



# Living in I'On

Monthly Newsletter for the Residents of I'On ... December 2009

## December Calendar

- 12/2 I'On Potluck Supper
- 12/3 Recycle Day  
CoIA Christmas Party
- 12/4 First Friday Cocktails
- 12/6 Giving Lights of I'On  
Festival of Giving  
Benefit for Meals on  
Wheels
- 12/8 Women's Coffee ...  
"A Holiday Tea"
- 12/9 Conservati'on Corps
- 12/10 I'On Assembly Annual  
Meeting
- 12/12 1<sup>st</sup> Day of Hanukkah  
I'On Birdwalk
- 12/17 Recycle Day
- 12/20 January Newsletter  
Copy Deadline
- 12/25 Merry Christmas!
- 12/31 Recycle Day  
New Year's Eve!!!



## It's the most wonderful time of the year!

At least it is here in I'On! And while many gatherings are happening all month long, our community really "shines" on December 6<sup>th</sup>. If you're in the need for some Holiday spirit, take a stroll through I'On that evening. There will be lots to do and much to be thankful for in our little piece of the planet.

**Giving Lights of I'On** begins at 5:30. We hope everyone will participate in lighting luminaries outside your home (and could you volunteer to help light the lakes as well?). **It is NOT too late to order luminary kits.** If you have yet to make a donation to receive luminaries, call **Anne Register** at 881-7541 to get your kits.

At least one neighbor is opening her home that night to help a local charity. A gathering at the Amphitheatre will enjoy Symphony music while collecting food for the Lowcountry Food Bank. And that day the **I'On Club** will begin collecting food as well (check out suggested items on page 9).

As you begin your shopping, don't forget our local merchants. **Sweet Olive** has beautiful gifts, perfect for the home and garden, or the Holiday hostess. **DeGuise Interiors** has wonderful home furnishings and is offering weekly specials on stock items as well as special orders till Christmas Day (Gigi bailed me out last year with a last minute "gravy boat" purchase!). And stop by **Imagine Interiors** to check out their wares.

Beginning December 8<sup>th</sup>, **Jacob's Kitchen** is opening for lunch (Tuesday - Saturday, 11:30-2:00) adding to their wonderful Sunday brunch. **O'Brion's** is fabulous for a Holiday gathering. And the **Square Onion** has delicious food for lunch or an elegant evening affair. And for a wonderful treat, don't forget our newest store, **Christophe ARTISAN Chocolatier Patisier** for unusual chocolate gift delicacies.

Many of our I'On friends and neighbors also have businesses that offer ideas for gift giving ... from artwork and framing, to jewelry design, to personal care and on and on. Check out the business listings in the new 2010 I'On Directory (available 12/10!) or go to [I'On BizNet](#) online.

Here's to a healthy, happy Holiday Season, and hopes for a wonderful New Year.

## Welcome New I'On Neighbors!

Karyn Lee

183 East Shipyard Road

Alex & Jenifer Rousseau

27 Perseverance Street

Staci Ranew

15 Prescient Street

David & Frances Koch

134 West Shipyard Road

Kim & Tom Urbach

22 Prescient Street

Gretchen & Mike Bush

77 Ponsbury Road

Shea & Shaun Chambers

19 Hopetown Road

Mitch Mitchell & Debra

McKinley

23 Eastlake Road

Joe Guenzel

125 Ponsbury Road

Sam & Alyssa Jacks

112 Jake's Lane

Mindy Logan

44 Sowell Street

Matthew & Mary Quin

19 Prescient Street

Betsy & Jay Unger

133 Jake's Lane

Jennifer & Patrick Vail

51 Hopetown Road

## Moving Around I'On

Jamie Bellingham

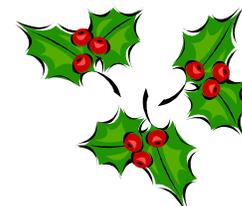
228 Ponsbury Road

New Neighbors,  
Please inform

Jane Gottshalk of AMCS  
of your new address at

[jtottshalk@amcs-inc.com](mailto:jtottshalk@amcs-inc.com).

## Around I'On ...



### I'On Residents' Potluck Supper at the Creek Club

Wednesday, December 2 6:00 pm

This is the ***Last Supper***, pun intended, for 2009. Hosts for this month will be **Dave** and **Cynthia Rosengren**. This is such an easy way to get together with your neighbors. No need to make reservations, clean your home or cook (*no rule that your dish has to come from your kitchen!*). Just pop on down to the Creek Club with a dish to pass, a plate, flatware, napkin, your beverage of choice and a glass. If you have any questions, please call **Annie Bonk** at 881-7601 or email Annie at [abbonk@msn.com](mailto:abbonk@msn.com).

### Community of I'On Artists

Thursday, December 3

The Community of I'On Artists has planned their Christmas Party for December 3<sup>rd</sup> in a member's home. For details, contact Gazie Nagle at [jonngay@aol.com](mailto:jonngay@aol.com). January's meeting will hold elections for new board members. Happy Holidays from all of us!

### First Friday Cocktails

Friday, December 4 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Put on your Jingle Bells and Reindeer Antlers for our Holiday First Friday Cocktail Party, hosted by **Debra McKinley** and **Mitch Mitchell** at 23 Eastlake Road. As usual, BYOB, a glass and an appetizer to share. **All I'On residents are invited.** Contact **Brooke Niznik** at 216-3475 or [bniznik@comcast.net](mailto:bniznik@comcast.net) with any questions you may have.

### Christmas Party to Benefit Meals on Wheels

Sunday, December 6 5:30 - 9:00 pm

As you stroll through the neighborhood admiring the luminaries, stop by 48 Sowell Street to join friends and neighbors for some holiday snacks and cheer. **Phyllis Sheffer** is opening her home to celebrate the holidays in hopes of helping a local charity. Donations are welcome for Meals on Wheels. Hope to see you there!

### Women's Coffee ... A "Holiday Tea"

Tuesday, December 8 10:00 - 12:00 am

As our tradition during the holidays, we will have a "Holiday Tea" to replace our monthly coffee. Please bring your favorite tea cup and join us at **Anne Register's** and **Becky Van Wie's** home at 270 North Shelmore Boulevard. If you have questions or need a ride, contact **Carol Morgan** at 216-5631 or **Gail Lauder** at 971-0985. This is an I'On Trust sponsored event.

## Around I'On ... *continued*

### Conservati'on Corps Meeting

Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> 1:00 - 2:00 pm

Our December meeting will be held at **Bud Wofford's** house at 4 Perseverance Street. Questions ... call Bud at 388-0053.

### I'On Homeowner's Association Annual Meeting

Thursday, December 10 6:00 - 7:00 pm

All residents are encouraged to come to the Creek Club to elect 4 new Trustees to our HOA Board and hear about current happenings in our I'On Community. Come early to socialize; meeting starts at 7:00. Information packets have been mailed that include the Meeting Agenda, 2010 Budget, Board of Trustee candidate information and a Proxy. If you did not receive your packet, please contact Jane Gottshalk at [jgottshalk@amcs-inc.com](mailto:jgottshalk@amcs-inc.com) to get another. **If you cannot attend the meeting, please send in your proxy.**

*Also ... Please bring a food or other donation to the annual meeting to help support the I'On Club's Holiday Food Drive in support of the Lowcountry Food Bank (check out the box on page 9 for ideas). Thank you and hope to see you there!*

### Birdwalk in I'On

Saturday, December 12 10:00 am

Let's meet at the Rookery entrance at the south east corner of Jakes Lane (*nearest the I'On Club*). From there we'll work our way through the woods of I'On. **Craig Richard** – birder extraordinaire will be our guide. Dress appropriately (*sturdy shoes!!!*).

**Thank you  
Lawn-O-Green  
for donating flowers  
to the Roundabout!!!  
Winter color will be  
planted the first  
week in December.**

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](mailto:brbfry@comcast.net).

[Click here](#) to visit the I'On Community Website

## Update on the I'On Community Garden

The garden is alive and well with 30 families signed up as our inaugural gardeners! Construction will start after the New Year, and we're targeting to have the garden ready to plant in early March. Our gardeners will be getting together in early January to meet each other, discuss programs we're planning and share new ideas.

Since our folks range from beginner to expert, an important part of our program involves learning gardening techniques from others. While we have several Master Gardeners already on board, we welcome anyone who's Green Thumb is dying to be heard.

Keep an eye on upcoming Living in I'On Newsletters for I'On Community Garden progress reports and events.

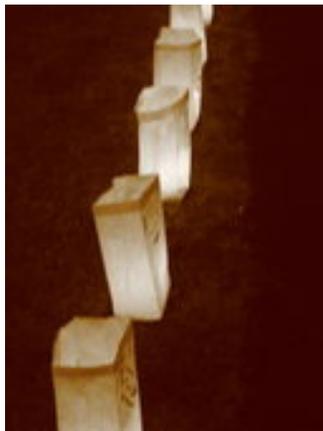
Questions or suggestions ... contact us at [iongarden@gmail.com](mailto:iongarden@gmail.com).



## Holiday Events

On Sunday, December 6, there will be an early celebration of the coming holidays with two events in the neighborhood, both of which capture the true spirit of Christmas and Hanukkah. First, the **Giving Lights of I'On** project will culminate with the lighting of luminaries throughout I'On between 5:00 and 5:30 pm. Then, a **Festival of Giving** is planned at the Amphitheater, beginning about 5:45 pm. This will include a check presentation to the two charities that are this year's Giving Lights beneficiaries, the [Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy](#) and the [Lowcountry Food Bank](#).

### Here are the details:



#### **Giving Lights ... It is definitely not too late to order a luminary kit!**

Visit the Trust website ([www.iontrust.org](http://www.iontrust.org)) for an order form, or call Anne Register (881-7541), and she'll be glad to bring a form to you. Or you may simply leave a check in the basket by her door at 270 North Shelmore (*yellow house across from the church*) and a note about how many kits you'd like to have. Each one is \$12 and will include 12 votive candles, 12 white bags and instructions for where to find sand at several I'On locations to give weight to the bags. If you'd like to make an additional donation to benefit the charities, just include that amount as well. Checks should be made out to the I'On Trust.

We do appreciate the help of our Area Captains who worked with **Kimberly Moss** to make Giving Lights a reality this year. If you did not find a form at your door, or if you think you waited too late, you can still participate. It really won't be too late until the day of the event, and we do encourage you to be involved. The lights are beautiful and preparing them is a great family project. And most importantly, people in need will be helped during the holiday season as a result of our contributions.

#### **The Festival of Giving, a new event this year, will be under the big tent at**

**the Amphitheater.** We'll have brass musicians from the Charleston Symphony Orchestra treating us to holiday music, hot chocolate, cookies for decorating and eating, and a special banner to decorate for our troops overseas.

Nearby, Santa Claus will be helping collect food for the Lowcountry Food Bank. Bring some canned goods to share with him. Westlake will be lit up with luminaries and traditional carols will be sung. Adults are also encouraged to bring their favorite "celebration" beverages.



Then we will create a caravan of golf carts, convertibles and bicycles (*decorated if you like*) to wander through the neighborhood to see the luminaries. We have a couple of stops planned with additional surprises.

We hope this fun event will fill everyone with good cheer! We'll finish by 7:30 pm so even the littlest I'On folks can come.

Special thanks to **Julie Chapman** for initiating and coordinating the Festival.

**Speaking of helping others**, throughout 2009 the I'On Trust has been privileged to partner with several community charities as we planned programs and activities. In this way, we accomplish our mission of reaching out not only to neighbors through our grants program and regular volunteer opportunities, but to the larger community as well. We want to thank those of you who supported our efforts to help these charities and encourage you to remember them again with contributions and/or volunteer time. Included this year are:

- Share Our Suzy ([www.shareoursuzy.org](http://www.shareoursuzy.org))
- Congressional Medal of Honor Society ([www.homeofheroes.com](http://www.homeofheroes.com))
- Coastal Community Foundation ([www.coastalcommunityfoundation.org](http://www.coastalcommunityfoundation.org))
- Drayton Hall ([www.draytonhall.org](http://www.draytonhall.org))
- Doctors On Call For Service ([www.docs.org](http://www.docs.org))
- Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund ([www.SemperFiFund.org](http://www.SemperFiFund.org))
- Trident Literacy Association ([www.tridentlit.org](http://www.tridentlit.org))
- Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy ([www.coastalcrisischaplain.org](http://www.coastalcrisischaplain.org))
- Lowcountry Food Bank ([www.lowcountryfoodbank.org](http://www.lowcountryfoodbank.org))

**Speaking of the holidays**, for several years, the Trust has coordinated the Charleston Battery Bench Project for the neighborhood. If you are looking for a **unique holiday gift** for a neighbor or friend, contact the Trust for details. We'll handle all the arrangements from the purchase to the engraving on the plaque to the installation – and you can pick the place. We'll even send your honoree a nice holiday note for you! The cost is \$450 for the entire package. If you order early (by December 10), the bench will likely be in place by Christmas.

## JOIN THE TRUST FOR 2010!!

We are very grateful to the more than 50 neighbors who have already made the commitment to be involved with the Trust in 2010. We need everyone's help to enable our traditional events and special programs to continue.



As we said in last month's newsletter and in our e-mail to the neighborhood, the Trust is the keeper of the vision the founders of I'On had – *that the advancement of neighborhood principles and traditions are vital in a real community.*

A membership form is on the website ([www.iontrust.org](http://www.iontrust.org)) or we'll send you one if you e-mail us ([aregister@iontrust.org](mailto:aregister@iontrust.org)) or call us at 881-7541.

Plans are already underway for good times in 2010, including a "members only" Oyster Roast. Check our website for more information, and pay attention to signs and mailbox flyers in December for a few more surprises!

## **New Leadership for 2010**

At the Annual Meeting of the I'On Trust's Board of Directors on November 9, new officers and new board members were elected to begin terms in January. We are delighted to welcome our new folks and very grateful for their willingness to serve:

**President: Louise Rainis**

**Vice President: Dwight Williams**

**Secretary: Sandy Powers**

**Treasurer: Carol Degnen**

**New members: Joe Gaddy, Carol Morgan, Amy Sage, Jane Vander Velde**

**Re-elected members: Don Higgins, Dave Niemann**

And we appreciate the dedication and tireless effort of our retiring members – **Phil Ayers, Alys Campaigne, Roy Green, Leah Greenberg, Amy Mathisen** – we shall miss them!

Thanks, too, to our other neighbors who indicated an interest in being involved. Look out for invitations to be on our new board committees. We do have places for all of you!

## **Volunteer Opportunities on the Web:**

Check out postings for:

- South Carolina Aquarium
- Lowcountry Children's Museum
- Communities In Schools

@ [www.iontrust.org](http://www.iontrust.org)



**We wish you and yours a blessed Holiday Season  
and the best of everything in the New Year!**

**The I'On Trust.**

# I'On Assembly ...

## Amenities Committee ... Matt Walsh, Chair

We have negotiated our designated days for 2010 for I'On Community residents' access to the Creek Club. The following days are allotted for Community use:

January 20 <sup>th</sup> , 26 <sup>th</sup>	July 7 <sup>th</sup> , 13 <sup>th</sup> , 21 <sup>st</sup> , 27 <sup>th</sup>
February 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> , 17 <sup>th</sup> , 24 <sup>th</sup>	August 4 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 18 <sup>th</sup> , 24 <sup>th</sup>
March 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> , 17 <sup>th</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 30 <sup>th</sup>	September 1 <sup>st</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> , 21 <sup>st</sup> , 29 <sup>th</sup>
April 7 <sup>th</sup> , 13 <sup>th</sup> , 21 <sup>st</sup> , 27 <sup>th</sup>	October 6 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup> , 20 <sup>th</sup> , 26 <sup>th</sup>
May 5 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> , 19 <sup>th</sup> , 25 <sup>th</sup>	November 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> , 17 <sup>th</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup>
June 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> , 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 29 <sup>th</sup>	December 1 <sup>st</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> , 21 <sup>st</sup> , 29 <sup>th</sup>

For information about reserving the Creek Club, contact Eliza Lacey at 606-2083 (beginning January 2010) or email [eliza@ioncreekclub.com](mailto:eliza@ioncreekclub.com).

## Finance Committee ... Sheri Cooper, Chair

As required in our By-Laws (6-103b) we have undergone a full review of our finances. The review was performed by Baldwin Associates, LLC, for the year ending December 31, 2008. We have been found to be in good standing. If you would like to view the Accountants Report and Financial Statements, it has been posted on the I'On website. For access, [click here](#).

## Landscape Committee ... Amy Sage

Back in June we reported on this page that some plant thievery had occurred from the planters located in Perseverance Park. Well, I'm sorry to report, it's happened again. Flowers are missing from the north end of Perseverance Park (gaping holes gave them away) as well as the aforementioned planters. And this time the thievery has also extended to Saturday Road and the Ponsbury/Sowell triangle. We've had an inventory and determined 63 plants were taken! I don't know what the deal is, but somebody's really making out. Please help us find the culprit (a picture from your cell phone would be most helpful!). If you happen to notice any plant skullduggery going on, please call Jane Gottshalk of AMCS at 303-3586 or email Jane at [jgottshalk@amcs-inc.com](mailto:jgottshalk@amcs-inc.com). Or, call the Mount Pleasant police at 884-4176. Thanks!

## A note from those of us passing on ...

As retiring Trustees from the I'On Board, we would like to thank all the committee members and volunteers who help the Board of Trustees make I'On such a great place to live. Without your help and dedicated service, our community would not be the great place to live it is today. We'd also like to thank the outstanding candidates running for the 2010 Board, because we know the importance of a qualified Board committed to the best interest of I'On as a whole cannot be overstated. And we'd like to encourage neighbors and friends to help the new Board be successful by volunteering their time and effort as well. It's very rewarding work. Thank you for your support!

Barbara Fry, Bruce Kinney, John Powers and Matt Walsh



# Thank You I'On Community!

Following is an email neighbor **Deborah Bedell** received thanking her for the books and magazines I'On neighbors have donated to be sent to Afghanistan.

Hi Deborah,

I'm just getting back from a multi-day mission and received a few more boxes so I wanted to send a thank you to your folks there at the I'On Community. Please pass this along:

Dear Friends of the I'On Community,

On behalf of the Commanding Officer of Combat Logistics Battalion One, I want to express our sincere gratitude to you for sending our battalion the boxes of books and magazines. I can't tell you how much it means to us to receive "goodies" from the States from good people like yourselves. The Marines and Sailors have thoroughly enjoyed them.

I know it takes time to organize sending care packages and collecting and sifting the books, but you can be assured that your efforts are very much appreciated and have helped make the day of many Warriors here in Afghanistan.

If I can be of service to you in any way, please don't hesitate to let me know.

Very Respectfully,

Chaplain Steve Brown

Combat Logistics Battalion One

LT, USN, CHC

If you are interested in participating in this program, either by donating reading materials or cash to help offset shipping costs, contact Deborah at [deborah@thebedells.com](mailto:deborah@thebedells.com).

## Another way to brighten a soldiers' day is to donate used electronics...

Click on [cellphones](#) to learn how to download a FREE postage-paid shipping label to send your old cell phone and charger overseas (and instructions for clearing data from the phone); and [games](#) to find out how to donate old hand-held video games.

And if you know someone who would like the gift of an American Flag, the Ship Store at Patriots Point has embroidered 3'x5' flags on sale for under \$12.00 (retail price is \$19.97). The onsite store is located at 40 Patriots Point Road (881-5972). Visit their [online store](#) to see other gift ideas as well.

## Holiday Shopping ... Shop Local!!!

Many of our I'On neighbors have businesses in the community that offer wonderful gift ideas. Whether you have a specific gift in mind or want the convenience of a gift card, consider our local merchants first. Some products and services offered include:

- Artwork & Framing
- Clothing & Accessories
- Food & Wine
- Home & Garden
- Personal Care

Check out the I'On Phone Directory to get a listing of businesses by type, or click on [I'On BizNet](#) to get a listing by business type. Thanks for thinking of them!

### MORE HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS ...

Looking for unique gifts? Consider the [World of Good](#), a group of more than 4800 small businesses



which have met the [Green America seal of approval](#) for operating in a way that solves both environmental and social problems. With products from around the world, you can read their story to find out exactly how each business provides their own successful solutions through creative manufacturing, employment, financing ... You can shop in this sustainable marketplace at [worldofgood.com](#).

### GIFT "UNPACKING" TIP ...

If you're up to your eyeballs in packing nuts, don't toss them. If you can't ship them away, recycle them. The Pak Mail on Houston Northcutt will take them, no questions asked. They are located at 976 Houston Northcutt Blvd (in the shopping center at the corner of Houston and Coleman). Call 849-0310 for more information.

## Lowcountry Food Bank Food Drive

Drop items off at the I'On Club Pro-Shop between December 6<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>, and bring some more to the I'On Homeowners Annual Meeting at the Creek Club on December 10<sup>th</sup>.

#### Items Needed:

Canned Meat (tuna, chicken, salmon), Beans, Canned Veggies, Canned Fruit, Cereal, Pudding & Jello, Jams & Jelly's, Peanut Butter, Canned Pasta Sauce, Dried & Canned Pasta, Grits (2 lb Bag), Rice, Flour, Water, Juice, Evaporated Milk, Dish Detergent, Laundry Detergent.

## History comes to life

Halloween is celebrated a little bit differently at ECMCS. Oh, the kids still get to dress up, but here the students celebrate Halloween dressed up as historical characters.



Nishan Patel talks about the life of Shah Jahan who built the Taj Mahal

They also give a brief presentation in costume in front of fellow classmates and parents in the school's Grand Hall on the life and accomplishments of their historical character. The whole project is a month-long process with the students learning not only how to research a historical person but also tackling a written report on their subject. It is quite an

undertaking with the results and rewards celebrated with the students, as you can see in the photos here, coming to

school dressed up as their characters. It's learning made fun and exciting...the ECMCS way.



I'On resident and second grader Maddie Myers waits her turn to talk about the life of Helen Keller.



I'On resident and second grader Leo Horton as explorer Hernando DeSoto



Lower elementary students Hannah Floyd as Elizabeth Blackwell, Logan Jewell as Pocahontas and Lizzy Naguib as Emily Geiger



I'On resident and ECMCS first grader Tony Douglass prepares to give his presentation as Babe Ruth

## Idea Home Supports ECMCS

ECMCS partnered with William Means Real Estate and Structures Building Company to serve as tour docents at the Coastal Living



Principal Jody Swanigan receives donation flanked by I'On founder Vince Graham, ECMCS parent and Structures Building President Steve Kendrick, and Drew Grossklaus from William Means

Idea Home this fall. The tours brought the school and East Cooper Habitat for Humanity nearly \$8,000 apiece in donations. Thanks to all the volunteers and our partners for making this possible.

**ECMCS a Winner** At the end of October, the South Carolina Association of Public Charter Schools sponsored a little friendly competition to encourage teachers, students, families and community members to volunteer and get involved in their local charter schools. It was part of a national program called "iParticipate."

The challenge? The South Carolina charter school to log the most volunteer hours between October 19 and 25 would receive \$100 in gift cards for their next volunteer project and a new leather office chair from Staples.

Needless to say, when it comes to volunteers, ECMCS rules! With a total of 142.5 volunteer hours logged for the week, ECMCS was crowned the winner. It's now official – East Cooper Montessori Charter School has some of the best volunteers in the state!

### Save the Date

Dec 1 - applications open online for 2010-2011 school year.