6:00 pm in the Grand Hall at ECMCS.

What are Charter Schools?

Charter schools are public schools that are free from local school district oversight as well as some geographical regulations except for health, safety and civil rights. They follow the same accountability procedures as all public schools and receive state report cards on their achievements. The schools are governed by parental boards under the authorization of the statewide district and encourage broad parental and community involvement, innovation and academic rigor.

ECMCS Families Experience A Silent Journey

In September, parents of ECMCS enjoyed the annual experience of the Silent Journey. All eight classrooms were set up with work mats on the floors and work laid out, as if the children got up from their work period and walked away. It was a night for the families to experience what their children do every day at ECMCS. They silently walked from room to room, taking in the silence and observing the work. After the Silent Journey portion, families were invited to choose a room and receive an actual lesson from the teacher. Lessons were given on the materials within the core curriculum subjects. The evening was a magical educational journey to witness the incredible learning materials that are used from 1st grade through 8th grade.



“The evening is a success if just one parent has that “ah-ha” moment and they realize what a treasure Montessori education is, and that they have made the right choice for their child(ren)”, stated one ECMCS teacher.

“The night was incredible. I never realized the depth of the education and the passion of the teachers. As a first year parent, I am thankful the school sponsors this event. I know I have made the right choice for my child.”, exclaimed one ECMCS parent.

Thanks to Vera Ford, Cindi Whichmann, Leigh Ann Green and Terrie Clarke for organizing this event. And special thanks to our business friends at Out of Hand and Costco for their help and support!

ECMCS October Calendar

- OCT 2** Bookmobile (open to public) 9:00 - 11:00 am
- OCT 16** Bookmobile (open to public) 9:00 - 11:00 am
Governing Board Meeting 6:00 pm
- OCT 21** Parent Network Night 6:00 pm