



**R.H. McCLURE INC.**  
CONSTRUCTION • REAL ESTATE • RENTALS

# Ocean Isle Beach Rentals

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## Winter 2010 Newsletter

### What a Super Saturday Super Saturday Was

The Saturday after Thanksgiving, Ocean Isle Beach celebrated Super Saturday, the start of the Christmas season. The streets were decorated, and Santa stopped by for a visit. We also had our "world famous" Christmas parade. (Maybe the whole world doesn't know about it yet, but some of the world does, so we can call it world famous, can't we?) The sun was shining, and the weather was perfect. The decorated golf carts tried to outdo each other in bigger and better Christmas decorations. Our favorite was the octopus with a sign that read, "Wrap your arms around the spirit of Christmas." The Sudan Daredevils were there, riding up and down the moving ramp, and the Dunn clowns returned again this year. Some elves paraded, but they looked too tall to be real elves. Children scampered after the candy that flew out of the "floats", and at the end of it all, they were further rewarded by seeing Santa riding on the water rescue boat. Only in OIB... Later in the evening, the OIB Christmas tree was officially lit, and then Santa stopped by the OIB Fire Department for photos, and treats provided by the OIB Property Owners' Association.





**...And the rains came**

Fall arrived, and so did the rain. This was the wettest fall in Brunswick County history. Between September 27 and September 30, over twenty two inches of rain fell in Brunswick County. The almost horizontal rain was due to a low-pressure system chased in by Tropical Storm Nicole. Ocean Isle Beach had some flooded streets, especially around the 200 block of East First Street, the 200 block of West Second Street, and most of the area around the bend on the west side of the island. The streets were not impassable, you just had to take it slow, but some water remained even a week after the rains stopped. It wasn't Floyd, for which we're all thankful.

If you've ever looked at the ponds around Starboard by the Sea, West Lagoons, and Islander Villas, you've seen the many turtles that live in them. You can see them basking on logs, or near the edge of the pond. Guests like to feed them (I've heard they love dry dog and cat food), so they come right up to the edge of the water when someone approaches. Some of these turtles, mostly yellow-bellied sliders, were a casualty of the floods in OIB. They couldn't tell where their pond ended, and the road began, so they just swam along, and several were displaced when the waters receded, and even accidentally run over by cars.



**RH McClure Realty, Inc. is on Facebook!**

"Like" our page to stay connected with RH McClure Realty all year long and hear updates and news about Ocean Isle Beach between visits!  
[RH McClure Realty on Facebook](#)



*Merry Christmas from the staff of  
RH McClure Realty, Inc.!*



## Yellow-bellied Sliders

As the name implies, yellow-bellied sliders have a yellow belly, or bottom shell, called the plastron. Yellow bellied sliders look a lot like Eastern River Cooters, which also have a yellow plastron, but the sliders have spots all around the edge of the plastron as you can see in these pictures. Also, they have a higher dome than Cooters. Male yellow bellies usually grow five to eight inches long as adults, while females can grow as large as thirteen inches. The upper shell, called the carapace, is usually brown or black, with some yellow in it, while their actual body is olive green with yellow stripes down the neck and legs.

Yellow bellies belong to the family *Emyidae*, and their scientific name is *Trachemys scripta scripta*. They are native to Southeastern US, from Florida to Virginia, and they can be found in slow moving rivers, marshes, swamps, and ponds. They're a land and water turtle, since mating takes place in the water, but the females lay their eggs on land, usually six to ten eggs at a time. The eggs incubate for two to three months. Yellow bellies, like most turtles, start life as carnivorous animals, feeding on insects, arachnids, crustaceans, tadpoles and fish. As they mature, they eat less and less meat, until eventually as much as 95% of their food intake consists of plant life. While they love to bask in the sun during the day, they usually sleep on the bottom of the pond, or under some brush at the edges. One unusual thing about these turtles is that their eyes have a horizontal line that runs across the iris. This line remains horizontal, no matter what the angle of the head. A Google search provided one answer to this puzzle: The turtles rotate their eyes within the sockets, so that the iris line always stays horizontal. This peculiarity is very easy to spot, since Yellow Bellies like to crane their necks up to check out their surroundings, with their heads pointing up.



## Fun Alert! Charter Fishing

In our previous newsletter, we told you about our dolphin watching trip on Hurricane Fleet in Calabash. Our staff member, Linda Creech, recently went on a fishing excursion on the same Hurricane Fleet. She and part of her family set out on the Hurricane II at 8:00 am on a beautiful October 28<sup>th</sup>. Linda was very excited, since this was her first fishing trip ever! It's hard to believe that she has lived in Brunswick County for seventeen years, yet she had never gone fishing. She originally went just for the boat trip, and wanted

nothing to do with the fish; but when they lined up all the poles on the side of the boat, she was standing there with a pole right in front of her, so she said, "What the heck, I'll give this a try, as long as I don't have to bait the hook." One of the crewmembers, James, agreed to bait her hook and taught her how to use the reel. In no time at all, everyone around her was pulling up fish, and she was getting more and more excited. They caught Black Sea Bass, which had to be at least 12" long to keep (sadly, some had to be thrown back for not meeting the size requirement), and Pig Fish and Scup (which were all keepers, since they're a white fish). Someone caught a Sand Pike (also called Lizard Fish), but that couldn't be kept. After a while, Linda began wondering what she was doing wrong. She was having fun watching everybody catching fish, but she wasn't catching anything. She was right there in the same spot, using the same bait as everybody else, but coming up empty. Imagine her excitement when she



finally felt something tugging her line. The crew and passengers alike were having a ball watching her freaking out while reeling the fish in. It was a Sea Bass, too small to keep, but it was on her hook long enough for a photo op. A fishing expert now, she caught two fish on one line the next time she dropped the line. Once fishing was over, and the poles were put away, the fun continued, watching the gorgeous scenery, and/or watching the crew members stringing the fish. The thin rope goes in through the fish's gills and out their mouths. It was all new to her, so she thoroughly enjoyed everything. The crew was very helpful, and fun. At the dock, the staff cleaned and filleted the fish for a nominal fee, and Linda and the family had fresh fish for dinner that night. For more information on the Hurricane Fishing Charters, visit their website at [www.hurricanefleet.com](http://www.hurricanefleet.com), or you can find them on Facebook under [Hurricane Fishing Fleet](#).

## Oyster Festival

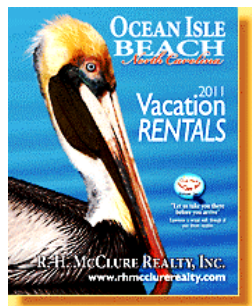
The 30<sup>th</sup> annual Oyster Festival was, as usual, a great success. Over 50,000 people attended the event the weekend of October 16 and 17. It's hard to imagine 50,000 people on this little island, but traffic flowed very smoothly due to mainland parking, and buses shuttling people back and forth. The weather was the best; perfect beach weather both days. Mid October, and people wore shorts and tank tops. The Craig Woolard Band, the Coastline Band, and Legends of the Beach played all day Saturday. The Imitations and Band of Oz entertained on Sunday. There were blooming onions, crab cake sandwiches, fried Oreos, funnel cakes, and guess what else? Oysters! The winner of the oyster shucking contest was Rube McMullan.



## Meet Our Staff

*We're continuing highlighting a member of our reservation staff, to get you to know us.*

Our senior reservationist (don't call her old) is Martha Russ. Martha has been at R.H. McClure Realty since March 1999. She came with six years experience in customer service and reservations from The Winds Inn and Suites, and Island Realty, Inc. Originally from Havana, Cuba, Martha moved to the Shallotte area from California, where she worked for the San Bernardino City School District as a Bilingual Tutor. Martha has a Bachelor degree in Business Administration from Mount Olive College, and is the author of the book, *Beans and Rice – Growing Up Cuban*. She has four children and seven grandchildren. In her spare time (is there such a thing?) she does the accounting for her husband's pest control company. She's also a registered pest control technician, and does most of the writing for your Seasonal Newsletter.



Our 2011 Vacation Rental brochures are almost ready! If you're on our mailing list, keep an eye on your mailbox for the bulk mailing of our new brochure. If you're not on our mailing list, what are you waiting for? Give us a call today or email us your address. 800-332-3586. [ncmclure\[at\]atmc.net](mailto:ncmclure[at]atmc.net). Our 2011 brochure features an island map (back by popular demand), conveniently sectioned listings, and our Quick Reference guide. It's the perfect tool to jump start your 2011 vacation planning.

## Everything you always wanted to know about Ocean Isle Beach \*

\*but were afraid to ask...

Our website has a new feature! You can now click on [Ocean Isle Beach Area Information](#) from our home page to access a link to a comprehensive page of "Insiders Information". Whether you're interested in day trips, restaurants, shops, hair salons, it's all there, from A to Z, from Annual Events to Wedding Planning (OK, A to W). Sure, you could Google each individually, but you already have our website saved in your favorites, don't you?

More from our Rear Window



And the winner of doggone things we see from our window...

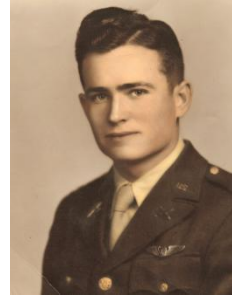
Free parking for jet skis – during low tide hours only.

## Sunset Beach Bridge

After many delays, the Mannon C. Gore Bridge finally opened on November 11. The official opening ceremony of the 65 foot high bridge took place on October 1; then on November 1, it was opened for foot traffic for four hours only. Mannon Cephus Gore is the man responsible for developing Sunset Beach. He and Odell Williamson owned Hale Beach, which later was renamed Ocean Isle Beach. After Hurricane Hazel went through, in 1954, Mr. Gore sold his share of the island to Odell Williamson, and bought Bald Beach, which he renamed Sunset Beach, from the Brooks family, which had owned the land since the 1700's. Mr. Gore started developing the island by building the first pier, and the first bridge to the island. This was a cable swing bridge, which he maintained until 1961, when it was replaced by the existing one lane, pontoon bridge. That bridge, the last pontoon bridge left, and much beloved by Sunset Beach residents, will soon be history. It will be removed before the end of the year, and will be kept on display across the street from the SB Fire Department.



The new meets the old



## Odell Williamson

Odell Williamson, founder of Ocean Isle Beach died on October 3. He was ninety years old.

According to the book *The History of Ocean Isle Beach*,

by Vern J. Bender and Fred R. David, Odell Williamson moved back to Shallotte after serving in the war, and, along with Mannon Gore, started buying tracts of land on what was then called Hale Beach. In 1950, they built a four-car ferry to cross the IWW, from Brick Landing to what is now Shallotte Blvd on the east end of the island. In 1951, Mr. Williamson began building Four Mile Road, now Ocean Isle Beach Drive, with both his own money and his own sweat. It took him several years, but he personally finished the road all the way to Hwy. 17. "Odell's vision for Ocean Isle Beach was to provide a family atmosphere rather than the neon lights and high rise motels common to other resorts." Pg 67

In 1955, after buying out Mr. Gore's share of the island, Mr. Williamson continued building roads, and selling plots on the island. In 1959, OIB was incorporated as a town, and Odell Williamson became its first mayor. That same year, the OIB swing bridge opened. It was replaced in 1986 by the now existing Odell Williamson Bridge. Odell Williamson's vision was for Ocean Isle Beach to be the best beach in the area. Ocean Isle Beach is now called The Gem of the Brunswick Islands. Odell Williamson's vision has become a reality.

Above photo courtesy of Vern Bender



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## It's a Family Tradition



Photo courtesy of Hudgins Family

Ocean Isle Beach is part of many families' traditions that span several generations. People who were brought here by their parents are now bringing their children and grandchildren. The perfect way to capture the memories of your beach vacations with your extended family is by taking Family Portraits. Take one every year and watch the family grow larger and the kids grow bigger. The Hudgins family, for this photo, ordered matching t-shirts, but you can wear anything for your family portraits – it's the beach!

*To Do this Winter-*

*Call for McClure Realty brochure*

*Request vacation time*

*Book reservation*

*Check out Insider's Guide on website*

*Order new bathing suit*



Photo courtesy of Blue Sky Photography

*Blue Sky Photography*

*910-233-7420*

*www.bskyphoto.com*

*Beach Portraits, Weddings, Studio*

## Calling all readers!

Not that we would ever run out of things to say, but we here at RH McClure Realty would love to hear from our readers. Tell us what you would like to see in future issues, send us your beach photos, and review your favorite local restaurants. Send your emails to [ncmcclure@atmc.net](mailto:ncmcclure@atmc.net).

## RH McClure Real Estate Sales

Below is a current list of properties that are available through R.H. McClure Realty, Inc. We would like very much to represent you in your quest for properties on or around Ocean Isle Beach. Our sales staff will assist you with any listed property in this area. Please check with us often, as prices and listings change frequently. Call

**Bob Kennette**  
910-540-5940

**B. Wayne Melton**  
910-233-6606

**John Hightower**  
910-520-0533

Or visit our website at [www.rhmclurealty.com](http://www.rhmclurealty.com) to view all listings in Brunswick County

### Beach Homes

Oceanfront-3 Coggleshall, 6 br,5 bath, under constr.	\$1,699,000
Oceanfront-5 Coggleshall, 6 br,6 ba fractnl ownrshp	\$ 195,000
Oceanfront-124 East 1 <sup>st</sup> St 4 br, 4 bath	\$1,435,000
Concrete canal -16 Raeford St. 4 br, 4bath	\$ 569,000
Natural canal – 79 Wilmington, 6 br, 2 bath	\$ 550,000
Mid-Island – 18 Isle Plaza 4 br, 2 bath	\$ 429,900
2 <sup>nd</sup> Row -147 E 1 <sup>st</sup> St – 4 br, 4 bath, renovated	\$ 476,000
2 <sup>nd</sup> Row-169 E 1 <sup>st</sup> St 3 br, 2 bath, half of duplex	\$ 399,000
Summer Place-40 Private Dr. 5 br, 4 bath	\$ 489,000
Island Park Cottages-3 Myrtle Ct 4 br, 2 bath	\$ 369,900

### Beach Condos

Windjammer Unit 2-A -4 br, 4 bath, oceanfront	\$ 590,000
Windjammer Unit 1-J – 2 br, 2 bath, oceanfront	\$ 329,000
Ocean Point Unit 604 high rise unit, 2 br, 2 bath	\$ 549,000
Ocean Point Penthouse high rise, 3 br, 4 bath	\$ 799,000
A Place at the Beach Unit 2-J -2 br, 2 bath, side unit	\$ 199,000
Ocean Isle Villas B-1 -3 br, 2 bath oceanfront	\$ 344,900
Starboard by the Sea – 3 br, 2 bath mid-island	\$ 269,900

### Beach Lots

Concrete Canal Lot-50 Union St	\$ 895,000
Oceanfront Lot West End, Gated Community	\$ 899,000
Kings Lynn-6949 Kings Lynn Dr, Oceanfront-Holden Beach	\$775,000
Kings Lynn-6940 Kings Lynn Dr, Soundfront-Holden Beach	\$375,000
Oak Island – 6951 Kings Lynn Dr.- Views, Views, Views	\$ 1,250,000

### Mainland Homes

Hewett Farms-1336 Hewett Farms Rd- 4 bedroom 3.5 baths	\$ 499,999
Crow Creek GC-9235 Oldfield Rd. Calabash- 4 bedroom 4 baths	\$ 459,000
Parker's Point – 6277 Basilwood Dr.- 3 br, 4 bath, waterway	\$ 424,900
Crown Stream – 1600 Crownstream Dr.- 3 bedroom 2 bath	\$199,500

### Mainland Lots

Bricklanding GC – lot	\$ 69,900
Bricklanding GC-1633 Carriage Pl	\$ 99,000
Bricklanding GC-1625 Colonist Square	\$ 99,000
Crow Creek – 389 Autumn Loop, golf course lot	\$ 82,000
Crown Stream – 1602 Crownstream Drive	\$ 49,000
Brookhaven Subd...Lot 10 in Brookhaven, 5 min. to Wilmington	\$325,000



Photo courtesy of Dan & Carol Nelson